

CONNECTION



King's professor earns national teaching honour

Dr. Arlette Zinck awarded 2018 3M National Teaching Fellowship

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

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A PROMISING FUTURE: FUNDING A VISION FOR KING'S
COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH: DANCING TO THE CLIENT'S TUNE



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UPCOMING EVENTS



CELEBRATE KING'S WEEK MARCH 19–24 VISIT KINGSU.CA/KINGS-WEEK

Join us on campus for a variety of activities and events celebrating King's.

FREE WILL CLINIC

The King's University, in partnership with Christian Stewardship Services, invites you to a free Will Clinic. Learn about steps in planning a will and options for leaving a legacy.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22 AT NOON
(LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED)

The King's University, Room N101
RSVP to: development@kingsu.ca or (780) 465-8314

BONUS FOR ATTENDEES

Andrew Geisterfer, an Edmonton lawyer, will provide a 50% discount to all attendees who complete a will with him within six months of the clinic. Find out more at the event!

KIDS @ KING'S

MARCH 24, 9:30 AM – 1 PM

Sign up for a morning of kid-sized King's classes to learn about science, art, literature, and more!

KING'S EAGLES ATHLETICS BANQUET

MARCH 24, 5 PM – 9 PM

The King's University



SAVE THE DATE! SPRING CONVOCATION APRIL 28, 2 PM

Evangel Assembly, 4461 50 St. NW



NETHERLANDS TOUR KICKOFF CONCERT APRIL 19, 7:30 PM

First Presbyterian Church, 10025 105 St. NW

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Cover

3M Fellowship honouree Dr. Arlette Zinck interacts with students in one of her English courses. *Photo by Scott Vande Kraats.*



Dr. Melanie Humphreys with Dr. Arlette Zinck and Hon. Marlin Schmidt, Minister of Advanced Education

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I can think of no better stories to place in front of you than those that you will find in this edition of Connection. Stories that engage and flow out of the heart of King's mission. Stories of deep commitment to each other's well-being, to faith being about all aspects of life, and to the pursuit of a better world.

Dr. Arlette Zinck is a master storyteller. Zinck's teaching philosophy is rooted in the power of story to direct students' sense of empathy from thinking into action. Is it any wonder that students and alumni rate their academic experience at King's so highly? The national teaching award from 3M recognizes Zinck's passion for teaching and her desire to connect with students at King's and bring

education to those who otherwise could not access higher learning.

The King's story continues to unfold as we look to the future. Shared Vision 2020, our strategic plan, envisions three new centres on campus. These centres will enrich our students' experience and enable us to grow as a university. Take a look at the inspiring initial renderings on page 20.

Hands-on research has always been a hallmark of student learning at King's. I think you will enjoy reading about our Community Engaged Research projects. The process looks like this: a community agency reaches out to us for research support, we pair a student and faculty member with shared interests to work with

the agency, the student gains invaluable field experience, and the agency receives much-needed research assistance. We work collaboratively with our community to find solutions to real needs.

I am proud of our faculty, students, and staff who are pursuing a better world through dedicated teaching, research, and by living out their God-given calling. I hope this issue inspires you for blessed living in our broken world and provides a vision of a hopeful future. 🇺🇳

DR. MELANIE J. HUMPHREYS



Dr. Melanie Humphreys with Lt. Gov. Hon. Lois Mitchell



Hon. Linda Duncan, MP Edmonton-Strathcona (left) engaged in conversation with members of King's faculty.

KING'S HOSTS DISTINGUISHED GUESTS TO SHOWCASE RESEARCH, ART DISPLAY

In late November, The King's University hosted coffee and conversation with the Honourable Linda Duncan MP, Canada Research Chair in Philosophy Dr. Neal DeRoo and other federally funded King's scholars and researchers, along with Vice President Academic and Research Dr. Hank Bestman. The group shared information about the important research students and professors are doing at King's and how it benefits Canada.

In December, King's hosted The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, the Honourable Lois Mitchell, who visited the art show, "Along the Road to

Freedom," which was on display in the Atrium through the end of January. She took time to contemplate the paintings, which featured incredible and at times tragic stories of Mennonite women in Canada. She also spoke with artist Ray Dirks about his works and inspiration.

Her Honour also took some time to chat with President Humphreys about the incredible learning and research being done at King's. What an honour to host the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta and this exhibit! 🇨🇦



This photo of The King's University campus, spanning several blocks on the east side of the city of Edmonton, was taken by a drone piloted by student Derek Kronemeyer, a second-year computing science student at King's. Find Derek on YouTube and Instagram to see more of his drone footage of King's campus in winter and at Colour Me King's during orientation week.



Dr. Wood shares his love of bugs, and his diverse bug collection, with local church group.

SHARING A LOVE OF ENTOMOLOGY WITH KIDS

It was with great delight and a passion for teaching students about insects that recently retired biology professor Dr. John Wood shared his knowledge with 18 girls from a local church so that they could earn their entomology badge.

Dr. Wood immediately captivated their attention by showing them his pinned specimens from all over the world. Dr. Darcy Visscher also helped the girls look at specimens through a dissection microscope and a high school

student, Marianne Goulet, brought some live insects for the girls to touch. She has been collecting and keeping insects since she was six years old.

Though most of the girls were disgusted at first, Dr. Wood responded to their concerns with gentleness and reminded them that all creation belongs to God and that all creatures, big and small, must be cared for. As a parting gift, each girl received a mealworm larva in a jar. 

STORIES FROM @THEKINGSUSTORIES (INSTAGRAM.COM/THEKINGSUSTORIES)



GRACE FULLERTON IS A THIRD-YEAR POLITICS-HISTORY-ECONOMICS STUDENT FROM CAMROSE.

“I chose King’s because of their PHE program. It offers a diverse, interconnected experience while also providing Christian responses to world issues; however, that’s not the only reason I love King’s. Helping people is one of my passions, and not only have I been supported by King’s, I’ve been able to support others. The friends I’ve made here and their influence have made me a better person.

My goal is to make a positive impact on those around me. My degree has equipped me to do so, but the relationships I’ve formed are even more important.” 



ADAM MAHGOUB IS A FIRST-YEAR ENGLISH STUDENT FROM ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT.

“I thought it would take me a lot longer to adapt. But everyone is so welcoming here, which makes it easier to be here than I thought. It’s been easy making friends too, which is awesome. I’ve made more friends in the past two months than I have in the last five years.

I’ve also never seen snow in my life, so I’m really excited for winter. I know that people here aren’t typically excited for winter, but I’d say it’s the one main thing I’m stoked for. Before today, the coldest temperature I experienced at home was 8 degrees.” 



BIANCA DUBLOIS IS A SECOND-YEAR PSYCHOLOGY STUDENT FROM EDMONTON.

“I’m a lot more outgoing now. I’m definitely not as shy as I was when I started at King’s. I get involved a lot more because I’m not scared to put myself out there and try new things.

When I first came to King’s, I wanted to do something that was out of my comfort zone, so I joined the Ambassadors. The atmosphere at King’s is what I would attribute my confidence boost/shift to. This is an environment that feels safe. You can really and truly be yourself!” 

NATIONAL TEACHING AWARD FOR KING'S PROFESSOR

BY LINDSAY ECKERT

Dr. Arlette Zinck, Associate Professor of English Literature and Dean of Arts at The King's University, was selected to receive the 3M National Teaching Fellowship for 2018. The 3M award, in partnership with the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE), recognizes Canadian teachers who show exemplary education leadership and teaching in universities and colleges and is Canada's most esteemed post-secondary teaching award. Each year, the fellowships are given to no more than 10 professors.

Zinck's fellowship comes just a decade after King's first 3M Fellowship was awarded in 2008 to Professor of Chemistry Dr. Peter Mahaffy. This national recognition places The King's University in an elite group of post-secondary institutions with an exceptional ratio of 3M teachers among its 50 faculty members.

"I am deeply honoured by this award," said Zinck. "I love being in the classroom with students, reading and sharing thoughtful stories about ourselves and our world. The 3M Fellowship is a wonderful affirmation of this work." Zinck's classroom teaching is marked by a genuine love for the discipline and a real desire to connect personally with students.

The 3M award recognizes the impact of Zinck's work with King's students and, outside campus, with student-prisoners in Edmonton. She leads a team of faculty from King's and other institutions to offer post-secondary studies and distance learning to inmates at The Edmonton Institution and to adult learners in other Correctional Service of Canada institutions. She founded and heads the Post-Secondary Prison Education Foundation, which is in the process of becoming a recognized non-profit.

Zinck's work with learners in prison has helped shape public dialogue about fostering hope through teaching to move



Dr. Zinck speaks to the King's community.

learning beyond classroom walls and into the community, Canada, and internationally.

"Dr. Arlette Zinck is a force," said Dr. Melanie Humphreys, President of The King's University. "She is articulate, passionate, deeply deserving of this award, and we're excited to see her leadership recognized. The 3M award, sharing and connecting

interdisciplinary knowledge to support the experience of each learner, embodies what King's is all about."

Zinck's teaching philosophy is rooted in the power of story to direct students' sense of empathy from thinking into action. "My teaching practice is all about storytelling. Storytelling is integral to understanding who we are," Zinck explained. "It connects us to others who are both like and unlike us. Stories can generate empathy and hope, both in the classroom and in society at large. They allow us to reimagine ourselves and our world in ways that are life-giving and full of possibility."

Professor Zinck embodies the approach to transformative learning across disciplines that is an important feature of The King's University's learning community, said King's nominator and 3M Fellow Peter Mahaffy. "In a time of multiple emerging global challenges and sometimes myopic international leadership, Arlette inspires all teachers and students to shape stories that 'make us more alive, more human, more courageous, more loving,'" said Mahaffy, quoting Madeleine L'Engle. 🇺🇸



Dr. Peter Mahaffy, a 2008 3M Teaching Fellow, congratulates Dr. Zinck at a gathering at King's.

NEAL DEROO NAMED KING'S FIRST CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR

BY SONYA JONGSMA KNAUSS

In November 2017, The King's University announced its first Canada Research Chair (CRC), awarded to Dr. Neal DeRoo by the Government of Canada. The Canada Research Chairs Program invests approximately \$265 million per year to ensure that outstanding minds are working (and developing students) in the Canadian university system. To this end, a grant of \$500,000 over five years will support DeRoo's appointment as chair in phenomenology and philosophy of religion.

"The CRC is first and foremost a recognition of the top-quality scholarship that goes on at King's across the faculty," said Dr. Hank Bestman, Vice President Academic and Research. "Institutions qualify for a CRC only when they have met certain thresholds of federal research funding. A research chair award demonstrates that the Government of Canada's granting agencies recognize that King's is doing top-quality, world-class scholarship."

DeRoo's research focuses on providing a philosophical basis for a new understanding of how religious commitments can be



Dr. Neal DeRoo was awarded a Canada Research Chair in November 2017.

expressed in everyday life. He suggests that this could change the role we think religion should play in our pluralistic society.

"I think continued, deepened explorations of King's approach to religion—that it is about all of life, not just some parts,

and that our relation to God should drive everything in our lives, not be restricted to a few things we believe and a couple of things we do on Sundays—will help our students wrestle with what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ in everything they do," DeRoo said. "This research project is meant to help form a hub of people thinking about issues related to religion (especially Christianity) and its application in every part of our lives."

One reviewer of DeRoo's research chair application commented, "In terms of breadth, depth, and impact, I think it is correct to judge DeRoo's work as that of an excellent, emerging, world-class scholar. His work is on an important contemporary topic, the work involves top-quality scholarship, it is deep in its implications, and it already has more international exposure than one would typically expect from a scholar at this level."

Another reviewer said DeRoo's work "shows a profound originality and creativity when it comes to the themes and topics under consideration." That reviewer

RESEARCH AND WRITING FOCUSES ON THE WAY EVERYDAY LIFE AND MATERIAL THINGS EXPRESS A CULTURAL 'SPIRIT'

BY DR. NEAL DEROO

For a long time, people in the West (including religious people) have tended to think of religion primarily in terms of beliefs about "supernatural" things that exist outside the normal world. For the most part, the thinking goes, those beliefs should remain confined to things outside the world; it is ok to have a "spiritual life," as long as it doesn't consume too much of your "normal" everyday life.

However, this distinction between "religious" beliefs and "everyday life" is getting harder to maintain. Drawing on insights from phenomenological philosophy, I am exploring the ways in which all material

things express a certain cultural "spirit." I want to use this account of spiritual expression as a basis for re-thinking the way we define religion: religion is about our habits and everyday actions as much as it is about what we think, and spirituality is as much about how we live as it is about introspection and reflection.

This CRC-funded research project will provide the philosophical basis for understanding religion in this holistic way. My hope is that this will help us think differently about the role spirituality should play in our pluralistic society and enable us to understand things like consumerism and

white supremacy as "spiritual" and not merely social or cultural problems. In this way, I'm hoping to have spirituality be a more relevant and regular part of our social and political language by showing how it exercises a powerful role in everyone's everyday lives, whether the person thinks they are "religious" or not. 🙌

*Interested in learning more? You may want to check out James K.A. Smith's *You Are What You Love*, or read some of Neal's contributions to inallthings.org. Neal is also available to speak with church and school groups; he can be reached at: Neal.DeRoo@kingsu.ca*

also noted, “His book *Futurity in Phenomenology* is the best text available on the topic (as is his edited volume *Phenomenology and Eschatology*). ... His ability to cross between philosophy and theology makes him someone who is not only able to find traction in the academy, but also in the church. This is a crucial skill and one that is much needed in philosophy of religion today—which often risks becoming dangerously disconnected from the historical concerns of religious people and communities.”

DeRoo is looking forward to the time this award will allow him to devote to his research and writing, as well as to the increased ability to disseminate his research that will come with the Canada Research Chair position. “This is not only a benefit to me, but to all of King’s.

Dr. Arlette Zinck and Dr. Neal DeRoo have both gained national attention for their work in teaching and scholarship.



Since the topic of my research is how we show our religious commitments in our everyday lives, the more disseminated this research gets, the more the holistic vision of Christian living that King’s embodies in its mission and vision will be exposed to

broader audiences in Canada, the United States, and around the world.”

DeRoo earned his Ph.D. in philosophy from Boston College and his master’s degree from the Institute for Christian Studies. 

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DOWNTOWN FORUM EXPLORES SECRETS TO BUSINESS SUCCESS

BY JANET Vlieg-Paquette

It was one of those evenings when one could happily resort to a business-world cliché: a win-win deal.

There were winning smiles all around January 18 as the Leder School of Business at The King's University partnered with CBC Edmonton to host Risk-Takers and Money-Makers, a public forum on entrepreneurship held in a downtown restaurant.

A trio of Edmonton's savviest entrepreneurs shared their personal journeys to success during a panel moderated by CBC's Mark Connolly, host of Edmonton AM. They shared stories about how they overcame adversity and offered advice for budding entrepreneurs in the audience.

In an informative evening sprinkled with laughter and applause, Connolly's sidekick on the show, Garrett McGowan, quickly exposed the crowd's ignorance about Edmonton AM by asking a few simple questions to find worthy recipients of free T-shirts. Blame the vintage medium of radio or the show's early-morning time slot, but few of the youthful attendees appeared to be avid CBC listeners.

Listen avidly they did, however, to such local business luminaries as Justine Barber, co-founder of Poppy Barley shoes; Jordan Jolicoeur, CEO of Carvel Electric and recipient of the Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneur of the Year Award for 2018; and Nicolette Leonardis, co-founder of Visio Media.

Ryan Young, Dean of the Leder School of Business, talked to the crowd about King's business program at the outset during



Entrepreneurs Nicolette Leonardis, Jordan Jolicoeur, and Justine Barber with Mark Connolly.

an interview with Connolly. When asked about how to teach risk-taking, Young said students learn to adopt the attitude: "It's always a good time to start a business."

Fear and insecurity are travelling companions on the journey to success, said Margot Ross-Graham, Edmonton AM's regular workplace columnist. "Seek out the supports you need," she advised the audience.

Ross-Graham outlined what it takes for local businesses to thrive in the city, stressing the biggest challenge is "to look up and look out," to build realistic expectations. Friends and mentor-colleagues helped her focus.

Barber and her sister launched Poppy Barley in 2012 in their pursuit of a shoe factory that cared about its people just as

much as it cares about a quality product. They started out as an e-commerce business selling custom footwear but now identify as an international fashion company based in Edmonton.

Her advice to start-up entrepreneurs? Listen to your customers, be aware of the big picture, and don't be afraid of failure. "It's important to be young and optimistic," she said. "Even if you fail, it's an amazing experience, and it looks good on your resume."

Jolicoeur said overcoming prejudice about his youth and his Indigenous status was a huge challenge when he took over a small electrical business and turned it into a fast-growing, successful industrial electrical contractor. He credits his practice of setting intentions. He told naysayers: "I will prove to you that I can be a professional contractor and that it grows from there."



Above: Leder School of Business Dean Ryan Young chats with CBC host Mark Connolly before the forum. Left: CBC columnist Margot Ross-Graham addresses a full house at Yellowhead Brewery.

“Through the event, many of our students were able to connect with people in the start-up scene. A number of them are now actively looking at turning their business ideas into actual businesses.” – Ryan Young

Leonardis’ award-winning company specializes in analytics-based advertising and just-in-time metrics focused on elevator advertising. But she graduated as a philosophy major. Her secret? “Knowing when to pivot, trying new strategies quickly.” She also applauds the business culture in Edmonton. “People here are willing to support a local success story.”

Stephanie Enders, manager of Startup Edmonton, spoke about the support her organization offers young entrepreneurs. Startup Edmonton has a community hub in the Mercer Warehouse on 104 Street, where young people with great ideas can connect with business opportunities.

Because the event was taped for Edmonton AM, segments of Connolly’s interviews with the participants were replayed for radio listeners in the week following the forum.

“Our partnership with CBC was a huge success, and we are extremely pleased with the outcome,” Young commented later, adding that he received many emails from participants that said it was the best entrepreneurship event they had attended.

The success of the event fuelled new business connections for students. “It has also led to new opportunities for the business school,” Young said. In March,

the school will be offering a training event for students and alumni. Leder School of Business is partnering with several community groups to promote pop-up businesses as a way to test a new product or service.

Young advises anyone who’s interested in participating to watch the Leder School’s social media as space will be limited.

“Through the event, many of our students were able to connect with people in the start-up scene. A number of them are now actively looking at turning their business ideas into actual businesses.” 

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES CONFERENCE WINTER 2018

BLESSED LIVING IN A BROKEN WORLD

MARGARET AYMER SHOWS STUDENTS STRENGTH IN ADVERSITY AND GRACE UNDER PRESSURE

BY JANET VLIEG-PAQUETTE

If you've ever watched a speaker on TV or online and thought, "Now that's someone I'd like to meet," then you know how some students felt during the winter Interdisciplinary Studies Conference at The King's University.

Keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Margaret Aymer is the kind of person you'd love to meet for a long chat at The Level Coffeehouse or any other gathering place. She was unable to attend the Interdisciplinary Studies Conference in person due to illness, but she managed to deliver all four of her lectures via Skype.

The American theology professor proved to be a dynamic, animated speaker whose passion for the Gospel and insights into the Beatitudes held her audience enthralled through two days of the conference. Quite an accomplishment for any speaker limited to engaging a full gym via an internet connection.

Some students were so impressed by her fervour and commitment, they were moved to tears after her concluding lecture.

"Many students reacted to Dr. Aymer's compelling talks with deep appreciation for her words and the way she took every

example home to youth of their age who are living out the message of these Beatitudes," said organizer Rebecca Warren, interim director of Interdisciplinary Studies at King's.

"Her lectures were, in my view, an extraordinary example of bringing together academic knowledge and real-life examples in ways that many students found deeply compelling."

Dr. Aymer is professor of New Testament Studies at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, Texas and an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). She is the author of several books and commentaries, as well as study guides, including the 2011 Horizons Bible Study on the Beatitudes.

Developing the conference theme, Blessed Living in a Broken World, Dr. Aymer focused on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, specifically the last four Beatitudes as recorded in Matthew 5. Her lectures were titled: Greatly Honoured are Those Who Show Mercy; Greatly Honoured are the Pure in Heart; Greatly Honoured are the Peacemakers; and Greatly Honoured are Those Persecuted for the Sake of Justice.



Rev. Dr. Margaret Aymer

Breakout sessions between her lectures explored many of the troubling issues affecting spiritual and mental health in modern life. Attendees could choose from sessions with titles like "Searching for Compassion in Our Smartphones"; "Christian Contemplation and Wellness"; and "The Nature Cure: Eco-psychology and Wellbeing." Roy Berkenbosch, newly retired from King's and the Micah Centre, inspired students with a lecture entitled "Find Your Voice."

To deliver her message, Dr. Aymer mined the Bible for the stories of such unlikely heroes as Jacob and the Good Samaritan. But each lecture concluded with direct

appeals to King’s students living in Canadian society in 2018. “What about you?” she asked. “What will you do?”

Examining the meaning of “pure in heart,” Dr. Aymer showed how living with integrity in the 21st century can contribute to the healing of the world. She told students about Tarana Burke, who started the Me-Too movement to support sexual abuse victims 10 years before the #MeToo hashtag turned into a Hollywood firestorm last fall.

“Burke discovered how to live with integrity by creating a mechanism for black and brown girls to change the trajectory of their lives,” Dr. Aymer said, noting Burke continues to advocate for women and girls all over the world as the movement she started is swept up in a social media frenzy of celebrity downfalls.

She cautioned against becoming self-righteous with indignation about all the hurt and evil in the world. “Jesus calls us to wrestle with the Holy One, to acknowledge our own complicity. We are freed for a new life in Christ; that means having a heart that is integrated with our lives.”

Instead of railing against the actions of others, we are called to look at our own action or inaction. “Now that you know, what will you do?” she asked students. “How will you live out that reality with integrity?”

“We are freed for a new life in Christ. It means having a heart that is integrated with our lives.”

Dr. Aymer’s message on living with integrity was reinforced by Rev. Berkenbosch’s meditation that opened the conference’s concluding day. He called on students to speak up, to offer their voices, their time, and their money, to be used by God in His service. “Never doubt that a small group of people can change the world,” he said, paraphrasing anthropologist Margaret Mead.

And quoting Martin Luther King Jr.: “In the end we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.”

Praying for Shalom and saying “peace” isn’t enough, Dr. Aymer reminded her audience. She pointed to Shalom-makers,

like young Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai and 12-year-old Autumn Pelletier from Wikwemikong First Nation, the only Canadian nominated for the 2017 International Children’s Peace Prize.

“What will you do with the resources you have at hand? What will you do to make peace at The King’s University?” Dr. Aymer challenged students. She called on them to speak boldly in a world where the most powerful nation practises brinkmanship and its schools have experienced gun violence in record numbers since the beginning of 2018.

“Dr. Aymer’s overall message of mercy and integrity, peace-making, and being willing to take a stand for what’s right resonated so deeply with many of our students, faculty, and staff,” said Rebecca Warren. “I am incredibly grateful to Dr. Aymer for making the extra effort while suffering with the flu to get the content she had prepared to us, however she could.”

Warren also gave heartfelt kudos to the IT department for their hard work in ensuring the Aymer lectures could be broadcast in the gymnasium. 🙌

THE RICHES OF POVERTY

BY SONYA JONGSMA KNAUSS

One of the breakout sessions at this year’s Interdisciplinary Studies Conference was led by Jeremiah Bašurić, King’s grad and community engagement coordinator for The Mustard Seed, an inner-city organization working with those living in poverty in Edmonton.

Bašurić was joined by Johnny Lee, a social and environmental justice advocate who sits on the Indigenous Round Table for End Poverty Edmonton, as well as other church and non-governmental organizations.

The breakout session began with Bašurić asking attendees to share their names, their favourite smells, and their experiences with poverty. He pointed out that favourite



Students participate in an exercise illustrating privilege, led by session leader Jeremiah Bašurić.

smells tend to be associated with memories that make you feel warm and safe, like you belong. He noted that those kinds of experiences are notably different for those who grow up in poverty and without homes.

After introductions, Bašurić led volunteers in a privilege exercise, asking them to step back or step forward based on their

answers to questions like “I had two parents in my home growing up.”

Lee shared his story of growing up and becoming homeless, and he pointed out that the riches of poverty include the community that exists among the homeless, who look at society from the outside and are necessarily less attached to material things. 🙌



Q&A WITH JODI LAMMIMAN

COMMUNITY WELLNESS COORDINATOR

How would you describe your job?

I would say my job is to promote a culture of wellness at King's by helping students understand and integrate the connection between mental, spiritual, and physical health in their lives.

What is your hope for students who come to you as a resource?

My hope would be that they would learn tools that would help them build resilience. I want them to know how to get support for mental health, and to learn what renews them and gives health to their soul. I hope to help students take the stigma away from stress and mental health issues, and to understand the importance of spiritual disciplines.

When looking at resilience, I think it's helpful to understand the ways mental, physical, and spiritual health are connected. It's like a trampoline: if you take away one or two springs, you may not notice the effect, but as soon as you take a few more away you'll really notice. Mental, spiritual, and physical health is all connected and affects how we connect to each other.

What does resilience mean?

I describe it as building the capacity in your life to respond to failure and stress and other challenges in a way that helps you grow and learn from those challenges. I want to help this concept grow at King's.

Where does your passion for your work come from?

To live fully and well in the world, I believe we need to come from a holistic (mind, body, soul) perspective, because the more

“Staying curious helps me reframe fear and ask questions. If I’m scared of it, then why? There’s so much to be curious about in the world. It takes you on adventures.”

whole (and healthy) we are as humans, the more we are able to live well in the places God has put us. This is where my passion for my work at King's comes from; the desire to see us live integrated lives.

Outside of work, I am a spiritual director and I facilitate retreats. Many of those focus on the intersections between ecology, spirituality, and reflection. I see what I do as a spiritual director and retreat facilitator as an exploration of who we as humans are created to be in this world. Through understanding who we have been created to be, as well as what we have been created to do, we can cultivate purpose and meaning and build resilience in our lives and our communities.

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Southern Illinois, out in the country on a farm. I came to Canada when I was 19 to go to a tiny college of about 200 students, Alberta Bible College.

What is your favourite place in Edmonton?

I live not too far from the old Royal Alberta museum. The grounds there are beautiful. In the spring and summer, I was looking for natural spaces to feel alone. While the grounds are cultivated, there aren't a lot of

people there. I went there with my journal a lot in the spring.

I heard you're an avid reader. Any book recommendations?

This year, one of my favourites is a young adult novel called *The Hate You Give*. It's about a police shooting, and the perspective is a girl who is a person of colour.

My favourite is *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* by Annie Dillard. Her main theme is all about paying attention and listening. There are so many religious and spiritual themes, but it's all about the creek outside her back door.

What is your motto or personal mantra?

Right now, it's "stay curious" and "follow the questions."

I grew up with judgmental frameworks where I immediately judged the things I was afraid of. Staying curious helps me reframe fear and ask questions. If I'm scared of it, then why? There's so much to be curious about in the world. It takes you on adventures. 🙌

Funding for this position was provided by the Government of Alberta.

Q&A WITH JONATHAN NICOLAI-DEKONING

NEW MICAH CENTRE PROGRAM DIRECTOR



PHOTO: BRI VOS

What's your King's history?

I graduated from King's in 2005. I started as an English major but finished with a BA in Theology and a minor in Political Science. After King's, I did community development with marginalized communities, so that background was really helpful for me. At King's, I spent a semester in Uganda which helped me to see questions of injustice from a global perspective. I also did a six-month internship in Haiti through the Micah Centre, working in rural reforestation co-ops and HIV/AIDS agencies in Port-au-Prince. I think I was the first Micah Centre student sent abroad.

How would you describe your job?

I'm the new program director of the Micah Centre which means creating opportunities for students to be equipped and empowered to pursue justice, renewal, and reconciliation both globally and here in Edmonton. I believe real, deep learning happens where learning hits the street and takes shape in real life, meeting real people. I think that's particularly true when learning about truth and justice.

Right now, I'm teaching a Micah 6:8 theology class on justice and development. I'm also facilitating global learning opportunities like the Honduras Water Project and the Quest Mexico trip, which put real faces and places to the ideas students learn in class.

What does the Micah Centre mean to you?

The Micah Centre is a particular way King's can follow its mandate to pursue justice and reconciliation in every walk of life. The people at King's recognize we have a lack of wholeness in a lot of places

in the world, whether it's from war, injustice, or poverty. The Micah Centre is a way to get students outside the classroom and encountering those realities. It gives them an opportunity to have hope that's rooted in their faith and realize they have a part to play in the change that needs to happen.

What is your hope for the Micah Centre?

We want the Micah Centre to be a hub for the wider community, to bring in speakers and create workshops. We also want to create more academic opportunities for students to learn about and encounter justice, hopefully in the next year or two.

Where does your passion for your work come from?

A lot of it comes from my wife. She's worked in Edmonton's inner city for over 10 years. She began working in the inner city at a food bank during her degree at King's and has been involved ever since.

For the last few years, I worked with men and women resettling from prison, and I saw a lot of injustice, poverty, and an unwelcoming society. The men I encountered through that work sustained my passion as well.

The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is very much a source of my passion. His life was lived among those who were forgotten or left to the margins. As followers of Jesus, I feel all of us are called to pursue a world where the sort of pain and suffering Jesus addressed is lessened in some way through our work. His resurrection is a

source of hope that the powers of death or oppression won't have the last word.

What aspect of your role do you enjoy the most?

I really enjoy connecting with students. Opportunities to teach or meet with the Micah Action & Awareness Society (MASS) students are always fun. Students have lots of energy and ask interesting questions. They're at a point in their lives where the questions they're asking will shape the direction of their lives when they graduate.

What is your favourite place to go or thing to do in Edmonton?

Cross-country skiing, although we've been robbed of snow these last two winters. Edmonton also has lots of great bakeries, coffee shops, and restaurants to check out. If I can't ski, then at least we can eat great food!

Any book recommendations?

Right now I'm reading Clint Smith's *Counting Descent*, and that's been really excellent. I love getting at issues, movements of justice, or peace making from more artistic angles, and his poetry is really great.

Do you have a favourite quote?

Martin Luther King's statement, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice," is one I find hopeful given how hopeless you can feel about this kind of work. Also, from Psalm 85, I have the quote "justice and peace will embrace" tattooed on my arm. It's a reminder that ultimately God will make the world a more just and peaceful place. 🙌

RETIREMENT TRIBUTES

IRENE VANDERKLOET FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

The King's University's second-longest serving full-time employee has retired. After coming to King's for a temporary three-week position to help manage receipts for a Spring Drive fundraising campaign, King's called Irene asking if she'd help fill a sudden vacancy for a job in the business office. That call turned into 35 years of employment, which ended earlier this year with her retirement.

What drew you to King's?

When I came here, my best friend from college, Simona Maaskant, the librarian, was working at King's. We shared a house, and the president at the time was Dr. Sid DeWaal, who I'd had as a prof at Trinity Christian, and there were other profs from Trinity, so I felt at home and like I knew the community. After eight months, I said to the president, what's my status here? I came in with an open-ended, temporary position. Is it going to end? Is it going to continue? It became a formal continuing position in January of 1983, with the title of business administrator.

What are some of the biggest changes you've seen over your time here?

When I started, we were renting our facility from the Edmonton Public School Board; other tenants in that building included agencies like the Christian Labour Association of Canada, the Christian Farmers Federation, and social services agencies, on 97th St. There were probably about 150 students; we were basically a two-year transfer institution. We had an affiliation agreement with the University of Alberta, and with that affiliation agreement came some government funding. At the time, we had a budget of around a million dollars per year. Now we



Irene Vanderkloet served in The King's University business office for 35 years.

are a full university, with an annual budget heading toward \$20 million.

We had the original six faculty when I started, plus 10 more. Now we have 50 full-time faculty. We've become increasingly diverse among students and employees, in terms of abilities, race, faith, and contributions they bring to the institution. It certainly has been a recurring hallmark at King's, the appreciation for being multid denominational. Being open to that, and consciously choosing to be that. I think most faith-based institutions in North America are very denominationally oriented, and King's is deliberately not.

Any highlights of your time here?

Acquiring our own campus and then renovating and expanding our space were important milestones. I think the appointment of Roy Berkenbosch and development of the Micah Centre and the focus on international experience and service have been really good things for King's. And

the semiannual Interdisciplinary Studies Conference. Current students, on average, don't always appreciate the conferences. With time and wisdom, former students seem to recognize the value of them.

What I always tried to do is have an attitude of service, an attitude of make-do, can-do. When I started, all the accounting was manual, and it was the latter part of the 1980's that we automated it and introduced computerized accounting systems. I was part of implementing and maintaining that.

What are your hopes for King's?

I would hope that King's continues to raise students to have concern for the environment, to have concern for the community, to have concern for our neighbours whether they be near or far. I would hope that the programs that King's develops are created out of the sense of calling and leadership that King's can provide to society. 🙌

SHIRLEY HARDER
RECEPTIONIST

What drew you to King's?

I heard about a job I thought would be suitable to me, and the rest is history.

Any highlights of your time here?

The biggest highlights were the relationships I had with people at work: the faculty, staff, students, and the public that came in. I encountered such a variety of people, and it was most interesting.

What will you do next?

I am taking some time to evaluate that. I am still very involved with my husband in ministry, so that will take more of my time, but I am hoping to pursue some dreams of getting back into painting and more time in the garden!

What are your hopes for King's?

My hope for King's is that they will keep Christ central to the teaching at the university. 🇰🇪



Shirley Harder served King's at the front desk for 11 years.

*“One child, one teacher,
one book, one pen can
change the world.”*

– Malala Yousafzai

Be the one teacher.

A B.Ed. degree from King's equips you to shape those who will shape the future. Pursue a better world.



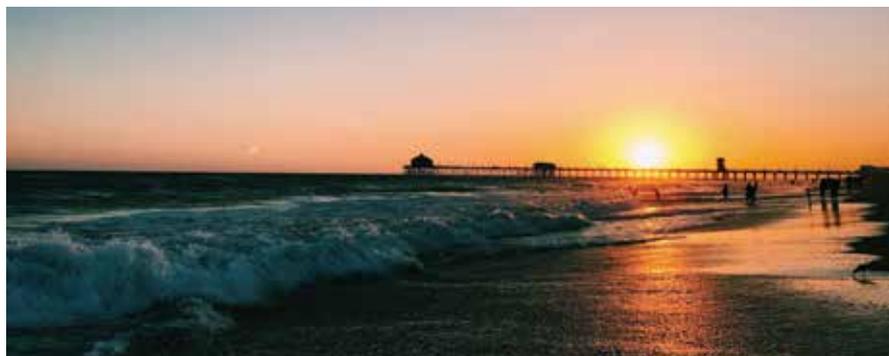
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CALIFORNIA INTERNSHIP TEACHES STUDENT-ATHLETE A CULTURE OF HONOUR

BY ABIGAIL DOUGLASS

Over the summer, Eagles athlete Brittany Wells (first-year Education After-Degree) was granted an internship with Fellowship of Christian Athletes Volleyball (FCAV) in Huntington Beach, California. The internship offered a 10-week experience of intense growth in volleyball as well as faith. When Brittany first expressed her interest in the trip, she was overwhelmed by the amount of support, both financial and emotional, the community at King's offered her.

Brittany was the first Canadian to attend the internship, and was grouped with 15 other National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) volleyball athletes from the United States. While the internship was focused on practicing volleyball skills, there was heavy emphasis on spiritual growth, leadership, and developing each person's relationship with God.



Huntington Beach, where Brittany Wells spent her 10-week summer internship.

The experience taught Brittany about the connections between faith and sport, but a key idea that stuck with her was the importance of culture. "FCAV's teaching made me ask myself some hard questions about the kind of culture, both athletic and spiritual, I was contributing to at King's," Brittany said. The internship also encouraged her to think about whether the Eagles

community was cultivating an honest, loving, and hardworking atmosphere.

FCAV encouraged the athletes, and their whole schools, to strive to practice a culture of honour—to treat others the way they would like to be treated—acknowledge the small failures along the way, and grow from them.

NEW COACHES, STRONG SEASONS

BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS

At the beginning of the season, The King's University Eagles hired Brian Anstice as head coach of the women's basketball team. With Anstice's leadership, women's basketball is having a very successful season. They've had big wins on the road and very close games with top teams in the league.

Anstice is no stranger to the elite basketball community as former director of Basketball Alberta. While Anstice had not coached previously at the post-secondary level, it's clear that he belongs in the ACAC, and King's is lucky to have him.

One of Anstice's most noticeable influences on this year's team has been his emphasis on

the mental side of basketball. To compete at the highest level, technique and skill must be excellent, but equally important is the ability to be mentally tough. The team must be able to overcome adversity and work towards a common goal, despite distractions.

Anstice has created a team culture that challenges its members in healthy ways, emphasizes hard work and accountability, and encourages a competitive mindset not only during games, but also in practices. He encourages his players to speak their minds but recognizes they must play as a team above all else. Anstice has created a positive and challenging environment that will allow players to grow and take women's basketball at King's to the next level.

SOCCER HIGHLIGHTS

Eagles women's soccer announced a new head coach early January. Rick Haxby comes to King's with a wealth of wisdom and experience as both a player and coach. He has 14 years of professional soccer-playing experience and over 40 years of coaching experience. Haxby has won multiple Alberta Major Soccer League coach of the year awards, and he has coached the Edmonton Victoria women's soccer club to five national championship wins in the past eight years.

Haxby's appointment as head coach is also a reunion with King's from his time coaching the Eagles men's soccer team in 1984. He says his coaching style and philosophy haven't changed drastically, but he has evolved and

EAGLES VOLLEYBALL TAKE HOME EIGHT ACAC AWARDS



Brittany Wells hones her skills on the beach.

Brittany carries fond memories from the internship. One was her baptism. Brittany decided to get baptized with a close friend she met that summer, a volleyball player for the Florida Gators. The second was the mornings spent paddle boarding. Brittany and her female mentor woke up at 4:45 a.m. each Sunday to catch the sunrise on their paddleboards. “It seems like such a simple thing,” Brittany said, “but looking back, I truly cherish those peaceful mornings.”

While the volleyball, spiritual growth, and leadership skills are what motivated

Brittany to apply, she says the lifelong friendships she created are what remain with her most.

The internship challenged Brittany to grow both in athletic skill and leadership qualities. She received feedback from some of the best coaches in the NCAA, and competed with top athletes in the league. She was constantly out of her comfort zone and encouraged to accept failure in healthy ways. Prior to this, Brittany said she avoided failure at all costs, but her time over the summer taught her failure is nothing to be ashamed of. Brittany’s motto for the summer became, “When we fail faster, we can succeed sooner.”

Most importantly, Brittany learned that idolizing certain areas of her life, such as athletics or her social life, would always lead to disappointment. Brittany reflected, “I came to realize that I can’t find identity in my sport, but I can use volleyball as a means of glorifying Christ through the gifts I’ve been given.” 

fine-tuned it over time. He strongly believes in creating a culture that is team-oriented and hard-working. Haxby firmly believes players must buy into a program that places the success of the team above that of any individual player or coach, which allows them to play as a unit at a higher level and achieve a common goal.

Haxby says he demands a lot of his players, but that at the end of the day, soccer needs to be played for enjoyment. While competition is important, the goal is to have fun. Haxby is excited to begin the season, and Athletics is thankful to have him lead the team.

BADMINTON GOES TO NATIONALS

The King’s University hosted the 2018 Badminton Championships and banquet in February, coming away from two days of fierce competition with a trip to nationals.

King’s competes in a talented pool of teams, including Concordia University, NAIT, and Olds College. Coach Naeem Haque said he was excited to host the championships as an opportunity to showcase the school.

Abigail Ledda (first-year, Biology) and John Li (third-year, Psychology) won silver in mixed doubles, advancing them to the Badminton National Championships. This is the Eagles’ first advancement to nationals since joining the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC) in badminton in 2014.

Ledda also won silver in women’s singles and the ACAC All Conference. Ledda and Annika Jacobsson (fourth-year, Education) won bronze in women’s doubles. As a team, Eagles badminton won bronze in the championships with a tight score placing them just shy of silver.

The King’s University Eagles men’s and women’s volleyball teams were proud to take home eight volleyball awards from the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference this year!

The awards were presented to King’s student-athletes and Head Coach Grace Scott at the 2017-18 ACAC Volleyball Championship Ceremony held February 21.

Congratulations to our volleyball Eagles on being part of this year’s ACAC Volleyball All Conference Teams!

VOLLEYBALL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Female Coach of the Year – North Division

- ▶ **Grace Scott, Head Coach**
Scott is a third-time recipient of this award (2006-07, 2014-15, 2017-18)

Female Rookie of the Year

- ▶ **Pamela Xu**, first-year, setter

Male Rookie of the Year

- ▶ **Evan Veldman**, first-year, outside hitter

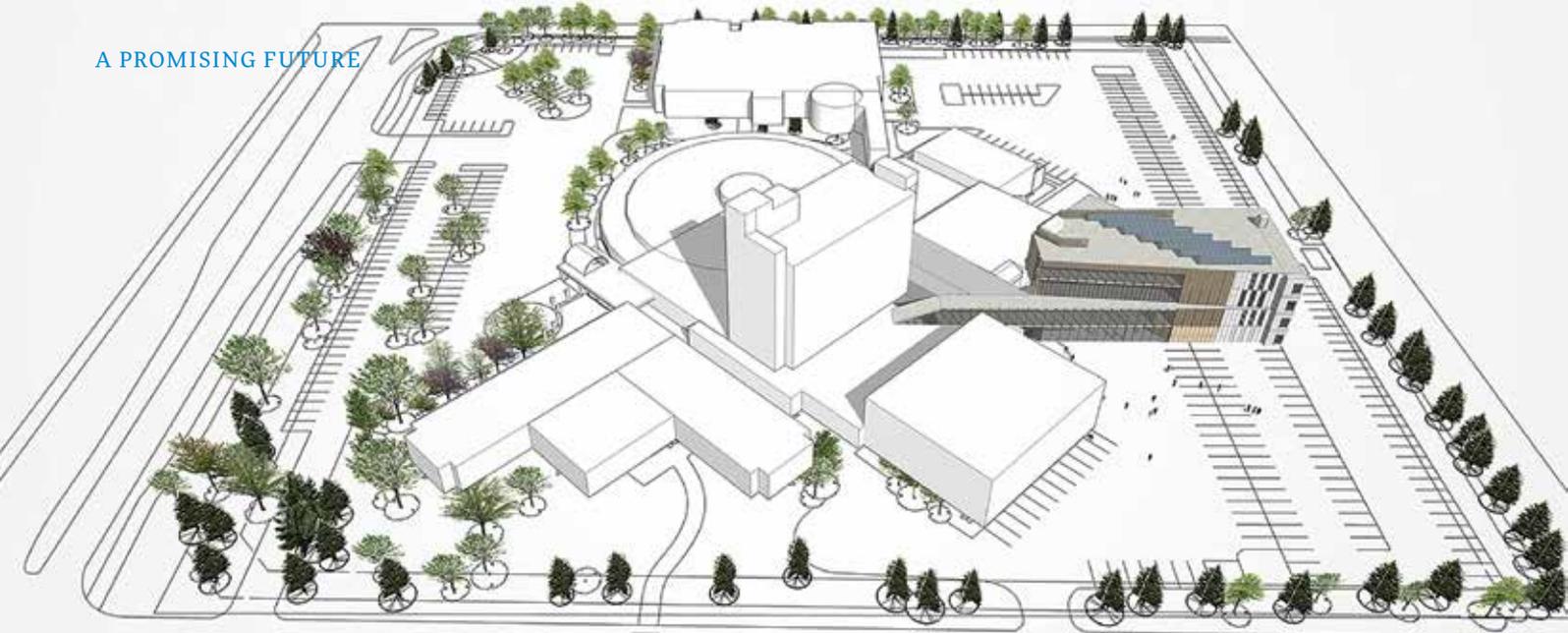
Female All-Conference

- ▶ **Jayden Bontkes**, outside hitter
- ▶ **Brittany Wells**, libero
- ▶ **Sydney Warchola**, middle blocker
- ▶ **Pamela Xu**, setter

Male All-Conference

- ▶ **Evan Veldman**, first-year, outside hitter

Even though the championship was hosted at King’s, Coach Haque did not feel added stress on his team to succeed. “We’re the underdogs competing against club players from NAIT and Concordia,” Haque said. King’s badminton players are bringing a lot to the court with Haque’s confident, driven coaching, and we look forward to seeing where the team will continue to grow and compete. Ledda and Li represent the Eagles at nationals on March 3 at Concordia. 



A PROMISING FUTURE: FUNDING A VISION FOR THE KING'S UNIVERSITY

BY JANET Vlieg-PAQUETTE

"Never lose sight of your dreams." It's advice older folks like to share with the younger generation. The King's University is still young as a post-secondary institution and hasn't lost sight of its dreams.

A few of those dreams are captured in a new package called *A Promising Future*, a series of three major fundraising initiatives arising from *Shared Vision 2020*, a strategic planning document developed in 2015 by King's leadership, board of governors, faculty, and students.

Complete with architectural drawings, detailed descriptions, and costs, *A Promising Future* promotes three priorities: an enhancement of the Micah Centre, creating an academic enrichment centre, and developing a Centre for Excellence in the Sciences. Each case emphasizes its tie to the core objectives of The King's University: enhancing the mission and vision of King's, growing student enrolment, and nurturing King's financial stability.

"This is the piece where we are seeking community partners in making *Shared Vision 2020* a reality," says Director of Development Shannon Tuininga, member of the senior development team leading *A*



North facade of the proposed Centre for Excellence in the Sciences, part of A Promising Future.

Promising Future. "We believe it's helpful for supporters to see what we want to do."

The three case documents will be used in interviews the development team aims to hold with families and friends in the supporting community over the next year.

"During this feasibility and planning phase, receiving input from the King's community and network of contributors during 2018 will help us determine the level of interest and support for these key initiatives and how we can best move forward," Tuininga explains.

A Promising Future has been bolstered by the success of the Leder School of Business, launched in 2014, where major donations by four families created a partnership that paved the way for the new business school at King's.

"When you do that and you are able to connect better with a donor's passion, you can achieve much greater levels of support," says Tuininga. "The Leder School of Business gave us affirmation that there is great potential when a donor's passion and interest align closely with an organization's need.



Interior rendering of the proposed Science Centre lobby, as envisioned by architect and King's alumnus Asher De Groot of MOTIV Architects Inc.

“People rise to challenges, and they’re excited to know that what they’re doing is making a difference.” – Shannon Tuininga

“Providing these kinds of opportunities will also bring new people into our community of supporters, not necessarily people who have been engaged in annual fundraising, but who are really excited to be a part of our vision,” Tuininga says. “Casting a vision is instrumental to building excitement about the future of King’s.”

All the case documents reference an enrolment goal of 1,200 students. “Making the dreams of A Promising Future a reality will help us achieve this enrolment goal,” Tuininga says. “We’re working to grow and bring the university to a place where we are more self-sustaining.”

The case for a new Centre for Excellence in the Sciences recognizes that increased investment in the sciences is building on a strength at King’s. Nearly half of the student population is enrolled in programs

in the social or natural sciences. Research suggests a growing demand in this area. For King’s to be able to accommodate this demand, more funding is needed for physical space and program investment.

Listing enrolment as a critical issue, the case states: “Some academic departments, like the sciences, are nearing student capacity and are expected to grow significantly in the future. Now, the challenge is to make preparations to meet student demand for these programs; we want to be able to provide an opportunity for every student to enrol at King’s, if they wish to do so.”

Tuininga points to a pivotal question: “Our donors who are engaged understand the financial struggles in the 38 years of our history. And that’s why we link back to our core objectives. We don’t ask ‘can we afford to do this’, but ‘can we afford not to do this?’”

While A Promising Future is vital to King’s future and the work of achieving core objectives, Tuininga notes, “It is not a replacement for our annual fundraising. That’s very important; that’s our foundation for all that we do.

“We will continue to need partners to contribute to our annual fundraising initiatives. But we also want to provide opportunities for people to engage in supporting these special projects.” The development director has faith in the commitment of King’s supporters. “People rise to challenges, and they’re excited to know that what they’re doing is making a difference.” 🙌

For more information on A Promising Future or to provide input for the feasibility study, please contact Shannon Tuininga: Shannon.Tuininga@kingsu.ca 780-465-3500, ext. 8075



COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH: DANCING TO THE CLIENT'S TUNE

BY CHERYL MAHAFFY

It's quite a dance." That's how Laura Rogers, Coordinator of Community Engaged Research (CER) at King's, describes the art of turning a need expressed by a community agency into a purposeful research project that benefits both students and the agency. "It's a really fun dance, especially at the beginning when we're

matching the projects of our community partners with faculty and then students."

Students at The King's University have been doing community-based research for decades, but Community Engaged Research as a distinct entity launched in 2014 out of a desire to build significant

opportunities for hands-on research that integrates community needs into the curriculum. Led first by Dr. Julie Kaye and now by Dr. David Long, CER has already enabled student researchers from sociology, psychology, environmental studies, and business to serve the research needs of a wide variety of local agencies.

“CER differs from the typical internship experience in that it is research-based and focuses on addressing the agency’s rather than student research questions.” Dr. Long says, “The fundamental question we ask is ‘What do you need?’ There’s a wonderfully biblical spirit in that, and it’s what informs the entire relationship. It’s a very clear expression of King’s Vision 2020 statement of developing mutually beneficial partnerships with people in the community.”

The dance of assembling a CER team often draws on past relationships. A project for Terra Centre for Teen Parents of Edmonton, for example, surfaced when Director of Community Engagement Karen Caine called to alert Dr. Long that a funding proposal he had helped write was bearing fruit; now they needed research assistance to help plan their teen fathers program. Dr. Long had just put down the phone when a student who was intent on pursuing social work wandered into his office seeking an opportunity to work with young parents—a perfect fit for a



Laura Rogers, Dr. Heather Looy, Dr. Leanne Willson

project that would help meet the immediate needs of Terra and the teen dads they serve. “That’s a really good example of how we see CER,” Dr. Long says. “It’s about matching student gifts and interests with needs of community organizations.”

CER is unique in giving students close supervision rather than expecting partner agencies to do so. Each student is teamed with a faculty member as principle investigator and mentored at every step, from confirming the research question and



Dr. David Long, Emily Anderson, Derrick Kwantes, Bernadette Iahtail

applying for ethics approval to liaising with clients and presenting findings. Faculty and students receive additional guidance from Laura Rogers, an occupational therapist whose background in research coordination is proving invaluable.

Unlike the typical class assignment, a CER project may continue after the student has left. “King’s owns the project with the community partner, not the students,” Rogers says. “They learn that they are part of a research team.”

MUSTARD SEED ASKS: WHAT IS THE PRICE OF GENTRIFICATION?

What is research telling us about gentrification? That’s the question Mustard Seed Community Engagement Coordinator Jeremiah Bašurić asked the King’s Community Engaged Research team to help answer. Serving clients whose lives have been disrupted by Edmonton’s colossal new arena and Ice District, and by tear-downs in mature neighbourhoods, he was looking for ways to minimize gentrification’s ill effects on the most vulnerable. “My role is educating the public,” he says. “I see this as a way to educate myself, so I can better educate others.”

Claire Brandenburg, who had interned at the Mustard Seed, wanted to tackle that question, but didn’t have room in her schedule for a full research course. Thanks to flexible instructors, the project replaced a major assignment in one of her senior sociology courses, with Dr. David Long as the principle investigator.



Jeremiah Bašurić



Claire Brandenburg

“Right now, gentrification is one of our biggest issues, and Edmonton in particular is at a pivotal moment.”
– Jeremiah Bašurić

A third-year Environmental Studies student (sociology concentration) with her sights set on graduate school, Brandenburg says this project allowed her to “test the waters” by tackling a large assignment in a supportive environment. Gentrification is far more multi-faceted than she imagined, she says. “I definitely came in with a certain



Rogers Place in downtown Edmonton

predominating perspective, but in realizing that this project wasn’t just my own, I wanted to provide a broader array of the perspectives that could be considered.”

Doing a full CER project in place of a single course assignment demanded careful time management, but Brandenburg has no regrets. “It’s an incredible opportunity,” she says. “As an undergraduate student, it’s really unique to have a project that’s not only about my own learning, but that helps others learn as well.” 



A crew from The King's University partners with Lady Flower Gardens to gather the bountiful fall harvest.

Even so, students say they benefit enormously from the experience. Besides cultivating research skills as well as the ability to think critically, listen respectfully, and work on a team, students involved in CER projects are exposed to an array of career options and forge relationships that in some cases translate into jobs. As CER student Jeremy Kieftenbeld says, “King’s is a safe haven, but CER kind of pokes that bubble, I think, and gets you thinking.”

What’s more, many of the projects help to effect concrete change—for example:

- ▶ Analysis by Spencer Klug with Dr. Long for the Father Involvement Network of Edmonton and Region (FINER) helped 50 family support organizations to see how changes in their use of social media would enable them to better engage and serve their clients.
- ▶ Work by Jeremy Kieftenbeld and Nicole Gingrich with Dr. Leanne Willson and

Laura Rogers alerted a Scoliosis Alberta parent group of an unmet need for teachers to understand scoliosis, prompting the group to begin developing educational materials for schools.

- ▶ Research by Emily Anderson, Derrick Kwantes, and Dr. Long for the Creating Hope Society informed local as well as national policy discussions about positive ways to support Aboriginal male youth involved with the criminal justice system.
- ▶ Dr. Willson and Michelle Martyniak worked with the Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation (CEASE) to develop methods to assess pornography use among men mandated to attend Edmonton’s Prostitution Offender Program, otherwise known as “John School.”

“These projects generate more interest than my basic empirical research,” says Dr.

Willson, associate professor of psychology. “The CER initiative really has tipped me into a productive phase of academic research, because I have students working with me and supporting my work—and holding me accountable, too.”

Like many initiatives at King’s, CER runs on a shoestring, with Rogers just half-time and faculty adding CER mentorship to already frenetic teaching schedules. Presenting alongside similar programs at conferences, participants have realized that most universities involve graduate students rather than undergrads and have budgets to pay mileage, transcription, research assistants, and other costs.

Capacity issues may constrain the growth but not the vision for CER. Rogers has a growing list of organizations seeking research help—a dance card with spaces to fill. “We have big dreams about where the program could go,” she says. “It’s gratifying to see students on fire with their work.” 🙌

LADY FLOWER GARDENS: DANCING WITH DIVERSITY

Lady Flower Gardens' dance with the King's Community Engaged Research (CER) team began when student Abbigail Hofstede got to know Doug Visser while both were on a Micah Centre learning tour to Quest Mexico. Hofstede offered to do research for the gardens, a fertile oasis in northeast Edmonton where Visser and partner Kelly Mills invite community agencies to bring their clients to plant, weed, harvest, and heal. "I was looking for a project for a research methods class, and I wanted to do something meaningful," Hofstede recalls.

Visser was pleased to work with his new young friend and, with some fear that King's faith-based team might not mesh with her secular perspective, Mills identified a question she wanted answered: How do users feel about the way Lady Flower Gardens is run?

Supported by CER Director Dr. David Long and Coordinator Laura Rogers, Hofstede designed and administered a questionnaire and also interviewed five individuals who regularly travel in a Mustard Seed van to volunteer at the gardens. Besides writing a report analyzing those questionnaires and conversations, Hofstede presented findings to the agency and led a poster session at a research event hosted by the University of Alberta Faculty of Extension, holding her own amid the graduate students and hors d'oeuvres.

"I'm really interested in working with not-for-profit organizations, so it was valuable to get an in-depth look at how one local not-for-profit works," Hofstede says. "You learn skills you can't learn in a classroom, and it's way more rewarding to dive in and do something so applicable to a real-life, real-world situation."

Pleased with the work, Mills welcomed Hofstede as a Micah Centre intern the following summer. Helping to orient and coordinate garden volunteers, Hofstede experienced one of the realities her interviewees spoke



Abbigail Hofstede and Principle Investigator Dr. David Long at a poster presentation at a research event hosted by the University of Alberta Faculty of Extension.

"I believe the only way we will be able to save the planet is by being collaborative in between all our difference and brokenness."

— Kelly Mills

about often: the delicate balance between too many and not enough rules in a healing place that attracts people with diverse realities, struggles, gifts, and talents. "It's something I learned in theory when I did the report, and actually dealt with as an intern," she says.

Meanwhile, Hofstede's research is informing next steps for how the garden runs. "The paper reminded me how important it is to be inclusive and collaborative rather than top-down," Mills says. "The ethics for a more grassroots democratic process has always been here, but it is a slower process. Sometimes decisions have to be made without consultation in the growing season because of time constraints. Abbigail's research reinforced the importance of taking the time during the off-season to set up well-facilitated group meetings and one-on-one interviews that really do get authentic input



Sunflowers at Lady Flower Gardens

from our member agencies' representatives, which truly guides the direction of the garden."

The experience had added significance. Mills says, "The mutual respect that Abbigail and I developed, collaborating as a secular person and a faithful person, gives me a great deal of hope that Lady Flower Gardens will become a place where people from all backgrounds can come together for the greater good of nature and ourselves." 🙌

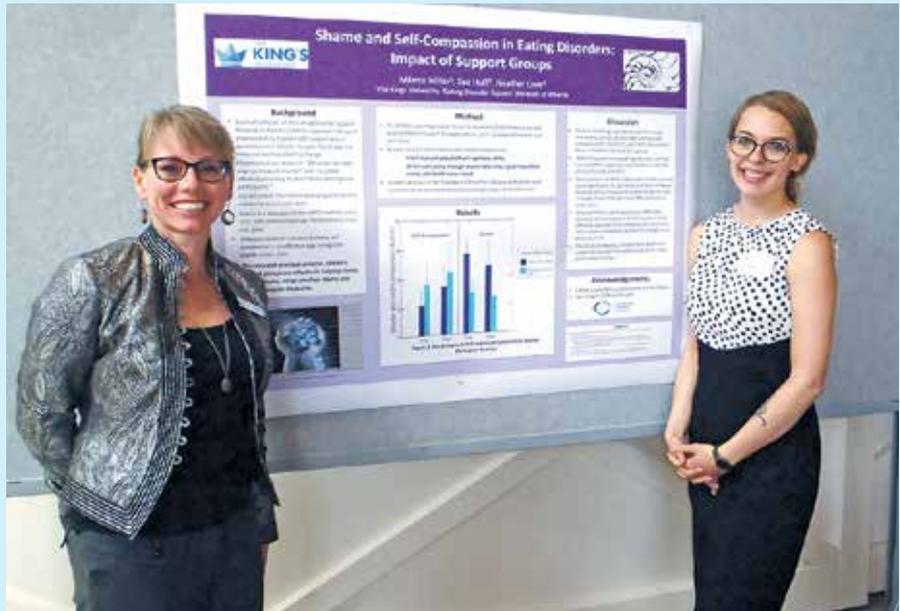
EATING DISORDER SUPPORT NETWORK OF ALBERTA: MEASURING WHAT WORKS

What does research tell us about reducing the shame and stigma that often accompany eating disorders? That's the question psychology student Milena Miller tackled for her community partner, the Eating Disorder Support Network of Alberta.

Since 2014, the network has offered professionally-facilitated support groups for individuals with eating disorders and for their families and friends. From the first, participants filled out surveys at the beginning and end of their time in a support group. Results showed obvious gains in their feelings of hope, connection, and empowerment—but levels of shame and stigma seemed to remain high. When offered the services of a King's research student, Sue Huff, the network's executive director, seized the opportunity to look for ways to bring those levels down.

Supported by Dr. Heather Looy, a King's psychology professor who has had her own battles with bulimia, Miller dug into the research. She found little written about shame and stigma related to eating disorders, but enough to realize those feelings are complex and hard to shift. She also discovered a related concept, self-compassion, which could act as a shield against shame. With Dr. Looy, she created a list of questions validated by other research to measure both shame and self-compassion. They then met with Huff, who helped hone the list based on experience with a daughter who has lived through anorexia and with countless families encountered through her work in the network.

The resulting survey is being used to measure the effectiveness of all the network's support groups. Initial analysis is showing significant increases in self-compassion and some reduction in shame, although less marked. What's more, Miller and Dr. Looy are doing a more rigorous analysis of previous surveys than has occurred in the past and finding more reduction in shame and stigma than the network realized.



Executive Director Sue Huff with student Milena Miller at poster presentation, Psychologist's Association of Alberta Spring 2017.



“Community engaged research is not something I was trained to do, and while basic research is also important, it's very gratifying to see results make an immediate difference.”

— Dr. Heather Looy

“It's nice to know we are having a positive impact,” Huff says. “We've been sharing our research with the provincial government, our primary funder, which helps them feel like they are investing taxpayer dollars in something that has proven to be effective.”

Already, excerpts from the work were presented at two conferences and appeared in an Eating Disorders Association of Canada newsletter. “Having a small university working with a small charity that is actually gaining attention from a professional body tells you there is a huge appetite for more research and study on eating disorders,” Huff says. “It's one of the least funded areas of research, even though it

has the highest mortality rate of any mental or psychological illness.”

This is Dr. Looy's first foray into community engaged research. Translating data into reports that make sense to community partners is a skill she's still learning, she says, but one that will also help to make her fundamental research more accessible.

Miller says the project has given her a new appreciation of the role research can play in practice. “My plan is to become a counsellor, and after doing this project, I'm really inspired by everything the network is doing,” she adds. “Maybe someday I'll be able to counsel those with eating disorders.” 

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES



DARLENE SYCH (BA '04)

I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Theology in 2004. I wanted a smaller, more personal university, and, as a homeschooler, I wanted a university that didn't discriminate against homeschoolers. King's fit both requirements perfectly. I think one of my favourite parts was the communal lunch hour. It brought staff and students together and built a sense of community unique for a university.

In 2009, I joined the Royal Canadian Air Force as an Air Combat Systems Officer. I spent four years as a Tactical Coordinator on Sea King helicopters, travelling the world hunting submarines and chasing pirates. I was posted to Edmonton in 2015 as a Military Career Counselor, recruiting people to the military.

It's important for an officer in the military to be aware of alternative ways of dealing with conflict and have the skills to employ those means. King's gave me a good foundation through its focus on peace and good stewardship which continued through my Masters in International Studies, Peace and Conflict Resolution, and into my career.

While working on my Masters a friend doing her bachelor's degree asked me in a concerned voice, if university really is the best time of a person's life. I told her no, it certainly isn't. My advice would be to remind first-year students that university is a great experience, but it's also very short. So, use your time at King's to its full potential, enjoy it, and get ready for the rest of your life, because the best times haven't even started yet. 🙌



Congratulations to Hannah (neè Schuring, '16) and Wesley DeWaal (BA '16) who were married November 25, 2017.



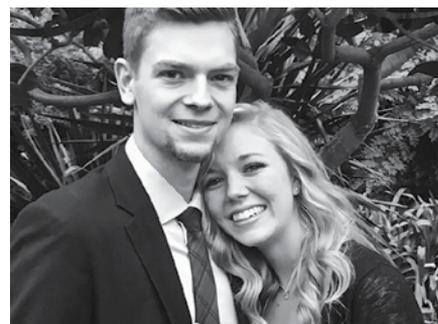
Clayton Stol (BCom '15) and Karlie Witter (BSc '16) were engaged June 30, 2017 and have set the big day for July 22, 2018.



Jacob Skepple (BA '15) and Beth Sandle (BED '17) were married December 29, 2017.



Congratulations to Keelaina Lowen (BSc '17) and Nathan Oostenbrink (BSc '17) who were engaged November 30, 2017.



Corliss Van Veen (BA '17) and Tyler Letain (BSc '15) were engaged October 20, 2017. Fun fact, Dr. Hank Bestman helped Tyler with the engagement by writing her a fake award letter, getting Corliss to the Muttart Conservatory unaware so that Tyler could surprise her with a proposal.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES



AARON TAKEL (B.ED. '16)

I started studying at King's in September 2013. I had to take some additional classes to qualify for the Education After-Degree because my undergraduate degree was from Cardiff Metropolitan University in the UK. I graduated from the Secondary Education After-Degree program in April 2016.

Before attending King's, I looked at a couple of different options in the Edmonton area, and the first thing that made King's stand apart from the other universities was the welcoming and helpful work by the student services staff. The other was that, during a previous job coaching in schools, all of the teachers I spoke to around the province recommended the Education program at King's.

After graduating, I was offered a job with Rugby Canada to work towards the 2019 Rugby World Cup. I am on the coaching staff of the senior men's team as a Performance Analyst, based on Vancouver Island. I work with the other coaches and players to understand their athletic performance using video, GPS, statistics, and analytics. Much of my job involves working with people in a pressured learning environment, much like a classroom in a school. I lead meetings which involve presenting information and getting players to work in groups. King's' Education program equipped me with a number of methods and strategies to help me with this.

The best thing about King's was the sense of community. The size of the classes and the amount of time spent with my peers and staff really allowed everyone to get to know each other and feel comfortable in the learning community. It made learning so much easier and more enjoyable.

I wish I could have been more involved in the extracurricular events at King's or maybe play on one of the sports teams. Unfortunately, I was running my own coaching business and had too many other commitments to make that possible at the time. The students who played with the Eagles looked like they always had so much fun together, whether it was playing, practicing, or studying outside the gym.

I would encourage first-year students to become part of the community at King's and get to know the staff as well as you can. They have so much to offer because they genuinely care about you. I miss my cohort and staff from the Education program, and I can't wait for a reunion in the future! 🏰



Griffin Alexander was born November 26, 2017 to Rebecca (BA '13) and Corey Wandler.



Khalehla Litschel (BA '16) recently launched her novel, *King Coal*. The book presents Alberta's coal mining history and the people and culture that emerged out of the industry from the 1870's through the modern era.



"The Translators" are a band of King's alumni: Darren Binnema (BSc '12), Kevin Bandstra (BCom '12), Ethan VanderLeek (BA '13), Danelle Kastenlein (BA '11, BED '14), Eric Bomhof (BA '17). They are looking to record a full-length album next year! Check them out on social media and support local talent.



Tyler Struyk (BA '17) is living in Spain teaching English. He works at a Catholic school called Gaztelueta teaching 14 to 18-year-olds in the city of Bilbao.



Britney (BA '10) and Thomas Lievaart ('08) welcomed baby Easton on January 1, 2018.



Lianne Oelke (BA '10) released her debut novel *Nice Try Jane Sinner* on January 9, 2018. The novel follows Jane's expulsion from high school and enrolment in a community college, a situation made bearable when she joins a student-run reality show.



Amy Whitesell (BCom '17) and Kristofer Ames (B '17) got engaged October 16, 2017 and eagerly await their wedding July 28, 2018.



Congrats to Julie Paquette (BA '12) and Cameron Edney (BEd '18) who were engaged November 17, 2017.



Afton Forsberg (BA '16) won the Vancouver International Open hosted by the Canadian Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation! Afton is training to compete at the International Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation World Championships in summer 2019.



Laura Hols-Wimbush (BA Music '99) conducted the opening choral from Bach's Christmas Oratorio for mass choir and symphony orchestra in December. She's travelling to New York in May with her choir 'Nova Borealis' to sing at Carnegie Hall as one of three Canadian choirs presenting Dan Forest's "Requiem for the Living."



Sydney Maki ('16) is the CEO and founder of Ekitangaala Ministries, a program that creates schools for orphaned and vulnerable children in Uganda. 2018 has already been a busy year for them! They recently opened a school for blind and special needs children, education previously unavailable in that part of Uganda. Sydney is currently working on making sponsorship profiles for the students and beginning to look for sponsors. Learn more at www.ekitangaala.org



NEW LEADERSHIP AND A BOLD NEW PLAN

“To be a community of friends of The King’s University that benefits the future of the university and its learners through active engagement and loyal financial support.”

NEWLY REVISED STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR THE KING’S UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

The King’s University Foundation has a new five-year strategic plan that aims to double its membership to 150 and increase its annual support to \$400,000, focusing mainly on new scholarships and bursaries for prospective students, especially those needing a little extra help covering tuition.

It also envisions a more active membership that will engage and involve others in events and activities that support the university and its students. Legacy giving through wills and bequests will be encouraged, and in a new twist, grants and sponsorships will also be sought from other foundations and corporations.

“We are very excited about our bold new direction,” says Foundation Chair Coby Benoit. “Our focus on scholarships and our drive to find new sources of funding for King’s, really launch a new era for our work that will ultimately help King’s attract more students and fulfill its mission.”

The Foundation also has a new executive director who will be working closely with members and those on steering committees to achieve the Foundation’s goals. Marta L. Gomez until recently managed the corporate relations portfolio of Athabasca University’s Faculty of Business. In this role, Marta focussed on workplace learning, development, and employee engagement by connecting organizations

and professionals to leadership and management development programs.

“He said, ‘ask and you shall receive’ (Matthew 7:7). The Foundation is asking for double its impact, and it shall be,” Gomez said. “We have an amazing opportunity to grow under the direction of this new strategic plan. Let’s ask and share our bounty, so King’s students prosper today and tomorrow.”

Gomez has also served as Assistant Dean, International of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences at the University of Alberta, and Trade Development Officer for the Americas, in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry with the Government of Alberta.

The Foundation has forged an exciting new path for its future, thanks to the work of its Strategic Planning Committee led by Jim Joosse, former Chair of The King’s University Board of Governors and of the Foundation. Other members included former King’s President Dr. Henk Van Anel and Foundation members Joy Monsma, John Kolk, and Ariel DeJong. The comprehensive new five-year plan was approved by Foundation members at their October 21, 2017 Annual General Meeting held at King’s.

Thanks to the generosity of its members, the Foundation has contributed more



Marta Gomez

than \$2 million toward the causes and needs of King’s over the years, such as the Secondary Education Program, creation of an Alumni Relations function, and the Campus Master Plan. It is in this spirit of cooperation that the Foundation, as an independent body with its own Board of Directors, serves King’s mission so faithfully. Through the support of King’s central administration, particularly Finance and Development, the Foundation’s members and King’s staff will continue to strengthen their partnership and design stewardship solutions that will help the institution and its students thrive for years to come. 🇰🇷

KNOPPERS-BOON ENDOWMENT CREATES A LASTING LEGACY

People who have been involved with King's since its earlier days will know the names Dr. Nick Knoppers and Bartha Knoppers-Boon. The dedication of these individuals helped make King's what it is today; both were among the dedicated founders of King's.

Dr. Knoppers was a pastor and served as chairman of the King's board for several years, guiding King's into a degree-granting institution. He also helped establish The King's University Foundation. Bartha Knoppers-Boon served several decades on The King's Guild, and set an example for young women pursuing an academic career: she was the first woman to obtain

a bachelor degree in theology at the Free University of Amsterdam in 1940.

The Knoppers-Boon scholarship endowment was first established through personal gifts and that of family and friends on their 50th wedding anniversary and the 50th anniversary of Dr. Knoppers' service in the ministry. Additional gifts were added to the fund, thanks to bequests the couple left through their estate plans.

The award is given to women who are pursuing studies in Christian theology and/or pastoral ministry. Since it was first established, more than 20 women have

received support and encouragement through their generosity.

During their lifetime, the Knoppers' leadership transformed Christian post-secondary education in Alberta. Now, after their passing, their legacy lives on through the lives of the many women going on to make a difference in the world. 🙌

For information on how you can create a lasting legacy contact:

Kathy MacFarlane, MA, CFRE

Phone: 780-465-8352

Cell: 403-634-5963

kathy.macfarlane@kingsu.ca

SCHOLARSHIP'S IMPACT AS VALUABLE AS TUITION

Fourth-year psychology major Kristy Bootsma felt called by God in her third-year winter term to do something meaningful with her summer. While she knew that might mean a smaller paycheck, she was determined to be faithful and follow the call, leading her to a head counsellor position at a summer camp. While it was a paid position, it wasn't going to cover as much as she'd hoped for the upcoming school year.

Then Kristy got word she'd been awarded the Knoppers-Boon Scholarship.

"When I found out I was getting the scholarship—and not only the scholarship but what the scholarship was for—I felt like I was affirmed in being faithful and that others were there to support me," Kristy said.

The Knoppers-Boon Scholarship is given to women who plan to go into ministry—a goal Kristy is steadily making plans for. Kristy's hope after graduation is to go to seminary, get her masters of divinity, and become a pastor. "What's going on at King's is important. It's a place of building disciples. That scholarship reassured me I was making the right decisions and I'm on the right path."

The scholarship has had a life-affirming impact on Kristy and her final year at King's. "They paved the way for women like me who wanted to go into ministry," Kristy reinforced. "It's huge. If I had a chance to tell them, past tear-invoking gratitude, I don't know if I could put into words how much it means to me that someone who doesn't know me wants to support me in this journey."



Kristy Bootsma (BA '18)

While Kristy is not sure what her path is going to look like yet, she is excited to use her gifts and go where God needs her. 🙌



PURSUE A BETTER WORLD

Choose King's and look forward to excellent professors, world class academics, and an authentic Christian community that cares for you as a person. Discover Christian university education in Western Canada that prepares you to pursue a better world. Visit King's in person or online to learn more.

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