New students bring community spirit

Don training week, student leaders’ retreat, Move-in Day, square dancing, commencement and the All College retreat are just a few of the annual events that mark the beginning of a new term and year at Grebel. Thrilled to welcome 110 new students (89 in residence and 21 off-campus frosh), more than 25 student leaders participated in frosh events centering around the theme of “Camelot”. These new students are settling in and finding Grebel to be a great home away from home. One student remarked that “it felt weird going home for the weekend because Grebel now feels so much like home.”

Director of Student Services, Mary Brubaker-Zehr, noted that “we are already sensing solid community commitment and a spirit of collaboration.” Approximately half of the Grebel community are upper-year students, the numbers remaining relatively stable from year to year. The majority (88%) of Grebel’s students are from Ontario, but there are six other provinces represented as well. There are also students from the USA, Hong Kong, Africa, New Guinea, Thailand, and Vietnam. Another interesting statistic is that approximately 30% first-year students took a “gap year” – taking the year to work or volunteer before pursuing post-secondary education.

GTS - a compelling vision for the future

Students enrolled in Grebel’s Master of Theological Studies program this fall are exploring new territory. As the result of an agreement with the University of Waterloo, students are registered for the first time as UW graduate students. Previously, the Graduate Theological Studies (GTS) program had no government funding, but a new focus on graduate level education has generated more interest and funding to a wide variety of Ontario graduate programs.

“This milestone in our GTS program is the result of the good reputation we have established, a compelling vision for the future, and goodwill among those who worked together to reach this agreement,” observed Jim Pankratz, Academic Dean. He has been working with over 40 students who are enrolled and will ultimately graduate with a conjoint UW/Grebel degree in theology.

The College is encouraging students to consider full-time studies because the agreement provides more funding to the program based on its full-time enrolment. As a result, there is a generous “Theological Studies Tuition Award” for the full tuition fee for all full-time students.

“Full-time studies suit my life at this point,” said Katryn de Salaberry. “It just happens that my decision coincided with this tuition bursary - a lovely surprise!” De Salaberry also said that “receiving a degree from the University of Waterloo will be to my advantage because of UW’s reputation. I hope that this new relationship will allow Grebel to develop its program further.” Steven Park, an international student from Korea, added that this new arrangement offers him a better health insurance package.
GTS

This new relationship with UW will involve program approval and regular program review by the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies. This will strengthen the relationship with the Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary and the Toronto School of Theology, making it easier for students to transfer credits between these schools.

“This government funding for students and our program is unprecedented in Mennonite institutions in North America,” noted President Henry Paetkau. The funding helps to deliver a program that had previously relied on endowment, donations, tuition and some revenue from Mennonite Church Eastern Canada. While it will not radically alter the program in admissions, hiring, and curriculum (all still handled through Grebel’s administration), this support augments a wide variety of scholarships and bursaries for graduate students.

With increased funding, larger scholarships, greater recognition, and a growing community, the College is hopeful that more students will explore this valuable option for theological education.

The spirit of caring

Nancy Kriseman, president of Geriatric Consulting Services in Atlanta, Georgia, will be speaking at Grebel as part of the RBJ Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging’s Spirituality and Aging Program. She has over 20 years of experience working in the eldercare field, lecturing and conducting training sessions and consultations in long-term care facilities, nursing homes, and hospices throughout North America.

Two free seminars, organized by Marianne Mellinga, will take place at Grebel on Friday, November 30, 2007. The first seminar at 9:00am, “THE SPIRIT OF CARING: WHY SPIRITUAL CARE MATTERS,” will help participants define what is meant by spirit and spiritual caring, identify effective ways to connect to the spirit of the elder and to themselves and recognize why spiritual caring is so important. The second seminar at 7:30pm deals with “THE ‘CARING SPIRIT’ APPROACH TO CAREGIVING” and will provide several different ways to help support “the spirit” of the caregiver and understand how approaching caregiving from a spiritual way can bring meaning and even joy to this often difficult journey.

To register call 519-885-0220 x24270 or email sbaker@uwaterloo.ca

New students

“Enrolment is very strong again this fall, with our residences and classes full,” summarized Academic Dean Jim Pankratz. “Our faculty and staff are doing a remarkable job welcoming this large number of students to our campus. The energy and enthusiasm in classes and residences is high.” This fall term there are 1,735 students (all registered through UW in all the 6 faculties) taking a selection of 38 undergraduate courses and 12 graduate courses. The most popular courses are Popular Music and Culture, Conflict Resolution, Roots of Conflict and Violence, and Mennonites and Political Theology (grad level).

The number of students enrolled in Music degree programs is increasing. In fact, last year represented the largest number of Music majors in the history of the Department of Music. This growth can be attributed to a number of factors, including increased program exposure, recruitment strategies, and scholarship offerings.

Two years after introducing an official PACS degree to the existing PACS program, 105 students are officially enrolled in a PACS concentration. Of these, 58 are degree students and 47 are Minor, Option and Diploma students. Demand from PACS students for Core Courses has doubled since the degree program was launched two years ago. PACS director Lowell Ewert said, “It is exciting to see the interest in PACS. It is rewarding to see so many students wanting to learn about how to be a more positive peace witness in the world, and we feel privileged to be a part of this movement. Currently this interest in PACS is greater than we can realistically fit within our classrooms.”

The Experience of a Palestinian Living Under Occupation

Muslim Palestinian Abdelhadi Hantash from Dura, West Bank and a long-time partner with Christian Peacemaker Teams was a special guest at Grebel in October. As a veteran land surveyor and cartographer, Hantash is chair of the Land Defense Committee for the Hebron District in the West Bank, a Palestinian NGO that monitors settlement expansion. A Palestinian committed to non-violence, Hantash works closely with Israeli peace organizations such as Rabbis for Human Rights, Peace Now, and B’Tselem.

During his visit, Hantash provided an overview of the situation faced by Palestinians living under occupation in the West Bank, particularly in the Hebron area. He shared details and diagrams illustrating the extent of settlement activity and land acquisition by the Israeli government. He also spoke of the very mixed results Palestinians receive when, working with Israeli human rights organizations such as Rabbis for Human Rights, they seek to defend their land claims through the Israeli court system. Though not optimistic about the future, he strongly affirmed his desire for a peaceful and just political settlement that respects Palestinian rights.
**John Bell - a fresh musical voice**

"What a treat to have three evenings to spend with John Bell!" said Ed Janzen, Conrad Grebel University College Chaplain. John Bell, an Iona Community resource worker, is based in Glasgow and works with his colleagues in the areas of music, worship, and spirituality. He lectures, preaches, and conducts seminars across the world. He is a hymn writer, author, and occasional broadcaster on national radio and television, but retains a primary passion for congregational song. He returned to Grebel in October as part of a lecture series sponsored by the College and the Institute for Worship and the Arts.

Drawing evening crowds from area churches across the denominational spectrum, speaking to students at Chapel and Community Supper, speaking to MCEC ministers, giving a hymn-writerscraft session to a music and worship class, and focusing specifically on youth, young adults and their leaders on another night, John Bell's expertise as a globally experienced worship resource person was well received.

Pastors got a chance to reflect on how they lead their congregations in prayer and how they animate the prayers of their people. They were encouraged and led with sensitivity to explore and develop many ways to approach God in prayer.

Participants particularly enjoyed the youth evening where John reflected on the recent history of congregational singing and how various cultural and social dynamics emerge in it. He was generous in pointing out the good influences on congregational singing and careful in critiquing those things which have hindered the development of good congregational singing.

John illustrated his points with examples of music for the church, inviting the attendees to join him in song and to discover the joy of singing together.

This visit was important because, according to Grebel music chair Ken Hull, John understands that the voice of the congregation is central to Christian worship. "He brings fresh perspectives on what that means to our community," added Ed. "It was valuable to have John share what it means to belong to a Christian community from his perspective as a member of Iona community. It's encouraging to hear how other communities face the challenges of living together and dealing with diversities of belief and personal background."

**Family & Sexuality in Mennonite History**

Mennonites have always lived in families and as sexual beings, yet there has been minimal research or conversation about the meaning, structure, and function of families in Mennonite history or the notion of sexuality as experienced and expressed by Mennonites in the past. To address this, Grebel hosted a 2-day conference in October on "Family & Sexuality in Mennonite History".

This well attended conference offered a sampling of new research related to Family & Sexuality in the Mennonite past on such themes as: Marriage Models and Behaviours; Sexual Beliefs and Practices; Migrating Families; and Violence, Misconduct, and Conflict in Family Relations. The audience included community members, academics, students, and local social service providers, plus many visitors from across Canada and the USA.

According to organizer Marlene Epp, the conference was important because "it introduced us to new research on the social history of Mennonites by junior scholars, graduate students, and lay historians, as well as seasoned researchers. It also was a venue for the presentation and discussion of themes that have not surfaced much in the scholarly literature on Mennonites such as birth control usage, premarital sexual relations, suicide, the language of sexuality in Mennonite writings, family relations at home, at work, and in business."

Royden Loewen's keynote address, "Being Mennonite in the Family," was a taste of a thematic chapter in a book he is currently writing. "He took us on a whirlwind journey through the family life cycle," said Marlene, "from childhood to old age, as experienced in many different Mennonite communities and groups across the continent. He showed how central the family has been to faith formation and how family has often been the site at which Mennonites interacted most with the world."

Organized by the "Divergent Voices of Canadian Mennonites" project, next year's conference will be October 11-12, 2008 at University of Winnipeg on the theme "Mennonites & Money: Wealth and Poverty in the Past and Present".

**Every 3 Children CD**

Carol Ann Weaver's newest CD, Every 3 Children (vocals by Rebecca Campbell), features Carol's "Lobsang" for the five Amish girls, as well as the song, "Every Three Children", composed for African children affected by AIDS. Proceeds from each sale of Every 3 Children will go towards the Amish Recovery Fund (MCC) and African AIDS relief (via MCC and Stephen Lewis Foundation).

Brilliantly recorded/engineered by Juno-nominated David Travers-Smith, the CD is graced by exceptional, evocative Canadian vocalist Rebecca Campbell, jazz/classical piano by Carol, with sweet guitar by leading South African guitarist Mageshen Naidoo, lyric cello by Ben Bolt-Martin, world beat drumming by Mark Duggan, haunting flute by Emma Zoë Green, and heart-felt, grounding choral work by Leonard Enns' Conrad Grebel Chapel Choir.

Your purchase of this CD will be greatly appreciated by the Lancaster, Pennsylvania Amish community and by thousands in Africa who are struggling with AIDS.

Each CD is $22.00 (Can$/US$ – price includes postage). Special deal for multiple copies.

Contact Carol directly, and your CD will be sent to you immediately, even before your money arrives! Cheques can be made out to Carol Ann Weaver, and sent to the following surface mail address.

To purchase, contact Carol Ann directly

- via email: caweaver@uwaterloo.ca
- by web: http://watserv1.uwaterloo.ca/~caweaver
- by phone: 519-576-1068
- by surface mail: Carol Ann Weaver,
132 Avondale Ave. S., Waterloo, ON N2L 2C3
Perish not: Faculty Publications

Grebel faculty have been keeping busy, publishing many articles and papers, attending numerous conferences, and participating in endless speaking engagements.

Growing out of years of teaching undergraduate students, Tom Yoder Neufeld had a new book published this summer. - “ Recovering Jesus: The Witness of the New Testament”. The book is described by Nelson Kraybill of Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary as “a trustworthy guide through the theological thicket in which Western culture encounters Jesus. Readers worshiped by the recent parade of Jesus-debunkers will find clarity and inspiration for new understanding. With the mind of a scholar and the heart of a believer, Yoder Neufeld surveys a wide range of perspectives in language a non-specialist can understand.”

Jim Pankratz developed a website as a guide to religions on the Internet. The site focuses on research resources, inter-religious relations, and sources for current news about religions and spirituality. www.religionsguide.net

Len Enns is the international Winner of the 2007 POLYPHONOS choral competition. The prize includes the commission of a new work he will write for the Esoterics Chamber Chorus in Seattle for April 2008. This spring Len attended the premiere of Vanishing Point, a 20 minute composition for organ and alto saxophone in Winnipeg. As well, Len was recognized this summer by the City of Waterloo for contributions to the musical heritage of the KW community and was featured in a significant article in the Waterloo Chronicle profiling his musical career.

In addition to Carol Ann Weaver’s new CD, she has a new composition premiering. - “ Water” will be performed by orchestra@uwaterloo on November 29, 2007. This piece was commissioned to celebrate UW’s 50th anniversary this year. “ Water” evokes various moods and modes of water, from the initial frozen musical landscape to the gradual forming of streams, waterfalls, rivers and oceans, to the rhythmic “Rain Dance” section, to the flowing “Watersong” section. Throughout, water is heard as a healing agent and as a vitally essential resource.

Hildi Froese Tiessen spent some of her time on sabbatical pulling together an issue of Rhubarb featuring Ontario writers and artists.

Mennonite Theologian and Teacher Honoured

“When Jim Reimer speaks to Mennonites, he urges them to take the wider historical Christian tradition more seriously. And when he speaks to other Christians, he explains how Mennonites are a faithful part of that wider tradition.”

This observation by Jeremy Bergen is an apt summary of Jim’s career. It is a career that was honoured on a hot evening at the University of Toronto in late May. Tributes were offered by Mennonite theologians (many of whom were Jim’s former students), by faculty at the Toronto School of Theology (TST), and by a Muslim theologian from Iran with whom Jim has had many inter-faith conversations.

A highlight of the evening was the surprise presentation to Jim of a Festschrift in his honour. The collection of essays, entitled Creed and Conscience: Essays in Honour of A. James Reimer, was intended to interact with and promote Jim’s theological interests as well as “to act as a gesture to the kind of person Jim is, to the kind of career he displays to the Christian church and the larger academic community,” explained Paul Doerksen, who edited the book with Jeremy Bergen and Karl Koop.

Jim’s wide-ranging theological interests include Scripture, the Anabaptist tradition, pacifism, modernity, technology, the ecumenical tradition, political theology, the work of Paul Tillich, the philosophy of George Grant, spirituality, and dialogue with Muslim theology. Many of these themes were addressed in the essays in the Festschrift.

Jim has been a full-time faculty member at Conrad Grebel University College since 1986, and was instrumental in initiating Master of Theological Studies program there. He has also been an adjunct professor at TST since 1982, teaching courses and supervising many theses. He provided the impetus for the development of the Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre (TMTC) at TST, and continues to serve as its Academic Advisor.

His remarkable contributions to TMTC have been acknowledged through the establishment of the A. James Reimer Award by former student, Al Armstrong (“94), who credits Jim with changing his life through a rigorous encounter with the classical Christian theological tradition.

The goal of the Reimer Award is to provide excellent Mennonite doctoral students in theology with funds on par with the scholarships offered in the sciences. Conrad Grebel University College invests donations to this Award and uses earnings to enlarge the fund and to provide an annual scholarship. Currently the fund is more than half way to the goal of $250,000. Each dollar donated is matched with $1.60 from the Ontario Trust for Student Support.

As Jim enters his last year of full-time teaching, his commitment to encourage Mennonites to take the wider Christian tradition seriously will be expressed through the “Pastor’s Theology Seminar” that he will teach at Conrad Grebel. The course is titled, “Mennonites and Classical Theology”. An apt ending to a distinguished career.
30 Years of PACS

Reflections on turning thirty  By Lowell Ewert, PACS Director

Birthdays often bring awkward moments that cause us to stop and reflect about age, accomplishments and the fact that time no longer seems as unlimited as it once did. The upcoming PACS celebration triggers similar self reflection. How should an academic program celebrate its thirtieth birthday? And how can the birthday of a Peace Studies program be celebrated with integrity while devastating conflict and violence run rampant in so many parts of the world?

The Peace and Conflict Studies program was established 30 years ago to study both peace and conflict. Guided by the values of non-violence and collaborative dispute resolution that are part of Grebel’s Anabaptist heritage, the program is seen as a model peace studies program by other universities. The support, commitment and encouragement that PACS has received from the University of Waterloo and constituents of the College are the envy of every other Canadian peace studies program with whom I have spoken. The academic review of PACS initiated by UW several years ago best summarized how fortunate we are to be part of this amazing campus community when it reported that “PACS is the jewel in the crown of Conrad Grebel and a significant asset to UW. PACS possesses an academic scope and ethical framework that attracts and holds engaged students who go on to become well-rounded citizens, dynamic community workers, and future graduate scholars.”

Passionate, enthusiastic students often give those of us who teach in PACS a sense that we are on holy ground when we walk into the classroom. Students frequently report that PACS provided a perspective that resonates with a core value of their very being. Students often report that taking their first PACS course changed their perspective or gave them a sense of meaning that was missing.

Since the PACS program began in 1977, 352 students have graduated with a PACS Degree, Minor, Option or Diploma and 172 have completed a PACS Internship. Over the past ten years, PACS course enrollments have reached almost 6,400, influencing thousands of students. The world is a different place because of these students who have gone on to work as mediators, writers, community workers, pastors, organic farmers, and researchers.

The challenge for PACS will be to manage this growing interest. Since PACS began offering a BA two years ago (instead of only a Minor, Option or Diploma), we now have over 60 students enrolled in a PACS BA degree. The number of students pursuing a PACS Degree, Minor, Option or Diploma is increasing by an average of 10% - 15% per year. PACS Courses are almost always full with long waiting lists. Students are also asking for an MA program in PACS. What all these factors point to is that PACS continues to serve student interests effectively. The limitation on our growth is the availability of resources.

Growing alongside the PACS program has been the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPACS). Anchored by Project Ploughshares, the Conflict Resolution Network Canada and the Certificate Program in Conflict Management, IPACS partners seek hard to operationalize peace in practical, pragmatic ways. Ploughshares is Canada’s leading peace research agency, providing data, research and information to policy makers on important peace issues. The Network is an association that challenges Canadians on how best to respond to conflict in a multitude of professions and occupations. The Certificate Program provides practical skills training workshops on over 30 different topics. Together, these IPACS partners are building the practical foundation for peace in Canada and our world.

It has been a privilege for me to serve as the Director of PACS over the past 10 years. Following in the footsteps of Conrad Brunk (founding Director pictured above), Arnold Snyder, Ron Mathies and Hildi Froese TiesSEN has made my job easier because of the solid and sure foundation they built for the program. The administrative support staff over the years – Elsie Gerber, Lynn Toews, Chris Matsuda, Ann Snider, Mary Lou Schwartzentruber, Mary Lou Klassen - who have invested greatly in assisting students and administrators alike in dealing with the day-to-day details have been invaluable in advancing the mission of PACS. The many faculty who have taught in our program have all challenged and inspired students in ways that we will never be able to document.

...continued on page 6
Celebrate PACS 30th Anniversary!

We invite you to join the Grebel community to celebrate our achievements, our opportunities, and our successes! Challenge us to continue our quest to be faithful to our mission and purpose. There is still much work to be done. As we commemorate PACS’ 30th Anniversary, know that we honour the thousands of students, faculty, administrators, churches and constituents who tirelessly worked together to create and sustain this program. This is a collective achievement, not an individual one. And then, don’t forget to wish us a successful next 30 years.

To celebrate the Peace and Conflict Studies department’s 30th anniversary, Grebel is looking forward to hosting Imam Muhammad Ashafa and Pastor James Wuye. They will be speaking at three main celebration events.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, February 29, 2008</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>CIGI Atrium, Waterloo</td>
<td>Peace and Conflict Studies 30th Anniversary Celebration Free Admission 519-885-0220 x24229 or <a href="mailto:pacs@uwaterloo.ca">pacs@uwaterloo.ca</a> for info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 1, 2008</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Grebel Dining Room, $20</td>
<td>Fundraising Dinner for the Frank Epp Memorial Fund Contact the Grebel Development Office at 519-885-0220 x24223 or <a href="mailto:fwmartin@uwaterloo.ca">fwmartin@uwaterloo.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>February 29 - March 2, 2008</td>
<td></td>
<td>Conrad Grebel University College Inter Collegiate Peace Fellowship Conference “Building Bridges, Breaking Down Barriers: Religion’s Role in Reconciliation” visit grebel.uwaterloo.ca/icpf for info</td>
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In the 1990s, the Imam and Pastor led opposing militias dedicated to defending their respective communities as violence broke out in Kaduna, northern Nigeria. After this crisis, the Imam underwent a change in attitude and perception and his activism gave way to involvement in the quest for greater understanding of measures of dispute resolution. Similarly, the Pastor embarked on a search for alternatives to violent inter-religious and intra-religious crisis leading him to involvement in conflict management and peace advocacy. Consequently, the Imam and Pastor are the founders and Joint Executive Directors of the Interfaith Mediation Centre of Muslim/Christian Dialogue Forum, Kaduna, Nigeria.

PACS Grads - where are they now?

Maeghan Ray ('05) has continued working in Africa after graduation with HIV/AIDS projects. This passion began when she was inspired by her Field Studies Assignment while a student. This summer she was selected to speak at a regional conference, representing her organization, Hands at Work Africa. She visited Grebel recently to speak at a PACS brown bag lunch and at the Grade 11 Peace Day.

Maria Lucia Zapata ('00) is teaching a PACS negotiation course at Grebel this term. As a Lawyer from Bogota Colombia specializing in conflict resolution, Maria did a PACS diploma at Grebel, worked for Conflict Mediation Services of Downsview in Toronto, returned to Colombia as a consultant in conflict resolution and restorative justice, and then did her M.A. in International Peace Studies at the Kroc Institute, University of Notre Dame.

Ruth Teichroeb, ('80) is an Investigative Reporter for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer specializing in social justice issues. She has received numerous state, regional, and US national journalism awards as well as provincial and national journalism awards in Canada. “After graduation, I worked in mental health and ran a volunteer program before my love of writing led me into journalism,” says Ruth. Ruth was one of Grebel’s first PACS students.

Sandra Elgersma ('00) is currently working as an Analyst at the Library of Parliament in the area of citizenship and immigration. Library employees provide neutral and impartial research assistance to all Members of Parliament, Senators, and parliamentary committees. Previously she worked for Mennonite Central Committee Canada as a policy analyst. Sandra fondly remembers the PACS trips to New York for the MCC seminars - great speakers and of course, lots to experience. “What I learned in PACS continues to be relevant in my working life and way of understanding the world - current students are lucky to be able to major in it!”

Joel Klassen ('89) works with the Christian Peacemaker Teams’ project in steamy Barrancabermeja, Colombia. Colombia has been enmeshed in civil war for over 40 years, while at the same time broad sectors of the civilian population are working persistently and creatively to shift social inequalities and bring about peace. CPT accompanies communities and organizations threatened by armed actors, engages in nonviolent action, and advocates with government and corporations. To learn more, drop Joel a line at smoothwater@gmail.com, and/or go to the CPT website (www.cpt.org). More workers, prayers and donations solicited!

Matthew Bailey-Dick ('00) is the newly appointed Mennonite Central Committee Ontario Countering Militarism Advocate.

Brenda Fitzpatrick ('01) is a consultant with the Peace and Reconciliation Program of Catholic Relief Services/Philippines, working in the Mindanao Regional Office in Davao, where she has responsibility for documentation of peace, advocacy and development initiatives.

Josie Winterfeld ('83) is Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church’s new Peace & Justice Outreach Worker. In this job, Josie coordinates the missions, peace & justice and outreach work of the church.

Dean Peachey ('82,'86) is Vice-President and Academic Dean of Menno Simons College. He is also a Professor of Conflict Resolution Studies and enjoys interacting with faculty and students on peace and security issues. Before moving out west, Dean lived in Waterloo for 22 years. He taught in the PACS department at Grebel and was involved with the local community, starting the first community mediation service in Ontario. Dean then founded The Network: Interaction for Conflict Resolution, a charitable association affiliated with Grebel, which is dedicated to helping people constructively deal with conflict.

Kevin Ranney ('89) is head of research for Jantzi Research, Toronto. They research corporate business practices and help ethical mutual funds and ethical investors determine which stocks to buy. They are at the forefront of the corporate social responsibility movement.
The Certificate Program in Conflict Management is an innovative continuing education program initiated in 1999 to promote skills training in conflict management. Run by the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, the program offers over 30 workshops and three concentrations: Conflict Management and Mediation, Conflict Management for Faith Communities, and Conflict and Dispute Management for Project Managers. Mary Lou Schwartzentuber, the program manager, has worked tirelessly to build the Certificate Program into a widely recognized program with workshops in more than ten cities world-wide.

The following are glimpses of some trainers in this program.

**Sy Landau**
Sy is President of Organizational Strategies Group Inc., a management consulting firm specializing in organization effectiveness. He has led seminars for managers and professionals in both the private and public sectors. “My particular focus is on promoting justice,” said Sy. “Life may not be fair, but at least governments and laws should be. Whenever I perceive unfairness here in Canada, I whip off letters to the politicians to remind them of their obligations.”

President of her company, Cooperative Solutions, Barb is a Psychologist, Lawyer, published author, and an accredited Family Mediator and Trainer. As the Co-Chair of the Canadian Association of Jews and Muslims, Barbara co-leads dialogue groups to build understanding and respect between Jews, Muslims, and Palestinians living in Toronto. The idea is to get to know one another as people. Over the years she and Sy both have joined with the members of this group to celebrate important festivals and have supported members in difficult times, such as the defacing of Mosques or Jewish cemeteries. “The most important idea for me is the Talmudic concept of TIKKUN OLAM – or working to repair the universe,” explained Barb. “My goal is to bring greater understanding, reduce stereotyping, and build trust between people of different backgrounds or experiences – especially for the next generation.”

Reflecting on their jobs of practicing and teaching mediation, both Sy and Barb mention relationship building as the most satisfying aspect. “I feel the highest sense of accomplishment when the process transforms the relationship between the former antagonists so that they see each other as joint problem solvers rather than as the problem,” said Sy.

Barb agreed, stating that it is most rewarding to be “repairing relationships, protecting children from their parent’s anger, hurt, lost self esteem or breach of trust...helping people to do their best and reach creative, cooperative outcomes in difficult situations.”

**Betty Pries**
A mediator since 1993, Betty Pries has been a trainer in the Certificate Program for 7 years. She got into the mediation field after being tapped on the shoulder by someone at Mediation Services in Winnipeg, where she apprenticed.

Now living in Waterloo, Betty deals primarily with workplaces and churches, teaching workshops, mediating, and providing coaching and facilitation services. She also has her own mediation business called PACT Associates.

“When I can help workplaces and churches to become more healthy, they can focus more fully on their mission in this world,” said Betty. “When I work with people and I see hope and the possibility of joy re-enter their lives and their relationships, I know that my work has been meaningful.”

Betty, together with Sue Steiner and Andrew Reesor-McDowell, have formed Associates Resourcing the Church (ARC). As a group of consultants who work together to provide support to churches and church related organizations, their work includes mediation and other conflict resolution processes, facilitation, teaching of workshops, coaching for pastors, research and writing. They work in several different denominations but primarily within the Mennonite Church.

**Sue Steiner**
Sue Steiner has been involved with the Faith Communities stream of the Certificate program since 2005, co-teaching the course Understanding Conflict in Faith Communities. Although not a trained mediator, Sue takes an approach from the perspective of a person who has provided 20 years of leadership in six diverse congregations as a pastor or interim pastor.

Sue trained as a spiritual director, with a particular interest in coaching leaders to tend the communal soul of their faith communities. “Conflict in faith communities is unique,” said Sue. “It mixes organizational dynamics with personality, with family history, with conflict, and of course, with faith. It is satisfying to work with leaders of faith communities to understand this mix and to foster healing.”

As a founder of ARC, Sue offers resources for leaders and churches to better understand themselves as they discover and live into God’s vocation for their church.

**Keith Regehr**
Focusing mainly on family mediation and dabbling in congregational conflict and business conflict, Keith Regehr has been in the mediation field since 1994 and working for Grebel since 2001.

With a background in law and human rights and community development, Keith’s experiences have given him “a deep commitment to the idea that the participants to a conflict can, if they choose, make the decisions that will allow them to develop new patterns of relationship.”

In addition to his current mediation practice, Decisions Mediation Service, and trainer contract jobs, a growing portion of his work has been in the area of anti-racism education and consulting.

**Betty Pries**, **Sue Steiner** and **Keith Regehr**

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**www.coop-solutions.ca  www.orgstrat.ca**

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**www.decisionsmediation.ca**
An extraordinarily valuable resource

In a serendipitous twist of fate, cancer researcher and professor James Gerlach stumbled upon the Certificate Program in Conflict Management at Conrad Grebel. He had never heard of the program but program manager Mary Lou Schwartzzen-truber convinced him to sign up for the Transformative Mediation workshop. Having never thought about mediation before, Jim enjoyed his first taste, and even made a few friends – Reverend Bruce Tombs included.

Also taking his first class in the Certificate Program, Bruce, with a background in family ministry and young offenders, was more intentionally motivated. He was interested in volunteering in the community with youth – specifically at Community Justice Initiatives in Kitchener – and the Transformative Mediation workshop was necessary to become a mediator at CJI.

Both men were inspired by their first course and enrolled in the full Certificate in Conflict Management and Mediation program. Discovering that they had a “definite synergy” as they partnered in role-playing and group discussions, Jim and Bruce decided to put their skills to work in a “second career”. They formed K-W Collaborative Solutions, a family mediation service. Together they “endeavour to resolve disputes and conflicts using a collaborative process to achieve the best possible outcome for each participant. They strive to provide an atmosphere in which individuals and groups can be heard with respect and feel safe to communicate their concerns and ideas. They aim to achieve sustainable agreements that maintain the interests of the participants and which value ongoing relationships.”

“The Certificate Program at Grebel gave us the foundation and the opportunity to work with a wide variety of people,” said Jim. He was worried at first about his heavily technical background, but he was pleased to discover a wide range of people - ministers, human resource workers, teachers, lawyers, students – who were all very open and willing to share their experiences.

Commenting on the excellent preparation the Certificate Program workshops gave him, Jim said that “it’s hard to imagine learning mediation skills without the depth and quality of courses and instructors that Grebel offers. They have managed to assemble top notch instructors who come with great information, teaching both practical and theoretical aspects of mediation.”

Bruce added that the wide variety of courses introduces participants to many styles of mediation. This gave the men an excellent “mediators toolbox” to draw from depending on clients’ needs and situations.

The duo’s overall goal is to impact the community in a positive way. They want to make mediation in family situations mandatory and for it to be seen as “extraordinarily valuable”. They feel that in most cases, mediation is the best solution. They want parents to continue to act as parents to their children in divorce situations, so the child is not caught in the middle and to minimize family animosity.

Bruce hopes that “society as a whole can come to terms with how beneficial mediation is when dealing with any type of dispute. It can save so much energy, money and hard feelings. Conrad Grebel is at the leading edge of preparing people to get involved in this societal shift.”

www.kwcs.ca

WHAT DO A.....

- pilot in the Saudi airforce
- construction worker with a degree in forensic psychology
- United Nations human rights officer in Burundi
- ergonomist in the pulp and paper industry
- organizational development manager in a Mohawk community
- prison guard

AND

- United Church Canada minister

....HAVE IN COMMOM?

Answer: Understanding Conflict

All have completed “Understanding Conflict I: The Key to Change”, a workshop in the Certificate Program in Conflict Management. Not only are participants of diverse backgrounds and faiths, facilitators are as well.

- Jewish, Anglican, Muslim, Catholic, Buddhist, Mennonite

And, in addition to being experts in their field, they are passionate about making a difference in the world.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

in Conflict Management

Observe the benefits of being more collaborative and less adversarial when responding to conflict daily. Build successful relationships at work, home, school or in a faith community. Skills are easy to obtain, harder to put into practice, but well worth the effort. ‘Be the change you want to see!’

Topics include:

- five different styles of mediation
- facilitation skills
- understanding conflict
- communication
- intercultural Issues
- spiritual practices
- collaborative project management
- basic and advanced levels

For more info or to register contact 519-885-0220 ext. 24254, certprog@uwaterloo.ca or www.grebel.uwaterloo.ca/certificate

“From a peace and justice tradition”
At the end of the day
By Susan Fish

I've got a smile on my face,
I've got four walls around me
The sun in the sky, the water surrounds me
I'll win now but sometimes I'll lose
I've been battered, but I'll never bruise,
it's not so bad

And I say way-hay-hey, it's just an ordinary day
it's not so bad
At the end of the day
an overhead projector, and Dave Huron carrying around a wall clock instead of a watch.

students and profs, sharing classes with non-music majors, Len Enn's inability to set up
graduation recitals, singing in various choirs, the lasting friendships made with Grebel
memories were shared, including great courses, traveling to Vienna with Bill Maust,
people made the trek, including the first music major graduate, Pat Whiteside. Favourite
All Music Alumni were invited back to Grebel during homecoming on Sept. 29. About 20

Music Reunion

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an overhead projector, and Dave Huron carrying around a wall clock instead of a watch.

Mmmmm Pie

This luscious pumpkin pie, sporting the Grebel logo and baked by Mike Turman, was awarded first
place in the Associate Pie Baking Contest at Grebel's Annual Fall Fair Day (aka Family Day.) It was auctioned
off, bringing in an impressive $1000 for Grebel's Student Refugee Fund. With only three pies being auctioned, a total of
$2725 was raised! While Grebel students are supporting this refugee project with a $10 per term levy, additional funds
are needed for residence fees and other expenses. We thank Nello Romagnoli, auctioneer and parent of first year student
Maria, for his amazing enthusiasm in exciting the Fall Fair audience!

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Their children

Rebecca at reseiling@sympatico.ca.

Recently the whole family climbed to the top of Mt. Bandai (a fairly famous mountain in Japan). At 1819m, that was quite an accomplishment especially for Tep.

Rebecca Seiling (’96) recently had a book published by Herald Press. Plant a Seed of Peace includes more than 40 short stories of Anabaptist/Mennonites who have worked to make a more peaceful world. The book is ideal for families to read together, or for anyone who wants to hear stories from the Mennonite faith tradition. For more information, email Rebecca at rseiling@sympatico.ca.

Mel (’05) and Dan Bishop (’06) are proud to announce the birth of their son, Owen Mark, born September 9th, 2007. They are happily adjusting to life as a family of three! Dan is currently working for “Covarity” in Kitchener doing software development while Mel is on maternity leave from her job as a Communications Coordinator at Lutherwood in Waterloo.

Stephanie (’05) and Ben Janzen were thrilled to welcome Micah Peter into their family on July 23rd, 2007. Micah is a healthy, happy baby with an endless supply of smiles. Ben enjoys working at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate as the Resource Room Coordinator and Stephanie loves spending her days at home watching Micah grow into a fantastic little boy. They are truly enjoying life as a family of three!

Mark Weber (’94) as an inspiring guest at Community Supper this fall, speaking on Anabaptist Values and Decision-Making in the Real World. He is currently Assistant Professor of Organizational Behaviour at the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto and U of T Mississauga. His research interests include cooperation, trust, negotiations, the role of values in decision-making, and social and organizational identity processes while his areas of teaching and training expertise include negotiations, decision making, conflict management, and organizational behaviour. Reflecting on his experience at Grebel and education at UW, Mark told students, “As University of Waterloo students living and studying at Conrad Grebel, you have chosen one of the very best ‘one-two’ punches the academic world has to offer. As a graduate student studying alongside graduates of many of America’s most elite colleges -- Harvard, MIT, University of Michigan -- I never felt like my training or educational experience had been anything but the equal of theirs.”

Durrell Bowman (’89) completed an M.A. in Musicology at the University of Toronto in 1991. He completed a Ph.D. in Musicology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in 2003. He has developed and taught courses at UCLA, UW/CGUC, University of Western Ontario, University of Alberta, Georgian College, University of Guelph, and Dalhousie University. For 2007-08, he is a Lecturer at UCLA. Although his academic work mainly involves interpreting popular music and film and television music, he has also worked as a professional choral singer for the Elora Festival and Singers. See also http://durrellbowman.com and/or email him at db@durrellbowman.com.

Nathan Funk, Assistant Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies at Grebel, and his wife Meena Sharify-Funk welcomed their son, Mikael Sharify-Funk into the world on September 4, 2007. They were delighted to embark on a completely new stage of life’s journey -- just a week before Meena bravely began her new teaching job at Wilfrid Laurier University!

Susan Fish will be replacing Jennifer Konkle (’00) as Interim Communication Coordinator beginning November 1st when Jen goes on a year’s maternity leave. Susan is a freelance writer and editor, writing for non-profit organizations, and has been recognized locally and nationally for fiction and poetry. Susan has a published novella, Seeker of Stars, and two books of Bible study curriculum.

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Janice (’94) and Tim Maust Hedrick discovered a group of Grebel Frosh on their doorstep in early September. They were pleased to send away their old couch during the Bigger and Better Penny Event where Frosh go hunting/trading in the local neighbourhood. Tessa and Wilhem pose with the Grebel Students. After living in Elkhart, Indiana for 3 years, Alissa Bender (’02) graduated from Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary with her MDiv in May. She has been called to

Keep us in the Loop!

Tell us about address and vocational changes, general updates, retirement adventures, information about births, marriages, or deaths. Send your name, year graduated, address, email, photo, and news to Susan Fish, greblweb@uwaterloo.ca
I am a part of all that I have met
By Savio Wong (’84)

On September 29, over 120 Grebelites in the 1980-85 era came back to the College for a reunion. The evening began with an informal reception in the new (to us old-timers) Atrium, a tour of the new halls, and finished with a buffet dinner and dance.

For most of us, the new facility is nice, but we came back to see each other - to catch up with all the latest news since last time and, maybe just for a few moments, to relive those magical years again. Although the comment ‘hey, you look exactly the same’ was heard many times, the perception was corrected rather quickly once we saw the slide-show presented by the ever efficient and capable Fred Martin. There were many highlights in the evening. For example, what Grebel gathering from this era would be complete without Rob Gascho’s wonderful imitation of John Rempel (who was sorely missed) and Ralph Lebold (who graced us with his presence), Ron Regier’s puny jokes, Louise Wideman’s belly laugh and probably everyone’s favourite – Andy (Rude Jake) Hiebert and Cathy Falconer’s heavenly musical numbers?

Personally, I am of two minds about attending reunions: should I or shouldn’t I? Do I want to be reminded about some of the unfulfilled dreams that seem to bubble up at these events? How about the errors of youth (where is Rempel when you need absolution?)? How could I summarize my last 10 or 20 years in a few minutes, and say it without being superficial? How about the errors of youth (where is Rempel when you need absolution?)? How could I summarize my last 10 or 20 years in a few minutes, and say it without being superficial? How? How about the errors of youth (where is Rempel when you need absolution?)? How could I summarize my last 10 or 20 years in a few minutes, and say it without being superficial? How? How about the errors of youth (where is Rempel when you need absolution?)? How could I summarize my last 10 or 20 years in a few minutes, and say it without being superficial? How? How about the errors of youth (where is Rempel when you need absolution?)? How could I summarize my last 10 or 20 years in a few minutes, and say it without being superficial?

It was good to come and for my soul to be surrounded in a roomful of people who had shared something very special – that mythical Grebel experience. The conversations were both respective and heart-felt. No, it was not possible to recap 20 years in a few minutes, but it was possible to peek into each other's lives through a small window and re-connect.

It is on occasion like this that I sense the passage of time, making me be both contemplative and introspective. Although it would be false to claim we had maintained our friendship after all these years or that we would become best of friends again, it was spiritually uplifting to have such fond memories of our youthful exuberance, our carefree foolishness, and our radical idealism. We were, and I hope we still are, wanting to make this a better world for all.

80-85 REUNION

“All my favourite Memories are from my Grebel Days!”

- chats with staff in the faculty lounge
- falling down staircases
- Pachelbel and tea on wicker with Wendy Cressman
- having underwear frozen by Franz & Dennis
- Frosh Week
- great student pranks like the pigs head in the toilet of the girls washroom
- a “body oddities” fest in the lower lounge
- finding an entire bedroom in the front foyer
- Dutch Blitz
- late night pizza deliveries
- “Peeping Scott”
- broomball
- nerd dances
- using trays as toboggans
- great food
- Commie Supper bread
- Wednesday Chapels

- leading frosh singing around campus in the middle of the night, then seeing the falls of water coming off the roof
- getting lost in Waterloo at 4:00am
- sheet change
- missing Community Supper for Star Trek
- performing in the coffeehouse in purple onesies pajamas

- the 6:00 gathering of the “Who Couch Klan” to watch Dr. Who
- singing in Chapel Choir
- winning volleyball again & again & again
- dancing on the Chapel Choir tour bus
- “studying” in the lower lounge for exams
- Steve McDonell’s bike, lonely and snowcovered, waiting for the next ride
- finding all the contents of a room switched with another room - then living on the guys floor all weekend

Check out the web for more reunion pictures! grebel.uwaterloo.ca/alumni

Grebel Fall 2007
Calendar of Events

Thursday, November 8, 2007
7:30 pm, Great Hall
Rodney and Lorna Sawatsky
Visiting Scholar Lecture with Royden Loewen
cgucacad@uwaterloo.ca

Friday, November 30, 2007
9:00 am & 7:30 pm
Spirituality & Aging Lecture
with Nancy Kriseman
sbaker@uwaterloo.ca

Sunday, December 2, 2007
3:00 pm, Humanities Theatre, UW, $12
University of Waterloo Choir Concert
Mozart Requiem
music@uwaterloo.ca

Monday, December 3, 2007
7:30 pm, Chapel
UW Instrumental Chamber Ensembles Concert
music@uwaterloo.ca

Sunday, December 9, 2007
7:00 pm, Maureen Forrester Hall, WLU, $20
UW Chamber Choir Concert with the K-W Chamber Orchestra - An Alpine Christmas
music@uwaterloo.ca

Wednesday, December 12, 2007
7:00 pm, Atrium
Grebel Alumni Carol Sing
fwmartin@uwaterloo.ca

Friday, February 1, 2008
7:30 pm, Chapel
Benjamin Eby Lecture with Professor A. James Reimer
cgucacad@uwaterloo.ca

Friday, February 29, 2008
7:30 pm, CIGI Atrium, Waterloo, ON
Peace and Conflict Studies
30th Anniversary Celebration
pacs@uwaterloo.ca

Saturday, March 1, 2008
7:00 pm, Dining Room, $20
Fundraising Dinner for the Frank Epp Memorial Fund
fwmartin@uwaterloo.ca

Thursday & Friday, March 13 & 14, 2008
7:30 pm, Dining Room
Bechtel Lectures with Alfred Neufeld
clichti@uwaterloo.ca

NOMINATIONS WANTED

Alumni nominated for the award must have:
1) been a resident or associate of Grebel for four terms, or a graduate of one of Grebel's academic programs;
2) made a unique contribution to the church, community, nation, world that is significant and worthy of recognition;
3) made a contribution representing the ideals and purposes of Conrad Grebel University College

Nominate deserving alumni by Dec. 31, ’07.
Send nominations to:
Fred W. Martin - fwmartin@uwaterloo.ca
Conrad Grebel University College
Waterloo, ON N2L 3G6

UPCOMING LECTURES

Sawatsky Lecture
Royden Loewen speaks on "Poetics of Peoplehood: Mennonite Ethnicity and Mennonite Faith in Canada"
Thursday, November 8, 2007, 7:30 pm

Eby Lecture
Jim Reimer speaks on "Christian Theology Today: What is at stake?"
Friday, February 1, 2008, 7:30 pm

Bechtel Lectures
Alfred Neufeld speaks on "The Mennonite Experience in Paraguay, 1927-2007."
Thursday & Friday, March 13 & 14, 2008, 7:30 pm

ALUMNI Christmas Carol Sing
Wednesday, December 12, 2007
7:00 pm, Conrad Grebel Atrium
Take a break from your Christmas Preparations and bring your family to Grebel for Christmas snacks and songs!
Contact Fred W. Martin for more info
519-885-0220 x24381 or
fwmartin@uwaterloo.ca

AN AMAZING CHRISTMAS GIFT!
Get your complete boxed set of Chapel Choir CDs for just $35!
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Contact Sue Baker at sbaker@uwaterloo.ca or 519-885-0220 x2970 to place your order

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