Nearly fifty years ago, five visionary men with five shovels broke ground to begin building Conrad Grebel [University] College. This dream of a small Christian college for Mennonite students studying at the University of Waterloo soon expanded into an academic body offering undergraduate courses in the Faculty of Arts as well as graduate programs in Theological Studies and soon Peace and Conflict Studies. Over time, the College also grew to be home to over 200 students living on campus and 4,000 students taking academic courses each year.

On March 16, 2012, the College dug into its archives and unearthed the same shovel used at each of its four previous ground-breaking ceremonies. The unseasonably warm day only built on the optimism of the entire crowd as President Susan Schultz Huxman, board chair Susan Taves, and other members of the board (pictured above), turned the soil to prepare for this new development.

As Grebel embarks on its fifth building project, Paul Penner, Director of Operations at the College reflected on “the sense of rejuvenation and revitalization that comes with every building project. This is truly a collaborative project! The entire College is involved in one way or another and as we work together our excitement continues to grow.”

“At the March 8th Board meeting, a construction budget of $8.7 Million was approved,” reported President Huxman. “With springtime approaching, the Grebel community is looking forward to celebrating the new growth this expansion project brings—the seeds of which were planted over six years ago by many leaders and supporters of the college.”

**Reading Week is a Work Week**

During this year’s reading week, a group of 15 Grebelites left the cold Canadian weather and headed south to Birmingham, Alabama. After our 18 hour trip and a rainy arrival in the city, the team spent their day off visiting a local church, the Civil Rights Institute, and the McWane Science Centre. The whirlwind city tour led to Thomas township where we met our fellow Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) crew members. After a night of getting to know each other and little sleep, our first morning of work awaited!

**Highlights**

- Peace Conference p.4
- New PACS Prof p.6
On the Grebel Trail  
by Susan Schultz Huxman

I have been privileged to continue visits with many “salt of the earth” Grebel alums and supporters this Winter Term in my travels from Listowel to Leamington, from Ottawa to St. Catharines. One of these trips that my husband Jesse and I made together included stops in several major cities in California. Whether in church, coffee shops, homes, or business settings, dozens of Grebelites have shared with me special stories and connections to this remarkable mission-centered college and its bold vision for the future.

Memories of Grebel past are treasured: “I met my spouse at Grebel.” “I didn’t know about the Mennonites before I lived in Rez.” “I still think of Grebel as home.” “I knew the first President of Grebel and served on his board. Risky, visionary times!” “I joined a band at Grebel and have been playing ever since.” “All our pastors at my church and most of my children attended Grebel.” “I often wonder what kind of person I would have become had I not on a whim decided to live at Grebel.”

Questions about Grebel’s present show genuine inquisitiveness: “Any changes to Commie supper?” “When can I next hear the Grebel choir?” “Thanks for the video recordings on your website.” “I’m enjoying the free parking.” “What’s happening across the Creek?” “Are geese still aggressive on the path?” “What’s the best prank this year?” “Do you still do the Amazing Grebel Race?”

Discussions concerning Grebel’s future are stimulating: “So, how’s the Next Chapter Campaign going?” “Have you thought about what various universities or corporations are doing as you prepare to launch the MSCU Centre for Peace Advancement and a new master’s in peace and conflict studies? When do your new faculty hires start?” “How will you replace Tom and Hildi?” “Here’s a next big idea for you to think about.”

All of these connection points and stories, but especially the big questions and ideas regarding Grebel’s future, remind me why Grebel is such a healthy institution.

Grebel is cherished by so many loyal supporters for delivering on values that make a difference in our world: such as community building, compassionate service, faith formation, leadership development, and global engagement.

Grebel is affirmed for striving to fulfill its identity with great purpose and passion “to seek wisdom, nurture faith, and pursue peace and justice in service to church and society.”

On March 16th we “turned the sod” to mark the beginning of a bold and vibrant “next chapter” in the life of Conrad Grebel University College. We continue to celebrate the generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure from so many of you that have made this needed academic expansion to our library and archives, classrooms, seminar and rehearsal rooms, and an entire new 4th floor Centre for Peace Advancement possible.

This $8.7 million dollar project — of which $5 million has already been raised or pledged in one year — is a testament to Grebel stakeholders all across North America. Each contributor has seen real value in a Grebel education and is banking on an investment return measured by ensuring that future years yield abundant inspiring stories similar to those you will read about in this issue of Grebel now!
New growth in Music

With new practice rooms, more offices, and expanded rehearsal studios, the building project strengthens an overall spatial organization and distinct identity for the music department at the University of Waterloo within Conrad Grebel.

New growth in Grebel's mission to pursue justice and peace

A preliminary floor plan has been created for the Mennonite Savings and Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement. Included in this flexible floor plan is a gallery, “Buzz Space”, a grad student “hive”, work spaces, offices, and a large seminar room. This centre will be dedicated to innovation and interdisciplinary study in an incubator-style setting — where students, faculty, community leaders, and many others will collaborate on projects to advance peace.

New growth in the Mennonite Archives of Ontario and Milton Good Library

Currently overflowing its capacity, archives collect the records of daily life and are vital to researchers looking for historical clues, family stories, or artistic inspiration. The College looks forward to the increased connections these expanded archives will create with scholars, the Mennonite constituency, artists and the broader community.

New growth in creating a welcoming community

With a strong sense of community firmly entrenched at Grebel’s core, the new building will be open and welcoming. The Henry Paetkau seminar room and the Ron and Barb Schlegel community education room are both easily accessible for community initiatives.

"The generous giving to the 'Next Chapter Campaign' has been truly extraordinary,” said President Huxman. “Thank you for helping us plant the seeds to seek wisdom, nurture faith, and pursue justice and peace in service to church and society.”

Sustainable principles have governed the design of Grebel's new building.

High insulation values and good windows will ensure a high level of air tightness. To maintain good indoor air quality, low VOC adhesives and paint will be used. The ventilation air supplied to the building addition is minimized by the use of a carbon dioxide detector in each temperature control zone and premium efficiency fan motors will be used. The roof is engineered to add solar panels over time.

Low water consumption fixtures and electronic faucets will add to water efficiency. Energy conservation is addressed with a high thermal mass in the floors to moderate interior temperature fluctuation, using some of the most energy efficient lighting systems, occupancy sensors on the lighting, and 50% illumination with the sensors, leaving extra lighting to be turned on manually. Daylight sensors will automatically turn off lighting when there is sufficient natural illumination from windows/skylights and all lighting system components are selected for long life to reduce waste.

Half of all receptacles in office areas are automatically switched off by time clocks to eliminate waste by 'plug in' loads and the boiler and hot water heating system is 94% efficient. The cooling airflow supplied to the building will be reduced during low demand periods, as is the heating water pumped through the building, thereby reducing pump energy consumption.

A new, well-lit bicycle parking area is being provided near the main entrance, as well as a shower on the lower level for people who choose to walk or cycle to work. This addition will be a good steward of its resources and provide a nurturing indoor environment.

Green Building Details by Lawrie Carter

The Next Chapter Campaign

From our Past Will Come the Future

Keep up with the backhoes

Follow our building progress with our live construction-cam or relive our Ground Breaking Ceremony with photos and video:

grebel.uwaterloo.ca/building

Lawrie Carter, Lead Architect
Intercollegiate Peace Fellowship

This winter, Grebel students organized and hosted the Intercollegiate Peace Fellowship Conference (ICPF), February 3-5. organizers were lauded for the informative, inspiring, and very timely conference — an all-round amazing job! Among workshop leaders were a number of Grebel alumni, including keynote speaker, Paul Fieguth ('91).

Environment and Peace by Jono Cullar, 1st year International Studies

Hosted annually by varying Anabaptist universities, the ICPF was formed in 1948 to promote discussion between college peace groups on biblical nonresistance and peace building exercises. This year there were over 140 registrants for the conference, representing schools across Ontario, as well as students from Eastern Mennonite University, Goshen College, Messiah, and Elizabethtown College, who came together to share in the ICPF vision.

The opening address started with a dedication and prayer from the first nations community recognizing that the conference was taking place on First Nation land. After the dedication, Dr. Paul Fieguth, a University of Waterloo professor of Engineering, presented the keynote address on nonlinear systems and how environmental problems require multidisciplinary approaches.

Saturday morning opened with a panel discussion about the interdisciplinary nature of environmental issues. The afternoon was filled with 12 workshops ranging from presentations on Car Share programs to the Impact of Climate Change on Violent Conflict. These seminars were a great opportunity for conference participants to learn more about specific issues regarding the environment and peace as well as to make connections with other people that shared similar interests.

When asked what she learned from the conference, Heather Sprinkle from Eastern Mennonite University advised “we need to have more motivation to make changes.” People left the conference with a greater understanding of current environmental problems and how peace can be brought to these pressing global issues.

Solar Grebel by Ben Brubaker-Zehr, 2nd year Arts and Business

Solar Grebel began in 2008 as a student initiative to install solar technology on the roof of the Academic building. The group offered a tour of the panels and mechanical setup during the ICPF conference.

After successfully raising $48,000 for three panels, Solar Grebel became debt free in April 2011. They held a reception for all the major donors recognizing their contribution to the project’s success.

This year, as at the project’s beginning, the group has set its sights on long term goals. There are currently three panels on the library roof, providing about 10 to 15% of Grebel’s hot water needs. Solar Grebel’s ultimate goal is to expand the system to the maximum of twelve panels. At that point that the system will have the greatest impact on energy consumption for the College.

Students have continued to fundraise from other sources as they work towards their goal. Solar Grebel has welcomed some promising new recruits this year who will carry on the mission of Solar Grebel and ensure that it continues to grow and make an impact on the Grebel Community.
Some systems behave linearly: as the input increases, the output increases proportionately. These systems are intuitive to understand and easy to work with. However, most global systems of interest (the climate, the economy, all ecosystems) are not linear. Their state can change suddenly, due to a small shift in input that has been occurring for many years (consider the climate and human inputs of carbon dioxide). This non-linear behavior means that it is hard for humans to understand our impacts on these systems, because the effects are vast and often felt only after centuries. A study of non-linear system also shows that avoiding radical shifts in state is much easier than restoring a system to its original state.

Paul also discussed the substitution effect. Many people have heard of Peak Oil: while we have enjoyed ever increasing levels of oil production in the last hundred years, soon oil production rates will begin to decline. The substitution effect states that the economy, through technology, finds ways to substitute one resource for another.

When food is scare, the Green Revolution finds ways to turn oil, cheap at the time, into food through fertilizers and irrigation. The result is that human society will hit the limits on all of its resources at the same time. Water, food, energy, wood, metals and material will all become scare suddenly, at the same time. While a frightening thought, this is really a call to action. While we have plentiful resources, let us learn to conserve them, and transition to an economy not dependent on growth.

Paul’s address recognized and demonstrated that solving issues of peace and the environment requires all skills, talents, ways of knowing and world views. Experts in conflict mediation are crucial, but an engineering, systems view of the world provides an understanding of the context in which conflicts are formed. As we seek to re-imagine and create a world of equality, peace, and environmental health, let us remember to work with all people, of all disciplines and backgrounds.
In the culmination of more than a decade of dreaming and a year of intense work, Conrad Grebel University College has announced the launch of a new Master of Peace and Conflict Studies (MPACS) program. Combining rigorous interdisciplinary scholarship with concrete application, MPACS is a vibrant academic program that will empower students with the knowledge, research, and practical skills needed to contribute to nonviolent peacebuilding efforts. MPACS places a unique focus on the pivotal role that individuals within civil society play as catalysts for peace. The MPACS program is a course-based, professional graduate program open to both full-time and part-time students beginning in the fall of 2012.

New Master of PACS accepting students

While the field of peace and conflict studies has been steadily growing over the last decade, the number of graduate programs available in Canada has not kept pace. The MPACS program will become one of only a handful of peace and conflict studies graduate programs in Canada. The program will be especially unique among graduate programs in this field for its specific emphasis on empowering civil society in fostering positive change.

Lowell Ewert, Director of the PACS program, observes that, “civil society is key to peacebuilding because it brings out the best in humanity by inspiring citizens to take responsibility for their communities and develop creative solutions to local issues. By mobilizing our community to get involved in organizations that promote the arts, sports, health, education, religion, or social justice, our communities are enriched and made more compassionate.”

Applications for the MPACS program are accepted by the Graduate Studies Office at the University of Waterloo. Equipped with interdisciplinary knowledge and practical skills of peace building, MPACS graduates will be ready for careers in public, private, or non-profit sectors, working as agents of peaceful change at community, institutional, and systematic levels. Prospective students interested in stepping into careers as practitioners are especially encouraged to apply.

grebel.uwaterloo.ca/mpacs
Paraguay Primeval

Inspired during her trip to Paraguay in 2009, Music Professor Carol Ann Weaver wrote an entire CD of music called Paraguay Primeval. The music is based on texts by Rudy Wiebe (Blue Mountains of China), Dora Dueck (Under the Still Standing Sun), and translated works of Henry and Esther Regehr (Schoenbrunn Chronicles), telling stories about the experiences of people in the Paraguayan Chaco Mennonite colonies. The music expresses pains and hardships – extreme heat, draught, catastrophe, death. But there is also humour, beauty, joy, and celebration in this new “promised land” with songs about Lenga/indigenous women, a entire family who died from typhoid, Uncle Hans who was lowered into a well to remove sand and becomes a hero, the women’s village, a tango, and much more!

“I was touched, mesmerized, and compelled by these Mennonite settlers’ stories – how they survived, thrived, and became such strong contributors to the Paraguayan world, drawing many indigenous peoples back to the Chaco,” explained Carol Ann. “What stole my heart was the incredible dedication to this new land displayed by these Mennonite colonists, many of whom had survived impossible circumstances in Russia.”

CDs, just released, are on sale for $20 with proceeds going towards MCC’s work with indigenous people in the Chaco.

More about the CD: arts.uwaterloo.ca/~caweaver/cds

Lectures at your fingertips

Each term, Grebel hosts numerous lectures and special events. You are always welcome to join us, whether in person, via live-streaming over the web, or by watching the recordings online at your leisure.

You can find our recordings here: grebel.uwaterloo.ca/multimedia

Some of our guests this winter included:

Grebel’s Dean, Jim Pankratz, gave the Eby Lecture, entitled Gandhi and Mennonites in India.

John Roth spoke on ‘Blest Be the Ties That Bind’: In Search of the Global Anabaptist Church for the Bechtel Lectures in Anabaptist-Mennonite Studies.

Stuart Murray, was the guest speaker for the Mennonite Church Eastern Canada School for Ministers. He spoke on What Does Anabaptism Offer to a Post-Christendom World?

Julia Spicher Kasdorf was this year’s Rod and Lorna Sawatsky Visiting Scholar. Her main address was Mightier than the Sword: Martyr’s Mirror in the New World.

Upcoming Conflict Management Workshops

Developing Thriving Multi-Staff Church Leadership Teams, May 2-3
Jan Schmidt covers team leadership models, leading dynamic team meetings, working through disagreements, understanding and managing personal style differences and intentional decision making processes.

Narrative Mediation, May 31-June 1
John Winslade brings his knowledge and experience of using Narrative Mediation to manage conflict situations in schools, workplace and family.

Peacemaking Circles Training, June 13-16
Kay Pranis and Jennifer Ball lead this four day training designed to help participants explore foundational values and practical applications of circle process in various settings, as well as to prepare participants to facilitate their own circles.

For more details contact Susan Baker at certprog@uwaterloo.ca 519-885-0220 x24254
grebel.uwaterloo.ca/certificate

Hildi Froese Tiessen organized a 9 week public reading/lecture series Celebrating 50 years of Mennonite’s Writing in Canada, including David Waltner-Toews, Patrick Friesen, Magdalene Redekop, Rob Zacharias, Julia Kasdorf, David Bergen, Darcie Friesen Hossack, Carrie Snyder, and Paul Tiessen. Our next Grebel Now will profile Hildi’s teaching career.

PERFORMERS
Rebecca Campbell, vocals
Katie Honek, flute
Meaghan McCracken, flute
Ben Bolt-Martin, cello
Carol Ann Weaver, piano and backing vocals
Kyle Skillman, drums
A Break from the Books by Emily Mininger, 2nd year PACS

During reading week, Grebel students organized three service project options. Two of the options were local, each one lasting half of a week – working with Toronto Ontario Opportunities for Learning and Service (TOOLS), a service learning program run by Mennonite Central Committee, or serving at local organizations around the Kitchener-Waterloo area.

The TOOLS program focused heavily on the learning aspect, giving us the opportunity to talk with and learn from a variety of people in Toronto. The K-W trip was geared toward forging connections with volunteer organizations in our home community and learning about local needs.

On the TOOLS trip, the biggest impact on us came from the learning that resulted from meaningful interactions. Conversations with people who were either currently living on the street, experiencing rough times, or had past experiences with homelessness all tore down stereotypical images that we had held of the kinds of people that populate homeless shelters and drop-ins. It was fascinating to hear the variety of experiences and viewpoints that had developed as a result of such diverse life experiences. We realized that building relationships and just talking to and learning from people is as important, if not more important, than serving them a meal.

The local service trip was very interesting because it taught us more about the needs in our own home community. This trip was a great opportunity to learn about firsthand and visit organizations that serve the Kitchener-Waterloo area. A few people really connected with some of the organizations we served with and expressed interest in continuing to volunteer in the future. There’s something really valuable about serving in your home community, because you learn about the unique ways that your community chooses to respond to issues and how you can get involved in the future.

MDS Trip continued from page 1

We were intermixed on three sites: painting, roofing, and tree and debris clean up. Each day brought a new batch of service, with each crew learning new skills and perfecting old ones. Our week was accompanied by laughter, reflection, and sheer amazement at the devastation and revitalization of a community in so much need. Through tasks such as climbing scaffolding, shingling a new roof, or using a chainsaw for the first time, the work truly felt meaningful to each group member.

A highlight experienced by the majority of our team was the opportunity to gut and demolish an entire house in one morning! (Pictured above.)

Our week – full of poison ivy and sunburns, a trip to Birmingham’s famous Vulcan statue, and hours of bonding – concluded with a pizza party and a good cleaning before climbing into the vans to head home. We returned to our chilly home safely, having made countless memories and new friends, excited to share our stories with anyone who would listen.

This experience taught us a lot about our abilities to help those in need, being mindful that our work is merely a small dent in what is still to be done. We felt extremely blessed to have been a part of something so great, and look forward to continuing our partnership with MDS in the future.
**AJ Reimer at TMTC Award**

David Csinos, a ThD student at the Toronto School of Theology (TST), is the 2012 recipient of the A. James Reimer Award at the Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre (TMTC). David has been researching the spiritual formation of children with a focus on and attention to intercultural contexts. *Children’s Ministry that Fits: Beyond One-Size-Fits-All Approaches to Nurturing Children’s Spirituality* was David’s first book, blending insightful research, relevant theory, and practical ministry into a guidebook for discovering and understanding children’s spiritual styles. Adding to his long list of published essays and articles, David continues to take on various writing projects, specializing in educating children theologically.

Taking his interest in children’s ministry to another level, David is organizing a major conference in Washington DC, called *Children, Youth, and a New Kind of Christianity*. Participants will talk about innovative practices, critical issues, and controversial topics like violence, racism, interfaith dialogue, and sexuality.

As an active participant at TMTC, David has found that discussing issues with like minded denominational peers has been helpful in envisioning how his research might play out from a Mennonite perspective.

The A. James Reimer Award at TMTC was established in recognition of Professor A. James Reimer and the program he founded in advanced degree/doctoral theological studies at TMTC. The Award supports advanced degree/doctoral theological students at TST who are associated with TMTC, and to promote theological education.

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**2011-2012 Award Recipients**

**Grebel Student Award**

Rachel Clayton, Lori Reimer

**Good Foundation Scholarship**

Chris Brnjas

**Mrs. E. Regier Fund Award**

Alica Eisen, Jeremie Raimbault

**PACS Certificate Bursary**

Linda Brnjas, Katie Cowie, Venus (Tsz Ching) Ho, Jessica White

**PACS Internship Award**

Madeline Charnuski, Catherine Duncan, Olivia Henrich, Meghan Morrison

**Peter C. and Elisabeth Williams Memorial Fund Scholarship**

Janna Flaming

**PAC Internship Award**

Allison Murray

**Full Time MTS Tuition Award**

Linda Brnjas, Ben Cassels, Ken Diedreger, Sean East, Christina Edmiston, Dana Honderich, Vincent Kong, Jake Martin, Allison Murray, Laura Stemp-Morlock, Andrew Stumpf, Bethany Tulloch, Michael Turman, Kyle Wijnands, Amanda Zehr, Dustin Zender

**Graduate Student Support**

Sharon Brown

**MCCE Pastors Award**

Linda Brnjas, Ben Cassels, Dawne Diedreger, Sean East, Victoria Roeder Martin

**The Jane Plas Scholarship**

Allison Murray

**A. James Reimer Award at the Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre**

David Csinos

**The Reimer Scholarship in Theological Studies**

Andrew Stumpf, Kyle Wijnands

**The Stephen Family Theological Studies Entrance Award**

Laura Stemp-Morlock

**Women of MCEC Theological Studies Award**

Amanda Zehr

**Jacob Andres Award**

Sarah Pries

**Dorothy E. Bechtel Award**

Sarah Steiner

**Bible Quiz Award**

Justin Raimbault

**College Anniversary Legacy Award**

Zachary Anderson, Nic Cober, Tim Dyck, Laura Easson, Jessica Fedherau, Nicole Lee, David Lenton, Alyssa Logren, April Mansfield, Aaron Neufeld, Jeremie Raimbault, Ben Reimer, Thomas Scott, Alyssa Wilson

**College Anniversary Legacy Leadership Award**

Matthew Klassen

**Alice Eisen Leadership Award**

Rebecca Dyck, Jonathan Van Egmond

**Arnold C. Gingerich Memorial Fund Award**

Chris Brnjas

**Good Foundation Scholarship**

Christiane Brown, Sara Brubacher, Rachel Clayton, Lori Reimer

**Grebel Student Award**

Janna Flaming, Michael Funk, Danielle Hoover

**The Hildebrand Family Award**

Karsten Cheng, Sarah Morden, Jacqueline Read

**Robin Jutzi Scholarship**

Melanie Goodfellow, Caleb Polley

**The David Regier Student Award**

Alina Rehkopf, Julie Wilson

**Lucinda Robertson Scholarship**

Justine Alkema, Julianne Bell

**Rockway Diploma Award**

Evan Bechtel, Andy Wenger

**The Sauer Family Award**

Eric Dyck, Benjamin Scott

**George E. and Louise Schroeder Award**

Eric Kennedy, Sarah Penner

**Staufer Entrance Award**

Emma Bartel, Emma Nussli

**The Student Council Award**

Eric Postma, Christina Shum

**Student Services Award**

Dylan Campon

**Upper Year Residence Award**

Victoria Groh, Cassie Lachance, Emily Mininger, Katie Penner

**Volunteerism Residence Entrance Award**

Jonathan Cullar

**The Joan Weber Award**

Dan Merino, Jessica White

**Nathan Paul Krueger Wiebe Award**

Melanie Goodfellow, Thomas Loep Thiessen

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**Grebel Now Spring 2012**

Page 9
Carrie Snyder (’97) has just released her second collection of short stories - The Juliet Stories, published by House Of Anansi. “With laser-sharp prose and breathtaking insight, these stories herald Carrie Snyder as one of Canada’s most prodigiously talented writers.” Carrie was listed this year as one of “10 Canadian women writers you need to read now” by CBC. As a guest at Grebel’s “Celebrating 50 Years of Mennonite Literature” reading series last month, Carrie captivated the audience with the story of her main character’s insightfully innocent letter to Ronald Reagan. Carrie, a writer, dreamer, planner, runner, and photographer, lives in Waterloo with her husband and 4 children.

David Broad was recently appointed as Kitchener’s newest Superior Court judge. He has been practicing law for 31 years and trained in alternate dispute resolution at Grebel. As an advocate for the homeless, David served on the board of Mission Services of London Foundation which supports homeless shelters for men, women and children. David is also a musician - singing and playing guitar, mandolin and buzouki in a London-based gospel bluegrass band called “A String and a Prayer.” He lives in Dorchester with his wife, Diane. They have three children who are 18, 16 and 14.

Samantha Nutt, founder of War Child, delivered a powerful keynote address to more than 450 people who gathered to celebrate Project Ploughshares 35th Anniversary at Knox Presbyterian Church in Waterloo on February 27. She is pictured here with John Siebert, Executive Director of Ploughshares.

Bonnie Klassen (’97) is currently on assignment in Bogota, Colombia working for Mennonite Central Committee Canada.

Stephen and Sarah Brogan (’08) are thrilled to welcome their first baby, Titus Isaiah. He was born December 30, 2011. Sarah is enjoying her time at home on their fish farm with Titus as well as helping Stephen with church duties and farm work.

Natasha Krahn (’94), Dave Chodos (’05) and their son, Sam (2) are thrilled to announce the birth of Rachel Katie Krahn Chodos on June 17, 2011 in Edmonton, Alberta. Rachel was born at home after a very quick labour and delivered by her daddy! Natasha is enjoying being at home with the kids and Dave is finishing his PhD in Computing Science at the University of Alberta. Dave will be starting a job at Desire2Learn in May, and he and Natasha are looking forward to returning to Kitchener-Waterloo this spring.

Rebecca Steinmann (’00) and Jeremy Bergen welcomed their second son, Eli Daniel, on September 23, 2011. Rebecca, Jeremy, Seth (3) and Eli live in Kitchener where Rebecca is at home with the boys and Jeremy teaches Religious Studies and Theology at Grebel.

Jill (’00) and Tim Pletsch, along with Meghan and Nathan, welcomed twins Joshua and Matthew to their family on January 10, 2012.

Alumni Committee
$5 Million and Counting: Next Chapter Campaign Update

"With the gift of $1 million from Mennonite Savings and Credit Union to add the fourth floor for the Centre for Peace Advancement, the total of $5 million from 469 donors in a little more than a year of fund-raising activity is encouraging. It signals a loyal and confident Grebel constituency," noted President, Susan Schultz Huxman.

At the February meeting of the Fundraising Advisory, the group set an additional fundraising goal of $500,000. "Last May, when we launched our campaign, we didn’t envision a peace centre as part of the project. Now that it is becoming a reality, we invite everyone to consider supporting the centre, and being part of this bold new initiative for peace.” said Scott Beech, chair of the Fundraising Advisory.

The new goal will also help to address a financial setback — Heritage Canada denied our $500,000 Cultural Spaces grant for the Archives. While we have submitted a subsequent application for $150,000 for archives equipment, this remains uncertain.

Lori Reimer, student council president, reported that students will be contributing an extra $30 per term for The Next Chapter Campaign on top of their regular fees. "Students are excited at the potential of having new places to study and spend time together, especially such accessible and attractive spaces.” noted Lori. "Our contribution, as well as the inconveniences that building may bring, are a small sacrifice for this project which will confer blessings on Grebel and future Grebelites who follow in our paths.”

Watch for a Campaign Update mailing in April.

Annual Fund deadline is April 30

Each year Grebel asks supporters to provide charitable donations for our students and programs through the Annual Fund. The operating budget of the college includes funds for scholarships and subsidizes programs like our PACS internships and Noon Hour Concert series. Leadership development through our Master of Theological Studies program and the Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre is also core to our mission. Our Archive and Library facilities and staff, also rely on donated dollars.

As of March 26, we are 83% to the goal of $317,000.

Please contact Fred W. Martin to make your contribution to the Annual Fund prior to the end of our fiscal year on April 30. fwmartin@uwaterloo.ca 519.885.0220 x24381. You can support Grebel through a credit card gift on the uWaterloo website.

GIVE ONLINE

grebel.uwaterloo.ca/giving

Over 150 people gathered at the Ground Breaking Ceremony on March 16 outside the academic building. This is the location where construction will begin in early April.
Based on a true story, this original play follows the experiences of Sam Steiner, an American draft dodger and his journey to Canada in 1968. “Gadfly” explores one man’s journey to pacifism during the “peace-loving hippie” era.

Friday, April 20 at 8PM
Saturday, April 21 at 2PM and 8PM
AT THE CONRAD CENTRE FOR PERFORMING ARTS

An Original Play Written and Directed by uWaterloo Drama Student
Rebecca Steiner

Starring
John Wideman, Rebecca Steiner, Kim Walker and Ben Wert

Featuring a soundtrack of music of Gram Parsons performed by a band including Fred W. Martin and Daniel Kramer as reincarnated Flying Burrito Brothers.

Tickets available online at grebel.ca/gadfly, in person at Conrad Grebel University College or through the Conrad Centre Box Office 36 King St W Kitchener, ON N2G 1A3 519-745-4711

Do you have event or are traveling this summer? We have single and double rooms, 4-person apartments, classrooms, meeting rooms, and a dining room that are all available for use!

Call Rebecca Gibbins at 519-885-0220 x24264

Do you want to receive Grebel NOW in your inbox? Email greblweb@uwaterloo.ca to be added to our email list.