

GREBEL NOW

Conrad Grebel University College Magazine

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT: FORTY YEARS STRONG

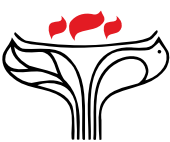
Mama's Painting: Louis Riel's Dream

Composing our Story with my Grandmother and my Mother

New Grebel Professor

Focusing on Early Music and Community

SPRING 2018



Vol. 34 No. 2

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Our Stories are Interwoven

As you read this issue of *Grebel Now*, you will notice the many intersections between stories. Links abound, whether it is people, programs, ideas, or aspirations that bind everything at Grebel together. Learn about the power of music and the pursuit of peace. Get a sense of the deep history of our Music Department. Read about our alumni and professors. Hear students share about transformational conferences, meaningful volunteer experiences, and memorable moments. This issue also illustrates a growing awareness and integration of Indigenous priorities at Grebel.

The stories in *Grebel Now* are a testament to the many generous supporters who help to sustain the College's unique programming through student

scholarships, the annual Grebel Fund, special events, and in many other tangible and intangible ways. Built on this foundation, there is a noticeable atmosphere of hope as our students go out into the world on their separate paths, bringing their own knowledge and skills, determined to make an impact.

Front Cover: Grebel offers instruction in more than 20 instruments, as well as vocal lessons.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Hello, Goodbye, and Thank You

BY MARCUS SHANTZ, PRESIDENT

I write this column at the beginning of April, which is an intense and bittersweet month on our campus. It's intense mainly because it's the end of winter term. Students are hard at work finishing projects and papers, and studying for exams. Faculty are preparing for a flood of marking, and will push themselves to complete it all in a short time frame. In the halls of Grebel this month, many of our people have adopted a focused, laboured expression—something like long-distance runners in the middle of a marathon.

The bittersweet flavour of April on campus comes from the many transitions and milestones that we will mark over the next few weeks. April is our time to say “goodbye,” “hello,” and “thank you.”

First-year residence students will pack up their rooms and begin co-op terms and summer jobs. Back in September, they came here as strangers, and we expect and hope that they have become life-long friends. We're grateful that all of them were part of our community this year. Soon, a different group of residents will arrive for spring term. Some will be returning students, others will be new.



Our senior students are preparing to graduate and move on to careers, travel, and further studies. As the term came to an end, a number of our senior students were invited to reflect on their Grebel experience at Chapel and at a Community Supper. There was an inspiring commonality to their reflections. They mainly spoke about how thankful they were for others—for the many friends and mentors they found during their time here.

While each of them could have simply highlighted their individual accomplishments, they chose to speak gratefully about how their community helped them during hard moments.

Caitie Walker, soon to graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology, spoke for many when she said: “While I have loved my time here, I've also had massive times of self doubt.... This is the place where life happens, and sometimes it's really rough stuff. The only things that matter are that the people who love you support you when you need them, and that you try.” That's good advice for all of life, not just for university. Thanks Caitie, and thanks to all of our graduating students for your inspiring example of mutual support and solidarity.



One major transition to highlight is that professor Ken Hull of our Music Department will retire at the end of this month. Shortly after saying goodbye to Ken, we will welcome a new scholar, Dr. Katherine Kennedy Steiner, who will continue Ken's legacy in teaching music history, Christian hymnody, and sacred music.

Following Grebel custom, we interrupted Ken's last class of the term with cake and a song (“For he's a jolly good teacher”) which was shared with faculty, staff, and students. Ken began teaching at Grebel in 1977, which makes him the longest-serving Grebel faculty member on record.

I got to know Ken as a student (when I arrived at Grebel in 1991, he conducted the Chapel Choir), and served on the Board with him in the early 2000s (he represented faculty and I represented the alumni). Thanks Ken, for sharing your love of sacred music, your ecumenical sensibility, and your wit and wisdom.

At Grebel, we are constantly graced by people. Some come and go after a few months or years, others stay for an full career of service. Each person brings us something to be thankful for.

COMPOSING OUR STORY WITH MY GRANDMOTHER AND MY MOTHER IN Mama's Painting: Louis Riel's Dream

BY KAREN SUNABACKA, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

My Métis grandmother, Lenore Clouston, gave me my first book about Louis Riel and the Métis people when I was three years old. She had not known her heritage until she was in her twenties, and she did not want her children or grandchildren to grow up without this knowledge. So I grew up proud of this heritage and when my grandmother took us to pow-wows, jigging contests, and square dances, I heartily participated. I even learned to fiddle with my grandfather so I could participate as a musician during the celebrations and parties at my grandparents farm.

As a teenager I watched my mother's writing career blossom as she worked with Indigenous communities, edited stories, and developed Indigenous resources and books for the United and Anglican churches of Canada. We regularly had Indigenous Elders at our supper table, sometimes staying at our house for days at a time.

Lower Fort Garry, built by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1830, figured prominently in my childhood, though it was not just a pleasant place to visit. I have deep and conflicted connections to the place. While I enjoyed many family and school trips to this National Historic Site, and my husband and I had our wedding pictures taken there, it was also where Treaty 1 was signed between the Ojibwa, Swampy Cree of Manitoba, and the Crown. I remember family discussions about how ancestors from my Scottish grandfather's side would be working on the inside of the Fort and how my Métis and Swampy Cree relatives lived and supported the Fort from the outside. I remember that as a child, those walls were significant, and represented more than simply a boundary. This unequal and racially charged divide was all part of me, part of my heritage.

My grandmother lived with these cultural clashes in her own community and marriage. Her husband was Scottish and she was Métis. Because of this, she understood the complexity of this culturally diverse community and worked tirelessly towards reconciliation for the future generations—often saying that it was the grandchildren and great grandchildren who would accept all peoples as equal.

When my grandmother was in her fifties and sixties, she started a large project she called "Louis Riel's Dream." She began with five sketches that she intended to turn into five paintings. These paintings were to highlight the history of Western Canada through the stories of the Indigenous peoples. The first painting was to depict a community of First Nations peoples on the prairies before meeting Europeans. The second painting was to show the first meeting of First Nations people with European settlers. The third and fourth paintings were to depict the rise of the Métis Nation and the conflicts rising out of the clash of cultures. The fifth and final painting was to show multicultural peoples standing hand in hand in a circle, and to



Pictured top: *Louis Riel's Dream - Painting 1* by Lenore Clouston
(Close to completion.)

Pictured above: *Louis Riel's Dream - Painting 2* by Lenore Clouston
(Unfinished. Only the background is coloured
and the human figures are only sketched.)

Pictured right: *Indigenous woman with prayer book* by Lenore Clouston
(Hung on the wall of Karen's family home as she grew up.)

symbolize a coming together of peoples, regardless of races, gender, or colour. My grandmother never finished this project, and all that remains are two unfinished paintings. The sketches, sadly, were lost in a fire.

Because I was so compelled by my grandmother's project—her artwork and her inspiration from Louis Riel—when I was commissioned to write a Piano Quintet for the Agassiz (B.C.) Chamber Music Festival in 2015, I decided to complete her art project musically. I sought collaboration with members of my family, using the prose of my mother, Joyce Clouston, to start each of the five movements of the piece, and inviting my sister Andrea Carlson and my aunts Lisa and Lana Clouston to contribute art works to display at the concert. The premiere was a wonderful and collaborative event. Composing the piece was both a musical completion of my grandmother's five-painting plan, and also a celebration of my grandmother.

The prose offers some insights about who my grandmother was, how she worked on her art, her struggles and her discovery of her Métis heritage. The prose also connects my grandmother with my mother and me—we all explore similar themes in our art.

Mama's Painting: Louis Riel's Dream begins with the following prose that my mom titled "Mama's Painting":

Late at night I awoke
Mama in the kitchen, working intently
On what looks like an empty page.

Suddenly the lines join
Forming an image

A child emerges, smiling in black and white.

I love my mother's description of how my grandmother worked late at night, after all the children were in bed, and how the lines seem unrelated until they suddenly make sense. It described how my grandmother would begin each of her works—sketching on a blank page. This also resonates with how I begin writing music—with a blank page.

For me the most meaningful moment in the prose comes when my own mother remembers my grandmother talking about how the women in her family had no names. The following is an excerpt from the beginning of movement III, titled "Rise of the Métis Nation":

Karen Sunabacka teaches music theory and composition at Grebel.

Pictured right, she performed *Mama's Painting: Louis Riel's Dream* at a Noon Hour Concert at the College in March.



. . . But the women. The women had no names, they had no faces. They were Swampy Cree. I know that now, but I found it in the archives. And, I can't go anywhere in this country to find out where my ancestors, the women, were from.

My mother was Swedish. And she was the first white woman in the family in five generations. She was ashamed of us. She was prejudiced. She insisted my father was Scottish. But, look at him. Look at his picture. He looked like Chief Pontiac.

So mama drew the women, their faces, beautiful faces, emerging out of darkness.

"So mama drew the women...." My mother's description of my grandmother's actions sums up part of how my grandmother worked through the conflicts in her life. She drew, she painted, she sculpted, she created stained glass windows. She encouraged her children and grandchildren to create art, and she also founded a community art centre to enable others to create art. She understood the need for reconciliation through art.

As my grandmother felt the need to draw and paint the faces of Indigenous women, and my mother feels the need to write down the stories of women and others, I feel the need to tell the stories of women and my heritage through music. I grew up with my grandmother's paintings on our walls, and a favourite of mine depicts an Indigenous woman reading a prayer book (pictured right). It wasn't necessarily someone my grandmother knew, but it was important for her to draw a woman in our heritage who was nameless and faceless. This woman is a treasured part of our family and a treasured part of our heritage.



The vision of my grandmother continues to be something for which I feel our communities should strive. We live in a time where racism and the fear of others continues. Yet I can see changes. Many of us are reaching out to others who are misunderstood or feared in our society and in our families. There is still a long way to go, but the vision of my grandmother offers one way of working towards a possible future where all can live together in harmony, reconciled to one another.

The Music Department: Forty Years Strong

BY LAURA GRAY, MUSIC DEPARTMENT CHAIR AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

When Grebel was founded in 1963, no one could have anticipated the growth of the Music program and the central role Music would play in giving voice to the College's mission in the ensuing 55 years. Despite the misgivings of Grebel President Winfield Fretz about launching a degree program in Music (deemed "not advisable" due to the considerable cost), the unique identity of the Music program nevertheless grew out of the very founding principles of the College. And these same ideals continue to nurture the Music program's focus, direction, and sense of mission on the campus of the University of Waterloo in the 21st century.



Mennonite Archives of Ontario

The College was open to testing the interest in Music among Waterloo students and therefore hired Helen Martens in 1965 to teach two courses linking Music, Fine Arts, and Literature. From the beginning, Music sought to embody its mission "to engage students in the study of music within the context of the liberal arts" and to "equip them with skills, knowledge, and a multi-dimensional understanding of music," goals that have set the tone for the development of the program for more than fifty years.

By the end of Fretz's tenure as president in 1973, Music enrolment and offerings had expanded so steadily that two new music degree programs were approved by the University Senate in 1974. The 3-year General Bachelor of Arts and the 4-year Honours BA in Music were first awarded in 1977, the same year that the Music program was formally established as a department within the Faculty of Arts. As enrolment soared in

the following years, the Music Department expanded its faculty, eventually reaching a complement of six full-time faculty at its peak, before the retirement of Martens and Wilbur Maust in the 1990s. Since that time, the Music program has undergone expansion in all areas—in its innovative curriculum, in course enrolments of up to 2,000 per year, in its faculty complement, and in the number and size of ensembles. A new Music wing in the academic building was completed in 2014, replete with a classroom, ensemble room, digital lab, and new teaching and practice spaces.

Thanks to the liberal arts focus of the program within the Faculty of Arts, the Music curriculum expanded beyond the core areas of history, theory, and performance. Many creative courses in the 1970s and 1980s put the Music Department at the forefront of development in post-secondary music education, including Maust's Music and Culture course in Vienna, and courses in Popular Music, Jazz, Aesthetics, Hymnody and Worship, Women and Music, Music and Technology, and the Psychology of Music. The innovative curriculum focused on deeper exploration of musical intersections with other disciplines and the connections between music and the world around us—an emphasis that still informs the program.

In recent years, the Music program has continued to present distinctive offerings, including the Church Music and Worship program, first offered as a minor, option, and diploma in 1997, and more recent specializations in "Music in Global Context" and "Music and Peace." Additionally, the travel and culture courses have expanded to include South Africa, London and Leipzig, and in the coming years, the Baltics (in 2019) and Bali, Indonesia (in 2020).

The last five years have seen a dramatic transition in the make-up of the full-time

faculty, owing to the retirement of three long-serving and influential members (Leonard Enns, Carol Ann Weaver, and Ken Hull) and the hiring of four new members (Mark Vuorinen, Maisie Sum, Karen Sunabacka, and Kate Steiner). In July 2013, the complement of full-time faculty increased to five with an appointment in Global Music, fulfilling a long-standing commitment to expand the Department's course offerings to include music of other cultures and hands-on experience with cross-cultural music-making in a world ensemble.

To realize the experiential mandate of the Global Music curriculum, the Department added a Balinese gamelan ensemble in fall 2013 (directed by Artist-in-Residence, I Dewa Made Suparta) and the College invested in a full gamelan from Bali in 2016. In fall 2017, we further expanded our ensemble offerings by assuming ongoing formal responsibility of orchestra@uwaterloo, formerly an independent ensemble made up of students, faculty, and staff.

Throughout the many years since its inception, the Music Department remains strongly rooted in the Mennonite heritage of the College, fostering a sense of service, community, inclusiveness, mutual support, and hospitality. Music classes are filled with students from all disciplines across campus, providing a rich diversity of viewpoints. The seven ensembles provide a welcome respite to hundreds of students each term and an opportunity to develop their musical gifts in an atmosphere where all are welcome and valued.



40 years
MUSIC strong

Helen Martens: Grebel Trailblazer

The first in a distinguished legacy of long-serving musical visionaries, Helen Martens was hired as a music professor at Grebel in 1965. Illustrating the College's interdisciplinary focus from the beginning, the initial classes Helen taught were Music and the Fine Arts, as well as Music and Literature. Building on the success of these courses, Grebel subsequently added directing the College choir and piano instruction to her duties, plus courses in music history and music appreciation.

Before coming to Grebel, Helen completed a PhD in Music at New York's Columbia University. She received her BA and MA at the University of Minnesota; attained an ARCT piano diploma from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, and an LRSM Licentiate from the Royal Schools of Music in England; and studied piano at Juilliard.

"In her pioneering work as a musicologist, pianist, choral director and supportive mentor, Helen laid the foundation of Grebel's distinctive music program," noted Music Chair Laura Gray. "The mission she embodied—to equip students in academics, performance, and ensemble work, and to engage them in searching for music's meaning in its connections with other disciplines and society—continues to inform the direction of the music program today."

In her desire to bring music into the lives of students of all ages, Helen founded the Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir (IMCC) in Waterloo, which celebrated its 50th anniversary last year.

Under her direction, IMCC regularly performed in southwestern Ontario, toured Pennsylvania and New York, sang at Rideau Hall in Ottawa, and won top prize in the 1978 CBC National Radio Competition for Amateur Choirs.

In addition to teaching music, Helen has written several books and published numerous articles. Her first book, *Hutterite Songs*, was based on her doctoral dissertation, and established her as an authority on the music of the Amish, Hutterites, and Mennonites. Grebel lore still recounts the day that Helen mentioned how "some guy" named Leonard Nimoy kept calling her about a movie he was making. After learning who Nimoy was, she eventually took the calls seriously and ended up on the movie set of *Holy Matrimony* as their Hutterite music and culture expert. Helen described the project as "the most gratifying, frustrating, interesting, boring, and remarkable professional experience I've ever had." More recently, she published *Felix Mendelssohn, Out of the Depths of his Heart* in 2009 and *Passion vs Duty: Felix Mendelssohn, Cecile, Jenny Lind and E.J.* in 2012. These two books stem from research she began in the 1980s, translating hundreds of letters written in German gothic script.

Today, Helen lives in Winnipeg, where she celebrated her 90th birthday this past January with family and friends. She last visited Grebel in 2013 during the College's 50th anniversary.



Music Notes



RENOWNED COMPOSER THRILLS MUSIC STUDENTS

Latvian Ēriks Ešņvalds is one of the most sought-after composers working today, with a busy commission schedule and performances of his music heard on every continent. Through a connection with Music Professor Mark Vuorinen, Ešņvalds offered a seminar and singers' workshop in partnership with Grebel's three choirs and the Grand Philharmonic Choir in February. Enchanting the large crowd with his insightful comments and entertaining musical direction, Ešņvalds brought a sparkle of light to an otherwise dark evening.



ARIA & CONCERTO COMPETITION

With a spectacular performance of Brahms' 2nd piano concerto, Computer Science student Eric Liang placed first in orchestra@uwaterloo's Aria and Concerto Competition in January. Eric will perform the 1st movement with the orchestra at an upcoming concert. Omer Strumpf, cello, and Joanna Chu, piano, also distinguished themselves, and schedule permitting, they will perform with the orchestra in the future.

New Grebel Prof Will Focus on Early Music and Community

Musicologist Dr. Katherine Kennedy Steiner will join Conrad Grebel University College's faculty as Assistant Professor of Music, starting July 1, 2018. Teaching an array of courses from broad musicology surveys and music of the Renaissance and medieval eras, to church music and worship, Kate will engage with diverse groups of students across the University of Waterloo campus. She will also direct the College's Chapel Choir.

"We eagerly anticipate welcoming Dr. Steiner as a colleague," remarked Music Chair Laura Gray. "As a musicologist of the highest caliber, Kate brings a range and depth of talents, interests, experiences, and expertise to her role at Grebel. Her unique combination of scholarship in medieval music and practical experience in worship will inform both the music history curriculum and the Church Music and Worship program."

Before earning a PhD in Musicology from Princeton University, Kate received an MA in Religion, Liturgical Studies from Yale University Divinity School and Institute of Sacred Music, and a BMus from Wheaton College. Kate has since held prestigious post-doctoral appointments as a Lilly Fellow at Valparaiso University and a Mellon Fellow at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies at the University of Toronto. Her numerous publications and presentations highlight her astute and original research.

"Dr. Steiner's scholarship linking liturgy, ritual, and music to communal identity in both medieval and contemporary contexts will enrich numerous programs at Grebel,

including Theological Studies, Religious Studies, and Peace and Conflict Studies, as well as other programs at the University of Waterloo," noted Grebel's Dean Marlene Epp. "Kate is a curious and creative scholar who views music as an historically and socially embedded practice."



Kate is eager to begin her role and connect with students across campus. "I look forward to expanding our understanding of how music shapes and is shaped by society," she said. She is also keen to collaborate with students in designing worship and musical offerings for Chapel.

"Kate is an excellent fit for Grebel, connecting deeply with the College's mission and values," observed President Marcus Shantz. "Not only is she an experienced

teacher and published scholar, but also her experience, interest, and commitment to engage with Grebel's church and community constituencies will be invaluable. Her broad ecumenical experience includes participation and service in Lutheran, Anglican, Catholic, Evangelical, and Mennonite church contexts."

"I appreciate Grebel's commitment to learning in community, the central role of music study and practice in the life of the community, and the integration of music practice into a life ethic that reflects the Mennonite values of faith, peacemaking and service," reflected Kate. "My research interest in early music, particularly as it was practiced in intentional communities, complements the research areas of Grebel's Music faculty and relates to the Mennonite value placed on congregational singing. My experience teaching worship studies also brings music practice and practical theology together."

Most recently, Kate worked at Wycliffe College in Toronto as an adjunct faculty member. Outside of her research, she plays cello, piano, and organ, and sings soprano. Her husband Joel and their two children look forward to joining the Grebel community this summer.

Kate steps into a role held by Professor Ken Hull, who has taught Music History and Church Music and Worship at Grebel for more than forty years.



Pursuing Music's Healing Effects

The Music program at Grebel and the University of Waterloo consistently appeals to students who are looking for a balanced and broad music education. When searching for a program that fit him best, student Tyler Reidy immediately felt comfortable when he arrived at Grebel for his pre-enrolment studio audition. "The faculty was incredibly welcoming, the students were encouraging and excited to get to know me during my audition process, and Grebel was small enough that I was immediately drawn to the community." Tyler maintained a strong link to the department through all four years of his university career, and he is now set to graduate this spring with a Major in Music and an Intensive Music Specialization.

"As I reflect on my four years here at UWaterloo, I truly believe that I've been spoiled with the support of my amazing professors, incredible classmates, and small class sizes" he noted. "I've had the chance to perform a graduation recital, conduct and compose an honours thesis, compose for the on-campus orchestra, perform in a variety of ensembles, and gain vast knowledge on all aspects of music."

Pointing to classes he took such as "Music Cognition" and "Music, Health and Healing," Tyler praised the unique approach that the Music program takes. "Asking 'Music and what?' allows students to investigate music in a variety of new contexts that many of us would not normally consider." During these courses, he began to think about music's effects on the body, and took his music healing knowledge to a new level, including research on the benefits of sound healing and meditation with the use of singing bowls.

These musical connections led Tyler to a volunteer position at KidsAbility Centre for Child Development in Waterloo where he is a Music Therapy Assistant. He assists during musical activities and helps children participate who have been diagnosed with various disabilities. He works to target specific behavioural and social goals as well as therapy-related goals that include the use of singing and instruments to encourage music making and socialization. "This work is incredibly rewarding," reported Tyler. "It's amazing to actually see the therapeutic effects of music and to be a part of that process."

After completing an Honours Thesis with Music Professor Laura Gray on the topic of "Benefits of Modified Music Education for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Early Childhood: Intersections with Music Therapy," Tyler knew what his next step would be. He has been accepted into the Music Therapy Master's program at Wilfrid Laurier University. "I couldn't imagine pursuing another field of work," he explained. "I've always enjoyed connecting with people, especially with music, and want to use my love of music to help others. The uniqueness, healing and therapeutic benefits of music are endless." In the future, he hopes to work in pediatrics and neonatal music therapy in a large hospital environment.



TRANSITIONS IN CHORAL DIRECTORS

The Music Department wishes to express profound gratitude to two ensemble directors for their extraordinary work with Grebel choirs: Catherine Robertson (pictured above), who has directed the Chapel Choir since 2015, and Gerard Yun (pictured below), director of the University Choir since 2009. Gerard is beginning a full-time position in Community Music at Wilfrid Laurier University. Catherine will continue in her role as piano studio instructor at Grebel, which she has held for 20 years.

Both Catherine and Gerard have mentored many students in honing their musical gifts, while also cultivating a strong bond with and between choir members in their respective ensembles. They have inspired in their choristers a passion for music and an enthusiasm for singing together, while modeling a spirit of mutual respect, support and kindness. We are grateful for the many ways that Catherine and Gerard have served the Grebel community and beyond in their roles as choral directors.

We also warmly welcome Liska Jetchick, who will direct the University Choir in the spring term, and Kate Steiner, who will work with the chapel program and assume leadership of the Chapel Choir in the fall term.



Alumni Passions Fueled by Music

Since its formal inception in 1977, the Music Department at Grebel has enriched the lives and degrees of thousands of students from all disciplines at the University of Waterloo. As part of the reflection and celebration of the 40th anniversary of Music, we connected with four enterprising alumni to see where their degrees have taken them.

JANE HONEK

Jane Honek (BA 2014) is a star of the stage, though perhaps not in the way that you would expect. As a stage manager, Jane works hard behind-the-scenes to ensure productions flow seamlessly. “Stage management seems to be a thing people don’t really think about when they see a show, which is a good thing. If people see or think about me, it’s probably because something went wrong with the show.”



Jane graduated from the University of Waterloo with a Joint Honours in Music and Theatre & Performance in 2014. Her studies provided her with a strong toolkit of knowledge and skills which she often draws on for her work in stage management. “My music degree has helped me be a strong stage manager in theatre, particularly

in opera. I have accurately called cues for a show from incredibly complicated music and am able to communicate with conductors, singers, et al. about the music in relation to the show with ease.” While working on a Baroque opera, Jane also found her studies in Baroque and Classical music to be an asset in simply understanding the show. “I have used so many different skills to carry out my job, including a lot of music theory and sensibility from studying music, whether the show is a musical or opera or not.”

In 2015 Jane apprenticed on R. Murray Shafer’s *Apocalypse* at the Luminato Festival in Toronto. With a complex score and a cast of nearly 1,000 artists, including Tanya Tagaq, Nina Arsenault, Brent Carver, and conductor David Fallis, the show was a massive feat. Another career highlight includes her time as assistant stage manager for the show *The Wedding Party* at Crow’s Theatre in Toronto. “It was a hilarious production with a ridiculous amount of props and very fast and complicated costume changes, which was interesting and satisfying for me as a theatre practitioner.”

Currently serving as an assistant stage manager, Jane is helping to pull together the production *An Ideal Husband* at the Stratford Festival this summer.

MARK DILLER HARDER

After graduation, Music alumnus Mark Diller Harder (BA 1989) worked at Welcome Inn Community Centre and Church in Hamilton with Mennonite Voluntary Service. Finding this to be a transformational experience in service, he left to pursue pastoral ministry, knowing that while his calling was ministry, music would be an ongoing passion. Mark would go on to serve both First Mennonite Church and Mennonite Church Eastern Canada as the Student and Young Adult Minister. He is currently a pastor at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church.

“Having a solid background in music is a big asset to being a pastor, particularly in a Mennonite Church that highly values music as a form of worship,” said Mark. “Understanding both texts and music allows me to shape the themes, flow, and structure of the whole service in a way that integrates and brings meaning, rather than just through the sermon.”



Ministry is a rewarding role for Mark and comes with many highlights, including weddings, pastoral care, and hospital visits. “It is always a privilege to be invited into people’s lives—to be given the trust to listen and walk with people in the real stuff of life, whether celebration or sorrow.” In music, his most memorable experiences include singing the Franz Schmidt *Das Buch mit Sieben Siegeln* with Howard Dyck, and Beethoven’s *Missa Solemnis* with Robert Shaw.

Mark uses his musical talents to enrich the community outside of his role as pastor. He also serves as President and Assistant Conductor of Menno Singers, and has been a member of this group for 25 years. Mark also leads hymn sings and explores new songs for the larger church. “I love to engage singers with the stories and meaning behind the songs we sing, and invite them into vigorous community music making.”

Mentioning professors like Wilbur Maust, Leonard Enns, and Ken Hull, Mark reflects fondly on his experience in the Music program. “I still appreciate the thoughtful and informed musical training I received while at Grebel, particularly in the areas of music history.”

CATHERINE FALCONER

Choosing one academic focus around which to build a career seemed impossible for Cate Falconer (BA 1983), a woman of many passions and interests. It wasn't until her third year of university that she decided to pursue a double major in Music and Philosophy, despite an unsettling feeling that she might be compromising.



Her concerns were quickly put to rest when she discovered that the faculty in the Music Department were truly invested in her education, and willing to make adjustments so the program fit her needs and interests. "I was interested in delving into aesthetics and

semiotics," Kate explained. "Ken Hull helped me to do this by setting up individualized courses for me—not a common thing to do at the time. Later, he liaised with some of my Philosophy professors so that I could do a joint undergraduate thesis between the two departments."

Post-graduation, Cate launched her career in education, combining music and special education. She was always eager to engage in extra-curricular activities and collaborate with fellow educators to develop new ways of teaching that integrated the arts, cross-curricular design, and critical thinking. "Opportunities that pull people together and foster relationships go beyond the classroom and are the privilege of teaching. They provide meaning and satisfaction beyond measure."

As a strong advocate of liberal arts education, she felt her move into becoming an Arts and Literacy Consultant for the York Region District School Board was a natural transition. She played a key role in writing two policies recently adopted by the board; one on arts and the other a first-time religious accommodation policy. More recently, she was asked to write a teaching guide on activist art.

Looking back, Cate gleaned a great deal from her time in the music program. "I understand now that my music professors were role models for how I might manage being a teacher and support learning in a community," she reflected. "They offered sound academic programming, but more importantly, they demonstrated love for learning and an openness to new ideas and ways of doing things."

Cate is now retired but remains active in the community. She currently serves on Grebel's board, volunteers in her church and community, and sings with the Pax Christi Chorale.

MARINA GALLAGHER

In 2015, Marina Gallagher (BA 2015) won the Governor General's Silver Medal award with the highest average in Arts among graduands. An astute music scholar, Marina is now pursuing a PhD in Musicology at University of British Columbia. With research interests in topic theory, and its relation to music in gaming and film, she is exploring select pieces from the Final Fantasy video game franchise, and how the combination of music and landscape within the game world impacts player immersion.

"My undergraduate degree was in Music and Classical Studies, so I'm particularly interested in investigating the characteristics of pastoral and anti-pastoral music and how such music interacts with pastoral and anti-pastoral landscapes, the features of which can be traced back to Ancient Greek and Roman pastoral and epic poetry," explained Marina. With her research well underway, exciting patterns are beginning to emerge in the data, and with it arise equally exciting opportunities. In January, Marina was invited to present some of her findings at the North American Conference on Video Game Music.

Her inspiration, especially as an entrepreneur, comes from a personal interest in video games. "I find motivation in role-playing video games because of the characters' will to press onwards and achieve their (sometimes seemingly impossible) goals in the face of set-backs and struggles. It is incredibly inspiring when developing a business and working through challenges along the way." Marina also draws inspiration from her mother, who shares her passion for music.

For aspiring music students, Marina offers one simple piece of advice: Follow your passions. "The sky really is the limit in terms of career aspirations, especially since studying music equips you with a variety of soft skills to apply to whatever career you wish," she said. "I think that being passionate about your career makes all the difference, regardless of what you choose to do after graduation, as your passion will fuel you as you work towards your goals and inspire others."

Outside of academics, Marina runs Travelling Troubadour Music Studio. With an ARCT in Piano Pedagogy from the Royal Conservatory of Music, she offers lessons in piano and music theory.



[Read more alumni profiles online!](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/music)

www.uwaterloo.ca/music

Music Prof Ken Hull Retires

Professor Ken Hull began teaching piano and music courses part-time at Grebel in 1977, the same year that Music became an official department at the University of Waterloo. Ken became a full-time faculty member in 1981 as course demand soared. Since that time, he has taught a full portfolio in Music History and Church Music and Worship, developed many innovative courses, and led several travel courses to Leipzig and London. He has held administrative positions and conducted the Chamber and Chapel choirs at Grebel.

As Director of the College's Church Music and Worship program, Ken has concentrated on Christian hymnody, music and liturgy, and sacred choral music, examining how music creates meaning within various contexts. "Reflecting on how we worship is important because what we do, sing, or say in worship not only expresses our faith, it shapes it," he explained. "How we worship plays a significant role in what kind of disciples we become."

Describing Ken as a kind and humorous professor, music student Olga Denisova remarked that "his passion about music and music history research is contagious. It's a pleasure to learn from someone so passionate!"

A former student commended Ken on his generosity with time and encouragement. "May you somehow realize the scope of positive impact you've made on schools, churches, communities, and individuals," she added.



Retiring from Grebel this May, Ken will continue as Artistic Director of the Spiritus Ensemble, which he founded in 2009. And as he completes his work as project manager for the Anglican Church of Canada hymn book supplement, he will continue his research on the intersection of music, liturgy, theology, and meaning.

"Ken's voice, vision, and leadership have been central to the shape of the music department as we know it today," said Music Professor Emeritus Len Enns. "He has always supported the vision of music study at Grebel as an endeavor central to the liberal arts. The initial shaping of the program, the development of courses that examine issues of music in society (exploring popular music, and worship music, for example), and the continuation and enriching of international travel courses that bring students directly into the cultural setting of particular music—all of these are thanks in large part to Ken's vision and commitment."

"The fact that he, as a first-rate performer, would resist the shiny apple of a performance-focused direction for the broader light of an integrated approach to music study in its most relevant context—in the place where music meets the deep aspirations of the human condition—that is a commitment he has staunchly defended and championed over his years as Grebel's longest serving faculty member."

"Ken has been a key member of the Music Department since the degree program was formed forty years ago," added Music Chair Laura Gray. "His influence has been felt, not just in his work of teaching, research, administrative duties and ensemble leading, but in *how* he did all of these things—with integrity, diligence, generosity, grace and a healthy daily dose or two of light-hearted humour! We will miss his regular presence in our midst, but are grateful for having had the good fortune to have him as a colleague."



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 has signed a book contract with Palgrave Macmillan to republish her dissertation under the title *Women, Development and Peacebuilding in Africa: Stories from Uganda*.

ALICIA BATTEN presented a paper titled “Reading Mark through the Lens of Class” at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting in Boston in November 2017.

JEREMY BERGEN co-edited a special double issue of the *The Conrad Grebel Review* (Fall 2017), *Global Mennonite Peacebuilding: Exploring Theology, Culture, and Practice*, with Paul Heidebrecht and Reina Neufeldt, and also concluded his role as the *CGR* editor (8.5 years). Derek Suderman has now taken on the role.

MARLENE EPP published a review of Royden Loewen’s *Horse-and-Buggy Genius: Listening to Mennonites Contest the Modern World*, in the journal *Histoire Sociale / Social History*.

LOWELL EWERT presented a paper titled “A Soft Law Approach to Advancing Human Rights” at the 8th International Conference on Human Rights Education, held in Montreal in December 2017.

NATHAN FUNK gave a presentation titled “Restorative Justice Practices in Different Cultures” for Grebel’s Intercollegiate Peace Fellowship Conference on February 10, 2018.

PAUL HEIDEBRECHT presented a paper, “How Do We Teach—and What Can We Learn About—the Ethics of Technology In a STEM Driven World?” at the Society of Christian Ethics 59th Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon on January 5, 2018.

KEN HULL reviewed Jonathan Dueck’s *Congregational Music, Conflict and Community* (Routledge, 2017), which will be featured in a forthcoming issue of the *Journal of Mennonite Studies*.

REINA NEUFELDT presented a paper titled “Learning to Listen: Rethinking Peacebuilding’s Meta-Ethic of Positive Peace” at the International Studies Association annual convention in San Francisco on April 7, 2018.

DEREK SUDERMAN gave a workshop on “Reading the Bible as a Community of Learners and Teachers” for the Anabaptist Learning Workshop, held at Tavistock Mennonite Church on February 5, and spoke on the Psalms to an adult faith formation class at Waterloo North Mennonite Church on March 4. He was the external examiner for Meghan D. Musy’s PhD thesis defense, *Hearing Voices: Exploring Psalmic Vocality as Lyric Poetry* at McMaster Divinity College, March 28, 2018.

MAISIE SUM co-presented at a series entitled “Thinking Spaces” with the University of Guelph’s Music Students’ Association Annual Creative Music Symposium, organized by the International Institute for Critical Studies in Improvisation on March 9. Her presentation, “Balinese Gamelan and Community: Composition, Practice and Performance,” integrated two of IICSI’s main research areas of improvisation—

Practice-Based Research and Community Health and Social Responsibility. In the second half of the presentation, the audience was invited to try the gamelan in a workshop led by artist-in-residence Dewa Suparta.

KAREN SUNABACKA presented two of her compositions, *A Mother’s Prayer* (1999) for solo cello and *Mama’s Painting: Louis Riel’s Dream* (2015) for Piano Quintet, at a Music Department Noon Hour Concert on February 28, 2018.

MARK VUORINEN conducted the Grand Philharmonic Choir’s performances of Poulenc’s *Gloria*, Bernstein’s *Chichester Psalms* and Bach’s *St. John Passion*, and was also a guest conductor with the Elora Festival Singers. He will also guest conduct an upcoming concert featuring the music of Nico Muhly with the Open Ears Festival.

Grebel’s Theological Studies faculty—**JEREMY BERGEN, ALICIA BATTEN, CAROL PENNER, DEREK SUDERMAN, and TROY OSBORNE**—all gave plenary presentations on the theme “Where is the Word of God?” at the Mennonite Church Eastern Canada’s School for Ministers, hosted at Grebel, February 21-23. Archivist-Librarian **LAUREN HARDER-GISSING** gave a tour of the archives.



Troy Osborne at School for Ministers

Student Conference Promotes Restorative Justice

BY TAYLOR LEGERE, PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES STUDENT

At the Intercollegiate Peace Fellowship (ICPF) in February, University of Waterloo and Grebel students took action to promote dialogue on restorative justice in the Waterloo region and beyond. Restorative justice is an alternative conflict resolution method that strives to find meaningful solutions by addressing the needs of victims, offenders, and the greater community harmed by crimes.

“The way you open restorative justice up for people is by talking about it more, creating dialogue, and educating people on how it works,” explained Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) student Erin Huston. “By having more people explore restorative justice and start to get comfortable with it, it can become a much more mainstream way of approaching conflict,” continued Erin.

Grebel and the PACS Department welcomed students from thirteen schools at the 2018 ICPF conference on the topic of restorative justice. Students attended from Canadian Mennonite University, Goshen College, Bethel College, Hesston College, Eastern Mennonite University, Bluffton College, Mount Royal University, University of Windsor, Guelph University, University of Western Ontario, and University of

Waterloo. The conference was organized by a group of Waterloo Arts students passionate about changing perspectives on justice.

“I joined the committee because I think conferences like this are really important and really powerful when they are led *by* students, *for* students,” said Erin, who was one of the students on the ICPF planning committee.

The three-day conference featured speakers on several topics, including applications of restorative justice in schools, in prisons, and across cultures.

Chelsea Risser, a student from Goshen College in Indiana attending the conference, took particular interest in the presentation given by Amy Smoke and Christine King from the Waterloo Indigenous Student Centre. They shared their knowledge of restorative justice in an Indigenous context and spoke about how cycles of harm and discrimination against Indigenous peoples arise in the current justice system. “I think it was a good way to incorporate the people whose land this is and other voices that we don’t often hear while talking about restorative justice,” said Chelsea.

“There is a lot more work when taking part in restorative justice,” said Amy Smoke in her presentation. “You have to look within yourself and your values and commit to change.”

The conference also featured a panel of PACS alumni who shared their experiences incorporating the restorative justice principles they learned at UWaterloo into their careers. The panel included Kristina Bartold, Eric Boynton, Scott Morton Ninomiya, and Kimberlee Walker.

Eric, who is a police officer with the Waterloo Regional Police Service, said that learning about restorative justice “made me challenge the traditional thoughts of what justice looked like and what it could look like.”

The Intercollegiate Peace Fellowship conference began in 1948 at Goshen College. It represents peace societies and other peace and justice interested students of Mennonite and other colleges and universities in Canada and the United States. Each year, students organize and host a rotating conference that brings students together to learn from their diverse university experiences.



ICPF organizers Amy Obeng-Nsiah and Taylor Legere discuss restorative justice on the job with PACS alumni: Kristina Bartold (BA 2014 and MPACS Candidate), Eric Boynton (BA 2012, MPACS 2017), Scott Morton Ninomiya (PACS Option 1998), and Kimberlee Walker (BA 2012)

Decolonizing the Classroom

In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) released a final report on Canada's residential school system, documenting the history of the schools, and the lived experience of survivors--a product of over 6,000 witness accounts. The report included 94 Calls to Action, several of which identified the need to include and prioritize Indigenous history, language, and culture in education.

On March 9, over 30 faculty, adjunct instructors, staff, and students gathered to discuss Indigenization and Decolonization at Grebel – part of Grebel's ongoing efforts to respond to these calls.

While decolonizing the classroom is no small feat, Grebel faculty members are re-evaluating their course content, actively seeking out new resources, and exploring new ways of teaching in order to incite necessary change. "We have an obligation to do our work, mindful that we are on the land which traditionally belongs to those who lived here before us and still live here among us," said Marlene Epp, Dean of the College.

For Jeremy Bergen, Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Theological Studies, and Director of Theological Studies, the reformation process begins with taking a critical look at instructional materials. "For my own teaching I try to bring in a wider range of voices," he said. Jeremy aims to reduce the number of pages of course reading written by white males.

For others, a shift in pedagogy is in order. Jennifer Ball, Assistant Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS), chooses to teach some of her courses in Circle, a framework that draws on Indigenous practice and knowledge. "It is a way to call myself into a different relationship with my students and with my role as an instructor," she said. "It prioritizes a relationship between students and the instructor."

The College is also offering courses that respond to the TRC calls for education on Indigenous issues. In fall 2017, adjunct MPACS instructor Chris Hiller offered "Indigenous- Settler Conflict and Peacebuilding in Canada." This past winter term, adjunct PACS instructor Narendran Kumarakulasingam taught a course called "Formations of Settler Colonial Violence." In spring, Theological Studies will follow suit, with a new offering called "Indigenous Theologies and Methods" led by Terry LeBlanc. Other courses that touch on Indigenous topics include "Aging and Spiritual Life," which

offers multi-faith perspectives, including Indigenous, and "Violence of the Bible," which explores the Biblical justification of violent historical events, including the residential school system.

In the aftermath of the verdicts in the Colton Boushie and

Tina Fontaine cases, PACS professor Reina Neufeldt, Narendran Kumarakulasingam, and other UW faculty, organized a 'learn-in' event called "unsettling conversations." Instructors across campus opened their classrooms to provide a forum for discussion about the events to "initiate a culture of robust, respectful and uncomfortable conversation around Indigenous-settler relations among non-Indigenous peoples." At least three Grebel classes participated and Reina gave a talk in the Arts Hagey Hub.

In response to an increasing demand for Indigenous resources, Archivist-Librarian Laureen Harder-Gissing is working on decolonizing the archives. This includes looking closely at the language used to caption photos, and creating a bibliography of resources on Indigenous content in the library.

The University of Waterloo is also actively planning for change. "As educators, Universities have a role to play to ensure that racism and discrimination no longer have a place in our society," said Waterloo president Feridun Hamdullahpur in a statement this February. "We can and should ensure that we support an environment [that] provides fair and equitable experiences for Indigenous people through the language we use and the policies and strategic priorities we choose to adopt." Grebel faculty and students are involved in working groups at the University focused on the following areas: curriculum and academic programming, research, student experience, community engagement, and policy and procedures.



Jennifer Ball setting up Circle in her class

Seeking Unconventional Ways of Learning

BY AMELIA MARFISI AND CHARITY NONKES

Every year, the Canadian Roots Exchange hosts the National Youth Reconciliation Conference as a way to facilitate conversation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth and to encourage dialogue on solidarity and reconciliation. It aims to challenge negative stereotypes and promote respect and understanding between all people living in Canada. As Peace and Conflict Studies students, we attended the 2018 conference in Sudbury, February 22-14, with the hopes of learning more about our Indigenous neighbours.

There were many topics that circulated throughout the conference, including the sacredness of water, the cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women, the Colten Boushie and Tina Fontaine court verdicts, and the importance of retaining Indigenous language and culture. We were particularly impacted by conversations about what it means to be an ally and how education plays a role in that.

Someone at the conference asked “Are you an ally by conviction, or an ally by convenience?” This question challenged

both of us to rethink our relations with Indigenous peoples, and ask ourselves what we are doing to be intentional about building these relationships.

We often perceive allyship as an action, or an output of behaviour, but this may be missing the importance of input, or what we need to change in ourselves first. Which thought-processes do we need to break down to stop perceiving Indigenous peoples as lesser people who need our help? In what ways have we forgotten that our very own histories of coming to Canada are built on the oppression of Indigenous peoples?

We must be actively cognizant of our own prejudice, stereotypes, and rooted worldviews, and realize the ways we devalue Indigenous ways of being, whether intentionally or subconsciously.

Throughout the weekend we heard echoes of the same phrase: “Education is the first step of reconciliation.” Our privilege has enabled us to expect education to fall right into our laps, but learning more about Indigenous culture and history requires us to seek

unconventional ways of learning. When we do this, we will be challenged to value Indigenous ways of knowing equally with our own set ways of thinking.

When we think we have the answers for reconciliation, it is essential that we consult our Indigenous neighbours first. When we are certain our Christian beliefs give us explicit direction to approach healing, may we question our own notions of what we believe God wants us to do. And when it seems as though Canada is making progress towards reconciliation, let us search for the truths that still need to be told for our country.



Amelia Marfisi and Charity Nonkes

PEACE SPEECHES

Each year, Grebel and PACS host the annual C. Henry Smith Peace Oratorical Contest, which began in 1974. Fourth-year PACS student Amelia Marfisi won Grebel's competition with her speech titled “Rethinking Reconciliation: Searching for Truth.”



Cassidy Wagler, a third-year PACS student, presented a speech on “Peace and Farming” and won second place. Amelia's speech will be entered into the bi-national competition.



VOLUNTEERING WITH FEEDFIVE

Grebel Students have continued to participate in feedfive's initiative to provide monthly meals at Ray of Hope Community Centre in Kitchener. The meals are prepared in the Grebel kitchen and then served the next night.

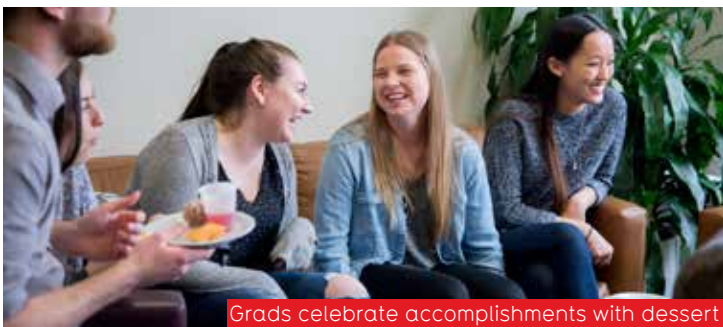
#Grebelife



Staff and students collaborate during a word play session



Smiles from the Grebel hockey bench



Grads celebrate accomplishments with dessert



Term-end talent show



Term-end banquet: Alice in Wonderland skit



Experiencing Urban Homelessness

BY LORENA DILLER HARDER AND KATRINA STECKLE

During Reading Week in February, nine Grebel students participated in a three-day trip offered by Mennonite Central Committee called Toronto Ontario Opportunity for Learning and Serving (TOOLS). It is an opportunity for students to learn about urban homelessness in Toronto and gain knowledge that can be brought home to our own communities. On our first night in Toronto, the TOOLS coordinator, Pete Olsen, led us on a prayer walk where we learned about various aspects of homelessness and poverty in Toronto. After that walk, a student who wishes to remain anonymous, wrote this poem, which sums up much of what we learned on this trip.

GLIMPSES

*I saw God in the bright eyes of children today,
Feigning courage among peers on the subway bus.
I saw God in the tired eyes of an old man in the corner,
With a weary sigh and lines stretching the plains of his face.
I saw God in the blue eyes of a homeless person,
Stiffly sitting on cold pavement asking for money.
I saw God in the curious eyes of a friend,
Searching for truth, searching for answers.
I saw God in the clouded eyes of a man in the food court,
Staring blankly into his coffee for hope.
I saw God in the lonely, tired eyes of a woman,
With makeup for a mask and designer bag for protection.
I saw God.
I heard God.
Through the whispers of the breeze between skyscrapers and
subway cars,
I heard him say:
Get up;
Leave behind your self-serving life,
Serve my people,
Serve me.*

Convocation Offers Hope for the Future

Each April, the Grebel community gathers together to recognize the achievements of all graduating students who have been involved in the College's residence or academic programs, at both graduate and undergraduate levels. The Convocation ceremony took a surprise turn this year, as a rare mid-April ice storm shut down the University of Waterloo and Grebel for three days. With the celebration scheduled to take place right in the middle of the storm, the event was cancelled for everyone's safety. About 70 students and a few of their families held an impromptu gathering at Grebel. This provided an opportunity for them to hear valedictorian Jared Baribeau deliver his address. Jared left Canada the next day to work in Cambodia for Demine Robotics.



"University is learning about how to learn," Jared reflected. "And the exciting thing for me, is that if we turn that into a lifestyle, it will continue to grow for the rest of our lives. Graduating here in Canada, at Grebel, and the University of Waterloo, we find ourselves in a position of immense opportunity to right the wrongs out there. I'm so incredibly excited to see what we all achieve."

Since Convocation is such an important event at Grebel, the service was rescheduled for the following week, in hopes that some of the 140 undergraduates and 28 graduate students could still make it. So on April 22, approximately 75 students (some the same as the week prior, and some different), along with many family members, assembled for round two of celebrations!

Building on the reality that life does not always unfold as we plan, President Marcus Shantz offered words of wisdom to the crowd. "You have your plans, and plans are important. But, as I'm sure you already know, much of life is about muddling through. Showing up despite everything and smiling—making the best of it. Finding your friends and your people. Summoning flexibility and resilience, patience and grace."

"All of us here are impressed by you, and by the community you've created here at Grebel these past few years," continued Marcus. "We're impressed by your academic accomplishments, by how you've supported each other, welcomed each other, and by the various ways you've expressed faith and made room for differences. What you've become together has inspired us as faculty and staff to continue our work with hope for the future."

Master of Peace and Conflict Studies student Tyler Cox was chosen to represent both the MPACS and the MTS graduates. "Completing a master's degree encompasses many high points: laughter, accomplishment, and personal transformation. It requires commitment, discipline, and perseverance. It carries with it hope for the future and helps us establish a solid foundation for both our professional and personal lives."



"As MPACS and MTS students, we haven't chosen the most linear path for our lives," Tyler added. "We've chosen to be trained in disciplines that understand there is a need for justice, peace, and love in the



world. As such, these disciplines grapple with complex questions. We understand that change is time consuming and that the constructive choices we make today, may not bear fruit for generations.”

Retiring Music Professor Ken Hull gave the convocation address, focusing on the idea of vocation—a calling, or a life purpose or direction that has not been entirely your own choice, but something to which you are being drawn in response to what you have discerned or felt or heard. “It’s not just a matter of coming to understand yourself, but also of understanding the needs of the world in which you live,” he explained. “Vocation requires something messier and more creative from us, and this negotiation with the realities of the world as we find it is actually an important part of the process of clarifying and claiming your vocation. It is energizing; it feeds you, it carries with it a sense of rightness, being at home, being in the right place and time.”

“Why does all this vocation stuff matter?”

Ken concluded. “Because living out a sense of vocation is both a gift to yourself and a gift to the world. Vocation locates our life as part of a story larger than ourselves. It carries the promise of new levels of energy, meaning, and fulfillment both for you and for the world. In a time when feeling comfortable is highly valued, it may require moving out of your comfort zone. At a time when being safe seems to be one of our highest goals, it may call for risk and vulnerability. In a materialistic culture, where importance is calculated by most people in terms of financial reward, it may require sacrifice. Ultimately, the only person who can give you permission to make truly vocational choices is you.”



MTS Graduates with faculty: Jonathan Dietrich Boerger, Zachary Debus Charbonneau, Colleen Dotzert, Katherine Elliott, Taryn Ferrede, Alex Hoffman, Heather Homewood, KyongJung Kim, Laura Klaver, Michael Shehan, Graham Watson, Mesfin Tezera Zeme



MPACS Graduates with faculty: Riyaz Basi, Jessie Castello, Tyler Cox, Media El Tayara, Carlie Foss, Janna Martin, Trudy Metzger, Matthew Morales, Nasreen, Erin Nearing, Tim O'Connor, Seth Ratzlaff, Carly Richardson, Conchita Rodrigues Fragosso, Lindsay Sheridan, Jessica Williams

CLASS OF 2018 (NOT ALL GRADUATES ARE PICTURED)

Asha Abubaker, Elorm Agbeyaka, Olivia Alambo, Trevor Alkema, Jasmine Bacola, Dena Badawi, Amelia Christine Baker, Jared Baribeau, Sydnee Elizabeth Belford, Adam Spencer Benninger, Darya Berezhova, Joseph Bergin, Stefanie Bogaert, Melanie Boldt, Anika Bosua Pashuk, Avery Breau, Kieran Broekhoven, Sarah Brubacher, Micah Brubaker-Zehr, Cala Bryans, Jesse Burt, Patrick Carroll, Jasmine Chan, Joshua Chan, Stefan Chan, Elizabeth Chand, Yang Chen, Elisa Christinck, Alice Chu, Oliver Clark, Mickaela Collins, Andrew Coon, Benjamin Craig, Carol Cunningham, Richard Joseph Cunningham, Samantha Damaren, Nicole Catharine Davy, Cassia Lee Deering, Olga Denisova, Micah Diller Harder, Tina Fang, Sara Fontes, Adam Freeman, Brian Freiter, Stephanie Fros, Molly Furness, Jordan Fusari, Emily Gain, Alexander Paul Gee, Anna Giesbrecht, Mackenzie Gingerich, Galen Harris, Lukas Hayter, Claire Heggart, Laura Hergott, Ambar Hernandez, John Hinton, Julia May Hopper, Erin Huston, Bryan Cantero Igreja, Loren Janzen, Jessica Jones, Evy Kassirer, Misha Khorramshahi, Adam George King, Emilia Klassen, Carlee Knight, Emily Kornelsen, Brett Kropf, Emilia Lammers, Ashley Lamoureux, Martin Lee, Emily Litster, Sarah Josée Lukaszczuk, Erin MacDonald, Robert Charles MacGregor, Caileigh Deanna MacIsaac, Meghan Elizabeth MacTavish, Remi Marchand, Amelia Marfisi, Erin McCannach, Emilie Mechler, Lily Mikelsons, Aidan Morley, Cassie Myers, Adrian Neufeld, Alana Norris, Lydia Notten, Amanda Obeng-Nsiah, Jonathan Oldenburger, Rebecca Kate Osborne, Liam Palmer, Lucas Palmer, Elliott Parke, Joanna Path, Daniel Penner, Ellyn Petrushko, Michelle Poon, Luke Tilbe Reed, Sarah Reed, Tyler Daniel Reidy, Zab Reimer, Jacob Reusser, Jose Rodriguez, Aaron Rosenblum, Ben Rudy-Froese, Carlyn Rust, Emily Schmidt, Lydia Schonherr, Tyler Schwartzentruber, David Scott, Brian Sellathurai, Matthew Sinagoga, Maria Skinner, Andrew Lawrence Smith, Mitchell Smith, William Song, Timothy Michael Souza, Katie Steckly, Hannah Sutherns, Kayleigh Swanson, Kyla Tanner, Kiranjot Toor, Sarah Towers, Lisa Tran, Nathaniel Trimboli, William N. Turman, Elisa Umuhoza, Janelle van Leeuwen, David VanderWindt, Noni Vatish, Caitlin M. Walker, Mackenzie William Wallace, Staci Weber, Lucas Weinberger, Jascha Werschler, Joel Wiebe Neufeldt, Meghan Wiens, Zachary Wilson, (Christopher) River Wong, MacKenzie Wright, Erin Yantzi, Caleb M. Young, Tess Annique Cressman Zehr

Pursuing Peace: Stories from Home and Abroad



In celebration of the 40th anniversary of Peace and Conflict Studies, on April 20 Grebel hosted a sold-out gala dinner featuring the Honourable Bob Rae as keynote speaker. Focusing on the theme of “Pursuing Peace: Stories from Home and Abroad,” the evening included alumni stories, acknowledgements of those who have impacted the PACS program, as well as Bob Rae’s reflections on the pursuit of peace. Bob is a Canadian lawyer, negotiator, public speaker, and former Premier of Ontario.

In recognizing that Grebel and UWaterloo are situated on the Haldimand tract, land given in treaty in 1784 to the Six Nations, we welcomed our neighbours from the Waterloo Indigenous Student Centre. They offered a thanksgiving address to begin the evening, honouring the gifts given to us by the Creator.

Alumnus and Conflict Management Certificate Program instructor Betty Pries also offered a blessing, in celebration of the PACS program, its students, and the lives of all those touched by the program.

“At its core, PACS is about people and relationships,” observed PACS Chair Nathan Funk. “PACS has inspired, shaped life trajectories, equipped people with tools and active principles, and given many the confidence to tap their own creativity and inner resources,” he added. Nathan introduced past directors and highlighted their contributions to the program. Peace and Conflict Studies alumni were also prominently featured throughout the evening. Following an alumni networking reception before the dinner, guests watched a video that shared stories of impact from a number of PACS graduates, and read alumni profiles found on the tables, in the program, and around the room.

Grebel President Marcus Shantz introduced the Honourable Bob

Rae, a friend and former colleague in law. “Bob once wrote, ‘I believe in community and in finding ways to affirm community in the heart of a world in turmoil and fragments,’” prefaced Marcus. “Acting on that conviction has often drawn Bob into the heart of serious conflicts—in a dispute over natural resources here in Canada or his recent work as Canada’s Special Envoy to Myanmar. He has always done his best to promote causes of peace and social justice wherever he’s invited to serve. And despite everything he’s seen, he’s still a voice of hope.”

Asking the crowd to think about the fundamental issues that Canada is facing today, the speaker wondered what it would take to make the world a better place. “We all share our humanity—our frailty, our hopes, our aspirations, our quest for meaning, and our quest for dignity. But the way we express it is full of differences,” he said.

“The key issue is how are we going to get along with each other—not by denying the reality of the other—but by recognizing that they too have a right to live and a right to their space. Only by doing things together are we ever going to succeed and become even more human.”

“We have to come to terms that we have



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**Peace and Conflict
Studies Program**





a colonial history,” exhorted Bob. “There was a battle for land and a refusal to recognize the dignity of ‘other’ and an unwillingness to admit that the life that was here was just as worthwhile, just as worth protecting, preserving, and honouring as any of our lives. What it will take for reconciliation to take place?”

“We don’t have the luxury of not seeking peace,” he concluded. “Peace has to be built. It’s a constant effort that can’t be put aside, because sources of conflict are deep in the human heart. And none of us is immune from the worst that the human heart can produce, and none of us is immune from the capacity to build peace.”

Delighting the crowd, Bob ended the evening by leading a singalong, including *Blowin’ in the Wind* and *What a Wonderful World*. A special request finished off the evening with “606,” *Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow*.

Thank you to everyone who attended this meaningful evening! The Gala raised over \$26,000 for the Master of Peace and Conflict Studies (MPACS) Student Support Fund. This fund supports full-time MPACS students by providing scholarships for Canadian and international students who contribute to the enrichment of the program and demonstrate strong academic ability. It’s not too late to support these students!

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Grebel and AMBS Arrange a Sequential Degree for Pastoral Formation

In North American Mennonite theological education, a regional focus is emerging as students prefer to access seminary education closer to home. Uprooting families and finding employment for a spouse in another country have become increasingly difficult.

To address this reality for students and to serve the changing needs of the church, Grebel and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) in Elkhart, Indiana, have established a collaborative arrangement in which Canadian students can use the same course credits to earn sequential degrees from both Grebel and AMBS.

Working together, Rebecca Slough, Academic Dean at AMBS, and Jeremy Bergen, Director of Theological Studies at Grebel, have detailed a clearly articulated path for students who want to complete a Master of Theological Studies (MTS) degree at Grebel/University of Waterloo and then transfer those credits to AMBS to complete a Master of Divinity (MDiv).

With this arrangement, it is possible for all courses taken in Grebel's 48-credit-hour MTS program to be transferred to AMBS's 80-credit-hour MDiv program. Students can remain in Canada and complete the MDiv through part-time study at a distance through AMBS's MDiv Connect program—which requires two or three weeklong visits to Elkhart each year—or move to Elkhart to study full time on campus.

"This is good news for the church," remarked incoming Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (MCEC) Church Leadership Minister Marilyn Rudy-Froese. "Forming and training pastors at both Grebel and AMBS means that these students benefit

from the rich resources of both institutions and have more opportunities to reflect on what it means to be a leader in the church today. Our hope is to see more students explore pastoral training and even attract new people to Anabaptism and MCEC leadership opportunities."

Rudy-Froese recently team-taught a course in the MTS program called "Church and Ministry," which has been a core part of the MTS program of pastoral formation and education for 30 years. In that time, over one-third of graduates have served as pastors or church leaders.

"It is now possible for Canadian students to receive both an MTS and an MDiv from Mennonite institutions without needing to relocate to the USA," noted Bergen. "This option will enrich formation for ministry for a wider range of students."

Each institution will administer financial aid to its own enrolled students. Grebel

continues to offer a full-time tuition scholarship for Canadian citizens and Permanent Residents, in addition to many other scholarships and funding opportunities. At AMBS, Canadian students pay tuition at par and qualify for several scholarships; need-based financial aid is also available.

Grebel President Marcus Shantz hopes that this arrangement "will become a successful example of Mennonite schools working together to develop leaders for the church."

AMBS President Sara Wenger Shenk agreed. "This collaboration between Grebel and AMBS retains the integrity of each degree, strengthens binational church relationships, realizes economic efficiencies and draws on the best from both schools to offer holistic pastoral formation for Canadian students," she said.

www.grebel.ca/ts





FOLLOWING JESUS TOGETHER WHILE HAVING VERY DIFFERENT BELIEFS

You might think these are chefs preparing the ingredients for kimchi (a Korean fermented food). That is very true, but so too are they participants in an Anabaptist Learning Workshop called “Following Jesus Together While Having Very Different Beliefs.” The kimchi was a metaphor for the church—Christian disciples living together, all fermented by the Holy Spirit. The workshop was facilitated by Pablo Hyung Jin Kim Sun and took place at Preston Mennonite Church in Cambridge, Ontario on April 7. The day ended with the observation that being the church is messy, smelly, and very good work.

The Anabaptist Learning Workshop is a program offered by Mennonite Church Eastern Canada in cooperation with Grebel.

www.mcec.ca/alw



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS BY PROMOTING LEADERSHIP AND EXCELLENCE FROM WITHIN

In March, an “Understanding Conflict Foundations” workshop was facilitated by Marg van Herk Paradis and Jason Dykstra, both of whom are graduates of the Conflict Management and Mediation certificate program at Grebel. As usual the participants were from diverse backgrounds, including a senior legal counsel with Justice Canada, a registered midwife, an Indigenous community centre volunteer, a retired police officer, and several school teachers and church ministers.

Evaluations continue to highlight the program’s excellence. “Marg and Jason were original to the point that their perspectives were fluid and seamless. It seemed effortless—always a sign of excellence,” said one participant.

www.uwaterloo.ca/conflict-management

Research as a Form of Peace Work

Isaac Friesen is the 2017-18 winner of the A. James Reimer Award. He is a PhD candidate in the Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations at the University of Toronto. Isaac’s interdisciplinary research examines cultures of interfaith coexistence and everyday ethics in provincial Egypt. He is currently writing his dissertation, which is titled “Navigating Tradition in Provincial Egypt: The Avenues and Ethics of Muslim Crossing into Coptic Spaces.”

Isaac became passionate about the Middle East during his three-year service term with Mennonite Central Committee in Egypt. He is a member of his hometown Waterloo North Mennonite Church, and now attends Toronto United Mennonite Church. Isaac is an associate at Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre (TMTc) and has presented at two TMTc Scholars Forums. He looks forward to a lifelong collaboration between his academic work and the institutions of the Mennonite church.

“To receive this award means so much to me,” Isaac noted. “My life has been profoundly shaped by the theology and ethos of the Mennonite Church, and I regard my research as a form of peace work. At a time when tropes of religious and civilizational clash increasingly dominate popular discourse and state policy around the globe, I am deeply grateful to be supported in my promotion of understanding.”

The Reimer award is given annually to a Mennonite student completing an advanced degree program at the Toronto School of Theology (TST) or another local university, that actively participates in TMTc programming. The award was established to recognize the work of Jim Reimer in establishing the Centre. TMTc provides a Mennonite presence at the TST in order to engage in theological conversation at an advanced degree level, as well as to support Anabaptist students pursuing advanced degrees.

www.grebel.ca/tmtc



2017-2018 Award Recipients

Congratulations to our scholarship and award winners! Thank you to all those who have set up memorial scholarships and awards to honour family members, as well as friends who have donated.

MUSIC

Jean Caya Music Award

Jessica Ernewein, Kimberly Madume, Sonia Zettle, Natalka Zurakowsky

Clemens Scholarships in Music

Stephanie Collings, Claire Heggart, Marie Koechl, Samuel Reeves

Agnes Giesbrecht Choral Music Scholarship

Matthias Mostert

Rudolf and Hedwig Rempel Music Award

Alexis Plante, Mary Mykayla Turner

Evanov Radio Group Music Award

Amanda Botts, Tyler Reidy, William Song

PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

Becky Frey Student Scholarship

Erin Huston, Cassidy Wagler

Walter and Mary Hougham PACS Award

Charity Nonkes

Vic and Rita Krueger Family PACS Award

Amani Amstutz, Kai Butterfield, Margaret McCloskey, Charity Nonkes, Cassidy Wagler

PACS Internship Award

Sydnee Belford, Julia Hopper, Erin Yantzi

William Dick PACS Field Study Award

Erin Yantzi

Peter C. and Elisabeth Williams Memorial Fund Scholarship

Amelia Marfisi

RESIDENCE

Alice Eisen Leadership Award

Charlotte Baker, Joshua Garcia-Barrios

Arnold and Gladys Gingerich Memorial Award

Amelia Marfisi, Charity Nonkes

College Anniversary Legacy Award

Upneet Bala, Matthew Chase, Connie Chong, Max Chute, Jack Dunne-Mucklow, Simon Frew, Siann Gault, Mary Gopanchuk, Vesley Ho, Hannah James, Hannah Hill, Paisley Janzen, Lynea Kaethler, Micah Kim, Cameron Klassen, Rebecca Koole, Lindsay Krahn, Angela Krone, Jonathan Lane-Smith, Ryan Martin, Amy McClelland, Olivia McGregor, Grant Mitchell, Madeleine Neufeld, Rebecca Neufeld, Charity Nonkes, Erica Pietroniro, Sophie Rahn, Joshua Rampersad, Nathan Rowe, Sarah Squire, Sage Streight, Cassidy Wagler, Justin Wagler, Staci Weber, Andrew Welsh, Theo Wiederkehr, MacKenzie Wright, Sarah Wright

David Regier Student Award

Amelia Baker, Amy Reimer, Julianna Suderman, Esther Wonder

Dorothy Bechtel Entrance Award

Bryn Friesen

Eby Leadership Award

Ryan Dunham, Rebecca Osborne

George E. and Louise Schroeder Residence Award

Rebekah Lindsay, Margaret McCloskey

Good Foundation Scholarship

Zoe Andres, Mhari Reid, Daniel Schuurman

Grebel Student Award

Sara Camplin, Alysha Frey, Anna Giesbrecht, Emily Kornelsen, Natalka Zurakowsky

Hildebrand Family Award

Boshrah Fanous, Mark McClennan, Jaclyn McDougall, Mykayla Turner, Mark Whyte

Jacob Andres Achievement Scholarship

Richard Cunningham

Lucinda Robertson Scholarship

Laurie Haig

Marpeck Leadership Award

Catherine Fowler, Erik Mohr, Matthew Wright

Mennonite Diversity Award

Kimathi Kaai

Mennonite Matching Funds

Abby Amstutz, Amani Amstutz, Zoe Andres, Andrew Cullar, Lynea Kaethler, Emily Kornelsen, Jacob Meyer-Reed, Julianna Suderman, Jonah Thiessen, Justin Wagler

Merv and Mary Ellen Good Award

Nicolas Werschler

Nathan Paul Krueger Wiebe Award

Tim Sarkar

Out of Province Mennonite Entrance Award

Austin Grismer, Robyn Martens, Matthias Thiessen

Peaceworks Technology Solutions Award

Jared Baribeau, Aaron Silver, Jonathan Smith, Joseph Tafese

Robin Coupland Jutzi Award

Chelsea Campbell, Jordan Wallace

Rockway Mennonite Collegiate Diploma Scholarship

Amani Amstutz, Abby Amstutz, Ben Martin, Ben Schwartzentruber

Sauer Family Award

Eliza Heeny, Calvin Mills

Spirit of Generosity Award

Peter Kim, Theo Wiederkehr

Stauffer Entrance Award

Amani Amstutz, Katelyn Shantz

Student Council Award

Benjamin Bonsma, Jennifer Farlow, Jonathan Shantz

Upper Year Residence Award

Aaron Oesch, Katrina Steckle, Cassidy Wagler, Staci Weber

Volunteerism Residence Entrance Award

Abby Loewen, Alyssa Oppertshauser

MASTER OF PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

Global Conflict Management and Transformation Award

Nasreen

MPACS Internship

Riyaz Basi, Jessie Castello, Media El Tayara, Carlie Foss, Jacob Gaufaur, Janna Martin, Nasreen, Seth Ratzleff, Carly Richardson, Jessica Williams

MPACS Student Support

Kristina Bartold, Riyaz Basi, Jessie Castello, Tyler Cox, Rhea Daniels, Media El Tayara, Leanna Feltham, Katelynn Folkerts, Carlie Foss, Kelsey Gallagher, Jacob Gaudaur, Catherine LeBlond, Janna Martin, Trudy Metzger, Apolline Montoya, Matthew Morales, Nasreen, Katie Noonan, Tim O'Connor, Laurel O'Gorman, Kanishia Owusu-Mensah, Seth Ratzlaff, Carly Richardson, Rizwan, Conchita Rodrigues Fragoso, Jamal Rohani, Lindsay Sheridan, Tanveer Tiwana, Elena Tkacheva, Laura Volpe de Carvalho Ferreira, Jessica Williams

MPACS Impact Award

Rizwan

Rotary Peace Scholarship Award

Catherine Garacho



Winners of the PeaceWorks Technology Solutions Award, Joseph Tafese, Aaron Silver, and Jared Baribeau, visit with PeaceWorks CEO John Reimer.

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Landau Family Scholarship
Kevin Wiebe

**Rotary Peace Scholarship
Award**
Jessie Castello

Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre

**A. James Reimer at Toronto
Mennonite Theological
Centre Award**
Isaac Friesen

THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

**Clifford Snyder Memorial
Bursary**
Bruno Peitl

Full Time TS Tuition Award
Jonathan Boerger, Sarah Brnjas,
Stephanie Chandler Burns,
Zachary Charbonneau, Samantha
Coelho, Sandra Conrad, Joy De
Vito, Darren DeMelo, S. Colleen
Dotzert, Katherine Elliott, Taryn
Ferrede, Colin Friesen,
Peter (Alex) Hoffman, Heather
Homewood, Sylvia Hook, Kyong
Jung Kim, Frank Kiss, Laura
Klaver, Peter Kranenburg, Joshua
Kuehnelt, Laura Mallory, Erika
Mills, Danielle Raimbault, Seanna
Tebbutt, Rachel Wallace,
Graham Watson, Mesfin Zeme

Graduate Student Support Fund

Jonathan Boerger, S. Colleen
Dotzert, KyongJung Kim,
Kyung Young (Peter) Kim, Bruno
Peitl

J.H. Janzen Award
Frank Kiss, Nicholas Schuurman

Jane Plas Scholarship
S. Colleen Dotzert, Graham
Watson

**Magdalena Coffman
Scholarship**
Rachel Wallace

**MCEC Ministerial
Leadership Award**
Norman Dyck, Chris Hutton,
Megan Lennox, Mollee Moua,
Glenda Ribey Rozomiak, Nicholas
Schuurman

Mennonite Diversity Award

Mesfin Zeme

**Reimer Scholarship in
Theological Studies**
Jonathan Boerger, Colin Friesen

**Stephen Family Theological
Studies Entrance Award**
Peter Kranenburg

TS Qualifying Scholarship
Colin Wallace

Women of MCEC Theological Studies Award

Heather Homewood, Laura
Klaver, Laura Mallory, Danielle
Raimbault

A. James Reimer Award for MTS

Jonathan Boerger, Sarah Brnjas,
Samantha Coelho, Alex (Peter)
Hoffmann, Seanna Tebbutt

Award Established in Millers' Memory

Family and friends of John and Louise Miller recently established a new award for Master of Peace and Conflict Studies students as a way to honour the couple's impact at Grebel and beyond.

John Miller died on December 2, 2017. He joined the College faculty in 1969, teaching Religious Studies courses for 23 years, with a focus on the Old Testament. He believed that Old Testament principles



concerning peace provided hope for the world by supporting the development of systems of fairness and justice.

In that spirit the newly-established award is called the "John and Louise Miller Hope for the World Fund."

Louise Miller, John's wife for 65 years until her death on February 12, 2015, supported John throughout his teaching career by hosting students and faculty colleagues in their home, and by reviewing and editing many of John's books and manuscripts.

Earnings from this endowed fund will be used to support students enrolled in the MPACS program who demonstrate an interest in exploring ideas of peace and religion in their studies. Priority will be given to international students, since they must pay significantly more tuition, and those incurring costs for an internship as part of their program.

Alumni and other friends are invited to add their support to this fund. Contact Fred W. Martin at fwmartin@uwaterloo.ca or 519-885-0220 x24381.

www.grebel.ca/donate

Plans to Build Depend on College Supporters

Mennonite frugality is a value that has benefited Grebel over the last 55 years, and as Marcus Shantz took on the president's role, he has upheld this approach of economic responsibility. Take Grebel's proposed kitchen and dining room building project as an example. "I wanted to ensure that we have solid fiscal plans in place prior to striking a building committee for new kitchen and dining room facilities," Marcus explained.

Because Grebel cannot access public funds for capital expenses, the bulk of the revenue for this project will come from a fundraising campaign. "We've set an overall target of at least three million dollars," said Director of Advancement Fred W. Martin. "We have a skilled group of alumni and supporters involved in giving leadership on our Fundraising Advisory, chaired by Grebel parent Ruth Ann Shantz."

A fundraising target of \$1m in pledges was set as a prerequisite for establishing the Building Committee, with other revenue coming from reserves (\$1m) and borrowing (\$1.1m). At the February 2018 Finance and Development Committee meeting, it was reported that key donations had exceeded this first milestone. As a result, the committee approved the formation of a Building Committee, pictured at upper right.

The group moved to select Nith Valley Construction as the project management firm. "Future decisions will be contingent on making solid progress on fundraising and pledges," noted Board member Andrew Roth.

"We are excited by the plans drawn up by Brian Rudy," said Operations Director Paul Penner. "We are looking forward to getting the green light to move forward on this inspiring vision that will enhance our ability to host students and guests at Grebel."



Building Committee: Nathan Hallman (BES 1998) Paul Penner, Andrew Roth (BA 1994) (Board) , Lorrie Yantzi, Laverne Brubacher, Steve Manske (Board), Alex Jenkins (BES 1999, MARCH 2003), Marcus Shantz, Sara Cressman, Elora Deering (Student) Madeline Neufeld (Student). Fred W. Martin is not pictured.

Students Eager for Space

BY HANNAH HILL, 3RD YEAR STUDENT AND SUMMER CAMPAIGN ASSISTANT

Centrally located at the heart of Grebel, the kitchen and dining room is where community-building flourishes—at meals, snack nights, community supper, and end-of-term banquet. The dining room is more than just a place to "fill the table." It's a venue for student council events, a space to study, and an ideal place for games.



Expanding and enhancing the kitchen and dining room facilities excites me and my fellow students for numerous reasons. Community supper is consistently at capacity in the fall term, requiring Student Services to manage a waiting list of associates, faculty, staff and their families who often miss out on this crucial weekly gathering. Requests for vegetarian and specialized diets are also growing substantially, increasing the demand on Food Services to accommodate these needs. Accessibility is also an important feature of the project, such as improved way-finding for guests and the proposed addition of an elevator to the chapel foyer.

In order to be a place for all to gather together, the kitchen and dining room facilities require several upgrades, including increased capacity, redesigned preparing and serving areas, and upgrades to accessibility. These improvements are necessary for communal dining and living to remain a central feature of the Grebel experience for students, faculty, and staff.

Award Winner Works Tirelessly for Peace

Dean Peachy is a familiar face to many Grebelites. Initially he spent only his third year of university at Grebel (1974-75), participating actively as a resident. After graduating from Eastern Mennonite College in Virginia, Dean's positive experience at Grebel and Waterloo brought him back in 1978 for graduate studies. While studying, he served as Senior Resident with his wife Melissa Miller (1978-1980). Dean subsequently completed an MA (1982) and a PhD (1986) in Psychology, both from the University of Waterloo. While completing his MA, Dean worked with Grebel Professor, Conrad Brunk, to develop Community Mediation Service in 1980 and then coordinated the program for five years.

As a student, Dean showed a passion for active peacemaking. "Two things initially sparked my interest," reflected Dean. "First, I was growing up in America during the height of the Vietnam War, in a Mennonite church that taught pacifism during a time when the USA had a military draft. I needed to decide whether I would request Conscientious Objector status, or even cooperate with the draft system at all. Second, in the midst of a Mennonite community that taught peace, I saw a lot of relationships that were not healthy or peaceful. And I began to ask, what

does our theology of pacifism have to say about how we work at conflict in daily life?"

Dean taught at Grebel as a PACS adjunct instructor between 1982 and 2000, offering courses such as "Community Conflict Resolution." During this time, he worked to establish the Network for Conflict Resolution, which emerged from a coalition of community-based conflict resolution agencies across Canada in 1985 and he served as the Network Coordinator until 1995. In 1992 the Network became affiliated with IPACS and moved to Grebel until 2002.

Dean now serves as the Executive Director of Global College in Winnipeg. He is Coordinator of the Human Rights Program, and previous chair of the Joint MA in Peace and Conflict Studies between University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba.

His teaching and research focus on transitional justice and reconciliation in a variety of settings. He has a deep interest in the intersection of religion and conflict, and is active in inter-faith dialogue activities. His recent research examines community-based reconciliation efforts in northern Uganda that arise from two decades of civil war. He is part of a research team with a SSHRC grant



examining reconciliation between Indigenous people and other Canadians.

Prior to joining Global College, Dean served as president of Menno Simons College and taught conflict resolution studies. He served as president of the Fund for Dispute Resolution and was a member of the Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services. He has worked as a mediator and conflict resolution consultant in a variety of settings, including community issues, land use and planning disputes, alternatives to litigation, and religious contexts.

"With his extensive contribution promoting peace in the church, community, nation, and world, the impact of Dean's work is immeasurable," noted Grebel Alumni Chair Katie Cowie-Redekopp (BA 2011). "His drive to educate and dialogue is commendable, and embodies the ideals and mission of Conrad Grebel University College. And for that reason, it is our pleasure to announce that Dean is the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Service Award Winner."

The award will be presented to Dean in the fall at Grebel, as part of a special public event.

GREBEL FUND EXCEEDS GOAL!

April 30 is the fiscal year-end for Grebel and we are pleased to report that over 420 donors and alumni have joined together to raise over \$387,000 for the annual Grebel Fund, a record high amount! This impressive result was inspired by a record budgetary goal of \$385,000. These gifts provide important resources for scholarship awards, chapel programs, leadership development, noon hour concerts, PACS internships, and other program elements that are not covered by tuition or government funds. Each year, approximately 10 percent of the operating budget is provided by donations and funding from Mennonite Church Eastern Canada.

"As a student, I'm thankful that there is a community of donors and alumni that realizes the importance of Grebel and its students," said Student Council President Mark Whyte.

At the April Board meeting, President Marcus Shantz announced that he was "thrilled by the depth of support for our students and programs. Grebel is in solid financial shape because of a good administrative team and generous supporters," he added. "Balanced budgets and strong reserve funds give us confidence to move ahead on faculty hires and needed facility renewal in our kitchen and dining room."



Richard Yim: Thinking and Working Politically

BY PAUL HEIDEBRECHT, DIRECTOR, KINDRED CREDIT UNION CENTRE FOR PEACE ADVANCEMENT

Richard Yim can claim many titles: University of Waterloo alumnus, engineer, start-up co-founder, and peace entrepreneur.

Over the past several years, Richard's company, Demine Robotics, has been a member of several of the support programs that make up Waterloo's vibrant innovation ecosystem. This includes St. Paul's GreenHouse, the Velocity Garage, the Conrad Business, Entrepreneurship and Technology Centre, the Accelerator Centre, and, of course, the Epp Peace Incubator in the Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement (CPA).

What difference has our Peace Incubator made in Richard's journey? Put simply, we have challenged him to think and work politically. He has learned how to connect not only with civil society networks focused on landmine issues, and with the clearance agencies contracted to address many of those issues, but with governments in both Canada and Cambodia that are responsible for funding and directing those efforts. And Richard has been a fast learner.

In the Fall of 2016, I took Richard to Ottawa to meet with officials in Global Affairs Canada and Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada. A few weeks later he had the chance to meet face-to-face with then Minister of Foreign Affairs, Stéphane Dion, urging him to reclaim Canada's leadership role in ridding the world of the scourge of landmines.

GRANT WILL INCREASE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT

Over the next two years, the Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement (CPA) will be partnering with the St. Paul's University College GreenHouse program to share our expertise with a broader audience. Thanks to the support of a major grant from the Government of Ontario's Social Enterprise Demonstration Fund, we will be offering government engagement training and coaching to high potential youth and Indigenous-led social enterprises in southern Ontario.

The initial cohort of five companies will participate in an intensive one-day workshop this Spring, and then travel to either Toronto or Ottawa for meetings with officials in relevant provincial or federal government departments. The CPA will continue to coach these companies over a four-month period as they attempt to establish government partnerships that will enable them to further their missions.

This opportunity to learn how to think and work politically is being offered at no cost to the selected social enterprises, and will be coupled with sales training and coaching coordinated by St. Paul's GreenHouse.



A few months later, Richard was on the cover of *CanadExport*, the official magazine of the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service.

One year later, the Government of Canada reversed years of declining contributions and pledged \$12 million in new funding for landmine clearance efforts.

To be sure, many individuals and organizations have been advocating for this kind of investment, including the Canadian Landmine Foundation and Mines Action Canada, but Richard's voice has certainly helped.

Although I would argue that all entrepreneurs seeking to make a social impact should be interested in effecting change at a broader political, societal, or systemic level, for peace entrepreneurs such as Richard, exploring this terrain is critical from the outset. More specifically, engaging governments—whether as a potential program partner, to address regulatory challenges, or to change priorities and policies—is often a crucial step in the process of achieving widespread impact.

The CPA is well placed to help the peace start-ups in our incubator think and work politically. Beyond my own past experience engaging the federal government on public policy issues on behalf of Mennonite Central Committee, staff with the CPA's Core Collaborators have much to offer. This includes Project Ploughshares, which has played a leading role in peace and disarmament efforts in Canada and at the United Nations for more than four decades, and the Tamarack Institute, which has worked for more than fifteen years with leaders in governments, non-profits, and businesses to make positive community change easier and more effective.

Peace entrepreneurs like Richard benefit from the CPA's Peace Incubator Fund, providing small seed funding for participants in the Frank and Helen Epp Peace Incubator. Thanks to the Bauman family, gifts to this fund are being matched 1:1. Your gift can make a big impact!

www.grebel.ca/donate

Grebel Mourns Loss of Historian

Professor Emeritus Werner O. Packull passed away on April 27, 2018 at the age of 76.

Werner began his teaching career at Renison College at the University of Waterloo and later moved to Grebel. Upon the urging of former president Rod Sawatsky, Werner joined the Grebel faculty in 1983 to teach Reformation history and pursue Anabaptist studies. He was a mentor to many, and his passionate teaching inspired generations of students.

“As a historian of the Reformation, Werner helped to illuminate the complicated and diverse origins of the Anabaptist movement—offering valuable insights for both the church and the academy,” noted Dean Marlene Epp. “He was a wonderful teacher, and a kind and humorous man.”

In a career spanning more than thirty years, Werner established himself as a premier historian of early modern Europe, specializing in Radical Reformation studies. He was recognized as the world’s expert in the history of 16th-century Anabaptist communities in Moravia.

In 2002, Werner’s colleagues and students created a Festschrift for him. Edited by Professor Emeritus Arnold Snyder, *Commoners and Community: Essays in Honour of Werner O. Packull* contains original studies by thirteen leading scholars. After 20 years of scholarship and teaching at Grebel, Werner retired in August 2003. On that occasion, he established the Karin Packull Anabaptist Studies Award at Grebel, to thank his wife Karin, who steadfastly supported his endeavours and achievements.

“I believe that I took every single undergraduate course that Werner taught,” reflected President Marcus Shantz. He invested a great deal of his time outside of the classroom in mentoring students, and more than one went on to careers as scholars with the help of Werner’s encouragement and support. The entire Grebel community offers sympathy, prayer, and support to Karin and the family.”



Fretz Scholar Will Explore Diaspora

BY LAUREEN HARDER-GISSING,
ARCHIVIST-LIBRARIAN



The Institute of Anabaptist and Mennonite Studies at Grebel has announced the 2018-2019 recipient of the J. Winfield Fretz Fellowship in Mennonite Studies, Dr. Ben Nobbs-Thiessen.

A Latin American historian whose research focuses on the evolving history of the low-German Mennonite diaspora in the region, he completed his PhD at Emory University in 2016 and is currently a post-doctoral researcher in the School of Trans-border Studies at Arizona State University. His book project, *Landscape of Migration: Mobility and Agro-Environmental Change on Bolivia’s Tropical Frontier*, is currently under review for publication. It explores the role of Indigenous Andean, Mennonite, and Okinawan settlers in Bolivia’s “March to the East,” which was per capita one of the largest tropical colonization projects of the 20th century.

Ben will take up residency at Grebel in May 2019 for two months. Drawing on resources at the Mennonite Archives of Ontario and Milton Good Library, he plans to “explore the environmental, economic, and religious factors that produced and sustained multi-generational trans-border Mennonite communities” in Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

CATCH UP ONLINE

It’s never too late to learn something new. Watch this winter’s lectures featuring Don E. Saliers, Aileen Friesen, and David Weaver Zercher on our YouTube channel, plus hundreds of other videos!

youtube.com/ConradGrebelUC



Rodney and Lorna Sawatsky Visiting Scholar



J. Winfield Fretz Fellowship
in Mennonite Studies



Bechtel Lectures in Anabaptist-Mennonite Studies

People

Jeremy Moyer (BA 1997) is excited to announce the release of his new album, *Chinese Bicycle Stories*. It features his own compositions for Erhu and Qinqin, and was recorded in Shanghai over the last few years. www.jeremymoyer.com



Njo Kong Kie (BMATH 1983) premiered *Mr. Shi and His Lover* in December, which he composed along with playwright Wong Teng Chi. The 75-minute musical explores the inner emotions and motivations of its two protagonists, carrying the impact and provocative power of a grand theatrical drama.

Daniel Fernandes (BASC 2002) and **Kait Brown** are travelling and working remotely, moving to a new country each month or two, starting in Chile, Argentina, and then Brazil. Drop them a line if you're visiting South America. Daniel works as a personal and professional coach, helping people get to where they really want to be in life. Follow their adventures at danielfernandes.mykajabi.com.



KEEP IN TOUCH!

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

Aileen Friesen, Grebel's Fretz Visiting Scholar, recently edited *The Russian Mennonite Story: The Heritage Cruise Lectures* by Paul Toews. With nearly 100 historic photographs, this coffee-table book offers a rare glimpse into the prosperity, sorrow, and rebirth of the Mennonite story in Russia and Ukraine.



Ken Dick (BSC 1979) has been a practicing chiropractor in Ottawa for 35 years and recently published a book entitled *Healing Satori*. It details the healing principles that he has emphasized and found to be most effective throughout his career. drkenhealingsatori.com

Betty Pries (MTS 2005) was awarded the Menno Simons Preaching Prize by the Department of Theology of the Peace Churches, University of Hamburg. In December, she travelled to Germany to give the award-winning sermon. In addition to being a regular instructor in the Conflict Management Certificate Program at Grebel, Betty is co-founder and CEO at Credence & Co, and specializes in providing mediation, training, facilitation, coaching, and consulting services for businesses, not for profit organizations, governments, and churches. She is also a doctoral student in theology at the Free University of Amsterdam.

Rod Wilson (MTS 1996) moved to Vancouver with his wife Bev in 2000 where he assumed the Presidency of Regent College until 2015. Rod is now working with A Rocha, a Christian environmental organization, as a Senior Advisor and Mentor. His fifth book, *Keeping Faith in Fundraising*, was published this year by Eerdmans.

In 1975, Grebel students **Ralph Torrie** (BSC 1979) (pictured right) and **Dean Peachy** (MA 1982) organized a Symposium on Non-Violence and invited renowned political scientist Gene Sharp as keynote speaker. "He enthralled a packed theatre...and inspired me for years to come," reported Ralph. Sharp's death this January spurred Ralph to dig through a box he had saved from the event. The box contained transcripts of many of the presentations, Q&A sessions, and panel discussions from that conference, plus transcripts from other Grebel faculty lectures, including those by Walter Klaassen, Frank H. Epp, Ernie Regehr, and Rod Sawatsky. As the Peace and Conflict Studies program at Grebel celebrates 40 years, the College was keen to read the transcribed notes, acknowledging that the 1975 symposium helped to lay the groundwork for the PACS program. The Mennonite Archives of Ontario gratefully accepted these transcripts from Ralph and serendipitously discovered the matching audio tapes stored away in its existing holdings.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 7:30PM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 3:00PM

University of Waterloo Humanities Theatre
Grand Philharmonic Chamber Singers
University of Waterloo Chamber Choir
Mark Vuorinen, Conductor



In October of 1998, Matthew Shepard, a gay university student, was kidnapped, severely beaten, tied to a fence and left to die in a lonely field. Twenty years after that terrible event, we perform Craig Hella Johnson's bold and transcendent work, which incorporates a variety of musical styles and texts, including passages from Matthew's personal journal.



We are grateful for our faculty and staff, and the many gifts they share with Grebel. This year, we have several milestones to celebrate! 5 Years: Angelica Allen, Alicia Batten, Masie Sum, Mark Vuorinen. 10 Years: Jeremy Bergen, Sara Cressman. 15 Years: Annette Farwell, Jennifer Konkle. 20 Years: Laura Gray. 30 Years: Paul Penner. 35 Years: Janet Martin.



REUNION 2018 | 1995-2005 ERA

Bring your family back to Grebel to meet old friends and remember good times at the 1995-2005 Era Reunion!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2:30 PM

Grebel Atrium and Patio

KIDS ACTIVITIES • SNACKS • MUSIC • MEMORIES

Find more details online and in a summer postcard.

ALUMNI ERA REPS:

Gideon (BES 2001, MA 2006) & Brenda (Shantz) Prins (BSC 2002)

Tobin (BA 2008) & Meghan (Voth) Reimer (BA 2007)

www.grebel.ca/reunion



FUTURE GATHERINGS FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

LEAMINGTON

Sunday, June 3

1:00pm-3:00pm

Colasanti's Tropical Gardens

1550 Road 3 East, Kingsville

TORONTO

Thursday, June 28

5:00pm-7:00pm

The Hot House Restaurant

35 Church Street, Toronto

NIAGARA

Sunday, August 26

1:30pm-3:30pm

Vineland Estates

3620 Moyer Road, Vineland

Alumni from these areas will receive an email invitation closer to each date.

Calendar

Until May 2019

Sites of Nonresistance archival exhibit

May 18, 2018

Gamelan Ensemble

May 26, 2018

You@Waterloo Day

June 1, 2018

Discovery: A Comic Lament

June 3, 2018

Leamington Friends & Alumni Gathering

June 5, 2018

Lebold Fundraising Banquet

June 14-16, 2018

TMTC Graduate Student Conference at TMTC

June 28, 2018

Toronto Alumni Gathering

July 14, 2018

University Choir Concert

July 19, 2018

Orchestra@Uwaterloo

July 22, 2018

Instrumental Chamber Ensemble

July 30 to August 3, 2018

Peace Camp

August 12 to August 24, 2018

Ontario Mennonite Music Camp

August 26, 2018

Niagara Alumni Gathering

September 22, 2018

Grebel Alumni Reunion

October 18, 2018

Benjamin Eby Lecture with Alicia Batten

October 19-20, 2018

Empowered Women Preach Conference

November 16, 2018

Spirituality, Aging & Narrative: The Sacred Art of Story Listening

November 17 & 18, 2018

Considering Matthew Shepard Concert

uwaterloo.ca/grebel/events

Past Alumni Gatherings



This winter we took a few trips to visit Grebel alumni and their families. It's hard to decide if the Senators game in Ottawa or the Raptors game in Toronto was more fun! We also took in some Christmas magic at Doon Heritage Village in December. Maybe we'll come to your town next!





**ONTARIO MENNONITE
MUSIC CAMP**

**AUGUST 12-24
2018**

OMMC is an exciting summer opportunity for youth ages 12-16, pairing exceptional musical instruction with traditional camp activities! grebel.ca/ommc

  **Conrad Grebel
University College**



**JULY 30 - AUGUST 3, 2018
DAY CAMP FOR YOUTH GRADES 6-8**

Discover your power to change the world for the better!

REGISTRATION: \$210 lunch incl.
uwaterloo.ca/grebel/peace-camp

 The Ripple Effect
EDUCATION

 **Conrad Grebel
University College**

 With support from:
Kindred Credit Union
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**Benjamin Eby
Lecture with
Alicia Batten**

**October 18
at 7:30pm
Grebel Chapel**

BE OUR GUEST

SHORT AND LONG-TERM SUMMER ACCOMMODATION



Conrad Grebel University College offers comfortable and affordable accommodation in the College's residence and apartments.

Rooms starting at \$43.00/night

For more details, visit
uwaterloo.ca/grebel/stay or
contact summconf@uwaterloo.ca

TED & CO presents

DISCOVERY A COMIC LAMENT

BY ALISON BROOKINS • DIRECTED BY PHIL WEAVER-STOESZ

A SHOW ABOUT LAND, LOVE, AND LOSS | FRIDAY, JUNE 1 AT 7:30 PM | GREBEL'S GREAT HALL

MORE INFORMATION AND TICKET SALES: UWATERLOO.CA/GREBEL/DISCOVERY

SPIRITUALITY, AGING & NARRATIVE: THE SACRED ART OF STORY LISTENING



**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018
PRESENTED BY BILL RANDALL, MDiv, EDD**

When someone says "That's the story of my life," what do you understand them to mean? Is it rooted in a larger story, of a people, a community, a family, a faith? Come explore the intersections between spirituality, narrative, and aging, learn about storylistening and narrative care.

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