



Conrad Grebel University College



Building a Solid Foundation

As Grebel welcomed students this fall for the 49th year, it was difficult to ignore the disruptive and sometimes loud construction site right outside the doors. But as she spoke at the annual commencement ceremony during orientation week, President Susan Schultz Huxman encouraged the group to celebrate community by thinking of themselves as a construction site.

"Construction is messy. It requires hard and slow work. It's full of surprises - you never know what you'll unearth," Susan continued. "Those qualities describe education too. Slow down: pace yourself, look around. Careful critical thinking is always rewarded over superficial processing. Be alert: pay attention to what is going on around you. Detours alter our perspective, tend our resourcefulness, and fuel our curiosity — all hallmarks of a well-educated person."

To solidify their commitment to each other, students, faculty, and staff signed a beam that will be part of the new building.



Peace Centre to Tackle Challenges of the World

"Sponsor debates on peace issues." "Promote international peace through music." "Become a peace and technology centre—mapping where peace is vulnerable in our world today." "Display peace art in the gallery." "Form research teams that produce effective peace-building practices in our schools." "Study the environment as a peace issue." "Host visiting peace advocates from the global church."

These are just some of the dreams expressed in interviews with 42 outside experts that have helped to form the Mennonite Savings and Credit Union (MSCU) Centre for Peace Advancement (CPA) at Conrad Grebel University College.

One year ago, MSCU gifted Grebel \$1 million to establish an entire fourth floor to the current three-storey academic expansion capital campaign (\$8.7 million) to study, practice, and pursue peace. Since then, more than 50 donors have joined the cause, giving over \$400,000 toward a remaining goal of \$500,000 to build this collaborative, innovative space for peace.

Highlights

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Building Project

by Paul Penner, Director of Operations

Despite the wet fall, construction of the building addition is advancing at a steady pace. Already we can see the perimeter walls and retaining walls. The lower floor has been defined and many of the dividing walls of this level have been poured. Steel beams to support the second floor of the addition are being welded into place. Inside the existing building, temporary walls to separate the renovations from the ongoing operation hold back some of the construction dust and noise. After weeks of enjoying primarily excavators and concrete formers on site, it's fun to see roofers, electricians, plumbers, and block layers joining the fray.

To date: 2400 cubic metres of fill removed and 180 cubic metres of lean concrete poured

The biggest challenge for the Next Chapter Project has been the amount of top soil and unclean fill discovered under and around the existing academic wing. Every footing and foundation wall has been difficult to place due to the poor soil conditions. Thankfully, Nith Valley Construction and Architecture Incorporated have been very quick and diligent at identifying and addressing these problems.

With most of the excavation complete and the processes of laying block and erecting steel well underway, it's exciting to watch the progress that every week brings.

Check out our construction blog at grebelsnextchapter.blogspot.ca



Ready, Set, Lead as "Salty" Servants!

by Susan Schultz Huxman, President

Given the opportunity to lead the annual Mennonite college peace conference that drew 200 students from across North America last year, Grebel student co-leaders, Laura Dyck and Michelle Metzger, said: "Coordinating this event taught us many invaluable lessons about leadership, empowering others and ourselves. The best decision we made was to involve others right from the start!"

Like many universities, Conrad Grebel aspires to develop its students into leaders — it's one of our core values. We take this responsibility seriously; it's not just good promo material to get students in the door. Last year, Director of Student Services, Mary Brubaker-Zehr reports, "100 students were involved in formal leadership roles within the College!"

But what kind of leadership do we nurture? Research in leadership tells us that the top traits are: integrity, good communication, curiosity, optimism and high-energy. Jim Collins, best-selling author of *Good to Great and Built to Last* writes: "personal humility and professional will" make the best leaders. Student Council President, Emily Mininger, says "the student leaders here at Grebel show no shortage of these traits, especially high energy. This fall, a group of students is tackling the huge undertaking of running a musical, and have had quite a few applications for leadership positions within the musical. Students are always coming up with new ideas to engage their peers."

Yes, at Grebel we take this mix of knowledge as the "starting line" for developing strong leaders. Then we add the "salt" of Anabaptist-inspired servant leadership as found in the Gospel of Matthew.

As Mennonite writer and leadership consultant, John Stahl-Wert says: "Serving leaders are living paradoxes. They create results by doing some rather counter-intuitive things.... They upend the pyramid.... You qualify to be first by putting other people first; you're in charge principally to charge up others."

At Grebel, the core value of leadership development is surrounded by and linked to our other core values: compassionate service, community building, generosity, responsible citizenship, faith formation and active peacemaking. You can't develop servant leadership without living out these other core values.

At the MCEC conference this spring in Leamington, Grebel student, Dave Penny, now youth pastor at First Mennonite Church in Kitchener, said he learned about servant leadership at Grebel. He said: When I first came to the University of Waterloo and Grebel, I thought leadership was all about self-promotion. I saw a poster in the student activities center that said: "It's all about you!" Then, I came to Grebel and learned "It's really all about us!" Indeed, at Grebel we are more prone to sing the Johnny Apple Seed song in this way: "Oh, The Lord's been good to us!"

We aim to develop servant leaders at Grebel every day just like Dave Penny, Emily Mininger, Laura Dyck and Michelle Metzger!



CPA one year later

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A "Centre for Peace Advancement Task Force" was struck to flesh out the initial idea for the Centre and to gather input from others. President Susan Schultz Huxman, Jim Pankratz (Dean) and Lowell Ewert (Director of Peace and Conflict Studies) met with dozens of people in civil society organizations, centre directors, and other business and church leaders to share the vision and get important feedback.

President Huxman said, "We envision the formation of an innovative, collaborative and high achieving academic centre committed to research, training, and community engagement around multi-sector peacemaking issues in our world today."

"Our many experts have responded to an emerging working position statement with praise and counsel," Huxman continued. "We have heard such things as:

"The CPA should become THE place of expertise on peace issues if this gets implemented right";

And "The CPA could be very effective at connecting the hundreds of different groups that rarely connect to each other."

Brent Zоргdrager, CEO of MSCU said: "We've been very excited to see the Grebel community take hold of a vision and work hard to articulate the shape and direction of the centre. We're confident that our members will value this investment in advancing peace in our communities for many years to come."

The 6,000 square feet of the MSCU Centre for Peace Advancement will be home for faculty, staff and students at Conrad Grebel, working groups within the University of Waterloo, visiting scholars and practitioners, professionals in residence, short and long-term affiliate groups, start-up entrepreneurs and peace underwriters. The centre has an

open, flexible floor plan. It includes: a display gallery, a "buzz" room, seminar and project rooms, an "incubator zone," think tank room, affiliate group space, a graduate "hive" for Grebel's two graduate programs as well as several offices, reception area and washrooms.

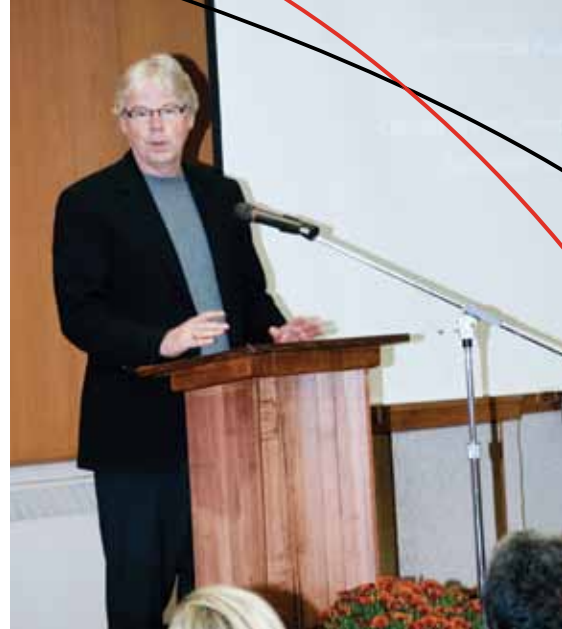
Grebel's Board of Governors is working at focusing issues of governance and formulating a business plan. College faculty and administrators are also envisioning program initiatives and have worked hard to shape the foundational mission and vision. An advisory committee is being created to implement the vision and plans.

The emerging mission statement declares: "The CPA advances expansive and innovative understandings and practices of peace locally and globally by promoting collaboration among its peace partners in ways that seek wisdom, nurture faith and serve church and society."

Construction is well underway on the entire \$8.7 million project and anticipated completion is set for early in 2014.

More details are available on the website. Donations to the CPA are still being collected.

grebel.ca/building



Conrad Grebel University College and the Mennonite Savings and Credit Union are pleased to launch an award that celebrates diverse, creative, and innovative approaches to building peace. Aiming to inspire students to explore creative peacemaking and to deepen their understanding of concept development and practical peacemaking, this \$5,000 award was announced by Brent Zоргdrager (pictured above) on International Peace Day.



feature

Alumni Leaders in Civil Society

The creation of the Master of Peace and Conflict Studies (MPACS) grad program has brought the term "civil society" to the forefront at Grebel. The MPACS program focuses on the pivotal role that civil society plays as the glue that binds a nation together across sectors and towards a common goal. Civil society institutions are sometimes described as the "long shadow of a peacemaker" as their impact and ripple effect often far exceed the capability of any one person. While this sector is as essential in building a peaceable world as is government or business, it is often under-emphasized in academics and its role misunderstood.

"Civil society is defined to be people who come together even though not required by government or business, to work together to foster a positive contribution to their community," explains Lowell Ewert, Director of PACS at Grebel. "Civil society is usually

most effective when it works in relationship with

Bringing hope and vitality to society

government and business to bring hope and vitality to society. By doing so, we collectively can create a more just world."

Grebel envisions peace holistically as a healthy society where communities and individuals flourish. Peace involves just relationships among its members; it is a space where all people are welcome to pursue goals that enhance the well-being of themselves, their communities, and their environment. Building a culture of peace requires the efforts and responsibilities of individuals or groups of individuals who will intersect all sectors of society.

Some of Grebel's key values include community building, global engagement, responsible citizenship, and active peacemaking. These values extend beyond the PACS program and are woven into

all the Grebel academic programs and promoted in student services.

With this emphasis, Grebel alumni like the five featured in this spread, are consistently making a difference in their communities as they seek wisdom, nurture faith, and pursue justice and peace in service to church and society.

Global Connections

Len Rempel ('84) was a Math and Accounting student when he lived at Grebel. Studying "across the creek but living at Grebel gave me a sense of integrating my faith, my life, and my work. As I engaged with others at Grebel and got involved in chapel and other activities, my studies were no longer an isolated part of my life but became more integrated with the faith and life questions that I was being challenged by."

As Chief Operating Officer at Mennonite World Conference (MWC), Len works primarily with finances but is also involved in HR and IT. After working for 20 years in various accounting functions for both Shoppers Drug Mart and as CFO of Ten Thousand Villages, he wanted to bring some of those skills and expertise to the church within a global organization.

The vision statement of MWC is "Mennonite World Conference is called to be a communion of Anabaptist-related churches linked to one another in a worldwide community of faith for fellowship, worship, service, and witness." Len interprets this as "the goal of the organization is to be the church around the world by doing the four things listed in the vision statement – fellowship, worship, service, and witness. MWC does a number of things to achieve these goals but one of the main objectives is to provide a connection point for people and churches from different countries, cultures, and languages to meet, learn about each other, share with each other, and especially walk with each other in various faith and life journeys." In his job, Len ensures that MWC is financially viable in order to continue working towards those goals.

After the 2011 earthquake in Japan, MWC demonstrated the role that civil society can play during times of trouble. The group sent a delegation to walk with the churches in Japan and to let them know that they were not alone - they had sisters and brothers around the world who cared about them and were praying for them. MWC also shared information about what was happening in Japan with the Mennonite churches worldwide.

Similarly, MWC has sent other delegations to visit churches in Zimbabwe and Ghana in times of difficulty, as well as a delegation to the Netherlands to celebrate with the church there in their 200th anniversary. These visits, among many other initiatives, increase the connections across the globe and increase the chance of peace in the world.

"I believe that my experience at Grebel has given me a desire to continue to push my faith into all corners of my life," reflects Len, "and to seek out a career path that integrates all aspects of my life."

mwc-cmm.org



Mennonite World Conference
Congreso Mundial Menonita
Conférence Mennonite Mondiale
Mennonitische Weltkonferenz

Peace through Music

Pax Christi Chorale emerged from conversations **Emily Burgetz ('69)** initiated after a choir was formed to celebrate the Mennonite Bi-Centennial in Toronto in 1986. Some of the original choristers are still with the choir but the roster has expanded well beyond Mennonite singers. "We are open to a variety of musical abilities," notes Emily who serves as the choir's President, "but our repertoire is challenging and requires good sight reading skills."

For example, as part of the 25th anniversary celebrations Pax Christi performed Sir Edward Elgar's "The Kingdom" at Koerner Hall in Toronto on May 6, 2012. This was a challenging piece, and more so since the choir's director, **Stephanie Martin**, had recently lost her husband to a rare liver disease. "Stephanie is a wonderful director and is able to inspire authentic performances with sometimes edgy and unique repertoire," observed Emily.

Stephanie, who is on the music faculty at York University, is a graduate from Laurier's music program, but lived at Grebel. "She has gained a lot of respect in the music community in Toronto and is able to collect very talented musical friends as soloists and orchestra members for our productions," says Emily.

Choral singing is a great way to build community "and it is really powerful when people believe what they sing," says Emily. "Concerts become more than the notes on the page and the time we spend in centering prayer before we perform, help us understand that we are the instruments of the music."

Leonard Enns, a Music Professor at Grebel suggests that "we do music at Grebel as a way of understanding others and as a way of understanding ourselves. Music is a type of engagement," he continues. "Through music, emotion can be shared between



others in ways that can not be expressed in words. Music provides a way to understand our own lives as well as other cultures."

Music has always been a passion for Emily, from her home to her time at Conrad Grebel. "I fondly remember taking music courses with Helen Martens and singing under her direction."

paxchristichorale.org



A Capital Advocate

Civil Society organizations are non-partisan in nature, but often work with governments. Engineering grad **Paul Heidebrecht ('94)** has been the Director of Mennonite Central Committee's Ottawa Office for three years. After grad studies in theological ethics, Paul was interested in finding ways to conscientiously engage society.

The MCC Ottawa office is responsible for much of MCC's advocacy work in Canada. "It is a conduit of information and bridge for relationships between the Government of Canada and MCC Canada's diverse constituency," explained Paul. "Our goal is to engage both our government and our constituents in policy issues that impact MCC's program partners in Canada and around the world. We compliment MCC's disaster relief, sustainable community development, and justice and peacebuilding efforts by working for change at a political level."

Through a lot of research, writing, and meetings, Paul provides overall leadership for the office. He also works on particular

policy issues arising out of MCC's work in settings such as Iran and North Korea, and in particular program sectors such as food security and restorative justice.

"Advocacy is long-term work, and political change is always the result of the efforts of many. Indeed, not only does the Ottawa Office team depend on the insights and perspectives of numerous MCC colleagues and partner organizations in order to do our job well, but often MCC works through coalitions made up of other civil society organizations in order to amplify and enrich our voice. Nonetheless, there have been moments where, in retrospect, the work of the Ottawa Office has significantly shaped the policies of the Government of Canada in areas such as refugee resettlement, restorative justice, and international development."

Living and studying at Grebel enriched Paul's experience as an undergraduate engineering student and prompted him to pursue studies in theology and ethics. A



few major influencers from those formative years include chapels, conversations with faculty, and a Peace and Conflict Studies internship with MCC in Bangladesh.



mccottawa.ca



Building Vibrant Communities

As Executive Director at the House of Friendship in Kitchener, **John Neufeld ('96)** serves his community while simultaneously using his three areas of study and passion: business, social work, and theology.

"House of Friendship strengthens people and communities by being there when needed, speaking up and working together." John sees this as a vision "to have a community where all can belong and thrive."

Working with over 1000 community members who volunteer at House of Friendship annually, John and his team work towards that goal by providing housing, food, addiction treatment, and community development in low-income neighborhoods. Each of the programs aims to build a dynamic community for the people they serve. "Although we focus on providing for people's basic needs, we also create communities so individuals and families can feel they belong. You can't put a roof over someone's head and be satisfied that you've done enough. You've helped solve the short term issue of homelessness but giving someone community gives them the hope to thrive."

Serving 42,000 people a year, John sees the ripple effect of his efforts daily at House of Friendship. "We regularly have those we have served come back and volunteer their time so they can help others. Individuals will come and serve at the Food Hampers program, or help out at our addiction programs. The ripple effect is also very pronounced in our community centres where folks from multiple faiths and cultures will gather and assist each other. Friendships form that would not necessarily have formed in their country of origin. We challenge everyone in our community centres to be peacemakers regardless of their background."

"Grebel modelled for me a community where all can belong and thrive and the importance of that," reflects John. "In essence House of Friendship is trying to create the Grebel model in the broader community. Grebel also introduced me to great people who I now have the privilege of serving our community with." Also attributed to Grebel: helping John find a date and eventually a wife!

Global Impact, One Text at a Time

Living in Nairobi, **Maeghan (Ray) Orton ('05)** is the East Africa Regional Manager for a non-profit mobile health technology firm and oversees operations in 7 African countries.

The goal of Medic Mobile is to improve health equity on a global scale. Maeghan has been working on the front-lines of HIV/AIDS and women's rights for a number of years. She was realizing the many gaps in the care provided and was drawn to this position by its logicalness. "Medic Mobile uses really simple, totally familiar technologies to improve health care — emergency

medical care arrives from a simple text message, mothers are reminded to take their kids for immunizations, and education about the benefits of health reaches people through their cell phones. In a world where 1 billion people will never see a doctor in their lifetimes, technology, when used in an intelligent way, can help to build bridges for people to access healthcare when they need it."

As part a team of people who meet with world-leaders in global health, from the WHO to UNICEF to national health ministers, Maeghan considers making connections as the most important part of her job. "I sit on the front porch of clinics in rural communities and listen to the mothers who carry their children 7km to access health care. The most important piece is to really understand these women who are the real champions of health equity, and to create tools that help them receive quality care."

Preliminary data from a Medic Mobile project in India has shown an increase in immunization coverage by more than 20% by sending mothers an SMS notification when their chil-

dren were due for vaccination. Maeghan also participated in a project called *Peace Txt* which used text messages to disrupt violence following the election in Kenya in 2007 using a peace-promotion model.

"I never considered issues like social justice, or the broader issues of non-violent resistance, until joining the PACS program," stated Maeghan. "When I was at Grebel, I started to think more about the structures and issues that surround global issues of poverty and violence, and this is where my initial interests in global health were formed. I also learned to bring my faith to bear in situations, and not to fear that my understanding of God or faith in Him would be shaken as I moved closer to those who are suffering or in poverty. I would not be in the career that I am in if not for the PACS program, and incredible professors like Lowell Ewert and Hildi Froese Tiessen."



MEDIC MOBILE

medicmobile.org



Master of PACS

Equipping Visionary Leaders

Kitchener resident **Patty Dorsey ('12)** was at a crossroads in life. After raising five children and working with mentally challenged individuals for twenty years, Dorsey needed a change in direction. At the encouragement of her husband, she returned to school as a student in Social Development Studies and Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS). Dorsey felt like life was perfect. However, a year later, her husband was diagnosed with cancer and passed away within eight months. After a short break from school, Dorsey completed her Bachelor's degree and was then accepted into the Master of Peace and Conflict Studies (MPACS) program at Conrad Grebel University College.

Combining rigorous interdisciplinary scholarship with concrete application, MPACS is designed to be a vibrant academic program that empowers students with the knowledge, research, and practical skills needed to contribute to nonviolent peacebuilding efforts. The MPACS program places a unique focus on the pivotal role that individuals within civil society play as catalysts for peace.

"The main reason I chose MPACS was because it is a small, specialized program focusing not only on peace and conflict issues, but also civil society as a whole," Dorsey explained. "I believe the skills I will learn will greatly benefit me in future endeavors." Although she's not certain what direction her future will take her, Dorsey is interested in conflict resolution and would love to work as a mediator and possibly go overseas. "To work with an organization where I could

combine travelling and support those who are marginalized would be amazing."

"My ultimate dream for the future would be to open a home for people who are mentally challenged. Even though group homes are a good option, I passionately believe civil society can go further in improving quality of life. By combining my work experience with the knowledge and skills I will obtain through the MPACS program, I would love the opportunity to empower the individuals we serve, as well as the staff who provide the support."

In its inaugural year, the MPACS program welcomed eleven full-time and five part-time students. "We have a very interesting and diverse group of students and are delighted by the experience, perspective and energy that they bring to our program," noted PACS Director Lowell Ewert. "It will be a privilege to be in the classroom with these eager learners."

These trailblazing students include persons who have worked as community mental health workers, with NGOs, and in non-profit finance, as well as a pastor, an author, a teacher, and others from different areas of civil society with varied experiences. Each student has a compelling story that will add rich layers to courses and stimulate lively discussions. "It is our hope," projects Ewert, "that our first incoming class will be inspired to continue working towards the ideals that they represent in building community, becoming engaged in local and global issues, fostering compassionate service, direct

involvement in active peacemaking, and promoting responsible global citizenship. When they finish our program, our students will be better equipped to provide the visionary leadership necessary to respond to the complex challenges facing our world today."

There are 6-8 MPACS courses offered a term including varying numbers of cross-listed courses with the Political Science, Global Governance, Theological Studies and International Development departments at the University of Waterloo. Students have the option to take a skills-training workshop from Grebel's Certificate Program in Conflict Management and do some extra academic work to receive academic credit. As well, a number of students have already expressed interest in the program's internship option for next spring.

"The launch of the Master's program is the result of years of hard visionary work by many," remarked Ewert. "It's exciting to see what can happen when the University of Waterloo, Conrad Grebel University College, PACS, donors, constituents, and others who provided essential assistance and advice, work together to accomplish a common goal."

"When my husband passed away," reflected Dorsey, "it reinforced to me how precious life is, and it should not be wasted. Whether that means opening a group home, working in a war zone, or bring peace and reducing conflict in some other way every person has an important part to play in making this world a better place."



Patty Dorsey

News

For 12 years **Floyd Martin** served as Grebel's part-time maintenance worker. Floyd was a handyman in the truest sense. Drawing on his many years of experience in farming and construction, there was nothing Floyd couldn't fix. When presented with a new problem Floyd would always start with "Wellll... (chuckle,chuckle)..." The tougher the repair the more prominent his chuckle. Grebel will miss Floyd's even-keeled approach to keeping Grebel ship-shape!



From left: Laura ('08) (Farlow) and Jeremiah Derksen ('08), Marlene Epp, Mike Wiens ('10) and Erica Derksen. Siblings Jeremiah and Erica were born in Congo.

In July 2012, Professor **Marlene Epp** was part of a delegation that joined Congolese Mennonites in centennial celebrations that marked the first Mennonite mission in that country in 1912. In just under three weeks, she experienced amazing warmth and hospitality, wonderful song and dance in worship, and unforgettable personal connections with Mennonites in three conferences in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Marlene also witnessed the amazing resilience of people trying to live their values of peace and justice in a country overwhelmed by war and inequalities.



An "historic" encounter at the College: three generations of Grebel Radical Reformation historians met in September - Troy Osborne, Walter Klaassen, Arnold Snyder. Together with Werner Packull, this group has distinguished Grebel as a major center for the study of sixteenth century Anabaptism and Mennonite history.

Edible Histories, Cultural Politics

Marlene Epp is co-editor of a new book of essays called *Edible Histories, Cultural Politics: Towards a Canadian Food History*. University of Toronto Press, 2012. The book covers such topics as immigrant foodways, Mennonite and Jewish cookbooks, the history of margarine, eating apples in the British empire, Canada's food guide and World War II, and university student food protests in the early 20th century, among other diverse subjects. The preface thanks the food services staff at Grebel for the fabulous meals served at the 2008 workshop which launched the book project.



Peace Day at Grebel

International Day of Peace is a day designated by the UN to highlight efforts to end conflict and promote peace. It provides an opportunity to make peace in our own relationships as well as impact the larger conflicts of our day. To commemorate this day, Grebel's Peace and Conflict Studies department invited **Matthew Bailey-Dick ('00)** to lead a group of high school students as they addressed issues of personal violence and non-violence through media, community development, and self-defense.



As well, PACS hosted Steve Thomas, a Mennonite martial artist and pastor for several days while he spoke in Chapel, at Community Supper, gave separate safety training for male and female students, led a workshop on bullying prevention, and spoke on "Making Peace with Personal Violence: The Use of Assertive Force in Active Nonviolence."

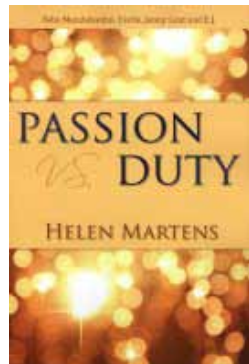


Passion Vs. Duty

Helen Martens, Music Professor at Grebel from 1965-1993, has just released a new book, *Passion Vs. Duty*.

Was Jenny Lind really the greatest singer of all time - an immortal among musicians, who have always been men and composers? Must we change our opinion of Felix Mendelssohn's character from exemplary to one touched by scandal, as some have suggested? Passion for what? Duty towards whom? Is the conflict resolved? Readers must reach their own conclusions. This book comprises the first biography of Lind to systematically incorporate the many letters to and from the singer. Some of the most revealing letters appear to have remained unknown to biographers.

This is Helen's second publication in recent years. In 2009 she published *Felix Mendelssohn: Out of the Depths of his Heart*. She is living in Winnipeg and we hope that she will return for Grebel's 50th Anniversary!





Spirituality and Aging at Conrad Grebel

Fifty years ago post-retirement years would have made up less than 10% of an average person's lifespan. According to current projections, today many people will live approximately one-third of their life post-retirement. A longer lifespan evokes questions such as, "Who am I if I'm not working?" "How will I spend my time?" "Who will be my community if I need to move from my home?" "Why am I still here?" and "Am I still a person of value and worth if I lose my capacity to remember?" These are spiritual questions, and one purpose of the annual Spirituality and Aging lecture hosted by Conrad Grebel University College is to provide a forum where such issues can be addressed. Past lectures have included topics in the area of forgiveness in late life, spirituality and end-of-life care, friendship, community and dementia, and identifying and assessing spiritual needs.

This annual lecture is one aspect of the Spirituality and Aging program (a research area within the Schlegel-uWaterloo Research Institute for Aging) that has been based at Conrad Grebel University College since 2006 and is coordinated by **Marianne Mellinger**. Its two-fold purpose is to promote research in the field of spirituality and aging that will enhance the well-being of older adults, and to be a resource to students, community clergy, chaplains, and caregivers through university classes, public lectures, and workshops. Mellinger is currently collaborating on two research projects, "The Labyrinth as a Multi-faith Spiritual Practice," and "Making Peace with Life's Hurts" which looks at forgiveness in late life.

grebel.ca/sa



Courage for Lydia



Noon Hour Concert goers at Grebel were recently treated to a newly composed three-movement suite by **Carol Ann Weaver** entitled *Three Seasons for flute, alto saxophone, cello and piano*. This concert, called "Courage for Lydia", was dedicated to Lydia Herrle, a teenager who was seriously injured this spring while getting off her school bus near Waterloo. Carol Ann wrote the suite for Lydia, aiming to capture different aspects of Lydia's story, while expressing hope for fullest possible recovery.

Mennonite Studies

In response to the growing number of scholars of Mennonite topics in the area, **Troy Osborne** and **Marlene Epp** have organized a group to share research and discuss a wide range of Mennonite studies topics. A nice range of disciplines were represented at the first meeting: anthropology, history, literature, theology, and sociology. Email troy.osborne@uwaterloo.ca for more info.



Student Awards

On October 21, over 75 students and donors came to a reception to celebrate our Scholarship and Bursary recipients. In 10 years this program has grown from 70 awards totaling \$53,000 to over 230 awards totaling over \$189,000.



photo by Jesse Huxman

Chamber Choir on the Road

Len Enns and the uWaterloo Chamber Choir delighted audiences as they toured to Niagara this fall with a stop at the MEDA convention. The choir has been especially active as they teamed with DaCapo Chamber Choir for additional concerts. This is Len's last year of teaching and conducting at Grebel before he retires in June.



student life

WUSC Student

This past September the Grebel community welcomed **Mustafa Ilunga**. Mustafa is from the Democratic Republic of Congo, but fled the Congo in 1999 due to civil unrest. Mustafa and some of his family members made their way to a refugee camp in Malawi where Mustafa has been living and studying ever since.

Mustafa was thrilled to be accepted by the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) Student Refugee Program to immigrate to Canada with a University of Waterloo academic offer in hand. Thanks to the University of Waterloo \$1 student levy and Grebel's \$10.00 student levy Mustafa is able to live at Grebel for the next 24 months and begin his degree in Honour Arts. Mustafa's favorite thing about Canada so far is playing on Grebel's intramural soccer team!

Noon Prayers

Graduate Students, along with **Marianne Mellinger**, have begun noon-time prayers every other Thursday. This is a time for faculty, staff and students to connect and centre themselves amidst a busy life.

Students invited their family members to experience a "Taste of Grebel" at the end of September. Board members and 2005-12 era alumni also joined the group for this fun day!



Special Speakers

Tom Yoder Neufeld will retire after 30 years as a professor and scholar at Grebel. This fall he spoke at chapel on "Thoughts on a Vocation" and will give a retrospective on "29 1/2 Years of 'Professing'" at Community Supper. The next issue of Grebel Now will include a tribute to Tom.



We love it when alumni come back to speak at Commie Supper! Recently **Angie Koch ('99)** (right) spoke on intentional gardening and getting her hands dirty, while **Patrick Quealey ('02)** (above) shared about his adventures working with the UN and his federal negotiation experience.



As always, the All-College Retreat was a highlight of Orientation week.

Grebel Giving Project Update

This past spring, **Daniel Bigham ('03)** gave Grebel students \$5000 to make an impact and create a better world. (See Summer 2012 Grebel Now for more details.) The five students who accepted the challenge have met several times to discuss issues related to philanthropy and ethics - how to give in ways that are effective and helpful without doing harm. Some of the students toured the Working Centre in Kitchener to learn how their donations might support local community development. The group has had some excellent conversation and discussion, especially on the merits and challenges of local giving compared to international giving. To date, one student, Daniel Rabinovitch, has donated \$500 to Kiva for international development work while he invested the other half and plans to donate the investment income to local organizations. So far he has made a decent return on his first short investment. If he ends up losing, he has pledged to put his own money into local causes to make up

Family Connections

We love that our Grebel family continues to grow! Word of mouth is our best advertising, so thank you for sharing your Grebel stories!



Karen ('87), Rebekah, and Henry Winter ('88)



Rob ('87) and Nik Klassen



Andrew and Daryl Wark ('78, '80)



Dorothy, Daniel, Greg, and Isaac Cressman ('87)



Ann, Joel, and Byron Weber Becker ('90)



Geraldine Balzer ('83) and Kerstin Balzer-Peters

James Barber ('88), Kristopher, Jonathan, and Karen Heese ('85)



Mary ('85), Micah, Scott ('85), Emily, and Ben Brubaker-Zehr



Ben ('09) and Sarah ('10) (Good) Winter, Michelle Good, Tyler Good, and Rachel Gingrich (Siblings & Cousins)



Susan ('84) and Edgar Taves ('84) with Sandra and Robin



Margaret, Laureen ('91) and Gus ('92) Harder-Gissing, Emma Reesor, Lori Guenther-Reesor ('91,'08) and Barry Reesor ('92), Sara and Christine Packull-McCormick ('91)



Cathy ('84), Christine, Ethan ('12), Salvatore, and Michael Maiolo



capital campaign

Peace Incubator to be named for Frank and Helen Epp

The second president of Conrad Grebel, Frank H. Epp was an innovative trailblazer for peace throughout his life and career. He spoke out against the Vietnam War in the 1960s and welcomed draft resisters in Ottawa during that time. He initiated the Peace and Conflict Studies program at Conrad Grebel in the mid-1970s and was instrumental in the creation of Project Ploughshares. His impressive scholarship and advocacy regarding active Christian peacemaking locally and globally was the very kind of expansive, "cutting-edge" peace-making that the MSCU Centre for Peace Advancement will promote.

His wife, Helen L. Epp, worked toward peace on a more personal and local level through her numerous roles with civil society organizations. After completing a graduate degree in Social Work, she was program director at the House of Friendship and counselor at Shalom Counselling Services and HopeSpring Cancer Support Centre. She worked for Mennonite Central Committee

for many years, as both staff and volunteer, including advocacy for Low German-speaking women in Mexico and Canada.

The Epp Incubator will be a space of over 450 square feet within the CPA and contain 6 work stations adjacent to the Buzz Space and Grebel Gallery, with windows overlooking the south side of the campus. The Incubator space itself is designed to be a "beehive" of entrepreneurial, interdisciplinary activity around peace advancement. It will spur collaborative thinking.

The Epp Incubator space will be an open and collaborative space for short term peace practitioners to interface with Grebel students and faculty and longer affiliate groups who have tenant space. By bringing occupants of the floor together in an incubator space for discussion, the cross-fertilization of peace start-up ideas is more likely to happen.



A fundraising goal of \$50,000 has been set to name this space in the Epp's honour. Over half has already been committed to this goal.

For more see uwaterloo.ca/grebel/next-chapter/epp-peace-incubator

Or Contact Fred Martin to discuss this project and make a donation!



The Next Chapter
C a m p a i g n
From our Past Will Come the Future

ALMOST
\$5.6
MILLION
RAISED!



Bow Tie Gala

50th anniversary Celebrations will begin on Friday August 23, 2013 with a Bow-Tie Gala planned to honour founding president Winfield Fretz. The event is co-hosted by the Mennonite Savings and Credit Union, an organization that Fretz also helped to start in 1964. The fundraising goal is \$50,000 to name a Seminar room in the MSCU Centre for Peace Advancement in his honour. Find a bow-tie and plan to join us!

Bequest boosts MSCU CPA

Nelson Weber had a life-long passion for helping young people and he left a legacy gift to Conrad Grebel to support this work. At a gathering with his children, Susan Schultz Huxman acknowledged his generous bequest of \$100,000 and shared an update on the vision of the MSCU Centre for Peace Advancement. Nelson, who passed away in April, was given a farm deferment during WW II and had a passion for peace. Bequests given to Grebel are used for building projects or endowed.

GREBEL ANNUAL FUND

Consider an
ONLINE >> grebel.ca/giving
donation



BUILDING PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS

Grebel needs your support in order to offer enriched programs for our students and to offer financial support to students. The annual report illustrates that approximately 7% of our budget comes from donors who value the mission of Grebel and support it with their dollars. Our goal this year is \$327,000. "We support Grebel's annual fund because we know that Grebel continues to have lasting impact on the lives of everyone who spends time there." ~Ron ('83) and Dawn Regier ('83)

A letter from Susan Schultz Huxman asking for your support was sent in early November. You may also respond with a donation on the uWaterloo website or give a call to Fred Martin to arrange your gift. 519-885-0220 x24381



"We are happy to report that we've collected over \$400,000 toward our goal of \$500,000 in donations to finish building the Centre for Peace Advancement," noted Fred Martin, Director of Development. Please join our efforts. Find details at grebel/building.ca

The Steinmann Family

(Top l-r) David Seyler, Lynne Baril, Doug Steinmann, Nancy Steinmann Yantzi, Lynn Yantzi, Susan Schultz Huxman (Bottom l-r) Susan Seyler, Erma & Ervin Steinmann



Family gift

The children of Ervin and Erma Steinmann surprised their parents at a special lunch as Susan Schultz Huxman announced that the children have given a gift of \$50,000 to the Next Chapter campaign to name a music teaching studio in their parent's honour. Ervin and Erma have been life-long supporters of Mennonite education and music — singing in choirs and in Ervin's case, playing violin. The children saw this gift as a concrete way to acknowledge their parent's interests and passions.

The Ervin and Erma Steinmann Music Teaching Studio will be located in the new area of the music department and will be used for teaching voice, strings, winds, and will have a baby grand piano. "Studio teaching is an integral part of our music program, and we're thrilled to have these new and expanded facilities," noted Department Chair Laura Gray.

As the campaign wraps up, the Fundraising Advisory is looking for interested music supporters who may have interest funding three remaining spaces. A Digital Music Lab (\$75,000), an ensemble rehearsal room(\$75,000) and a practice room (\$20,000).



people

Kevin Jardine ('85) works as a software developer specialising in niche social networks (which may involve online campaigning), based in Leiden, Netherlands. His company is called Radagast Solutions.

Bruce Martin ('05) has recently finished his PhD at McMaster, where he studied entrepreneurship as a means of improving the social and economic conditions of persons with disabilities. Even more recently he has taken a position at University College Dublin, in Ireland, where he is continuing his research in the area of social entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship education and teaching courses in entrepreneurship and creativity and innovation.



Karen (Ellis) Kendel ('00) and **David Kendel** are very happy to announce the arrival of **Jonathan Eric** on July 6, 2012, a little brother for **Drew**, aged two. They are living in Milton, ON and David is looking forward to being home on another parental leave from management consulting at Accenture Inc.



Carrie Snyder ('97) has had her book, *The Juliet Stories*, short-listed for the Governor General's Literary Awards in fiction.

Five Alumni couples enjoyed seeing "The Matchmaker" at the Stratford Festival. 4 of the 5 couples met at Grebel! **Fred ('87, '92) & Wanda ('87) Wagler Martin**, **Peter ('01) & Kendra ('00, '04) Ellis**, **Wes Dyck ('95) & Shirley Grove ('92)**, **Scott Beech ('88) & Cindy Lebold ('87)**, **Rob ('87) & Lorraine Klassen**



Kara Gossen ('09) married **Zac Roy** on August 4th in England. Kara has been living in Bristol, UK for the last 3 years and is currently working at a local church as a part time Youth Worker and working part time teaching.

John Snyder passed away in September. He was the last living original board member of Conrad Grebel College. He and many other visionaries helped shape the College in the 1960s, laying the groundwork for what Grebel has become today.



Rafael Vallejo ('10) has been chosen as Guthrie Scholar 2012 by Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia. Rafael's current research area is Contextual Pneumatologies and Mission. He is interested in exploring newer understandings of how Espiritu Santo: the Spirit that is in Jesus, in us and people of other faiths is active in our city and world.



Al Armstrong ('94) (with his band, Big Al, Proprietor) and **Andy Hiebert ('89)** (aka Big Rude Jake) joined together to entertain Toronto alumni and friends at the Rempel Reception in October. This event was the official welcome to **John Rempel ('66)** as he became the director of the Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre this fall.



GREBEL REUNION

Last month around 50 Grebel alumni from the 2005-2010 era met at the Taste of Grebel event for our first reunion! It was a lot of fun to remember our undergrad days and get an update on what our friends are doing now – some of us are now getting paid to be nerds, or grossly dissect people's bodies, or advise people on how they're killing the environment, amongst a slew of other things. A very clear observation though, through attending the talent show, is that Grebel never changes: students still think they're going to meet "the one" at the walk-a-mile, and that, while never actually scientifically proven to cause death, Death Muffins will always be called Death Muffins. We love you Grebel!

~ **Amanda Zehr ('09, '12)**

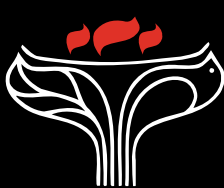


Dale Brubacher-Cressman ('86), **Cheryl Brubacher-Cressman ('86)**, **Annique Boelryk ('85)**, **Joanne (Kay) Bell ('87)**, and **Wendy Cressman Zehr ('89)** have been getting their families together on Labour Day Weekend for the past 19 years!



Eric Boynton ('12) was inducted into the Waterloo Regional Police Service this summer. His Peace and Conflict Studies background was noted prominently in the induction press release

We want to know what you're up to! Send your updates to grebel@uwaterloo.ca



50 YEARS OF PEACE, LOVE & HARMONY

Next year, Grebel (or Conrad, Connie G, CGC...) will mark its 50th Anniversary. This is a momentous occasion! Your 50th Anniversary Committee has been planning this amazing reunion for more than a year already. Mark August 23-25, 2013 as a weekend you do not want to miss! **People are what make Grebel special, so all of our celebrations include YOU!**



Grebel Had Talent and we're sure you still have some! Recreate your favourite act from talent shows gone by. Share your newly acquired entertaining skills (or lack thereof)! To sign up to perform or to request a favourite act from the past, email Wendy Chappell Dick ('90) wendy@mennofolk.org



Fun for all ages - with an ultimate Frisbee tournament, crokinole, kids activities, "era rooms" specifically for each decade plus Music, PACS, and MTS rooms.

Ultimate Tournament Coordinator

Mike Skeoch ('08)
mikeskeoch@gmail.com

Kids Activities Coordinator

Kendra Whitfield Ellis ('00, '04)
peter_and_kendra@hotmail.com

PACS Reunion

Katie Cowie Redekopp ('11)
kmcowie06@gmail.com

Music Reunion

Lynne Dueck ('95)
lynnedueck@alumni.uwaterloo.ca

MTS Reunion

Amanda Zehr ('09, '12)
amandalee.zehr@gmail.com



Chapel Choir Reunion - Under the direction of Len Enns, singers will prepare several songs for the Sunday Celebration Service, including a choral commission by Tim Corlis ('98). Jennie Wiebe ('99) is coordinating this. Sign up now: uwaterloo.ca/grebel/choir-reunion

The Fretz Bow Tie Gala will feature fun music, delicious food, and a unique Grebel silent auction. This is a fundraising dinner for the new Fretz Seminar Room and it will be an entertaining evening paying homage to the first Grebel president, Winfield Fretz. Tickets are \$100/person - available from Alison Enns aenns@uwaterloo.ca

Sunday Celebration Service - alumni across the decades will tell the Grebel Story. Participate in an "act of community" and listen to the reunited Chapel Choir. All are invited to a light brunch afterwards, to delight in your favourite Grebel treats.

Sixties Era Saturday Brunch - for the pioneers of the College to reconnect. Email Esther Etchells ('67): mennogo@yahoo.ca



We're writing a **50th Anniversary book** filled with history, photos, and memories. We need help! Send in your favourite Grebel memories and photos!

uwaterloo.ca/grebel/memories



grebel.ca/50th

Calendar

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

7:30 pm, Chapel

Instrumental Chamber Ensembles Concert

Thursday, November 29, 2012

8:00 pm, Humanities Theatre, HH

Orchestra@UWaterloo

grebel.ca/concerts

Saturday, December 1, 2012

10-4, Great Hall

Make-A-Difference Market

Sunday, December 2, 2012

2:00 pm, Great Hall

UW Stage Band Concert

grebel.ca/concerts

Sunday, December 2, 2012

7:30 pm, Chapel

Instrumental Chamber Ensembles Concert

grebel.ca/concerts

Friday, February 8, 2013

7:00 pm Great Hall

Sawatsky Lecture with Gerald Gerbrandt

grebel.ca/sawatsky

Thursday & Friday, March 14 & 15, 2013

7:30pm, Chapel

Bechtel Lectures with Chris Marshall

grebel.ca/bechtel

Saturday & Sunday, March 23 & 24, 2013

Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts

Anne of Green Gables The Musical

Friday, April 12, 2013

7:30 pm, Chapel

Benjamin Eby Lecture with Leonard Enns

grebel.ca/eby

Sunday, April 21, 2013

2:00 pm, Humanities Theatre, HH

Conrad Grebel Convocation

cgucacad@uwaterloo.ca

August 23-25, 2013

Grebel's 50th Anniversary Celebration

grebel.ca/50th

uwaterloo.ca/grebel/events

UPCOMING LECTURES

Sawatsky Lecture

Retired CMU President

Gerald Gerbrandt

"Where the Church

Thinks: The Role of the Christian Scholar"

Friday, February 8, 2013



Bechtel Lectures

Featuring Professor

Chris Marshall, a New

Testament Scholar at

University of Victoria,

Wellington, N.Z.

Thursday & Friday,
March 14 and 15, 2013



Eby Lecture

Professor Leonard Enns

from Conrad Grebel

University College

Friday, April 12, 2013



Make-A-Difference Market

Saturday, December 1, 10-4

Grebel Great Hall

Local & fair trade vendors, treats & music

Music and Culture in London & Leipzig

June 6 to June 23, 2013

uwaterloo.ca/music/london

ALUMNI WELCOME!



ANNE OF GREEN GABLES THE MUSICAL

MARCH 23-24, 2013

Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts

Get your tickets (\$15)

for this year's Grebel musical!

Sponsored by the

Conrad Grebel University College

Student Council.

NOMINATIONS WANTED

Distinguished Alumni Service Award

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

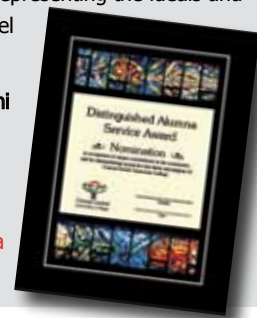
by December 31, 2012.

Send nominations to:

Fred W. Martin

fwmartin@uwaterloo.ca

519-885-0220 x24381



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

Grebel Now is Conrad Grebel University College's tri-annual newsletter. Editor: Jennifer Konkle Send all comments, submissions & ideas to: "Grebel Now" at Conrad Grebel University College Waterloo ON N2L 3G6 519-885-0220 x24229 grebel@uwaterloo.ca grebel.ca