Enhancing services for children with autism

Studying the cannibal in early modern literature

Campion bids a fond farewell to Dean Obrigewitsch, SJ

Campion student receives scholarship to study mathematics abroad
On the cover:
Gizelle Gay (BA '04) and Christa Baron, along with Erin Di Stasi (BA '07) (not shown), co-founded Above & Beyond Autism Consulting Services (ABACS) to assist children with autism.

Photo credit: Don Hall, University of Regina Photography.

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Not everyone has the good fortune of discovering what they are truly passionate about and then working in that field. In this issue of Campion’s Brag, we are introduced to a few such individuals. Campion alumnus Brett Vancise, for example, who married his passion for hockey with a successful career in player development.

For Campion alumna Gizelle Gay, a work placement during her undergraduate studies led her down the path toward a career working with young children with autism.

During her post-secondary studies, Campion English Professor Jan Purnis discovered an interest in early modern literature, in particular depictions of cannibalism, that guided her graduate studies and influenced her current research.

For these individuals, their post-secondary studies allowed them to discover areas of interest and turn those interests into meaningful careers. For me, the most dynamic result is not the personal fulfillment these individuals gain from their job, but the way in which their work contributes to the success of those around them.

Joanne Kozlowski
Editor
After playing football for the University of Regina Rams, Brett Vancise (BA ’09) knew he wanted to pursue a career in sports. He finished his undergraduate studies as a visiting student at Brock University and quickly got a job for the local junior hockey team, the Niagara Icedogs. He worked in the hockey operations department cutting video for coaches, which led him to his current employer, Darryl Belfry of Pro Playmakers Hockey.

Vancise quickly learned the mind-set of progressive thought in hockey development: that forward thinking and change is what separates good from great. Using hockey analytics, Pro Playmakers creates a tailored statistics model for each player and reports what is working and where there is room for growth in their game.

Vancise has talked hockey and been on ice with over 50 players in the NHL, including Patrick Kane, John Tavares, Jonathan Toews, Matt Duchene, Zach Parise, Jeff Skinner, and Sidney Crosby.

To highlight last season’s success, Vancise worked with Patrick Kane of the Chicago Blackhawks, breaking down a few areas of opportunity against the Boston defenders. The Blackhawks went on to win the Stanley Cup and Kane received the Conn Smythe Trophy. Vancise also worked with Olympic Gold medalist Hayley Wickenheiser, speaking with her after every game in Sochi.

When asked about his success, Vancise responds “as a lifelong fanatic, knowing you have a slight part to do with that kind of success is an unimaginable feeling and something I still have trouble wrapping my head around. Traveling throughout Europe and to all 30 NHL cities contributing to the success of the best players that the world has to offer is dreamlike. Someone smart once told me that there are no shortcuts to anywhere worth going, and I’ve definitely put in the hours chasing a remarkably rewarding career.”
Nancy McNeill Retires After 22 Years of Dedicated Service

For the past 22 years, Nancy McNeill has been an integral part of the Campion College library.

McNeill came to Campion in 1992 from the Leader Post library, taking the position of assistant to the librarian. When Campion Librarian Myfanwy Truscott retired in 2007, McNeill took on the role of library coordinator.

Throughout her many years as part of the college community, McNeill has witnessed countless changes to Campion, from personnel changes, to major building renovations like the transformation of the main floor student commons area and the Loretta Leibel student centre on the third floor. Yet McNeill asserts that the biggest changes have been to the library technology, and the role of the library staff: “In the past, the library staff spent their time helping students find information. Now students need much less guidance finding the information, and more help deciding how to use all the information they found.” McNeill’s contributions to Campion extend beyond the library. Fellow long-serving Campion co-worker Suzanne Hunter summarized McNeill’s personal and professional impact as such: “Nancy is a dedicated employee and always acts with professionalism. Students will miss her kind help in the library. She is thoughtful about asking colleagues if help is needed at events and has served on numerous committees. She always considers others feelings and greets everyone as they enter a room. Nancy will be missed by staff, faculty, and students.”

When asked what her favorite part of working at Campion has been, McNeill’s unhesitating reply is the students. “It’s fun to work with the students...seeing the students come in September through to their convocation a few years later.”

With her newfound free time, McNeill is looking forward to taking on more volunteer activities, as well as travelling “to warm places”, she says with a laugh.

Nancy McNeill (right) has given countless hours of her time assisting student in the Campion Library and volunteering for numerous Campion events.
LECTURES SPEAK OF THE PLAGUE OF REFUGEES

Over 40 million people in the world today are living as refugees, displaced either by natural disasters or by conflict.

In March, two separate lecturers on campus addressed the plight of refugees around the world.

The first was photojournalist Don Doll, SJ, who delivered the 34th annual Nash Memorial Lecture entitled A Call to Vision: A Jesuit’s Perspective on the World.

Doll is a Jesuit priest and well-known photographer who has spent the past number of years photographing the activities of the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) around the world, including India, Sri Lanka, Rwanda, the Congo, Burundi, Darfur, Thailand and Syria. A photo exhibit of Doll’s recent work is on display in the Campion College Student Commons.

Doll’s work has been featured in National Geographic and eight of the Day in the Life... books. He is the recipient of the Kodak Crystal Eagle Award for Impact, presented in May 1997 by the National Press Club in Washington, DC, for his work with Native Americans. Currently, he is a professor of journalism at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

Guest lecturer Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish delivered the 6th annual Forward Together Lecture, entitled I Shall Not Hate: A Message of Hope and Courage, on March 26.

Born and raised in the Jabalia refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, Dr. Abuelaish is the first Palestinian doctor to receive a staff position at an Israeli hospital, working as a senior researcher at the Gertner Institute at the Sheba hospital in Tel Aviv.

In January 2009, four months after losing his wife to cancer, an Israeli tank shelled Dr. Abuelaish’s home in Gaza, killing three of his daughters and a niece—a tragedy that unfolded live through cell phone communication with an Israeli television journalist, bringing a human voice to the incursion. In the aftermath of this tragedy, Dr. Abuelaish has grown stronger in his resolve to dedicate his life to peace.

In his lecture, Dr. Abuelaish encouraged the audience to make peace a way of life.

“The diseases we need to fight are hate, injustice and poverty,” said Abuelaish. “One can’t do everything, but each of us can do something.”

Established by the presidents of the University of Regina and three Federated Colleges, the Forward Together lecture series highlights the institutions joint commitment to a common academic and social purpose.
**JOHN MEEHAN, SJ, INSTALLED AS SEVENTH PRESIDENT OF CAMPION COLLEGE**

Dr. John Meehan, SJ, was installed as Campion College’s seventh president on Saturday, November 30, 2013, at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Regina.

Meehan, who began his five-year term as president July 1, 2013, plans to build on the College’s Jesuit identity by developing stronger connections with Jesuit institutions around the world.

“As Canada’s only Jesuit liberal arts college, Campion has the opportunity to connect its students with one of the most extensive and best-known global networks of post-secondary institutions,” says Meehan, who also hopes to develop greater opportunities for students to study abroad and become involved in community outreach initiatives.

“Campion has a mission to form the whole person—intellectually, spiritually, and socially. By giving our students a solid undergraduate education in the liberal arts and sciences, complete with extracurricular involvement and community service, we are helping form active citizens who are already making a difference in the world, both locally and internationally,” says Meehan.

Meehan was born in Halifax and raised in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. He obtained an honours BA in History and Russian Studies at McGill University. He continued his studies at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he completed a Diploma in Theology, and the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of The Johns Hopkins University in Washington, DC, where he received an MA in International Relations. Dr. Meehan also holds a MDiv/STB and a ThM/STL from Regis College (Toronto School of Theology), and a PhD in History from the University of Toronto. His doctoral dissertation was on Canada’s early relations with Japan, where he had spent most summers during the 1990s. He speaks five languages, including French, Russian and Japanese.
“Just because you’re diagnosed with autism doesn’t mean you don’t have the ability to learn,” said Gizelle Gay, who graduated from Campion College with a psychology degree in 2004. “For example, I worked with one three-year-old boy whose dad asked me if his son would ever be able to talk. It took time, but eventually the boy did learn to communicate verbally. I can’t tell you how grateful his father was and how rewarding it was to see that happen,” she said.

Gay’s work with autistic children began when she applied for a part-time job in university. “The job was working with autistic children, and I didn’t know really much about it. I did some research before my interview, but that was it,” she said. However, when she found she really enjoyed working with the children, she started to hone the classes she took at university, shifting her focus from sociology to psychology, with an emphasis on neuropsychology.

After graduating, she moved to Toronto where she took a job with Toronto Partner Autism Services, an organization that specializes in intensive behavioral interventions for children on the severe end of the Autism Spectrum Disorder. She worked with children one-on-one for three years before taking a job as a supervisor at a private agency.

Eventually, deciding that the cost of living in Toronto was too high, Gay moved back to Regina and began work at the Autism Resource Centre. Despite enjoying her new position, she quickly realized that Saskatchewan did not have the same level of programming that was available in Ontario or in many of the other provinces. It was then she and fellow Campion alumna Erin Di Stasi (BA ’07) decided to join a colleague to start a business to help autistic children who needed more personalized learning opportunities. Christa Baron, their partner in the new venture, has a kinesiology degree in adapted physical activity and had worked with autistic children for 16...
years, long before it became well-known in mainstream society. “When I was younger and I would tell people I was working at a camp for autistic children, they thought I meant artistic children,” laughed Baron. “Now, everyone pretty much knows about it.”

They found space to create a fun, centre-based program and opened Above & Beyond Autism Consulting Services (ABACS) in Regina in 2012. According to Baron, the response from parents has been great. “We currently have five additional staff members and 12 families, with children ranging from age four to 12,” she said. The centre has space for five children to work one-on-one, although there are also opportunities for group interaction.

ABACS’s success has the women looking to expand. “Ultimately we would like to open centres across the province,” said Baron. “We have a lot of phone calls from people in small town locations who have no access to programs. We even had one family drive in from North Battleford to see us.”

They credit their success with allowing others to see their approach firsthand. “We have a video that shows what we do, and once they see the video they realize that what we do is fun and engaging,” said Gay.

Gay is also proud of their results. “We worked on toilet training with one boy who had no verbal language at all,” she explained. “People were skeptical that it would work, but we did it. It took a whole summer, but it worked, so we get that kind of respect.”

Baron admits she has been surprised at how they have also taken on an advocacy role on behalf of the children. “In this field, things get very political. We have to make sure that we focus on the learners because the children have to come first. We need to make sure that we don’t allow the outside stuff to get in the way.”

Still, they find themselves advocating to try to bring services in line with the progress being made in other provinces, and speaking to audiences about their work.

While the results are not coming as quickly as they would like, they are seeing good things happening.

“When we were in elementary school, there were no kids with any type of special needs in our classes. Now there are more of those kids in mainstream schools thanks to teacher aides and the work we all do in helping these kids learn to adapt,” said Gay.

Her hope is that the progress will continue. “We are pleased with the results, but we know there is still so much need out there. We are doing what we can, but we know that we are not even cracking the surface.”
All the words that I utter,  
And all the words that I write,  
Must spread out their wings untiring,  
And never rest in their flight...  
- W.B. Yeats (Where My Books Go)

Through his passion for teaching, Fr. Roy Frank Obrigewitsch, SJ, has been spreading the words of William Butler Yeats to the minds of students at Campion College for nearly 20 years. As his term as dean of Campion comes to a close in June and he sets out on a new path in a new place, many will reflect on the impact of Fr. Obrigewitsch’s words uttered in lectures, homilies, and moments of camaraderie, knowing that his presence will be missed at the College.

Fr. Obrigewitsch joined the faculty at Campion in 1995. Over the years, he has served as instructor, assistant dean and, most recently, dean. He has also served as the superior of the Jesuit community of Regina.

Fr. Obrigewitsch entered the Society of Jesus in 1961 after graduating from Gonzaga University (Spokane, WA), Master of Divinity from Regis College at St. Mary's University, Masters in Theology from St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto, and Masters in English Literature from the University of Toronto. Fr. Obrigewitsch was ordained on June 10, 1972. He served as president of St. Paul’s High School in Winnipeg from 1979 to 1982 and principal of Loyola High School in Montreal from 1986 to 1995. Throughout these postings, he also served as teacher, counselor, chaplain, and rector.

Although a dedicated and gifted administrator, Fr. Obrigewitsch’s real joy is particularly evidenced in his teaching and discussions with students. For years, his first-year English literature courses have centered on the “Journey Motif”, a theme paralleling in many ways the journey on which his young students are embarking through university studies, and the challenges they will face in the years ahead. Whether in class discussion or during office hours, students seek out the wisdom of the man himself from his years as a teacher, educator, writer, chaplain, administrator, principal, dean and, perhaps above all else, priest in the Society of Jesus.

At a senior course level, Fr. Obrigewitsch has remained a long-time and local expert on W.B. Yeats, poet of Ireland. His lectures on Yeats are seasoned with stories of his biennial trips to Sligo, Ireland, where he attends and participates in the International Yeats Summer School. His students at Campion are fortunate to receive the benefits of these gatherings of world scholars, and Fr. Obrigewitsch is always available for a chat on all things Irish. He is also a writer and poet and has contributed to the Society’s celebrations with both plays and poetry. We suspect there will be more to come as he steps away from administration and has more creative time.

In the spirit of Ignatius of Loyola, Fr. Obrigewitsch’s life is dedicated to educating the whole person, caring for the whole person, and offering more to and finding more in all the people whose lives he touches. Ironically, it is without words that this man of literature is perhaps most influential; by his quiet smile and “way of going”, his example has touched so many of us, his small acts of kindness and his faith and trust in all of us offering a strength and style of leadership not common in our day.

The answer to the former student’s common question: “Is Father Frank still there?” will change, but not our affection for our friend and colleague. As we go on as a College—students, faculty, and staff—the echoes and memories will remain: the laugh, the smile, the encouragement, and within those echoes certainly the words of his favorite poet. On the occasion of his retirement, Fr. Obrigewitsch recently pronounced with a smile, “I will arise and go now...”. God bless you on your journey, Fr. Frank.
Campion College professors Dr. Ann Ward, associate professor of Philosophy and Political Science, and Dr. Lee Ward, associate professor of Political Science, recently published *Natural Right and Political Philosophy: Essays in Honor of Catherine Zuckert and Michael Zuckert*, an edited volume of essays inspired by the work of prominent University of Notre Dame political philosophers Catherine Zuckert and Michael Zuckert. This book explores the concept of natural right in the history of political philosophy. The central organizing principle of the collection is the examination of the idea of natural justice, identified in the classical period with natural right and in modernity with the concept of individual natural rights.

Dr. Ann Ward is also the editor of the recent publication *Socrates and Dionysus: Philosophy and Art in Dialogue*. This volume takes a unique interdisciplinary approach in exploring the relationship between philosophy and poetry, science and art. With contributions from North American, European and Australian scholars, *Socrates and Dionysus* seeks to bridge the gaps between the world of ‘fiction’ and the world of ‘fact’, making a significant contribution to scholarship in this area.

Dr. Jan Purnis, assistant professor of English, presented Consumption and Vomiting in Renaissance Literature and Culture at the Pacific Northwest Renaissance Conference in Olympia, Washington, in October 2013.


Mudde also delivered a public lecture entitled The Philosophical Body at The Artesian in October 2013 as part of the University of Regina’s Philosophy Café series.

In November 2013, Mudde’s review of Simone de Beauvoir: Political Writings (Margaret A. Simons and Marybeth Timmerman, eds.), was published in *Philosophy in Review*.

Dr. Christian Riegel, professor of English, hosted the launch of the Prairie Fire Magazine special issue devoted to Canadian writer Birk Sproxton in November 2013. Riegel both edited and contributed to this issue.

Dr. Katherine Robinson, professor of Psychology, presented Children’s Understanding of Addition and Subtraction Concepts at the European Association for Research on Learning & Instruction conference in Munich, Germany, in August 2013.

Dr. Robert Piercey, associate professor of Philosophy, delivered History, Narcissism, and
Critique at the American Philosophical Association pacific division conference in San Diego, April 2014.

Dr. Sami Helewaw, SJ, assistant professor of Catholic Studies and Religious Studies, presented a paper on the bridge between religion/faith and public health through a case study of the Shekhina clinic in Tamale, Ghana. It was presented at the Canadian Society for the Study of Religion Congress (CSSR) at Brock University in May.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Allison Fizzard, associate professor of History, has been appointed dean of Campion College for a five-year term commencing July 1, 2014.

“Dr. Fizzard brings to this position a strong academic background, as well as leadership and organizational skills that will serve the College well,” says Dr. John Meehan, SJ, president, Campion College. “This is a time of growth for Campion as we continue to provide a strong liberal arts foundation while developing increased opportunities for our students within our local communities and abroad. As dean and a longtime member of our faculty, Dr. Fizzard will play a key role in guiding this future direction of the College.”

Fizzard holds a BA (Hons) in History and English from Memorial University of Newfoundland, and an MA and PhD in Medieval Studies from the University of Toronto. She is an active researcher in the area of medieval monastic history and has disseminated the results of her work in scholarly publications and at national and international conferences. Fizzard joined the Campion faculty in 1998. She has served on numerous academic committees at Campion College and the University of Regina and has been head of the Campion College History Department and awards officer for the College. Fizzard teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the area of medieval history, and will continue to do so during her term as dean.

“I am excited to take on this new challenge, and look forward to working with faculty and staff as we continue in our commitment to prepare students to be responsible and thoughtful global citizens,” says Fizzard.

Fizzard replaces Prof. Frank Obrigewitsch, SJ, who concludes his term as dean in June.

Campion College welcomes Randy Lundy to its English Department as assistant professor for a one-year term beginning July 1, 2014. A member of the Barren Lands (Cree) First Nation, Prof. Lundy holds a Master of Arts in English from the University of Saskatchewan and a post-graduate certificate in fiction writing from Humber School for Writers, Toronto. Lundy has published two books of poetry, Under the Night Sun (Coteau Books, 1999) and The Gift of the Hawk (Coteau Books, 2004). As well, his work can be found in numerous anthologies, including Here not here (Puncher & Wattman, 2012) and Open Wide a Wilderness: Canadian Nature Poems (Wilfred Laurier University Press, 2009). Previous to his appointment at Campion College, Lundy lectured at both the First Nations University of Canada and Luther College at the University of Regina, and served as Writer-in-Residence (1999 - 2000), assistant professor (2001-2010), and head of the English department (2005-2010) at the First Nations University of Canada.
As a graduate student, Dr. Jan Purnis was nicknamed “Jannibal” by a friend because of her fascination with scholarship around cannibalism.

“I wrote about cannibalism in as many courses as I could during that time,” recalls the Campion English professor who was first introduced to the academic ideas around cannibalism while working on her master’s degree in Toronto.

Scholarship on cannibalism in the last few decades has largely been engaged in the debate over whether or not cannibalism as a customary practice ever existed. Purnis is one of the sceptics who leans towards the idea that reports of “true accounts” of cannibalism in the New World were, in fact, part of a myth-making process to legitimize European colonialism.

Purnis recently received $30,000 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for her project entitled Cannibals Incorporated: Cannibalism, Digestion, and Early Modern Literature.

Her goal with the Cannibals Incorporated project is to contribute to the work being done to challenge the colonialist ideology underlying still-pervasive assumptions about the factuality of New World cannibalism while at the same time providing new research on early modern European understandings of the body and its digestive processes. Because digestion is not simply a physiological process but also a psychological one—especially in early modern medical and cultural belief—by investigating the implications of one person ingesting another, the project will contribute theoretical insight into the relationship of food to identity, self to others, and body to mind.

“Today, if we need time to think about something, we say we need to digest it,” said Purnis, who will be travelling to the United Kingdom as part of her research to examine early dictionaries and other texts to see how words like “cannibal” and theories of digestion have changed over time.

Purnis will trace the ideological processes embedded in the construction of the cannibal and prepare a detailed analysis of the word’s assimilation into the English language.

“I will focus my project on literary, colonial, medical, and religious texts,” explained Purnis.

She hopes to address a double absence in early modern scholarship.
“There have been very few full-length treatments of digestion and none that considers the figure of the cannibal in digestive theory,” she said.

While some scholars have analyzed representations of cannibalism in the context of the Reformation debate between Catholics and Protestants over whether to interpret the sacrament as the literal or figurative body of Christ, there is no similar consideration of the intersections of colonial discourses of cannibalism with religious discourses of the resurrection of the body on Judgement Day in the early modern period.

Purnis notes there are several studies of the general resurrection and related religious concerns in the medieval period and earlier and recent articles on eighteenth-century perceptions, but the significance of colonialism to sixteenth and seventeenth-century discussion of the resurrection of the body has not been given extended analysis.

She said her research will advance knowledge in these areas and will be useful to scholars in academic disciplines other than literature, including those in religious studies, history, postcolonial studies, the history of science and medicine, anthropology, cultural linguistics and philosophy.

“The subject of cannibalism has a wide appeal in popular culture, making my project relevant to readers outside of academia too,” said Purnis.

She is exploring the possibility of making her research available to the public online and currently shares her passion for scholarship around cannibalism with her students in a Critical Reading and Writing II course that Purnis calls “The Cannibal Motif in Literature.” The objective of the course is to encourage students to think critically about the ideological purposes served by representations of cannibalism. Purnis finds many of her students become really interested in the topic.

“They write all kinds of great papers on cannibalism in music, in advertising, in biology. I let them find their own direction with it,” said Purnis.

The Cannibals Incorporated project builds on other areas of research in which Purnis is involved, including representations of digestion and the body-mind relationship in early modern literature.

Recently, Purnis contributed a chapter in Embodied Cognition and Shakespeare’s Theatre: The Early Modern Body-Mind, edited by Laurie Johnson, John Sutton and Evelyn Tribble, and published by Routledge (April 2014). The book looks at issues that have emerged in early modern studies in the past fifteen years relating to understandings of mind and body in Shakespeare’s world.

Informed by The Body in Parts, the essays in the book respond to the notion of an early modern ‘body-mind’ in which Shakespeare and his contemporaries are understood in terms of bodily parts and cognitive processes. Purnis’ contribution to the collection is titled The Belly-Mind Relationship in Early Modern Culture: Digestion, Ventriloquism, and the Second Brain. Her essay provides historical context for recent scientific research on the ‘second brain’ in the gut and theorization about the body-mind relationship by exploring early modern medical and cultural understandings of the gut’s function and its relationship to the brain and to the mind.

The pre-Cartesian early moderns conceptualized the digestive organs of the belly as important psychological organs. The Fable of the Belly in Shakespeare’s Coriolanus and the phenomenon of ventriloquism, or belly-talking, are two of many examples that Purnis uses to demonstrate this theory. Purnis’ work will continue in this area, along with the Cannibals Incorporated research project. She also has plans to teach a senior level course centered around the topic of cannibalism in Renaissance literature in the near future.
Campion mathematics major Adam Dyck was awarded a Math in Moscow Scholarship from the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and Canadian Mathematical Society (CMS). Dyck is the first student from the University of Regina to take part in this program.

From September to December 2013, Dyck was a student at the Independent University of Moscow. The Math in Moscow scholarship program provides the opportunity for three Canadian undergraduate students per year to attend the Independent University of Moscow for a fifteen-week research experience.

Dyck relished the opportunity to travel as part of his degree. “It was the first time living on my own. Suddenly I am living on my own in a different country. It really changed my views on the world, and gave me confidence. I got to see old historical buildings and famous sites. Plus I got to study math.”

There were sixteen students from various countries in the Math in Moscow program. As well, another international math program ran concurrently, allowing students in the Math in Moscow program to sit in on those courses. The math classes were offered once a week, in three hour blocks. While three-hour classes sound intimidating, Dyck appreciated how the longer classes allowed the students to carry on with topics longer than shorter classes would allow. In addition, they spent less time reviewing topics from previous classes.

“The kind of math I did was more theoretical based on what you learn in your first few math classes here. You have algebra classes, but more advanced, more theoretical, looking at what could happen in certain conditions.”

In addition to his courses in math, Dyck took a Russian language course and a Russian history course.

Beyond the classroom, Dyck had the opportunity to tour Russian landmarks, such as Red Square, St. Basil’s Cathedral and Lenin’s tomb. He had the opportunity to experience cultural activities, including a concert of Beethoven and Wagner works and seeing the ballet Coppelia at the Bolshoi Theatre.

He was able also to travel to a few other countries, spending five days in Norway, five days in Kiev, and a day in Chernobyl. On his way back to Russia from Norway, Dyck took advantage of an 8-hour layover in Latvia, where he ventured to historic downtown Riga and walked through a Christmas market, trying different foods and drinking hot wine. He also ensured to get one of each Lat coin because they were converting to the Euro three weeks after his time there.

Dyck offers this advice to other students thinking about studying abroad: “If it’s possible, take advantage of the situation. These opportunities do not always present themselves; being able to learn somewhere else is bound to expand the breadth of your knowledge—even if it’s knowledge beyond the field in which you intend to study—and this is certainly beneficial for your future.”

After completing his Bachelor of Science Honours in Mathematics in April, Dyck will spend the summer doing research on campus. He received an NSERC undergraduate student research award and will continue advancing his research in graph theory and combinatorics under his supervisor, Dr. Karen Meagher. In the fall, Dyck will be attending Simon Fraser to begin work on a Master of Science in Mathematics.
Miguel Martinez (BA ’85) was recently appointed provincial court judge in Meadow Lake. Martinez has been practicing law in Saskatchewan for 25 years. He is also an active member of the community, most recently serving as president of the Law Society of Saskatchewan.

Adam Ward (BA Hons ’03) completed a Bachelor of Education After Degree (BEAD) in 2005 and now teaches grade 8 at Sacred Heart Community School. In March, Adam was named to CBC Saskatchewan’s Future 40 for his dedication to his work and for his involvement with the Giftstone Project. The Giftstone Project is an initiative that brings the spirit of Christmas to the North Central community school at which he teaches. Each year, students from grades 4 to 8 at Sacred Heart write letters to Santa. Adam then solicits funds from the Saskatchewan community and beyond, and personally shops for every gift request by the more than 200 students.

Sarah Hanna (Alpha Sigma Nu ’07, BA ’08) completed a Special Case Master of Arts in Anthropology this spring. Her thesis, entitled Lifestyles of the Poor and Celibate, is an ethnographic examination of the Jesuits in English Canada. Sarah recently returned to Campion College, this time as a member of its staff, taking on the role of Engaged Learning Coordinator.

Former Campion science student ’08) Dr. Thomas Nguyen has opened his own practice, Outlook Optometry. Nguyen graduated from the University of Waterloo in 2012.

Megan Jakubowski (Alpha Sigma Nu ’10, BSc ’11) recently completed her Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) at the University of Saskatchewan. Megan has taken a physiotherapist position with the Regina Qu’Appelle Health Region.

Jacob Ziegler (BSc ’11) is graduating from McGill University in June with a Master of Science degree in Biology. In September, he will begin his PhD studies at McGill in the department of Natural Resource Sciences.

Campion Science student Tara Petrie is this year’s recipient of the Canadian Mathematical Society’s CUMC Award for Excellence. The $500 award provides support for travel to the Canadian Undergraduate Mathematics Conference, which will be held in Ottawa in July.

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.

Would you prefer to receive Campion information via email? Sign up for the e-newsletter at www.campioncollege.ca/alumni
A new year and the winter semester had just begun when the Campion community suffered a great loss with the sudden passing of longtime Campion College employee and friend Gail Leibel on January 22, 2014.

Many of you will remember Gail from the years she served in the Registrar’s Office, assisting students in planning their academic path. I know that she really enjoyed working with our students and that they, in turn, appreciated the assistance that she provided.

More recently, Gail worked in the newly formed office of Engaged Learning, a program that encourages students to give back to the community while enhancing their learning experience. The enthusiasm and care that Gail brought to this position was instrumental in its early success.

Gail has been an integral part of the Campion community for over 20 years. She will be dearly missed.

Joanne Kozlowski
Editor
“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 society.” Mission Statement, Campion College, University of Regina