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Welcome Back

From
**Dr. Peter Mombourquette, Chair
Dept. of Business & Tourism**

After an eventful fall and a busy holiday season, we welcome you back for another exciting semester. The Business & Tourism Department has several activities and events lined up to help you connect to industry professionals, gain volunteer experience and have some fun!

The Business & Tourism Department is all about creating exceptional and unique experiences for our students. Some of the exciting opportunities offered to our students this winter will include:

- Caritas Day, which is a day of giving back. We will be collecting food donations from the surrounding areas for the student food bank, as well as working with the Sisters of Charity to give back to the community;
- TEDXMSVU, which will bring in a number of speakers from various walks of life to discuss our theme: "Embracing Possibilities";
- Social Enterprise for a Day, where students can learn about social enterprise and practice running their own;
- And many more! See a full list on the back page of this newsletter!

Our emphasis in the Business & Tourism program is on student success. Whether you're in your first year or about to graduate, our dedicated faculty and staff are here to help. Later in this newsletter, Christine Frigault from Career Services shares some tips to assist you on your way to career success!

We encourage you to get involved in some of the events, resources and opportunities available this semester to help make your experience here unforgettable. Best wishes for your studies.

What's Happening in 2015

Contributed by Arielle Bumpus and Alison Sutherland



It's hard to believe that the fall semester and 2014 are far behind us, and we're already starting classes again! As we usher in the New Year, let's take a look at what will be happening in our department this winter semester.

Caritas Day January 28th, 2015:

Each year, on the last Wednesday of January, the Mount community shares in a day of caring and giving back, also known as Caritas Day.

Over 50 years ago, when the Mount suffered the loss of their only campus building to a fire, they experienced an overwhelming response from the surrounding community. Without hesitation, Halifax residents opened their homes to host students and classroom lectures. As a continual way of saying thank you for the kindness the Mount community received, the Sisters of Charity established a day for giving back: Caritas Day.

This tradition is honoured by the Mount community to this day. Caritas Day brings together students and faculty to participate in a variety of volunteer activities, giving them a chance to make a difference in the lives of others. In addition, students can earn a Learning Passport point while giving back! Be sure to join us on this exciting day!

Social Enterprise for a Day (SE4D), January 29th and 30th, 2015:

The 4th annual Social Enterprise for a Day conference will be taking place this month at Mount Saint Vincent University. SE4D is a collaborative initiative between the Mount, the Mount's Centre for Women in Business, and Nova Scotia Community College. Students from MSVU, NSCC and Halifax Regional Municipality high schools will gather for this event to create and implement a social enterprise.

So what is a social entrepreneur? A social entrepreneur is a person who establishes an enterprise with the aim at not only making profit, but also solving social problems and effecting social change. This two-day event will be fast, fun and focused with volunteers from a variety of local businesses teaming up with students and participating in the weekend's events. Expect to have fun and meet an exciting challenge, all while earning two Learning Passport points! See Miriam Gallant in Seton Annex 5 for ticket details.

Career Week, March 2 - 5, 2015:

Once again, the Mount's Business and Tourism Department will be hosting a career week, full of dynamic panels and information sessions for students. Career Week will provide students with the opportunity to speak to professionals and business recruiters from various industry sectors. These sessions will also give students a chance to earn Learning Passport points, so be sure to attend any panels that interest you!

Great Events from Fall 2014

Contributed by Alison Sutherland



Luckett's Vineyard from Wine Tour 2014

It was a busy fall semester for the Business and Tourism Department here at the Mount. With events beginning in September and continuing right through to the first week of November, students had a chance to partake in a variety of activities.

Halifax Career Fair, September 2014

Students from across a variety of fields, departments and universities in Halifax gathered at the Cunard Centre for this year's annual career fair. Once again, the career fair was a huge success. With over 150 organizations participating in this year's fair, students were given the opportunity to network and create meaningful connections with potential employers from both the private and public sectors.



Enjoying Boat Tour 2014

Boat Tour, October 2014

Have you ever wanted to explore the Halifax Harbour and learn all about the city's history? Students in the Business and Tourism Department were given the opportunity to do both of these when they attended the first ever Business and Tourism Boat Cruise in October.

While the weather wasn't the greatest, the overall learning experience certainly was. With a history lesson about Halifax and some of the historical properties that lie within the city, students were able to learn about and explore different parts of the harbour. In addition to learning all about Halifax and the culture that exists,

industry experts from Irving Shipyard and Pier 21 were on hand to explain the impact that the cruise industry has on our economy, as well as speaking about employment opportunities for students wanting to pursue careers in Business and Tourism.



Wine Tour 2014

Wine Tour, October 2014

Students had the opportunity to tour three wonderful Nova Scotia vineyards in the Annapolis Valley this fall. For the third year in a row, MSVU students learned about Nova Scotia's place in the wine industry and the challenges that they have overcome, such as climate changes and harsh business realities.



40th Annual Business and Tourism Conference, October 2014

This year's annual Business and Tourism Conference was yet another success. With this year marking the 40th year for the conference, the event sold out, with students from MSVU and NSCC gathered to ignite success.

Throughout the day, students were able to speak with industry professionals, develop skills to help them stay motivated, learn from human resource professionals in their field of interest, and finally network with a variety of different industry experts from various organizations and local businesses here in Halifax.

Career Week, November, 2014



Tourism & Hospitality Management Panel

In November, we saw representatives from a variety of local businesses and organizations in Halifax that attended the Mount to share their expertise and experiences with our Business and Tourism students.

In collaboration with the Technology Department here at the Mount, this year's career week panel was live-streamed to NSCC campuses across the region, allowing their students to join in on the learning experience and attend panel sessions led by industry experts that focused on careers in Tourism and Hospitality, Management, Finance and Accounting, and finally Marketing.

Not only was November's career week a great way for students to connect and engage with potential employers, but it was an opportunity that ensured students were given contacts, experiences, and the necessary information to them succeed after they graduate.

Attention 2015 Grads!

Top 10 Tips to Career Success

Contributed by:
Christine Frigault,
Coordinator of Career
Planning Services

Are you graduating in 2015? Do you have a job offer already? If not, you are probably like most students, anxiously wondering what you can do to ensure you will have a great job when you graduate. Employers have been recruiting graduating students since the fall by posting jobs with Career Planning Services, attending events (including the Halifax Career Fair, the Business & Tourism Department Career Week and conference) and holding information sessions on campus. If you have already started the process of connecting with employers at these events and applying for jobs but have yet to secure an offer, keep it up! If you have not yet started looking for opportunities, now is the time to get going. In either case, these tips will help you do what you need to do in order to ensure a successful transition to the workforce!

For more information on how Career Planning Services can assist you, visit www.msvu.ca/careerplanning or drop by our resource room in Evaristus 218.

Tip #1: Know yourself and what you are looking for.

Too many students start their job search without really knowing what they want and what they have to offer a potential employer. It is hard to sell yourself as the best candidate for a position if you don't know yourself. If you are unsure, start by booking an appointment with a career counsellor to help you determine your goals and strengths.

Tip #2: Create an attention grabbing resume and cover letter.

Employers only spend about 30 seconds reviewing applications before deciding who they want to interview. For assistance with showcasing your skills and experiences in the best possible light, book an appointment with a career assistant for a critique.

Tip #3: Update your LinkedIn profile. If you don't have a LinkedIn profile, learn how to create one by attending our workshop: Using Social Media to Fast Track your Job Search, to be held on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 11:00 a.m. in Evaristus 308C.

Tip #4: Update your Co-Curricular Record. Today's employers are looking for well-rounded candidates who have a range of skills and experiences. The Mount's Co-Curricular Recognition Program (CCRP) recognizes your involvement in extra-curricular activities including volunteer work, student society involvement, awards, professional development, and leadership activities. Learn more about the CCRP at www.msvu.ca/ccrp.

Tip #5: Look for entry level positions or "trainee" programs.

Even when you know what your field of interest is, it can sometimes be hard to identify opportunities that are relevant to you and are consistent with your level of experience. Many organizations offer programs that are specifically designed for new graduates. Career Planning Services can help you identify those opportunities. View our job postings and job search resources at: www.msvu.ca/careerplanning.

Tip #6: Network, Network, Network! As many as 90% of jobs are never advertised. It is therefore important to develop relationships with professionals who can help you long before you graduate. Fusion Halifax hosts networking events that can help you meet professionals in many fields (www.fusionhalifax.ca). Career Planning Services is planning a Summer Opportunities Fair with Saint Mary's University on February 3, 2015 to help you meet employers who are hiring for summer, Co-op, and full-time opportunities. Visit msvu.ca/jobfair for more information. Also plan to join the Greater Halifax Partnership Connector Program to connect with a mentor in your field (www.greaterhalifax.com).

Tip #7: Brush up on your interview skills. Attend an interview preparation workshop to help you build confidence in your ability to present yourself to an employer. The next one will be held on Friday, February 6 at 1:00 p.m. in Seton Auditorium A. After attending this workshop, you may also wish to set up an appointment for a mock interview with a career counsellor.

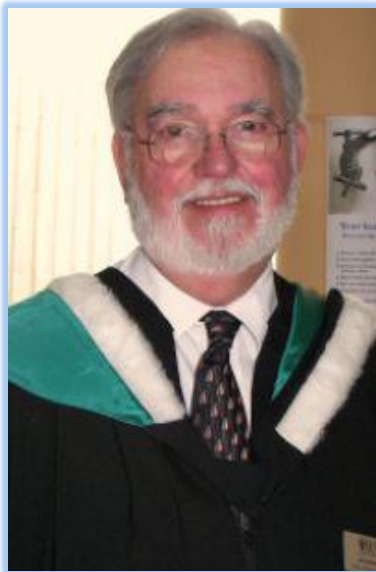
Tip #8: Attend Business & Tourism Dept. Career Week, March 2-6, 2015. This is your opportunity to attend employer panels and workshops specifically geared to your area of study

Tip #9: Attend employer visits to campus. Information sessions and booths are regularly added to the Mount Events page at www.msvu.ca, so check often. Also connect with "MSVU Career Assistant" on LinkedIn and like "MSVU Career Planning Services" on Facebook to stay informed of upcoming events.

Tip #10: Drop by a career advising booth. Meet with a Business & Tourism faculty member and the Coordinator of Career Planning Services to get answers to your career and academic related questions. The next ones will be held: Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2:00-3:00 p.m. in the RBC Seton Link and Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2:00-3:00 p.m. on Rosaria Terrace.

Remembering Prof. James (Jim) Macaulay

Contributed by:
Alison Sutherland



It is with great sadness that the Mount announces the passing of one of their beloved faculty members, Professor James Macaulay, who passed away on October 20th, 2014.

A valued and respected faculty member in the Business and Tourism Department, Jim played a fundamental role in the development of the Tourism program here at the Mount, where he also served as the Department Chair.

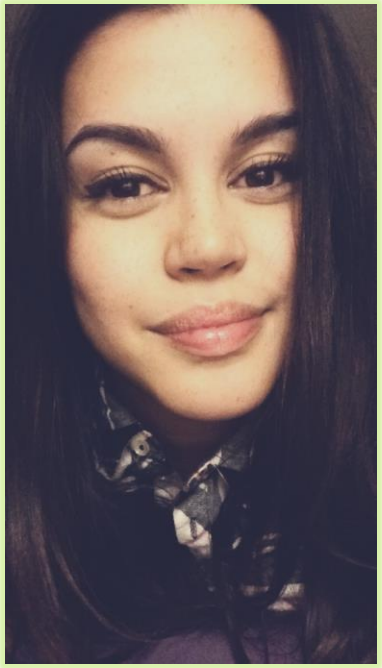
Before coming to the Mount, Professor Macaulay obtained his Masters in Business Administration from Dalhousie University, as well as his Masters in Hotel and Restaurant Management from Cornell.

Mr. Macaulay joined the Mount community in 1981, where he began to teach a variety of business and tourism courses for several years before retiring in 2008. After retiring from the Mount he created the popular Bedford-based eatery, True North Diner. In 2011 he sold the business to spend more time with his family. A remarkable teacher who had a desire to make a difference in the lives of his students, he continued to fulfill his passion for teaching even after he retired.

Outside the classroom, Professor Macaulay was an active researcher; some of his work in regards to Tourism and Management has been cited within the field.

Faculty, students, and the greater Mount community, miss Prof. Macaulay greatly and our thoughts are with his family at this difficult time.





Focus on Student: Joanie O'Leary BBA (2016)

Contributed by:
Alison Sutherland

Since beginning her studies at the Mount in 2013, Joanie O'Leary has not only made an impact in the classroom but outside it as well.

A transfer student from NBCC in Saint John, NB, Joanie is currently pursuing a double major in Marketing and Management here at the Mount. When asked what made her choose Mount Saint Vincent University to pursue a post-secondary education, Joanie said it was the 2+2 program for college students, as well as the opportunity to participate in a well-recognized co-op program that made her decision to come to the Mount an easy one.

"I chose to participate in the co-op program at the Mount because I wanted to gain real-life work experience before I graduate, which I believe is a huge asset to my resume as I begin to venture off on my career after graduation," Joanie said.

After wrapping up her third and final co-op, Joanie reflects on her time spent working for the Mount's Business and Tourism department as the Special Projects Coordinator. When I asked her what she loved most about working for the department, Joanie said, "Everything! All the experiences I have gained from this position have been invaluable, and I wouldn't change a thing".

When Joanie isn't busy with school and work, she likes to participate in numerous extra-curricular activities, and will be accompanying many other students on the Mount's 2015 Study Tour Course in Florida this coming February.

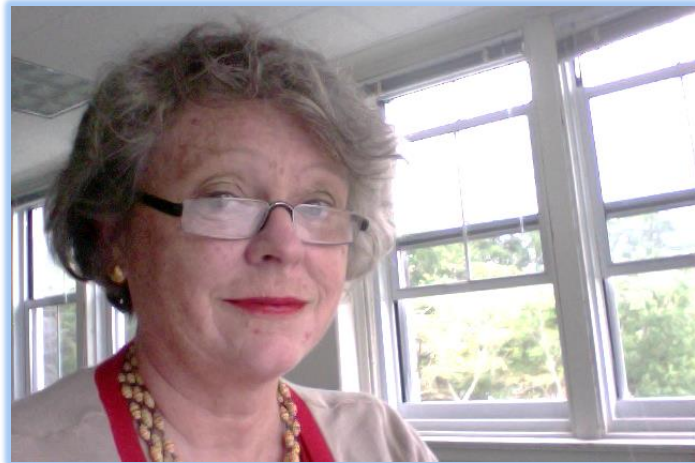
"I wanted to take the study tour course because of my non-for-profit marketing course. I can take what I learned in the classroom and see how it applies up close and personal". With a tentative graduation date of 2016, Joanie has aspirations of pursuing a career within the Not-for-Profit industry:

"Until this past summer, I had no clue what my aspirations were or where I wanted to end up. It wasn't until after I took a Not-for-Profit Marketing course with Heidi Weigand that I realized I wanted to end up in a career where I am making a difference and some type of positive impact."



Focus on Faculty: Prof. Elaine Seniuk, BScHE, MFCS, MBA

Contributed by:
Alison Sutherland



Originally from Prince Edward Island, Professor Elaine Seniuk moved to Nova Scotia to experience the bright lights and big city lifestyle of Halifax.

Completing her first undergraduate degree in Science with a focus on Human Ecology at MSVU, Elaine continued her education pursuit at the Mount by obtaining her MEd, followed by a Masters in Family and Consumer Science (MFCS) from Iowa State University and an MBA from the University of Prince Edward Island.

When I asked her what the major influence was in choosing her field, Elaine said:

My mother always told me that I was a 'born teacher'. I decided to do an undergrad in Science. After a few years in the workforce, and coming back to the idea that perhaps my Mom was right after all, I decided to see what teaching was all about. Now, I think she was right; I've loved every minute of my career.

Elaine's hard work and determination has certainly paid off. Currently, she is a part-time faculty member here at the Mount.

"The campus here at MSVU is truly a gem – from the view at the top of the hill, to the hidden stairway views from Seton and Evaritus, you see the Basin and Halifax in the distance, enjoy the peace, and my personal favourite thing – watching the crows roosting. I think that feeling of peace is important; it's a little gift of time and distance that allows for reflection and progression," Elaine says.

Professor Seniuk believes there is variation in career paths when it comes to pursuing a career within the Tourism and Hospitality industry.

"This degree is truly one of the most widely applicable and valuable degrees in the university." Her advice is for students to take every opportunity offered.

"Appreciate the diversity this degree offers. Appreciate the diversity of your classmates and professors. You can't tell today where the degree will lead you tomorrow, but it will lead to success if you are willing to explore the opportunities offered."

When asked what she enjoys most about being a professor, Elaine tells me, "Being a professor is a very challenging position. It's like being a student in some ways; you get the most out of it when you put a lot into it. Classes are always changing, the mixture of students in a room is a puzzle to figure out again every semester".

Outside the classroom, Professor Seniuk enjoys volunteering and sewing, and loves the challenge of creation: "My absolute favourite thing is to be sitting in front of a sewing machine with some new project underway. I am a sewing machine collector, actually my family considers 9 to be too many machines, but I can't resist the craftsmanship of old mechanical machines."

While family is a very influential part of her life, Elaine feels that her students are her biggest influence. "Just when I think I have one teaching technique or method figured out, a student, or group of students, will come along with questions and sometimes with answers that force me to re-think, re-evaluate and re-format material, ideas and ways of interacting. Students are the reason I teach."

Learning Passport Time Again

Contributed by:
Business & Tourism Department

The Learning Passport (LP) program is designed to encourage students enrolled in Business and Tourism courses to participate in select activities within the Department of Business and Tourism, the Mount and the community.

Not only will the program provide you with an opportunity to gain an exceptional learning experience outside the classroom, but students participating in the program will be eligible for prizes and bonus points for courses!

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Learning Passport Program has been around the Mount since 2009
- Only two (2) Student Services activities (Student Services consist of workshops and Career Planning Services) per semester will count towards eligible activities.
- In the Fall of 2014, we had over 300 students participate in the Learning Passport Program
- With every activity you complete through the program a ballot with your name on it will be entered to win a gift cards at the end of the semester, so the more activities you complete, the better your chances to win.
- This past fall we had over 50 professionals (excluding those from the Halifax Career Fair) in the Business and Tourism industry participate in Learning Passport Events.
- If you complete 4 LP events, you will receive 3 bonus points towards your final grade in LP approved courses - this can bring a student with a B+ to an A-.



FAQ about the Learning Passport Program:

Where do I sign up for this program?

If you're looking to participate in the program, you must visit Miriam Gallant in Seton Annex 5 to complete a form and receive your passport.

Where can I get information about events?

If you're looking for information about eligible passport events, we ask that you please visit the [Learning Passport Moodle page](#) as this will provide you with all the information you need regarding upcoming eligible events, bonus points, certificates, etc.

If I am a distance student and can't attend any of the on-campus events, what can I do to receive my bonus points?

If you're a distance student and still wish to participate in the LP program, there are a number of activities you can do to receive your bonus points:

1. Meet with a Business Leader (not a relative): Tourism Industry (The business leader cannot be a relative).
2. Complete a library activity or workshop via Blackboard Collaborate
3. Attend a special one-time event for distance students
4. Volunteering

What do I do if I lose my passport?

If you happen to lose your passport, please come into the Business Department office (Seton Annex 5) to pick up a new one.

What happens if I lose my passport and I already had activities completed?

Unfortunately if you lose your passport and you cannot prove that you completed the activities you said you did, then unfortunately we cannot reward another stamp for your participation. This means that it is extremely important that you do not lose your passport, as you may not be awarded another stamp.

When do the learning-passport eligible events and activities happen?

While it is important to check Moodle for a complete schedule of learning passport events and activities, be aware that the bulk of them happen earlier in the semester (ie. first two months such as; September-November & January-March).

My professor requires I write a paper for the activities I participate in. Do I have to do that for every course?

While it is not mandatory that you do a write up for each activity you participate in, depending on the professor and their requirements, they may ask that you complete a write-up for each activity in order to receive your LP/bonus points for their course ONLY. It is important that students consult their professors at the beginning of the semester to ensure there are no other requirements needed when it comes to completing learning passport activities for their course.

Can I volunteer for more than one organization and receive my passport points?

Yes, you can volunteer for more than one organization and receive learning passport points. We ask students to remember that only 10 hours of volunteer work per organization will be considered as the completion of one learning passport activity. If you are a student who wishes to volunteer with multiple organizations for the required 10 hours, then you will receive only one learning passport point.

What happens if I hand my Learning Passport in late?

Unfortunately, if you do not pass in your learning passport by the required deadline, then you will not receive any bonus points for your participation in the program.

I know of an event/activity happening that I believe should be learning passport eligible. What do I do?

If you are thinking of participating in an event or have participated in an event that has not already been considered as an eligible-activity by the committee, please contact the Learning Passport committee through email (learningpassport@msvu.ca) to determine whether or not your activity/event can be considered appropriate and eligible.

What if I plan on attending an event and I forgot my Learning Passport at home?

If you plan on attending an event and realize that you forgot your Learning Passport at home, visit the Learning Passport Moodle site and download an Activity form. Complete the activity form at the event, have it stamped, and then attach it to your Learning Passport in order for the event to be considered.

How do I submit my Learning Passport?

Once you have completed the required number of activities for the program, please pass it in by dropping it off at Seton Annex 5.

I am a distance student, how do I pass in my Learning Passport?

If you are a distance student, you can submit your completed learning passport online through Moodle or by faxing it through to Miriam Gallant at the Business Department (Fax: 902-445-2582).

Upcoming Events

(Most events are Learning Passport eligible. The Learning Passport Moodle site will indicate which activities are included. Note that only two activities from Student Services or Career Services can be counted towards the Learning Passport.)

Date	Event	Time & Place & Contact
January		
21 (Wednesday)	Drop-in Career Advising Booth with Business & Tourism	Career Services RBC Link: 2 PM-3 PM
28 (Wednesday)	Caritas Day (no classes held on this day) Dept. of Business & Tourism Food Drive	Vinnie's Pub: 9:30 AM-1:30 PM Arielle Bumpus: 902-457-5537 or email: business@msvu.ca Miriam Gallant: 902-457-6175 or email: Miriam.Gallant@msvu.ca
29 – 30 (Thursday-Friday)	Social Enterprise for a Day Conference (SE4D) \$10.00/student	Thursday: 3:30–10:00 PM Friday: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM Miriam Gallant: 902-457-6175 or email: Miriam.Gallant@msvu.ca
February		
2 (Monday)	Winning Resumes Workshop	Career Services: Seton Auditorium A: 2 PM
3 (Tuesday)	MSVU/SMU Summer Opportunities Job Fair Free bus from Seton Academic Centre	Career Services SMU Campus: 11:00 AM-3:00 PM Bethany Hoffe: 902-457-6272
6 (Friday)	Interview Preparation Workshop Registration Required	Career Services Phone: 902-457-6272 or email: careerassistant@msvu.ca
11 (Wednesday)	Using Social Media to Fast Track your Job Search	Career Services Evaristus 308C: 11:00 AM
12 (Thursday)	TedX MSVU \$10.00 Student Ticket \$15.00 General Admission	Rosaria MPR: 4:00-7:00 PM Dr. Scott MacMillan: Scott.MacMillan@msvu.ca Prof. Shawn Cleary: Shawn.Clearly@msvu.ca Event website: http://www.msvu.ca/en/home/community/tedxmsvu/default.aspx
25 (Wednesday)	Drop-in Career Advising Booth with Business & Tourism	Career Services Rosaria Terrace: 2:00 PM-3:00 PM
March		
3-6 (Tuesday-Friday)	Career Week	Career panels held in various locations on campus at different times during the week. Talk to your business or tourism prof for more information, or contact: Miriam Gallant: 902-457-6175 or email: Miriam.Gallant@msvu.ca