

# **Business & Tourism Newsletter - Vol. 26 Fall 2019**

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**Cooperative Education** 

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# Chair's Welcome

Dr. Peter Mombourquette

The Department of Business and Tourism welcomes all new and returning students on campus for the new academic year. Over the summer, we have been anticipating your arrival and preparing a semester filled with great and interesting opportunities.

This fall we are hosting a number of events including our 45th Annual Learners and Leaders Conference, the Sustainable Business Tour, and Career Week. These events encompass the Department's desire to provide you the opportunity to enhance your learning experience through the Learning Passport Program, but also to make new connections that could become a future employer.

With the start of a new year, I encourage students to pursue your interests, work hard to achieve your goals, and get involved. Most importantly, step outside of your comfort zone and try something new. You never know what could come out of taking on a new opportunity.

I wish you all the best this fall term and good luck!

# BUSINESS & TOURISM Society

The Business and Tourism Society (BTS) brings Mount students together! The Society plans and executes events, and fundraises for charity every semester.



#### Why should you join the BTS?

- To build your Co-Curricular Record! Volunteering looks fantastic on a Resume.
- To network with local business leaders.
- ❖ To meet a diverse group of Business & Tourism students who want to make a difference!
- To give back to the campus community by helping with events and fundraising.

#### **Weekly Meetings:**

Tuesdays, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Seton Academic Centre 305

#### **BTS Fall Elections**

Are you interested in being part of the Executive Team? Two positions are available!



VP of Marketing and Communications



**VP of External Events** 

See the BTS webpage or Facebook for instructions on how to apply!



BTS biking and rollerblading social at the Emera Oval, 2018

#### **Upcoming Events**

Oct. 3 – Pizza Social Vinnies Pub, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 24 – 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Learners and Leaders Conference Rosaria MPR, 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



@msvubtsociety



/MSVUBTSociety



@MSVUBTSociety



btsociety@msvu.ca

# Learning Passport Program: Overview

#### What?

The Learning Passport program is a free program available to all Business and Tourism students with the goal of providing opportunity to extend learning beyond the classroom through a variety of events and activities.

#### Why should I participate?

- Opportunity to gain educational experiences relevant to your program of study
- Earn points toward your final grade in eligible Business & Tourism courses
- Network and make connections at events
- Get a Learning Passport certificate to add to your portfolio

How many points can I earn?

**Two Activities = 1 Bonus Point** 

Three Activities = 2 Bonus Points

Four Activities = 3 Bonus Points

#### When?

The Learning Passport program commences
Thursday, September 12, 2019 and concludes
Wednesday, November 20, 2019.

Your booklet must be submitted by November 20, 2019 no later then 4:30 p.m. for your passport to be valid.



For more information visit: Learning Passport Moodle site http://msvu.ca/learningpassport



BTS at the 44th annual Learners and Leaders Conference

#### Do's and Don'ts

Do sign up: You may submit forms to Miriam Gallant and Colleen Blacker in McCain 405.

Distance students can download and submit forms under the Forms and Form Submissions section of the LP Moodle site.

**Do participate:** Campus and distance students enrolled in Business and Tourism courses at MSVU can participate in the Learning Passport Program.

**Don't miss class:** Students are not permitted to skip their classes to participate in learning passport activities.

**Don't be late:** Students must be on time for Learning Passport events. Tardy students will not be allowed to participate.

**Do request a certificate:** Learning Passport Certificates can be issued and used in portfolios.

Do have fun! The Learning Passport program is designed to provide students with unique networking and learning opportunities.

# **Upcoming Learning Passport Events**

#### Halifax Universities Career Fair

When: Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Where: Cunard Centre

Students will meet representatives from various organizations and learn about available careers and how to apply to full-time, part-time, Co-op, and summer job opportunities.

#### Sustainable Business Tour

When: Friday, October  $25^{th} - 8:15$  a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Where: Church Brewing Co., Lightfoot Vineyards, Gaspereau Vineyards, and Tangled Garden

Students will have an opportunity to learn about sustainability, the impact of small business on rural communities, and how various beverages are made.

#### 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Learners and Leaders Conference

When: Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Where: MSVU Rosaria Multipurpose Room

Students will have the opportunity to speak with experienced professionals from various industries, draw inspiration from entrepreneurs, learn from human resource professionals, and be guided by exceptional keynote speakers.

#### **Business and Tourism Career Week**

Career Week Panels:

Marketing – Thursday October 31st, 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. in Auditorium B

Entrepreneurship – Monday November 4th, 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. in Seton 404

Human Resource Management - Monday November 4th, 3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. in Seton 404

Non-Profit – Tuesday November 5th, 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. in Auditorium B

Management – Tuesday November 5th, 3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. in Auditorium B

**Tourism and Hospitality Management –** Wednesday November 6th, 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. in Seton 404

Accounting – Wednesday November 6th, 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. in Seton 404

Career Week is designed to help you learn about potential careers in a variety of sectors in the areas of Business Administration and Tourism and Hospitality Management.

# See a full list of eligible events when you sign up for your Learning Passport at

http://msvu.ca/learningpassport

## Business and Tourism Fall 2019 Career Week

The Department of Business and Tourism will host the annual fall career week October 31<sup>st</sup> to November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019. During career week, industry professionals will speak and provide professional advice to students.

Students will learn about potential careers in the areas of Business Administration and Tourism and Hospitality Management.

Find your career inspiration from industry experts at Career Week!



Thursday, October 31st from 12 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

#### Entrepreneurship

Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

#### **Human Resources Management**

Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 3 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

#### Non-Profit

Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> 12 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.



Career Panel Fall 2017 attendees

#### Management

Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 3 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

#### **Tourism and Hospitality Management**

Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

#### **Accounting**

Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.



Please Note: Students may attend a maximum of two Business & Tourism Career Week Learning Passport activities for bonus points.

Tourism and Hospitality Management Panel, Fall 2018

## Halifax Chamber of Commerce

Students in the Business & Tourism program at the Mount are members of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce.

# Through this membership, students can attend chamber events and receive benefits such as:

- Discounts from Benefit Providers
- Connections in the business community and access to the Member Directory
- M2M Marketplace discounts
- Halifax Chamber of Commerce enewsletter

Attending Chamber events is also a part of the Learning Passport program.

The Chamber's Annual Fall Dinner provided an excellent opportunity to connect with business leaders, learn of the growing innovation in Halifax, and experience the value of the Mount's partnership with the Halifax Chamber of Commerce.

#### - Abigail Hodder, MSVU student



Halifax Chamber of Commerce Annual Fall Dinner

# HALIFAX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### **About**

The Halifax Chamber of Commerce is a bestpractice and business advocacy organization, recognized as the first Chamber in North America, and is certified to ISO 9001:2015.

The Chamber focuses on creating positive business environments, growing the workforce, and accelerating the success of Chamber members through providing networking events, benefit programs, advocacy to governments, education, and information.

Approximately 1,600 businesses and over 65,000 employees are members of the Chamber.

Learn more about the Halifax Chamber of Commerce by visiting: http://halifaxchamber.com/



Students attending Halifax Chamber of Commerce Annual Fall Dinner

### Graduate Profile: Kathleen MacDonald

Since graduating from the Mount with a Bachelor's degree in Tourism and Hospitality Management in May, Kathleen MacDonald has hit the ground running on an exciting new business venture! Kathleen is the owner and operator of Cape Breton's first Freshii restaurant, where she enjoys providing a healthy, affordable, and convenient food option for her community – something that was not available before. When asked what she enjoys most about her current role, Kathleen said, "I love creating happy fun work environments, being a part of the business circle in Downtown Sydney and filling one of the many empty spaces that sits on our main street". Kathleen has been working hard to get the new restaurant off the ground, which has been open for about a month.

Kathleen started at the Mount in 2013, and while she encountered challenges through her degree, she says her time at the Mount influenced her in many ways. Kathleen expressed that she was encouraged by "amazing professors at the Mount who were always willing and available to help me succeed and make it to convocation". Through the Co-op program, Kathleen was able to try many different roles and move up quickly within each role. The co-op program allowed her see "the importance of all of the amazing learning opportunities not just inside the classroom but out there in the working world". During her six years at the Mount, Kathleen also took advantage of the exchange program, saying, "I went on an exchange in Vic, Spain, which was one of the better decisions I made so far in life. Living in a different country with different norms and ways of living really teaches you how to adjust your way of living, which is great for personal growth – so for

that program I am grateful"

When asked if she had advice for Business and Tourism students at the Mount, Kathleen offered, "no matter how you're doing in class, you can still achieve pretty amazing things. At points, I struggled through my degree. Focus on what you are learning in and out of the classroom and know that hard work does pay off in many ways. Everyone has different strengths and weaknesses. I could not always figure out ways to kill it in the classroom so I focused on doing so in my work life." Although there can challenges when pursuing a degree, it is important to stay focused on your goals!

Now the owner and operator of Cape Breton's first Freshii restaurant, Kathleen's efforts to "kill it" in her work life have certainly paid off. Kathleen says, "Being from the supportive community I am from really helped me out tremendously. I feel lucky to be from Cape Breton, to have had the privilege of receiving the education I have, and to have had the experience of living in Halifax, Spain, and Jasper, Alberta over the time it took me to complete my degree".

# Student Spotlight: Ayush Thakur

Ayush Thakur began studying at the Mount in 2017 after moving to Canada from New Delhi, India. Studying Business Administration and pursuing a major in Management, Ayush says the Mount's small class sizes and student-to-professor ratio were among the deciding factors when choosing where to pursue his education. Ultimately, Ayush chose to pursue his studies at the Mount because of the exceptional care and communication shown to him by the International Education Centre, and the Mount's inspiring history. The kindness shown to Ayush when he first started at the Mount left an impression on him, remembering, "Gabrielle Durepos asked me 'how are you doing? How are you finding the class?' I thought this was thoughtful and kind, especially since I had been living away from my family". Since moving to Canada, Ayush has found people very friendly and very kind. Ayush is highly motivated by his peers, noting in particular that students are very focused on pursuing many areas of interest in university.

Ayush grew up in the south of New Delhi, India. He is the youngest of four siblings, with three older sisters. Ayush reflected fondly on his childhood, saying "growing up was really fun". Ayush noted, "Living in Canada is one of the most diverse experiences that an individual can have because every day when you go outside, you meet someone from a different culture. This makes Canada a comfortable place to be for a student who's living away from their family".

When asked what his favourite part of the Business Administration program has been, Ayush explained, "It's a very interactive program; you focus in both aspects on academics and practical application. On the academic side, students have what they learn in their courses, the theory. On the practical side, students apply and use what they've learned in their courses,



Ayush Thakur

for example through the Mount co-op program and though additional opportunities in the city of Halifax". Ayush expressed his belief that, with a concrete plan it is possible for students to see their goals through and to thrive.

Ayush described his dream job as, "working in the field of supply chain management, and looking after the process by putting into practice what I've learned in my studies", adding, "at the moment, I'm passionate about first finishing my studies, then finding my dream job, and then obtaining my Six Sigma certification".

When asked what advice he had for students starting in the Business Administration program this year, Ayush suggested, "Concentrate in your courses, always communicate with your professors and academic advisors, tell them your goals and ask for advice on how you can achieve your goals. When you have a goal, your university is your best friend! Participate, volunteer, and take part in programs like co-op."

Ayush expressed his appreciation for his time thus far at the Mount, saying, "I very much appreciate the happiness and enjoyment that Halifax and Canada has given me, and the enormous love and prosperity, which I can never forget".

# Faculty Focus: Shuyue Huang

The Department of Business and Tourism is pleased to welcome Dr. Shuyue Huang to the Mount Saint Vincent University community. Bringing with her an abundance of experience, Dr. Huang has been an assistant professor at the School of Tourism and Hospitality, Universidade Europeia, in Lisbon, Portugal since 2017. Dr. Huang received a Ph.D. in Services Management (concentration on Tourism) at the University of Guelph, having previously received a Bachelor's degree in Economic Geography and Master's degree in Tourism Planning at Sun Yat-Sen University. A widely known institution for tourism education and research, Sun-Yat Sen University is one of the leading universities in China.

Joining the Mount as an Assistant Professor, Dr. Huang's position will encompass teaching, research, and collegial service. For Dr. Huang, the Mount aligns with her teaching philosophy and the research opportunities she hopes to pursue. She likes the small class sizes as they enable a more personalized approach to learning and greater interaction between students and professors. Opportunities for in-class and distance learning makes education more inclusive and accessible. Dr. Huang is excited to work alongside and collaborate with faculty members of multidisciplinary backgrounds, and looks forward to the possibilities for contributions to existing research.

To date, Dr. Huang has co-authored more than thirty research and technical publications, and currently has ten research articles in progress.

Her research interests include tourist engagement, value co-creation, destination development, sustainable tourism, creative tourism, tourism behaviour, cruise tourism, and scholarship of teaching and learning. Tourism and Hospitality Management students will be fortunate to draw on Dr. Huang's knowledge of



Shuyue Huang

tourism research.

When asked what Mount students can do to make the most of their time in university, Dr. Huang emphasized the importance of getting involved on campus. She recommends students engage in school projects, seminars, and activities, and use the resources available to them. Dr. Huang encourages students to "reach out to your professors and administrative assistants for help. You won't be the first one to ask a question and they want to help you. Practice time management, write things down, and use a calendar." In addition, Dr. Huang wants students to know the immense value of understanding different cultures, people, and places. She encourages students to go abroad to experience other cultures. Reflecting on her experience teaching in Portugal, Dr. Huang stated, "it's easier to go abroad with today's technology and social media - we're more aware of the world. Understand global culture and get to know people from other cultures."

Welcome to the Mount, Dr. Huang!

# Co-operative Education at the Mount

This year, the Mount Co-op Team is celebrating 40 years of co-operative education. A significant milestone, the co-operative education program began in 1979 and has since seen more than 8,000 business administration, public relations, and tourism and hospitality management students complete paid work terms.

"For four decades now, the Mount Co-op Office has been helping the learners of today become the leaders of tomorrow across Nova Scotia, Canada, and the world"

Scott Daniels, Manager, Co-operative Education



Co-operative education is an academic program that integrates your studies with paid work experience, relevant to your field of study.

Learn more about the Mount's co-operative education program by visiting:

#### www.msvu.ca/co-op

The deadline to apply for the summer 2020 BBA co-op start is **Friday**, **October 4**<sup>th</sup> **at 4:00 p.m.** 







# Co-operative education is an investment in your future.

Through participation in the co-op program, students acquire...

- Excellent job-search, resume and interviewing skills
- Industry contacts with potential employers
- Personal and professional confidence
- Career options
- Competitive edge when searching for a job
- One year of relevant work experience
- The opportunity to travel to other provinces
- Experience with different industry sectors across Canada

Co-op Office
McCain Centre room 312
coop@msvu.ca | 902-457-6139

Co-op extends learning outside the classroom, helps students develop professional skills, and provides resume and interview experience.

MSVU offers an optional co-operative education program for Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) students. Co-op integrates your studies with paid, career-related work experience. As a co-op student you will be a productive member of the employer's team of professionals. When you graduate with a co-operative education degree, you will have one full year of relevant work experience related to your chosen career.

