



Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association

Annual Report 2011

President's Message

Looking back on my last year as President of the Alumnae Association, I am proud to be involved with the work that the Alumnae Association Board of Directors continues to do and excited to be involved at this important time in the Mount's history.

I would like to recognize the Board of Directors for their contributions, which come not only in the form of countless hours of effort, but also for the thoughtful deliberation, discussions and debate which shape the direction of the Association. This is truly a dedicated and talented group and the Association is in good hands.

Our efforts this year have been guided by the MSVAA's strategic plan and primarily centered around three categories; awards, engagement and support for the Mount. Our awards agenda encompasses recognition for students, faculty and alumnae. This year the Association expanded our program with the addition of an Alumnae Varsity Award (allowing for one for a female athlete and one for a male athlete), and the presentation of the Alumnae Award of Distinction. These add to the roster of our endowed scholarships, bursaries and awards as well as our expendable prizes which are awarded annually.

The Alumnae Association continues to consider new events and seek ideas to engage alumnae in ways which will be meaningful, relevant and convenient. Last year's Alumnae Engagement Survey was followed up with additional questions to those who responded. We are in the process of analyzing the information gathered and will use this information to shape our plans for events and activities in 2011 and beyond.

The publication of the O'Neill report in the fall of 2010 allowed the Alumnae Association the opportunity to ratify a motion in support of the University's response to the report. We believe in a prosperous future for an independent Mount Saint Vincent University and have committed to being the best ambassadors in carrying that message to all in our community.

This year marked a couple of significant anniversaries. The first occasion was the 90th Anniversary of the Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association. We also marked the anniversary at the Annual Dinner for Mount Alumnae & Friends with the presentation of the Alumnae Award of Distinction as well as a reception for current and former board members. We will continue to celebrate this remarkable accomplishment throughout the balance of the year. The Association also celebrated the 20th anniversary of the MSV Golf Classic in August. This annual fundraiser has ensured the financial stability of the Association and allowed the Association to increase its support for students and the Mount.

Thanks again to all alumnae who have supported the efforts of the Alumnae Association. Best wishes for a happy and safe summer to you and your families.

Sincerely,



Sheldon Miller, BBA '99

Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association Board of Directors 2010-11

Executive

President: Sheldon Miller, BBA '99
Vice President: Deanne MacLeod, BBA '92
Past President: Lara Ryan, BPR '92
Secretary: Lisa Whynott, BOA '94
Treasurer: Tanya Baggio, BBA '95

Members at Large

Todd Brayman, BBA '98
Alison DeLory, BPR '98
Stephanie Hale, BOA '03
Jill Hurlbert, BTHM '93
Tanya Lorimer-Charles, BBA '89
Tara MacDonald, BBA '06
Kelly MacLeod, MAEd '01, MEd '05
Terri Mann, CertBusi '03, BTHM '06
Alanna Mason, BSc '92
Kevin Sanford, BBA '03
Erin Tomlinson, BPR '04, BEd '08
Caroline Wolfe Stewart, BScHEc '90

Alumnae Association Representatives on Mount Board of Governors

Deanne MacLeod, BBA '92
Sheldon Miller, BBA '99
Caroline Wolfe Stewart, BScHEc '90

Ex Officio

Shani Pearson, Manager, Alumnae Relations, Department of University Advancement
Max Herrington, Executive Vice-President, Students' Union
Beth Pyesmany Arsenault, Program Coordinator, Alumnae Relations, Department of University Advancement

President's Report

Sheldon Miller, BBA '99

This was a busy year for the Association. The Board met six times and the Board committees worked very hard to move the Association forward. The Board followed the recently adopted macro agenda and standardized committee reporting for board meetings. The Association's sound financial shape allowed the Board to set clear objectives to give back to Mount students, support the Mount and to determine ways to engage Mount alumnae, whether they are from the Academy, College, or University.

It was a financially successful year with both the MSV Golf Classic and the Annual Dinner for Mount Alumnae & Friends contributing more than anticipated to revenues. On behalf of the Alumnae Association, thank you to our event sponsors, partners and volunteers for their support. With the Association in good financial shape, the Board can continue to look to new ways to support students and engage alumnae.

The MSV Alumnae Association continues to focus on its mandate to support Mount students and the University. The Association accomplished this through the scholarship, award and prize program as well as honouring the pledge to the Teaching, Learning and Research Centre. Highlights for the year included expanded prize offerings to include a second alumnae varsity prize, and paying forward on the Association's pledge to the capital construction of the Teaching, Learning and Research Centre.

The MSVAA also sponsored and participated in various student activities including the Speed Mentoring Program, the A. Garnet Brown Night of Stars, the 30th Annual Atlantic English Conference, the ACAA Basketball Championships, as well as attendance at the Black Tie Dinner & Bingo.

Alumnae Weekend 2010 was held in September. The Department of Business & Tourism planned a Luncheon and Panel Presentation marking 20 years of graduates from the Bachelor of Tourism and Hospitality Management Degree Program at the Mount to coincide with Alumnae Weekend. In keeping with tradition, the MSVAA also co-hosted the 50th Class Luncheon during the weekend.

In September the Government of Nova Scotia released the O'Neill Report. The Alumnae Association Board of Directors voted in favour of a motion to support the Mount's position of an independent Mount Saint Vincent University. The motion read: **Be it resolved** that the Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association strongly endorses the resolution passed by the Mount Saint Vincent University's Board of Governors on September 23, and the MSVAA is committed to continuing to support Mount Saint Vincent University as it pursues its mission, vision and values. The motion was passed unanimously by the board.

The Alumnae Association continues to enjoy a relationship with TD Insurance Meloche Monnex. This is a highly successful partnership for the Association and our Alumnae.

The Alumnae Association ends the year in a strong financial position with many accomplishments.

Treasurer's Report

Tanya Baggio, BBA '95

See draft Financial Statements.

Nominating Committee Report

Lara Ryan, BPR '92

This year's nominating committee reviewed the Board of Directors' needs for the upcoming year, compiling a list of potential members to ensure succession planning for the future. Efforts were made to solicit interest from the board in accordance to the new bylaw governing vacancies. There were very few vacancies to fill for the 2010-11 year.

The committee made efforts to ensure representation across programs, professions, and graduating years in determining the most strategic way to fill vacancies.

Slate of Officers for Executive Committee 2011-12

President:	Deanne MacLeod, BBA '92
Vice President:	Lisa Whynott, BOA '94
Immediate Past President:	Sheldon Miller, BBA '99
Secretary:	Alanna Mason, BSc '92
Treasurer:	Tanya Baggio, BBA '95

Members at Large

Todd Brayman, BBA '98	Terri Mann, CertBusi '03, BTHM '06
Alison DeLory, BPR '98	Kevin Sanford, BBA '03
Stephanie Hale, BOA '03	Erin Tomlinson, BPR '04, BEd '08
Tanya Lorimer-Charles, BBA '89	Caroline Wolfe Stewart, BScHEc '90
Tara MacDonald, BBA '06	
Kelly MacLeod, MAEd '01, MEd '05	

Prospective Members

Adrienne MacDonald, BTHM '08

Alumnae Representatives on the Mount Board of Governors

Deanne MacLeod, BBA '92
Lisa Whynott, BOA '94
Caroline Wolfe Stewart, BScHEc '90

The Board wishes to thank the following members who have retired for all of their hard work and dedication to the Alumnae Association:

Jill Hurlbert, BTHM '93 Lara Ryan, BPR '92

Nominating Committee:

Lara Ryan, BPR '92 (Chair); Deanne MacLeod, BBA '92, Sheldon Miller '99

Alumnae Engagement

Jill Hurlbert, BTHM '93

An Advancement bursary student, Pendle DeWhirst, was hired to review the most recent Alumnae Engagement Survey in the hopes of determining future events and actions. Pendle reviewed the original survey results, and then did a follow-up survey to see if more details could be teased out.

The number of alumnae in the survey that considered themselves “not engaged” was significant, indicating that they would not return to campus for activities or events with a significant number indicating that they would not attend an alumnae weekend activity. However, a large number of the respondents were not local to Halifax. A significant number living outside NS did indicate that they would attend events in their area but the lack of a critical mass outside of Halifax makes the future work of this committee difficult.

In terms of future events, while we already struggle to keep our current events strong and well attended, it is suggested that we try to partner with another charity/organization and tap into our alumnae in a different way. Perhaps partnering with the Breast Cancer foundation might bring out a different group of alumnae that feel they are supporting a more worthwhile cause.

The group surveyed indicated that they would be interested in PD events in target groups i.e. Public Relations, Education. The survey also indicated that they read *Folia Montana* regularly and a large percentage visited the website regularly.

Welcome packages have been developed for distribution to alumnae staying in residence on campus.

Alumnae Weekend

Alison DeLory, BPR '98

Alumnae Weekend 2010 was held September 24-26, 2010. It launched on Friday with the Golden Jubilee 50th class luncheon for the College & Academy Classes of 1960 at the Meadows. On Saturday a chartered bus toured alumnae through several Nova Scotia Annapolis Valley wineries. A sommelier joined the group to enrich the sampling experience and lunch was offered at The Tempest, in Wolfville, N.S. For alumnae with young children, there was a family fun day with games in the gym. Saturday evening was the Annual Alumnae Weekend Dinner, an elegant meal and wonderful gathering of alumnae where tribute was paid to outgoing interim president Alexa McDonough. On Sunday the weekend conclude with a brunch. Between 50 and 100 alumnae participated in the various events and feedback was positive.

Alumnae Weekend 2011 will be held September 23-25, 2011.

It will launch on Friday with the Golden Jubilee 50th class luncheon offered on campus for the College and Academy Classes of 1961. That evening, a Brewery Tour at Propeller Brewery in downtown Halifax is scheduled.

On Saturday, a celebration brunch will be held at Vincent's Restaurant with special guests from the classes of 1941, 1946, 1951 & 1956. All are welcome.

Saturday afternoon features a selection of varsity and alumnae soccer, basketball and volleyball games. Following the games at 5:30 p.m., a varsity alumnae and friends gathering will be held in Vinnie's Pub. Childcare will be provided while alumnae mingle with current Mystics players and coaches.

Saturday evening is the annual alumnae weekend dinner with cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. at Windows Restaurant in the World Trade and Convention Centre.

Alumnae Weekend 2011 concludes with a soccer game on Sunday, September 25th, 2011.

The Alumnae Weekend 2011 committee is comprised of Alison DeLory, BPR '98, Chair; Sue Drapeau, BSc '80, BPR '83 and Alanna Mason, BSc, '92, Terri Mann, BTHM '06.

Awards

Lisa Whynott, BOA '94

The Awards Committee had another successful year! The Committee focused on the following in 2010-2011: Alumnae Award of Distinction, Honorary Alumnae, Alumnae Varsity Prize, Alumnae Award for Teaching Excellence, and the creation of an Awards Manual.

Alumnae Award of Distinction: The Alumnae Award of Distinction is a prestigious award that is presented to a Mount alumna/us to recognize distinguished professional achievement, outstanding contribution to the community at large, or a particular field of endeavor. The Alumnae Award of Distinction Committee consisted of Stephanie Hale, BOA '03 (Chair), Janice Graham-Migel, BSA '78, BEd '79, MAEd '83, Irene Swindells, ACAD '55, Theresa Francis, BHEc '85, BEd '87, and Robyn MacIsaac, BA '93, BPR '94, MPR '11. The Committee received, in total, four nominations, with Noella Brennan Fisher, ACAD '59, BA '62 being granted the award. The Award was presented at the Halifax Chapter Dinner in March 2011.

Honorary Alumnae: The Honorary Alumnae Membership is granted to any person who is not otherwise a member of the Alumnae Association for unusual contribution to the Association or the University. At the Halifax Chapter Dinner in March 2011, an Honorary Membership was granted to Don Theriault to recognize his outstanding contributions which have led to the success of the MSV Golf Classic. As well, from this point forward, Honorary Memberships will be granted to retiring faculty and staff who are eligible upon written notice to the Mount of their intent to retire.

Alumnae Varsity Prize: In 2012, an additional Varsity Prize will be awarded, for a total of two prizes, to a graduating female and graduating male student athlete who has contributed to student life and shows promise of continued community service. In 2011, the recipient of the Alumnae Varsity Prize was Sean Boulay.

Alumnae-Students' Union Leadership Award: This award, co-sponsored by the Alumnae Association and the Students' Union, recognizes outstanding student leadership at Mount Saint Vincent University. This year there were 5 outstanding candidates for the award. The 2011 recipient of the Alumnae-Students' Union Leadership Award was Daniel McKenna. Daniel is currently the President of the Student's Union for the 2011-2012 school year.

Alumnae Award for Teaching Excellence. The Terms of Reference for the award requires a minimum of 3 names for consideration by the committee. This number was not achieved so the committee exercised its right not to award this year. In the Fall of 2011, the focus of the Committee will be the development of a new communications plan and promotional materials for this Award.

Terms of Reference Changes: The Awards Committee reviewed the Terms of Reference for each of the Alumnae Award of Distinction and Alumnae Award for Teaching Excellence and it was recommended and approved by the Board that the monetary donation that is made on behalf of the recipient to Mount Saint Vincent University will be directed by the Awards Committee.

Alumnae Awards Manual. The Awards Committee created a manual to be used by the Board and the Department of University Advancement to track the various Alumnae Awards. The manual includes a statement about each award, the Terms of Reference, the communication plan, the list of Committee members, and the recipients for each year awarded.

Overall, the Committee had another successful year in meeting its objectives. The 2010-2011 Committee was comprised of Lisa Whynott, BOA '94 (Chair) and Tanya Baggio, BBA '95.

Governance

Alanna Mason, BSc '92

The Governance Committee had a busy 2010-11 year. The committee has been responsible for reviewing the By-Laws if necessary and the creation of a Handbook for new Board of Director members for the Alumnae Association. The committee met four times and has been able to compile information for a new Alumnae Association Handbook which will be presented to the Board of Director's for review and then approval.

Governance Committee: Alanna Mason BSc '92 (Chair); Tanya Baggio, BBA '95.



MSV Golf Classic

Stephanie Hale, BOA '03 & Rick Walkden, CertBusi '84

MSV Golf Classic 2010 – *Fore 20 years!*

The MSV Golf Classic, celebrating 20 years, took place on August 12, 2010 at Granite Springs Golf Club. The weather was beautiful and 140 golfers came out in support of the Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association. The tournament raised \$17,000 and in addition, the RBC Foundation generously donated a \$1000 directly to the Alumnae Students' Union Endowed Leadership Award.

The Department of University Advancement presented each golfer with a MSV Golf Classic crested set of water glasses to recognize the 20th Anniversary of the MSV Golf Classic. The

Association provided each of the golfers with a keychain/light crested with Mount Alumnae. All golfers also received a fleece blanket, with the *Building Together Tomorrow* crest on them. Golfers sampled food from Hamachi House, and walked away with a prize bag of goodies. TD Insurance Meloche Monnex offered golfers the chance to win \$10,000 cash for a hole-in-one.

Bill Carr added to the festivities as auctioneer. Golfers had a 1 in 12 chance of winning a fabulous draw prize.

Special thanks to Gold Sponsor, McInnes Cooper. Silver sponsors were ISL Web Marketing & Development, Heritage Gas, and Atlantica Mechanical Contractors/Bruce Sutherland. Thanks also to Grand Green Sponsors: TD Insurance Meloche Monnex, Atlantic Business Interiors/Steelcase, Transcontinental, RBC, Bird Construction Company, HD Litemor, Siemens, and *Building Tomorrow Together*. Thanks also to the Chronicle Herald, Media Sponsor and Molson Canada, Beer Sponsor.

MSV Golf Classic 2010 Committee: Honorary Chairs, Susan McIsaac, ACAD '66, BSc '84, Suzanne Drapeau, BSc '80, BPR, '83. Chair, Rick Walkden, CertBusi '84, and committee Katherine Brien BBA '10, Greg Condon, Stephanie Hale BOA '03, Sheldon Miller, BBA '99, Kevin Sanford BBA '03, Don Theriault and Mark White BAA (IM) '97.

Student Retention and Recruitment

Caroline Wolfe Stewart, BScHEc '90

The Student Recruitment and Retention Committee began the 2011 year with a new committee and revitalized outlook. The committee welcomed three (3) new committee members; Lisa Whynott, BOA '94, Todd Brayman, BBA '98, and Max Harrington, Executive Vice-President, Students' Union. The committee met several times over the year with the goal of creating innovative strategies for engaging current and graduating students.

A number of events were held throughout the year with the goal of creating awareness of the alumnae association amongst current and graduating students and to assist with student recruitment and retention.

Take a Break on Us

The committee launched the first of two Take a Break on Us events on reading day, December 7, in the RBC North Link outside the library. This event was designed to create an opportunity to meet students and create awareness of the Alumnae Association. Tea and coffee, as well as cookies were provided at no charge to give students "a break" during studying. A second Take a Break on Us event was held on April 12th, again in the link outside the library. Both events were very successful. Overall, students were very appreciative and went away not only with a treat, but also knowledge of the Alumnae Association and how it can benefit them and other students.

The committee chair has had regular dialogue with Kelly Gallant, BPR'90, Associate Vice-President, Marketing & Communications, to investigate opportunities to create awareness. An outcome of these conversations was the participation in Explore the Mount Days.

Explore the Mount Days – March 4th

The committee took part in two events: 1) A Day in the Life of the Mount Parents' Panel and 2) an information booth at the student and parents' luncheon. Todd Brayman, BBA '98, and Caroline Wolfe Stewart, BScHEc '90, representing alumnae, took part in a panel of individuals representing various other departments of the Mount i.e., housing, registrar's office, athletics etc. The majority of questions focused on finances and course selections. Moving forward the goal will be to provide opportunity to allow the alumnae panel representatives to speak to some of the strategic advantages of the Mount such as small class sizes, personalized attention, etc. Max and Lisa participated in an information booth with alumnae information and a draw for candy baskets from Sweet Jane's.

Additional discussions are on-going with Associate Vice-President, Marketing & Communications to create new opportunities for alumnae to engage and assist in student recruitment and retention opportunities. Calling students to inform them of their acceptance to the University is just one of the ideas being discussed.

Chapter Reports

Halifax Chapter

Erin Tomlinson, BPR '04, BEd '08

The Annual Dinner for Mount Alumnae & Friends continues to be the biggest event in terms of attendance for the Halifax Chapter. This year, Karen Kelloway, BPR '93, CEC, ACC Career Consultant, Author, and Business Coach, was the guest speaker. The theme of Kelloway's address was "Are You Flying or Idling: Let's Talk about Career Transformation". The dinner also celebrated the 90th Anniversary of MSVAA. Noella Brennan Fisher, ACAD '59, BA '62 was presented with the Alumnae Award of Distinction, and Don Theriault was named an Honorary Member of the MSVAA. 145 Mount alumnae and friends attended this year's dinner.

The Annual Holiday Wine Tasting was held on November 23, 2011 at the *Bridge*, Juno Tower, CFB Halifax. Guests experienced an evening of notable wines from Bishop's Cellar, chef-inspired food pairings, and a breathtaking view of the Halifax Harbour.

The focus for the Halifax Chapter is now on planning next year's alumnae dinner and Holiday wine tasting.

Jamaica Chapter

Gwendoline James, MEd '01

In November 2010, Dr. Jim Sharpe, Dean of Education, and Shani Pearson, Manager, Alumnae Relations traveled to Jamaica to participate in the celebration of the Graduate Studies in Lifelong Learning (formerly Adult Education) program in Jamaica. This program was offered in partnership with the Jamaican Council for Adult Education and support from the Jamaican Foundation for Lifelong Learning (formerly JAMAL).

On Sunday, November 21, 2010, an alumnae reception was held at the Terra Nova All Suite Hotel in Kingston. 35 alumnae attended this lovely reception with greetings from the Mount, celebrating 12 years of Mount presence in Jamaica.

Lack of enrolment in the Graduate Program in Jamaica creates challenges for the chapter which is actively seeking a place to hold meetings and conduct business and are presently in dialogue with JACAE.

Toronto Chapter

Shirley Forde, BSc '57, MAEd '62

The highlight of the Toronto Chapter this year was having Dr. Ramona Lumpkin, President and Vice-Chancellor, attend the November meeting and social. Alumnae were given the opportunity to meet Dr. Lumpkin and share stories and memories.

The Toronto Chapter has, unfortunately, has a decrease in membership attending Sunday afternoon business meetings but is working hard to rectify this. Plans include changing meeting times to coincide with Mass and followed by a Brunch/Lunch meeting.

A memorial is being set up in memory of Madeline Davison Ward, ACAD '33, who passed away in September 2011. Madeline was an active member of the Toronto Chapter.

At Convocation Spring 2011, Chapter President Shirley Forde, BSc '57, MAEd '62, was awarded the 2011 Exceptional Service Award. This was presented to Shirley at the Chancellor's Dinner, on Thursday, May 19. Shirley is a tireless volunteer for the Mount and her long service to the University and dedication is demonstrated in her continued commitment to Toronto alumnae.

Ottawa Chapter

Nancy White, BAA(IT) '01

On Thursday, October 28, 2010, Ottawa alumnae and friends attended a reception, to welcome Dr. Ramona Lumpkin to her role as President and Vice-Chancellor. This reception was hosted by The Honourable Jane Cordy, BEd '89, Senator, The Honourable Nancy Ruth, DHumL '89, Senator, and Megan Leslie, MP. Approximately 40 attended at the Parliament Buildings.

The Ottawa Chapter continues to reach out to co-op students who travel to Ottawa on work terms, providing them with volunteer opportunities and useful tips for living in the Ottawa/Gatineau area.

On June 2, the Chapter participated in the annual Atlantic University Pub Night, held at Hooley's Pub. Approximately 12 Mount alumnae joined 270 alumnae from across the Atlantic Provinces at the event to catch up, network and trade stories as well as raise money for the Ottawa Food Bank.

Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association

Scholarship and Award Recipients 2010-11

Assisium Endowed Scholarship to Casandra Miller

Awarded to a student in the Bachelor of Business Administration program.

Maureen Mantin Johnson Alumnae Jubilee Endowed Scholarship to Renee Doucet

Established by Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association, friends and family in memory of an exemplary student and devoted Mount alumna.

Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association Endowed Scholarship to Louise Seniuk

Awarded yearly to the child of an alumna/alumnus of Mount Saint Vincent who has been accepted into the first year of a degree, diploma, or certificate program at the Mount.

125th Anniversary MSV Alumnae Association Endowed Entrance Scholarship to Caitlyn Atkinson

Established by the MSV Alumnae Association, this scholarship is for a student entering the Mount on either a full-time or part-time course of study.

Sister Rose Celestine Prize in French to *Chelsea Barkhouse*

Awarded by the MSV Alumnae Association in memory of Sister Rose Celestine, a former member of the French department, to a student in the second year or beyond, who has shown the most progress in French courses at the 2000 level or above.

Dr. Patrick O'Neill Prize in Public Speaking to *Marly MacNeil*

Awarded by the Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association in memory of Dr. Patrick O'Neill, a former professor, researcher, and coordinator of the Speech and Drama program at the University, to a student with high academic standing in Introduction to Public Speaking.

Dr. Lillian Wainwright Biology Prize to *Nicole Snow*

Awarded by the Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association in honour of Dr. Lillian Wainwright, a former faculty member of the Department of Biology, to an outstanding science student who is majoring in biology.

Dr. Mary Schoeneberger Education Prize to *Leah Thurston*

Awarded by the Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association in memory of Dr. Mary Schoeneberger, former Education faculty member, to a second year student with outstanding work in the Bachelor of Education degree.

Alumnae Varsity Prize to *Sean Boulay*

The Alumnae Varsity Prize is presented to a graduating student athlete who has contributed to student life and shows promise of continued community service.

The Sister Francis DeSales Endowed Research Award to *Janelle Barr*

Named for Sister Francis DeSales, former long-time librarian at the Mount, to recognize outstanding research skills using information/sources located or accessible from the Mount Saint Vincent University Library, when completing a research assignment for course credit at Mount Saint Vincent University.

Partners and Sponsors 2010-11

Affinity Partners



MSV Golf Classic 2010 Sponsors

Gold



Silver



Grand Green



Partners and Sponsors 2010-11 continued

Annual Dinner for Mount Alumnae & Friends 2011

Presenting Sponsor

