Permaculture internship in Cuba fuels student’s interest in sustainable agriculture

400 Years on the Frontiers: Jesuits mark the anniversary of arrival to Canada

Course takes students on an exploration of China

Alumni of Distinction Awards celebrate Jesuit education
On the cover:
Campion student Halena Seiferling’s interest in the impact of agriculture on society and the environment led her to Cuba for a seven-week permaculture internship.
Campion College is the only Jesuit-run, university-level institution for non-seminary students in Canada. Operating within a secular environment, Campion works to bring the 400-year-old tradition of Jesuit education into the lives of our students. As we strive to develop the whole person—a key component of Jesuit education—we try to help students integrate their spiritual and social selves with their intellectual growth.

Reminders of faith commitment abound whether in the religious symbols prominently displayed throughout the buildings and the daily services and special celebrations in the newly renovated chapel. Campion's Campus Ministry, relocated to an area of high student traffic, and the newly established office of service and engaged learning invite student participation in volunteer activities on and off campus. The peer support team and student government program events that reinforce the interplay of social justice, environmental awareness, and day-to-day life.

Students from a wide variety of courses are currently serving in community agencies and programs. Their work adds depth and understanding to their course content, supplies local agencies with needed assistance, provides the students with work experience, roots them in Saskatchewan's life and economy, and develops the students as men and women for others, a goal of Jesuit education. Furthermore, the last annual campaign has allowed us to establish a fund to assist students who wish to engage in overseas service-learning projects. The first of these awards will be made in 2012.

Social events in Campion's Student Commons area build friendships and a spirit of community. Our students on university athletic teams are recognized annually with a luncheon in their honour. At the same time, our faculty and staff carefully guide our students through their academic programs to ensure a successful completion of their degree programs.

Finally, a focus on the liberal arts provides students with the critical thinking, communication, and organizational skills they need to be successful in today's job market. A focus on service leadership also enhances their commitment to making positive change in our society.

With limited financial support for infrastructure and capital development, Campion nonetheless has kept its aging buildings attractive and serviceable. To this end, this year's annual campaign focuses on improving the accessibility of our building and programs. This will also result in bringing Campion's public facilities up to the contemporary standards of safety, security and design that have long distinguished Campion College.
Brenda Merk-Hildebrand credits the Pastoral Studies program with leading her to a vocation in palliative care. “I first voiced my deep inner desire to be in palliative care at one of the conversations that took place in the Pastoral Studies program. One of the directors asked me what was deepest in my heart and out of nowhere, or seemly out of nowhere, came that statement, ‘I want to work as a midwife to the dying.’”

Merk-Hildebrand was one of about 20 graduates, guests and friends who gathered at Campion on June 18 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Pastoral Studies program. She hosted a workshop that described her volunteer palliative care work in Campbell River, where she shares the journey with clients, both in hospital and at home. She told the group that the Pastoral Studies program was a coming together of everything.

“I know and believed in that moment.”

In 2005, Merk-Hildebrand and her husband moved to Campbell River, B.C., where her volunteer efforts in hospitals and care homes caught the attention of staff and she was soon invited to give workshops and seminars on palliative care giving. She has since expanded and now responds to invitations to deliver workshops and days of reflection for hospital and care home staff, nursing students, volunteers, church groups and clergy. Her story is but one of many as pastoral studies graduates now fill positions in churches, hospitals, care homes and other institutions.

Jim McGrane, now retired from his position as Religious Education Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Regina, is another of those stories. “Everything I studied in the program helped get that job,” he says.

“IT’s an amazing number of ministries,” says Stephanie Molloy, director of pastoral studies and campus minister. “There are even some exploring ordination in their faith community.”

Molloy says that when the program began most of the students were Roman Catholic, but the student body now is about half Roman Catholic and half other faith communities. There are nine students currently enrolled but Molloy indicates that she is planning recruiting visits to churches and schools in the fall.

Molloy says the program was developed to fill a need for practical and theoretical aspects of pastoral care and ministry. It is designed as a part time course to accommodate working adults. Students are required to take three mandatory classes and select from a variety of programs in psychology, religious studies or the humanities. Campion College offers the certificate program in cooperation with the University of Regina Centre for Continuing Education.
Fred Marcia
Retires After 34 Years of Service

by Joanne Kozlowski

Thirty-four years ago, Fred Marcia responded to an employment ad that would set the course for his career. The position was that of bursar at Campion College, and at the end of the interview Father Peter Nash, SJ, who was president at the time, offered Marcia the job.

“I consider myself a very fortunate individual for having worked [at Campion College] for 34 years. It’s been a really good experience. It’s been a growing experience,” says Marcia.

Marcia’s position within the College evolved over time, from bursar to business manager to executive director, all with a focus on the financial operations of the College and cultivating strong partnerships with the other federated colleges and the University of Regina.

“Fred was respected by his university colleagues for his honest approach. He represented Campion in a way that was consistent, doing what was expected with integrity,” says President Benjamin Fiore, SJ.

Among the final projects Marcia worked on were new fee sharing and infrastructure agreements between Campion and Luther Colleges, and the University of Regina.

“The new infrastructure agreement is more consistent with the fee sharing agreement and the way our relationship has developed. There was a really good working atmosphere among the partners, with everyone coming together to develop an agreement that is workable and manageable,” says Fiore, noting that Marcia’s approach to negotiation helped to establish this congenial atmosphere.

His career spanning almost four decades, Marcia witnessed much change and growth, and assisted in the implementation of a variety of new programs and technological advances.

Marcia remembers one conference that he attended some years ago, where a speaker predicted that, in the near future, there would be a computer on every desk.

“There were so many people in the audience at that time that just laughed and wouldn’t believe it,” recalls Marcia.

The College administration, however, embraced the change and soon faculty and staff enjoyed the benefits the advancement in technology had to offer.

“One thing about the Jesuits, I think, is that they really do think on an innovative path,” says Marcia, which he attributes to their training, education, and teaching.

Marcia also credits the attention paid to sound fiscal management for enabling the College to take an innovative approach. According to Marcia, he had the privilege of working with a complement of directors that looked to the future, paving the way for growth.

“A very positive aspect of Fred’s management style was that it cultured a welcoming environment of open dialogue,” says Ken Yanko, director of facilities and operations.

Even with all the changes, Marcia notes one aspect that remained constant throughout his years at the College.

“The thing that hasn’t changed is the commitment to students. It’s been the basic driver of the College ever since I’ve been here. Students have always been the priority,” says Marcia.
Campion Science Student Awarded University Medal

Campion Science student Kevin Michael Williams received the University Medal at the University of Regina Spring Convocation ceremony on Thursday, 9 June 2011.

The University of Regina presents the University Medal annually to the most distinguished student—one who has achieved academic excellence in all courses completed during the previous twelve months with a minimum of 30 credit hours in two semesters. A computer science major, and participant in the co-operative education program, Williams will be entering his third year of studies this fall.

Williams’ academic achievements over the past two years as a Campion student at the University of Regina have been recognized by his receipt of over ten scholarships and prizes including the Centennial Merit Plus Scholarship, Academic Gold Scholarship, Sun Life Financial Entrance Scholarship, Elmer Shaw Entrance Scholarship, Campion College Prize, Michael Zerr Memorial Scholarship, Dorothy Boyle Memorial Scholarship and ongoing recognition on the Dean’s Honour List.

In addition to these awards, Williams was selected for an NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award in the summer of 2010, the end of his first academic year.

A graduate of Vanier Collegiate in Moose Jaw, Williams is planning a future in software development and programming with possible graduate studies in those areas. At the same time, he is keenly interested in working in his chosen field and states that the co-operative program is a great advantage to that end.

Williams’ love of computers began with video games as a child and was enhanced by relevant high school courses he was able to take. According to Williams, his innate proficiency in mathematics was encouraged and supported by his high school teachers, Mr. Moser and Mr. Toth.

Campion Welcomes New Executive Director

James Gustafson has been appointed executive director, administration and finance, at Campion College effective 2 May 2011.

In this capacity, Gustafson provides strategic leadership aimed at the operational effectiveness and efficiency of the College, and plays an important role in supporting the College’s mission and in building on its strong partnerships with the University of Regina, Luther College, and First Nations University of Canada.

Gustafson brings to the position 12 years of university management experience, much of which was gained at the University of Regina. He has demonstrated success in operations and project management, and the development of effective strategic and marketing plans.

Gustafson received his Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Human Resource Management from the University of Regina, and holds a Certificate in University and College Administration from the University of Manitoba.

Fifty Years a Priest

Fr. Frank Obrigewitsch, SJ, celebrated his 50th year in the Society of Jesus in August 2011.

Ever since he can remember, Obrigewitsch has been called to the religious life and to being a teacher. He says that, as a Jesuit, he has been able to be a ‘lifetime’ student, enabling him to pursue a
great variety of academic interests.

His passion for learning translates to his passion for teaching, which is what drew him to the Society of Jesus: being able to be an educator and a priest at the same time.

His first 23 years of ministry as a Jesuit were spent in secondary education at St. Paul's High School in Winnipeg and Loyola High School in Montreal, both Jesuit schools. Besides devoting himself to teaching during these years, he served in various capacities: chaplain, teacher, principal (for nine years at Loyola), and even president (for three years at St. Paul's).

Sixteen years ago he was sent by his Jesuit Superior to Campion College. He has been delighted to be a lecturer, especially in English 100 and 110 classes. He has also served as assistant dean and is currently serving as dean.

The past 50 years have allowed Obrigewitsch to be an integral part of significant and exciting transitions at St. Paul's High School, at Loyola High School, and at Campion College. He looks forward to being part of more transitions, particularly, to teaching an English 100 Accelerated Course at Vanier Collegiate in Moose Jaw in the Winter 2012 semester. The accelerated program is new to Campion and the local Catholic High Schools, and is designed to provide students a smoother transition to university studies.

VATICAN ASTRONOMER TO DELIVER NASH MEMORIAL LECTURE

Guy Consolmagno, SJ, curator of the Vatican meteorite collection and researcher at the Vatican Observatory in Italy, will present the 33rd Nash Memorial Lecture on Thursday 2 February 2012.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, Consolmagno obtained his BSc and Master of Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and PhD in planetary science from the University of Arizona. He served as a lecturer and postdoctoral fellow at both Harvard College Observatory and MIT before joining the US Peace Corps in 1983, serving for two years as a teacher of astronomy and physics in Kenya.

In 1985, Consolmagno took on a position as assistant professor at LaFayette College in Pennsylvania. Consolmagno entered the Society of Jesus in 1989, taking his vows as a Jesuit brother in 1991. He was assigned to the Vatican Observatory in 1993.


MUSICA SACRA

The next installment of the Musica Sacra series will be held in the Campion College chapel on Sunday 27 November 2011 at 3:00 p.m. with performance by *Ensemble Agrément*, featuring Barbara Swanson (soprano), Valerie Hall (organ), and David Bryant (recorder).

The 2011-2012 series will conclude with a Good Friday concert on 6 April 2012 featuring the Campbell Collegiate Choir directed by Russel and Deidre Baird.

Ron (HS ’61) and Bonnie Thomas donated a special edition print of the Campion College High School building, which is prominently displayed on the main floor of the College. Their gift is in recognition of the College’s beginnings and its contribution to education of young people in Saskatchewan.
This year marks the four-hundredth anniversary of Jesuits in Canada. On 22 May 1611, two Jesuit priests from France—Pierre Biard and Ennemond Massé—arrived at Port Royal, Nova Scotia, to work among the Mi’kmaq people.

Inspired by the Spiritual Exercises of their founder, St. Ignatius Loyola, they left behind what was familiar to seek God in a challenging context.

Although the Acadian mission lasted only two years, the “Black Robes”, as they came to be called, soon returned to New France to venture further afield, ministering among some twenty-three aboriginal nations along the St. Lawrence River, the Great Lakes, the Prairies and the Mississippi, eventually reaching the Gulf of Mexico. The maps they drew, the indigenous dictionaries they compiled and the detailed and fascinating accounts they sent back to Europe – which became known as the Jesuit Relations – would become invaluable resources for historians, geographers, linguists and anthropologists. “Not a cape was turned, nor a river entered”, as historian George Bancroft expressed it poignantly, “but a Jesuit led the way.”

Among the most famous of these cross-cultural encounters was with the Wendat people of Huronia (near present-day Midland, Ontario) where the Jesuits established the mission of Sainte-Marie Among-the-Hurons.

Intended as a model Christian community, the post soon fell victim to disease, misunderstanding and tribal warfare. In 1649, only ten years after its founding, it was destroyed and several aboriginal Christians and Jesuits were killed. Of these, Jean de Brébeuf and Gabriel Lalemant were among eight people canonized in 1930 as the Canadian martyrs. Today, thousands of pilgrims have visited this historic and sacred place to tour the reconstructed mission of Sainte-Marie, offer a prayer at the nearby Martyrs’ Shrine (still served by the Jesuits) or pause in silence at St. Ignace, the site of the martyrdom. At both Sainte-Marie and the Shrine, interpretative centres bring to life this rich legacy.

Over the past four centuries, the Jesuits have left an indelible imprint on the Church as well as Canadian history and society. In fact, many of their works in Canada can be traced back to their pioneering mission at Sainte-Marie. Their contributions have been
Plan d'éducation

adapté aux besoins et
aux capacités des garçons
de St. Croix.

1. Lettre
2. Chasteté
3. Charité
4. Pieté
5. Courage
6. Docilité
7. Vérité

Mode d'enseignement Simultané-Mutuel ou mixte

Moyens: Lettres
Execution: Naturels

1. Éducation
2. Réparation
3. Éducation

Académies
Congrégations
Ateliers
far-reaching, embracing fields as diverse as education and spirituality, social justice and scientific research, pastoral and international work, media and medicine, ecology and art. In the Ignatian tradition of finding God in all things, Jesuits have promoted faith and justice in a variety of contexts. After founding the first parish in Canada (Notre-Dame-de-Québec, 1634), Jesuits opened parishes among new immigrants and Aboriginal people. As Canada expanded westward, Jesuits accompanied the first settlers, responding to their spiritual and pastoral needs. Today, Jesuits administer parishes in St. John’s, Montreal, Toronto, Guelph, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Winnipeg and Vancouver. They remain committed to Canada’s First Nations in their struggle for social justice. In 1971, they began at the University of Sudbury the first native studies department in Canada entirely administered by Aboriginal people. Eight years later, they founded at Espanola, Ontario, the Anishinabe Spiritual Centre for the formation of native deacons and lay leaders. Each member of the first graduating class received a special blessing and stole from Blessed John Paul II during his historic visit to Sainte-Marie in 1984. As the Pope reminded them on that occasion, “Christ in the members of His Body is himself Indian.”

The Jesuit contribution to education is well known. Over the years, Jesuits have formed men and women for others, founding schools based on the Ratio studiorum, the Jesuit plan of studies developed in the late 1500s. These guidelines seek to develop the whole person—intellectually, spiritually and socially—for service to the community. Based on these principles, in 1635 Jesuits established the College-des-Jésuites at Quebec, which later became Laval University, the oldest French-speaking institution of higher learning in North America. Since then, they have founded twelve colleges and fifteen high schools across Canada – from St. John’s to Edmonton – some French-speaking, others English-speaking and still others bilingual. Today, Jesuits assist at St. Bonaventure’s College (St. John’s), College Charles-Garnier (Quebec City) and College Jean-de-Brébeuf (Montreal) and administer Loyola High School (Montreal) and St. Paul’s College (Winnipeg). Jesuit post-secondary institutions include Regis College (Toronto) and Campion College (Regina), though Jesuits also teach at the University of Manitoba, Corpus Christi College (Vancouver) and the University of Toronto. Over the years, these schools have produced teachers and doctors, artists and bishops, engineers and politicians, such as former prime minister Pierre Trudeau (Brébeuf) and governor general Georges Vanier (Loyola). The opening this fall of the Mother Teresa Middle School promises to foster this same Ignatian spirit among the youth of North Central, Regina.

Finally, Canadian Jesuits have sought to find God on the frontiers of the human experience, both spiritually...

Drawing by Jesuit missionary Rev. Nicholas Point, SJ. (courtesy of the Archive of the Jesuits in Canada).
and geographically. The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius have remained at the heart of all Jesuit work in Canada, ever since they were first given at Sainte-Marie to the Wendat chief, Joseph Chihwatenha. Based on Ignatius’ own spiritual reflections during his time in a cave at Manresa in Northern Spain in 1522, the Exercises invite those making them to reflect on their place in God’s creation, their friendship with Christ and their role in his mission of loving service.

Thousands have attested to their life-changing potential, as experienced in the serenity of Jesuit retreat houses and spirituality centres in Halifax, Quebec City, Montreal, Pickering, Guelph, Sault Ontario and Winnipeg. Others have come to know the Exercises through “Christian Life Communities” (CLCs) across Canada or spiritual conversation with individual Jesuits. Through the Jesuit Ecology Project at Loyola House in Guelph, retreatants have been able to reflect on environmental issues from an Ignatian perspective. In their varied ministries, Canadian Jesuits – now numbering over 300 – have developed this spirituality at the frontiers of our world: in missions in China and Jamaica, India and Haiti, Zambia and Ukraine, Kenya and Armenia. Yet the promotion of faith and justice has come at a cost. In 1943, three French-Canadian Jesuits were killed for sheltering Chinese refugees during the Pacific war. In 2001, Martin Royackers, SJ, who had long advocated for the poor in Jamaica, was shot outside his parish church. Integrating spirituality and social justice, Jesuits have worked in refugee camps through the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and established the African Jesuit AIDS Network (AJAN).

Over the past four centuries, Canadian Jesuits have served on the frontiers to which God has called them: in a cancer research lab in Toronto and a music school for the poor in Darjeeling; in old growth forests in Newfoundland and deaf ministry in Ottawa; in a prison in Saskatchewan and television programs on national networks. True to their vocation, they have found creative ways of responding to Pope Paul VI’s challenge that “Wherever in the church, even in the most difficult and exposed fields, ... in the social trenches, there has been or is confrontation between the burning exigencies of humanity and the perennial message of the gospel, there have been and are the Jesuits.” More recently, his successor Benedict XVI has reaffirmed this mission by urging all Jesuits: “... the Church needs you, counts on you, and continues to turn to you with confidence, particularly to reach the geographical and spiritual places where others do not reach or find it difficult to reach.”
History was made this summer, and I was part of it! The Province of Jesuits in English Canada held their third ever Congress—a gathering of all available Jesuits in the Province—to discern where God is leading them as a community. It was convened as part of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first Jesuits to Canada, and had as a special guest the Very Reverend Adolfo Nicolás, the Superior General of the Society of Jesus. Held in Midland, Ontario, near the site of the Canadian Martyrs’ Shrine, the congress would honour the earliest Canadian Jesuit missionaries to the Huron (Wendat) people.

While all of these elements are noteworthy, what made this Congress historical was the inclusion of 42 lay collaborators who were invited to attend and participate in every facet of the Congress, including planning, praying, implementing, and discerning, complementing the 149 Jesuits in attendance. Both the goal and method of the Congress were captured with the motto: Jesuit Relations: 1611 – 2011 Remember • Renew • Without Counting the Cost.

And how did we manage within this new model? Let me share my journey.

**Day One, July 27 – We Gathered**
From across Canada we arrived by air, by train, by bus, and by car, taking over the Best Western Highland Inn in Midland. Whether it was lunch in the atrium, gathering for conversation and social events in the ballroom, or reflective time spent in one of the two chapels prepared for our private prayer, there were Jesuits and friends of Jesuits everywhere!

**Day Two, July 28 – We Remembered**
Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons was the headquarters for the French Jesuit Mission to the Wendat people. Though destroyed after only 10 years, it was partially reconstructed with the help of archaeological excavations and historical research. Authentic period guides gave the delegates a good understanding of what it would have been like to live there at the time. Of critical historical importance was that the Jesuits, confronted with a completely new culture, laboured to take on the ways of the Wendat, learning their language, customs, and way of living. Not only did they reject the idea of making the natives French, but after struggling for years to learn their oral language, they created a written language for them that had not existed before. As someone said, they were enculturated before the term existed.

As we remembered the way of life and the ministry within this community, we were invited to reflect on the work that is done today in the name of Jesuit education, spirituality, and justice. This theme continued with another highlight in the afternoon. In his address, Fr. General Adolfo Nicolás Pachón noted that our day of remembering is a very “Ignatian operation” because imagination is fundamental. He tied the life and ministry of the Canadian Martyrs to the evangelization we are called to today. The deep mysticism and radical nature they lived in their immersion in Wendat culture has moved to the universality we experience now. It has
more to do with the heart of God than geography, he said, and the Canadian Martyrs were an example of that. It is by immersing our heart in the experience of another that allows us to be changed.

At the evening banquet, hosted at Sainte-Marie, each delegate was given a cross hand-forged at the blacksmith shop as a lasting memento of this profound day.

Day Three, July 29 – We Were Renewed • Without Counting the Cost

A 7:00 a.m. breakfast gathering with Fr. Nicolás was well worth the early wake-up call. If there was any doubt that the Jesuits are fully committed to collaboration, it was dispelled in this meeting between Fr. Nicolás and the lay collaborators. The genuineness and courage of his responses to tough questions was inspiring, and actually gave me renewed hope in the future of our Church. Fr. Nicolás is a very soft-spoken but wise man, with an engaging manner and wisdom he is not afraid to share. He affirmed our partnerships and told us that because of them, we can continue dreaming.

And, as if that and the experiences of yesterday were not memorable enough, we made a 12-kilometre pilgrimage to the place where saints Jean de Brébeuf and Gabriel Lalemant were martyred. Following our morning prayer of reconciliation and commissioning, each individual was sent forth, blessed with the Relics of the martyrs. The skies had opened overnight, and it looked like it would be a long trek in pouring rain, but the Spirit prevailed, and just as we set out the rain first moderated then completely stopped. Our arrival at the site of the martyrdom was marked with drums and song and prayer, and we were once again blessed by Fr. General with the Relics before heading back to the Shrine (by bus, my feet were happy to know).

Following the pilgrimage, two individuals spoke about what “without counting the cost” had meant to them. Bill Clarke, SJ, lived and worked on the Jesuit farming community in Guelph with people with intellectual disabilities. He told us that there is a radical truth in the lives of people who suffer, and being privileged to be part of that community was not experiencing the cost, but rather experiencing Jesus.

The Lt. Governor of New Brunswick, Hon. Graydon Nicholas, spoke about the intimate connection between the Jesuits and the First Nations people. His challenge to us, with respect to not counting the cost, was to celebrate the December 12th Day of Prayer for Aboriginal Peoples in a new way. He dared us to step away from the traditional liturgy and invite a Pipe Carrier or Elder to come and explain the gift they have been given, to incorporate indigenous drummers, and to engage in discussions, because this is where we learn to appreciate the presence of Christ.

Day Four, July 30 – We Discerned

During their General Congregation in 2008, Benedict XVI told the Jesuits to “stand on the frontiers.” The question for D-Day (discernment day) was: From what frontiers is the Crucified and Risen Christ calling to us, “Come! Join me. Let us labour together to build the Kingdom of God.” How is the Spirit stirring us to respond?

Through the process of spiritual conversation, which took several hours, each of 23 groups came up with a statement that will help inform apostolic priorities and decisions in the coming years. It’s only just begun.

Day Five, July 31 – We Celebrated

St. Ignatius Day was one of celebration. Mass at the open-air altar was concelebrated by the three 50-year Jubilarians, among them was our own Fr. Frank Obrigewitsch, SJ. A veritable feast followed for all who attended the day. In honour of the first Jesuits on Canadian soil, the wine served was Massé Vidal and Biard Cabernet Sauvignon. Toasts, remarks, and congratulations all around completed the festivities and made a fitting end to the jam-packed five days.

Stephanie Molloy (left) on the 12-kilometre pilgrimage to the Martyr’s Shrine in Midland, Ontario.
The Honourable Georgina R. Jackson - Professional Achievement

One of Canada’s top jurists, Madam Justice Georgina Jackson (BA ’73) was admitted to the Bar of Saskatchewan in 1977 and received the Law Society of Saskatchewan’s award for most distinguished graduate of its Bar Admission course. In 1991, she was appointed Justice to the Court of Appeal for Saskatchewan.

Madam Justice Jackson frequently speaks on judicial ethics, appellate advocacy, statutory interpretation, courtroom practice and procedure, and insolvency law. She serves on numerous committees and commissions, including: Law Reform Commission of Saskatchewan; Canadian Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics (1999-2007); International Association of Women Judges (1999-2007); Equality/Diversity Committee of the Law Society of Saskatchewan (1999-2007); and the Canadian Institute of Administrative Justice.
Mr. Harvey Fox - Professional Achievement
Harvey Fox has played a key role in the delivery of healthcare in Saskatchewan over the past fifty years. Mr. Fox has served in senior administrative roles at several hospitals and healthcare facilities throughout the province, where he worked to improve efficiencies while ensuring the highest standards in patient care. Throughout his career, Mr. Fox displayed a commitment to the staff at the facilities in which he worked, and to the patients and community they served.

Mr. Fox is a recipient of the Smith Walsh Memorial Award for his contributions to healthcare in Canada, and the Mission Award from the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan. He is an honorary life member of the Saskatchewan Association of Health Services Executives, the Canadian College of Health Services Executives, and the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan.
Campion College welcomes Dr. Robert Petry as instructor in mathematics and statistics effective 1 July 2011.

Coming to Campion from SIAST Palliser Campus, Petry is very excited to be joining the faculty at Campion. Petry chose Campion College because “College settings foster a comfortable and approachable learning environment for students and, at the same time, encourage the sharing of ideas across disciplines.”

“I have personally benefited from the contribution that the federated colleges make to the life of the university and am excited to be part of their continued success,” says Petry.

There is no question that Petry thoroughly enjoys teaching and sharing his knowledge and experience with students.

“I have always loved learning, evaluating established ideas and discovering new ones. I have had the great privilege to be able to pursue a broad education, following my research interests in science, the humanities, and technology,” says Petry, who enjoys engaging ideas with students because it creates a collaborative learning environment for both students and instructors.

Petry says that what he loves about mathematics is that it interpenetrates so many other disciplines.

“The same statistics required to interpret the quantum probabilities at the minute realms of quarks and atoms can be applied to study the distribution of wealth in Saskatchewan or the concentration of galaxies in the observable universe. Mathematics is the universal language of science,” says Petry.

Petry will be instructing statistics, mathematics and a quantum chemistry class this fall.

Petry completed his Bachelor of Science Honours in physics and Honours Certificate in mathematics at the University of Saskatchewan with high honours. He then went on to obtain his Diploma in Theology and Master of Studies in Theology from Oxford University in England. At the University of Calgary, Petry received his Master of Science in mathematics before attending the University of Regina where he received his Doctor of Philosophy in theoretical particle physics.

ACADEMIC NOTES

Dr. Lee Ward, associate professor of political studies, presented Locke’s Democratization of Mind at the Law, Liberty and Virtue Conference hosted by the James Madison Program in American Ideal and Institutions at Princeton in May 2011.

In April, Campion professors Dr. Ann Ward and Dr. Lee Ward, together with University of Regina professors Dr. Tom McIntosh and Dr. Howard Leeson, led a discussion in Regina about Election 2011: The Campaigns, the Issues and the Possibilities. Topics of discussion included: Rebuilding the Liberal Family, Coalition Rhetoric and the Conservative Search for a Majority, Making Space for the NDP, and Do We Really Care about the Issues?

Astronomy professor Dr. Martin Beech, in conjunction with the Physics Department at the University of Regina, held a seminar to discuss The Large Hadron Collider: Unravelling the Mysteries of the Universe in Regina this past April.

As one of the organizers of a China study tour at the University of Regina, Dr. John Meehan, SJ, assistant professor of history and Catholic studies, delivered a talk entitled Finding a Pacific Person: Canada’s Early Relations with China at the Beijing Foreign Studies University, the Yunnan University for Nationalities, and the Chinese Academy of Social Science in Beijing. The Regina delegation also had academic exchanges at the following institutions: the National People’s Congress, the Embassy of Canada (where they watched the Canadian federal election results live), the Canadian Centre at the Beijing Foreign Studies University and Fudan University in Shanghai. The study tour lasted from 27 April to 15 May 2011.

Dr. Jan Purnis, assistant professor of English, presented her paper Shakespeare’s Second Brain: The Belly-Mind Relationship in the Early Modern Culture at The Ninth World Shakespeare Congress in Prague, Czech Republic in July 2011. She also presented Early Modern Hermeneutics of Eating: Cannibalism and the Deterritorialization of the Self-Other Divide at the International Association of Philosophy and Literature Conference in Taiwan in May 2011. Recently, the University of Toronto awarded Purnis the Clifford Leech Prize for her PhD thesis Digestive Tracts: Early Modern Discourses of Digestion. The Leech prize is awarded annually for a thesis of outstanding merit nominated from either the University of Toronto Graduate Centre for the Study of Drama or the Department of English.

Dr. Anna Mudde, assistant professor of philosophy (term), presented Territories of Reflection: Subjectivity, Selfhood, and the Mirror as part of a panel entitled Hermeneutical Territories at the May 2011 Conference of the International Association of Philosophy and Literature in Tainan, Taiwan.

Dr. Robert Piercey, associate professor of philosophy, gave a talk entitled Reading: Some Philosophical Puzzles on 16 February 2011 in Regina. His talk was part of the Faculty of Arts Philosophy Café, an open exchange of philosophical ideas led by a University of Regina or Federated College philosophy professor or graduate student. Piercey also presented his paper Hermeneutical Territories: A Plea for the Practical at the International Association of Philosophy and Literature’s Annual Conference in Taiwan in May 2011.

Classics professor Dr. David Meban presented Time, History and Myths of Progress in Virgil’s Fourth Eulogie at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of Canada.
During their stay in Cuba, the interns didn’t quite get in sync with the inhabitants’ more relaxed pace of life. “Cuba’s different than here where everyone’s on the go,” she says. “We were always walking or riding our bikes faster than the Cubans, always in a hurry to get somewhere. The Cubans would take their time strolling along the street, and we’d pass them all. So we thought, ‘Something’s wrong here. What are we doing? We don’t blend in.’”

Seiferling, in her third year of international studies focusing on development studies, was one of 10 students accepted into an internship offered by the Urban Farmer, the University of Alberta Faculty of Extension and the Antonio Nunez Jimenez Foundation for Nature and Man. Seiferling says, “We were all together for the first time,” to study and then implement principles of permaculture.

The practice of permaculture creates a sustainable agricultural system that incorporates its surroundings to grow crops as efficiently as possible. For example, produce can be grown on a small scale on city balconies or yards, or on larger acreages and farms.

Seiferling notes that Cuba was severely affected by the fall of the Soviet Union, its principal trading partner, in the late ‘80s as well as the United States’ trade embargo throughout the ‘90s, and consequently had to curb its reliance on imports such as produce, fertilizer, and oil. Permaculture, an environmentally friendly and economical means of food production, was promoted by government members such as Antonio Nunez Jimenez, who served with Che Guevera and later became director of the National Institute of Agrarian Reform.

State-supported producers began to grow organic fruits and vegetables in organopónicos, concrete containers filled with organic matter and soil that are uniquely adaptable to urban environments such as vacant lots. According to the Monthly Review, over 35,000 hectares of land are used for urban agriculture in Havana alone.

Seiferling believes it would be a mistake for Cuba to go back to its former reliance on growing monoculture crops like sugar cane or
tobacco. “You can be productive without using oil, fertilizer, or chemicals. Permaculture is all about companion planting: for example, growing plants that produce nitrogen but need carbon beside carbon producers that need nitrogen. Pests can be controlled using natural repellents.”

A tenet of permaculture considers waste or pollution to be an unused resource. Seiferling also discovered how to integrate sustainable household practices into permaculture systems: using composting toilets; filtering grey water through rocks, pebbles, and sand and then using it to irrigate the garden. She explains, “It’s a technology, but it’s not using anything. It’s renewable.” Public recycling bins, an increasingly common sight in North American, are virtually non-existent in Cuba. “There’s very little waste or unnecessary packaging to begin with. When I was done with a magazine, I couldn’t find anything to put it in. If something’s biodegradable, you compost it.”

Seiferling’s home community of Sancti Spiritus, a city of 130,000 people in central Cuba, also took a bit of getting used to. “It was built in the 16th century, and the streets were very twisty and windy to confuse attacking pirates,” she laughs. “I never knew where I was half the time.”

A previous trip to the Dominican Republic coupled with courses at the University of Regina gave Seiferling a good grounding in Spanish. She says, “I could carry on a conversation if I knew the context. If the topic changed, it was harder to follow along.” The students also found that women were more accommodating toward fledgling Spanish speakers. “The men there spoke quite quickly and tended to drop the ending letters of their words, so they were really hard to understand. If you asked the women to speak slower, they would, but the men just kept going. That was a bit hard to deal with.”

Living in a communist country was also an eye opener. “There was no advertising anywhere, other than slogans on a wall like, let’s be strong together. If you go to a store, there’s no customer service. Everyone gets paid no matter what, so they say, ‘Oh, it’s there. Whatever.’ It wasn’t bad really, it worked, but that was something new I had to deal with.”

Seiferling notes that people seemed generally happy, but opinions concerning life in Cuba differed by generation. “The two people that run the Jimenez Foundation were in their 60s and had a strong positive mindset about the revolution. We had Spanish classes once a week taught by a nice old man. When we asked him about the revolution, he had very strong opinions, very strict. He thought the Internet should only be for people who have earned it.”

Seiferling explains that many Cubans have computers in their homes, but free Internet access is limited. “There’s a (government sanctioned) e-mail system for Cubans. There’s no Hotmail or Gmail. People can’t go on Facebook, etc., although they wanted to. We asked our Spanish teacher, what if you want to go on BBC news or CNN news? He said, ‘We have our own news.’”

In Seiferling’s experience, she found the next generation of Cubans to be more focused on day-to-day realities. Seiferling says, “People who were younger, raising teenage kids, were thankful for all that they had. They lived through the embargo in the ’90s, so that was very clear in their memories as their defining generational event – yes, it was hard, but the government got us through and we pulled together. We had all
this gardening going and got the food we needed. We raised our families.”

Predictably, she also found the youngest generation to be more disaffected. “People our age were upset they couldn’t go on the Internet. They were babies when the embargo happened and don’t remember the revolution. Some of them talked about maybe leaving Cuba.”

Nonetheless, the bonds of community in Cuba are strong, and people take pains to look after each other. “People there were very patient and friendly,” she says. “They’d try to help us with our Spanish or speak English if they could. Everyone at the Foundation took care of us and made sure we were okay.”

The farm where Seiferling and her group worked was on the edge of Sancti Spiritus and was relatively large, the equivalent of two city blocks. “In the middle of the property there was a large open circle that was a hub of activity. People would gather there after church, or anytime really, and just hang out. We made seating for that area and a tire swing for the kids, as well as a bench for the women who came over to visit with the farmer’s wife.”

The students didn’t stop there, accomplishing an impressive amount during their stay while dealing with extremes of sun and heat and a week of torrential downpours. They constructed a vegetable garden using a mandala design, a common motif in permaculture. Seiferling says, “The farmer used to give bike tours of Cuba in his younger days, so we made one back garden in the shape of a bike with two mandalas for wheels and a little path in the middle for a seat and another one for the handlebars.”

The group recycled blocks from a nearby church to make more garden beds, dug trenches to divert water, and built fencing and housing for chickens and goats as well as an outdoor kitchen with an outdoor stove. After painting the farmer’s house, they did a mural on one wall, using the talents of a group member, some local artists, and a collection of enthusiastic neighbourhood children. Planting crops in various plots and in receptacles such as old toilets was a common activity. Seiferling smiles, “We did lots of different things. That’s just a short list.”

Looking back over her internship, Seiferling says, “My time in Cuba solidified what I’ve been thinking all along. My perceptions of the world and what I want to do with my career are the same. That’s good to know.” She remains very interested in the impact of agriculture on society and the environment and would like to do more overseas development work, possibly with an NGO. She says, “I definitely want to go to more Spanish-speaking countries.”

She is also interested in learning more about environmental engineering. “Knowing how to make development happen – if people need a well for water, where would the best location be?” The advantages of the permaculture system and its applicability to different environments was definitely a great discovery. “The specific things you do will be different, but you can apply the same principles to any climate and make a system sustainable within itself.”

Seiferling continues her studies this fall with an exchange to Norway via the Northern Scandanavian Politics and Society program. “I’ll learn about their social programming and get a different take on development.” She smiles, “I think that’ll be really interesting.”
Three Campion students had the chance to see their text books come alive as they toured China on a course called Changing China: Modernity and Ethnicity in Metropolis and Hinterland.

"An international experience widens their horizons," says Campion professor John Meehan, SJ, one of three professors who taught the course.

The class took 22 students from all different disciplines to China's biggest cities and rural areas to learn about the country's culture, history and politics. Professors Dongyan Blackford and Philip Charrier instructed the course as well.

"Everything they see in a classroom they got to see being lived out in places like Shanghai. Book knowledge is one type of learning, but when you actually go to a country and see how people live that's a whole other story," says Meehan.

Meehan is an assistant professor of history and Catholic studies at Campion College with a specific interest in Asia. He believes Canada needs to be keeping its eye on China. According to Meehan, much of what we own in North America was manufactured in China. The country has one of the fastest growing GDP's in the world and its economy is now the second biggest in the world, just behind the United States.

"You just sense this optimism that you're in a country that's on its way up," says Meehan.

However, he notes the economic growth has come with challenges such as environmental sustainability. He also admits China often is criticized for ongoing human rights issues.

Still, Meehan says the changes he has seen China, specifically the city of Shanghai, go through in the last few years is remarkable.

"It's such a vibrant, flourishing city that's being transformed and so they want to be part of that transformation but in the process it's transforming them," he says.

The students started meeting once a week in January to learn about China. Then, in April, the students embarked on their fifteen-day journey. Since the course included students from a variety of disciplines such as history, religious studies, geography, women's studies, and more, each student was required to design a final project and keep a field journal about their experiences. Meehan says the goal was to connect with people in China who could share information related to the students' academic project.

"It's very individually tailored and each student got something really different out of the trip."

Alexa Taylor, a third year women's studies major at Campion who is also working on attaining a certificate in international development, jumped at the chance to go to China because she hopes to do future work overseas.

As she sits down at a busy coffee shop in Regina with a stack of glossy women's magazines, she talks about how Chinese media depicts women.

"There, it's almost like New York, like Times Square, there's ads everywhere and huge billboards," says Taylor.

She took pictures of those ads so she could analyze the messages the
advertisers were trying to convey and compare them to Western media messages.

Taylor was stunned by the Western influences in many of the Chinese advertisements.

“White skin, blonde hair, big eyes,” she says. “Then I found that a lot of the ads that were of Chinese women had really white skin, big eyes, big lips, and were trying to mirror that ideal Western woman that we’re seeing from globalization,” says Taylor.

Taylor, who is also concerned with how Western media portrays women, put together a scrapbook that incorporated her pictures from China, magazine clippings, and her analysis.

“You just noticed how much the Western world affects other countries, but not even in a good way,”

Taylor says she could see how the media is impacting Chinese women by the attention she received for being a white woman.

“It just kind of hurt me how they obsessed over me. They get this idea in their mind that just because I’m white and have blue eyes and blonde hair that I am superior and that was really, I don’t know, uncomfortable,” says Taylor.

Campion student Shea Poncsak looked at the darker side of women’s issues in China. The second year history major who has a keen interest in Asian history, wanted to look at the issue of prostitution and how it has changed over the years.

She learned a bit about the history of courtesans—women who were hired to entertain men, which is similar to the role of a Japanese geisha.

Poncsak says courtesans aren’t very common anymore. In 1949, the Communist government cracked down on prostitution, which, Poncsak says, made it invisible.

Poncsak’s interest in Asia started in a class she took with Meehan about Shanghai and Tokyo. This excursion to China gave Poncsak a chance to see things first hand.

Lorraine Lylyk, a mature student taking religious studies classes through Campion part-time, designed a two-tiered project.

Based on her studies, Lylyk wanted to look at Jesuit sites in China. On a personal level, Lylyk also wanted to learn about the resources available to Chinese people with autism because her child is autistic.

Lylyk wrote a final paper about some of the remaining Jesuit sites in China and the lasting impact Jesuit missionaries from the 16th and 17th century had on the introduction of Christianity in the East.

Meehan says working on the projects will shape the student’s futures.

“Whether they are a graduate student or an undergraduate, they are at the stage where they are making big decisions—what they’re going to research, what kind of job they are going to apply for—this experience will shape those choices.”

Meehan says he saw several students experience moments of transformation throughout the trip.

“Some students who didn’t know what they were going to do with their lives, or with their degree, are thinking ‘wow I could do this, or wow, I could do that’. So it’s giving them all sorts of ideas for their careers and already they are thinking of ways of going back.”

Particularly, he says there were two Aboriginal students in the class who were able to make connections between their own culture and the Indigenous peoples of China.

While the financial cost of the trip was $4,000, which covered accommodations and meals, Meehan says it was invaluable for everyone involved, including himself.

“I have traveled a lot, but it was one of the best cross cultural experiences I have ever had because it’s not just me traveling with a couple of professors or colleagues, it’s me traveling with the students so you get to see the changes in the students almost on a daily basis,” says Meehan.

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The Ancient Observatory in Beijing is one of the oldest observatories in the world. Johann Adam Schall (1591–1666), a Jesuit missionary, played an important role in the development of astronomical studies in China during the Qing dynasty.
Thanks to the generous support received from our donors, a scholarship will be established to support students participating in a service learning project abroad. The College has also established an Engaged Learning Program to promote community service learning on a local scale. Through this program, students are encouraged to get involved in their community by participating in meaningful volunteer-service activities either within their current studies or outside of their course work. Program participants gain practical experience related to their field of study while making important contributions to the community. This year, the program has expanded to include volunteer service options for students in select Campion English, psychology, and religious studies courses.

The team of faculty and staff at Campion are dedicated to building a supportive environment to help students achieve their goals. However, for some the barrier can present itself in the physical attributes of our building. The 2011-2012 annual campaign will support student programs and services by improving access to these important initiatives.

The current Campion College building on the University of Regina campus was constructed in 1966. At that time, the building standards differed greatly from what they are today. In recent years, the College has taken steps to improve accessibility and ensure code compliance.

“Safety, security, and access are primary concerns for the College. Whenever possible we have made the necessary upgrades to ensure that we are building code compliant and meet current standards for public health, fire safety, and structural sufficiency,” says Ken Yanko, director of facilities and operation at Campion College.

The greatest challenge, Yanko explains, is finding the necessary funding to keep up with the maintenance and renovation of a 45-year-old building.

“There are many areas of deferred maintenance that still need to be addressed, and we are taking them one step at a time,” says Yanko, adding that every renovation project over the past number of years has addressed an area of code compliance, and fire and life safety.

Past improvements include opening the main floor entrance, enhancing accessibility in the fifth floor washrooms, adding lower counters in key service areas, and the addition of automatic entry and exit doors to the Campion library.

“Looking towards the future, Campion will be commissioning a detailed building condition assessment and space use report to identify, quantify and estimate costs for work needed to improve, preserve and maintain the highest and best use of our facility,” says Yanko.

Funds raised through the 2011-2012 annual campaign will go toward a $300,000 renovation project to create a barrier-free environment on the main floor and improve accessibility to other areas of the building.

“The ultimate goal is to provide a safe, comfortable, and welcoming environment to all who access our building,” says Yanko.
2010 - 2011 Annual Campaign Donors

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Dr. Thomas Chase (BA Hons ’79) returns to Regina from Victoria, BC, where he held the position of Vice-President (Academic) and Provost at Royal Roads University, to take on the new role of Provost and Vice-President (Academic) at the University of Regina. The establishment of the Provost’s role reflects the University’s commitment to integrated planning and budgeting in a rapidly changing postsecondary environment.

After completing his undergraduate studies with high honours in English, Tom went on to receive a licentiate diploma in organ performance from Trinity College, London, and a PhD in English language from Glasgow University in Scotland. He counts Tom Rendall, a medievalist at Campion in the 70s and 80s, as one of the formative figures in his academic life.

Tom has held numerous academic and administrative positions at the University of Regina, including a five-year tenure as dean of the Faculty of Arts. A noted specialist in French organ repertoire of the 19th and 20th centuries, he had a central role in conceiving the McGuigan Organ in Holy Rosary Cathedral, recognized as one of the finest liturgical and concert instruments in the country. In 2004, the Royal Canadian College of Organists awarded him the designation of Fellow, honoris causa, (FRCCO) in recognition of his contributions to organ music in Canada.

After graduating from University of Regina, through Campion College (1991), Angie Abdou did an MA in English Literature at the University of Western Ontario and a PhD at the University of Calgary. She has published three books of fiction: Anything Boys Can Do (Thistledown Press 2006), The Bone Cage (NeWest Press 2007), and The Canterbury Trail (Brindle and Glass Press 2011). The Bone Cage was the first selection for the One Book One Kootenay library reading series. It was also a finalist in CBC’s 2011 Canada Reads debates, where it was defended by ex-NHLer Georges Laraque. Most recently, The Bone Cage was selected as the 2011-2012 MacEwan Book of the Year. This fall Angie will be speaking about her new novel, The Canterbury Trail, at Lethbridge Word on the Street, the Vancouver International Writers Festival, the Whistler Readers and Writers Festival, and the Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival. She will also be on a panel at the University of Regina during homecoming, where she will discuss ways in which her experience at the University of Regina fed her life as a writer. That discussion is scheduled for September 30th and will also feature acclaimed writers Dianne Warren, Connie Gault, and Joan Givner. Angie lives in Fernie, B.C., with her husband and two children and teaches full-time at the College of the Rockies in Cranbrook.

Campion alumna, Paulette Hunter (BA, Hons, ’02), received her MA in 2006 from the University of Regina, and is scheduled to present her PhD dissertation An Empirical Study of Health Professionals’ Beliefs about Personhood in Dementia and Their Influence on Intended Patient Care in fall 2011. Paulette has accepted a faculty position at St. Thomas More College at the University of Saskatchewan effective 1 September 2011.

Travis Wood (BA, police studies, ’05) and Amy Wood (nee Alexanderson, BA, psychology, ’03, BA, human justice, ’04) met in the hallway outside of a sociology class on the first day of the fall 2002 semester. After finishing their degrees, they moved to Saskatoon where Travis was
hired by the Saskatoon Police Service and Amy secured a job with the Parole Board of Canada. They married in the fall of 2005 and welcomed the birth of their daughter, Parker Ryann Phoenix, in April 2010.

Shauna Hebert (BA ’07), daughter of Cecile Hebert (nee Kuntz, BA ’73) and Greg Hebert (High School, ’70), and granddaughter of Wendel Kuntz (High School, ’42) married Andrew Koester on 30 July 2011 in Regina. Shauna and Andrew met at a Campion lecture in 2008 and became friends while Andrew worked at the Campion Library. The happy couple will reside in Regina where Shauna works as Campion’s Enrolment Services Specialist.

BRAG A BIT:

We want to hear from you! Send your Brag a bit information to Alumni Affairs, Campion College, University of Regina, 3757 Wascana Parkway, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada S4S 0A2, or campion.college@uregina.ca.

Celebrate Jesuit Education at the 2011 Alumni of Distinction Awards Dinner

Campion College invites all alumni to join in celebrating the contributions of the Jesuit Fathers to education in Saskatchewan.

This year marks the 400th anniversary of the Jesuit Fathers arrival to Canada and the beginning of a long, rich history for the Society of Jesus in this country—of which we are proud to be a part.

Since Campion’s humble beginnings in the basement of Holy Rosary Cathedral in 1917, many Regina students have benefitted from the Jesuit tradition of excellence in education.

To honour the Jesuit Fathers and mark the occasion of the 400th anniversary of their arrival to Canada, the 2011 Alumni of Distinction Awards committee is inviting all Campion alumni to celebrate the contribution of the Jesuits to education in our province at the Alumni of Distinction Awards dinner on Friday 4 November 2011. The dinner will be held at the Hotel Saskatchewan Radisson Plaza. Come out and show your Campion pride!

Tickets are $75/plate, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting students participating in the Campion College Engaged Learning program. Tickets for the event can be purchased by calling 586-4242 or 1-800-667-7282.
“Campion College is a Jesuit Catholic community of learning, federated with the University of Regina. It provides a liberal arts education dedicated to the development of the whole person—intellectually, spiritually, socially—for service within contemporary society.”  Mission Statement, Campion College, University of Regina