

GREBEL NOW

Conrad Grebel University College Magazine

AT ITS CORE, GREBEL IS COMMUNITY

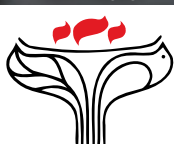
The Impact of Living in Community

Warm hellos. Meals together. Challenging Discussions.

Fill the Table

Making Space for Community

FALL 2018



Vol. 35 No. 1

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At Its Core, Grebel Is Community

Students sometimes roll their eyes when they hear the word "Community" used to describe so many aspects of Grebel. But there is no better word to define the accepting, hospitable, and challenging culture that Grebel students, staff, and faculty have carefully nurtured over the last 55 years.

This issue of *Grebel Now* embraces Grebel's history of belonging and friendship from its early years to today. Alumni and students alike share how their view of the world has been impacted by both residence life and academic courses. You will read about the "Grebel Sings" integration initiative and a Peace and Conflict Studies course that is creating conversations between PACS and Engineering students. You will also notice that this issue includes Grebel's 2017-18 Annual Report. We have had a good year!

We are especially excited to share with you our plans to expand the Grebel dining room and kitchen facilities! This project will allow us to be more welcoming and accommodate all of our students at once.

Jennifer Konkle, Marketing and
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Grebel Now is published two times a year by
Conrad Grebel University College.
Send all comments, submissions and ideas
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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I'll look for you if I'm ever back this way

BY MARCUS SHANTZ, PRESIDENT

A few months ago, I received an unexpected request from far away. King Horiguchi, an alumnus who lived in residence from 1964 to 1968, wrote from Japan to tell us that he was coming to Toronto to attend the Rotary International convention with his daughter. While in Canada, he wanted to visit Grebel and connect with friends he had made over 50 years ago.

While living at Grebel, King completed a PhD in Chemical Engineering. His thesis was titled “Effect of Surface Heterogeneity on Surface Migration in Microporous Solids,” and is still held in the University of Waterloo library. Returning to Japan in 1969, he worked for his father’s company, Kansan Oxygen.

We reached out to 1960s-era alumni and scheduled an impromptu reunion one afternoon in June. The guests included Eric Friesen, King’s roommate from ’64, who made the trip from Kingston. King presented a slideshow that included photographs from his years at Grebel, a short history of his family (dating back to the year 1333) and their business in Japan, and evidence of his ongoing connections to his friends from Grebel, in the form of correspondence and Christmas cards from Canada. He also shared some of what he had learned about Mennonites during his time here, noting that Mennonites are “Christian,” “Protestant,” and “Pacifist.”

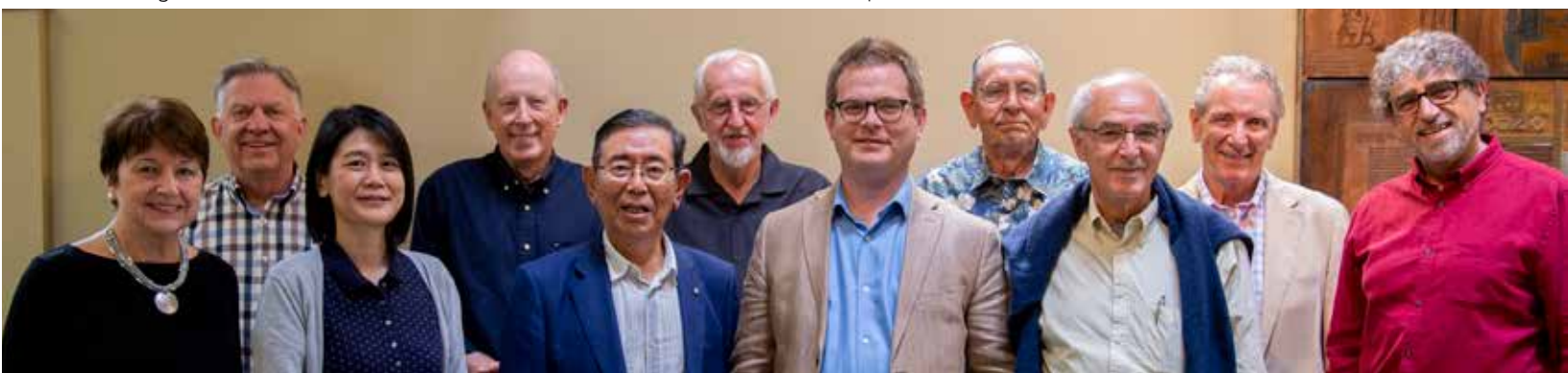
When he finished the slideshow, King asked if we could all sing “Four Strong Winds,” a folk song by Ian Tyson, and one of the biggest country music hits of 1964. Fred Martin found a guitar, and we all sang the bittersweet lyrics: *“For the good times are all gone, and I’m bound for moving on. I’ll look for you if I’m ever back this way.”* It was a beguiling moment.

We found King and Eric’s old residence room and toured the College. In the chapel, some in the group began reciting—with affection—a commencement address they remembered from President J. Winfield Fretz. (Apparently, Fretz liked the speech so much that he delivered it more than once over the years, which lodged it in student memories.) In the speech, Fretz used the irregular shapes of the fieldstones in the chapel walls as a metaphor for Grebel’s community: The stones are different, but they fit together into a larger whole. Every stone belongs and has its place.

One of Grebel’s great gifts is the sense of belonging and friendship that arises among each generation of students. King’s visit demonstrates that belonging persists, and friendship lingers, in our alumni—even after five decades, and across continents and oceans.



(l-r) Miriam Thomson (BA 1967), Ted Roberts (1967), Nancy Naoko (King’s daughter), Chris Thomson (BA 1964), King Horiguchi (PhD 1967), Ernie Regehr (BA 1968), Marcus Shantz, John Hildebrand (BASC 1964), John Rempel (BA 1966), Eric Friesen (BA 1967), Fred W. Martin.



WARM HELLOS. MEALS TOGETHER. CHALLENGING DISCUSSIONS.

The Impact of Living in Community

BY MARY BRUBAKER-ZEHR, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

Grebel and its Student Services department has a unique vision for residence life. It includes expectations for participation, encouragement to explore questions of significance, involvement in chapels and community suppers, engagement with faculty and staff, and accountability to one another for creating a hospitable environment. Our staff to student ratio is one of the best on the UWaterloo campus, as is the one-on-one care and attention we give to residents and associates alike. We endeavour to equip our students with enduring values of generosity, creativity, and compassion. Community building, leadership development, active service, and global engagement are also priorities for our department.

In the 1980s, I lived at Grebel and flourished within the community's balance of nurture and challenge. Since 1996, I have had the privilege to 'pay it forward' in my role as Director of Student Services. I am grateful for a professional study leave from January to May 2018 that allowed me to start a story collection project. The following six pages are based on my reflections, research, and interviews.

In the 2012 Student Services departmental review, the external reviewers noted that Grebel's residential program is influencing students in remarkable ways and urged us to make this reality known more broadly. As a result of this feedback, I decided to interview alumni to learn about the impact of Grebel's residential community on their lives. How did Grebel shape them? Did it influence their life choices and vocations? Were their ethics and values affected? Are they different today because of their Grebel community experience? I was confident that there were alumni with a story to tell, and I was eager to listen. I believed, as community builder John McKnight suggests, that there is power in our memories and stories. In them are gems to be found, lessons to be learned, and capacity amongst us to be recognized and celebrated.

By means of social media and *Grebel Now*, I invited Grebel alumni to contact me if interested in a conversation about their Grebel experience. Over the course of four months, twenty-two former students, from the 1960s to 2017 reached out. While I have not been able to interview everyone, the interviews that did occur were lively and sincere. I conducted some in person and others via Skype. Some wanted the questions ahead of time to prepare, while others preferred off-the-cuff conversations. Each interview started with memories and storytelling. This broke the ice and kindled the imaginations of the interviewees as they considered how their Grebel experience had affected them, then and now. To say it was a privilege to visit with these alumni is an understatement. It was inspirational. What follows is a glimpse of what I heard.

Grebel's 'fill-the-table practice' is unique and influential. Students are encouraged to fill the first empty chair at mealtimes, linger for

conversation, and attend Community Suppers each week. Trisha Niemeyer, a 2005 Systems Design Engineering graduate, believes the simple practice of filling the first empty chair had a profound impact on relationships and was deeply significant. "It paved the way for getting to know students I might not have otherwise taken the time to know," she said, "and over meal conversations we were exposed to different ideas that could not be ignored." To this day, she thinks about this community practice and wonders how she can instill a similar 'fill the first empty chair' culture in her workplace. "I see the same people in the lunchroom every day, but for the most part, we do not know each other. We all sit with our own little cluster. I want to do something about it but when there isn't a culture to do something about it, it's hard."

Most often, alumni could not remember specific Community Supper speakers or meal details beyond Grebel's delectable homemade bread. They did not remember how full the dining room was or how frenetic the 60 minutes sometimes felt. Instead, they remembered gathering, connecting, and the 'magic' of simply being together for one hour each week. They remembered feeling welcomed and valued around a table with good food and good friends. They remembered engaging with faculty and staff and their families. They remembered a sense of belonging and that they had a place in the community. "I was not a serious person back then," says 1984 Arts graduate Melodie Flook, "so I don't really remember any specific speakers or their topics, but I remember a feeling of belonging. I came to Grebel for fun, food, pranks, sports, and friends. However, the atmosphere at Grebel and the small and seemingly insignificant things of everyday life like warm hellos, meals together, and Community Suppers soaked into me and I could not peel it off. I didn't notice it at the time, but the impact is forever!"

Today, personal choice has become paramount, but Hebron Hailu Gabre-Marian, a 2007 Engineering grad appreciates that Community Supper participation was not a choice but rather a community expectation. "We didn't have to wrestle with whether

As Director of Student Services, Mary Brubaker-Zehr oversees and administers the residence program at Grebel.



or not we had time to go, it was an activity built into our schedules and it was so important,” he recalled, “even if we didn’t know it or appreciate it at the time! It helped me and other students slow down, set work aside, and re-focus. It gave us perspective. It helped us learn to listen, to be patient, and to be tolerant.”

Many people I interviewed named the ideological and theological diversity of the community and the culture of respect and support within the diversity as a significant component of their Grebel experience. “I speak highly and often about Grebel,” says Patrick Quealey, a 2001 Environmental Studies graduate. “It’s a place for everyone to belong regardless of background, belief or political stripe. And this seems rooted in a rare and unique deep institutional commitment to accept each person as a person worthy of love and respect.”

For Megan Doyle, an early 2000s Science student, Grebel was an organic living environment where she felt free to engage in conversation. “In the safety of community, I began to ask questions and wonder about my faith, poverty, justice, and the environment in ways I had never done before. Implicitly and explicitly my ideas, passions, and principles were shaped, influencing my short- and long-term decisions.”

One alumna mentioned that Grebel’s ‘open-door culture’ paved the way for robust conversations with students of differing views. “You could pop in and out of anyone’s room and strike up a conversation.” Another expressed that Grebel opened a world of meaningful debate and gave students practice in solving problems through animated yet respectful discussion.

Grebel courses and engagement with Grebel faculty also played a vital role. One graduate remembers Tom Yoder-Neufeld’s candid statement at the beginning of his “Jesus’ Life and Legacy” course about his own Christian faith. “This was a unique thing to do in a secular university context, and it captured my attention. Tom modelled that you could be firm in your faith convictions yet enter into dialogue, debate, and discourse with respect and care.” Still others experienced the chapel program as a place where they were

exposed to something different. Trish noted, “I came to see faith as a community commitment rather than an individual journey. In Chapel we had the chance to practice creativity and make mistakes, and this influences my worship planning to this day.”

Living in a diverse community where discussion was encouraged had its challenges too. Debra Worth, an Arts 2001 graduate, remembered that at times, there could be conflict, misunderstandings, and hurt feelings. Yet, meal times, sports, late night chats, and sitting in classes together were key to building relationships that then could weather strong differences of opinions and belief. Deb believes she learned about how to discuss differences but not hold on so tightly that they turned into a damaging conflict. She believes that her years at Grebel on committees, in courses, and the day-to-day living in residence helped her practice and develop important skills. “I’m not afraid to bump up against diverse views and opinions whether at work or church,” states Deb, “and I trace that back to my Grebel experience.”

This short article cannot adequately convey the depth or breadth of Grebel’s impact on alumni. For instance, it does not speak to how some learned to embrace their mental health struggles, nor how others experienced and learned the importance of hospitality. It says little about how courses at Grebel instilled life-long values of peace and justice. The best way for you to grasp more fully the impact is to read for yourself the accounts from alumni that follow—in this issue and in future issues. Grab a cup of tea, find a comfortable chair, and read on.



2004 All-College Retreat. Mary Brubaker-Zehr (BA 1985) is at the bottom right.

Finding Strength and Hope in Memories

Debra Worth (BA 2001) grew up in Kitchener, Ontario with her home backing onto the train tracks of Victoria Park. Neither of her parents had gone to university and she didn't expect to go either. And if she did, why would she live in residence when her home was minutes away? After finishing high school at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate in 1997, she headed off to Jubilee Partners in Georgia for a seven-month service and learning experience. The community experience was so rich at Jubilee that upon her return to Kitchener, the notion of finding community at Grebel and going to university captured her attention in a new way.



Pictured right, Debra Worth (BA 2001) in 1999 at Grebel with Tamara Shantz (BA 2003)

With her home so close by, living in residence was not financially practical, so Deb joined the off-campus associate program and started her undergraduate career in Social Development Studies at the University of Waterloo. Her classes had 500 or more students in them and she remembers feeling lost and overwhelmed. Grebel's associate program provided a smaller context—a place to build relationships, a place where people knew her name, and a community of like-minded people who shared her values. "Grebel helped me feel in community again," recalled Deb, "it helped me simmer down from the overwhelming feeling of my big classes.

Deb did not sit on the sidelines. As an associate she walked the Grebel hallways, ate as many meals as she could at the College, engaged in social events, and participated in Chapel and Community Suppers. The more time she spent at Grebel, the more she desired to live in residence—she wanted the 24/7 feeling. However, she could not afford it. A summer job in the Grebel kitchen, where she sometimes worked seven days a week, helped to turn that reality around. It was a delightful day for her and the community when she moved into residence in September 1998.

Initially drawn to Grebel to find like-

minded people, Deb quickly found herself surprised by the diversity of the community. Many students were not Mennonite and there was a wide spectrum of belief and attitudes towards faith, politics, and ethics.

"The diversity was not always easy, and I do not like conflict,

but meal conversations, sports, late night chats and sitting in classes together were key to building relationships that then could weather strong differences of opinions and belief," Deb remembered. "The friendships meant that we got past the differences and frequently found common ground."

Building relationships were also key to her leadership role on the Chapel committee. She didn't just want to bring her own views and opinions about things like worship music to the planning meetings. She wanted to bring the thoughts and feelings of the broader community. And in order to do so, she needed to have genuine friendships with

fellow Grebelites. "I worked intentionally at getting to know people. I would sit with different groups each night at dinner and most nights I would stop studying early to wander the hallways to visit with people—how else could I get to know and understand the beliefs and values of others. I cared, and people knew I cared."

Navigating diversity continues to be a theme in Deb's life, such as in her work with USA Refugee Resettlement in South Dakota. She noted, "I hold the conflict that sometimes arises from diversity as valuable and as something to be cherished. I learn the most from those experiences."

Staying mentally grounded and well is also a theme in Deb's life. The darker side of her energy for life and engagement and her passion for justice is that it easily morphs into chronically feeling overwhelmed. She remembers that in her first few months in residence, she regularly stayed up far too late for fear of missing out. After almost failing a course or two, she sought help from interim chaplain, Carmen Brubacher (BA 1994).

"It was the first time I could get a handle on what was happening," said Deb. "Carmen normalized my experience and helped me name some patterns in my life. Recognizing that mental health is part of life and no matter who you are, you need to build skills to take care of yourself, is a lesson I first learned at Grebel. Since then I regularly go in for a tune up with a counsellor, because my skills fade and I need to refresh."

At the end of our interview, Deb's parting words were, "I find strength and hope in my memories of Grebel. I learned so much about the world, about relationships and about myself. When I look back I remember and find courage. I did it then, so I can do it now, no matter what comes my way!"

Sharing the Journey

Trisha (Niemeyer) Ashworth (BASC 2005) lives in the greater Toronto, Ontario area. She is a professional engineer, a mother of two teenagers, a partner to John David, and an engaged member of Rouge Valley Mennonite church.

When Trish was focusing in on engineering as a future career, the University of Waterloo was a natural choice of school. An uncle pointed her in the direction of a College named Grebel!

“I came in 2000 not knowing anyone, nor much about the College,” stated Trish. “Mennonite students seemed to be everywhere and they all appeared to all know each other—and then there was the rest of us! Initially, I found this challenging, but then the hospitality of the community and its commitment to multi-year residence meant friendships began to form across beliefs, backgrounds, and traditions.”

Trish called Grebel her Waterloo ‘home’ over the entire five years of her Systems Design Engineering degree. “Because I was always coming and going on work terms, Grebel was a grounding place for me—a consistent home to come back to—a place that was known, and most importantly, where I was known.”

One memory that keeps surfacing for Trish is Grebel’s custom of filling the table. She considers this community practice something profound, as it paved the way for her and others to engage with each other when they might not have otherwise done so. “I’ve been thinking about it, and over time I’ve come to realize its deep significance.”

Raised in a home that participated in different Christian denominations, Trish considered her faith an individual journey. Her time at Grebel and regular participation in the Chapel program opened her eyes to something different. “Grebel helped me see that faith was also a community commitment—a shared journey, which eventually led me to express my faith publicly, in a new way, through baptism and by joining a Mennonite church.” She remembers creative Chapel services that students had a role in planning. In one service, with students in lab coats and goggles and a beaker of yeast brewing and bubbling over, Chaplain Ed Janzen spoke about how the kingdom of God is like yeast. “Ed gave us permission to express ourselves and be creative in worship. I remember this, and to this day, it inspires me to be creative in my own worship leading,” stated Trish.

Trish took the opportunity to fill her limited engineering elective space with Peace and Conflict Studies courses. “I didn’t quite get enough for a minor, but almost. Even still, the courses I did take had a major impact. They were, hands-down, my favorite courses and they were the ones that informed my thinking about the world and how I view world events.” Weekly Community Suppers allowed her to engage with PACS faculty outside the classroom. They also exposed her to the experiences of others. “Just when I was really struggling about whether or not to stay in engineering, a professional engineer was the guest speaker at dinner and she spoke about the breadth and opportunity of her work. For some time after that we corresponded about the many ways I might use my degree. It was so helpful.”

In closing, Trish reflected on the big windows at Grebel that left a lasting impression. “The light shone in those windows—I often recall it when I think of the College—a small hospitable community that welcomed the big outside world in.”

~MBZ



The 2004 Don Team. Trish (Niemeyer) Ashworth is at the top left, and Mary Brubaker-Zehr at the bottom right.

Engaging Others with Honesty, Respect, and Integrity

Hebron Hailu Gabre-Marian's (BASC 2007) first contact with Grebel was during a University of Waterloo Open House day in March 2002 when he was checking out the Mechanical Engineering program. His dad, knowing a little about Mennonites, convinced him to swing by Grebel for a quick tour. He remembers his tour guide fondly (Eric Lepp BA 2005) and thought, "if there are more people like this guy at Grebel, then this will be a fun place to live."

He recalls hard hats being stolen, with ransom notes left in their place and taking the 'open-door policy' to the next level when his buddies removed numerous residence doors! He spoke fondly about photo ops with their apartment pet—a laying hen. However, mostly he remembers conversation and debate, and that never before had he been able to engage with others with such honesty, respect, and integrity. "Somehow," said Hebron, "we didn't get offended, but learned to discuss differences and laugh and shake it off when we didn't agree—all was okay."

Hebron strongly believes that Grebel's open door approach paved the way for good conversation. "Open doors meant you didn't just stick to like-minded people, but rather naturally engaged with many in the community. A culture that respected diversity meant we could be ourselves and not have to fit into a mold."

As a student, Hebron looked forward to chapels and community suppers. He made it a priority to attend both each week despite the demands of his engineering program. "These gatherings forced me to slow down and refocus. I didn't get anything like this in my engineering program. These consistent weekly gatherings helped balance me as an engineer. They helped calm me down, they

gave me perspective, and they sparked great conversation that carried on well into the night."

And, Hebron remembers vividly one Chapel Retreat at Hidden Acres when Tom Yoder Neufeld and Arnold Snyder shared their testimonies. "It was a time of open conversation about faith and values and life. Tom and Arnold made themselves vulnerable and opened up about their lives with students in a way that they could never do in the classroom. It was such a gift." What made the retreat extra special for Hebron was the fact that connecting with Grebel professors in the classroom eluded him because the program did not permit many elective courses.

Amongst the fun and the play, Grebel opened a world of meaningful debate for Hebron and gave him practice solving problems through animated, yet respectful discussion. He is so grateful, and to this day, he welcomes lively conversation about faith and life with Grebel friends and beyond. He is committed to having a community supper of sorts, every night at the dinner table with Deanna and their four young kids, despite all the demands of their schedule. For, it is around table set with good food

and warmth that they learn to listen, to be patient, experience hospitality, and to wrestle with their differences.

He is also committed as a teacher to helping the children in his grade 5/6 classroom to learn how to listen and discuss their differences with respect.

Hebron had one last thing he wanted to mention before our interview wrapped up. "Mary, be sure to maintain the environment at Grebel where students learn how to discuss and debate without getting offended ... this is what university is all about."

~MBZ



Hebron Hailu Gabre-Marian posing in front of Grebel as part of a 2006 promotional photoshoot.

Making People Feel Welcome and Accepted

Originally hailing from Guelph, Ontario, Melodie Flook (BA 1984) was part of the Grebel community from 1979 to 1983 while she attended the University of Waterloo and studied Honours Arts. Her friend, Susan Lee (Robinson) who had previously lived at Grebel, recommended the College to Melodie because “the food was great!” (At least that’s what Melodie remembers.) Currently Melodie lives in Vancouver, BC. She is working on a Master in Arts degree at Simon Fraser University, teaching on the side, playing soccer for fun, and working with refugee women on a peace quilt project. She is contributing and making a difference in the lives of many.

Thinking back to her favourite memories of Grebel, Melodie mentioned her roommates first. “My first roommate was Judy Thiessen. We never understood how we got put together because she was so sweet and innocent and quiet and I was ... well, let’s say, the exact opposite of that. Our room was always getting trashed by fellow pranksters and Judy didn’t deserve it. Yet, she was a good sport and it was good for a non-Mennonite like me to be with a Mennonite. I learned a lot.” Melodie still keeps in touch with her old roommates: Judy, Rosalee Bender, and Sandra Lovesy.

Pranks were a big part of Melodie’s experience during the three years she lived at Grebel. “I did many naughty things like penning people into their rooms, throwing people into the shower on their birthdays, and stealing Louise Wideman’s pink housecoat to hang in the trees outside the windows,” she recalled. “One of my favorite tricks on the guys was to flip the fuse that cut the power on the TV. This was particularly aggravating for them when they were watching the hockey finals. The screen went dark and they’d come pouring out of the lounge, yelling ... Melodie! I had to run like crazy for safety.”

Melodie loved it when students from on and off campus gathered at Community Suppers, and she enjoyed watching all the faculty and staff kids run around. During that hour-long meal, the sense of community soaked into her. “This was the more serious side of Grebel, but worthwhile!” The biggest impact on her at the time was “an overwhelming sense that I had finally found community—something I never experienced in quite the same way. It was wonderful and so good for me. I remember thinking ... wow ... this

is amazing. I felt a part of a family where I had brothers and sisters and where I felt accepted.”

The sense of belonging and being cared for at Grebel has stayed with Melodie and has affected how she works with students today. “Living at Grebel taught me how to treat others, how to be hospitable, and about the importance of making people feel welcome, even if they are different from me and others. It acts as a model for me. How can I now create a similar experience for others?”



Melodie shows off her Grebel Hockey Jersey from the 1980s, when she returned for an alumni reunion in 2006.

While at Grebel, Melodie also experienced how other students thought and lived. She remembers being exposed to people from different countries, with various religious and political ideas. “Grebel felt inclusive. At night, people would sit around in rez rooms drinking tea, discussing politics, religion, peace, and the environment,” she recalls. “Unconsciously, I was being formed and influenced by seeing my peers care about world issues. Seeds were planted then that have been sprouting for years since.”

Since Grebel residents are encouraged to enroll in a few Grebel courses, Melodie ended up taking classes with Peace and Conflict Studies Professor Conrad Brunk. “At the

time, I didn’t take the class seriously, but now I understand its value. Ideas of peace and justice are on my radar now in ways they might not have been otherwise. Perhaps it is because of this course, in part, that I am now doing a Master in Arts for Social Change. And maybe it is because of the seeds planted at Grebel that I’m deeply invested in a peace-themed quilt project with refugee women learning English in Vancouver—who knows. So keep encouraging students to take Grebel courses—it is important.”

Looking back, Melodie concluded that it was worth going to university just to live at Grebel! In a parting comment, she suggested that the College continue to “keep things fun! That’s what drew me in—I might not have come otherwise. And keep admitting students who want to come just because Grebel ‘looks’ fun, for in and amongst all of the fun, lives are being changed and influenced in significant ways.”



A New Kitchen and Dining Room Will Make Space for Community

Since the College was first built more than 55 years ago, Grebel's residence has grown, apartments were added, and our classrooms, library, archives and other academic program spaces have all expanded dramatically. However, our kitchen and dining room are largely the same as they were in 1964. It's now time to reinvest in these important facilities. We're pleased to share plans to build a new kitchen and dining room, which we hope to begin in May 2019.



THE NEED

Hospitality around food is near to the heart of the Grebel experience. Hannah Hill, a current student and residence Don, noted that "part of Grebel's culture is to 'Fill the Table.' This is a practice that is passed down from upper year to first-year students and shared with staff and faculty. Everyone is encouraged to welcome anyone at their table until it is filled."

Having "room at the table" is key to building community—but currently there is not always room for everyone. An expanded Grebel cohort of students, faculty and staff now crowd into a facility that was originally designed for a much smaller community. "In the fall term, we are unable to accommodate most off-campus associate students at Community Suppers," said Mary Brubaker-Zehr, Director of Student Services. "This means that they miss out on a crucial part of Grebel life."

"With close to 70 graduate students, increased activity in the Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement, and more participants in our continuing education programs, we need increased capacity in our kitchen and dining room to serve the community," added Dean Marlene Epp.

The Food Services department has been stretched with increased demands for catering and hosting campus events, not to mention the growing student numbers and the increase in specialized diets. "I'm really looking forward to a new, expanded and updated facility," said Cheri Otterbein, Food Services Manager.

"It's high time to reinvest in hospitality at Grebel," observed President Marcus Shantz. "The new kitchen and dining room will ensure that we maintain our reputation as a friendly and welcoming spot, with some of the best food you'll find on campus." He also noted that "one of four areas in the 'Extending the Table' Strategic Plan 2015-2020 was the area of 'Enhancing Facilities and Campus presence.' This project is a critical part of this plan."



Chapel Stairway



Circulation Pathway
to Atrium



THE VISION

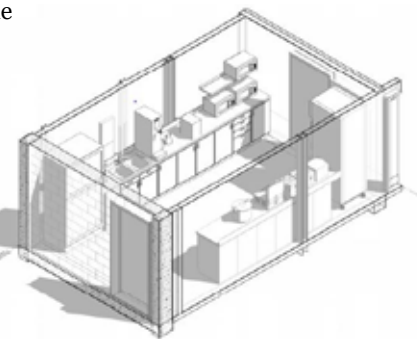
Grebel alumnus Brian Rudy (BES '89) is a partner at Moriyama and Tashima Architects (MTA) who helped with a feasibility study and now the construction drawings. "I have many fond memories of my time at Grebel, and would consider them some of the best years of my life," he wrote, describing his excitement to work on this project. "At MTA, we strive to create spaces that foster community engagement, social interaction and academic excellence, providing enduring value and memory over time. This is certainly the type of space that the Grebel Dining Room represents in my mind."

Students are also represented on this process. Elora Deering (2nd year NanoTech Engineering) is on the Building Committee, and voiced student desire to have an elevator and a "Pantry" included in the project. "The Pantry will give students a place to make late-night snacks and will also be a spot for off-campus associates to store and prepare their lunches," elaborated Student Council President Madeleine Neufeld (3rd year PACS).

THE PLAN

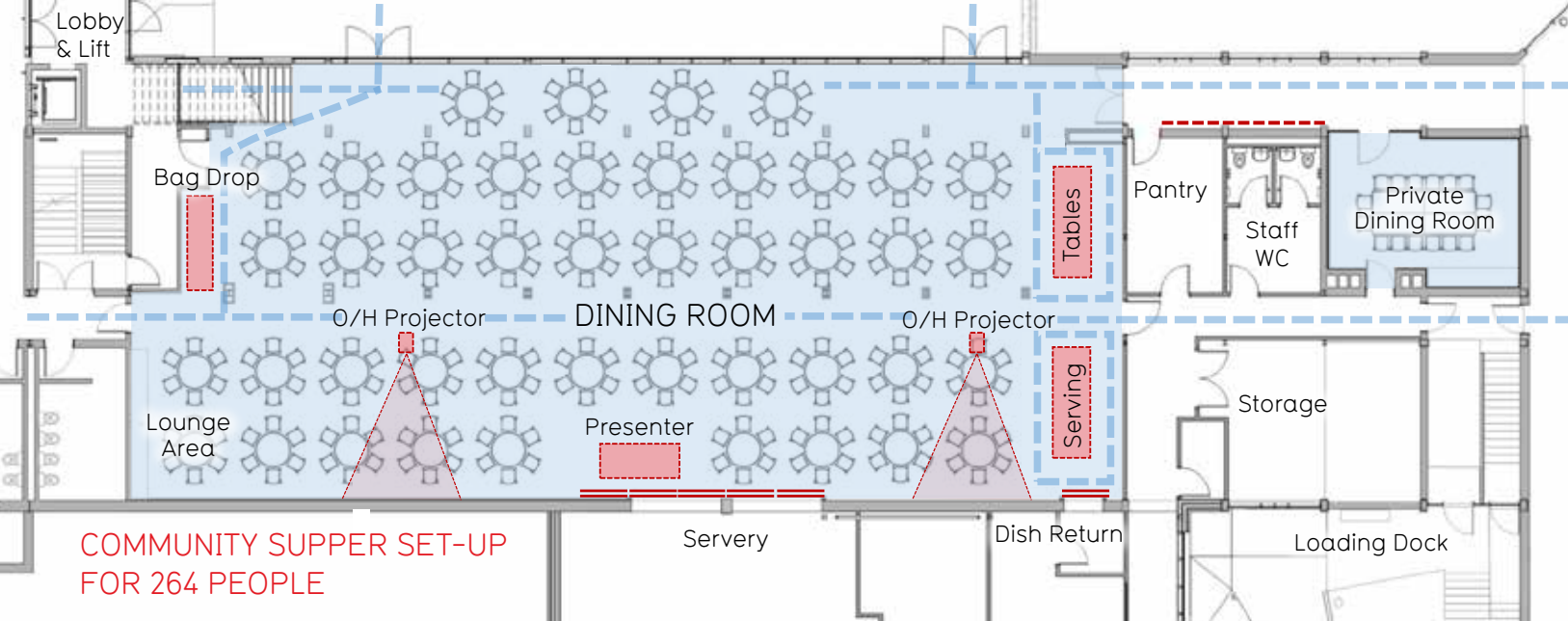
A Building Committee chaired by Director of Operations Paul Penner is working hard to make this vision a reality. "We're pleased to be working with Nith Valley Construction again," he said. "This is a complicated project as we work with an existing building and coordinate construction in a way that keeps our students fed." Construction on the new kitchen is scheduled to begin in Spring 2019. Shortly after that, renovations to the existing dining room will begin, and plans are in place to turn the atrium into a short-term dining hall while the dining room is unavailable during summer months.

The new Pantry, complete with microwaves, fridge, storage, and sink



Aerial view from Westmount side shows the green roof





THE NUMBERS

The estimates for the project are \$6.8 million. Because some of this project is considered to be deferred maintenance, the Grebel Board is committing \$1m of capital reserves. “We can also finance some of this project,” explained Board Treasurer Ron Kielstra (BA 1986), “as long as strong enrolments and donations to the annual Grebel Fund keep operations in the black.” There are no government funds available for this project.

PROJECT COST
\$6.8 MILLION

REVENUE
Fundraising to Date
\$3.2 MILLION
Capital Reserves
\$1 MILLION

Funding Needed
\$2.6 MILLION

A Fundraising Advisory Committee, chaired by current Grebel parent Ruth-Ann Shantz, has been active in planning the “Fill the Table” fundraising campaign. “We have engaged our alumni through a variety of events this past summer and introduced the campaign to parents at Taste of Grebel this fall,” reported Ruth-Ann.

Fundraising milestones have been met ahead of schedule, with \$3.2 million in gifts and pledges reported at a special board meeting on November 1. “We are thrilled by the depth of generous support for this project,” said President Marcus Shantz. “This project



resonates with people who understand what hospitality means at Grebel. Our dining room is a place that shapes our students into leaders in our businesses, not-for-profits, and faith communities.”

A public campaign launch event was held on November 15.

Watch our website for details on our Ground Breaking ceremony anticipated for the spring.

uwaterloo.ca/grebel-fill-the-table



Interwoven Korean Connections

Sometimes at Grebel, an underlying theme for the year emerges so clearly that it is difficult to believe that it was not prearranged. As September approached this year, several College department plans and activities serendipitously focused on Korea—a divided land of dramatic landscapes and political tensions.

The Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement (CPA) worked with Mennonite Central Committee for many months, navigating visa and government hurdles, to offer a two-month exhibit of hope and reconciliation in the Grebel Gallery. “A New Era of Peace and a Peaceful Land” featured rarely seen works by American, Chinese, North and South Korean artists.

Curator Heng-Gil Han, director of the Korea Art Forum based in New York City, explained how through this exhibit, he envisioned a future in which the confrontational structure among the four countries is disrupted, and the political and ideological obstacles are removed for people to freely meet and work together.

The exhibit reflected Han’s vision, and aimed to support the emerging peace process on the Korean peninsula. “The pursuit of dialogue and the normalization of diplomatic relations is certainly more effective than the aggressive rhetoric that the two leaders exchanged before their summit in Singapore last June,” Han noted. The collection of art addressed critical issues of the Korean division, including the division of the land and its people, and the different economic and governance systems.

How fortunate, then, that the CPA’s request to host an MCC International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP) participant to work with them for the year was fulfilled by a young woman named Suyeon Kang from

South Korea. Working as the CPA host, Suyeon’s job is to build community among the CPA participants and contribute to activities such as Grebel Gallery exhibits. “I was glad to introduce the Korean art exhibit to people in terms of peace through art—I have a responsibility to make peace in my way as a citizen,” she stated. “Whenever I explained the piece about the Candlelight Revolution in Gwanghwamoon plaza, I was proud to say that I was a part of it. Last year, South Korea citizens elected the new president and government, thanks to the Candlelight Revolution. This incident began a new era of peace in Korea peninsula.”

After studying media communications and social welfare, Korean and global society issues, the history of Korea and Christianity, and the Bible, Suyeon is pleased to be at Grebel. She wants to learn more about Mennonites and restorative justice, as well as experience life in community and in a different culture. She added, “I was wondering how God works around the world and works with me.”

This summer, South Korean student KyongJung Kim (MTS 2018) graduated from the Master of Theological Studies program. He described his time at Grebel as “a blessing and precious experience for me to interact with people from different denominational backgrounds, engaging various topics to discover more about God’s Kingdom and the way of Jesus Christ together.” The new graduate will soon travel back to Korea soon, pursuing an involvement with the Korea Peacebuilding Institute. The Institute is one of the most



CPA Host Suyeon Kang visits with Consul Jihoon Koh from the Embassy of the Republic of Korea. The CPA exhibit attracted more than 400 visitors during its two months, including many people who had previous work or volunteer connections to Korea.

influential leading organizations in South Korea, focused on peace and justice, especially restorative justice. KyongJung is coordinating a learning tour for the group in January 2019, and hopes to meet with the participants in the CPA, students in the Master of Peace and Conflict Studies program, and organizations in the wider community for mutual learning and to discuss common interests.

Demonstrating his active interest in the church in both Canada and Korea, while he was a student KyongJung helped to boost the collection of Korean books in the Milton Good Library at Grebel. Korea Anabaptist Press has been translating well-known Anabaptist writings, as well as peace documents such as *The Little Books of Justice and Peacebuilding* series. Many of these books were translated by BockKi Kim and several translated by KyongJung.

With original authors who include Walter Klaassen, Lisa Schirch (BA 1990), and Palmer Becker, these translations fit the Library’s mission to provide a comprehensive collection of published materials related to Anabaptist-Mennonite studies. The Library now has 36 Korea Anabaptist Press and Daejanggan Publisher translations, with plans to acquire all the books in the series, totaling around 80.

These interwoven strings illustrate how Grebel provides a rich context for global connections.



Anabaptist Historian Is Named Dean

Professor Troy Osborne, associate professor of History at Grebel and the University of Waterloo, has been selected as Grebel's new dean, beginning January 1, 2019.

Troy is a historian whose research and teaching interests centre on Mennonite history and the Reformation, particularly on the development of the Dutch Anabaptist tradition. He is a creative and well-respected professor, teaching courses on the sixteenth-century Reformations, the Radical Reformation, Mennonite Studies, and European History. He is keenly interested in pedagogy, having researched and implemented novel forms of teaching in his classroom.

"We believe that Troy will be an enthusiastic advocate for the arts and Mennonite involvement in higher education," said President Marcus Shantz. "He has expressed a firm commitment to the development of Grebel's faculty by encouraging innovative teaching and supporting original scholarship, emphasizing the cultivation of a collegial culture amongst faculty, and between academic units and residence communities. He has a strong desire for his academic leadership to be imaginative and collaborative, and to be accessible to faculty, staff, and students."

"I'm excited about taking on this new role at Grebel, a remarkable community of talented

and accomplished teachers, scholars, staff, and students," remarked Troy. "The college has an invaluable legacy of contributing to the Mennonite community, the University of Waterloo, and the broader community. I'm eager to build on our accomplishments and cultivate a vision for Grebel's future."

With a solid record of publishing in his field, including a forthcoming textbook on Anabaptist history, Troy is a strong scholar. In his seven years at Grebel, he has actively promoted scholarly engagement at the College through faculty forums, presentations, and discussions, as well as supervising graduate student research. He has served as acting director of Theological Studies, is currently the book review editor for *The Conrad Grebel Review*, and serves on the editorial board of *Classics of the Radical Reformation*.

Troy offers deep knowledge of and connection to other Mennonite institutions in North America and Europe. As a student, he attended Hesston College, Goshen College, and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, and then served as a professor of history at Bluffton University before coming to Grebel. While working on his PhD at the University of Minnesota, Troy conducted dissertation research in the Netherlands, connecting him to European Mennonite communities.

Troy succeeds Professor Marlene Epp who has skillfully served as Dean for a three-year term. This was her second term as Dean—the first occurred from 2002 to 2005. Marlene will continue at Grebel as professor of History and Peace and Conflict Studies.





CONRAD GREBEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE 2017-18 ANNUAL REPORT

A SURPLUS OF GRATITUDE

“Of all human virtues, the principle of integrity is among the foremost, in my scale of value. This I believe, because genuine integrity tends to be close to or identical with reality. Integrity and truth are equals.”

~J. WINFIELD FRETZ
FOUNDING PRESIDENT 1963-73

(quotation from *Simple Life Fretz: A Kitchen Table Memoir of the First Mennonite Sociologist* by Sara Fretz-Goering)

Our founding president, J. Winfield Fretz, continues to be a source of wisdom for us at Conrad Grebel University College. One of Fretz’s many qualities was plain, straightforward communication. He had a knack for quickly coming to the point of any agenda—a gift for brevity.

It’s in this spirit that we offer Grebel’s 2017-18 Annual Report—a short document presenting our simplified financial statements, statistics on our educational and residence programs, and other data about the life of the College this year.

These basic facts give us much to be thankful for. For example, our financial statements once again show a modest surplus. Donations, along with the number of donors, increased substantially, and more financial aid went to more students than ever before. On behalf of everyone at Grebel, we thank our many supporters for their commitment to the College, which enables our vision, mission, and work.

We know that numbers and statistics do not tell the whole story, and perhaps not even the most important parts of the story. There is a living community behind the numbers: inspiring students, dedicated staff, gifted faculty, generous donors, interesting alumni, enriching programs, and committed partners. For further insight into College life, we invite you to read our *Grebel Now*. Twice a year, *Grebel Now* offers a fascinating window on College life—our scholarship, our programs, and our people.

Brevity is not the only thing to be learned from Winfield Fretz. We think his comments about the importance of integrity (quoted above) touch the heart of what Grebel’s annual report should be: facts presented simply, truthfully, and transparently. We trust that this report demonstrates that we share Winfield’s commitment to integrity.

Marcus Shantz
President

Jim Tiessen
Chair, Board of Governors

ACADEMICS

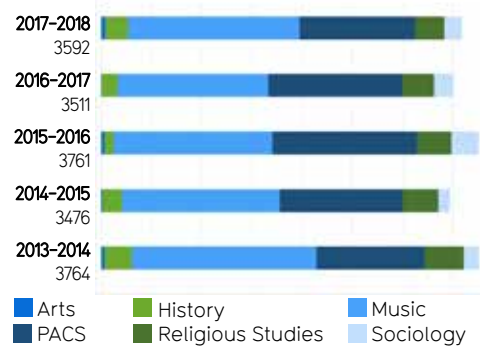
The Music and the Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) departments each celebrated their 40th anniversaries this year. Both began modestly with a few courses in the 1970s, and now offer a full complement of academic plans in the Faculty of Arts. Our Master of Theological Studies (MTS) program is now 30 years old, and welcomed 16 new students—its largest cohort ever—in 2017.

Undergraduate course enrolments held steady at just under 3600. Our classes were attended by students from every faculty at the University of Waterloo.

Other highlights from the year included the following:

- *The Conrad Grebel Review* published a special edition of papers from the 2016 conference on Global Mennonite Peacebuilding held at Grebel in 2016.

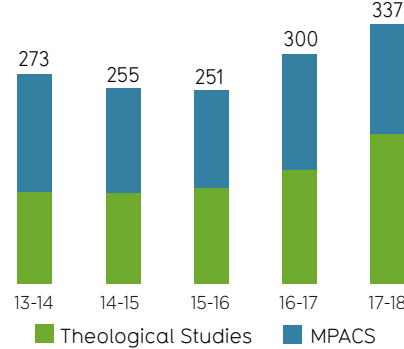
UNDERGRADUATE COURSE ENROLMENTS



- Dr. Karen Sunabacka, an outstanding music scholar and composer, joined our faculty in July 2017.
- The College awarded its first Fretz Fellowship in Mennonite Studies to Dr. Aileen Friesen, who spent a year at Grebel teaching and researching.

In addition to their on-campus teaching, faculty and other academic personnel brought their expertise to the academy and community with: 26 publications;

GRADUATE COURSE ENROLMENTS



31 concerts; 69 public lectures, scholarly presentations, and workshops; and 35 sermons, adult education classes, and other service to churches. Grebel faculty and staff were also actively involved in University of Waterloo life, serving on many university committees and contributing to campus-wide initiatives including HeForShe (a gender awareness and equity initiative), the Indigenization Strategy, and the President's Advisory Committee on Student Mental Health.

RESIDENCE

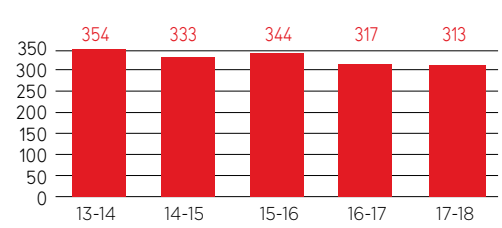
The Grebel residence was as lively as ever this past year, ably led by our Student Services team, the Dons, and an inspired Student Council. Ninety different students were involved in formal leadership roles within the residence community. One of the many highlights this year was the student-led construction of a campfire pit, which has quickly become a well-used feature of the College.

Our residence students decided, by referendum, to increase their Student Refugee Levy from \$20 per year to \$40. This is the second consecutive year that Grebel students have doubled support for this fund, which is used to sponsor refugee students to live at Grebel and study at the University of Waterloo. We are proud of our students and their capacity to act on values of compassion and justice.

FAITH TRADITIONS

Most Grebel residence and associate students identified a religious affiliation, with about a third of students (106) coming from a church affiliated with Mennonite World Conference. More than 30 other Christian groups were represented in the residence, as well as Muslim, Jewish, and Sikh traditions.

RESIDENCE AND ASSOCIATE STUDENTS

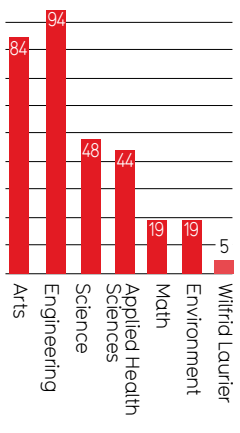


Represents the combined total number of individual residence, apartment, and off-campus associate students.

REGIONS



FACULTY BLEND



GREBEL BY THE NUMBERS



469 participants in Anabaptist Learning Workshops
16 ALW Workshops offered

63,545 holdings in the Milton Good Library



10 new courses offered



58 Bachelors students graduated with a major or minor in Peace and Conflict Studies

15 new Master of Peace and Conflict Studies students enrolled

550 loaves of Community Supper bread



105,483 meals prepared by Food Services



90 individual students involved in formal leadership roles

16 new Master of Theological Studies students enrolled—the largest cohort in program history



16 Scholars Forums and other events hosted by Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre

16 start-up enterprises supported by the Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement since inception

27 students who worked in the CPA this year



546 participants in choirs and ensembles

5,276 people attended music ensemble performances

53 musical performances offered



400% increase in visits to Brubacher House Museum



537 registrations in Conflict Management Certificate Program workshops

214,816 website visitors



FINANCE

Grebel ended the 2017-18 financial year with a small surplus, making this the 21st consecutive year of balanced budgets. Stable finances over multiple years have enabled the College to upgrade aging buildings and equipment, and to build appropriate reserves for operational contingencies.

Successful long-term financial stewardship has also enabled the College to steadily increase its commitment to student awards. Ten years ago, Grebel provided just over \$130,000 annually in scholarships and bursaries. This year, we awarded a record \$455,125 to 216 students. Of that amount, \$255,000 was funded from annual operations, with the balance coming from designated annual donations and income from a growing pool of scholarship endowments. Awards help make education more affordable for students and their families, and also incentivize enrollment in Grebel's residence and academic programs.

In addition to supporting student awards, Grebel's endowments sustain public lectures, the Fretz fellowship, and other activities that serve church and society. The market value of Grebel's endowment portfolio as of April 30 was just over \$8M. Investments are managed by the Board Finance and Development Committee, assisted by a separate Investment Advisory composed of Board members and experienced members of the College constituency.



The Scholarships and Bursaries Reception is a highlight each year, as award recipients are recognized for their hard work and donors are honoured for their generous contributions. Above, Joseph Tafese, Aaron Silver, and Jared Baribeau, received the PeaceWorks Technology Solutions Award, represented by John Reimer.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

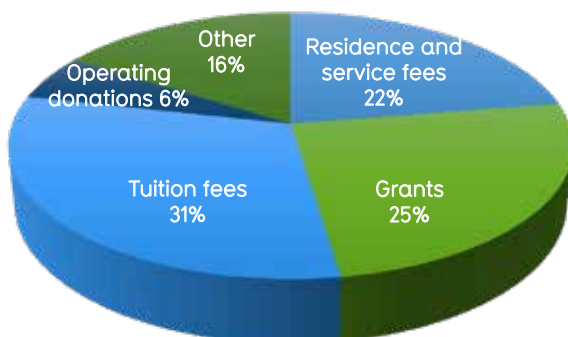
Revenue	
Academic	\$5,872,992
Residence and service fees	2,204,852
Operating donations	540,890
Investment income	205,610
Deferred contributions	757,534
Other revenue	242,107
Total revenue	\$9,823,985
Expenditures	
Academic	\$6,248,828
Residence	1,997,938
Awards and bursaries	455,125
Amortization	820,323
Other expenses	232,132
Total expenditures	\$9,754,346
Surplus	\$69,639

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

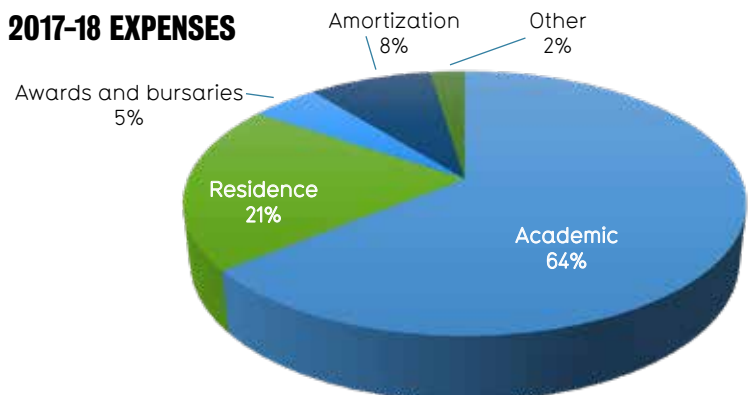
Assets	
Cash and deposits	\$3,777,473
Accounts receivable	351,290
Capital assets	13,318,647
Investments	6,437,504
Other assets	63,986
	\$23,948,900
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$1,350,664
Deferred revenue	384,717
Post employment benefit liability	1,995,155
Deferred contributions	9,241,553
	\$12,972,089
Net assets	
Invested in capital assets	\$2,515,909
Endowment	7,739,568
Internally restricted	685,223
Unrestricted	36,111
	\$10,976,811
	\$23,948,900

For audited financial statements, visit uwaterloo.ca/grebel/annual-report

2017-18 REVENUES



2017-18 EXPENSES



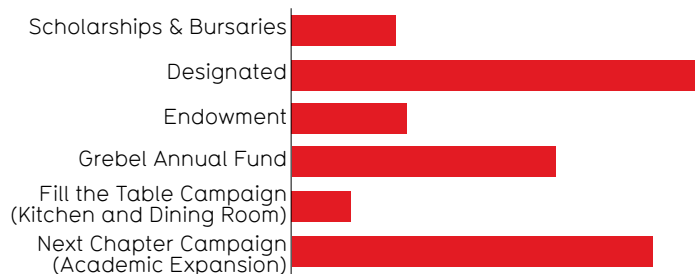
ADVANCEMENT

We gratefully received over \$1.9 million in donations in 2017-18. These gifts were used throughout the College to support student awards, public lectures, concerts, community education, and all of our formal academic programs, all in service to church and society.

More than \$245,000 in donations came from Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (MCEC), providing targeted support for the Anabaptist Learning Workshop, Ontario Mennonite Music Camp, Theological Studies, and for general operations and programs.

We also received the final installments of pledges from “The Next Chapter” building campaign (which expanded the library and archives, classrooms and music studios, and built the Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement). As The Next Chapter drew to a successful close, the first gifts towards our new

DONATIONS RECEIVED: \$1,922,050*



*Includes all amounts received from MCEC

“Fill the Table” campaign began to come in. Fill the Table will build a new kitchen for the College and renovate the dining hall. Watch for news about this exciting project.

Everyone at Grebel understands the vital role that our donors play in the life and work of the College. We thank you again for your investment in our mission.

THANK YOU TO GREBEL'S GENEROUS DONORS

1,032 DONORS SUPPORTED OUR STUDENTS AND MISSION THIS YEAR!

GOVERNOR'S CIRCLE: ANNUAL GIFTS OF \$5,000+

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Don Zehr

PRESIDENT'S PEAK: ANNUAL GIFTS OF \$2,500-\$4,999

Belmont Mennonite Church
Benton Mennonite Church
Mary and Scott Brubaker-
Zehr
Bruce and Emily Burgetz
Donny Cheung and Marika
Pauls Laucht
Gloria and Duane Eby
Harry and Joan Enns



Mary Groh established the Mennonite Diversity Award to make an educational experience at Grebel accessible to Mennonite students from culturally diverse backgrounds.

Brenda and Len Jewitt
Richard Kennel
Ronald and Ingrid Kielstra
William Klassen and Dona
Harvey
Barbara Landau
Fred W. Martin and Wanda
Wagler-Martin
Paul Penner and Dolores
Harms Penner



Richard (left) and Betty (right) Dyck generously established the Judy Dyck Music Volunteerism Award and the Richard and Betty Dyck Volunteerism Entrance Award. Judy is pictured centre.

Lynne Dueck and Richard Goodwin
 John and Irene Dyck
 East Zorra Mennonite Church
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 Chris and Loral Derksen Hiebert
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 Roy D. Erb
 Dorothy Erb
 Erie View Mennonite Church
 Esther Etchells
 Dana Evans Laity
 Margaret Ewert
 Catherine Falconer
 Henry and Elsie Flaming
 Steve and Elza Folkerts
 James and Janice Founk
 Douglas and Randi Fox
 Marinko and Lilyanna Franjic
 Edith Fransen and Harold Regier
 Clara Frascchetti
 James French
 Ken and Linda Frey
 Levi and Edna Frey
 Erna Froese
 Doris Gascho
 Rebecca and Josh Gibbins



The PACS 40th Anniversary Gala featuring Bob Rae was a sold-out affair netting \$26,000 for MPACS awards.

Kathy and Craig Cameron
 Karen Cheah
 Gail Chopiak
 Vaughn Climenhaga
 Dwight Cooney
 Larry Cornies and Jacquelyn Brown
 Paul and Judy Cornies
 Katie Cowie Redekopp and Jake Redekopp
 Andrew and Melissa Cressman
 Bruce and Esther Cressman

Caroline Giesbrecht and John Young
 Kyle and Tara Gingerich Hiebert
 Paul Gingrich and Alison Hayford
 Dennis Gingrich and Luann Good Gingrich
 Brenda Good Weber
 Kishor Gopal
 Grace Mennonite Brethren Church
 Mike and Diane Grainger

Shirley Grove and Wesley Dyck
 Peter and Joan Guch
 Nathan Gundy and Jessica Witmer
 Randel Hamel
 Ronald and Eleanor Harder
 Frieda and Waldo Harder
 Lydia and Gary Harder
 Deanne Hawes-Paraschuk
 Nancy Heide
 Vic Heinrichs
 Marg Heinrichs
 Victor and Alyce Hiebert
 Art Hildebrand
 David Hiraki
 Lester Hiraki and Sylvie Coleno
 Brian Hunsberger and Jocelyn Schaffenburg
 Michael Hunter
 Erika Isaac
 Dorothy Isaac and Greg Cressman
 Timothy Jackson and Jane Arnold
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 Alvin and Doris Jantzi
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 Eugene Janzen
 Erin Janzen
 David and Kathryn John
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 Esther and Fred Kaethler
 Rebecca Kalbfleisch
 Teresa Keller
 Fred and Nancy Kinsie
 Peter and Patricia Klassen
 Mary Lou and David Klassen
 John Klassen
 Corney and Joy Klassen
 Maria Klassen and Alf Redekopp
 Angie Koch
 Lloyd and Erla Koch
 Robert and Lois Konrad
 Alvin and Sheila Koop
 Alfred and Elizabeth Koop
 Shelby Krahn and Hoi Cheu
 Natasha Krahn and David Chodos
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 Timothy Langeman
 Hugh and Lys Laurence
 Douglas and Margaret Leask
 Connie Lepp
 R. William Lewis
 Gregory Lichti
 Mark Lichty
 Bert and Martha Lobe
 Jim and Ingrid Loepp
 Thiessen
 Maureen and Eugene Logel
 Wendy Long and Rod Barlow
 Perry Luyt
 Richard and Dorothy MacBride
 Megan MacDonald and Russell Schumm

Leanne MacKay-Bain and Jeffrey Bain
 Jim and Yvonne MacMillan
 Wendy Macpherson
 David and Doris Martin
 Alan and Christiane Martin
 Nathan Martin
 Laverne Martin
 Sara Martin
 Abner and Shirley Martin
 Sylvan and Vera Martin
 Kevin Martin and Kim Bowman
 Leanne Martin and Woodie Brown
 Nancy Martin and Greg Stere
 Ernie and Edith Martin
 Phyllis Martin-Neufeld and Keith Neufeld
 Kristen Mathies
 Nichole Matthews
 Miriam Maust
 Janice Maust-Hedrick and Tim Hedrick
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The Jim Reimer Memorial Bluegrass concert celebrated 30 years of our Theological Studies program and raised over \$10,000 for MTS awards and the Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre.

Cody Scott
 Ken and Kathryn Seiling
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 Carolyn and Glenn Snider
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 Ms. M. E. Snyder
 Marjorie E. Snyder
 Ludmila Sokolova
 St. Paul's University College
 Glenn and Irene Steiner
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 Irwin and Susan Streight
 Tom Strike and Tanya Benoit
 Maisie Sum and Dewa Suparta
 Raymond and Rosilyn Switzer
 Bruce Thielking and Kriena Deurloo-Thielking
 Harold and Mary Thiessen
 Jim Thornton
 Erwin and Ruth Tiessen
 Quentin Toderick
 Jennifer Toews and Scott Bauman
 Frank Tompa
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 Dawn and Greg Zehr
 Carl J. Zehr

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Ina Frey
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Ian Frosst
Megan Gallagher
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Thomas Gao
Samuel Garcia
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Siann Gault
Maryann Gavin
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Mark McClelland
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Scott and Melody Morton
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Benjamin Rasera

Keren Rashish
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Luke Reed
Mhari Reid
Christina Reimer and
Michael Schmidt
John and Rita Reimer
Ingira Reimer
Amy Reimer
Zab and Benjamin Reimer
Eric Rempel
Len and Kathleen Rempel
Matthias Ricker
Gemma Ricker
Michele Rae Rizoli
Marion and Lloyd Roes
Anne Rolleman
Janna Lynn Ropp Cressman
Sidney Roth
Sandra Roth
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Aaron Silver
Reed Sinclair
Kritnoor Singh
Nirmala Sivagurunathan
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Judith and Clare Wagler
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Sue Wahl
Sam Wales
Katherine Walker
Jordan Wallace
Viola Wallace
Paul Webb
Staci Weber
Andrew Welsh
Nico Werschler
Mark Whyte
Natassja Wibisono
Louise Wideman
Joanne and Clifford
Wideman
Theophilus Wiederkehr
Thomas Wigg
Andrew Wikkerink
Abigail Willms
Elasha Wilson
Nicholas Wilson
Lukas Winter
Esther Wonder
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Matthew Wright
Austin Wright
MacKenzie Wright
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Sonia Zettle
Caitlin Zhang
Miles Zimmerly Wiederkehr
and Ruth Isaac
Wiederkehr
Philip Zuidema
Natalka Zurakowsky



Many individuals, families, and organizations contribute to Grebel's student scholarships! In this photo, Ernie Ginsler meets with Rotary Peace Scholarship winners and other students.

Kathryn Good
Mary Gopanchuk
Austin Grismer
Frances Grove
Lisa Guch
Eduard Haag
Kate Hagerman
Janet Hahn
Laurie Haig
Abigail Hamann
Lauren Hankins
Shadi Hanna
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Briar Hunter
Connor Huxman
Benjamin Jacobsen

Owen Lailey
Caleb Lainez
Jonathan Lane-Smith
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Cathleen Leone
Dodie and Chris Lepp
Tiger Li
Dailin Li
June Lichti
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Rebekah Lindsay
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Anita Loepp
Abigail Loewen
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Olivia Anne Loughheed
David Loukidelis
Brock Lowery
Ofotsu MacCarthy
Suomi MacCarthy
Stuart and Reta Malloy
Noah Mandau
Lukas Mandau
Sarah and Richard Mann
Amelia Marfisi
Amy Markwart
Robyn Martens
Ryan Martin

*We are saddened by the loss of these friends.

Marlene Epp: Inspiring Mentor, Colleague

Mentor. Thoughtful. Academic defender. Curious. Compassionate. These are just a few words used by colleagues to describe scholar and historian Professor Marlene Epp, who has served Grebel as Dean since 2016. (She was also Dean from 2002 through 2005.) Stepping in at a time of transition, Marlene fully engaged her job, offering enthusiasm for each of Grebel's programs and caring for students and faculty alike. She sees the big picture and pays attention to details. An inspiring model for faculty members, she consistently looks for ways to improve her own scholarship and teaching.

"I know that our faculty are very grateful for Marlene and the skills, experience, and unflappable presence she brought to the Dean's office," remarked President Marcus Shantz. "I'm personally indebted to Marlene for her steady advice and insight during my first year at Grebel. While I will miss her as an administrator, I know that she is eager to return to teaching, and to research projects which she has had to defer the past few years."

"Marlene came to the role of Dean with the strong support of her faculty colleagues and the high respect of scholars in her fields of research," noted retired Dean and former Interim President Jim

Pankratz. "It is a great tribute to her that the support and respect grew during her time in this demanding and crucial leadership role."

Marlene is a Canadian historian with eclectic research and teaching interests in Mennonite studies, immigrants and refugees, women and gender, the history of peace and nonviolence, and the history of food and culture.

Putting high value on individual student experiences, Marlene works to personalize her teaching and to find out the unique story each student brings to the classroom. As she moves back into her full professor role, Marlene will be able to spend more time teaching and connecting with students, as well as pursuing her research.

Thank you, Marlene, for your steady and enthusiastic leadership over the last three years!



Memory, Identity, and the Sermon on the Mount

The following is a brief excerpt from the 2018 Benjamin Eby Lecture "Memory, Identity, and the Sermon on the Mount: The Case of André Trocmé," given by Religious Studies Professor Alicia Batten on October 18, 2018. The communities of the Plateau Vivarais-Lignon in France have become famous for their efforts to rescue refugees fleeing from authorities during WW II. One of the leaders, pastor André Trocmé, has received considerable attention. Alicia's lecture centred upon Trocmé's interpretation of the Sermon on the Mount at various points in his life, and explored how social memory and identity figure significantly in the interpretation and use of biblical texts.

Professor Alicia Batten gave the
2018 Benjamin Eby Lecture



"The Sermon on the Mount—memorialized in the Gospel of Matthew—served as a consistent source of knowledge for André Trocmé as he defended his positions on highly contested issues such as war, conscientious objection, various economic and social problems, and as he risked his life, with many others, for the sake of the persecuted during WW II. The Sermon functioned this way, at least in part, because it resonated with Trocmé's own identity as a minority within a minority, a pacifist, a socialist, a cosmopolitan; and as someone who reflected Kristen Renwick Monroe's notion of 'moral salience.'"

Which texts, sacred or otherwise, that a community or individual privileges, and how such texts are interpreted, are dependent, in part, on the identities of those people using them. This may be an obvious point. But studying the interpretations by different groups and people, including non-academic figures such as André Trocmé, is essential for the study of the Bible and the manner in which it is used. And, given that religious texts and traditions continue to be employed in the public square, it is essential that we hear these minority voices."

WATCH THE COMPLETE LECTURE ONLINE AT: www.grebel.ca/eby



Move-In Day energy from Orientation Week Leaders



Grad student welcome lunch



The new/old tradition of throwing the President in the lake



Act of Community



Greeting first-years



Taste of Grebel talent show



Taste of Grebel



Upper-year free car wash

#Grebelife

This September, more than 260 new and returning Grebelites descended on the College! Arriving from across Canada, the USA, and internationally from Indonesia, India, Sudan, Viet Nam, and China, these students have already brought much energy, ambition, and excitement to Grebel life. Year after year, the equal mix of first- and upper-year students continues to build a deep sense of tradition, support, and belonging within the Grebel community.

Just over 30 percent of Grebel residents come from Mennonite backgrounds, giving the College a rich diversity with more than 30 other Christian denominations represented, plus several other religions. Living with people from many walks of life and programs of study adds an additional layer to the university experience, as students expand their horizons and challenge each other through conversation and collaboration. As they participate in Grebel's yearly activities such as Move-In Day, the All-College Retreat, Taste of Grebel, Grebelbowl, and Make-A-Difference Market, students are developing a strong sense of community. These bonds will only increase as they experience end-of-term festivities and exams, in anticipation of another term of friends, fun, and scholarship.

Undergraduate numbers in the academic programs for the fall 2018 term are holding steady at over 1500 enrolments, while student interest in Grebel's graduate programs continues to rise. This year, the Master of Peace and Conflict Studies program admitted 20 new students, for a total of 41 current students. The Master of Theological Studies program welcomed 14 new students, bringing the total of MTS students to 34. The geographical diversity mixed with various faith and experience backgrounds brings an inspiring dynamic to the classroom.

Grebel Sings Bridges Gaps, Builds Community

At the beginning of the academic year, Grebel students, staff, and faculty took a deep breath and sang together—first in unison, and then in several different parts to build a new melody. The piece, called “We all Sing,” was written by Grebel Music Professor Karen Sunabacka and commissioned for the College’s 2018-19 integration initiative. This year marks the fourth year that Grebel has intentionally planned a year-long series of activities intended to offer meaningful ways for the different people and programs of Grebel to interact with one another, and with the University of Waterloo and the broader community.

Organized around the theme of “Grebel Sings,” the Grebel community will find and share their voices in song throughout the year while exploring issues of diversity, justice, hospitality, faith, and peace.

“Grebel is both a living and learning community, and we have much to learn from one another,” explained Director of Student Services Mary Brubaker-Zehr. “With the busyness of life, it’s easy to stay in our own corners of the College. All-college activities like Grebel Sings provide an opportunity to bring us together in intentional and meaningful ways. We are enriched when we come together, and we’re inspired when we rub shoulders with each other through song.”

Reflecting on the Grebel Sings idea, third-year psychology student Zoe Andres added that “singing can unite us as a community. No two people come from the exact same background, but singing is a way of bridging gaps and bringing people together over something that we can all share and take part in.”

“Singing together requires people to listen and cooperate,” explained Karen. “When we are singing, we are all working together towards a common goal. When many people sing together often, friendships and community are built!” The need for listening and cooperation was illustrated at Commencement as 200 Grebelites learned “We All Sing” by rote, layering line upon line in a canon to show the complexity and beauty of community.

The College is spending this year intentionally singing together as a way of building bridges. “We All Sing” was inspired by the Grebel Community. Students, staff, and faculty played a poetry game to form the text. Karen chose four lines to describe Grebel: *Good food*

always cookies / I am full of music and peace and life / I cannot bypass beautiful bread, I can’t resist bread / Let us hear this heart of community, let us sing. Additional parts of the song include portions of the hymn “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” to show Grebel’s faith connection to the Church. Lastly, the “foot” of the piece repeats *Sing, sing, sing* together. Portions of this piece will be learned on different occasions during the year and will be sung in its entirety at Grebel’s Lessons and Carols service in December.

As the year progresses, Grebel has planned four public musical events. Led by Grebel alumna Jane Ramseyer Miller, “Sing for Water” on October 25 focused on water, the environment, and Indigenous reconciliation, expressed through singing together. On November 17 and 18, the University of Waterloo Chamber Choir and Grand Philharmonic Chamber Choir performed “Considering Matthew Shepard,” a bold and transcendent work telling the story of a university student who was murdered in 1998 because of his sexuality.

On March 8 and 9, celebrated scholar, composer, choral clinician, vocalist and former member of Sweet Honey in the Rock, Ysaÿe Barnwell, will offer the Sawatsky Lecture on “The Power of Music to Create Inclusive Communities,” followed by a workshop on “Building a Vocal Community: The Power of Song in Community.” And March 28-30 brings the Grebel Student Council-sponsored musical, “Beauty and the Beast,” showcasing the incredible talent of Grebel students.

One of the goals of Grebel Sings is to explore issues of diversity, justice, hospitality, faith, and peace through song, opening ears and imaginations in surprising ways. “Making music and using our voices unlocks our senses and our minds,” reflected Mary. “I think we become more vulnerable, more tender and more receptive when we sing, and thus more open to new ideas, challenge, possibility, and grace. When we sing together, we are more cognizant of the other and the beauty of our collective voices. Sometimes when we sing, our differences fade away and blend in beautiful harmony, while at other times our differences are highlighted and are celebrated as new tones are experienced.”

Grebel Sings is helping the College to bring its mission to life, intentionally, creatively, and collectively.



Jane Ramseyer Miller (BA 1985) at “Sing for Water”

Mentorship is Crucial for Success

Since its inception in 2014, the Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement (CPA) has supported 17 new peace-related initiatives and organizations. This support includes access to a desk in the Frank and Helen Epp Peace Incubator, training opportunities, seed funding, and mentorship.

It has become clear that making connections with the right mentors is an absolutely crucial ingredient in the success of a peace

start-up, whether it is providing strategic advice, introducing new community partners, or helping to engage government.

Over the past year, the CPA launched a Mentorship Circle, resourced by the Barry Bauman Mentorship Fund, in order to deepen and expand this level of support. Both the CPA and the Epp Peace Incubator participants have been thrilled with the contributions that the initial six mentors—all Grebel alumni—have made. “As a small

Do you have a passion for new approaches to peace? Do you have a desire to share your experiences, expertise, and connections with our incubator participants? We would love to hear from you! Contact: Amy Zavitz alzavitz@uwaterloo.ca, CPA coordinator, to get involved.

entrepreneurial team, it's great to have a group of seasoned experts in your corner,” shared Katie Gingerich, Founder and Director of The Ripple Effect Education.

Kindred Credit Union
**CENTRE FOR PEACE
ADVANCEMENT**

CURRENT MENTORSHIP CIRCLE



Scott Beech
(BMATH 1988)



Morgan Grainger
(BMATH 2009)



Ben Janzen
(WLU MUSIC 2000)



Jessica Reesor
Rempel
(BA 2011)



Crista Renner
(MPACS 2016)



Samantha Estoesta
(BA 2013)

Heirlooms Find a Safe Place in Archives



BENDER BIBLE RETURNS TO CANADA

The “Bender Bible”—a 1744 Froschauer Bible—is in Grebel’s custody through a cooperative agreement with Mennonite Historical Library at Goshen College, IN. In May, more than 125 members of the Bender family gathered to see the Bible, hear a historical background, and to celebrate its return. Printed in Alsace, France, the Bible came to Canada in 1832 with Jacob and Magdalene Bender, an Amish immigrant family.



MARTYRS MIRROR SAVED FROM DESTRUCTION

The Canadian Conservation Institute spent nearly 700 hours rescuing one of the Milton Good Library copies of the 1780 *Der blutige Schau-Platz* (*Martyrs Mirror*) from almost certain destruction. From its mouldy, water-stained, and torn state, the Schlegel family heirloom has been cleaned, repaired, deloused, and rebound.

BOTH BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE TO VIEW BY APPOINTMENT WITH ARCHIVIST-LIBRARIAN LAUREN HARDER-GISSING
lhardergissing@uwaterloo.ca



Journal Builds Global Academic Community

The Conrad Grebel Review (CGR) builds community by providing a forum for scholars, researchers, and practitioners from various disciplines. As the academic journal published by the College, CGR seeks to advance thoughtful, sustained discussions of theology, peace, society, and culture from broadly-based Anabaptist/Mennonite perspectives.

In doing so CGR links authors and readers from Mennonite and public institutions, agencies, and churches around the world. CGR's editors heartily welcome contributions from established and emerging scholars that engage ongoing conversations and blaze new trails of inquiry.

Published three times a year, CGR is available in print and online.

Pictured above are Jeremy Bergen (CGR editor 2010–2017) and Derek Suderman (current CGR editor).

uwaterloo.ca/grebel/cgr



Canadian Boomerfest: Boomers and Spirituality

Jane Kuepfer, Schlegel Specialist in **Spirituality and Aging**, brought a keynote address to baby boomers gathered at Siloam United Church in London, October 17–19. This inaugural event brought together specialists in spirituality and aging from across North America, including Rabbi Richard Address, Dr. Reginald Bibby, Rev. Dr. Craig Kennet Miller, Mardi Tindal, Rev. Dr. Will Randolph, and Dr. Paul Links.

Conversations revolved around understanding the cultural context of the baby boom cohort and their relationship with spirituality and faith communities, as well as the spiritual challenges of the retirement years; the meaning of dependence and community, and the importance of mental health and caregiving support; spiritual discovery and growth; and cultivation of spiritual resources.

uwaterloo.ca/grebel/spirituality-and-aging

Building Community in the Wilderness

There are many ways to build community—even by paddling through the wilderness! Earlier this fall, the **Anabaptist Learning Workshop (ALW)** hosted its first backcountry workshop in Massasauga Provincial Park. Led by Tanya Dyck Steinmann and Mark Diller Harder, participants spent four days paddling, camping, portaging, and exploring spiritual practices together. One participant commented on how “disconnected from responsibilities and devices, the trip created space for reflection on faith and spirituality.”

The ALW is a program of Mennonite Church Eastern Canada in cooperation with Conrad Grebel University College.

mcec.ca/alw



Mental Health Workshops

A recent article in the *Toronto Star* was headlined “Continuing education empowers mental health.” With that in mind, check out the upcoming workshops offered in the **Conflict Management Certificate Program**, particularly those offered in 2019, including the recently added “Mental Health First Aid and Conflict” workshop.

uwaterloo.ca/conflict-management

Peace Activist Finds Support in MPACS

BY HANNAH HAIGHT
PACS STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

Rizwan, a current Master of Peace and Conflict Studies student at Grebel, is a Christian peace activist from Pakistan. Before coming to Canada, he worked in Pakistan for five years in a Christian community where he fought for the rights of minorities through activism and peacebuilding. Rizwan is passionate about religious tolerance and nonviolence. He came to Canada with the intention of attending an institution where he could learn about sustainability and peacebuilding in both local and global contexts. He appreciates the variety of backgrounds of the professors and other students in the MPACS program, as well as how comfortable he feels sharing his experiences and grief openly in classes because he is always met with encouragement, support, and respect.



"This gives me the opportunity to think more deeply about what my future plans are with these issues and allows me to concentrate on what I want to do next," he said.

Attending school in Canada has also given Rizwan the chance to relax and practice mindfulness, which has been a big change from the busy life of activism he led in his home country. Rizwan has also been a part of Christian Peacemakers Teams since arriving in Canada. He has worked with Mennonite groups on Indigenous rights issues. His long-term goal is to work within the political system in Pakistan to help build a peaceful society based on equality, religious tolerance, and respect for diversity.

Preaching Conference Empowers Women

BY SARAH BRNJAS (BA 2015), MTS STUDENT

The inaugural *Empowered Woman Preach* conference took place at Grebel over the October 19-20 weekend. It brought together women of different denominations to encourage each other and become more equipped to proclaim Christ while working to renew their local church communities.

The initiative for this conference stemmed from several MTS students taking the Preaching course at Grebel, taught by Visiting Professor Allan Rudy-Froese from Anabaptist



Sarah Brnjas

Mennonite Biblical Seminary. In response to the supportive community that students experienced while taking the course, and conversations that arose around the need for women's voices in the church, Danielle Raimbault, Erica Mills, and Marg Van Herk Pardis began plans for a conference.

The keynote speaker, Betty Pries, provided a thought-provoking message about "The Podium of the Preacher: Reading the Bible Slant," challenging attendees to look at the Bible through a different lens. Workshops that focused on topics like "The Empowered Preacher's Voice" and "So you're going to preach a sermon" provided an environment

for conference attendees to discuss their techniques for preaching, as well as offer tips and advice to those who are new to preaching in general. The conference also had opportunities to hear four women, Dana Benson, Sara Erb, Taryn Ferrede and Megan Collings-Moore, give six-minute sermons, providing a safe space for the pastors, ministers, and chaplains to hear feedback and responses to their messages.

Overall, it was an uplifting conference empowering attendees to continue making a positive difference in their church communities.



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 **Conrad Grebel
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Engineering and Peace Course Bridges Faculties

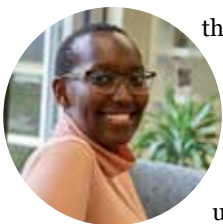
Disciplines collide at Grebel regularly, as faculty and staff strive to think beyond their individual silos. The Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) Department, for example, offers cross-listed courses in Women's Studies, Legal Studies, Political Science, History, and Music, and approves courses in many other programs. Expanding further, a new PACS course is gaining traction on the UWaterloo campus. "Engineering and Peace" (PACS 315) is attracting engineering and PACS students alike. The course looks at the kinds of problems engineers seek to address and the ways they seek to address them. Taught by Paul Heidebrecht (BASC 1994), Director of the Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement (CPA), it examines historical connections between the discipline of engineering and warfare, technological frontiers for peacebuilding, and the engineering method and mindset.

"This course tests and demonstrates Grebel's commitment to the idea that peace is everybody's business," explained Paul, who is also an engineer. "I start off every class with a conversation with an engineer, peacebuilder, or community leader, and so far it has brought more than 30 amazing individuals to our campus! These connections have translated into other opportunities for students and the CPA."

"Engineering and Peace occupies a special niche in our curriculum by inviting critical and creative reflection on roles that technology and the tech sector play in conflict and peace issues," observed PACS Chair Nathan Funk. "It forms a valuable bridge between university faculties and fosters a quite distinctive learning experience. Engineering students testify that PACS 315 encourages them to think in exciting new ways, while PACS students express enthusiasm for the opportunity to learn from and with the future engineers."

As a PACS student in her final term, Elisa Umuhiza chose to take PACS 315 because she wanted to be able to better relate to the STEM side of campus—the tech side—and to connect

the two worlds. She noted how shocking it was for students in the class to learn how many co-op jobs are connected to the military. "The morality of it all surfaced," she reported. This course "is an opportunity to grapple with ethics and to understand the power engineers have to create solutions," she explained. "It encourages students to ask the question—what are we doing?" Starting with which co-op jobs to pursue next term, this course equips students to make discerning decisions about their career and its potential impact.



Computer Science student Jonathan Smith found that PACS 315 was one of the most interactive and challenging experiences he has had at Waterloo. "With such a diverse group of students, everyone from international development specialists to civil engineers, we were able to expand our view of how technology affects the world." Inspired by the class, Jonathan went on to build a prototype of an app to help Canadians support new refugees in the country.



Likewise inspired by the course, Systems Design Engineer Jared Baribeau (BASC 2018) graduated last year and has since moved to Cambodia to work with Demine Robotics—a University of Waterloo startup that works to safely remove landmines.

"There are no shortage of technical problems that need to be addressed in order for peace to flourish, including access to essential services like water, energy, and communications technologies. At the same time, there are no shortage of problems caused by technology—and within the culture of the tech sector itself—that need to be addressed," said the CPA's Paul Heidebrecht. "I think the biggest impact this course will have on the world is that some really bright and hard-working students are being encouraged to put their best energy into problems that really matter. The sky is the limit!"

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A professional program with internships, skill building workshops, and flexible courses.

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Artist Leaves Legacy of Light

The windows in Grebel's Chapel are one of the College's most iconic features. They were designed by local artist, professor, writer, scholar, teacher, novelist, and poet Nancy-Lou Patterson, who passed away on October 15, 2018. Her art has been a gift to the College, appreciated every single day, as countless students, staff, faculty, and guests pause to take in the glorious colours and reflections that spread brilliant light throughout the Chapel. The symbols in the windows are drawn from the natural world—fire, water, earth, and growing things. Nancy-Lou's original chapel window drawings, as well as her research on local Mennonite folk art, live on in the Mennonite Archives of Ontario and in several published articles.

To the left, Grebel's first president, Winfield Fretz, stands with Nancy-Lou at Grebel's Dedication Day in 1964. *Photo courtesy of Mennonite Archives of Ontario.*

Music Notes



Music Alumna Corey Cotter Linforth (BA 2013) returned as a guest lecturer in MUSIC 254, the Baroque era. She offered insight on singing early music. Corey is currently a music director at a church and is a member of several vocal ensembles.



Jane Ramseyer Miller (BA 1985) was a special guest at Grebel for four days as part of the "Grebel Sings" initiative. She was a guest in several classes, and offered choral clinics to the UW Chamber Choir and Grand Philharmonic Choir, and inspired high school students from Rockway and United Mennonite Educational Institute in a choral day.



This summer, Music Professor Mark Vuorinen was appointed Artistic Director for the prestigious Elora Festival and the Elora Festival Singers. He is also Artistic Director of the Grand Philharmonic Choir.



Laura Gray, Stephanie Kramer, and Catherine Robertson celebrate

CELEBRATING TWO DECADES OF MUSICAL SERVICE

Stephanie Kramer and Catherine Robertson recently celebrated 20 years of service to the Grebel Music Department. In addition to her performing career and vocal coach positions, Stephanie is the Vocal Techniques Ensemble Director, Studio Coordinator, and Music Living-Learning Coordinator at Grebel. Pianist, chamber musician, singer, teacher, and coach Catherine Robertson teaches piano and piano literature courses at Grebel, and served as conductor of the Chapel Choir for several years.

Both of these women have gone above and beyond their roles in the Music Department, generously sharing their musical passion and technical expertise. Countless students and alumni have been impacted by Stephanie and Catherine's careful instruction, and several noted that their university experience was entirely shaped by the duo's teaching.

Thank you, Stephanie and Catherine!

A Sampling of Scholarship

In addition to classroom teaching, faculty and other academic personnel at Grebel accomplish a wide range of scholarship and service in the academy, church, and community. Here is just a sampling of recent activities and achievements:

JENNIFER BALL's book *Women, Development, and Peacebuilding: Stories from Uganda*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan in September 2018.

ALICIA BATTEN presented two conference papers at the November 2018 Annual Meeting of the *Society of Biblical Literature* (SBL) in Denver, Colorado. The first paper offers a review of a recent book on ritual and early Christianity, while the second assesses the SBL educational website, BibleOdyssey.org.

JEREMY BERGEN presented a paper titled "The Ecumenism of Martyrdom and the Mission of the Church" at the *American Academy of Religion* annual meetings in Denver, Colorado, November 17, 2018.

MARLENE EPP presented the keynote address, "The Intersectional Mennonite and Writing Inclusive Histories: Cookbook as Metaphor," at *A People of Diversity: Mennonites in Canada since 1970*, the Mennonite Historical Society of Canada's 50th Anniversary Conference, University of Winnipeg, November 15, 2018.

LOWELL EWERT traveled with a group of seven MPACS students to Glenside, Pennsylvania, to attend the *Peace and Justice Studies Association* Conference held at Arcadia University, September 27-30, 2018. He delivered a paper entitled "Expanded View of Peace Studies in a Divisive Era." A second paper he co-wrote with an MPACS student on the topic of the "Efficacy of Op-Eds" was presented by Kelsey Gallagher.

NATHAN FUNK led a workshop entitled "Can We Talk?: Dialogue and Social Change" for Global Peace Centre Canada and the Hamilton Community Foundation, Hamilton, Ontario, on June 8, 2018.

Laureen Harder-Gissing's article, "Hidden in That Little List": Genealogical Pursuits, Outcomes, and Representations in the Lives of Two Mennonite Women" was published in *Mennonite Quarterly Review*, 92 (July 2018): 377-401.

PAUL HEIDEBRECHT completed a book chapter entitled "Christian Political Engagement in a New Key? Reading Ellul in Ottawa," in *Political Illusion and Reality: Engaging the Prophetic Insights of Jacques Ellul*, edited by David W. Gill and David Lovekin, published by Wipf and Stock, 2018.

JANE KUEPFER successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, *Narratives of Baby Boomers: Envisioning Late Life Spiritual Resources*, at Martin Luther University College, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, in June 2018.

REINA NEUFELDT travelled to Haiti this summer for a mid-term reflection and evaluation workshop with Mercy Corps. She also wrote an article, "When Good Intentions Are Not Enough," which is featured in the fall edition of *The Conrad Grebel Review*.

TROY OSBORNE attended a meeting of the editorial board of the *Classics of the Reformation Series* at the Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana, August 16-17, 2018.

CAROL PENNER presented "#ChurchToo and the Engaged Practical Theologian," at the *British and Irish Association for Practical Theology Conference* held at the University of Warwick, Coventry, UK, July 10-12, 2018.

MAISIE SUM completed fieldwork this summer for a cross-cultural study of music, health and well-being in Morocco and Indonesia, which was generously funded by the UW/SSHRC SEED Grant and Grebel's Academic Development and Research Fund. She also presented, "Getting the Groove: Variation, Expectation and Affective Responses Across Cultures" at the *Analytical Approaches to World Music Conference*, in Thessaloniki, Greece, June 25-29, 2018, and "Wearables in the Field: A New Dimension to Ethnomusicology?" at the *Society for Ethnomusicology Conference* in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in November 2018.



Karen Sunabacka performs "We All Sing" at Grebel's 2018 Commencement Service.

KAREN SUNABACKA travelled to Texas State University in November to work with an ensemble on her newest piece and presented at a composition seminar. The piece, commissioned by a string duo based at Texas State University is on the theme of women and connections. She also completed "We All Sing" in August that was commissioned for the Grebel Sings project.

MARK VUORINEN's paper, "At the intersection of *ratio* and *intuitio*: Arvo Pärt's *Como cierba sedienta*" appears in the Fall 2018 edition of the peer-reviewed journal *Principles of Music Composing*, published by the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre.



Each year, we provide an opportunity for alumni and supporters to give students and programs a vote of confidence by making a gift to the Grebel Fund.

You may ask: Doesn't the government fund Grebel's programs? Don't tuition fees cover the cost? Is Grebel really a charity? Does Grebel need my donation?

The Revenue pie chart in the annual report that is inserted in this issue of Grebel Now shows that only 25 percent of our revenue comes from a government grant. Over the last number of years tuition has become a bigger part of our revenue as the grant declines. This puts pressure on students and families as these fees rise faster than inflation.

Annual Grebel Fund helps us be hospitable

In response to this situation, we have committed to growing our student support with increased scholarships and bursaries—more than \$455,000 last year! More than half of these awards come from our operating revenue, including the Grebel Fund.

Donations to the Grebel Fund comprise 6 percent of our revenue. These gifts are partly used for student awards and financial aid, but also used “to make Grebel, Grebel.”

One thing that makes Grebel unique and hospitable is our strong student leadership development program, which includes a Chaplain and Campus Hosts. Our Music Department offers free Noon Hour concerts. The PACS Department supports students in internship placements around the world. Carol Penner, who teaches Practical Theology, mentors students in Supervised Experience in Ministry

(SEM) placements. Grebel's Archives and Library facilities are open to anyone interested in research in our areas of specialty.

All these aspects of our program are ways in which we show hospitality. We welcome your support in this work through a gift to our annual Grebel Fund.

Watch for an appeal in your mailbox, or go online today to make your tax-deductible gift to our students and programs!

Thanks for making Grebel a warm and hospitable community for our students!

Fred W. Martin



Fred W. Martin, Director of Advancement | fwmartin@uwaterloo.ca | 519-885-0220 x 24381

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grebel.ca/giving

ESTATE GIFT ESTABLISHES PASTORAL TRAINING AWARD

Recently Grebel received an estate gift from a Mennonite family through Abundance Canada. In dialogue with the family, the college has used this generous gift to establish the Pastoral Training Award endowment fund.

Interest earnings from the endowment will be used to support students in the Applied Studies option of the Master of Theological Studies program at the College who demonstrate an interest in exploring ministry and pastoral training. It will be focused on students who have declared an interest in pursuing an internship or Supervised Experience in Ministry (SEM) placement.

“We are so thankful for this award, which will support students training for ministry. The gift of this award really embodies a spirit of service,” noted Professor Carol Penner, who teaches Practical Theology.

Meenesh (left) and Kishor Gopal (middle) shake hands with President Marcus Shantz while members of the PACS Department look on.

NEW MPACS AWARD INSPIRED BY GANDHI AND MANDELA

Kishor Gopal, his son Meenesh, and his extended family are hoteliers who emigrated to Canada from South Africa in the 1970s. Kishor became committed to peacebuilding and reconciliation through the examples of Mohandas K. Gandhi and Nelson Mandela. As Kishor said, “I have tried to follow their example in my life and my business.” The Gopal Family MPACS Award, an endowed scholarship, will be used to support students enrolled in the MPACS program who want to pursue an internship during their program of study, and who have an interest in peace in a global perspective. “We are thrilled to have another award for our growing graduate program,” noted PACS Director Nathan Funk.





1995-2005 Era Reunion

Reunions Spark Memories

This summer, Grebel staff were privileged to meet hundreds of alumni at various gatherings around Ontario! We congregated in Leamington, Toronto, Niagara, and Waterloo, to reconnect over snacks and drinks, as President Marcus Shantz and Fred Martin shared Grebel news and future plans.



On September 22, alumni from the 1995-2005 era returned with their friends and families for an afternoon of food (so much food!), children's activities, and a short program with a quiz hosted by Donny Cheung (MMATH 2002, PhD 2007). As a special treat for children, award winning children's author Nadia L. Hohn (BA 2001) (pictured left) enthralled families with a reading and presentation. Many thanks to the dedicated group of reunion planners: Sarah (Hastings) Martin (BA 2001), Brenda (Shantz) Prins (BSC 2002), Gideon Prins (BES 2001), Alissa Bender (WLU 2001), Tobin Reimer (BA 2008), and Meghan (Voth) Reimer (BA 2007).

Next year's 2005-2015 era reunion will take place on June 1, 2019.



Niagara Alumni Gathering



Kitchener-Waterloo Alumni Gathering



Leamington Alumni Gathering



Toronto Alumni Gathering

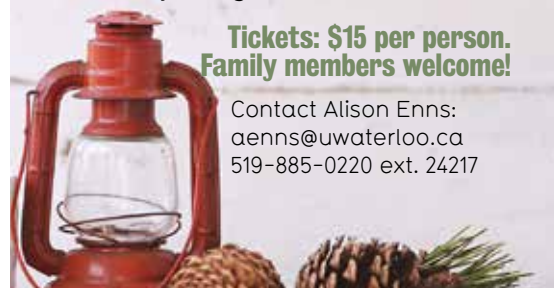
DOON LANTERN TOUR

DECEMBER 1, 2018
7:00PM or 8:30PM
DOON HERITAGE VILLAGE

Alumni are invited to step back in time and experience the sights and sounds of Christmas by the light of a lantern.

**Tickets: \$15 per person.
Family members welcome!**

Contact Alison Enns:
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SENATORS VS ISLANDERS
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MAR
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2019

BEAUTY & THE BEAST ALUMNI AFTERNOON

MARCH 30, 2019 | AFTERNOON
Conrad Centre for the
Performing Arts | Kitchener

Grebel alumni families who attend the Saturday matinée performance are invited to stay a bit longer to meet Beauty and the Beast characters! Take photos with Belle and the Beast, ask questions, and win some Grebel swag!



UWATERLOO.CA/GREBEL/MUSICAL

People

Doug Johnstone (BMath 1992) lives in Durham, Ontario. He and his wife Susan (sister of Kevin Driedger 1989) and 5 children (aged 8 to 14) are involved with Ethnos Canada. Ethnos Canada, formerly known as New Tribes Mission of Canada, has the motto “A thriving church for every people.” Doug is a CPA and works in the finance department and Susan coordinates the mission’s volunteers. Doug can be reached at dougjohnstone@ethnos.ca.



Composer/pianist Grebel Professor Emerita **Carol Ann Weaver’s** eighth CD, *Songs for My Mother* tributes her late mother, Miriam L. Weaver. Grebel features prominently with Carol (composer/

pianist), Grebel music grads **Mary-Catherine Pazzano** (BA 2010) (soprano), **Cliff Snyder** (BA 2002) (graphics), **Katie Wreford** (BA 1989) (manufacturer); Grebel faculty **Ben Bolt-Martin** (cellist), **Willem Moolenbeek** (saxophonist). Recorded in Grebel’s Chapel, music is based on her mother’s



words about Appalachian Kentucky, birth of her granddaughter, and her last moments to live. Other songs incorporate Carol’s African field recordings, and songs of hope, peace, and gratitude. carolannweaver.com/cds-2

A crowd of old friends, alumni, and people interested in Restorative Justice filled the Grebel Gallery on October 11 to hear from **Dean Peachey** (MA 1982, PhD 1986). He reflected on the seeds of peace that were sown during the 25 years he and his wife **Missy Miller** (MASC 1981) spent in Kitchener-Waterloo. As Grebel’s 2018 Distinguished Alumni Service Award winner, Dean travelled to Grebel from Winnipeg to take part in a discussion/interview entitled “Backward/Forward: Reflections on Peace, Conflict, and Human Rights.”



KEEP IN TOUCH! SEND US YOUR UPDATES!

Send us a note to share about your life since graduation. We’d love to hear of your adventures, career, family, retirement, babies, weddings, or general updates. Email grebel@uwaterloo.ca



Coached by Paul Heidebrecht, Grebel’s student MEDA team has been meeting to discuss their ideas for this year’s November \$5k MEDA pitch competition! It is wonderful to see young social entrepreneurs and community innovators at work!

Matthew Bailey-Dick (BA 2000) successfully defended his PhD dissertation, “Pedagogy of the Deceased: The Cemetery as a Classroom for Community Development and Hope.” He studied in the department of Adult Education and Community Development at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. Matthew is coordinator of the Anabaptist Learning Workshop.



Grebel recently hired a number of new employees—some for permanent positions and some on a temporary basis to cover work leaves. We are especially fortunate when we can welcome back our alumni!



Kim Penner (MTS 2001) is Grebel’s new Admin. Assistant to Theological Studies and Anabaptist Learning Workshop. Since graduating from Grebel, Kim attained a PhD in Theology and worked at Emmanuel College at the University of Toronto.



Jonathan Boerger (MTS 2018) began working this summer as Grebel’s new Communications Assistant. Before achieving his master’s degree in Theology from Grebel, Jonathan received a diploma in graphic design. He is also active in a pastoral role in his church.



Sarah MacKeil (BA 2017) graduated from the University of Waterloo last year with an English degree. As a student at Grebel, Sarah was a student ambassador and was very involved in recent student musicals. She has taken on the role of Conferences, Bookings & Events Coordinator.



Seth Ratzlaff (BA2014, MPACS 2018) is serving as PACS Administrative Officer and Graduate Studies Coordinator. A former Grebel resident, he is co-authoring a writing project in collaboration with a local Indigenous storyteller.



Amy Zavitz (BES 2015, MA 2018) has been hired as Coordinator, Centre for Peace Advancement to cover Michelle Jackett’s maternity leave. She completed her undergrad degree in Environment and Resource Studies with a PACS minor, and completed her MA in Global Governance at the Balsillie School.

Don't Miss Our Winter 2018 Lecture Line-Up!

Grebel was fortunate in the Fall 2018 term to welcome many visitors to the College who graciously offered lectures, musical skill, fond memories, research findings, and expertise. In addition to regular Anabaptist Learning Workshops, Conflict Management Certificate Program workshops, Noon Hour Concerts, brown bag lunches, and Faculty Forums, the Winter 2019 term will also bring exciting public lectures on topics that reflect the College's areas of interest and specialization.



The Bechtel Lectures in Anabaptist-Mennonite Studies will host Dr. Irma Fast Dueck from Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg. She is a practical theologian who will explore the topic of young people in the Mennonite church today, speaking on "Take me to the Waters: Baptism, Commitment, and the Church." Her teaching and research interests frequently lead her to themes connected to the practices of the church and the theology purveyed/conveyed by those practices. Join us for a public lecture on February 7 and a youth panel on February 8. Both events start at 7:30pm and take place at Grebel.



The "Grebel Sings" initiative will end on a high note in March 2019 with a visit by Dr. Ysaÿe Barnwell, appointed as the College's Rodney and Lorna Sawatsky Visiting Scholar. Barnwell is a celebrated scholar, composer, choral clinician, vocalist, and former member of Sweet Honey in the Rock. For almost thirty years, She has led the workshop "Building a Vocal Community - Singing In the African American Tradition," which utilizes oral tradition, an African world view and African American history, values, and cultural and vocal traditions to build communities of song among singers and non-singers alike. On March 8 at 7:30pm she will

offer a public lecture on "The Power of Music to Create Inclusive Communities" in the Grebel Great Hall and on March 9, a two-hour workshop on "Building a Vocal Community: The Power of Song in Community" at Knox Presbyterian Church in Waterloo.



And finally, on a date to be announced in Spring 2019, Conrad Grebel's J. Winfield Fretz Visiting Research Scholar in Mennonite Studies will present a public lecture. Dr. Ben Nobbs-Thiessen is a historian of Latin America whose research focuses on the evolving history of the low-German Mennonite diaspora in the region.

Most events are free but some require registration. Watch the Grebel website for more information closer to the event dates or to catch recordings of the lectures afterwards.

uwaterloo.ca/grebel/events

Calendar

- Until May 2019
"Sites of Nonresistance" archival exhibit
- Until December 20, 2018
"Cultural Translation" exhibit
- December 1, 2018
Make-a-Difference Market
- December 1, 2018
Alumni Doon Lantern Light Tour
- January 14-April 12, 2019
"Gichitwaawizi'igewin: Honouring" exhibit
- February 3, 2019
Toronto Alumni Gathering Raptors Game
- February 7 & 8, 2019
Bechtel Lectures with Irma Fast Dueck
"Take Me to the Waters: Baptism, Commitment, and the Church"
- February 21, 2019
Grade 10 Family Night
- March 7, 2019
Ottawa Alumni Gathering Senators Game
- March 8, 2019
Sawatsky Lecture with Ysaÿe Barnwell
"The Power of Music to Create Inclusive Communities"
- March 9, 2019
Workshop with Ysaÿe Barnwell
"Building a Vocal Community: The Power of Song in Community"
- March 9, 2019
March Break Open House
- March 23, 2019
Faith and Technology Youth Event
- March 29-31, 2019
Beauty and the Beast student musical
- May 25, 2019
You@Waterloo Day
- June 13-14, 2019
Aging & Spirituality Conference
- August 11 to August 23, 2019
Ontario Mennonite Music Camp

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Disney's Beauty and the Beast is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTishows.com



CULTURAL TRANSLATION: NEGOTIATED THIRD SPACES AND THOSE WHO LIVE THERE

This Grebel Gallery exhibit features the work of artist Soheila Esfahani on display until Dec. 20, 2018. uwaterloo.ca/centre-peace-advancement/grebel-gallery

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