

folia montana



Excellence • Innovation • Discovery

THE MAGAZINE FOR MSV ALUMNAE AND FRIENDS

FALL/WINTER 2005-06

**DR. SHEILA A. BROWN
SETS A NEW COURSE**

**PR PROGRAM
TURNS 25**

**ALUMNA WRITES
ROMANCE FOR A
GOOD CAUSE**



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ON THE COVER

- 8 Before the weather put an end to the sailing season President Sheila A. Brown took Éan Mara for a spin in Bedford Basin.
Photo by Mark Doucette.



EDITOR: Brent Sedo

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Folia Montana (circ. 15,000) maintains and strengthens the connection among alumnae, friends and university through coverage of newsworthy accomplishments, discussion of campus issues, information on alumnae association events and activities, and the sharing of class notes. It is issued in the fall and spring.

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president's message

Sheila A. Brown, PhD
President & Vice-Chancellor,
Mount Saint Vincent University

As many of you may be aware, I have decided to retire from the Presidency of Mount Saint Vincent University on June 30, 2006 when my second five-year term is completed. All institutions benefit, in my view, from renewal and the Mount is no exception. There will be opportunities over the next few months to look back and reflect on my term as President, so I want in this, my penultimate message to you, to highlight how I plan to spend my last year as President.

In the fourteen years I have been at the Mount, I have had the privilege of meeting many of you at alumnae reunions and gatherings and so it is very important to me to have the opportunity during this year to renew associations and make new ones. I will, therefore, be traveling extensively, from coast to coast in Canada and overseas to share my reflections of my time at the Mount with you and to tell you about the many exciting initiatives we have underway. From the major renovation of the Birches residences we completed this summer, through the success of our faculty in prestigious research grant competitions, to innovations in our classrooms, there are so many good news stories I look forward to sharing with you. I am especially proud that one of my personal goals for MSVU has been to increase our scholarship and bursary programs and it gives me great satisfaction to share with you that we have, over the past ten years, tripled the value of these important sources of student support and that this year we have reached our long-standing goal to offer an entrance scholarship to all high school entrants who come to us with an 80% average or higher.

I hope to see you during the course of the year and to have the opportunity to thank you personally for your continued commitment to and support for our University; it is much appreciated. In the meantime, please continue to play a role as ambassadors for the Mount – it is a contribution we greatly value.

in touch

We welcome feedback on any aspect of *Folia Montana*, comment on issues that pertain to MSV alumnae, or experience of life at the Mount. Letters may be edited for clarity and length. Please direct all correspondence to:

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editor's note

It just feels like we've covered a lot of territory with this issue of *Folia Montana*. In our cover story profiling Dr. Brown we look back on her career at MSVU, while our feature on Janet MacMillan, a graduate of the first PR class, looks ahead to the PR Department's 25th Anniversary celebration next summer. While we say goodbye to Dr. Brown, we say hello to new MSVAA President Nancy Zwaagstra. Our story on Pier 21 will give you an idea of some of the work students are doing at the Mount right now, while our expanded coverage of alumnae stories picks up on the accomplishments of those who have been away from the University for a while.

In order to get everything we wanted into the magazine, we made a decision to expand the Fall/Winter issue to 20 pages to match what we do in the Spring/Summer issue. It's bigger and better, we think, and we hope you agree.

feedback

I Remember Her

I got my issue of *Folia Montana* last night in the mail and just wanted to thank you for sending it to me. I really enjoyed reading about what's going on at the Mount. The woman on the cover, Jane Cordy, was my kindergarten teacher, so that made the issue especially interesting.

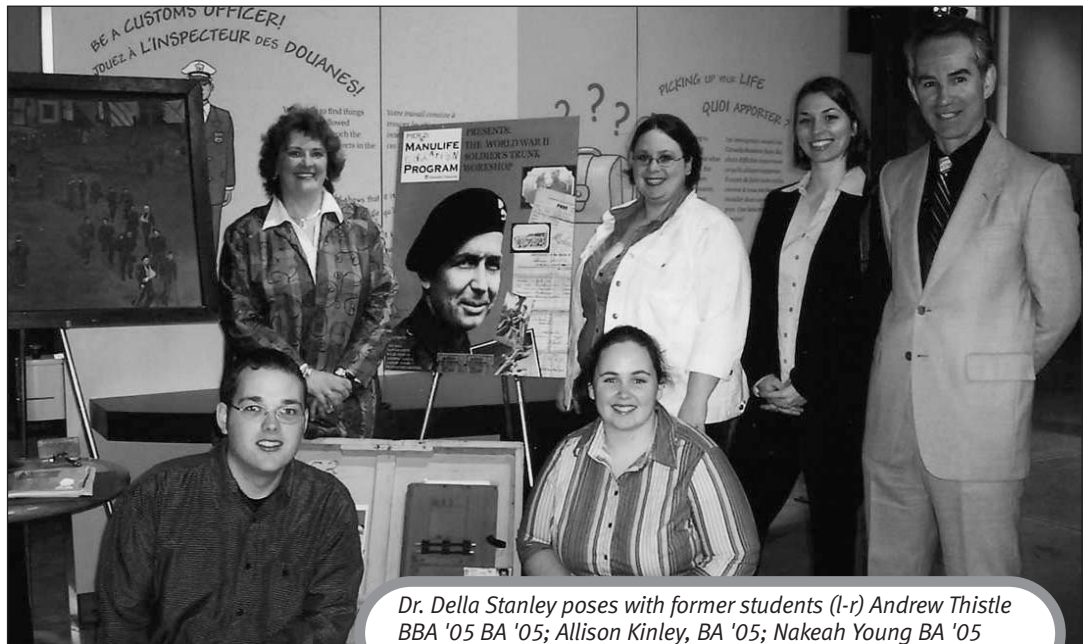
Jennifer Parker BPR '99

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STUDENTS HELP FILL A TRUNK FULL OF HISTORY

**PERSONAL
BELONGINGS
BRING THE
PAST INTO
THE PRESENT**



Dr. Della Stanley poses with former students (l-r) Andrew Thistle BBA '05 BA '05; Allison Kinley, BA '05; Nakeah Young BA '05 (kneeling); Kyla Wiscombe BA '05 and Richard deVarennes BA '04

Thanks to an on-going relationship between MSVU and the Pier 21 National Historical Site in Halifax, school kids in Nova Scotia have a chance to get their hands on some real history.

In the spring of 2005, students in Dr. Della Stanley's 4000-level senior seminar Canadian Studies course took on the task of helping staff at Pier 21 to research and assemble the materials that would be contained in the travel trunks of Canadians in World War II, including a merchant mariner's trunk, a nurse's trunk and a soldier's trunk. The trunks have been made available by Pier 21 for teachers to use in class while teaching grade 6 history. Rather than just telling kids what it was like for those headed overseas, the kids can actually handle the items, get dressed in the clothes, and

experience a real connection to history.

"Every year the 4000-level students spend the second semester working with Pier 21," says Dr. Stanley, who sits on the museum's education committee. "The museum had already done an immigrant trunk and war bride trunk. So I said that we could do some more, but we could do it as part of a class program to help get this project moving faster."

Along with accompanying posters, the trunks also include teaching materials such as quizzes, PowerPoint presentations, stories and other educational activities. Financing for the project is through the on-going Manulife Financial Education Program at Pier 21.

Carrie-Ann Smith, manager of research at the waterfront museum, has nothing but

praise for the work done by the MSVU students. She says having the trunks is a great resource for teachers.

"Hands-on history helps capture the attention of younger students, and keep it through a presentation," she says. "With the Soldier's Trunk, for example, you can tell the kids soldiers wore a lot of heavy equipment, and each piece served a specific purpose. But it registers on an entirely different level if you can dress them in the pieces one at a time, explain the purpose for each and have them walk around in the full kit."

For more information on the Pier 21 trunk project, or to schedule a time to have the trunks made available for your school, call Carrie-Ann Smith at (902) 425-7770 ext.225.

mount graduate takes up public affairs post



Mid-summer of 2005 saw the appointment of Robyn McIsaac, BA '93, BPR '94 as the new Director of Public Affairs at MSVU.

McIsaac, who accepted the PA position in late June, has spent the last 10 years working in communications in government, non-profit and the private sector, most recently as Manager of Employee Communications at Emera Inc. As Director of Public Affairs at MSVU, she holds the overall responsibility for strategic communications for the University, including marketing, advertising, media and community relations.

She says that being an MSVU graduate gives her a special connection to her new job.

"It's certainly an advantage to have the perspective as a former MSVU student," she says. "I'm proud to be a PR grad of MSVU, and I'm proud to be back working for the university that launched my career."

She adds that while there is no single approach to communications within any sector of industry, working at a university does have certain rewards.

"I think the university environment is itself unique," she says. "It's very exciting to go to work in a place where people come to learn and share ideas. The atmosphere is a vibrant and active one where achievement and accomplishment are part of your message."

advancing to university advancement

By Krista Richard, BBA '05

After spending a successful 13 years working primarily as Coordinator of the Public Relations Co-operative Education program at MSVU, Shani Pearson has taken on a new challenge as Alumnae Relations Officer in the Department of University Advancement.

Pearson brings to University Advancement extensive experience in relationship building, marketing, promotions, publication management, leadership, and teaching. In addition, her time as President of the Canadian Association for Co-operative Education (CAFCE) and teaching Cross Cultural Communications at the Norwegian School of Management has already helped Pearson make a significant mark on University Advancement since her arrival in May, 2005.

"I understand the challenges faced by a volunteer-driven association, having served in an executive capacity on a national board of directors" says Pearson, "At CAFCE we strove to increase involvement of our members and implemented a volunteer recognition program – exactly the challenges the MSVAA is facing at the moment."

Shani looks forward to building on the many relationships she developed with co-op students over the years. "It's a natural progression," she says, "it's almost as if I am growing with them in their relationship to the University."



twenty-
five years
of good
relations



Grads will gather next summer to salute PR program

She thought about going into business administration, or maybe to teach physical education. But Janet MacMillan BPR '81, credits a far-sighted guidance counsellor with putting her on the right career path.

"I think I was in grade 12, and there was an article in the paper about this new Public Relations program that was starting at the Mount," says MacMillan. "He clipped it out of the paper and showed it to me and said he thought this was something I would do well at. At the time, I couldn't have told you what public relations was."

As a member of the first PR graduating class – many of whom will gather at MSVU next summer to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the PR program – MacMillan has gone on to become an expert in her field.

She remembers the early days of the program as a learning experience for everyone.

"To my memory we weren't focused on public relations in the first year, but we were in a class together and studying the theory of public relations and communications and exposed to journalism and writing," she says. "We were the first group, so we were learning as we went and the faculty was modifying the structure. It was a learning curve for a number of us."

MacMillan points out that there was also no Co-op education programming to help students gain job experience, and so finding summer work was a challenge. After graduation, she says she got lucky in the job market.

"I had already accepted a job with the federal government when I met John Neville, who was the director of Neptune Theatre," she says. "One day out of the blue he called me and said they were creating a director of public relations position and would I like to interview for it. Within days I was offered the position, I was maybe 21, and it was so exciting – and scary."

After many successful years with Neptune, and later the Halifax Children's Hospital, MacMillan is now a co-owner of MT&L Public Affairs. Her career accomplishments were highlighted earlier this year as she became the first MSVU PR grad to be granted a Fellowship by the Canadian Public Relations Society. She remains active with the Mount, presently serving as Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors. She says keeping ties to the University is one of the strengths of PR grads.

"We're a close-knit group, and people stay in touch, we act as mentors, we go into the classes and give presentations, we hire PR co-op students and grads," she says. "Personally, I've always had a connection to the Mount."

Calling PR Grads!

MARK THE DATE
25th Anniversary Celebrations
Looking Back; Thinking Forward

Friday, August 11 and
Saturday, August 12, 2006

Plans are coming together to mark 25 years of public relations education!

Details will be distributed via email so please send your contact information to

PRalumnae@msvu.ca

For more information, contact Trudie Richards, Chair, Public Relations Department:

902.457.6210 or
Trudie.Richards@msvu.ca

Parsons Collects CPRS Honour

At the same time Janet MacMillan became the first MSVU PR grad to receive a CPRS Fellowship, Professor Patricia Parsons became the first University faculty member to receive the same honour.

"I consider the Fellowship to be recognition from my peers at this stage of my career and a movement into another stage where I have the opportunity to give back to the industry, to be a representative of the industry to people outside the industry," Parsons says. "It also shows the University PR department is coming of age, which is really important to the reputation of the department."

The Fellowships to Parsons, MacMillan and other PR professionals from across Canada were announced at the CPRS national conference this past summer.

convocation 2005



Valedictorian Glenda Hawkins, MAFSG from Murray River, PEI delivers the Valedictory Address.



October 23, 2005 marked Fall Convocation on campus. More than 350 students received certificates, diplomas and degrees in 34 programs. Congratulations to the Class of 2005.



President's Prize recipient, Cynthia Roxanne Rowlings, BPR (Co-op), celebrates with her family after the ceremony.



Honorary degree recipients Dawn MacNutt and Judge Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond share a moment after Judge Turpel-Lafond's Address to the Graduates.



In his first visit to the MSVU campus, Vasco Rudolph Toppin of Barbados picked up his BEd in Association with Erdiston College of Education and a President's Prize.

Canada confers alumnæ with prestigious appointments

By Krista Richard, BBA '05

Three members of the Mount community were recently appointed to the Order of Canada. Ms. Dennice Leahey, C.M., BA '64; Sr. Dorothy Moore, C.M., O.N.S., MEd '84, DHumL '02; and Dr. Elizabeth May, O.C., DHumL '00, were among the 82 honorees named by former Governor General Adrienne Clarkson during a presentation in Ottawa in August, 2005.

Recognized for her volunteer work with MSVU and North Cumberland Hospital, former Senior VP with RBC Financial Group, Dennice Leahey, has also spent time mentoring women in the banking industry and encourages aboriginal community business

ventures. Ms. Leahey currently sits on the Board of Governors and chairs the Development Committee at MSVU.

Sister Dorothy Moore has worked a great deal with the Mi'kmaq. She has dedicated much of her time ensuring the conservation of Mi'kmaq traditions through various educational venues, including programs at Cape Breton University.

Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Canada, Dr. May has committed her efforts towards environmental activities that protect our natural resources and promote their better use.

cathy busby 24/7 at work

Organized by MSVU Art Gallery with support from the Canada Council for the Arts, on display from October 15 through December 11, 2005.



Cathy Busby is a sessional Fine Arts lecturer at MSVU and an artist and writer who studies the interplay between emotions and consumer culture. In 24/7 at Work she displays management textbooks together with self-maintenance products such as deodorants, toothpastes, and “energy” drinks labelled “High Endurance,” “36 Hour Power!” and “Powerful Thirst Relief.” The effect is similar to that of a retail display window. “If these products are selling,” writes Busby, “then as consumers we must be eager to buy back a little time, strength and endurance with their promises of security, invincibility, and protection.”

24/7 at Work is the result of Busby’s observations of language patterns in consumer and workplace environments. The book spines carry titles such as Power Public Relations, High-Speed Management, and Competitive Advantage Through People. Positioning them alongside personal care items whose labels use similar language suggests that successful employees groom themselves to work around the clock. The installation invites viewers to consider the influence of business slogans and values on private life.

bon voyage:

dr. sheila a. brown heads for new horizons



Dr. Brown chats with a young sailor during the ARK Regatta, which she chaired this past summer.

As Dr. Sheila Brown reflects on her time spent at Mount Saint Vincent University, as she speaks of the personal goals that have been met, the students who passed through the halls, the faculty and staff she has worked with, the word ‘proud’ comes up again and again.

In the final year of her second term as University President & Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Brown will be leaving MSVU next summer. But she leaves with a sense of accomplishment, that during her ten years as leader, she has seen the University take great strides in a number of areas, including scholarship funding, expansion of international programming and a boom in faculty research.

Dr. Brown’s career path to MSVU began with a BA from the University of Cambridge in her native England, and an MA and PhD from the University of Alberta. From there she began moving east, with stops at the University of Manitoba, and Mount Allison University in New Brunswick. She came to

the Mount in 1992 to take up the position as Vice-President, Academic, and moved into the top job four years later.

“The University was looking for a Vice-President (Academic), and I thought there were some interesting challenges here,” she says. “I had always loved Halifax, having lived here in the summer of 1974. But I thought the job seemed attractive because of the distinctive mission of the Mount, and the different blend of programs, and welcomed the chance to do something where I could make a difference.”

Part of that ‘distinctive mission’ is the role of the Mount as a place that provided access to education for women. That theme of access played a big part in one of Dr. Brown’s goals to increase scholarship funding.

“Accessibility can mean different things to different people at different times, and when the Mount first established in 1873

as an Academy, there weren’t many opportunities for women to pursue post-secondary education, and the Mount enhanced access to higher education to women,” she says. “Over 20 years ago another layer got added to access when the Mount recognized some people couldn’t physically get to campus, and that’s when we made our first foray into distance education, and we’ve kept that up.”

Once she arrived at the Mount, Dr. Brown recognized that there was another access issue to be addressed. That was making a university education available to those who lacked financial means.

“When I became President, we had a scholarship and bursary program that I thought was inadequate, and we were losing good students who wanted to come to the Mount,” she says. “But we could only offer a \$2000 or \$3000 scholarship and they were being offered \$5000 elsewhere, so we were losing good students.”

She says that right from the start she made it a personal commitment to try and grow the scholarship and bursary program. For all intents and purposes, it is mission accomplished, with a top scholarship of \$8500, renewable for up to four years, and a total student aid fund that has grown in ten years from just under \$400,000 to \$1.2 million. This year, for the first time, MSVU has been able to offer a scholarship to every student who applied with a grade 12 average of 80 percent or above.

“I’m very proud of the fact our bursary and scholarships have tripled in the last decade,” she says. “I don’t take all the credit for that, it has been the support of very many people contributing that has allowed that program to grow.”

As someone who came to Canada as an international student herself, developing opportunities for foreign students to study at the Mount and expanding the reach of MSVU programming beyond Canadian borders was another challenge that she quickly embraced.

“I think it is tremendously enriching for any campus to have international perspectives, whether it is through the presence of international students, participation in international research, or teaching in off-shore locations, the cross-cultural enrichment that comes from that is a benefit to everybody,” she says. “I’m very proud that we have way more international students than we used to, that they’re very active students and get involved with their Canadian counterparts, and I know our faculty involved with overseas teaching find that rewarding and stimulating.”

While increasing accessibility through financial awards, developing an international presence and attracting research funding all enhance the reputation of a university, it is the graduates who are the final measure of success. In that regard, Dr. Brown has always maintained that MSVU alumnae are the best ambassadors the University has.

“The graduates are the “product” of the University, and I think our graduates are the



Dr. Brown in Kingston, Jamaica with Carol Ann Dunn MEd '04, recipient of the Senate Medal of Distinction at a Special Celebration for graduates of the MEd program.

living proof of what we do and what we do well, and the way those individuals do their job makes a difference,” she says. “And I

think the University can take some credit for that and be proud of what those people have accomplished.”

Mount Saint Vincent alumnae also have an active role, she says, in representing the University on some occasions when the President can’t be at an event.

“They represent us through advocacy in their communities, reaching out to potential students, or helping with co-op placements,” she says. “I ask the alumnae to represent the University at events like the installations of presidents and



Dr. Brown and Presidential Scholars outside Rosaria Student Centre.

chancellors of other universities when I can’t attend myself. That sends a message that MSVU is interested in being present at significant events.”

Although she can’t be everywhere at once, as her final term as President & Vice-Chancellor winds down, Dr. Brown will be spending a lot of time on the road. Afterward she’s looking forward to having some time to relax, reflect on her career and think about what comes next.

“I’m looking forward to having more time for myself and my family and doing some of the things that I like to do such as hiking and golfing and sailing. The job is very demanding of time, and there had to be trade-offs, so I’m looking forward to reclaiming some of the things I’ve had to trade off,” she says, adding that she does plan to stay in Halifax and continue to be involved in her many community activities.

“I could have chosen to come back and teach, but I think it’s time for me to do something different with my life,” she says. “I very much believe in renewal for all institutions, and the University is no exception.”

President Brown Enters the CEO Hall of Fame

The MSVU community would like to congratulate Dr. Sheila A. Brown on being a 2005 inductee into the Atlantic Business Magazine Top 50 CEO Hall of Fame.

This induction comes as a result of Dr. Brown being named one of Atlantic Business Magazine’s Top 50 CEOs on five previous occasions.

As a recipient of the award, Dr. Brown has been recognized for her corporate, community and industry involvement; her contributions to MSVU’s growth in recent years; and, her responses to various administrative challenges.

Such a prestigious recognition for Dr. Brown also raises the profile of MSVU. It reinforces the important role that universities play in preparing our leaders of tomorrow and their contributions to innovation, research and discovery.

Community Accolades:

Over the years, Dr. Brown has been applauded for her corporate, community and industry involvement.

Atlantic Business Magazine:
Inductee, Top 50 CEOs Hall of Fame

Atlantic Business Magazine: *A Top 50 CEO in Atlantic Canada for 5 years*

Progress Women of Excellence Awards:
Management and the Professions

Girl Guides of Canada, Nova Scotia Council: *Silver Thanks Award*

Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU): *Distinguished Service Award*

The Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal

msvāā president's message

Nancy Zwaagstra, BScHE '83



I am delighted to be serving as President of the MSVAA. Working with an enthusiastic group of individuals who share a common bond is very rewarding. At the Annual General Meeting in the summer we welcomed several new board members including Todd Bechard BBA '93, Debbie Buott BPR '02, Angela DuFour BScHE '95, Jill Hurlbert BTHM '93, and Ethel Thomson BA '70. Their skills and talents are most welcome in helping us serve our alumnae community. There are many opportunities to get involved in the Association and we have much planned for the upcoming year. With an enthusiastic Board of Directors and a strong Alumnae Relations team in the Department of University Advancement, I am confident we can achieve our goals.

That being said, we need you to get involved. Check out the website www.msvu.ca/alumnae and mark the upcoming events on your calendars. Come out to events and show your Mount colours! Or, contact us to become involved in committees of the Board. Participation in the MSVAA is both personally and professionally rewarding. And we can promise some fun times, too!

Finally, on behalf of the Association, I would like to thank the members who retired from the board at the AGM: Leola Connor, BA '99, Leah Lewis BA '03, Kathleen Purcell, LEGSE '76, BSA '77, BEd '78, Kate Swinemer, BA '72, BEd '75, and Ducksie Stoddard, BA '68. We value the many contributions of our volunteer members.

Leadership

MSV Alumnae Dinner

MARK THE DATE: MARCH 2, 2006

Rosaria Centre, Mount Saint Vincent University

Join friends and colleagues at the annual Halifax Chapter Alumnae Dinner to celebrate the spirit of excellence, discovery and innovation



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Karen Oldfield,
President & CEO of the
Halifax Port Authority

The evening will include a tribute to Dr. Sheila A. Brown, President & Vice-Chancellor, as alumnae come together to say farewell and thank you for 10 year's of leadership at MSVU.



MSVAA Board of Directors 2005-06

Front Row (l-r): Megan Tompkins, MSV Student Alumnae Association, Ethel Thomson, Debbie Buott, Sue Drapeau, Treasurer, Marguerite Muise, Secretary, Crista MacNeil. Back Row (l-r): Paul Henderson, Past-President, Nancy Zwaagstra, President, Janice Graham-Migel, Angela DuFour, Gary Logan, James Tilley

SKALING IS FIRST LEADER OF TOMORROW



MSVU graduate Sharon Skaling, BHEc '80 was earlier this year named the first Sobey School of Business Leader of Tomorrow award winner.

Skaling is the owner of Panoply 3D Image Consulting - a company that works with clients to help them develop the style and confidence to achieve success in their careers and personal life - with over 20 years experience in the fashion, retail, banking, accounting and human resources sector. She founded Panoply 3D after training at the International Image Institute in Toronto, completing courses in image management, colour analysis, etiquette and human relations.

In addition to providing expert commentary on professional development for a number of Atlantic Canada media outlets, she also frequently is a guest lecturer for students and professionals in the fields of media, financial and insurance services, health care engineering and marketing.

The Sobey School of Business Leader of Tomorrow award is presented to "a person whose vision and determination will result in success at both the local and international level."



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alumnæ weekend

2005



Photos by Barbara Kane, ACAD '66

By Krista Richard, BBA '05

Alumnae Weekend 2005 was heralded in on Thursday, August 11th with the MSV Golf Classic 2005. Although gray clouds threatened to dampen the links at Granite Springs Golf Course, the rain held off and umbrellas stayed in the bags. The good weather, friendly competition, an impromptu auction, and generous sponsors and prize donors helped make for a memorable day of golf.

On Friday, former presidents of the MSV Alumnae Association were celebrated at the Past Presidents' Recognition Dinner. The gathering of such a group evoked many memories and much story-telling, making for a laughter-filled room.

Some brave souls roused themselves out of bed early on Saturday and headed for the Good Morning Brunch. Once inside Vincent's Restaurant, an array of treats greeted brunch attendants, among whom were Dr. Sheila A. Brown and Isabel Petch, BA '55, BEd '56, an MSV College graduate who came from British Columbia to help celebrate the Weekend.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) followed brunch, led by new MSVAA President Nancy Zwaagstra, BSChE '83. The highlight of the morning was a presentation to Dr. Brown of a bouquet of flowers and a gift, as it was Dr. Brown's last AGM during her term as MSVU President & Vice-Chancellor.

On Saturday afternoon, Class of 1955 graduates from MSV College and Academy gathered at The Meadows to celebrate their 50th Class Reunion. Memories were shared in abundance, and, as Frances Tomscha, BSc '55 said: "It was as though we were never apart for 50 years; like we were just back from a weekend and were filling everyone in on what we did." The celebration ended with the graduates presenting a contribution to the Sister Frances Carmel Regan Award in Philosophy. Alumnae Weekend 2005 came to an end on Sunday, with Mass at the Motherhouse.

Whether it was golf, good food or great conversation, an unforgettable time was had by all.



MSV Academy and college grads gather at The Meadows for the 50th Class Anniversary Luncheon.



Past Presidents of the MSVAA share an evening of laughter at The Meadows.

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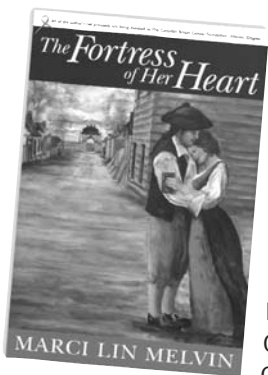


Photos by Barbara Kane, ACAD '66

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Writer uses romance to help breast cancer foundation



With several children's books and a number of plays under her belt, Marci Lin Melvin BA Hon '78 has recently published her first historical romance novel.

Entitled *The Fortress of Her Heart*, the novel is set in 1758 and revolves around the capture of Fortress Louisbourg from the French by the British under James Wolfe. It tells the story of a young Frenchwoman, Genevieve Henry, and Gabriel Roy, who Genevieve suspects is a spy for the British.

It opens on an actual historic event, when the Governor of Louisbourg decreed that all unmarried women in the Fortress should be married "to whomsoever as would have them" before the British lay siege, reasoning that, if married, enemy soldiers would not rape them.

Melvin, a lawyer who works for Nova Scotia Legal Aid in Yarmouth, explains that all net proceeds from sales of the novel are donated to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, Atlantic Chapter (CBCF).

"My mother was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 1997 - she had a reoccurrence in 2001 - and at the time I was working on an historical romance novel," she says. "I wanted to do something to help raise money for CBCF, and decided that if it was ever published, I would donate all of the proceeds."

Thanks to a unique arrangement with Dreamcatcher Publishing in Saint John, NB, Melvin is doing just that. She's happy to report that so far, sales have been going very well.

"I ordered an original print run of 1,000 copies and within two weeks had sold 500," she says. "Chapters has actually asked for 150 copies, but I don't know if I can do that without doing a second printing." *The Fortress of Her Heart* is the first in a connected trilogy of historical novels Melvin plans to write.

Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of The Fortress of Her Heart can do so through the website www.marcilinmelvin.com.

nuqingao named top principal in nunavut



The Learning Partnership and the Canadian Association of Principals earlier this year named Darlene Anne Nuqingaq, BEd '87, MEd '02 as the 2005 Outstanding Principal in the Nunavut Territory.

A native of Halifax, Nuqingaq has lived and worked in Nunavut since 1987. She began teaching grade 6 at Aqsarniit Iliinniarvik (the Inuktitut word for school - a place to learn) in the territorial capital of Iqaluit at the school's opening in 1999, and has been Principal since September of 2003. An accomplished musician, she has been a volunteer instructor with the Iqaluit Fiddle Club and a coordinator of the city's annual music camp for the past 10 years.

"I love working with our students, staff and community," she says. "We are committed to making our school a positive, welcoming, caring learning environment that is reflective of the culture in which we live."

X marks the spot of missing mount ring

It took several years, and one big coincidence, but Kathy MacKenzie BA '82 finally has her lost MSVU graduation ring back.

MacKenzie had lost the ring in her Antigonish apartment about five years ago. Although she searched high and low - and asked the new occupant to keep a look out for it after she had moved into another apartment - she had pretty much given up hope of getting it back.

Enter Diane Myers, whose carpenter husband was hired a couple years ago to do renovations on MacKenzie's old apartment. He found the ring while tearing up the carpet and brought it home. For awhile it lay in a drawer at the Myer's home, until Diane again came across it. "I thought to myself, if this was my ring, I'd want it

back." Although she knew it was a graduation ring, she didn't recognize the school insignia. Through the internet, she found out it was an MSVU ring and contacted the Department of University Advancement, which in turn traced it to MacKenzie, through the initials engraved inside and the graduation year. The big coincidence is that both Myers and MacKenzie work at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish.

"I got a call from the Mount a few months ago telling me that Diane had my ring," says MacKenzie. "It's kind of strange that we both work right here at St. FX, and I thought it was kind of funny because here they run a piece in the alumni magazine about lost "X" rings, and this was a lost Mount ring. After all this time I was very happy to get it back."

teaching career touched students world wide

After 31 years at Ashbury College in Ottawa, Jane Kennedy BEd '75 retired from teaching last June.

Originally from Ingonish, NS, Kennedy moved to Ottawa with her husband who was with the RCMP and had been assigned to security duty for Margaret Trudeau, then the wife of Prime Minister Trudeau. Shortly after arriving in Ottawa, she spotted an ad in the local paper that Ashbury was looking to hire. At the time Ashbury was an all-boys school, and didn't have any women as full-time faculty.

"I went and spoke to Mr. Joyce, who was the headmaster at the time," she says. "We talked about private education and the fact it was an all-boys school, and that at the time there was a vision to start admitting girls. Of course, coming from the Mount it was all girls and then they started admitting boys, so we could compare notes. So that's how it all happened. I got the job, and Ashbury started admitting girls in 1982."

During her time at Ashbury, Kennedy taught keyboarding and

accounting, and was also the head of residence for the last few years. She says Ashbury typically has about 100 of 600 students from all over the world living in residence.

"One of the best parts of the job was that I got to meet students from all over the world, from Hong Kong and other parts of Asia, Australia, Germany, France," she says. "I was really overcome by the number of former students from overseas who came back for my retirement ceremony, or emailed me and invited me to visit their homes. I was just struck by how you can meet these kids and make an impact on their lives."

She recalls that, thanks to her husband's work, she was able to get some teaching advice from a top source.

"I also used to teach economics, and Pierre Elliot Trudeau was always very generous with his time and knowledge," she says. "He was always willing to sit down and speak with me. I got to meet many wonderful people through my teaching career at Ashbury."



For more information contact 902-457-6270 or 1-888-MSV-ALUM (Toll free Canada/USA) or alumnae@msvu.ca



mystics women claim soccer title

The MSVU Women's Soccer Team captured their fourth ACAA Championship in five seasons by defeating University of Kings College 2-1 on October 30, 2005, earning a trip to Vancouver, BC for the CCAA National Women's Soccer Championship. Coach Jacques Boudreau was named ACAA Coach of the Year and Megan Ingram, Amy Fischer and Jessica Rose (l-r) made the ACAA All-Conference Team. Jessica Rose was also named CCAA All Canadian.

The MSVU Men's Soccer Team had an outstanding season and lost in the ACAA Championship 2-1 to UNB Saint John. Captain Sandy Donaldson was named ACAA Men's Soccer Most Valuable Player.

Check our website at www.msvu.ca/athletics for more information.

woodman to head united way

In September 2005, Catherine Woodman, BPR '84 was named as the new President and CEO of the United Way of Halifax. Most recently, as Vice-President of Human Resources for Manulife Financial, Woodman played an integral role in the merger of Manulife with Maritime Life, creating the largest organization of its kind in Atlantic Canada.

A longtime and well-respected volunteer in the Halifax community, Woodman joins the United Way of Halifax Region as it is in the midst of celebrating its 80th anniversary of service in the region. In announcing the appointment, Board Chair Peter Doig commented on some of the assets Woodman brings to the organization.

"We are very excited that Catherine is joining United Way," he says. "She is an outstanding leader who brings passion and energy to everything she does."

Woodman, who was chosen for the position after a national search, says she is looking forward to being a part of the United Way team.

"I am very excited to work with the board, staff and volunteers of United Way," she says. "This is a strong, respected and advanced organization that has embraced a vision of community change. I believe we share the same values."

class notes

CLASS OF '65

RUOTOLO, PATRICIA (FINLAY), BA
Patricia and Bob have been living in Arizona for 10 years. They get back to Halifax at least once a year. Patricia's family are all dual citizens, so they wave the Canadian flag often. She wishes a happy 40th anniversary to all her classmates of 1965.

CLASS OF '66

KANE, BARBARA, ACAD
The Halifax Port Authority is pleased to announce the appointment of Barbara Kane as the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors. Ms. Kane was appointed in 2003 to the Halifax Port Authority Board as the Director representing Halifax Regional Municipality. She is currently employed as the Director of Business Development for Nova Scotian Crystal. She sits on the Board of Directors for VIA Rail Canada and the Board of Governors for Mount Saint Vincent University.

CLASS OF '68

AIROLDI, MARGARET (VORSTERMANS), BA
After 34 years in healthcare, Margaret recently retired and is now enjoying her kids and grandkids, has time for travel, and for play. Life is good! She would love to hear from Yo, Nora, Bonnie, Pat and any of the 1968 gang who changed the world (either way).

CLASS OF '71

JUSTICE ELIZABETH A. ROSCOE, BA
In October, Justice Roscoe received the Frances Fish Award from the Nova Scotia Association of Women and the Law for her commitment to the advancement of women's equality in or through the legal profession.

CLASS OF '72

DERRICK, ANNE S., ACAD, BA '77, DHumL '99
Anne, formerly of the law firm Beaton Derrick in Halifax NS, was recently appointed to the Provincial and Family Court of Nova Scotia.

CLASS OF '74

GOUGH, JANICE B., BA
Janice is pleased to announce that her daughter, Elizabeth Kate (22) has graduated summa cum laude with a BSc in Elementary Education. Her son, Joshua (18) will graduate high school in 2005. Her husband is currently director of Pastoral Care in St. Peter's University Hospital in New Brunswick, NJ.

CLASS OF '77

SLATER, NANCY, DipMedSec
Nancy married Robert Beverly Stack (Bev) on June 11, 2005, in Woodstock, NB. Bev is retired from the military while Nancy works as an employment counselor with the provincial government. She would love to hear from any former classmates and can be reached at nslater@nbnet.nb.ca

CLASS OF '80

EMBREE, PATRICIA DAWN, LEGSE
Patricia returned to Toronto at the end of May after spending the past 11+ years in Halifax. She has made some very close friendships in Halifax and although it is sad to leave good friends, she is very much looking forward to being part of the big city again.

CLASS OF '81

PHILLIPS, JUDITH (BRITTEN), BScHE
Judith would like classmates and friends to note that, effective September 30th, 2005, their new address is 322 Burton Road NW Edmonton, Alberta T6R 267.

POWER-GRIMM, JANE, BCS
Living in Annapolis Royal with her husband of 21 years and their three sons, Jane is the new Student Services Consultant with the Tri-County Regional School Board.

CLASS OF '82

MACMILLAN, JULIE (HARRISON), BBA
Julie has worked for the past eight years with Resource Management Associates. The Bay of Fundy Tourism Partnership and the Atlantic ECONOMUSEE Network are two major projects administered by the firm. Julie is business manager and project coordinator. On a personal note, Julie and husband, Kevin, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on June 28th. Julie would be delighted to hear from classmates anytime.

MCDONALD, MILDRED LYNN, BScHE
Mildred owns Applied Ability, a CAN/USA coaching, mentoring and marketing company. Prior to Applied Ability, she offered marketing, PR and executive development counsel to Fortune 500 Company Cisco Systems' executives in California. Mildred Lynn is a Certified Integrative Coach™ (CIC), Registered Dietitian (RD), author of "Dance to the Beat of Your Own Heart" and editor of SoulNudge Creates™ e-zine. She spends her time between Nova Scotia, Ottawa and California. Contact: mildred@appliedability.com or www.appliedability.com

DR. SANDRA WILLS HANNON, BPR
Sandra Wills Hannon's company, The Hannon Group LLC, was recently honoured by the National Capital Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) with a Thoth Award in the Research/Evaluation Category for Comprehensive Health Services for "Market Research to Support Comprehensive Public Relations Program". Sandra serves as chair of the Independent PR Alliance and Vice President of the National Capital Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA)

CLASS OF '83

FLETCHER, CHRISTINE, BCS
In 2002, Christine and family welcomed their 4th child – a girl at last! Christine, Larry, Joshua, Daniel, and Noah traveled to Hunan China in March of '02 to bring home Miriam Jean (Miri – original name, She Jing). She was born March 27th, 2001 and currently rules the roost as only a four-year-old princess can.

CLASS OF '86

CAMERON, LESLEY, BPR
Lesley has been with Manulife Financial (formally Maritime Life) for the past ten years after working a number of years in the non-profit sector. She would love to hear from any of the friends she may have lost touch with over the years.

CLASS OF '87

FISHER-SPALTON, NATALIE, BPR
Natalie has returned to Geneva, Switzerland after spending 4 years in Cambodia, Thailand. Currently serving as the Deputy Secretary General of the World YWCA, she completed her Master of International Development in 2004 at Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia. She is married with two children, William (3) and Patrick (1). She can be reached at Natalie.Fisher@worldywca.org

CLASS OF '88

MEPHAM, MARIANNE, BPR
Marianne and David Newton were married this past July at their cottage in Nova Scotia. Marianne, son, Drew (11), daughter, Lexi (8), and David are now living in Lower Coverdale, New Brunswick. She would love to hear from any of the girls who loved to play 200's in their wing of Vincent Hall during 1984-85!

CLASS OF '89

GILLIS, LEAH (COLE), BA, BEd
Leah & John Gillis are pleased to announce the arrival of their new daughter, Grace Margaret XueYan Gillis. Grace was born in Hunan Province, China on October 28th, 2004 and joined their family in July 2005. Leah is teaching with the Halifax Regional School Board and John works for RBC in Halifax.

SEABOYER, KAREN, BPR
Karen continues her career in arts management with her recent appointment as Manager of Communications and Production with the Vancouver Chamber Choir. She may be reached at karensea@lycos.com

CLASS OF '90

CROSBY, KIM G., BCS
Kim is enjoying work as a Teacher Assistant near her home. She and husband, Kent, are enjoying 14 years of marriage and have two children, Sarah (10) and Ben (4). She'd love to hear from former classmates and welcomes a visit anytime. "PEI in the summer is great!"

REINBOLD, MAUSI, *BTHM*

The Canadian Association for Co-operative Education (CAFCE) recently awarded Mausi with the Volunteer Recognition Award for her service and leadership, both on a provincial and national scale. Mausi is currently working as Coordinator of the Tourism and Hospitality Management Co-operative Education program at MSVU.

CLASS OF '91

MCINTYRE, ANDREA C., *BAHon*

Andrea is currently a parish priest enjoying small town ministry and raising two sons. She had a life-f fulfilling trip to South Africa in 2004 and continues to be engaged by women's studies and women's artistry.

HORSBURGH, SONYA, *BBA*

The Canadian Association for Co-operative Education (CAFCE) recently awarded Sonya with the Volunteer Recognition Award for her service and leadership, both on a provincial and national scale. After serving as Coordinator of the Business & Information Technology Co-operative Education program at MSVU for eight years, Sonya was recently appointed to the new position of Manager of Co-operative Education, also at MSVU.

CLASS OF '92

MACLEAN, MELANIE (HOARE), *BSc, Cert (Hon) '95*
Melanie received her MBA from UNB Fredericton in May 2005, following the completion of a thesis concerning venture capital investment in New Brunswick. She has recently accepted a position as Risk Analyst at Service New Brunswick, a crown corporation of New Brunswick. She, her husband, Dan, and two daughters, Kate and Mae, are living in New Maryland, NB.

CLASS OF '95

WALSH, KAREN, *BBA*

Karen is now working as the Sales Director for Ferguson's Lobster, an international live lobster exporter. She continues to reside in Tangier, on the beautiful Eastern Shore of NS with her husband, Larry, and their 2 children, Kayleen (born '97) and Hunter (born '00).

CLASS OF '97

COX, JEREMY M., *MEd*

Jeremy thoroughly enjoyed his Distance Education experience and hopes other students will benefit from this educational opportunity.

MACDONALD, J. MICHELLE, *BEd*

Michelle and Dan Evans were married on August 30, 2003 and were overjoyed with the arrival of their first child, Henry Patrick, on April 25, 2005. Michelle and family currently reside in Upper Tantallon, Nova Scotia.

MACMAY, HEIDI N. (REINBOLD), *BA*

Since graduating, Heidi has worked at Adsum House as an advocacy support worker and completed a Certificate in Residential Services to help families who have a family member with a disability access community support and find employment. The skills she acquired as the Director of the Parent Care Lounge (Fountain Play Centre) at MSVU came in handy when developing a business plan for Kingfisher Family Care. She would enjoy hearing from parents and volunteers who were apart of our Parent Care Lounge '91-'93. Heidi is also enjoying being a grandmother.

SINGH, TIRBOHAN TIM, *MEd*

Tirbohan is pleased to announce that he will be submitting his Thesis for Doctor of Education at Sheffield University in the United Kingdom.

CLASS OF '97

JODY BRIAN, *BPR*

Jody married Donald Booth at the National Gallery in Ottawa on September 10, 2005. Other BPR '97 grads in attendance were Heather Hurst and Theresa Woolridge (née Benson).

CLASS OF '98

GATES, ALLAN G., *BPR*

St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, NS has named Allan, a Halifax communications specialist, to the newly created position of Director of Communications and Marketing. Allan oversees a seven-person communications team at St. FX.

PAQUETTE, JOANNE, *BPR*

Joanne and her husband of five years, Anthony, welcomed the birth of their first child last year, a baby girl named Emily.

CLASS OF '99

MALONEY, MIKE, *BPR*

Mike and his wife, Pauline, welcomed the arrival of their son, Simon, on Sunday, May 22nd, 2005. Three weeks early, Simon was 7lbs 1oz. Both mom and Simon are doing fine.

NAUGLER, JULIE (MATTHEWS), *BEd*

Julie and her husband, Dean are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Isabella Kate, this past April, 2005.

PURCELL, KATHY (LESLIE), *BPR, CertBusi*

Kathy is currently with Bristol Group, a PR and Marketing firm, and recently made a move from their Halifax office to their office in Moncton, NB.

CLASS OF '00

MACGILLIVARY, KEN, *CertBusi*

Ken went on to earn a Diploma in Engineering from Saint Mary's University and his Bachelor of Engineering from Dalhousie after graduating from MSVU. He is currently working with AC Dispensing in Bedford.

CLASS OF '01

WAKEHAM, JENNIFER (MCEACHERN), *BBA*

Jennifer received her CGA accounting designation in August, 2005, after 3 years of very hard work.

CLASS OF '02

ANGELOPOULOS, STEFANI, *BPR*

Stefani was recently named an "Outstanding Young Canadian" by Junior Chamber International (JCI) Halifax. At the JCI Outstanding Young Canadians Awards Gala in Halifax on May 25, 2005, Stefani was presented with the Contribution Award in recognition of her dedication to children, world peace, and human rights.

CROWE, ROGER, *BA, BEd '04*

Roger and his wife, Taunya, welcomed the arrival of their first child, a baby boy named Isaac, in September.

CLASS OF '03

BOWER, ADAM, *BTHM*

Adam was appointed to the position of Meadows Restaurant Manager at The Fairmount Lodge in Jasper, AB, after only two years with the Lodge. His experience with restaurants in Halifax has contributed to the success he now enjoys with The Fairmount.

CAINES, JOANNE (BRAKNIS), *BAA*

Joanne and her husband, Dean, celebrated the arrival of their first child, daughter Avery Pasha Braknis, on May 15th, 2005. Joanne, who is enjoying motherhood, and family have moved back to Halifax where Dean is posted aboard the HMCS Fredericton.

LABILLOIS, JAMES, *MASp*

James is currently working as a school psychologist for the Boston Public Schools in Boston, MA. He is also a doctoral candidate at Boston University in Special Education with a focus in Law, Policy, and Administration.

CLASS OF '04

DODSWORTH, DONNA, *BA*

In July, Donna and her husband took an unforgettable three-week, 10-country tour of Europe. After the tour, they enhanced their trip by attending a friend's wedding in Locarno, Switzerland.

SIMMINS, NATALIE, *BBA*

Natalie is pleased to announce her completion of all requirements for the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters as of October 2005.

THOMPSON, AMY, *BSc*

Amy really liked the Mount. She appreciated professors' helpfulness, approachability, and that they took the time to get to know their students.

WELSH, JACQUELYNN N. (ROY), *BBA*

Jacquelynn and Jamie Welsh were united in marriage February 18th, 2005 on a beach in Jibacoa, Cuba with close family and friends in attendance.

CLASS NOTES

CLASS OF '05

LEE, TAWANA A. E., BBA

Tawana completed her BBA at the Mount without stepping foot on campus...until graduation. The mother of three and Director of the PHC Majorettes & Drum Corps in Bermuda put in lots of hours and hard work through teleconferencing. Tawana says "congratulations to all the grads of 2005 – I hope that all your dreams come true."

LONGARD, AMY, BPR

Amy is working for the Council of Museums in Paris as Marketing Assistant. Her internship is funded by Foreign Affairs Canada and is overseen in Canada by the Canadian Museum Association. She'll be living in Paris for 6 months beginning in September '05.

MACDERMOTT, CAITLIN, BA

Caitlin has decided to continue with her education at MSVU in the BEd Program and is registered for the 2005-06 year.

PENNEY, CHRISTINA, BPR

Christina is enjoying her Event Coordinator position for the Sydney Port Corporation. She "absolutely loves it" there.

TEAKLES, JUDY, BA

Judy is currently pursuing a degree in social work at St. Thomas University in Fredericton, NB.

SLAUNWHITE, KAREN, MEd

Karen is the Executive Director – Home Support Nova Scotia Association. She is enjoying life with her husband, Kevin, and her two children, Jacob and Julia.

in memoriams

1940s

Sister Winnifred Gallant, BA '49, BEd '61
June 4th, 2005

1950s

Sister Madeleine Keating, BA '56
May 17th, 2005

1960s

Sister Anna Ruth Donovan, BA '63
July 7th, 2005

Sister Mary Manning, BA '69
August 7th, 2005

Sister Elizabeth White, BA '61
March 30th, 2005

1970s

Ava Leigh Grace (Gillingwater), BScHE '73
June 18th, 2005

Mary Ellen Butler, BEd '76
June 22nd, 2005

Sister Cecilia Patrick Mullane, BA '74
April 25th, 2005

Gail Elizabeth Tainsh, BA '71
June 2nd, 2005

1980s

Krista Lynn O'Brien, BA '80
August 11th, 2005

Barbara Presse (Wallace), BEd '80
July 13th, 2005

Sister Anna Smith, DHumL '85
June 12th, 2005

1990s

Grete Oline Alfrida Sorensen (Moenback),
CertGer '90
Summer 2005

Alisa Renée Touesnard, BA '94
July 25th, 2005

2000s

Patricia Simpson, MEd '05
May 6th, 2005



Rosa Parks, DHumL 1998

It was a time when blacks were not allowed to eat with whites in restaurants, drink from the same water fountain or use the same public toilet. But, in December of 1955, when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white male and move to the back of an Montgomery, Alabama bus, she put the international spotlight on racial segregation in the United States. Her subsequent arrest and a court decision finding her guilty of violating segregation laws touched off a 13-month boycott of city buses by Montgomery blacks, led by a young church minister named Martin Luther King. The next year, the US Supreme Court outlawed racial segregation on buses, the first of many such changes to come. Ms. Parks quiet, courageous act propelled a nation-wide civil rights protest and changed the course of American history.

Rosa Parks has been honoured for her civil rights work with numerous honorary degrees, including a Doctor of Humane Letters from MSVU. She received her degree in a special Convocation ceremony in August 1998, which launched MSVU's 125th Anniversary Celebration. Ms. Parks died on October 24, 2005 at her home in Detroit of natural causes. She was 92.



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*Email entries received between
November 7, 2005 and January 31, 2006
are eligible. One entry per person.
Winner will be contacted via email by
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package available only to alumnae
living in Canada. An alternate prize of
an MSVU sweatshirt is available to
MSV alumnae living outside of Canada.
Contest open to MSV alumnae only.*

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folia montana
FALL/WINTER 2005-06

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