Love Begins at Home: The Opening of Canada’s First Nativity Miguel Middle School

The Road to Green Lake

Internship Opens World of Possibilities
On the cover:
Gwen Keith, Curtis Kleisinger
and Fr. Benjamin Fiore, SJ,
review plans for new Mother
Teresa Middle School, which is
scheduled to open in
September 2011.
Photo by Don Hall, AV Services

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Campion College, as we know it today, grew as a result of a partnership initially established with the University of Saskatchewan and, later, the University of Regina. This partnership has benefited both institutions, the students on this campus, and the Regina community. Given this long history, it is little wonder that Campion would look to establish other strong partnerships that would strengthen the delivery of education in our city.

When I first became aware of the possibility of a NativityMiguel model school in Regina, I was excited. The first Nativity school opened in the United States some forty years ago and has since proven to be effective in increasing success rates amongst minority groups in that country. The prospect of Regina becoming the first NativityMiguel model school to be established outside of the United States is remarkable. Certainly, all eyes will be on this small school in inner city Regina that plans to open its doors this September.

The Mother Teresa Middle School, which became a reality thanks to the vision of Paul Hill and the hard work and commitment from individuals such as Fr. Benjamin Fiore, Gwen Keith, and Curtis Kleisinger, will not only open the door to opportunities that may otherwise have not been possible, but, through a strong connection with Campion, will also raise awareness among our students of the social justice issues faced by members in the community.
CAMPION STUDENT ATHLETE RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

The individual award winners for the 2010-11 track and field season were announced prior to the start of the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) national championships, naming University of Regina third-year athlete Jeremy Eckert as the CIS Field Athlete of the Year.

Eckert scored 21 of the University of Regina’s 106 team points at the Canada West Championships in Winnipeg, helping the Cougars win their second consecutive conference title. His tally included gold medals in both the high jump (2.11 metres) and the pentathlon (3680 points), as well as bronze in the long jump (6.97 metres).

The Campion Science student cleared the bar at a personal-best 2.16 metres in the high jump at the Queen City Kinsmen Indoor Classic back on February 11, setting a University of Regina and Saskatchewan senior record in the event. He had a season-best long jump of 7.01 in the pentathlon at the Canada West meet.

“Jeremy has had an outstanding season for us so far and has worked exceptionally hard to improve to the point where he’s now considered among the top athletes in CIS,” Cougars head coach Bruce McCannel said. “He’s already the provincial record-holder in the high jump and I fully expect him to continue his development as an elite high jumper.”

Simon Watts (Dalhousie), Alexandro Allison Abaunza (Laval) and Timothy Hendry (Guelph) were also considered for the award.

Eckert becomes the first member of the University of Regina’s men’s track and field team to be named the CIS Field Athlete of the Year. This is the second time he has earned a national award in his career, as he was named the CIS Rookie of the Year in 2009.

Source: University of Regina Athletics

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE JESUIT!

400 years ago French Jesuit Fathers Ennemond Massé and Pierre Biard landed at the small trading post of Port Royal, Nova Scotia. This arrival was the start of the rich history of Jesuit culture in Canada that led to important contributions to Canadian history.

From mapping territory and rivers to reaching out to the Indigenous Peoples across Canada, it is no exaggeration to say that these Jesuit ‘Blackrobes’ immediately set out, as St. Ignatius had written about the Society, “to travel to various places and to live in any part of the world where there is hope of God’s greater service and the help of souls.”

To some, these early Jesuits seemed like adventurers on the frontiers, spreading Christianity, forgetting that in the early Jesuit Missions, St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions in Huronia appreciated the natives’ rich culture. Brébeuf once wrote: “I have never met anyone of those who have come to this area, who does not frankly admit that the native people are quicker of mind than our ordinary country people.”

Among his pastoral work with the natives, Brébeuf wrote a dictionary of the Huron language and Canada’s first Christmas carol—The Huron Carol or Jesous Ahatonhia—in the native language of the Huron/Wendat people.
Beyond work among the First Nations, the Jesuits were establishing celebrated educational institutions in Canada, much like they had already done in Europe. In 1635, the Jesuits established a boys’ school in which they would continue to teach for 140 years. In 1940, there were seven French-speaking, five English-speaking and two bilingual colleges as well as six English high schools started by the Jesuits in Canada. The Jesuits’ Ratio Studiorum (the Jesuit Plan and Method of Studies) eventually became the model for 12 Jesuit colleges and 15 Jesuit high schools spread across Canada—from St. John’s to Edmonton.

For the early Jesuits these schools were not simply exercises in learning, but communities where all inquiry led to a reverence for the creation of God and a fuller understanding of the God of creation. All knowledge became part of God’s word, an insight into the humanity of Christ, and the foundation for a society of humane learning and professional competence.

Besides education, the Jesuits founded a large number of parishes as native and European settlement moved westwards. It was said, in the 1960s for example, that in Sault Ste-Marie Diocese every one of the Catholic parishes had been founded by a Jesuit.

Since the mid-1800s Canadian Jesuits have opened centers of spirituality and retreat houses where visitors can strengthen their own spiritual lives and develop habits of reflection infused with St. Ignatius’ own spiritual journey, recorded in his Spiritual Exercises.

Today’s Jesuits continue in the work of their predecessors as priests, brothers, professors, university administrators, lawyers, doctors, writers, historians, musicians, ecologists, and artists. They continue in their ministry with the First Nations’ communities of Canada and send men overseas to work in places as diverse as Jamaica, Haiti, Zambia, China, India, Ukraine and Nepal.

To commemorate these 400 years of service in Canada, Jesuit communities and apostolates across the country are planning special events for the year-long celebration. The anniversary year begins with an inaugural full day celebration at Port Royal National Historical Site in Nova Scotia on 22 May 2011.

For more information visit www.jesuits.ca or e-mail communications@jesuits.ca

ECOLOGIST AND THEOLOGIAN DELIVERS THE 32ND ANNUAL NASH MEMORIAL LECTURE

Dr. John W. McCarthy, SJ, a Jesuit priest and forest ecologist, delivered the 32nd annual Nash Memorial Lecture on Thursday 10 March 2011 at Campion College.
His lecture, entitled Re-enchantment of Nature as the Word and Beauty of God, explores the idea that the Christian faith is not solely concerned with the salvation of the human soul and that matter really does matter for Christianity.

“The global impacts of human consumption and resource use on the functioning of natural ecosystems and the provision of ecosystem goods and services have reached a breaking point. Never before in human history have we had to admit that human activity dominates the planet and that the future is quite simply in our hands. This crisis poses a daunting challenge for Christian theology,” says McCarthy. McCarthy is the university chaplain at St. Mark’s College at the University of British Columbia, where he also lectures in ecological theology. In the summer months, McCarthy conducts research in lichen biodiversity for the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Environment and Conservation. He received a Bachelor of Science from the University of New Brunswick, a Master of Science (soil science) from the University of Florida, and a PhD (boreal forest ecology) from the University of British Columbia.

The Nash Memorial lecture and lecture booklet is available for viewing on the Campion College website, www.campioncollege.ca/news-and-events/nash-memorial-lecture-series. The booklet is also available for purchase for a cost of $5. To purchase a copy call (306) 586-4242.

**CHAPEL RENOVATIONS COMPLETED**

Campion College celebrated the completion of the chapel renovation project with a rededication ceremony on Sunday 5 December 2010. The ceremony began with a presentation in the Campion Student Commons, and was followed by a blessing of the chapel and Sunday evening liturgy.

The centerpiece of the renovation project is the installation of two dalle de verre stained glass windows. The windows, which consist of four panels each, were originally designed and made by Paul and André Rault of Brittany, France, in 1958 for the St. Joseph convent in Forget, Saskatchewan. In 2006, the college acquired the windows from Reverend Hervé Vallée of the Diocese of Prince Albert. Rev. Vallée had preserved these works of art after they were removed from the convent in 1964.

Thanks to a generous contribution by Donald and Claire Kramer, and donations made to the 2009-2010 annual campaign, the college was able to refurbish these windows and install them in the chapel this year. “We are very grateful to our generous benefactors who have made this project possible. Installing these windows in the chapel has enhanced the worship space and advanced the devotion of those who use the chapel for prayer,” said Fr. Benjamin Fiore, SJ, Campion College president.
Also included in the renovation project was the replacement of existing exterior windows and frames, upgrading the interior lighting, and repainting of the chapel interior.

U OF R CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

This year marks the 100th anniversary for the University of Regina, which began as Regina College in 1911.

The centennial will be celebrated throughout the year with various events and will be highlighted by a Homecoming Weekend 29 September to 1 October 2011. The weekend will include a pep rally and Rams game, breakfasts, tours, and Back to Class events. All alumni and their families are invited to come and join the celebration.

For more information or to register, visit www.uregina.ca/alumni/homecoming.

SHARED HISTORIES OF THE UNIVERSITY AND FEDERATED COLLEGE TOPIC OF FORWARD TOGETHER LECTURE

University of Regina history professor and author Dr. James Pitsula delivered the third annual Forward Together Lecture—entitled A House With Many Mansions: The Shared Centennial Legacy of the University of Regina and the Federated Colleges—on Wednesday 30 March in the Rex Schneider Auditorium at Luther College, University of Regina.

In his lecture, Pitsula looked at the origins of Campion College, First Nations University of Canada, Luther College and the University of Regina. Through photos and other archival material, he brought to life the formative events that have shaped the institutions’ development, arguing that there is a core storyline to the past 100 years that has resulted in linked and shared destinies for the university and the federated colleges.

“As paradoxical as it might sound, historical commemoration is about the future as much as it is about the past,” says Pitsula. “It is time to reflect on past accomplishments, which are then projected forward with a renewed sense of mission and purpose. As individuals, we tell stories about ourselves and then live out the narratives we have constructed. The same is true of institutions. Our stories are us.”

The Forward Together Lecture was established in 2009 by the presidents of the University of Regina, Campion College, First Nations University of Canada and Luther College. The lecture is designed to highlight the four institutions’ joint commitment to inclusiveness, understanding, social justice, and human rights.

Fr. Benjamin Fiore, SJ, (far left) and Fr. Frank Obrigewitsch, SJ, (far right) presented the Campion College 2010 Alumni of Distinction Awards to (left to right) Tim Young, Rose Mary Hartney, Carrie Bourassa, Robert Currie, and Msgr. Ken Miller at a gala dinner on 5 November 2010.
Lessons learned in the slums of Calcutta and the inner cities of the United States will come home to Regina in September 2011 when the Mother Teresa Middle School (MTMS) opens its doors. Thanks to the efforts of four key partners — Campion College, Harvard Developments Inc., Regina Catholic Schools, and Jesuits of the English Canadian Province — MTMS will offer a Catholic faith-based, holistic education to highly motivated, economically disadvantaged, inner city youth at the grade 6 to 8 level. The school will be the first in Canada to follow the Jesuit-influenced NativityMiguel model, which has seen great success in the United States.

Mapping out strategy on a snowy January morning, Curtis Kleisinger, the principal of MTMS, and Gwen Keith, the MTMS director, have seen the project steadily gathering momentum over the past year. A Campion graduate and teacher in Regina community schools for 10 years, as well as a recipient of a Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation for his teaching efforts, Kleisinger clearly is inspired by the undertaking, which will provide students with the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty through education. He says, “When you find something that you’re passionate about, the world rises up to meet you. It blows our mind, the support that we get. We’re getting in touch with people and building relationships.”

The seed of MTMS was planted years ago when Paul Hill, president and CEO of Harvard Developments, and other business leaders met with Calcutta-based missionary and Nobel Prize winner Mother Teresa. Hill recalls Mother Teresa’s response to their offers of help. “She said, ‘I don’t want your money. Go back to your own community, identify the needs, and give of yourself and your resources there.’”

On a subsequent visit to a Jesuit community in Southern California, Hill learned of the NativityMiguel school initiative. Patterned after a school opened by Jesuits in the early 1970s to help immigrant children succeed academically, spiritually, and socially, NativityMiguel schools feature an extended school day, a low student-to-teacher ratio, and a summer
academic program. After grade 8 graduation, a support worker maintains contact with students and their families through high school and guides them on to college.

The 64 NativityMiguel schools in the United States focus on disadvantaged inner-city youth. Kleisinger notes that the students routinely achieve exceptional results. “Their attendance rates are 97 per cent. Ninety per cent of the students graduate grade 8. After high school, 65 to 70 per cent of students go on to university; the national average is around 30 per cent.”

Kleisinger observes that if the NativityMiguel approach to learning can make a difference in the most marginal areas of the United States, it can certainly work in Regina’s disadvantaged North Central area. “We’ve got our challenges here too,” he says.

When Kleisinger and Keith attended a conference in Washington, DC, they witnessed further evidence of the NativityMiguel model’s successes. A panel of alumni spoke to the high level of motivation instilled in them as students. Kleisinger says, “The number one thing was, that for the first time, someone had expectations of them. They said nobody rises to low expectations. In their world, they were expected to quit high school. They were expected to join a gang and start dealing drugs.”

The students flourished in an environment of clearly delineated guidelines. Kleisinger says, “Now they were expected to go to school. They were expected to be there on time. They’re expected to be a leader in their community and to give back. They’re expected to be an example for others, to be a student leader. It was a complete turnaround from where they were at.”

The small class size in a NativityMiguel school allows a deep focus on the whole child’s growth—mentally, physically, spiritually, intellectually, and morally. Keith, a Director of Education for 14 years with Regina Catholic Schools, notes, “We take a small number of students for a very long time, creating a relationship with the parents and with the students, increasing life chances for motivated people that would like to get that extra leg up.”

Kleisinger further describes the parents’ role. “Another thing we took from the NativityMiguel network is a covenant with the parents: here’s what we will do, these are the 20 things that we will provide. Here are the 20 things that you have to do. And you have to hold up your end of the bargain. It’s not a one-way street. We know that the primary educator should be the parent, and we’re doing what we can here, but we have to have support at home.”

MTMS may be starting small, but will benefit from a strong connection to the United States-wide NativityMiguel Network. Keith says, “We can pick up the phone. We can e-mail the most experienced, seasoned Jesuits that are operating a school like we want to operate here. And we do – believe me. We can pick and choose and refine and design for what works in the context of this province.”

Closer to home, MTMS has found great support within Campion College and its development has been guided by Jesuit principles and philosophy of
learning. Father Benjamin Fiore, SJ, has visited the Buffalo, New York NativityMiguel school and is a board member of Mother Teresa Inc. Keith says, “As the only operating Jesuit middle school [in Canada], we have a very close working relationship with Campion and with the Jesuits. We want to apply many of the strategies of the thinking in the schools. So when you walk in, you’ll feel the difference. You’ll feel the distinctive aspect of the Jesuit presence.”

As well, the recent release by the Government of Saskatchewan of the final report from the Provincial Panel on Student Achievement – with its emphasis on advancing First Nation and Métis education, strengthening early learning, and engaging community involvement – was a definite sign that MTMS is on the right track.

Like other NativityMiguel schools, MTMS will feature an extended school day featuring programming tailored to students’ interests. The school’s academic year is also lengthened. Prior to the school’s September opening, MTMS students will be oriented in July as to basic school routines and expectations.

Once MTMS is established, the summer portion may change in scope and range of activities. Kleisinger recalls visiting a Nativity Mission School in New York City. “A few years ago, somebody donated a piece of land on Lake Placid. And so they take these kids from inner city New York and do five weeks of summer camp there. These kids had never been outside the city. They got to go hiking, camping, and swimming in a lake.” The time at camp also offers an opportunity to instil spiritual growth, as each week is based on one of the five Jesuit characteristics.

Kleisinger notes the importance of this holistic growth in the student. “Chicago Jesuit graduated their first group two years ago. Their principal said, if all we do is graduate the next generation of doctors, lawyers, engineers, business people, and professors, we will have been a tremendous failure. You don’t just want an intellectually competent kid that hasn’t been taught the moral and spiritual aspects.

“And the big thing with these NativityMiguel schools is that they stress that servant leadership: men and women for others. The students are told right off the hop, you’re expected to be a leader in your community. You’re here because somebody’s seen something in you. It’s not going to be easy, you’re going to have to do some work and the time commitment is rigorous. But we are going to prepare you to be the best men and women for others that we can. That’s our goal.”

If you would like to know more about Mother Teresa Middle School, Gwen Keith and Curtis Kleisinger welcome your input. Contact gkeith@mtmschoolregina.com, phone 539-5376, or ckleisinger@mtmschoolregina.com, phone 535-0707.

David Sealy is a Regina-based freelance writer.

The classroom begins to take shape as work progresses on the Mother Teresa Middle School.
FINE ARTS GRADUATE EXPLORES THE ART OF VOICE

Campion alumna Erin Gee (BMus ‘06, Distinction, BFA ’09) is currently in graduate school at Concordia University in Montreal, and, while she is busy with her studies, her art remains a significant focus in her life, creating much of her own works and much success along the way. Gee’s art reflects her interest in how technology can displace, extend, or simulate the human voice, and can be best described as a hybrid between visual art, musical composition, and robotics.

In April, she will have an exhibit at the Mind the Gap! exhibition at the Art Gallery of Ottawa, which is a group exhibition that showcases up and coming Saskatchewan artists. Gee’s work is also part of Plants and Machines, a touring group exhibition that will tour over twenty locations in Saskatchewan from 2011-2013. Gee has also been invited to perform at Deep Wireless Festival of Radio and Transmission in Toronto in May. As part of this event, Gee will also be speaking on a panel about incorporating radio technologies and the body into performance art. Gee’s work will also be incorporated into EGS Press’s 2011 edition of Poiesis: A Journal of the Arts and Communication, scheduled for publication in May.

This summer, Gee will have a residency at MARCS audio labs at the University of Western Sydney in Australia, where she will be working with internationally renowned media artist Stelarc to compose a vocal performance work that incorporates his Prosthetic Head project. At the culmination of this residency, Gee will give a performance at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney. This project is made possible, in part, by funding from the Social Studies and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), as well as the MARCS audio lab.

Gee is also involved in developing the non-profit arts organization, Holophon, which is based out of Regina. Holophon is an audio arts curatorial collective that unites diverse artistic and cultural communities through sound and is currently in its fourth year of operation. Even through all of these events, Gee is working away at her graduate studies. She is really enjoying Montreal, and says, “It’s a lovely place, here...but, of course, I miss the people in Saskatchewan, and hope to be able to come back, whenever I can, to visit family and friends.”

STAFF APPOINTMENTS
Ken McGovern recently joined the Campion College finance department, taking on the role of accountant. McGovern holds a BAdmin and BA in Economics (Campion) from the University of Regina. He replaced Pamela Cruise who retired at the end of December after almost thirty years of service to the college. Cruise started at Campion in 1984 as the receptionist and later moved to the finance department, working in various areas of that department until her recent retirement.

SPEAKER FROM ZIMBABWE TALKS ABOUT CHALLENGES OF FOOD ACCESSIBILITY

University students, staff, and faculty had the opportunity to meet and hear from Terence Sibanda, youth intern with Canadian Foodgrains Bank, about the
challenges of food availability and accessibility in his home country of Zimbabwe. The event was organized by Campion College Campus Ministry and Luther College Chaplaincy.

Once known as the breadbasket of Africa, years of drought, paired with economic and political turmoil, has created serious problems for this African nation, which currently has over a million people in need of food aid. “Imagine having a 100 million dollar bill, and all you can buy with it is a loaf of bread. And then the next day, you’ll need a hundred of them to do the same,” says Sibanda.

In Zimbabwe, Sibanda is working to help solve some of these problems by teaching farmers in his region conservation agriculture, a method of small-scale farming that increases yields in drought-ridden areas using simple, easily accessible tools. Sibanda is serving a one-year internship with Canadian Foodgrains Bank, a partnership of Canadian churches and church-based agencies working to end hunger in developing countries.

The event was followed the next week by a Mardi Gras pancake breakfast, with funds raised supporting the initiatives of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

**Alpha Sigma Nu**

On 23 January 2011, the Campion College chapter of Alpha Sigma Nu welcomed 11 new student members and six honorary members.

Alpha Sigma Nu is the honour society of Jesuit institutions of higher education.

The society was founded in 1915 to honour a select number of students each year on the basis of scholarship, loyalty, and service. Alpha Sigma Nu is unique among honour societies in that it seeks to identify the most promising students in Jesuit schools. Inductees demonstrate an intelligent appreciation of and commitment to the ideals of Jesuit higher education. Selection to Alpha Sigma Nu is one of the highest honours that can be given on a Jesuit campus.

Honorary inductees include 2010 Campion College Alumni of Distinction award recipients Carrie Bourassa, Robert Currie, Rose Mary Hartney, Msgr. Kenneth Miller and Timothy Young, and Campion professor Alex MacDonald. These honorary members have demonstrated through their professional achievements and ongoing commitment to the community, the values and ideals that are central to a Jesuit education.

Student inductees for 2011 are Sarah Fortowsky, Morgan Kirzinger, Danielle Schamborzki, Sean Reimer, Ian Robertson, Jordan d’Almeida, Matthew Dipple, Caitlin Hunter, Aislinn McDougall, Jonathan Petrychyn, and Stephen Sharpe.
ACADEMIC NOTES

Dr. Christian Riegel, associate professor of English, presented the following paper at the Far West Popular Culture/American Culture Conference in Las Vegas: Tropes of Memorialization and the Popular Consciousness. According to Riegel, his “paper examines how memorial sites are figured in two mid-to-late twentieth century literary works. Joy Kogawa in her 1980 novel, Obasan, recuperates several marginalized and largely forgotten sites of burial and death, bringing to public and popular awareness the injustice of Japanese Canadian internment and dispersal during the Second World War. Eli Mandel’s 1977 book-length poem Out of Place equally uses public tropes of mourning and memorialization in his figuring of burial sites. In each work, the burial or memorial site is given textual representation, and thus through literary culture enters the public and popular consciousness.”

Riegel also presented How Poetry Works: Research Perspectives from Cognitive Poetics (co-authored with Dr. Katherine Robinson, associate professor of psychology) at the Humanities Education and Research Association Conference in San Francisco in March 2011. Riegel will deliver the paper entitled Figuring Cemeteries, Gravemarkers, and Memorial Sites in Literature at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference in San Antonio, Texas, held in April 2011. Through the works of Canadian authors Eli Mandel and Margaret Laurence, this paper examines “how literary culture employs the representation of cemeteries and gravemarkers to figure social and cultural memorial practices.”

Dr. Lee Ward, associate professor of political science, presented Civil Religion and Civic Republicanism in Rousseau at the Midwestern Political Science Association Conference in Chicago, 31 March to 2 April 2011.

Dr. Jan Purnis, assistant professor of English, presented Concocting Commodities: The Economics of Blood Production in Spenser’s Allegory of the Body at the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference (SCSC) annual meeting held in Montreal, October 2010.

Dr. Katherine Robinson, associate professor of psychology, presented The Reciprocal Relationships Between Multiplication and Division: Concepts, Procedures, and a Cognitive Framework on invitation at the Mathematical Inversion Meeting in Leuven, Belgium. A full version of the conference paper, which she co-authored with Jo-Anne LeFevre from Carleton University, is currently under review for publication.

At the annual meeting of the Society for Ricoeur Studies and the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, held in Montreal in November 2010, Dr. Robert Piercey, associate professor of philosophy, presented two papers: Kant and the Problem of Hermeneutics, Heidegger, Ricoeur, and the Transcendental Schematism, and Recent Work on Ricoeur’s Relevance for Contemporary Philosophy.
Dr. John Meehan, SJ, delivered the paper titled Finding a Pacific Persona: Shanghai and Canada’s Early Relations with China on 10 February 2011 as part of the University of Regina History Colloquium series. According to Meehan, many believe that Canada/China relations began in 1970 with the Trudeau government’s recognition of the People’s Republic of China; however, in his paper, Meehan demonstrates that such a relationship began much sooner with the Canadian missionary, business, and government presence in Shanghai prior to 1950.

Meehan will also be co-teaching a course with Drs. Philip Charrier and Dongyan Blachford, which will include a 15-day field trip to Beijing, Yunnan, and Shanghai. The course, titled Changing China: Modernity and Ethnicity in Metropolis and Hinterland, will be offered in the Spring/Summer 2011 semester.

Martin Beech and Lee Ward on 7 December 2011. As scientists from around the world gather in Switzerland for one of the largest collaborative research studies aimed at discovering the origins of the universe, Beech’s latest work The Large Hadron Collider: Unraveling the Mysteries of the Universe provides insight into the development of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) experiment and its potential impact on modern physics. “The scale is grand, the structure is colossal, the task is Herculean, but the results from the LHC experiment could confirm and also re-write particle physics as it is presently known,” states Beech.

Beech is a professor of astronomy at Campion College and a leading Canadian researcher in cometary structure. He is the author of numerous publications on meteor astronomy, including two recent books Rejuvenating the Sun and Avoiding Other Global Disasters (Springer 2008) and Terraforming: The Creating of Habitable Worlds (Springer 2009).

Published earlier this year by Cambridge Press, Ward’s book, John Locke and Modern Life, has been described as one of the most impressive studies of Locke in recent years. In this comprehensive review of Locke’s work, Ward explores the role of this philosopher in the making of the modern world.

Ward is an associate professor in political science and an Alpha Sigma Nu distinguished professor. Before coming to Campion, Ward taught in the department of political science at Kenyon College and was the Bradley Postdoctoral Fellow in the Program in Constitutional Government at Harvard University. He is also the author of The Politics of Liberty in England and Revolutionary America, and his work has appeared in numerous scholarly journals.
Marcie squeezed between her grandparents as they boarded the train car, a little furry stowaway tucked safely under her jacket. She was not happy about leaving her home, nor did she really understand why, but the white man from the government had told them there was plenty of land and a home awaiting them at the end of the journey.

As the train began to move northward, its passengers watched the blue prairie sky slowly become consumed by thick black smoke as their homes began to burn to the ground.

Up until that fateful day in May 1949, Marcie’s family was living in a road allowance settlement near LeStock, Saskatchewan. The Métis people were not allowed to live on reserves, European settlers had land claims to remaining parcels of farmland, and those without land or means were left to settle on the only government land available. They worked as farm hands and menial laborers, which meant leaving their homes once seeding began and returning at the end of harvest with the hopes of earning enough money to get them through the winter months. They had little opportunity to further their education or economic status.

“They were a marginalized people with no place in society,” says Ruth Robillard, co-producer of the documentary Ashes and Tears: The Green Lake Story.

“On one side of the road you had the European settlers and their homesteads, and on the other side of the road you had the reserve. That left none of the land for the Métis except the road allowance, which was government land, of course. And so they were not taxpayers and did not have the opportunities that the other children in the community would have. The government in 1949—it was actually stated earlier than that, but it was the government in 1949 that made it work—sent out government agents to talk to the Métis who were living on the road allowance and said, ‘We are moving you to Green Lake,’” Robillard explains.

While life was not prosperous on the road allowance communities, the Métis did have a community of people and family. They had good times together and work on the farms. According to Robillard, the accounts from those living on these communities were that, socially and
culturally, they had a happy life. The move to the rocky, dense terrain of Green Lake broke up the community and left them with little opportunity to work.

“They did not realize that Green Lake was actually not farm community. It is part of the Boreal forest. It is rock; it is very dense; it is very cold. But they did not know that,” explains Robillard, adding that the majority of those relocated eventually left Green Lake.

Robillard, who is also the executive director of Friends on the Outside (FOTO), a community organization aimed at providing support for inmates and their families, had heard the story some years ago when she brought a Métis speaker in to speak to her class at Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology. However, it was Marcie’s story, told at her wake by her daughter, that caught Robillard’s attention and led to the eventual development of the documentary.

“I felt this has to become a movie. There is so much to be told and it is such a moving story, and obviously [one that] has affected so many people,” says Robillard. “I went and spoke to John Matheson and Matthew Livingstone, who were part of the executive of Friends on the Outside. At the time, Friends on the Outside was in a position that we had received some generous donations that we could contemplate doing something like this. Of course, John Matheson, with his film background, ... was very supportive. So we said, ‘Okay, we will do it.’”

Through oral histories from elders and descendants of Green Lake families, archival interviews, and specialized expertise, Ashes and Tears tells the story of the relocation of Métis from their settlement near Lestock to the community of Green Lake. It explores a dark piece of Saskatchewan and Métis history that has been kept quiet for decades. Ashes and Tears is directed by Robillard and Matthew Livingstone, SJ, and is produced in collaboration with independent Canadian filmmaker Jenny Brown, Campion College, and FOTO.

“Campion has been such a great partner [in this project]. It was 2010, the year of the Métis and they [Campion] really wanted to support the Métis people in that year,” says Robillard when speaking about how the film came together.

The film had its debut in Regina in January with a screening at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum and Campion College. The producers are currently working on the distribution of the film and plan to also develop a teacher package to accompany it.

“It is interesting that I have found, since the film has been out there, that more and more people are starting to tell their stories. I think this is an education ... and that is part of our objective. Response to the film has been that there is joy in that finally people feel that their story has been told, that they matter, and that they have a voice and their voice is being heard. My joy in producing the film was to have a child’s voice—Marcie’s voice—become the voice of her people, the Métis people,” says Robillard.

The railway station at Meadow Lake, which is now a museum, served as the drop point for the Métis who were forced from their road allowance settlement near LeStock, Saskatchewan. From here they had to make the journey through thick, heavy bush to Green Lake.
A Campion College student is thankful for an international internship that took her all the way to Ukraine to learn about the country’s oil and gas industry.

“It just opens your eyes so much,” says Michelle Cronk, fourth-year geology student. “In school, you’re so focused on learning definitions and calculations. When you’re out there in the real-world things are a lot different.”

The 26-year-old was one of four University of Regina students to be accepted into the Canadian-Ukrainian Science Internship Program.

“To be selected was amazing,” she says. “They only selected four people for the semester, which I think speaks for itself.”

The ten-year partnership between the University of Regina’s Office of Energy and Environment and the Ivano-Frankivsk National Technical University of Oil and Gas provides Ukrainian and Canadian students a chance to learn from each other.

Each fall and winter semester, four Regina students spend three and a half weeks on an all-expense paid excursion to Ivano-Frankivsk, a city of approximately 250,000 people. The internship is offered to students in the fields of petroleum, geology, environment, power supply engineering, and marketing and economics.

In exchange, five Ukrainian students travel to Regina for a twelve-week work placement in similar fields.

Cronk was one of two geology students who travelled alongside two petroleum engineering students from the University of Regina last fall.

Although Ukraine is not necessarily known as a country with a booming oil industry, Cronk says it is slowly emerging as a leader in the field.

Each day, the students participated in university lectures to learn about the country’s oil and gas sector. Most of these lectures took place in Ukrainian, which meant Cronk relied heavily on interpreters.

“I learned a lot about communicating, because, going to a country that you don’t speak the language, you do have to rely on your interpreter,” she says. “I think from a business standpoint, especially in geology, which is a globally accepted practice, communication with other countries, I think, is a big deal.”

Cronk says it was interesting to see how university students learn in Ukraine. Often it was a professor in front of a chalkboard, which is different than the high-tech classes Cronk is used to at the University of Regina.

The Regina students also gave two presentations to give Ukrainian students a sense of what life is like in Saskatchewan.

The first presentation was to students who understood English, whereas the second presentation was to a class of students who only spoke Ukrainian.

“It was kind of funny because we would tell a joke. Normally, with other people, they would laugh or find it funny.”
funny, but then we'd have to wait for the interpreter to translate and then everyone would start laughing."

Cronk says the Ukrainian students had more of an interest in hearing about Canadian pop culture than about Saskatchewan's booming oil industry.

“They were 18 and 19 years old,” she says. “They were curious about celebrities. We talked about famous hockey players such as Wayne Gretzky. They knew a lot of the older pop stars, like Brian Adams.”

Cronk joined first-year Ukrainian geology students on excursions to see some of the country’s oil developments.

“We just basically learned about the petroleum industry and the practices that they use there, which is a little bit different than Canada because their technology is not exactly where ours is because they are a poor country.”

The students visited the Dolyna oil fields, which have been active since the early 1950s. Cronk says much of the machinery used at this site is from the Soviet era and she was astounded to see how much manual labour is used to make a pumpjack work.

One of the most interesting aspects of the exchange for Cronk was learning that the Ukrainian university was dedicated solely to the oil and gas sector.

“It had 32 different departments, but it’s all focused on the petroleum industry,” she says.

“I think this puts everyone on the same page. For example, you go to classes here and I take English classes. I’m sure there aren’t that many geology students in English. I’m sure their Ukrainian classes would be more focused on industry whereas we would be learning about poetry.”

Cronk says the interpreters she travelled with are studying translation specifically for international business partners. Cronk says, the interpreters sometimes spoke up to four languages, and they needed to know specific oil and gas terminology.

“The odd time it was challenging,” she says. “We would call something differently. They may have learned it in their textbook a certain way, but we might use slang.”

Cronk says in addition to all the learning, they also had time to enjoy the historical sites of the country. They visited old churches and ate varenyky (perogy).

Cronk also noted the poverty she saw in the country, which is apparent in the technologies they are using in the oil and gas industry.

“Because of Soviet times, they are kind of behind in technologies and they are a poor country.”

Yet, Cronk was impressed to see some advancements, such as a compressor...
station, which sorts the gas, oil and water for processing. Companies from surrounding countries have their oil refined at this compressor station.

Cronk also saw how Ukrainian students appreciate the opportunity to further their education.

“I find that they feel more privileged to go to school. It’s a lot more difficult for them to go school there, so they take a lot of pride that they are students. I think, here, a lot of people take it for granted, but there it is such a big deal because it is such a poor country.”

It is also difficult for many of the students to travel to Canada because of the challenge in attaining visas, says Cronk, which is why it is such a privilege for the five Ukrainian students to participate in the Canadian exchange.

Cronk says this internship grants her an international designation on her degree. She hopes to do more traveling, but is not sure in which sector she will choose to work. She now has experience in the oil, gold, and potash sector.

“The thing about geology is you can go anywhere - if you’re willing to go anywhere and work in any industry.”

Cronk says the Ukrainian internship puts her one step closer to working internationally.

Leisha Grebinski is a Campion graduate from the University of Regina School of Journalism. She is currently on leave from CBC Radio Saskatchewan to pursue a master’s degree.

The Ukrainian and Canadian students had the opportunity to visit the Dolyna oil fields. Pictured here at the tallest derrick in Eastern Europe are (left to right) Halya Kohuch, Yanee Lertnimoolchal, Varinder Ghotra, Andriy Vovchuk, Donovan Shire, and Michelle Cronk.
David Brundige (BA Honours ‘79) was appointed a Queen’s Counsel by the Province of Saskatchewan this year.

Desmond Hartney (BSc ‘05) teaches science and math at Dr. Martin LeBoldus High School. After several years coaching hockey with the Regina Capitals and Regina Pat Canadians, Desmond now coaches hockey, volleyball, and baseball at LeBoldus. In addition to his coaching contributions, Desmond teaches Confirmation classes at Good Samaritan Parish. In July 2009, Desmond married Heather, a registered nurse at the Regina General Hospital.

LOST ALUMNI:

Campion College would like to ensure that all graduates, former students, and friends continue to receive special mailings, including Campion’s Brag, and notices of special events. If you know the whereabouts of any of the following people please write: Alumni Affairs, Campion College, University of Regina, 3737 Wascana Parkway, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada S4S 0A2, or campion.college@uregina.ca.

Jolene Tin Arthur (‘04), Kelsey Beach (‘03), David Bellerose (‘05), Manraj Singh Bikhhu (‘01), Charlene Andrea Rachel Blum (‘04), Cory James Borsa (‘95), Hilary Braun (‘91), Michael Brown (‘04), Todd Robert Bryanton (‘03), Barbara Cabrera (‘04), Leo Carteri (‘72), Tyler Patrick Cobb (‘96), Douglas Jon Demyen (‘04), Sharon Dawn Dent, G.P. Desfoess (‘99), Danita Rose Dionne (‘88), Gary Dombowsky (‘93), Gordon William Driver (‘98), Hadija Drummond (‘98), Jeffrey Eggen (‘04), Jonas Larry Robert Penn (‘06), Jeremy Fitzgerald (‘00), Jennifer Flasko (‘99), Kirsten Ellen Fleming (‘05), Solange G. Fournier-Beourgeois (‘78), John Fox (‘92), Carmy Gallagher (‘04), Andrew John Gerrand (‘04), Jacqueline Griffith (‘04), Michelle Hanson (‘00), Amanda Erin Herbert (‘04), Neil Connor Hodges (‘08), Alyssa Hognerud (‘05), Erich L. Kellow (‘98), Dan Kingyens (‘96), Angela Klein (‘08), Chad C. Klein (‘94), Mathieu Denis Leblanc (‘07), Trent Joseph Levers (‘00), Jennie Lexier (‘06), Robin Lockert (‘90), Arthur J. Marbach (‘79), Lisa Marie Marcotte (‘96), Sarah McCafferty (‘07), Evelyn McCaslin (‘95), Wilfred McDade (‘69), Marissa McHugh (‘02), David McKilop (‘98), Thomas Patrick Metz (‘84), Megan Murphy (‘00), Jason Bryan Murray (‘95), Arlynn Neuman (‘95), Jennifer Norleen (‘07), Robert Ollinger (‘71), Courtney Anne Shirley Peace (‘08), Marilyn Petroski (‘68), Michael Gordon Petryshyn (‘08), Kevin Duncan Philip (‘09), Jessica Johanna Pitre (‘09), Gayleen Ann Poncsak, Mark Andrew Rathwell (‘97), Lindsay Ann Richan (‘10), Jaylene Righetti-Thom (‘93), Dawn Roddy (‘91), Megan Rogers (‘93), Nicole Rueve (‘95), Kim Lawrence Seifert (‘97), Geoffrey Sinfield (‘05), Charles John Stewart (‘76), Tricia Tenecke (‘98), Mark Thurlow Thiessen (‘95), Jennifer Thompson (‘07), Daina Marie Tian (‘03), Megan Van Sabben (‘08), Dean Ivo Richar Vendramin (‘97), Kathy Marie Warner (‘76), Danya Anne Wingerter (‘04), Jeffrey Wisniewski (‘93), Tyler Alan Yaehne (‘93), Maureen E. Young (‘93), Carla Zawacki (‘95).

BRAG A BIT:

We want to hear from you! Send your Brag a Bit information to Alumni Affairs, Campion College, University of Regina, 3737 Wascana Parkway, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada S4S 0A2, or campion.college@uregina.ca.
NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE 2011 ALUMNI OF DISTINCTION AWARDS

Campion College is accepting nominations for the 2011 Alumni of Distinction Awards, which will be held on Friday 4 November 2011.

The Alumni of Distinction Awards increase awareness of the array of successes of Campion College alumni, promote the tradition of excellence of Campion College, and honour the achievements of our graduates and former students.

The awards are presented annually in two categories: professional achievement and humanitarian and community service. The award for professional achievement recognizes individuals who have excelled in their profession, while the award for humanitarian and community service honours those who have dedicated their lives to improving the lives of others.

To be eligible for a Campion College Alumni of Distinction Award nominees must be graduates of Campion College High School, or graduates or former students of Campion College at the University of Regina. (Former students must have registered through Campion College for a minimum of one academic year.)

Consider nominating a former Campion College student for this prestigious award. Complete details of the award criteria and nomination forms are available on the Campion College website: www.campioncollege.ca/

The deadline for submission of nominations is 2 May 2011.
“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