

anthem

FALL 2016 THE MAGAZINE OF AMBROSE UNIVERSITY

Following dreams

**Changing the lives
of Calgarians — and
Ambrose students —
by learning on the job**



2016 GOLF CLASSIC



Thank you to the many golfers that came out to experience one of the nicest days of the year on one of the best golf courses in Alberta. Over \$36,000 was raised for Ambrose student athletics.

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“ I learned a lot in the classroom, but I learned even more about myself and where I could fit in to help people and change lives. I learned what I’m capable of.

Sydney McKenzie-Hougestol

Get the full story in *Following dreams* on page 20.

On the cover...

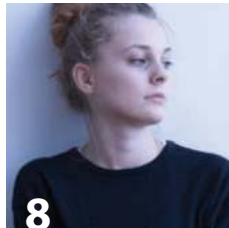
Holly visits her father, Darren, at the Calgary Dream Centre where he is taking steps to overcome addiction.

Photo courtesy
Calgary Dream Centre



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Our teachers: God's gifts

**"[Our faculty] are a gift to our students,
to the church and to the greater society
of which we are a part."**

Surely one of the greatest gifts to us in our lives is our teachers. And similarly, our teachers here at Ambrose University are the gifts that we offer to our students.

We celebrate the work of our senior professors, including the remarkable work they are doing not only in the classroom, but in research and writing. They are a gift to our students, to the church and to the greater society of which we are a part. They come to their work with a deep awareness of their call and their responsibility to foster excellence in teaching and learning.

So it is with much joy that we welcome new faculty to Ambrose University this fall and take this issue of *Anthem* as an opportunity to introduce them to you and the wider community.

As you are able, drop them a note or, if you connect with the person, join us in welcoming them to our teaching team. And please do keep them in your prayers. We are eager that their initial year at Ambrose be tremendously fruitful as they engage our students through teaching — and equip those students well as they move towards their God-given vocations in the world.

I am honoured to serve with these gifted women and men.

Gordon T. Smith, PhD

*President
Professor of Systematic and Spiritual Theology*



Welcome to Ambrose

Dr. Liza Abraham
Professor, Chemistry

Dr. Christina Conroy
Assistant Professor,
Christian Theology

Dr. Sherry Martens
Professor and Associate
Dean of Education

Matthew Morris
Assistant Professor,
Biology

Steve and Annette
International Workers in
Residence, 2016–17

Don't miss it!

Ambrose Acting students make their stage debut in *The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus*, December 1–3, 2016, in the Engineered Air Theatre at Arts Commons. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. nightly, and there's a Saturday matinee at 2:30 p.m. Second-year students star and work backstage in the program's first main stage production, bringing to life Christopher Marlowe's classic depiction of the battle between the forces of good and evil in the human soul.

Find out more — and stay on top of all the Ambrose University news — at ambrose.edu.

Saluting wisdom, leadership and vision

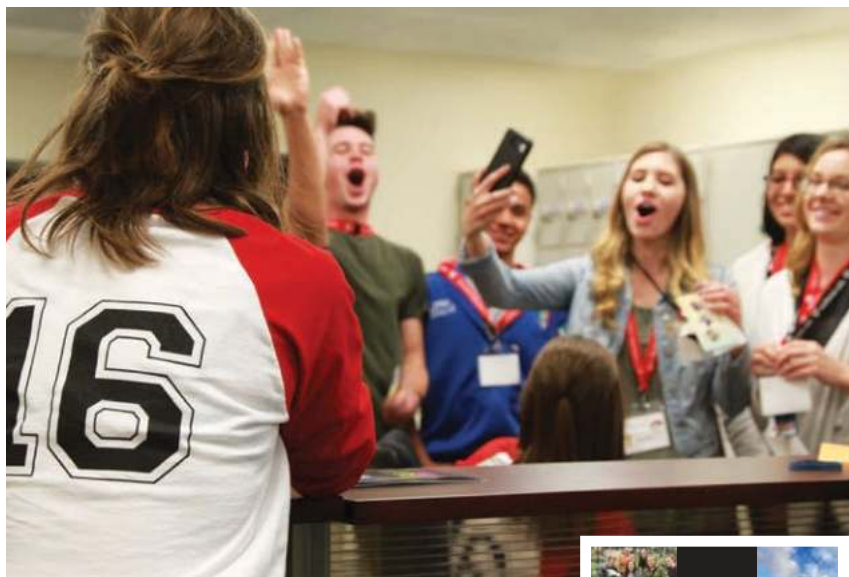
Rev. Dr. Riley Coulter retired as Chancellor in June, after serving in the role since 2008. He was instrumental in shaping the institution Ambrose University has become, leading with grace, courage and wisdom. "Students, staff and faculty are deeply grateful for Dr. Coulter's immense contribution to our community, and if it weren't for his superb and skilful leadership, there would be no Ambrose University today," said President Gordon T. Smith. Coulter began his career as a pastor in the Church of the Nazarene and served as president of Canadian Nazarene College/Nazarene University College for 18 years. He was pivotal in partnering with Alliance University College to bring the Alliance and Nazarene colleges together, creating today's Ambrose. The Ambrose University Chancellor's torch has been passed to Roland ("Rolly") K. Laing, Q.C., a long-serving barrister with extensive service to Ambrose. Most notably, he was a key advisor to the president when the land for the current campus was being secured, and he continued to serve as Chair of the Board of Governors' Campus Master Plan Committee.



Rev. Dr. Riley Coulter

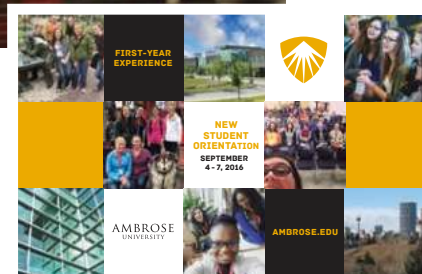


Roland K. Laing, Q.C.



Setting up for success

First-year students got a head start on the path to academic success at Orientation, Sept. 4–6, 2016. Through a jam-packed agenda of sessions, activities and events put together by First Year Experience Student Leaders — from learning about Ambrose tech systems and meeting faculty, to taking part in a welcome barbecue, life-sized board games and a downtown Calgary scavenger hunt — incoming students had a great opportunity to become more familiar with Ambrose University, their classmates and the whole post-secondary experience. *The Well: A Night of Worship* was a highlight, connecting new and returning students and also giving new students an opportunity to slow down, clear their heads of all their school preparations and connect with God in a contemplative environment.



Reformation tours mark 500 years



The Protestant Reformation began in 1517 and Ambrose University is marking this major turning point with unique opportunities to expand knowledge, deepen faith and see Reformation history come to life — by travelling to the places where it all began. Professors Kyle Jantzen and Bernie Van De Walle are both offering travel study programs that can be taken for class credit or personal interest. Spaces in the two groups, May 6–21 and July 26–Aug. 10, are expected to fill quickly. “[Much of] what most modern Protestants (Evangelicals included) believe comes from the Reformation era,” Jantzen says. “Our understanding of salvation by faith, the way grace works in the life of the Christian, the importance of the Bible, the priesthood of all believers, the idea of election, the relationship between church and state, and the way that we understand baptism and communion. And that’s just for starters.”

Travelling to places where Christians like Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli or John Calvin made, rediscovered or renewed Western Christianity enables people to learn more about the roots and content of their faith. And, Jantzen notes, visiting beautiful and interesting places in Germany and Switzerland is a prime opportunity to eat great food, meet new people and take a historical and spiritual journey together with others. More information is available at ambrose.edu/reformation.



Lions go for the Goldie

An experienced team builder has joined the Ambrose University Lions roster. Leigh Goldie has signed on as Athletics Advisor, offering guidance on future planning and program development. “The Lions have excellent leadership and are poised to become a leading program in the [Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference] over the next few seasons,” Goldie said. “I’m looking forward to sharing my experiences with the coaches and student athletes.”

Goldie’s impressive resume includes working with local, provincial and national organizations, and he is currently Chair of the Grande Prairie Sport Council, President of Volleyball Alberta and President of the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association. In addition to working closely with Athletics Director Colin Kubinec, Goldie will also support the Lion’s Pride with mentor coaching, event planning and classroom syllabus development.



Seeking the peace of the city

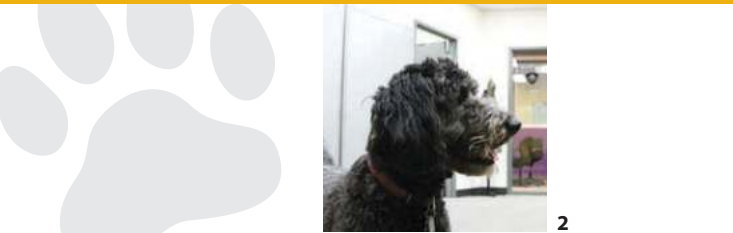
Convocation Chapel on September 8 marked the beginning of the academic year and an opportunity to reflect on Ambrose University’s identity. An enthusiastic welcome to new students and professors was followed by prayers, worship and the annual Convocation address. This year, President Gordon T. Smith titled his address “Seeking the Peace of City” and turned to Jeremiah 29:7 to consider what it means to be a Christian university within a predominantly secular society. Rather than downplaying Christian identity or withdrawing from society, Ambrose is called to be present to the wider community and to bring well-being to the city. Smith challenged students to consider what it means to seek the peace of Calgary for the duration of their time at Ambrose and, when they graduate, to carry this lesson into their future careers, in Calgary and beyond.



Dog day of summer

Fidos in all shapes and sizes joined their people on campus on Friday, June 3, for Bring Your Dog to Work Day. Furry friends explored the campus, met the president and encouraged everyone to get out and about with colleagues and appreciating the university grounds. A paws-itively fun day for all!

1 Patrick channels his "inner lap dog" with Vanessa. **2** Shadow checks out the office. **3** Pups and people pose for a picture. (L-R) Lisa Moran with Patrick, Michelle den Engelsen with Margot, Jayne Zarecky with Frankie, Gordon T. Smith, Angie Redecopp with her daughter Aspen and their dog Bella, Wally Rude with Nissa, Joel and Helen Thiessen with Shadow. **4** President Gordon with Nissa. **5** Bella gets a cuddle.



Offering shelter to Fort McMurray friends

Ambrose University was privileged to come to the aid of friends and neighbours from Fort McMurray, reaching out with warm hearts and caring hands at the time people needed it most. After fleeing their homes because of this summer's devastating wildfire, 130 people found comfort and support in the Ambrose residence, where the City of Calgary's second evacuation reception centre was established. "It is a privilege to be able to assist with temporary lodging for just a few of the people displaced from their homes," said President Gordon T. Smith.

Ambrose faculty and staff volunteered to be on campus to welcome evacuees, ensuring everyone felt welcome, and assisting Red Cross and Calgary Emergency Management Association personnel as needed. Kent Hehr, MP for Calgary Centre and Minister of Veterans Affairs, visited the campus as part of a tour of Calgary reception centres, and took the opportunity to engage with evacuees.

MASTER OF ILLUSION

DR. ALAN HO'S RESEARCH INTO THE MIND-BENDING FIELD OF VISUAL ILLUSION SHOWS HOW WHAT WE SEE IS FAR MORE THAN WHAT MEETS THE EYE.

The Coyote Illusion

Dr. Alan Ho and colleague Dr. Stuart Anstis (from UCSD) discovered a new visual motion illusion in 2013, earning a top-10 place among finalists of the Neural Correlate Society's Best Illusion of the Year contest. When two similar sets of visual stimuli – one the familiar Roadrunner with four yellow dots revolving around it, the other the Coyote with eight yellow dots – are seen side-by-side on a monitor, viewers perceive the dots around the Coyote to be moving much faster than those around the Roadrunner. The dots are actually moving at the same speed, but the illusion implies that the Coyote could never catch the Roadrunner.

Visit scientificamerican.com/article/best-illusions-of-the-year.



“What do you see?”

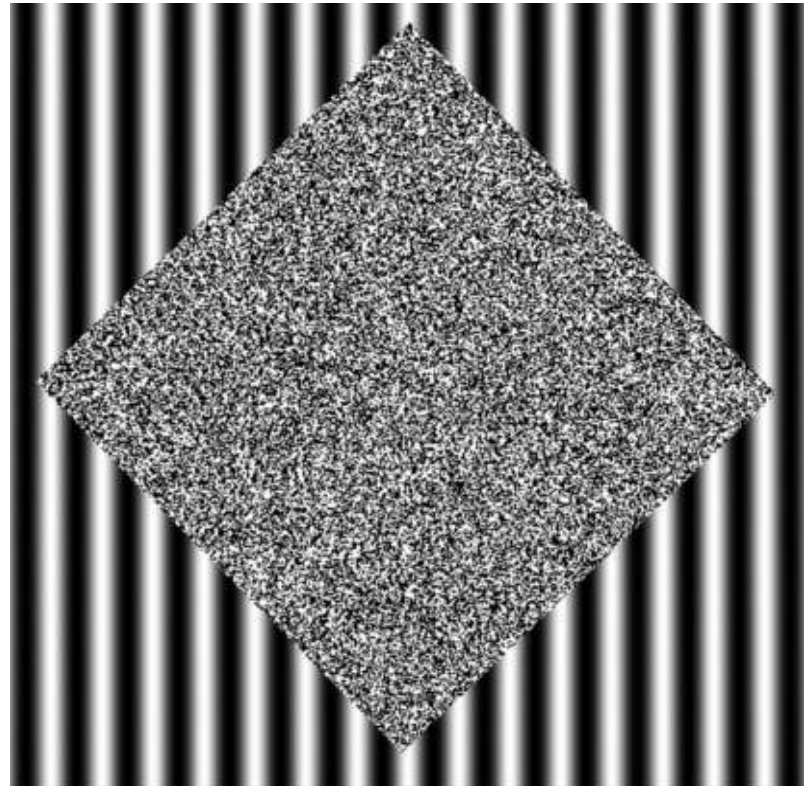
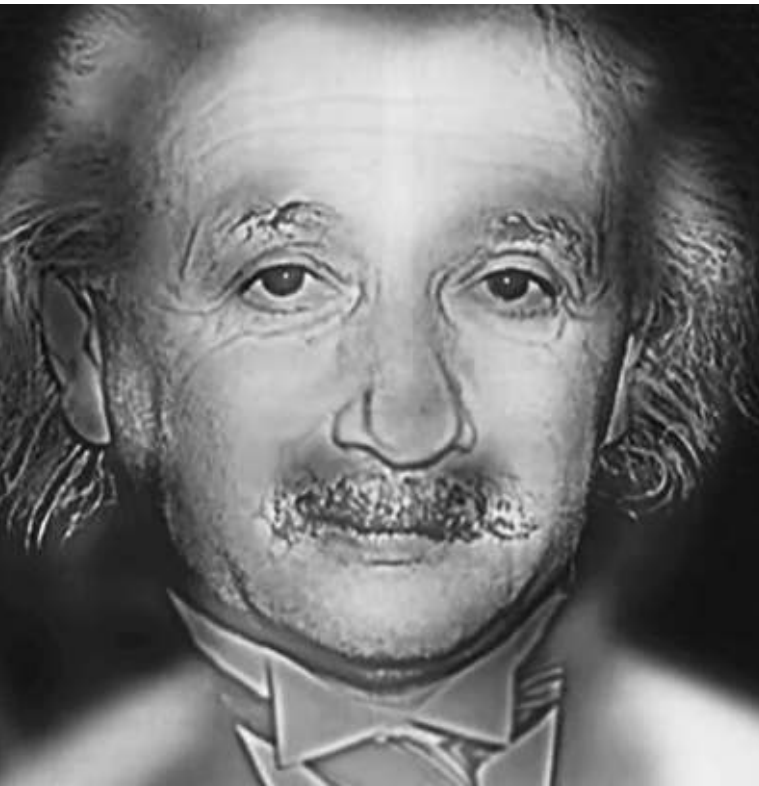
The question is simple, but when Dr. Alan Ho, Associate Professor of Psychology at Ambrose University, asks it, things get complicated.

Looking at the picture on this page of *Anthem* up close, you think you see Albert Einstein. But when you look at this same picture from 10 feet away, it's Marilyn Monroe. You think you see a textured diamond floating over vertical lines. But nothing actually moves on a magazine page. You are sure you see a magenta spot in the centre of the foggy green square. But in reality, the spot is grey and there isn't any magenta at all. And so it goes as your brain actively tries to make sense of external information sent from your eyes, even without you consciously thinking about it.

“We ‘see’ with more than our eyes,” explains Dr. Ho, who began his research journey into the world of visual illusion while exploring human visual perception

as a graduate student. “We also see with our mind’s eye, and this is where our consciousness operates.” We consciously pay attention to things like landmarks and street signs while walking or driving. We are unconscious about our brain processing and interpreting the vast amount of information our sensory system collects continuously to make that conscious task much easier. Our “internal computer” does it with extraordinary speed, so we can make decisions and react instantaneously to external demands.

“People say ‘I’ll believe it when I see it,’ but we really can’t completely trust our eyes,” Dr. Ho explains. “Our brains use our past experiences and stored knowledge to interpret all visual information — which means we perceive what we know or prefer. Given a complex visual scene, different people see different things and feel differently about it. Everyone’s interpretation is really subjective.”



Once in a while, when presented with unfamiliar or unrecognizable visual images, our brains shift gear and attempt to make sense out of “nonsense,” resulting in the perception of visual illusions. They offer important glimpses into how the brain works — because even in what is arguably the “golden age of neuroscience,” using the latest technology and sophisticated non-invasive brain imaging equipment, researchers still can’t see what goes on inside the human brain well enough to fully understand how it all works. Visual illusions can help. They can be described as versatile mental surgical tools, allowing researchers to dissect the human visual system, and show how information is broken down into components, analyzed, processed and ultimately reassembled to produce the final visual object.

“By knowing the exact physical variables (such as light intensity, colour, movement, depth, spatial position, shape/feature and time

factor) used to construct visual stimuli that produce various kinds of visual illusions, researchers can isolate specific variables that force the neurons working in unique visual areas of the brain to misbehave,” Dr. Ho explains. “The resulting erroneous visual interpretations open windows so researchers can see, in logical order, how the brain analyzes information and adapts to the environment.”

Dr. Ho’s current research focuses on one aspect of this: human visual motion perception. Using the most basic form of visual stimulus called “gratings” (scientific jargon for spatially repeating light and dark bars), he manipulates the brightness contrast, width, angle of tilt and speed of four sets of gratings, combines them into a single image and presents it to study participants. Although this complicated dynamic image appears to be chaotic at first, people’s brains quickly sort it into recognizable patterns. Knowing how this process works can be relevant in

daily life. As just one example, the Coyote Illusion shows that the human brain doesn’t necessarily use the laws of physics when computing object velocity. One day, this information could possibly help improve pedestrian safety. Painting lines with appropriate spacing on road shoulders, or around school zones and playgrounds, could draw drivers’ attention to their speed and encourage them to slow down.

“Most visual perception research, and in particular visual illusion research, is basic scientific research,” Dr. Ho notes. “Research scientists are building an information bank, so that when the right practical question comes along, necessary and sufficient knowledge will be there to answer it. Some day, somehow, somewhere, this information could even change a life. And, yes,” he concludes with a laugh, “I have a lot of fun working on visual illusions. I am blessed to be able to use such fascinating teaching tools to deliver some hard science information to my students.” □

Canada's economic growth is the doldrums. In Alberta, people struggle with one of the most severe downturns in recent memory. The phase-in of new minimum wage standards stirs heated debate. This turbulent time is also the right time to shine the spotlight on the human side of issue that too often hides in the stereotypes: poverty. Derek Cook, Director of the Canadian Poverty Institute at Ambrose University, shares his perspective on the many dimensions of poverty, and challenges hearts and minds to see poverty for the human tragedy it is.

The Invisible People

“Those living in material poverty often talk about the isolation, stigma and exclusion they experience, more than their lack of money or things.

*Derek Cook, Director
Canadian Poverty Institute
at Ambrose University*



As I left the train station, I saw her there, sitting on the sidewalk wrapped in a blanket and holding a sign scribbled on a piece of cardboard "Homeless and Hungry." In front of her was an upside-down baseball cap with a few coins in it. I added to the coins and wished her good luck. She was young and it was cold.

For many of us, this is how we encounter poverty. We stumble upon it unexpectedly like an injured animal on the road. It disturbs us, but we don't quite know what to make of it. Attempts to define it have occupied the minds of many great thinkers through history, but the debate is never resolved. The concept of poverty is amorphous; we're not sure exactly what it is, but we know it when we see it.

The problem is, most of us never see it. The young woman at the train station was largely invisible. People hurried past without a glance and she remained nameless; story-less; an injured crow on the sidewalk. In the absence of a name or a story, we invent one. Her story

becomes the easy narrative of either pity or blame. And her name becomes "them," "those people," "the homeless" or "the poor."

But she startles us too because of where we have stumbled upon her. This isn't downtown. The train station is deep in the suburbs. Downtown, our preconceptions of poverty are confirmed by the haggard-looking men pushing shopping carts, picking up bottles or asking for change, and they fade into the landscape of the street. We don't expect it here, disturbing us as we retreat to our neighbourhoods and homes. She doesn't belong here. She doesn't belong.

This is our blind spot. Not only do we not see her, we don't see it. We don't recognize it all around us; in our neighbourhoods and in our homes. When we do encounter poverty, we expect it to look like the girl at the train station, but we expect it to be downtown. We don't see it in our neighbourhoods, in our neighbours, in ourselves.

We believe we'll know poverty when we see it.

What we're looking for is a lack of money or things. We're looking for people like the girl at the train station, perhaps without housing or perhaps without food, most likely without work. We're looking for the telltale signs of alcohol or drugs. We're not looking for people like Kali.

Kali lives in a small condo in our neighbourhood. She is in Grade 5. Her parents came as Temporary Foreign Workers and both work multiple low-paid service jobs to survive and remain above some arbitrary poverty line. They have a home. They have a car. They have food. What they don't have is time or relationships. Kali leaves for and comes home from school alone. When her parents are there, they are too exhausted to pay attention to her or her homework. As newcomers, there is no extended family and only a loose network of acquaintances. There is no

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The Invisible People

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money for extra-curricular activities, and Kali spent summer alone in the apartment, with the TV and computer as her companions.

Yet, this all worked, though with consequences, and the family would not have been officially counted among the ranks of the “poor” — until Kali’s mom got cancer. Unable to work and without benefits, the family’s income was cut in half while medical expenses began pouring in. Without family, there was nobody to look after Kali during mom’s hospital stays, and dad had to continue working the two jobs he held in order to survive. The threat of losing their home began to loom. Kali and her family were now officially poor. But when did that poverty begin? Did it begin when her mother lost her job? Or was this family in poverty all along, even though their income masked this truth?

So, not only do we often not see it, if we do see it, are we sure that we know it? Many people are coming to understand that poverty is more than just a lack of money or things. Like cancer, we use one term to describe a complex beast.

Poverty, like cancer, comes in many different forms and with many different dimensions.

While material poverty — the lack of income and basic needs — is an important aspect of poverty, it is not all there is to poverty. There are other important dimensions as well.

Social poverty — the lack of community and relationships that sustain us and make us resilient in times of crisis and change — is equally important. Throughout scripture, the poor are synonymous with the widow, the alien, the afflicted and the fatherless, those who would have been on the fringes of society and excluded from the community and its web of support. The modern situation is not much different, as those most typically among the materially poor are single parents, immigrants and refugees, persons with disabilities and those without families; in short, the widow, the alien, the afflicted and the fatherless.

When asked to describe the experience of poverty, those living in material poverty often talk about the isolation, stigma and exclusion they experience, more than their lack of money or things.

This leads us to a deeper dimension of poverty: a poverty of the spirit. Spiritual poverty exists where people lack meaning in their lives and connection to a faith tradition or community that sustains them. In our Western tradition, we have come to value independence, competing for our share of society’s scarce resources. We think of dependence as a weakness that leaves us vulnerable and afraid. So we fail to recognize our inter-dependence with God and each other.

Prizing our independence, the bonds of community weaken even as we amass great wealth. We become spiritually poor with no greater meaning in our life than the drive

“ At worst, [spiritual poverty] divides our communities, separating us into suspicious enclaves that belie our common humanity and the truth that each of us is made in the image of God.

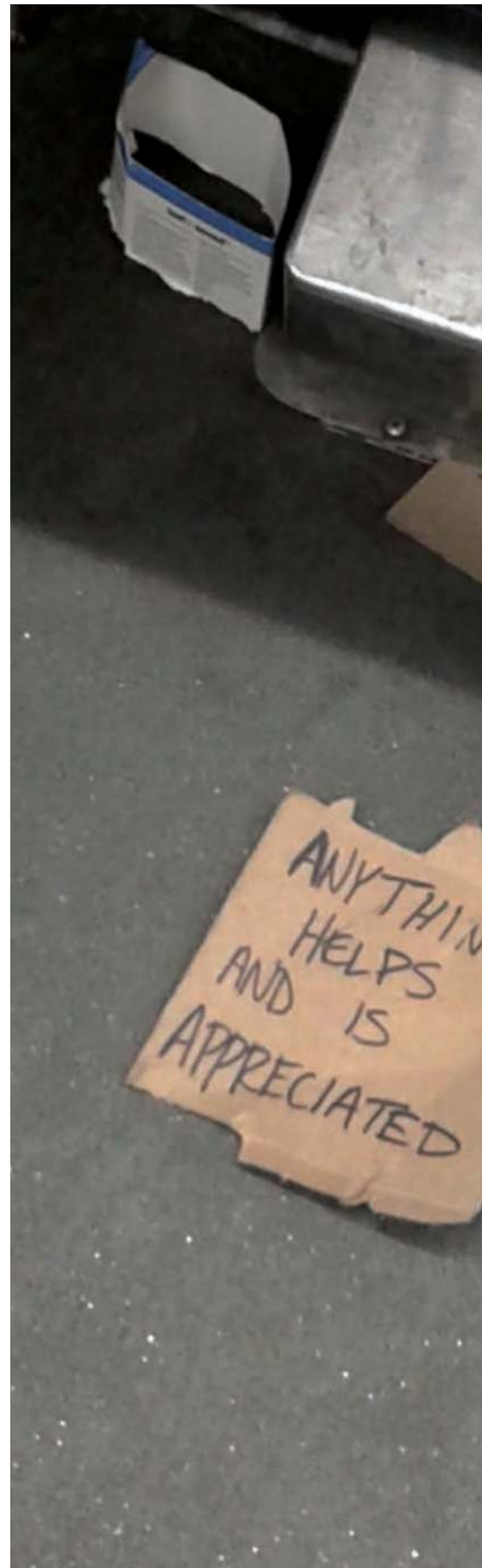




Photo courtesy Derek Cook

Healing poverty reflects the ministry of Christ who, above all, was engaged in the work of healing and reconciliation. ”

to consume. As John Rook, founder of the Canadian Poverty Institute, remarked, “Some people are so poor all they have is their money.”

It is this spiritual poverty of competition and consumption that engenders fear and allows us to blame and label people. It allows us to speak of the poor as though they are something other than us. At best, this incites charity, where those who are materially advantaged decide to share benevolently. At worst, it divides our communities, separating us into suspicious enclaves that belie our common humanity and the truth that each of us is made in the image of God. In their book *When Helping Hurts*, authors Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert argue that the root of poverty lies in broken relationships that affect everyone, the materially well-off as well as the materially poor, and that we cannot move forward until we acknowledge and address our mutual brokenness.

Recognizing that we are all created in the image of God breaks down the walls we erect between the materially poor and the non-poor.

Seeing God in ourselves and in the poor reminds us of our own brokenness, as well as the divine imprint in everyone. This allows us to move beyond charity and speak instead of justice. When scripture speaks of the widows, aliens, afflicted and fatherless, the demand is not for charity but for justice. It recognizes that exclusion forms the injustice, not the lack of material goods.

In our contemporary world, the search for justice finds expression in the universal call for human rights. While we most often think of rights in terms of freedom of religion or expression, these are but part of a spectrum of

rights. The United Nations International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights affirms the dignity of all human beings and each person’s right to food, shelter, adequate income, fair wages, health and education. It also affirms everyone’s right to participate in the social and cultural life of the community.

A few years ago, I had the privilege of speaking with a small group of people at a local homeless shelter about their experience of poverty. One of the questions I posed was: “What is the hardest thing about living in poverty?” Although these people were living in the most desperate of circumstances, homeless and on the street, they did not mention the lack of food or housing or money. The first thing they spoke of was their lack of rights.

When we fail to see the humanity and face of God in each of us, it is easy to deny each other’s rights. We justify low wages on the basis of profits and productivity. We explain away hunger and homelessness on the basis of scarcity. We deny people their dignity by assigning blame and questioning their values and choices. And in so doing, we ignore our own brokenness and need of grace, succumbing to what Corbett and Fikkert call the “God-complex” that harms the materially poor and non-poor alike.

In my conversation with the residents of that homeless shelter those few years ago, I also took away one other important insight. In describing poverty, one resident called it “a continuous unending trauma.”

If we conceive of poverty as a trauma, it is a trauma of broken relationships and a fractured community. As members of that community, we all suffer from the fractured relationships poverty embodies. □



Developing relationships to develop communities

Ambrose University students see that a community's strength may be best reflected in its citizens' care for one another — and that true wealth is measured in the connections among people.



Effective, lasting and meaningful community development centres on learning — and learning about relationships. Among diverse people. Within families. Throughout communities. At markets. On sports fields. In homes and churches. In every aspect of daily life.

For the third consecutive year, Ambrose University students in the International Community Development Travel Study course ventured to the Dominican Republic to immerse themselves in local communities and enhance understanding of the relationships, values and dreams pivotal for shaping communities' futures.

The 21-day travel study adventure, May 3–20, 2016, “gave students firsthand experience about what they are learning in their courses,” explains Dr. Randy Poon, Chair of the Business Administration program and travel organizer. “In addition to reading about poverty and holistic development, they also got to see what these things look like.”

The seven students went to the barrio of Maria Auxiliadora in the city of La Vega, where they worked in partnership with TEARS (True Evangelism Always Requires Sacrifice), a mission and development organization. Conducting interviews with people of all walks of life — business owners, community organizers, farmers, students, teachers, parents — mapping assets, and compiling and presenting their data, the students offered an important perspective that will help inform TEARS' community development strategies going forward.

We know community development is best achieved when we can bring together partners from a broad network, such as the community, nonprofits, academia and the business world. This travel study does just that. ”

Dr. Randy Poon

In Maria Auxiliadora, one of the poorest and, at one point, one of the most dangerous barrios in the region, Ambrose students were immediately struck by the strong sense of community they encountered. Generosity, a willingness to help others and an emphasis on friendship repeatedly stood out as they spoke to people.

“Our time here demonstrated the need for seeing development through the eyes of the people — development that is focused on what they want and what they think should be done,” says Business Administration student Zander Coutts.

The observation was woven throughout their travels, which also included going to the neighbouring communities of Jarabacoa and San Francisco de Macoris to interview stakeholders. They also hiked to the lush mountain village of La Travesia, where local farmers who once relied on coffee for their livelihood now struggle to find alternatives. (Coffee rust, a fungus-like organism, has had a devastating impact on the

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Developing relationships to develop communities

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local ecosystem and wiped out coffee production. In response, farmers are working to strengthen trade while also diversifying their economy.) Leaving La Travesia, a visit to Santo Domingo offered profound contrasts in the levels of development in just one city.

In the end, the students conducted 39 interviews — more than any DVST 304 class has ever done — and compiled their results into a presentation for the TEARS leadership team.

“It not only gave TEARS a better idea of their community, but also showed us what the communities of La Travesia and Maria Auxiliadora are all about,” says Behavioural Science student Katie Knopp.

“Our work with TEARS and the people of Maria Auxiliadora builds upon the 20 years that TEARS has been working in the community,” Randy observes. “The insights we share are based on limited experience, but when we work with the experience and the relationships that the TEARS team have already established, we leverage our efforts with theirs, hopefully in amazing ways.

“We know community development is best achieved when we can bring together partners from a broad network, such as the community, nonprofits, academia and the business world. This travel study does just that.” □

For more information about TEARS, visit facebook.com/tearsdr1.



Students' Blog

Several students shared their observations while in the Dominican Republic. Read more by going to travelpod.com and searching for Ambrose University 2016.

Although many of these people are considered poor, they still take pride in their communities and homes. ... Their greatest wish is that the community grows, but still stays connected to their tight-knit family values.

Katie

Joy and purpose is not found in wealth here; it is found in relationships and passions.

Jacqueline

I've really come to appreciate the work that teachers do over here ... especially when they come over from other countries. ...It is just so inspiring to see so many people giving of themselves to help students.

Barbara

Sometimes hearing and following God is extremely hard, but in my short time here I have learned that sometimes you have to be courageous and let go. In an essence you have to trust the process.

Rodrigo

Moving to the head of the class

Ambrose University welcomes new faculty to campus this fall, ready to share a wealth of knowledge and perspective. Their wisdom and guidance will help lay the academic and spiritual foundation for graduates determined to make a difference.

Finding chemistry in the classroom

Dr. Liza Abraham Professor, Chemistry

Dr. Liza Abraham's road to Ambrose University began in Kerala, India, one of only two states with large Christian populations, and wound through chemistry labs and classrooms in Taiwan, the U.S. and Canada.

Earning her PhD in Organic Chemistry from the Indian Institute of Technology in 1994, Abraham knew her future would take her away from home, and the road eventually brought her to Canada as an immigrant in 2002. "I didn't expect to come to Canada; I expected to go to the U.S.," she says. "But I am on a faith journey and God has led me here."

The life and location of a research scientist is often dictated by scholarships and fellowships. The University of Toronto first opened the door to Abraham, and a series of opportunities — including as a postdoctoral research fellow and research associate position with the Université de Sherbrooke in Montreal and with a few American universities, followed by a five-year stint as a research scientist in Canada's pharmaceutical industry — ultimately led to teaching in 2009. Abraham

joined Ambrose as a part-time instructor in 2015, and became a full-time instructor this fall.

"I have always been involved with young people, serving and volunteering with youth," she explains. "I felt like I was more suited to being on a campus than in a lab." While she hadn't always imagined herself as a teacher — "I used to think I was born to do research" — she feels compelled to share with students. "I had a very personal experience with the Lord in my life in 1994, and my whole life changed with that. Here, I can be very open with students, talk to them, spend time with them outside class."

As Ambrose's only chemistry professor, teaching general and organic chemistry and senior-level pharmacology, Abraham acknowledges that her busy teaching schedule — and an open office door welcoming students to come in and chat — leaves her little time to speak with other faculty, but hopes to have more opportunities in the future.

"Ambrose is really special," she says. "This is my dream job because it brings everything together for me. Working here reminds me of my undergraduate experience, and I want to create that environment for my students. If I weren't teaching, the only other thing I would want to do is be a full-time servant for the Lord. Being here partially fills that desire."

Preparing students for big decisions

Dr. Christina Conroy Assistant Professor, Christian Theology

There was a time when Dr. Christina Conroy saw a very different future for herself, but a deep love of God has brought her to Ambrose to develop and teach a groundbreaking course that affirms the university's commitment to make a difference in Calgary and to lead in reconciliation with Indigenous people.

A graduate of Canadian Bible College and Canadian Theological Seminary, Conroy was in the early stages of her PhD studies at Atlanta's Emory University, researching the church's relationship with residential schools in Canada, when survivors of residential school initiated the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) through the Indian Settlement agreement — and everything changed.

She believes she was at more TRC sessions, and heard more survivors' stories, than any other non-paid attendee. That wealth of firsthand experience, combined with her own research, caught the attention of Ambrose, which invited her to the University's School of Ministry to teach. With mentorship from

continued on next page >



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Emory colleagues who have extensive experience in race relations and the Holocaust, she has developed a course that delves into a dark and disturbing chapter of Canadian history, and which continues to impact people and communities.

“It’s almost like the students and I are learning together,” she says of sharing difficult subject matter that can affect students deeply. “I have to find a way to engage students in very personal material so we can think about it and discuss it passionately, while remaining grounded enough so something like this never happens again.

“Ambrose is very intentional about this. We are reconciling ourselves to history and making Canada a better place for all of our grandchildren. We prepare people to go into different jobs across the country. If they do that with training in compassionate theology, in understanding the possible consequences of decisions we make at this time in our history, then they will make a difference.”

Teaching a subject about which more is known every day, and which has a continually changing narrative, reflects the reality in which many post-secondary educators find themselves today. “We’re at a moment in time where the future isn’t predictable,” she says. “And that calls for a dynamic response in teaching. We have to be wise, adaptable and creative. It’s not unlike being a Christian pilgrim, knowing we’re on a path and being called to move forward.

“Gone are the days when teachers taught only one thing, from one book, like they’d always done in the past. We are being challenged to shift our gaze and incorporate new traditions and new ways of learning.”

A teaching career comes full circle

Dr. Sherry Martens Professor and Associate Dean of Education

After 29 years of teaching and administration in Alberta’s K–12 system, Dr. Sherry Martens has “graduated” to university leadership. “I have worked with classroom teachers in many capacities and am excited to have the opportunity to begin at the beginning,” she says, “by being a part of shaping our future teachers.”

Martens’ teaching career began in Northern Alberta and progressed through Calgary junior and senior high schools. She had been the fine arts curriculum specialist for the Calgary Board of Education for 10 years — the Performing and Visual Arts program at Central Memorial High School is a legacy of her tenure — when she became the Assistant Principal at Colonel Sanders Traditional Learning Centre. “I absolutely loved, loved, loved the work,” she says of helping to lead a school where parents had high expectations for their children. Some were gifted students, others dealt with anxiety or other challenges, but “every parent had the same desire: they wanted their child to learn and to be successful.”

Completing her PhD and moving to another school, “I felt God’s hand on my heart. I didn’t know what was going to happen, but I knew I was going somewhere.” She didn’t expect that the door she was about to walk through had opened a decade earlier, when she was a member of the advisory committee helping to develop Ambrose’s BEd program.

Martens now leads a program with a stellar reputation. A key focus early on will be on the “why” — in engaging faculty in a robust conversation to deepen understanding of why they do what they do, and to cultivate appreciation for the larger mission.

“The BEd program is an opportunity for people to grow, and especially for people of faith to move into the school system — to live their faith, which is private, in a public system not by speaking about it, but by showing it in who they are and what they do.

“Christian educators are needed in public education, and if I can continue the vision of how people of faith can thrive in the system by being open-minded and prayerful, then we can be a blessing to people.”

She envisions a future shaped by a servant leadership model, but for now is intent on listening to what others have to say, learning about Ambrose’s unique culture and being open to where God leads her. “Teaching has always been my vocation and my hobby,” Martens says. “I never thought of it as work because it was so rewarding. My choice is being confirmed in many ways.”

Heeding the call to mission work

Steve and Annette International Workers in Residence, 2016–17

Steve and Annette had only been in Calgary for three weeks when interviewed for this story, but they liked what they’d already seen — “we feel like we’re in a place of beauty and rest,” Annette says, singling out the blue skies, mountains and fresher



Moving to the head of the class

**New fall faculty (L-R): Dr. Liza Abraham ,
Dr. Christina Conroy, Dr. Sherry Martens,
International workers Steve and Annette
and Matthew Morris.**

air — and were excited about the next year at Ambrose.

The international workers will spend a year at Ambrose through an agreement with the Canadian Missionary Alliance to represent international mission work, engage with students and sharpen the missions vision on campus. The couple comes to the University with cross-cultural experience gleaned from living in places far, such as Hungary and Central Asia, and near, such as the past two years in Toronto in a predominantly Muslim community. (By request, *Anthem* is using only first names because of the many countries in which the couple either has served or will serve.)

At Ambrose, Steve and Annette will both teach (he: world religions, she: cultural anthropology), promote intercultural efforts and be a presence on campus “to communicate the call for all people of God to take part in the mission of God,” Steve says.

“I come to Ambrose with a passion for education and for students to understand and develop a heart for God’s calling for them — cognitively, emotionally and spiritually,” says Annette, who estimates she has spent more time living overseas than in Canada. Steve is a Missions Encourager, a self-described “mobilizer” leading and inspiring people in mission work. They expect their complementary strengths to serve students and the wider Ambrose community well.

“I get excited about mentoring, and especially about helping young people gain a clearer understanding of God’s call upon their life, their gifts and abilities, and discerning how best to use them to God’s glory,” Steve says. Because students may be interested in going overseas for any number of reasons, not just for mission work,

Steve finds great reward in helping them “grow, find out who they are and influence them on their journeys with God.”

The pair will connect with REACH, Ambrose’s new student missions group, attend and speak in chapel, meet with students who are interested in overseas work and share stories and perspectives of international work. “God has called us here for this time to reach out to students and faculty,” Steve notes.

“He leads us to bring light.”

Exploring the intersection of faith and science

Matthew Morris Assistant Professor, Biology

Matthew Morris is passionate about exploring the historical and contemporary interactions between science and faith, and particularly Christian reactions to biological evolution. He believes he’s come to the best place to explore concepts and ideas that too often lead to conflict and concern.

An evolutionary biologist currently completing his PhD, Morris recognizes that even trying to have a conversation about science and faith can be challenging and provocative, but doesn’t believe it should be controversial. Coming to Ambrose from a part-time teaching position at Alberta Bible College will enable him to ask the questions that lead to deeper knowledge and understanding.

“Many people in the sciences are people of faith,” he says. “Too often, these are voices that aren’t being

heard, but there are ways of reading scripture that allow for concepts like evolution. I don’t plan to be antagonistic, but I do hope to stimulate thought and discussion about it in a Christian setting.” “And,” he adds, “where else could I walk down a hallway and talk to an Old Testament scholar, or to people who have such an in-depth knowledge of Christianity?”

He’s looking forward to Ambrose’s small classes, which he expects to be very conducive to engaging students in meaningful conversations. “I love to teach, and am excited about working with the students, and exposing them to means of integrating biology with faith,” he explains. “That could be everything from talking about evolution, which I appreciate can be frightening for some students, to stewardship and caring for the environment. The material is very broad and there will certainly be no shortage of content.”

In the fall, Morris will be teaching genetics and ecology, and then will be developing new courses on science and the Christian faith, evolution and molecular biology. If that isn’t a full schedule, he also plans to finish his thesis and then plans to embark on his own research agenda into an area that has always held great fascination: fish.

“I’m a fish guy,” he says with a laugh, “mostly the small guys, the minnows, that the big guys need. I’m fascinated by Alberta’s fish diversity and how it changes over time. Studying fish is remarkably useful for addressing fascinating evolutionary questions, and is my main area of research.

“And, no, I’m not a fisherman.” □

Alumna Meredith Buschart follows Christ's command to care for the 'widows and orphans' of this world.



Photo courtesy Meredith Buschart

Inspired by God's heartbreak

A BA from Ambrose University led Meredith Buschart to an MSW from the University of Denver.

Meredith Buschart's passion lies in helping people whose lives, at times, are messy, scary or devastating — people whose days are filled with poverty, oppression and violence, and who are marginalized socially.

The 2012 BA (Behavioural Science) graduate — who worked at a women's shelter in Baltimore before completing her Master of Social Work from the University of Denver in 2015 — wouldn't have it any other way.

"I believe Jesus was the perfect example of unconditional love, and I also believe that I want to be a model of this love in my own life, not only with my friends and family, but in my professional identity as well," says Buschart, a Psychiatric Social Worker. Today, Buschart works as at the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan, an in-patient psychiatric hospital in Denver. She provides trauma therapy and medical case management and also works as an on-call advocate at a domestic violence shelter.

"I've asked God to break my heart for what breaks His, and He has done that," she explains. "I feel connected

to the things of the world that break God's heart. I recognize that I am connected to all the suffering in the world because of my own humanity. Now it's my duty to respond to that heartbreak with the compassion and conviction that God gave me."

Some days, she admits, can be difficult, confronted by the overwhelming amount of suffering and pain in the world. But every low moment offers opportunity for celebration. "Everywhere you turn, there is someone who needs encouragement, love and compassion," she says. "So, while working in the field of social work — especially with survivors of trauma — allows me to fully witness pain and sorrow, I also get to witness moments of people becoming empowered and regaining a sense of self-worth and self-sufficiency.

"I get to be there when a woman leaves an abusive relationship, when a mother finally gets employment and can buy her son a birthday cake, or when a man who thought of taking his own life makes the decision to live instead."

There is no greater gift, she says, than sitting with someone in their pain and supporting them as they work

on their recovery and experience mental and physical wellness again, or enabling someone who has experienced a sense of invisibility to finally feel heard and seen and valued.

Buschart credits her move to Canada from her home in Denver and her choice to study at Ambrose with enabling her to grow intellectually and personally. Living her own life far from family and high school friends prompted her to become a more independent thinker and to develop more self-confidence, both of which are essential to who she is today.

Her BA was instrumental in laying the foundation for graduate study, becoming a social worker and most importantly, putting her on her current challenging and rewarding career path.

"Not only did I develop the academic knowledge and discipline, and the social justice mindset to become a social worker, I also spent nine months interning at a family homeless shelter in Calgary and completed an independent research study in my last year, which explored how factors related to family of origin can increase the risk of homelessness among pregnant women.

“ I get to be there when a woman leaves an abusive relationship, when a mother finally gets employment and can buy her son a birthday cake, or when a man who thought of taking his own life makes the decision to live instead.

“My practicum — a true gift of real-world, professional experience — helped me get into graduate school and get competitive jobs and internships.

“I truly believe that, in order to be a social worker, you need three things: experience, passion and ambition. Ambrose absolutely gave me that foundational experience, and the faculty and community fueled my ambition and affirmed my passion for social service.”

She realizes that passion every day. “In our culture, it can be easy to have an ‘us vs. them’ mentality when serving people who are marginalized. But that’s not how Christ sees us or who he calls us to be. Jesus invites everyone to his table and then calls us to see each other as family, to love each other wholeheartedly and authentically.

“Working with individuals experiencing mental illness and trauma is a great way to respond to God’s heartbreak. In 10 or 15 years, I would love to be working in community outreach and policy development by educating communities and churches about domestic and sexual violence issues, and what we can do to address this crisis and support survivors.” □

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Luke is one of many people finding a new direction in life thanks to housing and support from the Calgary Dream Centre.



“ I learned a lot in the classroom, but I learned even more about myself and where I could fit in to help people and change lives. I learned what I’m capable of.”

Sydney McKenzie-Hougestol

On any given day, the Calgary Dream Centre enables more than 300 men and women to move forward on the road to addiction recovery and better lives — and gives Ambrose University students a prime opportunity to see how what they learn in class works in real life.

Nine third-year Behavioural Science students have each spent between 60 and 100 hours at the Centre over the past three years, completing semester-long practica required for graduation. Working alongside professional staff, they apply theory, enrich their knowledge and gain valuable career experience. The relationship benefits clients, students and agency alike, and proves the power of service learning.

“We love Ambrose students,” says Lee Umbach, Community Housing Team Leader at the Dream Centre. “They’re well prepared to work in a world desperately in need of mercy, compassion and hope.”

Students are a “huge benefit for our organization,” he says, “because they mesh well with who we are, what we stand for and our approach to helping people in recovery. They come with fresh eyes, inquisitive minds and great attitudes, and we’ve come to rely on their availability each year. When we’re asked if we want to take students, our answer is ‘absolutely!’”

Ambrose students work closely with Dream Centre staff and clients, affording an unvarnished view of the day-to-day realities of working with people who are overcoming challenges and trying to put their lives back on track. Because those days can only be so planned the students have to be ready to respond quickly, appropriately and safely.

“They also offer insights that can get lost in the busy-ness of a typical day. “It’s too easy for us to get caught up in the moment and we don’t always take time to reflect on what happens or our response to it,” he says. “So it’s great to have students as part of the debrief. They make us step back and look at it differently. They ask lots of ‘why?’ and that creates good conversations, leading us to ask more questions of ourselves.”

Sydney McKenzie-Hougestol knows the benefits firsthand. She graduated from Behavioural Science in 2016, and her Dream Centre practicum was such a good fit that she’s now working full-time as the agency’s Development Coordinator. (Her boss, **Chris Primeau**, was so impressed with Ambrose’s Bachelor of Arts in Behavioural Science program that he, too, enrolled, and also graduated in 2016.)

“I learned a lot in the classroom, but I learned even more about myself and where I could fit in to help people

and change lives,” she says of her practicum experience. “I learned what I’m capable of.”

Growing up in Malaysia while her parents worked in missions, McKenzie-Hougestol always knew she wanted to help people, and was keen to work with those who are homeless or battling addictions. She had long volunteered with shelters, but now at the Dream Centre has the privilege of getting to know people for who they really are. “When you’re homeless or have an addiction, you’re not yourself,” she explains. “Because we help people move on in their lives, and to reconnect with families and communities, I now see that transformation.”

Experiences like this are exactly what practicum coordinator Kim McLachlan hopes all of her students have on their practica. “We want students to have a hands-on, meaningful experience,” she explains, “so they graduate well prepared academically and practically. Most students will graduate with eight months of experience, and that will help open doors in the future.”

Because practica can be stressful and challenging, faculty ensure students are ready not only to apply what they’ve learned in real-world situations, but also to be employees. “This is serious and they strive to be professionals,” McLachlan explains. “We see them grow and flourish in their practica. They learn what they can do, and they do it with confidence.”

That preparation — which ensures students make a real contribution while on practicum with any agency — is especially important in today’s tough economic environment. Strong relationships between the Behavioural Science program and agencies have kept Behavioural Science students in high demand. “This says a lot about what the students offer.” □

OFFICIAL LAUNCH

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Our Partners



Lions alumni up their game in Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) competition, thanks to their Ambrose Athletics experience.



JUMP BALL

Max Viitala (General Studies) was a key member of the Ambrose University men's basketball squad in 2015–16. **Ashtyn McKenzie** (Intercultural Studies) played on the women's volleyball team from 2014–16. Both are relying on what they learned as Lions to rise to the challenge of playing with the top-tier CIS Trinity Western University Spartans.

"Coach Neil [Nystrom] taught me a lot about how to carry myself as a leader," says Viitala, who's majoring in Human Kinetics. "Ambrose taught me about working hard and self-efficacy — about being the best version of myself that I can be. Being around guys who truly care about your well-being and are always there for you every step of the way, whether on court or off, is really valuable for team chemistry, and for growing as a person."

McKenzie concurs. "My two years at Ambrose were amazing developmental years for me as a player and a person," she says. "The coaches were instrumental for my growth. They focused on helping me grow as much as I could, and they had a well-rounded approach."

That personal growth is helping both succeed on court in the faster, more intense and more physical level of play in the CIS. "I wouldn't be the player or the person I am today without my experience at Ambrose," McKenzie affirms. "I learned so much. One stand-out lesson I have taken with me is to have an attitude of gratitude and a sincere appreciation for the opportunities that I have everyday."

Viitala credits Ambrose for enabling him to meet people who will be life-long influences and friends. His teammates helped him "be so much more mature and more grounded, so now getting through everyday life challenges is easier than it otherwise would be."

Thankful for his Ambrose experience and the person and player it helped him become, he says: "I am invested in being the greatest brother and son that anyone can ask for. I think that being family oriented is one of the best qualities a man can have." As for their athletic futures? Both have their sights set on playing professionally. □



family&friends

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Jamie Cambers (NUC Bachelor of Arts – Christian Studies '05) serves as Assistant Pastor (Worship/Creative Arts) at Crosspoint Church in Fredericton, N.B. His wife, **Catherine (Thistle) Cambers** (NUC Bachelor of Arts – Behavioural Science '05) is a chiropractic assistant at Fredericton Family Chiropractic and also serves as a worship leader at Crosspoint. The couple has two sons, Noah (8) and Aaron (6).

Alice Chen (CTS Master of Arts – Religion '00) has returned to Canada from her medical mission in Shanxi, China.



Christina Conroy (CBC; CTS '97) has joined the teaching ranks in Ambrose University's School of Ministry as an Assistant Professor of Christian Theology. Read more about Conroy and other new faculty joining Ambrose this fall on page 15.

Dr. Gordon Grieve, formerly the Campus Pastor at Ambrose University, is the Senior Pastor at Trinity Baptist Church in Calgary.



Anna Jean (Gifford) McDaniel and **Mike McDaniel** (CBC 1965–67) wrote to say how their 33-year-old son Micah, who has Down Syndrome, inspired them to begin Bible classes for persons with intellectual disabilities. More than a decade ago, while living in California, Anna created most of the material the couple uses. Several years ago, the family returned to Washington state where, in January 2011, they started another class in Leavenworth, Wash. The fall 2016 issue of the Christian Education magazine *RESOURCEFUL* includes an article entitled "Come

Hug Jesus," which tells the story of the McDaniels' class and how the couple is using the Action Bible in their class.

Steve Ottley (NUC Bachelor of Religious Studies '98) served as Associate Pastor at Rosewood Church



of the Nazarene in Toronto and in 2000, along with a dedicated and gifted group, formed the core team that planted Gateway Community Church in

Whitby, Ont. In 2013, Steve transitioned from Lead Pastor of Gateway to serve as the Assistant District Superintendent for the Canada Central and Canada Quebec Districts, where he continues to serve.



Dallas and Donna Sylvester (both CBC alumni) are joining the staff at Fairhaven Retreat Centre (a retreat centre for Christian leaders) near Vernon, B.C. Having served in pastoral ministry for a number of years, Dallas and Donna launched and grew a successful landscaping and lawn care business in the Fraser Valley. At Fairhaven, Dallas will focus on grounds and facility maintenance, while Donna will support day-to-day guest services and administration.

Tim (CBC Bachelor of Theology; CTS Master of Missiology '91) and **Brenda Tjosvold** (CBC Bachelor of Biblical Studies) have left Niger and are serving in Canada for a year, prior to retirement.



Daniel Yu (AU Bachelor of Business Administration '11), **Kara-Anne (Bryans) Yu** (AU Behavioural Science '13) and family dog Bailey are ecstatic to announce

the birth of their son, Ezekiel Ivanne. Dad really wants Ezekiel to play all sports, but Ezekiel really just wants to eat, sleep and cry at the moment.

Daniel works in the finance department at Ambrose, and Kara-Anne is Children's Ministries pastor at Westlife Church in Calgary.

Brian (CBC Bachelor of Theology; CTS Master of Arts – Religion) and **Aimee (Ralph) Wiens** (CBC Bachelor of Religious Education) have move to Saskatoon, where Brian is taking on a church plant with the Mennonite Brethren.



Several Ambrose alumni (almost everyone in this photo!) attended the quadrennial **Alliance World Fellowship Convocation** in Bangkok, Thailand, from Oct. 11–16, 2016. Dr. Bernie Van De Walle, Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology, was among the presenters speaking to the more than 400 people who came from around the world to attend.



Canadian Thanksgiving in Oklahoma! A few CNC alumni gathered at Brent Jones' home to celebrate the holiday. (L–R): Chuck Hoffman, Elva Rimington, Marilyn Rosfeld, Brent Jones, Neil Rimington, Dave Halverson, Don Posterski.

Passing into the presence of Jesus

Prayers and condolences are extended to friends and family who have passed away. Please submit your memorial announcements at ambrose.edu/anthem.

Rev. Edgar Newton Craig (CNC Bachelor of Theology) passed away in High River, Alta., on March 10, 2016. Rev. Craig served as a pastor in parishes in Wapella, Sask., and in Rocky Mountain House, High Prairie, Lacombe and High River, Alta. He was very proud of his 15-year Padre Ministry with the Royal Canadian Legion in High River, which he concluded in 2012.



Erna Edna (Schwanke) Fox went home to her Lord and Saviour on Sept. 19, 2016, at the age of 98. After earning a degree from the Christian Training Institute in Edmonton, Erna served as a member of the music faculty at CTI and later at the Canadian Bible College.

Erna was an accomplished pianist and singer, touring Canada and the United States as a member of multiple singing trios.

Rev. Bruce Garner (CNC) passed away on June 1, 2016. He served in the Methodist Church in Michigan, Illinois and Missouri, and is survived by his wife, June (CNC).



Sylvia Jean (Hockley) Rysavy (CBC 1966–68) passed peacefully into the welcoming arms of Jesus on March 12, 2016, in Moose Jaw, Sask., following a long struggle with diabetes.



CNC REUNION

50+ years of friendship

“You recognize friends first through their eyes, then their smiles — and when they speak, it clicks.”

Marilyn Rosfeld

Brent Jones and Marilyn (Dalgliesh) Rosfeld met at Canadian Nazarene College in the 1950s. Over the years, they and their former classmates did what

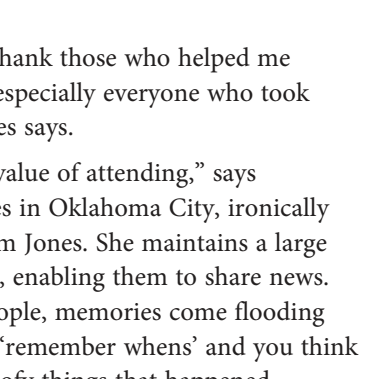
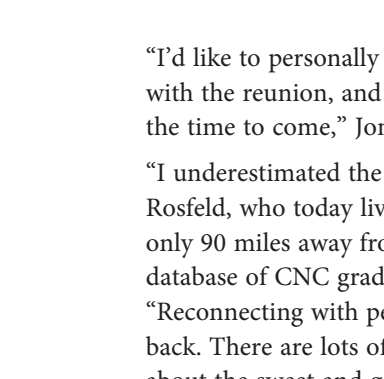
people do: graduated, found and changed jobs, moved to new cities, raised families. And though they may have been separated by distance, most of the group always managed to keep in touch. Their fondness for one another never waned, but time took its toll and once-familiar faces began to fade — so Jones decided it was time to bring the class back together. With help from Rosfeld, John Wiens and others, he spearheaded the first major CNC Reunion at Ambrose University in 2011, followed four years later by a second gathering in October 2015. Both proved the staying power of friendships forged a half century ago.

“It’s fun to get together with old friends,” says Jones, an entrepreneur who launched successful businesses including Brent Jones Homes and Brent Jones Roofing, and currently lives in Broken Arrow, just outside Tulsa, Okla. “We live miles and miles apart from each other, everybody is so busy ... and the truth is that people of our generation are literally fading away.”

He was more than pleased to see almost 200 people — former CNC students from all years — show up in 2011 for a full weekend of fellowship, laughs, music, good food, tales of days gone by, singing the school song and even more laughs. He was just as happy to see even more attendees, including Don Posterski, a long-time friend he hadn’t seen in 50 years, in 2015.



1. Lucille Pedersen-Nawy (L) and Sharon Jones 2. Rev. Edgar Craig (L) and John Davidson 3. Tom and Shirley Campbell 4. Verna and John Wiens 5. Shirley and Ken Harter 6. (L-R) Kathy MacMillan, Barbara MacMillan, Christie Morison, Gerri Heide 7. Brent Jones and Norine Hicks 8. Karen and Riley Coulter 9. Pat and Brenda Moore 10. Lorraine Dalgliesh (L) and Marilyn (Dalgliesh) Rosfeld 11. Leila Hanson (L) and John Wiens 12. Glenn Outhouse (L) and William Carmichael

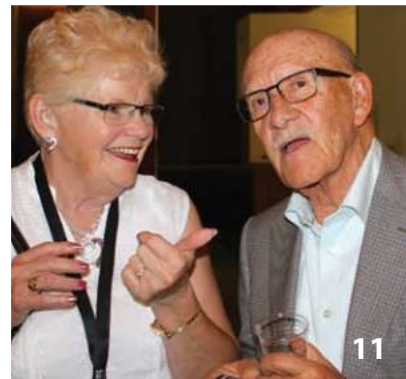


“I’d like to personally thank those who helped me with the reunion, and especially everyone who took the time to come,” Jones says.

“I underestimated the value of attending,” says Rosfeld, who today lives in Oklahoma City, ironically only 90 miles away from Jones. She maintains a large database of CNC grads, enabling them to share news. “Reconnecting with people, memories come flooding back. There are lots of ‘remember whens’ and you think about the sweet and goofy things that happened.

“At this age, people have changed so much. Inside my own head, I think I’m the same as I was in the 1950s, but we’re all asking ‘who’s that?’ when we see someone. You recognize friends first through their eyes, then their smiles — and when they speak, it clicks.”

Today, it seems almost quaint that people would remain friends for so long. Why do these friendships stick? “We met at a time when people are going through a major transition in life, when we were becoming adults,” Rosfeld answers. “Your college classmates are the first people you really bond with who aren’t your family. We were at a safe and trustworthy place, surrounded by people of honour.” And, she says with a laugh, it was when she learned one of her most important and practical life lessons. “Brent taught me how to parallel park. Every time I do that, I say ‘thank you’ to him!” □



Here are just some of the many events that are happening at Ambrose University in coming months.

Visit ambrose.edu for a complete listing and all the details.

All events take place at Ambrose University, unless otherwise noted.

Star Party

*Wednesday, November 23, 2016
6 p.m. • Room A2131
7– 8:30 p.m. • Mahood Commons
(outdoor green space)*

Join Astronomy students, faculty and Royal Astronomical Society of Canada members for an evening of astronomy music videos followed by star-gazing, using telescopes to explore stars, nebulas, galaxies and other celestial sights. Dress warmly! Contact Stephen Jeans for more info. at sjeans@ambrose.edu

Flourishing Congregations Launch

*Saturday, November 26, 2016
9 a.m.– 4 p.m.*



Join us for the launch of the Flourishing Congregations Institute, Ambrose's new initiative to explore what is working in Canadian churches. Learn about the Institute, hear preliminary research findings, give feedback and build your network. Space is limited. Get all the details and register at flourishingcongregations.org

On Stage

December 1–3, 2016

The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus

March 2017

Love and Information

Engineered Air Theatre, Arts Commons
Presented by Ambrose Acting students

Education Info Evening

*Monday, February 1, 2017
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.*

Future Education students are invited to learn about the BEd program, and hear from faculty, current students and alumni. If you plan to attend Ambrose in Fall 2017, you can apply at no charge if you apply at this event. Check ambrose.edu for more information.

Legacy Youth Conference



March 17–19, 2017

Our annual Legacy youth conference, where close to 700 Grade 10–12 students from across Canada come together to go deeper with God. Watch ambrose.edu for details.

Sounds of Music

Hodie! Christmas Concert

December 2, 2016 • 7:30 p.m.
Celebrate the season with the choirs, orchestra, jazz ensembles and soloists from the Ambrose Music Department.
Tickets \$10 (\$15 at the door)

Jazz Night

December 6, 2016 • 7:30 p.m.
Featuring jazz combos and the Ambrose Jazz Band.
Free admission

All concerts are presented at Ambrose University, unless otherwise noted. Contact music@ambrose.edu for tickets and more information.

Choir Collaboration

Friday, February 24, 2017 • 7 p.m.
Featuring eight high school choirs and a mass choir finale: the Ambrose Chamber Singers along with choirs from Central Memorial, Crescent Heights, Forest Lawn, James Fowler, John G. Diefenbaker, Robert Thirsk and St. Francis High Schools.
Free admission

Jazz Day

Saturday, March 11, 2017 • 10 a.m.
A day of instrumental clinics, combos, jam sessions and a faculty recital. Guest artist to be announced. Register at ambrose.edu/jazzday

Guitar and Chamber Singers

Sunday March 12, 2017 • 3 p.m.
Free admission

Concerto Concert

Friday March 17, 2017 • 7:30 p.m.
Ambrose Chamber Orchestra, featuring the winners of the Ambrose Concerto Auditions.
First Church of the Nazarene
65 Richard Way S.W.,
Calgary

Bold action to end poverty in Canada

by Paul Born



“ For the first time, every provincial and territorial government has, or is considering, a poverty reduction strategy.

Paul Born is the cofounder, president and coach at Tamarack Institute for Community Engagement, a leader on issues of place, citizenship engagement, collective impact and community innovation, headquartered in Waterloo, Ont. The author of four books, including two Canadian best sellers, Born is internationally recognized for community-building activities that have won awards from the United Nations and is a senior fellow of Ashoka, the world's largest network of social innovators. To learn more, visit paulborn.ca.

I was a young child when my family and I came to Canada as Mennonite refugees from the Ukraine. We were displaced people seeking to create a new life for ourselves. My personal experience of poverty has shaped my life's work. It's why I founded Tamarack, a non-profit organization that helps people collaborate to tackle the toughest social problems, including poverty. It's why my long-held, deep hope is to end poverty in Canada. That sounds audacious. But this is a unique moment. For the first time, every provincial and territorial government has, or is considering, a poverty reduction strategy. Cities are also stepping up to the challenge with enthusiasm and commitment.

I was thrilled to feel the passion and energy at an event Tamarack hosted in April in Edmonton. We called it "Cities Reducing Poverty: When Mayors Lead," and we gathered 350 people, including mayors from 20 Canadian cities. We heard about bold action at the municipal level:

- New Westminster, B.C., was the first municipality in Canada to introduce a local living wage that gives dignity to the "working poor." Other cities have followed.
- Medicine Hat, Alta., was the first Canadian city to eliminate homelessness, and now benefits from the lower cost of housing people versus providing emergency social services and health care for people living on the street.
- Edmonton and Toronto have prepared ambitious anti-poverty strategies that emphasize reducing racism and discrimination, two big barriers that block people from rising out of poverty.
- Calgary has introduced a program enabling low-income residents to buy a monthly transit pass for \$44, less than half the regular fare. This allows people to access jobs and services so they can create a better life.
- Hamilton, Ont., is educating people about the risks of payday loans by requiring lenders to post borrowing costs and provide credit counselling. Later in April, Hamilton also announced a \$50-million poverty reduction strategy.

These are exciting steps that can only happen when a cross-section of citizens — including business, government, social services, faith communities, and people with lived experience of poverty — come together to tackle a challenge.

As the anti-poverty movement grows, people begin to see poverty differently. We see that our communities are most vibrant when every member is able to participate. Reducing poverty is, in fact, good for all of us. It helps communities reach their potential, because "my neighbour's strength is my strength." Living free of poverty can be seen as a basic human right.

Tamarack's goal is to increase the number of cities with poverty reduction strategies from about 55 to 100, and to help cities share ideas and best practices. Our vision is that by 2020, we and our partners will impact the lives of one million Canadians living in poverty and we will reduce by 10 per cent the number of people living in poverty in our country.

Our collective commitment to end poverty in Canada is gaining ground. Yes, this task may seem unlikely, even impossible on some days. But as Nelson Mandela reminds us, "It always seems impossible, until it's done." □

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#2

in Canada for faculty-student interaction

19:1

student-faculty ratio

18

average class size

80%

of students receive a scholarship

\$1 million

awarded annually

\$1200/student

average award



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