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UPEI will build new Canadian Centre for Climate Change and Adaptation in St. Peter's Bay page 16

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Celebrating 50 Years of UPEI Lifelong Learning—Dr. Olive Bryanton INSPIRE! Campaign tops goal

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CLASS OF 2019





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CONGRATULATIONS! On behalf of the 25,000+ alumni of Prince of Wales College, Saint Dunstan's University, and the University of Prince Edward Island, the UPEI Alumni Association is proud to welcome members of the Class of 2019 to our supportive global network.



























STAY CONNECTED! Subscribe to UPEI's alumni e-newsletter, Panther Connections, at upei.ca/alumni Nexus yearbooks are available from the UPEI Student Union. Contact (902) 566-0530 to arrange for pickup or delivery. Yearbooks are free to all graduates.

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ON OUR COVER

PhD student Stephanie Arnold, centre, stands with Andy MacDonald, left, and Luke Meloche, right, both drone pilots and research assistants with the UPEI Climate Lab. As part of her research, Arnold is providing precision agriculture data from the air, thanks to the UPEI Climate Lab's fleet of drones, so that Island farmers can make evidence-based decisions.

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2019 was an amazing year for the University of Prince Edward Island. We continue to have so much to celebrate!

Our University continues to grow and thrive, building our capacity to offer our students a high-quality experiential educational experience. At 4,926, our student population is the largest it has ever been—an increase of 5.5 per cent over 2018. Of that number, 1,423 are international students from 93 countries around the world—an increase of 18.3 per cent over last year. UPEI's popularity at home and abroad bears testament to our strong reputation as an institution of higher learning.

With this increase in students comes a challenge—where are they going to live? Knowing that housing is very scarce, we worked hard to find a solution. In September, we announced construction of a new 277-bed residence that will increase our housing capacity to 15 per cent of the student body. The new residence will be more than a place for students to study, socialize, and sleep. It will include 22,000 square feet for lecture halls and multi-purpose space—additions that will enhance the educational experience for students and staff alike, and attract conferences and major events to Prince Edward Island. We are grateful to the Government of PEI for working with us to make this new facility a reality, and we look forward to its opening in 2022.

Our students are our future leaders, and it is incumbent upon us to prepare them with the knowledge and skills they need to work toward solutions for major issues affecting our world, like climate change. Last summer, I was proud to participate in the announcement of the UPEI Canadian Centre for Climate Change and Adaptation, which will be built at St. Peter's Bay in eastern PEI. The Centre will be a destination for worldclass research and learning, incorporating a collaborative, multi-disciplinary model that will allow students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty to work with industry, community, and government partners on solutions to this very serious problem. It will house state-of-the-art research centres, including our internationally renowned UPEI Climate Lab, and support our Bachelor of Science in Applied Climate Change and Adaptation, and proposed master's program in climate change and adaptation. We thank the Governments of Canada and PEI for their investment in this very important project.

With projects like these—they are just two examples—you can see why I am so excited about UPEI, the work we do here, and our future. I know that there are many more great advancements to come.

While celebrating our present and looking eagerly toward a bright future, we are not neglecting our past. During our 50th anniversary year as PEI's university, we acknowledged and paid tribute to our two founding institutions: Saint Dunstan's University and Prince of Wales College. They laid a strong foundation for the development and advancement of post-secondary education on Prince Edward Island. We, the faculty, students, and staff at UPEI, are proud to build on that foundation.

Dr. Alaa Abd-El-Aziz President and Vice-Chancellor

UPEI 2019

The campus of the University of Prince Edward Island was abuzz with energy last spring as staff, students, faculty, family, graduates, and friends celebrated Convocation 2019. The University conferred degrees, diplomas, and certificates to over 900 graduates in the 2018–2019 academic year.

For the first time, UPEI added a third Convocation ceremony to accommodate the growing number of graduates and limited seating capacity in the UPEI Chi-Wan Young Sports Centre. The additional ceremony took place on Friday, May 10, at 1:30 pm, along with ceremonies on Saturday, May 11, at 10:00 am and at 2:30 pm.

The 2019 cohort included degrees from all eight faculties at UPEI. Proving that learning can happen at any age was Dr. Olive Bryanton, who was awarded her PhD from the UPEI Faculty of Education at the age of 82.

UPEI Chancellor Catherine Callbeck led the ceremonies; President and Vice-Chancellor Alaa Abd-El-Aziz addressed the Class of 2019 as a newly minted group of global citizens.

Three outstanding individuals were conferred with honorary

Doctor of Laws degrees: Roger W. Warren, Albert P. Fogarty, and the Honourable Diane Campbell. Dr. Debbie MacLellan, professor of applied human sciences and former dean of science who retired in 2018 from UPEI, was awarded with the distinction "professor emerita."

The Friday valedictorian was Marie Antoinette Pangan (Bachelor of Science – Nursing) while Halen Sky (Bachelor of Business Administration) addressed the Saturday morning ceremony and Hannah Creaser (Bachelor of Science Honours – Foods and Nutrition) the Saturday afternoon ceremony.

The Governor General's academic medals were presented by the Honourable Antoinette Perry, lieutenant governor of Prince Edward Island. The Governor General's Gold Medal (graduate level) was awarded to Dr. Dennis Makau (Doctor of Philosophy – Faculty of Veterinary Medicine). The Governor General's Silver Medal (undergraduate level) was awarded to Stephanie Cairns (Bachelor of Science Honours – Mathematics).

A number of other academic and student prizes were presented at the Senior Class Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 9.

L-R: The Honourable Antoinette Perry and Stephanie Cairns



Friday Valedictorian-Marie Antoinette Pangan



Saturday morning Valedictorian–Halen Sky



Saturday afternoon Valedictorian-Hannah Creaser



L-R: Professor Emerita Debbie MacLellan and UPEI Chancellor Catherine Callbeck









The Honourable Antoinette Perry (left) presented Dr. Brian Blanchard (right) with the R.G. Thomson Academic Achievement Medal

AVC's Class of 2019 celebrated their entry into the profession of veterinary medicine on Friday, May 10. The graduates were presented with their Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees at a UPEI Convocation ceremony in the afternoon—the first of three ceremonies held during that weekend. Later that day, they were presented with white lab coats, symbolizing their transition from students to veterinary professionals, at AVC's 2019 White Coat Ceremony and Awards Presentation. The event included the presentation of student and faculty awards.

During the Convocation ceremony, the Honourable Antoinette Perry, lieutenant governor of Prince Edward Island, presented Dr. Brian Blanchard with the R.G. Thomson Academic Achievement Medal, given to the AVC graduate with the highest cumulative grade average over the four-year program in both pre-clinical and clinical disciplines.





UPEI hosts Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado of Japan

The UPEI community was proud to host Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado of Japan on August 28 when she visited Prince Edward Island during a tour of Canada to mark 90 years of formal diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado's connection with UPEI goes back to 2004. That year she was granted an honorary Doctor of Law degree from the University at a special convocation. At that time, she was appointed honorary international patron of the L.M. Montgomery Institute (LMMI) at UPEI; she graciously renewed her appointment during her visit this summer.

On this occasion, Princess Takamado was welcomed at a very well-attended reception in the Robertson Library, where the LMMI is housed. On behalf of the LMMI, she accepted a gift from Vivian Macdonald and Kate Macdonald, granddaughter-inlaw and granddaughter of L.M. Montgomery respectively. That gift was a platter from the Canadianbuilt ship, Marco Polo, known in its day as "the fastest ship in the world." When the ship ran aground off the coast of PEI in 1883, the captain stayed with Montgomery's grandparents, Alexander and Lucy Macneill, in Cavendish for a time. When he left, he presented her grandmother with the platter and a pewter tankard. Then eight years old, Montgomery witnessed the shipwreck; at age 15, she wrote a prize-winning essay about it, published in the Montreal Gazette in 1891.

During the reception, the Honourable Catherine Callbeck, chancellor of UPEI, presented Princess Takamado with recent publications on behalf of the University, including L.M. Montgomery and the Matter of Nature(s), co-edited by UPEI's Dr. Jean Mitchell; Imagining Anne: The Island Scrapbooks of L.M. Montgomery, compiled and edited by Dr. Elizabeth Epperly, a past-president of UPEI and founder of the LMMI; and a children's book, Summer in the Land of Anne, authored by Dr. Epperly, and illustrated by her sister, Carolyn Epperly.

Mie and Eri Muraoka, the granddaughters of Hanako Muraoka who translated the novel into the Japanese language in 1952, donated a copy of the original translation to the LMMI and presented it to the princess. The princess also spoke with undergraduate students from Tsukuba University and Meiji Gakuin University, here on exchange for the fall semester, and representatives from the UPEI Japanese Student Society.



Celebrating 50 years of UPEI

The University of Prince Edward Island is celebrating 50 years as PEI's only university!

Our party started on January 1 at our annual New Year's Levee, where many well-wishers exchanged greetings with University leaders, students, faculty, and staff, despite a snowstorm that shut down most of Prince Edward Island.

Following this event was the Robertson Library's Franklin Pigot Lecture Series. Dr. Edward MacDonald, professor of history, gave the first lecture in March, with a presentation titled "The School of Experience: A Patchwork Quilt of Informal Island Education, 1825–1965." That was followed by PEI historian and folklorist John Cousins who gave a talk called "Stand for Your Lessons: Educational Change and Cultural Reaction." Historian Georges Arsenault presented the third lecture of the series in May with a talk titled "Société Saint-Thomas d'Aquin and French Education on the Island."

Our celebration extended across Canada and to parts of the globe with events at our 10 alumni chapters. UPEI President and Vice-Chancellor Alaa Abd-El-Aziz, accompanied by staff from Development and Alumni Engagement, visited chapters in Ottawa, Toronto, Hong Kong, and Moncton.

Last summer, we showed our pride in our University by participating in major festival parades across PEI, including Tyne Valley, Georgetown, St. Peter's Bay, Summerside, and Charlottetown. Our float depicted our iconic quadrangle and historic SDU Main Building.

The campus itself was a busy place, with celebratory events during Reunion Weekend, July 24–27, and Homecoming 2019, September 25–28.

During Reunion Weekend, the University community paid tribute to the Honourable Alex B. Campbell, former premier of PEI, by unveiling a new terrace near the W.A. Murphy Student Centre and announcing the creation of an endowment fund for entrance scholarships in his name. It was Campbell's bold vision for postsecondary education on PEI that led to the formation of UPEI 50 years ago.

UPEI hosted an amazing concert during Homecoming

2019, featuring well-known alumni performers Meaghan Blanchard, Rachel Beck, The Rude Mechanicals, and Lenny Gallant, who received an honorary degree from the University in 2015.

Other events included Founders Day, our donor picnic, AVC Open House, Distinguished and Inspiring Alumni Awards, the Alumni Speaker Series, and numerous sports events.

Those looking for a keepsake of the 50th celebration are in luck. The UPEI Student Union published a special yearbook, looking back at classes from 1969 to the present. The Robertson Library will soon unveil a series of videos called "50 Years, 50 Voices," featuring faculty, students, and staff reflecting on their time at the University. As well, a commemorative publication highlighting UPEI's 50th anniversary will be inserted in The Guardian and Journal-Pioneer in early 2020.

For a full list of celebratory events and activities, please visit *upei.ca/50*

Library at the heart of UPEI's last 50 years and its future

Renewal project will improve the Robertson Library as an asset for UPEI community

"It's not an accident the library was one of the first major capital construction projects after UPEI came into being," said University Librarian Donald Moses, sitting at his desk in the Robertson Library. A broad window overlooks a courtyard where students come and go.

"It was a huge priority for our first president, Ron Baker, because he knew the library is the heart of any university. It was true 50 years ago, and it's true today."

"It was a bold move because the Kelley Memorial Building—the previous library—had been standing for less than ten years," said Simon Lloyd, UPEI's archivist and special collections librarian. "But it paid off in spades. The Robertson Library has consistently punched above its weight as a library for an institution of this size."

The role of the library may not have changed much in that time, but the tools it uses certainly have.

"In a way, the library does what it has always done," said Moses. "We ensure faculty and students have the best possible access to the academic resources they need. But where decades ago we had a card catalogue, today we have a variety of discovery layers. And we now offer tools that allow them to create, collaborate, and share their work with the world from a digital collection, to an online collaboration space, to the printing of monographs."

The Robertson Library was at the forefront of the openaccess and open-source movements. Islandora, the open-source software created by the library, has spawned a vibrant international community, which continues to develop and improve it. The library hosts two scholarly journal publications, the *Journal of L.M. Montgomery Studies* and the *Island Studies Journal* both of which are open source.



"The seeds of the library's success were planted early on," explained Lloyd. "The PEI Collection was established in

1971 by then-university librarian Frank Pigot. Nearly 50 years later, it's as relevant as ever. The library is hosting a lecture series, named after Frank Pigot, in honour of UPEI's 50th anniversary, and each speaker has cited the importance of this collection to their research. That's extraordinary."

"We're the only university library in this entire province, which means we hold a special niche as a source for both seeking knowledge and for archiving our history," said Moses. "We're also just successful because of the awesome relationships we have with the community."

"I look at the L.M. Montgomery conference we host every two

years," said Lloyd, picking up the thread. "The conference is international in scope but locally delivered. We were contacted after the last conference by a scholar in Nebraska who was looking for material which doesn't exist elsewhere. And we were able to provide her with book chapters and texts from KindredSpaces she couldn't have found anywhere else."

The Robertson Library is able to provide these services by design. Moses grinned as he recalled former university librarian Mark Leggott's rule: "We eat our own dog food."

"It just means if we create a tool, we use it ourselves in the library," he said. "We use the software we develop. We utilize the digitization lab we built. We organize and share information on the platforms we built. And now we host content for our colleagues around the region because we have the resources. We have them because we built them ourselves."

Even as the University celebrates its history, Moses and Lloyd are looking forward. The Robertson Library was awarded a CANARIE grant to develop the next version of Islandora. Fundraising is also underway for renovations that will transform the building for the future.

"It just further entrenches the Robertson Library as the heart of the University," said Moses. "If graduates remember the library for the hundreds of hours they spent here studying for an exam or preparing a paper, I think that's great. But I also hope they remember the expertise we provided. I hope they remember the tools we created to make their jobs easier and more exciting. And I hope they remember the people."



UPEI hosts Canada's best at the

It was a bittersweet ending to her university hockey career for Emma Weatherbie, a fifthyear forward and captain of the UPEI Women's Hockey team from Frenchfort, PEI. In March 2019, she was diagnosed with a pulmonary embolism, a few days before UPEI was set to host the U SPORTS Women's Hockey Championship.

In an earlier interview on CBC Radio's Island Morning, Weatherbie had said, "It's pretty surreal to get to play my last game in the rink I grew up playing in." She just didn't know at the time that her last game had already taken place during the regular season. Although she couldn't compete on the ice during the championship, she still led and rallied her teammates, inspiring them to play their hearts out.

Coach Bruce Donaldson said, "Her leadership on the ice, her leadership on the bench, her leadership off the ice was invaluable."

From March 14–17, the top eight university women's hockey teams in the country came to UPEI to vie for the championship. Two teams represented each conference across Canada: Atlantic University



Sport (AUS), *Réseau du sport étudiant de Québec* (RSEQ), Ontario University Athletics (OUA), and Canada West (CW).

In 2018, UPEI won the rights to host the U SPORTS Women's Hockey Championship for both 2019 and 2020. While 2019 marked the first time the national women's hockey tournament had been held in Charlottetown, UPEI has a proven track record in successfully hosting three U SPORTS national championships: men's soccer in 2005 and 2014, and women's soccer in 2010.

As host, UPEI was one of the two AUS teams participating in the championship. The organizing committee for the 2019 championship included members of the community and University staff. The honorary co-chairs were Kathleen Casey, Della Sweet, and Lorna O'Donnell, while the convenor of the event on behalf of UPEI was Chris Huggan, director of athletics and recreation. The committee secured many local sponsors, and both the Government of Prince Edward Island and the City of Charlottetown were partners.

The 2019 event was a huge success! The UPEI Panthers gave their best effort on home ice but fell to the Manitoba Bison in the consolation round semi-final. The Guelph Gryphons took home the championship with a win against the McGill Martlets.

The Panthers will have a shot again next year when UPEI hosts the 2020 championship March 12–15 at the MacLauchlan Arena. Visit the UPEI Panthers website *gopanthergo.ca* for details!

GO PANTHERS GO!

World's case study elite converge at UPEI for NIBS 2019

Students from 16 of the world's top international business schools converged on UPEI in February 2019 for the 24th Network of International Business Schools (NIBS) Worldwide Case Competition Championship. Over a week of intense competition, students drew on every ounce of skill, training, and teamwork they had to prove they are the best of the best.

Following a qualifying round that took place in November 2018, the top 16 teams advanced to the championship round at UPEI. Teams competed in a series of head-to-head matches, with as little as three hours between the time they received their cases and the moment they presented their solutions to expert judges.

UPEI's NIBS team, made up of Faculty of Business students Hani Mayaleh, Taylor Meek, Alec Brown, and Olivia Lantz, gave a spectacular effort, but the championship this time went to worthy competitors from the University of Guelph-Humber.

"NIBS was perhaps the most challenging week of my university career, but also the most rewarding in terms of the international friendships that were made and the learning experiences," said Mayaleh, a native of Syria in his fourth year of the BBA program, who is specializing in finance and accounting.



UPEI's NIBS team: Olivia Lantz, Hani Mayaleh, Alec Brown, and Taylor Meek (Louise Vessey, Light and Vision Photography)



AVC faculty member named 2019 3M National Teaching Fellow

Dr. Sue Dawson, professor of anatomy at the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC), loves what she does, and it shows!

"I have the best job ever," she said with a smile.

Earlier this year, Dawson was named a 2019 3M National Teaching Fellow by the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE) and 3M Canada, joining six others at PEI's only university. The STLHE and 3M Canada began the 3M National Teaching Fellowship program in 1986 to recognize university and college faculty in Canada who have made exceptional contributions to teaching and learning in post-secondary education. There are now over **300 3M National Teaching Fellows** at more than 80 Canadian postsecondary institutions. New fellows continue to support teaching and learning at their own institutions and through larger, collaborative initiatives supported by the Council of 3M Fellows and the STLHE.

"This award speaks to the culture of teaching that we have at UPEI," she said. "I have joined a cohort of six teaching fellows at UPEI; for an institution of this size, it is remarkable. They have done much to shape the culture of teaching on campus, and I have benefitted from that."

Dawson was nominated for the prestigious award by Dr. Étienne Côté, professor of cardiology at AVC and a 3M National Teaching Fellow himself. In his nomination letter, Côté wrote that Dawson believes in allowing students to develop their own aptitudes and skills within a framework she provides as their professor rather than prescribing the path they follow. She empowers students to drive their own education, providing guidance when needed.

"... Sue is a deeply respected, outstanding teacher of veterinary anatomy. However, it is Sue's courageous and innovative work outside the anatomy classroom that explains her outsize impact on UPEI's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine—the Atlantic Veterinary College—the broader UPEI community, and the world at large."

She is well known for innovation and leadership in the classroom and beyond. In 1997 she helped lead the creation and implementation of a course called "Veterinary Integration of Structure and Function" at AVC; this case-based learning approach is now the norm in most veterinary colleges. She uses innovative methods and tools to teach her students and has championed the importance of teaching communication, ethics, interpersonal skills, and wellness in veterinary education. She is AVC's inaugural director of instructional design and teaching innovation, and an exofficio member of the College's curriculum committee.

Dawson has influenced teachers at UPEI and other institutions through presentation of her work on teaching and learning at 14 regional, national, and international pedagogical conferences; creation of a mentorship platform for new faculty across UPEI; and peer review of manuscripts submitted for publication in the *Journal of Veterinary Medical Education*. She has won numerous teaching and educational leadership awards.

When asked what drives her to excel in teaching, Dawson said her students are her primary motivation.

"Learning is uncomfortable," she said, "and helping students get beyond that discomfort to that 'Ah ha!' moment—when they realize that a difficult concept is within their grasp—is the ultimate reward."

She emphasized the importance of working with good colleagues.

"Teaching happens in collaboration—at the level of individual courses and of the overall program. Some of the best things I've done have been working with my colleagues as a team. It's incredibly rewarding."

Along with Dawson and Côté, the 3M National Teaching Fellows at UPEI are Dr. Shannon Murray, Dr. Brent MacLaine, and Dr. Phillip Smith, Faculty of Arts; Dr. Brian Wagner, Faculty of Science; and Dr. Fiona Walton, Faculty of Education.

UPEI participates in Vanier Institute of the Family's Families in Canada Conference 2019

On March 27 and 28, 2019, UPEI hosted an event called "Think BIG! Exploring Issues and Opportunities to Promote Family Well-being on Prince Edward Island" in the W.A. Murphy Student Centre's McMillan Hall.

This event was part of the Vanier Institute of the Family's pan-Canadian Families in Canada Conference 2019, held in Ottawa and simultaneously at seven university partners across the country. UPEI was one of those university partners.

At the UPEI event, panelists explored six themes: early childhood developmentthe first five years; the importance of strong families in the development of youth; evolution in forms of families; changes in family structures; the impact of socioeconomic and cultural changes on families; and challenges facing family members when a family ends or experiences significant loss. Participants also gained understanding of issues impacting families in Canada from a national perspective by viewing the national conference via a livestream.

A unique aspect of the UPEI event was a post-symposium on March 29 about grandparents raising their grandchildren.

The Families in Canada Conference 2019 brought together people and organizations in multiple disciplines and fields to work toward formation of resource networks and knowledge, collaborate to share research and cross-cultural insights on families in Canada, and create and cultivate a family well-being index, family researchers' network, social policy monitor, and more. The conference was funded in part by the Government of Canada's social development partnerships program.

I have the best

job ever

More than a health centre UPEI Health and Wellness Centre expands focus to wellness and health promotion



The UPEI Health and Wellness Centre is on a mission to improve the overall well-being of students, faculty, staff, and their families through enhanced services and a renewed focus on wellness and health promotion.

Over the past year, the health centre has made multiple changes to improve access to its services and, in turn, the health of the UPEI community. The clinic was expanded to provide yearround service, five days a week, to faculty, staff, and their families as well as students. Staffing the clinic is a team that includes a doctor, a nurse practitioner, a registered nurse, a licensed practical nurse, and two receptionists.

New services include immunizations, tuberculosis testing, mass flu clinics, health promotion, and cryotherapy (wart treatment).

"The expansion has provided our clients with access to health care services that they may not have had before," said director Marilyn Barrett. "For students, the services allow them to get the care they need from a physician right on campus. Meanwhile, faculty, staff, and their families who may not have had a primary care practitioner or timely access to one, as well as students, can see the nurse practitioner for episodic care, or on a continuing care basis." The health centre has also added more services from specialists, particularly in mental health. A psychiatrist is now available for students biweekly, and a pediatrician with a specialty in adult ADHD is taking appointments monthly.

The health centre is co-located with the clinical services component of the University's new Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) program in the W.A. Murphy Student Centre. The clinic physician or nurse practitioner can refer clients who need a psychologist to this service, which is staffed by PsyD students and licensed psychologists who also teach in the program.

In switching to a more preventative and health promotion-based model, the centre has also worked on several health campaigns, including efforts to increase sun safety on campus, promote hepatitis screening, HPV clinics, cancer screening, and hypertension awareness. The centre even offered a biometrics clinic with a variety of tests and checks that clients can use to better gauge their health and make changes.

"It all comes down to helping people protect their health by preventing illness and injury and, when that isn't possible, getting treatment as early as possible," said Barrett. Barrett noted that part of this health-care model includes a strong commitment from clients to take ownership of their own health.

"We're here to guide you, provide you with the tools you need, and help get you on the right path to health. But our patients also need to take responsibility for their own health and pursue healthy living and healthy choices if they are going to truly reap the benefits of their relationship with the health centre."

Barrett said that the health centre is working towards achieving accreditation through Accreditation Canada, a national organization that works with patients, policy makers, and the public to improve the quality of health and social services. She and her team are also completing a strategic plan to guide the centre forward. As the clinic grows, she hopes to implement electronic medical records, which should help manage patient information and provide better statistics for planning.



'UPEI was so important in making me who I am'

Thespian Brittany Banks cites University as a crucial part of her career

"My earliest memories of theatre are on the mainstage of the Homburg Theatre," said Brittany Banks. "I was seven years old and a Child of Avonlea. Anne of Green Gables—The Musical[™] was my very first show. It feels really natural to be home."

Banks came home to that same stage—and that same show at the Confederation Centre of the Arts in the summer of 2018 in the role of Josie Pye. It was a sensational season to be a company member of The Charlottetown Festival. The Festival workshopped two new musicals and staged hit after hit, including Jesus Christ Superstar and, of course, Anne[™].

"It's a lot of work. I think I'm in the best shape of my life," she said with a laugh. "Jumping rope in period clothes certainly helps."

Banks, by any measure, is a success in the musical theatre world, and she credits much of that to her education at UPEI.

"I love when people ask me where I went to school. My journey isn't typical at all. There are a handful of schools in the Toronto area you tend to expect people to rhyme off. But I went to UPEI. I'm proud of that! I majored in vocal music and minored in theatre."

Banks knew she wanted a career in musical theatre. She specifically chose UPEI because she needed to work on her singing.

"I'm forever grateful to Professor Sung Ha Shin-Bouey in music and Dr. Greg Doran in theatre studies. They adapted to my interests, so I could apply classical techniques to musical theatre."

After graduating in 2012, she started a two-year musical theatre program at Randolph College in Toronto. She left early to work as choreographer at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. And from there, her career took off. She has starred in productions across the country and now calls Toronto home.

"I think, on PEI, we maybe take The Charlottetown Festival for granted, but it really is the dream for many performers across the country." Despite her history with The Festival, including performing at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics as a member of the Young Company, Banks had to audition the same as everyone else. And when she received the call, she was elated.

"I'm so grateful for the opportunity," she said. "It was a happy surprise. It's such a busy season. We go from show to show. I got to do some choreography and flex some of my creative muscles."

Through it all, Banks remembers her formative years at university.

"UPEI was so important in making me who I am. My critical eye comes from UPEI. My view of the world comes from UPEI. That psych 101 course—I think about it every day," she jokes.

Banks returned to PEI last summer for a second season with The Charlottetown Festival. She was thrilled to play Josie Pye in Anne™ once more, perform in *Mamma Mia* and *The Hamlet Rock Musical*, and choreograph *Atlantic Blue*.

UPEI finds 'perfect setting' to establish the Canadian Centre for Climate Change and Adaptation

UPEI Climate Lab director Adam Fenech to lead research and academic programming



"I remember the first time I visited Greenwich in the Prince Edward Island National Park," said Dr. Adam Fenech, director of the UPEI Climate Lab and interim associate dean of science for climate change and adaptation. "It's a stunning place, and is home to multiple protected ecosystems. You really couldn't have a more perfect setting to study and learn about the impact of climate change."



Last July, Fenech was in the front row of a community hall in St. Peter's Bay, PEI, as Dr. Alaa Abd-El-Aziz, president and vice-chancellor of UPEI; the Honourable Dennis King, premier of PEI; and the Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, minister of veterans affairs and member of parliament for Cardigan, announced the Canadian Centre for Climate Change and Adaptation. The centre was a long time coming, and Fenech was there from the beginning. He remembers taking a call several years ago from Karen Jans, field unit superintendent of the PEI National Park. "She saw there was an opportunity for collaboration between the park and the University, and of course she was 100 per cent correct."

It was an idea that wouldn't go away. As Fenech worked on his groundbreaking and headlinegrabbing research examining climate change and coastal erosion on Prince Edward Island, plans kept moving ahead for collaboration with Parks Canada. President Abd-El-Aziz and Fenech were establishing relationships and getting more people on board for the idea of a national centre that would make an impact at home and around the world.

"It was a nice feeling," said Fenech, "knowing I had the support of the University. This wasn't an easy process, but I always knew, in the back of my mind, we'd make it happen. There was just too much excitement. I'd walk into someone's office in Ottawa, and they'd say 'why haven't we built this yet?""

The project consists of a 45,000 square-foot research facility

in St. Peter's Bay. The facility will house state-of-the-art research centres, including the internationally recognized UPEI Climate Lab. It will also serve as a living laboratory that allows for unlimited access to nearby wetlands, forests, and coastal habitats directly affected by climate change.

"The centre has three main pillars," explained Fenech. "First, the school. UPEI offers the only Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Climate Change and Adaptation in the world. Students will spend the last two years of their degree studying at the centre in St. Peter's. We'll also be adding graduate-level programs."

"Second," continued Fenech, "it's a professional training centre. There's great demand from all sectors for training in climate change and adaptation, from government, to contractors, to educators. We'll be developing and delivering training programs at the centre."

"And finally, there's research. UPEI is already on the front edge of research in these areas, but we'll be diving even deeper in the areas of costal integrity, food safety and sustainability, and animal and human health."

The first cohort of students in the bachelor's program will begin



their third year in September 2020—a full year before the centre will be finished.

"They won't be missing out, believe me," said Fenech with a laugh. "We'll be working out of the national park's interpretive centre in Greenwich. It's a spectacular facility. I'm really excited about this. We're designing an experiential delivery method of teaching. Those students are going to be in the field; they're going to be monitoring real environments; they're going to be flying drones; and they'll be working with cutting-edge technology. And, even better, they'll be working in the park with Parks Canada staff."

Students will also do two placements with Parks Canada, learning, working, and studying at parks across the country.

Dr. Adam Fenech has worked extensively in climate change since 1988, including as a member of the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. In addition to his duties at UPEI where he leads the UPEI School of Climate Change and Adaptation and the UPEI Climate Lab, Fenech teaches at the University of Toronto and the Smithsonian Institution and lectures regularly at universities across Canada and around the world.



Top Five Facts

- UPEI and the governments of Canada and Prince Edward Island are each investing over \$4.8 million in this project through the New Building Canada Fund – Provincial-Territorial Infrastructure Component.Total budget is expected to come in at \$18.5 million.
- Construction of the 45,000 square-foot facility will begin in early 2020 and be completed by September 2021.
- 3. The Centre will feature a residence component for students and visiting faculty and researchers.
- The land where the facility will be built was donated by UPEI alumni and friends, and is located on Route 2 in St. Peter's Bay, just east of the bridge.
- 5. The Centre will be home to the largest collection of research drones at a Canadian university.



Dr. Alaa Abd-El-Aziz, UPEI president and vice-chancellor; the Honourable Dennis King, premier of PEI; and Emma Drake, president of the UPEI Student Union

New student housing for the UPEI campus

A new residence building that will create dedicated year-round housing for post-secondary students was announced for the University of Prince Edward Island campus by Premier Dennis King and UPEI President and Vice-Chancellor Alaa Abd-El-Aziz on September 6, 2019.

With 277 new beds, the new residence will alleviate pressure on the current housing market, improve the student experience, and increase the University's housing capacity from 9.4 per cent to 15 per cent of the current student body.

"With UPEI's record growth in the number of students, and many of these students interested in experiencing on-campus residence life, we have seen increased demand for our existing residences," said President Abd-El-Aziz. "The new residence facility will also feature a number of classrooms to alleviate some of the pressure on our academic space. We are extremely grateful and excited to work with the Government of PEI to offer new housing options for our students that will help us achieve our vision of a vibrant, sustainable University community."

The new housing facility will also include 22,000 square feet for lecture halls and multi-purpose space, including a theatre.

"Students are facing the same housing challenges as many Islanders," said Premier King. "This is a good step forward to help students focus on what matters most to them. The stability of knowing they have a place to call home all year long will positively add to their student experience and academic success."

The \$60-million infrastructure project is expected to be completed by 2022 in advance of the Canada Games being hosted on PEI in 2023.



Elmira Moghimi is a fourth-year sociology student with a minor in applied communication, leadership, and culture. Moghimi's first bachelor's degree was in mass communication specializing in marketing and advertising in Malaysia.

Coming from Iran to study at UPEI, Moghimi has accomplished her academic goals and become actively engaged in campus life. She says UPEI is an excellent fit for her.

"There are a couple of reasons that I chose to study at UPEI. I love to live and study in a place where people do care about each other, and they are warm and close. Living on this beautiful and peaceful Island allows us to experience new things that we might not in our home countries," she said. "Moreover, I found the UPEI staff professional, friendly, and supportive." Moghimi said her professors in the Faculty of Arts always assist students both in the classroom and during their office hours.

"In my opinion, the UPEI campus has a supportive and diverse environment. Indeed, along with academic excellence, 'community' and 'caring' are two other principles at UPEI," she said. "Since I have been here as an international student, I have never felt homesick, as our campus offers various activities, and it hosts many social gatherings for us. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet new people, make friends, and learn about different cultures."

Moghimi has had the opportunity to advance her leadership and organizational skills while studying at UPEI. She is president of the UPEI Iranian Society, which increased its numbers from fewer than 10 members to 35 in the 2018–19 academic year. "As the president of UPEI Iranian Society, I am getting the members ready to take on more responsibilities and become more involved in our campus life," she said. "I have learned to share power among the members and trust their abilities in order to play a significant role in their student life."

Moghimi said she is enjoying her life as an international student on Prince Edward Island.

"I believe in my university. The University of Prince Edward Island is my second home."



UPEI is an institution built on stories of student success. Read and watch videos about other UPEI students and their postsecondary journey at *upei.ca/communications/ spotlight.*



Good things grow: Collaboration creates a unique learning environment

"When I first arrived at UPEI, I was purely an engineer," said Tartela Alkayyali, a master's student in UPEI's Faculty of Sustainable Design Engineering. "I'm now completely at home in a microbiology lab. It wouldn't have happened without the collaboration between engineering and chemistry."

Alkayyali came to UPEI from the United Arab Emirates, where she completed her undergraduate degree at the American University of Sharjah. At UPEI, she became a member of a unique collaboration between the labs of Dr. Ali Ahmadi (engineering) and Dr. Russell Kerr (chemistry). As Dr. Kerr's team seeks novel chemical compounds from natural sources, they need technology to isolate, preserve, and grow these compounds in their natural environments. That's where Alkayyali's work came in.

"If I was just on an engineering team, it would be a simple design project," she said. "But I needed to understand how bacteria grow. I needed to experience microbiology lab protocol. The collaboration made this possible." Her work resulted in multiple articles in high-calibre academic journals.

Alkayyali also found a home in UPEI's growing community of graduate students. She served as the international student representative on UPEI's Graduate Students' Association, which gave her an opportunity to meet and work with students outside of her discipline.

"What a group of amazing, hard-working people," said Alkayyali about her fellow graduate students. "I'm the kind of person who doesn't want to be involved in academics only. Through the association, I've made good friends, and we made real differences for the graduate community oncampus."



Through the eyes of a former *Cadre* editor

UPEI is a big enough place that it's hard for any one person to see the whole picture. As former editor-in-chief of *The Cadre*, UPEI's student newspaper, Allison O'Brien might have had the best view of anyone.

"It's a funny job," said O'Brien. "You're constantly looking for stories, so you start looking in places you wouldn't normally. You see things going on you didn't know were happening."

O'Brien, who graduated in May 2019 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, never had much reason to take a look at the exciting research in engineering, or the struggles of low-income students in the midst of the Charlottetown housing crisis, or the day-to-day lives of international students on campus. But she did, and her view of UPEI changed because of it.

"UPEI is a different place than when I started six years ago," she said. "We're bigger in so many ways. It was huge for the staff at the paper to put ourselves out there every day. It was hard, but it felt good too."

Learning–A lifelong journey for Dr. Olive Bryanton



Dr. Olive Bryanton, well-known Island advocate for senior citizens, believes that people can do anything they want if they have the desire and the drive, no matter what age they are. And she lives up to her words!

On Friday, May 10, 2019, Bryanton, age 82, was presented with her Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree at the first of three UPEI Convocation ceremonies held that weekend, making her the oldest person to ever receive a PhD from the University.

Learning has been a lifelong adventure for Bryanton. She grew up in rural PEI, graduated from high school (grade 10 at that time), married at 19, and had five children. After several years as a stay-athome mother, she worked in retail and then went back to school to become a licensed practical nurse. She started out in obstetrics but soon turned her attention to the needs of older people.

In the late 1970s, she owned and operated a small community care facility. But furthering her education was always on her mind, so in 1980 she was accepted at UPEI. While working toward her degree, she continued to operate her business until 1983 when she sold it. In 1984 she graduated—at the age of 47—with a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in sociology and minoring in Canadian studies. While a student, she established MAPUS, an association specifically for mature and part-time students.

After working for St. John Ambulance for three years, she began to work on issues facing seniors. Over the years, she has led or been involved in many projects related to the unique needs of seniors, including the PEI Seniors Federation, *Voice for Island Seniors* newspaper, Seniors College of PEI, and the PEI Seniors Active Living Centre. She also worked for the PEI Gerontology Association and the PEI Centre on Health and Aging at UPEI. In May 2000, she received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from UPEI in recognition of her work on behalf of seniors.

While working at the PEI Centre on Health and Aging, Bryanton embarked on a master's degree, graduating in 2009. Her thesis dealt with the challenges faced by women over 70 years of age who lived in rural PEI and had to give up driving—a traumatic experience for them. Her work illustrated the need for a transportation system for people living in the Island's countryside.

In 2013 Bryanton already had two earned degrees and an honorary degree, but she didn't stop there. At the age of 76, she decided to pursue a PhD, again focusing on the needs of senior women living in rural PEI. This time her participants were ten women aged 85 and older. She wanted to know what helped and what hindered their ability to "age in place."

Using a research method called photovoice, Bryanton trained the women to use digital cameras to take pictures of things that supported or limited their ability to continue living in their location of choice. They could take as many photos as they wished, but in the end, they were asked to select the four pictures that best illustrated their reality of what supported or limited their ability to age in place. The participants presented their photos at an open house event attended by family, friends, UPEI community members, and policymakers, including Tina Mundy, thenminister of family and human services with responsibility for seniors. Mundy was impressed by Bryanton's research and the opportunity to talk with the participants, which partly

inspired her to announce in late 2017 an independence initiative program to help seniors remain in their own homes.

Bryanton is excited about the outcome of her research—that the women involved in the study were as much supporters of their families and communities as they were supported by them. "The women clearly demonstrated that older adults are contributors to society rather than burdens, which is often the perception."

Bryanton said that going back to school is the best thing she ever did. When asked if she would do it over again, she said, "I really believe I would. I learned so much, and it has opened so many doors."

She has been invited to international conferences and has met many experts who are doing research on aging. She has been asked to contribute to a book because of her work with Age-Well, a national organization that aims to help older Canadians maintain their independence, health, and quality of life through technology and services. Last summer she mentored students in Age-Well's week-long summer institute as they looked for solutions to social isolation and loneliness among seniors.

She credited her supervising committee—"Team Olive"—and her family for helping her succeed in achieving her PhD. "They were as invested as I was," she said.

Even with this latest educational success, Bryanton is not resting

on her laurels. She is working with co-investigators Dr. Bill Montelpare, professor and Margaret and Wallace McCain Chair in Human Development and Health at UPEI, and Dr. Janet MacIntyre, assistant professor, Faculty of Nursing, focusing on a new patient-centered, community-based program, developed and tested by McMaster University, to improve the delivery and outcomes of care for older adults with Type 2 diabetes and other chronic conditions.



Bryanton is the subject of a documentary entitled "Never Too Old", which premiered on CBC Docs POV on August 22. The documentary features Bryanton and some of the women who were part of her research. It was directed by Marcia Connolly and produced by Dream Street Pictures of Halifax, Nova Scotia. It can be watched on CBC's streaming service, Gem, at *gem.cbc.ca*

Plenty of highs and lows for the Panthers in 2018–19

By Thomas Becker Special to UPEI Magazine

Sport has a unique way of evoking an array of emotions, and it was no different for the UPEI Panthers and their fans during the 2018-19 season and the 2019 fall season.





Women's Rugby inches closer to counterparts,

After a rebuilding year in 2018, the Panthers hit the pitch in 2019 with high hopes of better competing with perennial powerhouse and conference rivals St. Francis Xavier X-Women and the Acadia Axewomen. With 2018 AUS Rookie of the Year Brinten Comeau now in her sophomore year, the UPEI women kicked their 2019 season off with an aggressive, but mindful, style of play. Led by the strength of their dominant scrums, UPEI put a scare in the Axewomen tying late in the final game of the regular season, but they ended up losing the close battle 15–10, and finishing with a 2–4 record. Fourth-year Panther Frances MacWilliam, who plays front row/prop, and rookie

winger Mackenzie Hale were both named to the 2019 AUS Women's Rugby All-Star team.



Women's Soccer faces difficult 2019 season; Men's Soccer returns to playoff action



With a 3–9 record in the regular season, the women's soccer squad struggled to gain traction and again missed out on post-season play.



After a power outage hit the men's soccer team in 2018, the veteranladen squad redeemed themselves and returned to post-season play after cruising to victory over the Mount Allison Mounties at the end of the 2019 regular season. Under the guidance of head coach Lewis Page, the Panthers left it all on the field at the AUS Championship in Sydney, beating nationally ranked UNB 2–1 in a thrilling quarterfinal match that went into overtime. Despite best efforts, the men's squad succumbed 3-1 in semifinal play to St. FX. UPEI fifth-year midfielder Sam Smiley was named an AUS First-Team All-Star for his stellar play.







UPEI Sports Hall of Fame inducts its 48th, 49th, and 50th members

Hall now boasts 50 members after 50 years of Panther Sport

The UPEI Sports Hall of Fame inducted three new members at its UPEI Sports Legacy Celebration on November 14, 2019. Soccer great Tessa Roche, football star Vernon Pahl, and the title-winning 1984–85 UPEI Men's Hockey team were the 48th, 49th, and 50th inductees, respectively, bringing the total membership of the Hall of Fame to 50, in honour of the University's 50th anniversary.

Bailey Smith solidified herself as one of the greatest athletes to ever step foot on UPEI's campus

Smith excels

On the track-and-field front, 60-metre sprinter Bailey Smith showed once again that she is an elite runner. For the third consecutive year, she captured gold at the AUS Championships and followed that performance with a silver medal at the U SPORTS Championships in March 2019—her first podium finish on the national stage. She solidified herself as one of the greatest athletes to ever step foot on UPEI's campus and will look to add to her accolades as she still has another two years of eligibility.



Basketball teams show their mettle

When all hope seemed lost, the men's basketball team fought until the end in their pursuit for a 2018–19 post-season berth, but they ultimately came up short in the final game of the season.

All things considered, the second year of the rebuild by head coach Darrell Glenn was a success, especially with the development of a young nucleus. Playoffs were surely on the minds of everyone heading into the 2019–20 campaign, which began November 1, 2019.

Under rookie head coach Matt Gamblin, the women's basketball team had one of the best regular seasons in recent memory, finishing with an impressive 17–3 record for 2018–19, including a perfect 10–0 record at home. They were easily the best defensive team in the conference. Anchoring that end of the floor was centre Carolina Del Santo, who captured her second straight Defensive Player of the Year honour. She was also named an All-Star for the first time, joining teammate Jenna Mae Ellsworth.

The team earned a bye in the first round of the playoffs, but ran into illness and a recordbreaking 51-point performance from Axewoman Haley McDonald, ending any hope of a championship returning to Charlottetown.

The team is off to a great 2019–2020 start with five wins in their first six games.

Men's and Women's Hockey post strong seasons

Following an impressive 9–6–1 record at the Christmas 2018 break, the second half of the season brought challenges for the men's hockey team. After dropping four consecutive games, they turned their season around in the final two weeks to secure home-ice advantage in the playoffs for the first time since 2013–14. The Panthers swept their rival, the UdeM Aigles Bleus, which included overtime heroics by captain Brent Andrews in Game 1. The second round brought a new challenge in the form of the country's best team—the UNB Reds. The series showcased the team's resiliency and competitiveness, which has boded well for the program to contend in 2019–20.



Meanwhile, the women's hockey program had a very strong 2018–19 season, winning 14 games compared to just seven the previous year. Despite losing to UNB in the first round, the team carried their positive attitude into hosting the 2019 U SPORTS Women's Hockey Championship, which was widely considered a resounding success. The team lost both games at the nationals but proved they can compete on the biggest stage. In fall 2019, the Panther women are off to a solid season start, and will return to host the 2020 U SPORTS Women's Hockey Championship from March 12–15.





From UPEI to the NBA

A conversation with Scott Morrison

Photo: Scott Morrison goes over strategy with Boston Celtic players.

As a member of the University of Prince Edward Island men's basketball team, Scott Morrison (BA '99) displayed a proclivity for passing. In fact, during his time on the team, he racked up more assists than anyone else who had ever donned a Panthers' uniform.

After graduating with a degree in economics and then earning an MBA from Dalhousie University, Morrison turned his passion for assisting other student-athletes into a full-time career.

In 2003, following a stint on the staff of the women's basketball team at Dalhousie, he became head coach of the men's team at Lakehead University in Ontario.

It was a lot of responsibility to entrust to a 26-year-old, but Morrison's knowledge of the sport and familiarity with the coaching profession belied his young age and lack of a résumé. He had spent his entire life watching, listening to, and soaking up the wisdom of his father, George Morrison, a longtime UPEI basketball coach and a 2017 UPEI Sports Hall of Fame inductee.

Over the next decade, Morrison made the most of his opportunity at Lakehead. Under his leadership, the Thunderwolves surpassed all expectations—capped off by four straight trips to the CIS Final Eight.

In 2014, the Morell native transitioned from amateur hoops to the pros, becoming head coach of the Maine Red Claws in the NBA's Development League. His tenure in Maine shaped his future in more ways than one.

Off the court, he began dating Susanne Canvin (BBA '10), a former UPEI basketball standout. The two are now married. At work, Morrison had plenty of reasons to celebrate. By 2017, he guided the team to more wins than any coach ever had—and those results did not go unnoticed. After three seasons in Maine, he received an offer to become an assistant coach for the Boston Celtics, one of the most respected organizations in the world.

Throughout his journey to the NBA, Morrison has not forgotten his roots. While working for the Red Claws, he also served as assistant coach for the Canadian national under-19 squad. Since 2016, he has filled a similar position with the national men's team.

Halfway through his second season in Boston, Morrison chatted with author Greg Siegman: **Greg:** "You grew up around the game. Did you always want to be a basketball coach?"

Scott: "Actually, as a little kid, I wanted to be an artist or cowboy, then a veterinarian."

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Greg: "You loved animals when you were a child?"

Scott: "I still do. I hope to open a dog rescue farm someday. My own dog, Moses, has been with me every step of the way the past nine years from Lakehead to Maine to Boston. He was best man in my wedding. He keeps things in perspective for me. Even if I do a bad job in a certain game, he's excited when I get home. When we win big, he still has to go outside to pee."

Greg: "So, when did you decide to pursue a career in coaching?"

Scott: "In high school, I decided I was all in. I began taking coaching courses on weekends."

Greg: "How long did you study to be a coach?"

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Scott: "The learning never ends. After every game, the video department gives me a file, and I cut 30 to 40 clips where we can improve the next game. That's where I learn the most."

Greg: "For current students who are interested in coaching careers, what can they study in school that may not seem directly related to basketball but actually might prove helpful?"

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Scott: "Marketing—to help in areas like recruiting. Human Resources—to learn how to organize their program." **Greg:** "Have you noticed a specific trait that great players share?"

Scott: "Confidence."

Greg: "When you reached the NBA, what did that voice in your head say to you?"

Scott: "If you're still thinking about what you did yesterday, then you haven't done much today."

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Greg: "To coach at this level, is it important to maintain that type of perspective and stay focused on the work in front of you?"

Scott: "I think you need to have a high level of confidence in your ability to make decisions you can't be second guessing yourself—but there must be an even higher level of humility and work ethic behind that confidence."

Greg: "Why do you make time to serve on the coaching staff for Canada's national team?"

Scott: "It goes back to childhood. I have fond memories of being around the team as a kid. It's also a way for me to represent our country, work with the best we have, improve my coaching abilities, and contribute in some small way to Canada's basketball goal of being recognized as one of the best in the world."

Greg: "During a busy NBA season, traveling from city to city, does Prince Edward Island cross your mind?"

Scott: "All the time. Morell keeps me grounded. Growing

up in such a small community, I appreciate the opportunities I've gotten, and I respect everyone the same regardless of their job. I think about UPEI a lot too. Before NBA games, they put out a media guide that lists players and coaches. Whenever I see the guide, I look for 'University of Prince Edward Island' beside my name. I take pride knowing someone from UPEI made it to the NBA."

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Greg: What sparked your strong bond with the University?

Scott: "I've always felt UPEI basically raised me. The players on my dad's teams were like my older brothers. The staff were like surrogate aunts and uncles. I feel very lucky to have had that experience as a kid and then play there [at UPEI] in college."

Greg: Ending on a fun note: you can meet up for dinner in PEI with any four Canadians you don't know. Where's the reservation, and who's at your table?

Scott: "Wayne Gretzky, Drake, Seth Rogan, and Elon Musk. We're going to Simm's Corner for steak and oysters. That would be a good night!"



AVC faculty member rewarded for work in animal welfare



Dr. Alice Crook, former coordinator of the Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Centre (SJDAWC) at AVC, received international recognition in the spring of 2018 for her work in animal welfare from the World Veterinary Association (WVA) and Ceva Santé Animale, a multinational veterinary pharmaceutical company.

Crook was awarded the WVA Animal Welfare Award for North America during the organization's 34th annual Congress in Barcelona, Spain. She was one of only five veterinarians world-wide to receive the prestigious awards. The other winners are from Brazil, China, Senegal, and Sweden. Crook joined AVC in August 1988 as a clinical anesthetist, and took the position of coordinator of the Animal Welfare Unit, now the SIDAWC, when it was first established in 1994. In this role, she worked with veterinarians, students, governments, humane societies and other similar organizations, and the general public to promote animal welfare. She was a driving force behind the development and enactment of PEI's 2017 Animal Welfare Act, and she testified before the Canadian Senate on behalf of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association in support of Bill C-84, An Act to Amend the Criminal Code pertaining to Bestiality and Animal Fighting, which is now law.

For many years, she was a valued member of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association's Animal Welfare Committee, and continues to contribute to the work of the committee. She won several other prestigious awards for her work in animal welfare, including the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association's 2009 President's Award. She retired from her position as coordinator of the SJDAWC in the spring of 2019.

Minke whale skeleton installed in AVC learning commons

A fully articulated 20-foot minke whale skeleton is now suspended from the ceiling in the McCain Foundation Learning Commons at the Atlantic Veterinary College, to the delight of Dr. Pierre-Yves Daoust, wildlife pathologist and professor emeritus of pathology.

The story of the skeleton goes back to 2010 when a dead minke whale washed up on shore near Goose River in eastern PEI. Daoust and a team from the College's wildlife group conducted a necropsy on the animal, after which the bones were brought to AVC with the idea that they would be saved for assembly in the future.

In 2018–2019, AVC undertook a successful campaign to raise funds to complete the preparation and assembly of the skeleton. In the fall of 2018, the bones were sent to Claude

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Bourque, an artist in Îles-de-la-Madeleine who has experience in preparing whale skeletons for display. Over the winter, he carefully degreased, cleaned, and assembled them for display. In June he and fellow artist Yoanis Menge hung the skeleton in the large, open atrium of the College's learning commons.

The installation will be complemented by artwork with an Indigenous theme, paying tribute to the deep cultural and spiritual connection between Canada's Indigenous people and the animals that live in the marine environment. Interpretative panels will also be installed to tell the story behind the skeleton and to provide information about minke whales.



UPEI Faculty of Nursing partners with The Salvation Army

UPEI's Faculty of Nursing has partnered with The Salvation Army on a unique learning and service experience at Bedford MacDonald House, PEI's only men's shelter, located in Charlottetown.

In the fall 2019 semester, two fourth-year students in the nursing and population health course did their clinical placements at Bedford MacDonald House three days a week. This course provides theoretical and clinical opportunities to examine and apply concepts and skills related to population health. During the winter rotation, two third-year nursing students in the "developing partnerships with clients in the community" course will complete their clinical placements at Bedford MacDonald House twice a week. This course focuses on promoting and maintaining health and providing support and assistance to individuals, families, and groups in the home and community.

Through this partnership, students provide guests at the shelter with health care and education, and they learn the value of interprofessional collaboration in improving the lives of people affected by poverty and homelessness.



UPEI Board of Governors appoints Donald Moses as University Librarian

The UPEI Board of Governors has appointed Donald Moses to the position of University Librarian. Moses served as interim university librarian from February 2016 to

the time of his appointment. He has been a valued member of the UPEI Robertson Library's staff since 2008. Prior to coming to UPEI, he was a member of the library staff at Holland College. He has a Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Western Ontario (now Western University), and a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from UPEI. He has an extensive scholarship record, and he has led software development projects for UPEI and the community. He has given numerous workshops and tutorials in PEI, New York, and Italy. He has received several awards for his contributions, including a UPEI Presidential Award of Merit for Professional Practice in 2012 and a CACUL Innovation Achievement Award from the Canadian Library Association in 2010.



Dr. Katherine Gottschall-Pass named a Fellow of Dietitians of Canada

Dr. Katherine Gottschall-Pass, professor and interim vicepresident, academic and research, has been recognized as a Fellow of Dietitians of Canada (DC).

Gottschall-Pass obtained her doctorate in human nutrition from the University of Saskatchewan. She previously worked in research and development for the food industry and taught at Saint Francis Xavier University prior to her tenure at UPEI. She teaches in the areas of food science, introductory nutrition, and human metabolism. Her research interests focus on food components and nutritional factors involved in the prevention of chronic disease and the mechanisms of their action. She is an active member of DC and a long-serving surveyor for accreditation of academic programs and internships.

He is also active in numerous professional organizations and shares his knowledge with the broader community, having given presentations to organizations such as PEI Seniors College, the PEI Community Museum Association, and the PEI Genealogical Society.

people • excellence • impact

UPEI President and Vice-Chancellor Alaa Abd-El-Aziz receives honours

In late March, UPEI President and Vice-Chancellor Alaa Abd-El-Aziz, professor of chemistry, was named a Fellow of the prestigious Royal Society of Chemistry, a professional association in the United Kingdom with the goal of "advancing the chemical sciences."

The following month, Senator Brian Francis presented him with, along with 10 other community members, a Senate of Canada Sesquicentennial Medal at a ceremony hosted by the Honourable Antoinette Perry, lieutenant governor of Prince Edward Island, at Government House. The medals, which are struck by the Royal Canadian Mint, commemorate the first time senators came to Ottawa to sit in Parliament on November 6, 1867.

Francis nominated President Abd-El-Aziz on the recommendation of his colleagues at UPEI.

Since assuming his role in 2011, the president has championed a collaborative strategicplanning process, guiding the University in the development of future-focused, industry- and community-linked programming that includes experiential learning. He is committed to increasing the awareness and knowledge of the history, culture, and perspectives of Indigenous peoples on campus. Under his leadership, UPEI's student body increased by 16 per cent between 2014 and 2019, and its international students grew to 29 per cent of total enrolment.

Dr. Josh MacFayden named Canada Research Chair in Geospatial Humanities

Dr. Josh MacFadyen, an alumnus of UPEI, was appointed Canada Research Chair in Geospatial Humanities in the Faculty of Arts in 2019. He is also an associate professor in the University's applied communication, leadership, and culture program.

During his five-year appointment, MacFadyen will use new techniques and multidisciplinary approaches to examine historical transitions of food and energy in Canada as well as their impacts. The core outcomes of this chair will include databases and publications on the environmental history of food and energy, articles comparing Canadian regions to the international literature on socialecological metabolism, and a book on Canadian energy history. Students working under MacFayden will study the environmental history and historical geography of Atlantic Canada. Much of their work will focus on the history of food and agriculture in Canada, including ways in which the modern food system has shaped our relationships with animals and the land.

MacFayden's book, *Flax Americana: A History of the Fibre and Oil that Covered a Continent*, was short-listed earlier this year by the Canadian Historical Association for its annual Best Scholarly Book in Canadian History Prize. Published by McGill-Queen's University Press, the book examines the story of flax, a plant that in only a few decades went from a specialty fibre crop in the Great Lakes region to an oilseed empire that spanned continents and helped create urban industrial capitalism.

Dr. Adam Johnston receives major research grant

Dr. Adam Johnston, an assistant professor in the Faculty of Science's kinesiology program, has received a \$745,000 grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to investigate wound healing in people with diabetes.

Sean Casey, member of parliament for Charlottetown, made the announcement on behalf of the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, then-minister of health, in March.

Johnston is exploring whether special cells found in small nerves in the skin could hold the answer to treating non-healing wounds, such as those experienced by people living with diabetes. Neuropathy and wound healing deficits are two of the most common complications of Type 2 diabetes; however, their interrelationship has not been explored. He is investigating if the impairment in diabetic wound healing is potentially due to the loss of nervous system cells called Schwann cells.

The \$745,000 awarded to UPEI is part of a \$275-million national investment to support Canadian researchers studying the full spectrum of health issues affecting the lives of Canadians.

Over 50 million reasons to say thank-you.

Dr. Alaa Abd-El-Aziz,

president and vice-chancellor, and J. Gordon MacKay, chair of The INSPIRE! Campaign, announced at a celebration on April 3 that through the support of alumni, friends, foundations, companies, and government, the University of Prince Edward Island exceeded its campaign goal of \$50 million.

UPEI raised \$50,256,292 to support its strategic priorities of creating new knowledge and delivering exceptional learning experiences that prepare students for success.

In addition to surpassing the campaign target ahead of schedule, the president also announced that UPEI secured an additional \$3-million donation for initiatives over and above INSPIRE! projects.

"This is a great day for UPEI and our students, faculty, and staff. The INSPIRE! Campaign was a tremendously successful and farreaching friend- and fund-raising effort," President Abd-EI-Aziz said during the celebration. "Along with our campaign chair, Gordon, and co-chairs Blair MacLauchlan, Ray Keenan, Donna Hassard, and John Horrelt, I thank all of our donors for making this ambitious goal become reality."

Launched on October 2, 2015, in conjunction with Founders Day and the participation of UPEI past-presidents Dr. Ron Baker, Dr. Peter P.M. Meincke, Dr. Elizabeth Epperly, and Wade MacLauchlan, The INSPIRE! Campaign had four priority areas: sustainable design engineering, experiential and global learning, veterinary medicine, and athletics and recreation. Led by a cabinet and team of champions, the campaign was slated to continue until October of 2019—UPEI's 50th anniversary year—but it was so successful that it wrapped up six months early!

"This effort was about friendraising," said MacKay. "It was important to have people involved who were supporters, not necessarily only alumni, but those connected to, and known by, the different communities that were our four priorities. We have built strong relationships that will

The INSPIRE! Campaign:

- Launched October 2, 2015; exceeded goal six months early on April 3, 2019.
- \$50,256,292 was raised with an additional \$3-million raised for noncampaign priorities
- 471 new student awards were created
- 3013 total donors, 679 of whom were new
- UPEI received support from 10 countries, including all 13 provinces and territories and 429 cities/towns in Canada, and 32 states and 101 cities/towns in the US



L to R: John Horrelt, Blair MacLauchlan, Gordon MacKay, Donna Hassard, Ray Keenan, Alaa Abd-El-Aziz, Myrtle Jenkins-Smith

benefit UPEI in many ways for years to come."

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MacKay concluded the campaign by paying tribute to President Abd-El-Aziz, and Myrtle Jenkins-Smith, executive director of the Department of Development and Alumni Engagement, and her staff.

"With their leadership and coordination, we not only achieved our goal but exceeded it—and ahead of schedule," he said. "Those of us who became part of the cabinet and champions are proud to be associated with UPEI, and although the campaign is over, it will not end our association with this excellent institution."



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