

CONNECTION

NEWS FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE KING'S UNIVERSITY | WINTER 2020

Building on 40 years



THE
KING'S
UNIVERSITY





UPCOMING EVENTS

**MAR
04**

KING'S EXPERIENCE INFO NIGHT

4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | North Academic Building – The King's University

Learn more about programs at King's by sitting in on lectures from professors, touring campus, and getting a feel for what life as a student at King's is like. Apply for free at the event.

**MAR
13**

BEETHOVEN VIOLIN SONATAS

7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. | Knoppers Hall – The King's University

Join King's professor Joachim Segger (piano), and guest chamber musician Frank Ho (violin) for a wonderful evening of classical music.

**MAR
18**

PRESIDENT'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY CHAPEL

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Atrium – The King's University

You're invited to the President's 40 Anniversary Chapel and Reception! This special 2 hour event starts with a worship service and ends with a dessert and coffee reception hosted by the President.

**MAR
20**

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT CENTRE OPENING

11:00 a.m. | Academic Enrichment Centre – The King's University

Join us as we officially celebrate the launch and opening of The King's University's brand new Academic Enrichment Centre.

**MAR
27**

DONOR APPRECIATION NIGHT

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. | Academic Enrichment Centre – The King's University

Supporters of King's have a tremendous impact on students. As a way to say thanks, you are invited to an evening of dessert, appetizers, and music. Tours of the new A.E.C. will also be provided.

**AUG
24**

EAGLES VOLLEYBALL CAMPS

Strathcona Christian Academy, 1011 Clover Bar Road, Sherwood Park

Do you have a volleyball enthusiast in your family? Give them the opportunity to learn and develop their skills with Eagles athletes.

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Cover

On our 40th anniversary, there is no better illustration of what King's is about than a photo of our students. It's what matters most to us, and what will continue to matter most to us, moving into our future. After 40 years, King's has made a difference in the lives of well over 5,000 students. Each one of them has in turn made a difference on this university as well.



All four presidents of King's. From left: Dr. Melanie Humphreys, Dr. Sidney DeWaal, Dr. Henk Van Andel, and Dr. Harry Fernhout

A Good Pilgrimage

"A good pilgrimage leads to discovery and transformation, but it isn't complete until you have returned home and told your story." – L.A. Daloz

I had the opportunity this term to speak to students about *paths to the presidency* as a part of an interdisciplinary studies conference on vocation. It was good to reflect back on my own journey and lessons learned and think of what I might share with students. Charting a path for a university is similar in some respects to the vocational journey our students are on. It takes courage and some risk-taking. In no small part, it depends on remembering the faithfulness of God in our lives. Finally, it requires that we remain hope-filled and dream big.

BEING COURAGEOUS

What are the most important questions for this generation? Each generation has its own burden. A burden which will take all of their courage, ingenuity, critical-thinking, and problem-solving to meet. In looking at our world today, I think that students bear a heavier load in this regard than I experienced in my youth. It was easier to make decisions in a less digital age.

The traditional undergraduate student entering King's this year was born in 2001. This new generation of students have never known a world without a war on terrorism or a world not in ecological or economic crisis. It is a generation that tends to be digitally connected yet socially isolated. They also tend to be more anxious

and worried about the future. *What does courage look like for these students?* Courage can be as simple as showing up for class. Courage is talking with a professor about possible fields of study or work. Courage is getting to know other students in class. Courage is recognizing that small risks, small steps now, prepare you for larger steps in the future.

What does courage look like for this university? What is King's most uniquely situated to address at this time? I am convinced that a King's education best prepares students with the skills needed to be resilient in today's economy. Skills such as the ability to draw inferences, make unexpected connections, the ability to learn, communicate, collaborate, and think



Students walking the halls of The King's College campus on 97 street.

critically about the heaps of information at their fingertips. Accessing information is something anyone can do. Knowing what to do with information takes discernment, investment, and requires good counsel. Individual faculty members engage students in conversations about their interests, opportunities for future study, and careers. A future direction for King's will be to more formally help students identify and connect their learning with possible internships and work opportunities.

BEING FAITHFUL

Recently I read an interesting statistic in a Universities Canada survey that over half of university presidents across the country were first generation university students. There are 96 of us across Canada — not a large cohort. I doubt if any of us entered undergraduate programs thinking that university president was a serious career option.

The *pathway to the presidency* is not a straight line. Students today are under incredible pressure to choose a particular career path. Some students do come to university with a clear career goal and others do not. In hindsight, both the student with a career goal and the one without will discover that they could not have imagined the journey, the setbacks, the triumphs, and the challenges they will face on route to a career. *What does faithfulness look like for these students?* I believe that remembering the faithfulness of God best happens in an intentional community with

a vision for flourishing. Students benefit from the stories of faculty mentors, parents, and elders who are further along in their vocational journeys. Individuals who have experienced God's provision in profound ways over a lifetime. My presentation to students regarding *pathways to the presidency* was full of stories of challenges and opportunities but most importantly of God's provision along the way.

What does faithfulness look like for this university? In 1 Samuel 7:12, Samuel sets down a stone of remembrance and states, "here by Thy great help we've come." One such stone of remembrance, published this year by The King's University Press, is president emeritus Dr. Henk Van Andel's book, *A Step at a Time: A History of the First 25 Years of The King's University*. God has been so good. In our fortieth anniversary year, we are invested in deepening the knowledge of King's as a Christian university with a unique mission and vision. A future direction for King's will be to deepen the student-advising opportunities with their faculty.

BEING HOPE-FILLED

At the conference, Knopper's Hall was full of bright, hopeful, and talented students who will, in their own ways, chart their way forward. I meant it when I said to them that each one of them could be a president of a university someday. *What does hope look like for this generation?* As worried as this generation may be, they also tend to be practical, financially

conservative, resourceful, independent, and tech-savvy. In this age of disruption, they will think differently about solutions to some of the world's greatest challenges. Our students fill me with hope for the future. I look forward to their contributions to build a more humane, just, and sustainable world.

A few years ago, one of our valedictorians stated that "hope is the cornerstone of a King's education." I am confident in the unchanging nature, faithfulness, and provision of God for our students and for The King's University. Our mission is unchanged. *The King's University exists to provide university education that inspires and equips learners to bring renewal and reconciliation to all walks of life as followers of Jesus Christ, the Servant-King.* A strategic direction for King's over the next years will be to continue to innovate around our program offerings, adding programs that connect students to real opportunities to make a difference and thrive.

I look forward to this next stage of our pilgrimage together, where we will find ourselves, and the stories yet to come. 🇺🇸

DR. MELANIE HUMPHREYS

40TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET BREAKS RECORD FOR DONATIONS



Over 400 enthusiastic supporters packed the gym for King's 40th Anniversary Banquet in September, raising a record \$50,000 for student scholarships and affordable Christian university education at King's. The event featured greetings

from the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, government officials, and other local dignitaries. The Translators, a folk-rock band made up of King's alumni from across western Canada, provided entertainment for the evening. 🏰



\$250,000 EQUIPMENT UPGRADE FOR NATURAL SCIENCES

A \$250,000 upgrade to the natural science department's nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) machine will support research being done by professors at King's and will allow students to work with the instrument earlier in their programs. The NMR helps users investigate the structure of molecules by measuring the chemical environment of atoms. Access to state-of-the-art tools like the NMR gives students a distinct advantage in their careers. 🏰



MALLORY TURNER JOINS EAGLES COACHING STAFF

Eagles Athletics welcomes Mallory Turner to the women's volleyball coaching staff as part of the Canadian Colleges Athletics Associations' (CCAA) Female Apprentice Coach Program. This marks a return to King's for Turner who spent two seasons playing under Eagles Volleyball Head Coach Grace Scott. Turner brings seven years of U16-U18 club volleyball coaching experience, and was an assistant rowing coach for Team Alberta at the 2015 Western Canada Summer Games. 🏰

ANNOUNCING THE KING'S UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY RINK



In January, students were able to strap on a pair of skates without having to leave the university! The rink, part of a series of special 40th anniversary activities, is a convenient amenity for students to enjoy while on campus and

is a tradition King's hopes to continue moving forward. A huge thank you goes out to King's generous corporate sponsors who fully funded the project. Live close to campus? Come for a skate! Everyone is welcome. 🏰



HUGE COMMUNITY TURNOUT AT THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY FAIR

In celebration of The King's University's 40th anniversary, the university hosted alumni, students, and neighbours to a fair on campus. The event featured a Ferris wheel, super slide, giant swing, and a number of smaller carnival games, attractions, and treats.

"Nothing like this has ever been done before," says Shannon Tuininga, Vice President of Institutional Advancement. "It couldn't have gone any better. I was able to reconnect with many King's alumni, some of whom mentioned they hadn't been back to campus since graduation."

An estimated 3,500 guests attended the event throughout the day, including many local residents who had never previously visited campus. The fair was made possible by generous donations from local businesses and The King's University Students' Association. 🏰

Introducing Shannon Tuininga

New VP for Institutional Advancement



When did you first start at King's?

I arrived as a student in 1998. After I completed my degree in environmental studies and business, I had the opportunity to serve as an admissions counsellor for six years. I recruited primarily in Canada, but also made trips to the US, China, and South Korea. I joined the fundraising team in 2009 where I eventually served as associate director and director of development. In November 2019, after an extensive interview process, I was given a contract for the position of vice president for advancement.

What role does VP Advancement play?

My portfolio includes student recruitment, fundraising, community relations (alumni, parents, and churches), and marketing. Because success in Advancement is directly linked to the financial health of the university I certainly feel some pressure, but I work with talented people who are incredibly good at what they do.

What are you proud of in your career?

I would say my ability to take on responsibilities outside of my comfort zone. I consider myself an introvert, so given my externally-focused role, you can imagine how I've had to push myself! I am thankful that I have overcome my fears and now have the privilege to serve this university in a new capacity.

What are some of the opportunities you see for King's moving forward?

King's has an important role in serving our communities. I hope to see existing relationships with churches strengthened and new relationships of mutual service developed. A university like King's contributes to the strength and vibrancy of the Christian church by working alongside congregations, schools, and businesses – equipping new leaders to serve well.

What important challenges does King's need to address?

Ensuring tuition levels remain as affordable as possible. Recent changes in provincial government and a sluggish Alberta economy have resulted in significant alterations to our funding model. Financial support from our community is as important today as it was 40 years ago and I pray that our community – including our growing community of 5,000+ alumni – will continue to see the value of this place.

What do you like most about King's?

What first attracted me to King's as a high school student continues to animate my work here today. I have such an appreciation for how Christian university is done here. When I considered where I wanted to study as a student, I had no interest in attending a university where I would be

instructed on *what* to think more than *how* to think. King's offered an experience where I could be engaged in a community that enhanced my faith and challenged me to explore what it meant to be a Christian in all aspects of my life. At King's I was able to thoughtfully explore and examine questions of faith, ethics, morality, stewardship, truth, and responsibility. I grew up in a home infused with Christianity and my parents prioritized sharing their faith with their children. King's complimented a faith first instilled in me in my youth. My faith became my own and deeply rooted as part of who I am, in part thanks to King's!

What are you most looking forward to in your new position?

I feel privileged to serve King's as VP of advancement. I enjoy the broad focus of the role and the diversity of people I get to work with. King's has so much potential and many exciting plans that need funding. I look forward to securing major gifts for the Centre for Excellence in the Sciences, and continuing to find alignment between charitable interests and the work of the Academic Enrichment and Micah Centres. I am energized to work with the teams in my division to implement plans and strategies that move King's forward. 🙌



"A Woman Anoints Jesus with Costly Ointment," reproduction of an 11th century fresco by 18 King's art students in 2001.

New President's Visual Arts Council to ensure curation and expansion of campus art collection

Art plays an important role at a university. It nourishes a campus community. It creates vibrant spaces for dialogue, creativity, imagination, and hope.

After 40 years, King's has amassed a large art collection and, with the retirement of visual arts professor Daniel van Heyst last year, a new strategy to ensure its integrity and proper display is being developed.

"We need to care for the collection that Daniel so carefully curated over his career at King's," says president, Melanie Humphreys. "At the same time, we need to connect King's with the arts community of Edmonton, across Canada, and around the world."

Amongst other things, the President's Visual Arts Council will encourage a lively

art culture through public commissions, identifying space on campus that might be developed as gallery space, and enhancing existing galleries and art presentations. The Council will also explore opportunities for external funding, establishing an artist in residence program, and coordinate visiting art exhibits from other universities as well as locally and nationally recognized artists. 🙌



Keiskamma Art Project

The King's University was proud to display The Keiskamma Art Project this fall. The project, comprised mostly of women living along the Keiskamma River in the Eastern Cape of South Africa, features traditional embroidery and bead-work art pieces from members of local communities. Each tapestry on display featured a scene of village life or a portrait that tells the story of the person depicted. There are usually two names stitched into each piece, the designer and the woman who embroidered it.

The Keiskamma Art Project is proof of the community's creativity and pride in their culture, traditions, and beauty of their natural environment, regardless of the endemic poverty and historic injustices that have inflicted intergenerational trauma on the residents of these communities. 🙌

Following the Call of Matthew 25

Chamber Choir performs for penitentiary inmates

BY TAYLA HASWELL

Christmas 2019 was a special one for members of King's Chamber Choir and choral director, Dr. Melanie Turgeon. The choir, along with King's professors Dr. Arlette Zinck and Dr. Jeffrey Dudiak, put on a Christmas Lessons and Carols service for inmates of the Edmonton Institution, a federal maximum security prison for inmates serving two years to life.

"It was a meaningful day for all of us, particularly for our students," says Turgeon.

The Chamber Choir performed a number of songs for the inmates in attendance. Due to space limitations and security concerns, not all inmates were able to attend the service in person; however, it was broadcast throughout the entire institution for all to enjoy. Along with carols, Drs. Zinck and Dudiak lead readings and encouraged inmates to participate in the service by reading passages as well. "The inmates cheered each other on as they approached the microphone to read, and

applauded loudly after each song the choir sang. These outreach opportunities have proven to be some of the most insightful days of my career," states Turgeon.

The opportunity to perform rose out of the relationship Zinck has established with the Edmonton Institution through the Post-Secondary Prison Education Foundation (PSPEF). Since 2013, incarcerated learners have been able to take university courses while completing their sentences.

"I believe that everyone deserves extra joy around Christmas time," explains King's student and member of the Chamber Choir, Jubert Famador. "It was a real privilege to be even a small part of bringing joy to these members of our community."

This event aligns with the choir's renewed emphasis on performing for marginalized and vulnerable members of our community. The choir plans to return to the Edmonton Institution for Easter. 🙌

INMATES COMPLETE KING'S COURSES FOR THE FIRST TIME

For the first time, federally-incarcerated Canadians have completed accredited King's courses in physics, math, English, history, philosophy and theology through a program called The Ephesus Project.

"This work deeply matters to us, it deeply changes us," explains Dr. Arlette Zinck. "The teaching is rooted in the Matthew 25 call to 'visit the prisoner.' My colleagues and I consistently come into contact with engaged, grateful, and capable learners."

This milestone follows years of relationship-building between PSPEF, Correctional Services Canada, and other universities. Professors volunteer to teach incarcerated learners in person or via correspondence when students move to medium security institutions across Canada. PSPEF is a branch of the Canadian registered charity, *Book Club for Inmates*. 🙌



Why is this Old Lady in our Class?

BY BARBARA HEIN, M.A., STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY COORDINATOR

There was a quiet buzz of soft voices as young, eager students filed into the room. The professor struck up conversations with students who were enjoying tales of his summer adventures. By way of introduction, each of us was asked to share why we decided to take this particular course, *The Philosophy of Religion*. So began my first night class in well over 25 years.

Of the 15 students in the room, many said they had grown up in the church but had unanswered questions. This had led some of them to leave the church. They expressed a wide range of denominational experiences from Catholic to evangelical, with a strong contingent of Christian Reformed students as well. One thing each student seemed to share was curiosity and an earnest desire to know if faith in an infinite being was vital to our existence as humans in the 21st century. Or could we create our own moral code and identity as popularized by new age movements?

I wrestled with these same existential questions myself when I was in university and have revisited them from time to time. Over the years, however, I have gained a depth of assurance and peace regarding my relationship with the eternal God. As I have endeavoured to follow the Lord Jesus in good times and in bad, His faithfulness, love, and mercy towards me have laid these questions to rest.

It soon became apparent that my brain had been on vacation for the last 25 years as I struggled to understand the text we had been given. I found myself scribbling question marks in the margins of more paragraphs than I care to admit. I definitely felt my age among these young, bright, and engaged students. Each class became

a meeting place of ideas, as the insightful professor skillfully created an environment that allowed for many questions and lively discussion. Some students, however, were still left searching for answers to their deepest questions.

This is when I began to wonder if my generation had failed these young people. Rather than giving them a faith that is objective, historical, living, and true; had we given them an internal, subjective, self-centred faith that could not stand the test of time and life's hardships?

In the name of relevance, had we unwittingly taught them that church is simply a place to learn to achieve a better and more successful life, instead of a holy life lived before a holy God? How would this kind of teaching acknowledge any need for the redemption offered by a crucified Christ? It's no wonder these young people were struggling to figure out what faith in God really means.

I am sorrowful over what I perceive to be a failure on the part of my generation to be intentional about passing on a living faith that is true, transformational, and rooted in Jesus Christ. A faith that, at its core, provides such grace and mercy that it sets the soul free from all forms of condemnation and brings meaning to life. I realized that to address the confusion and disillusionment so apparent in this generation, we must ask ourselves if we have been faithful to follow God's call to be spiritual mentors to the next generation.

Maintaining my faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour, Lord, and Life has been challenged and even threatened at times by various temptations vying for my heart

and distracting my attention. Admittedly, the years can take their toll on our faith. Resentments, losses, grief, distractions, and sin can all accumulate to turn a once fervent faith into a wistful yearning for something deeper.

As I entered midlife I became increasingly aware of the importance of this stage of life as a time of recalibration and spiritual renewal. It became clear to me that now was the time to pursue a life of deeper meaning and purpose that would turn the second half of life into one of eternal value grounded in Kingdom pursuits.

It is my prayer that as I seek to recalibrate a deeper communion with my Lord, and receive His merciful forgiveness for the past, that my heart will continue to be renewed. I want to be able to show the next generation that living a life of faith and surrender to Jesus Christ is the only way to truly live. I want to echo the words of the Apostle Paul who wrote to the young Timothy in 1 Tim.1:16, 17 "But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they too, can believe in him and receive eternal life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen" 🙌

The King's University will be hosting a Navigating Midlife Transitions Seminar on Saturday, April 18 for those in mid-life to gather and discuss, encourage, and celebrate the richness of entering the second half of life with renewed passion and purpose. To register visit: kingsu.ca/midlife-transitions.



Interested in supporting King's prairie grasslands installation? We're looking for additional assistance to make this initiative possible.

Visit kingsu.ca/prairie-grasses or contact King's Development Office at **780-465-8314** for information.

Trees for Tomorrow

Planting for the next 40 years

BY NIKOLAS VANDER KOOY

If you've never had the privilege of visiting The King's University, I'm going to let you in on a little secret—it's not located in the prettiest part of town.

King's borders on a major industrial hub. Like other Christian universities, when the time came for King's to find a campus, budget limitations put the best locations a little out of reach. When King's found the Capilano Motor Inn and the Alberta Liquor Control Commission building in 1989, it was a God-send.

Thirty years later, today on King's campus you will find state-of-the-art research equipment, award-winning faculty, and some excellent new additions to the original hotel. King's has come a long way, but it's still safe to say that students don't come to King's for the campus.

What if they did?

December 3rd marked the launch of King's annual Giving Tuesday campaign. This year's cause, *Trees for Tomorrow*, promised to plant more trees on campus and naturalize existing campus green space.

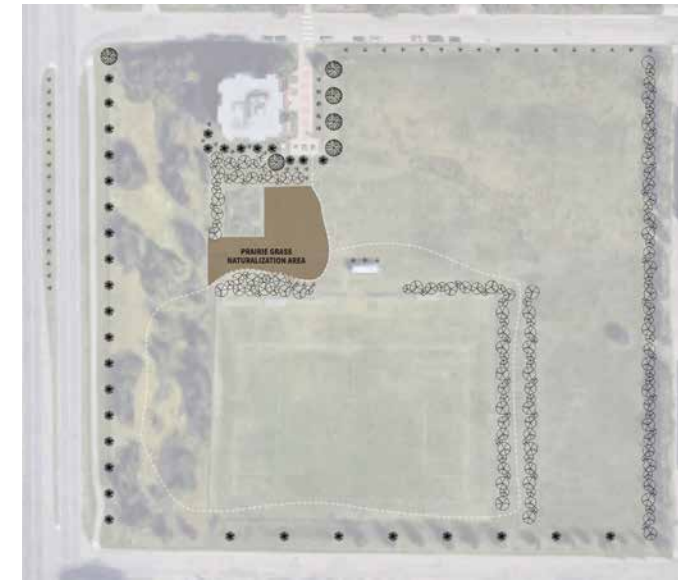
The campaign launched with an initial goal of \$4,000. By noon, the campaign goal had been raised twice. By 11:59 p.m., over \$11,000 had come in the door. To date, the campaign has raised over \$35,000. Thanks to the generosity of these donors, over 160 trees will be planted on campus this summer and a new native prairie grasses preserve, developed.

The hope is that students and visitors who arrive on campus won't see a cluster of buildings on the edge of an industrial park, but a verdant oasis – a special place

that stands out from its surroundings. A campus that exudes King's commitment to stewardship and renewal and demonstrates the difference Christian universities like King's make in the world.

In a way, *Trees for Tomorrow* is another iteration of a story as old as King's itself – a story about doing more with less. A story about active hope in the face of challenges. A story about renewal of all things. It's a story King's invites its students to participate in everyday in the classroom. Planting trees and campus naturalization efforts are just visible manifestations of what King's has done for 40 years and counting.

Will students choose King's for it's campus once these trees are fully grown? Perhaps, but our hope is that they choose King's because of what these trees represent. 🌳



Above: North property proposal. Above-right: South property proposal.

North Property Proposal

LARGE ARCHITECTURAL TREES

Large deciduous trees in addition to smaller plantings will provide immediate relief to the look and appearance of campus, providing stability to key entrances and improving first impressions of The King's University.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS GROVE

Funded from donations by King's board of governors, a grove of small decorative pines will provide definition to the picnic and bonfire site immediately outside of the Level Coffee House. The grove will section off student green space from a nearby parking lot and form the beginnings of a campus quad.

KNOPPERS HALL AND BACK PATH

For many commuting students and campus visitors, King's rear entrances are our main entrances—in particular, guests of Knoppers Performance Hall and the campus drama theatre. Trees will improve these critical campus approaches.

TREE PLANTING ON MEDIAN

With support from the City of Edmonton, King's hopes to see trees planted along the medians on 50 Street. This will provide a much needed green touch that will improve sight lines for all, and establish the university as an important landmark.

ENHANCE EXISTING CANOPY

Tree infill will close gaps in King's existing campus canopy, ensuring an enhanced sense of 'campus' that stands out from the surrounding industrial landscape.

South Property Proposal

SWALE NATURALIZATION ENHANCEMENT

Native vegetation and tree species will be planted along the exterior of the existing campus swale to enlarge and enhance this naturalized space.

SOCCER FIELD PERIMETER

The Eagles soccer pitch will be enclosed with tree saplings which, once mature, will enhance sight lines and provide some shelter from the wind.

PRAIRIE GRASSLANDS RESTORATION (additional funding required)

A naturalized prairie tall grasses preserve will be developed over time by importing sod and seed mixes from around the Canadian prairies to the south field at King's.

FUTURE MULTI-USE TRAIL

(additional funding required)

Newly-greened campus spaces including the campus quad, board of governors grove, prairie grasslands preserve, and swale will be connected by a multi-use trail loop that will enhance student fitness, wellness, and community use of campus.

BEAUTY IN DIVERSITY

One goal of *Trees for Tomorrow* is to promote a diverse canopy on campus by planting the following species.

FAST-GROWING SPECIES

- ▶ American elm
- ▶ Ponderosa pine
- ▶ Scots pine

SLOWER-GROWING SPECIES

- ▶ Burr oak
- ▶ White spruce
- ▶ Green ash

EXOTIC SPECIES

- ▶ Sugar maple
- ▶ Red maple
- ▶ Amur maple
- ▶ Black locust
- ▶ American chestnut

SPECIES NATIVE TO EDMONTON

- ▶ White spruce
- ▶ Balsam poplar
- ▶ Schubert's cherry
- ▶ Plains cottonwood
- ▶ Western white pine
- ▶ Douglas fir



Education Under The King

Below is a slightly abridged version of the address given by Dr. Richard Mouw at the opening convocation of The King's College on September 3, 1979.

Reprinted from "Torchbearers for the King" by Harry Cook and William Vanden Born. Visit kingsu.ca/connection to read the full address.

I am humbled by the opportunity to speak at this significant celebration. Very few persons are granted the privilege of speaking at the very first Convocation of an educational institution; I dare speculate that this will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. My assignment here is an awesome one.

Some of you come today to celebrate the culmination of months and years of dreaming, planning, and praying—and to participate in a public display of the first fruits of those dreams and plans and prayers. But it is quite likely that there are others of you who have come as curious onlookers, bearing perhaps some puzzlement, or even skepticism, about the nature and goals of this new institution. If I am to be successful in fulfilling my assignment, I should speak words of wisdom to persons in each of these categories. To those for whom this occasion is one of joy and fulfillment, I should offer words of encouragement and inspiration. To the curious onlookers I should offer a plausible account of the vision which has led to the establishing of this institution.

That is, as I have already said, an awesome task. And there are very few precedents to follow in attempt to fulfill such an assignment. But, as I began preparing this address several weeks ago,

I was aware of one example I could turn to for inspiration. On October 20, 1880—almost 99 years ago—Abraham Kuyper delivered his magnificent address on “Sphere Sovereignty” at the opening ceremonies of the Free University of Amsterdam.

I have read and re-read that address in recent weeks. Kuyper’s speech is not one that could be easily delivered on a comparable occasion in 1979. It is fairly technical in nature, and on my calculations it took at least an hour to deliver!

Reading Kuyper’s address confirmed my inclination to organize my remarks around the idea of Christ’s kingship. Kuyper sketched out a framework wherein each basic sphere of life has its proper place, with its own patterns or authority. He was especially interested in pleading for the integrity of an educational task which could be pursued without needless interference on the part of either church or state. But over and over again in his address Kuyper paused to point to the One who stood above all the spheres of human conduct, to the One who alone deserves to be called Sovereign Ruler over all things. Over and over again Kuyper paid homage to King Jesus.

It is this same vision of Christ’s kingship which has informed and inspired the dreams, plans and prayers which have led up to this celebration. Indeed, it is significant that this vision of the kingship of Jesus is not merely an implicit assumption which underlies the educational

enterprise whose beginning we are celebrating today but that it is emblazoned on the doorposts of the institution: The King’s College.

The kingship motif is a relatively common one in contemporary Christian piety. Christians sing of worshipping and walking with the King. I have seen Roman Catholic, Lutheran, and Anglican churches bear the name “Church (or Cathedral) of Christ the King.”

Unfortunately, Christians are not always aware of the profound commitments implied by this language. References to Jesus as “King” often border on the metaphorical; they are intended as compliments which are less than literal. Attributions of kingship to Jesus are made by many Christians without a grasp of the concrete power and authority to which they point.

...In the context of the Biblical scenario, Jesus is the fulfillment of the deepest yearnings of the human species with regard to authority, power, and kingship. In my own reflections on the relationship of Christianity to politics in recent years I have been very impressed by the relevance for understanding Christ’s kingship of a theme developed by J.R.R. Tolkien—of “hobbit” fame—in a fascinating essay which he wrote entitled “On Fairy Stories.” Tolkien there discusses the structure of the fairy tale; every proper fairy story has a catastrophe which is resolved by a happy ending. Toward the end of his discussion Tolkien tells why

he, as a Christian, has a special interest in fairy stories; it is because, he says, the Gospel itself is a fairy story of sorts—“a story of a larger kind which embraces all the essence of fairy stories.”

Like the fairy story, the Gospel depicts a catastrophic turn of events. In the fairy tale there is often a curse of evil spell inflicted: Someone has been turned into a frog, or has been put to sleep as a result of an evil potion. Deliverance seems virtually impossible but, lo and behold, the rescuer appears on the scene. The beautiful princess stoops to kiss the ugly frog. The spell of the potion brewed by the wicked witch is broken. “And they lived happily ever after.”

In the Gospel story the curse is especially tragic. The good creation is perverted by sin, and the benevolent plans of the creator God seem to have come to naught. But here too the mighty one mercifully and surprisingly stoops to kiss the ugly frog. Here too the dragon is slain. Here too the story ends on an optimistic note. “We will live happily ever after in God’s renewed creation.”

In thinking of the Gospel as a fairy tale, Tolkien does not mean to deny the historical truth of the Biblical record. Indeed, he tells us: The Gospel “story is supreme; and it is true. Art has been verified. God is the lord of the angels, and of men—and of elves. Legend and History have met and fused.” The Gospel depicts the happy ending which exceeds all happy endings manufactured by the human imagination. This happy ending is the true account of the way things will turn out.

Well, what does this have to do with the understanding of Christ’s kingship? Allow me to explain. The relationship of the kingship of Christ to the messianic prophecies of the Old Testament can, I think, be understood as a kind of fairy tale that has come true. In the Old Testament the children of Israel experience a long series of political disillusionments. They have high standards and expectations with respect to the office of kingship, as can be seen in Psalm 72, where the king is described as being “like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.” But these high hopes and expectations were regularly frustrated. Israel experienced many instances of scandal and corruption. Her kings were all too obviously frail and sinful human specimens.

In the midst of political disillusionment, an interesting thing happens. Rather than falling

into utter despair over political prophets, the Old Testament believers, and prophets, engage in a kind of imaginative wishing. They begin to weave a tale of political fulfillment and satisfaction. They begin to ask questions about what is the proper shape of political hope.

The process of questioning goes something like this. “What would it be like if one of these days the Lord God would send us a real king? What would it be like if we were to wake up some fine morning and find out that our political warfare has ended, that God has put a stop to political scandals and rivalries, that there will be no more Watergates or Koreagates or Ottawagates?

What would it be like if one morning we woke to the announcement that unto us a child has been born, and unto us a son has been given, and that the government will rest upon his shoulders, and his name will be Wonderful Counselor and Prince of Peace, and of the increase of his government and of his peace there will be no end? What would it be like if the Lord God would send us a real King, a king who, when he says he will make one thing perfectly clear, goes on to make one thing perfectly clear, a king who when he insists that we can trust him, we can trust him, a king who when makes a promise, he goes on to fulfill it? What would it be like if the Lord God would send us a king who would feed his flock like a shepherd, gather the lambs in his arms, and greatly lead those with young?”

Jesus is that king, the promised one of Israel. Jesus is the fulfillment of the political fairy tale which is woven—under the guidance of the Holy Spirit—of the political hopes and fears of the Old Testament-believing community. Whether or not we realize it, we are referring to this fulfillment of the office of kingship each Christmas with the words: “The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.”

But I do not mean here to focus primarily on the sphere of politics. The Kingly function of Jesus has a cosmic scope. The sovereign rule of Jesus is a universal rule. He was exercising his kingly authority, not only when he contrasted the patterns of his kingdom with those of the rulers of the Gentiles, who lord it over their subjects, not only when burst forth from the tomb, thereby breaking the seal of Pilate, whose soldiers lay dead men in the presence of the risen Lord, but was also when he stilled the angry waves, cast out demons, healed broken bodies, cleansed

the temple, and taught his followers the fundamentals of the New Covenant.

The kingly rule of Jesus is universal in scope—it is a rule over all spheres of human life and it is a present reality. This rule, of course, is not universally recognized today. There are many—their numbers are legion—who do not recognize the presence of the kingdom of Jesus. But those who have tasted the first fruits of his kingly rule know that the day is coming when all that opposes his designs will be eliminated from the good creation. We know that he will soon subdue his enemies, that every knee will bow and every tongue will confess his Lordship.

We know that all the forces, principalities, and powers in the universe—whether the spirit powers which rule in heavenly places, or earthly powers which presently parade their authority in the garments and technical apparatus of government, education, entertainment, and the economic sector, or the powers and forces of nature; which dwell under the earth—that all of these forces and principalities and powers will be brought into subjection to the sovereign rule of Jesus.

The Christian community is called to show forth and proclaim his present rule, and to give witness that the renewal of the whole creation is a certainty. That is why it’s so important and necessary that we claim various spheres of activity for his Lordship. I have a friend who recently began to work in an inner-city ministry. I saw him after he had been on the job for a week or so and I asked him how his work was going. He replied: “For the first few weeks I’m just walking around the inner-city, claiming the territory for Jesus!” In that reply he gave expression to a profound insight into the Christian calling: we must claim the territory for Jesus and we must do this in all spheres of human life.

And so, they have called this institution “The King’s College.” The use of this name should not be understood to imply that here alone in this tiny area of educational life is a piece of territory which belongs to King Jesus. Nor should we restrict the educational rule of Jesus to that larger network of Christian educational institutions of which this college has now become a member. The patterns and processes of education, wherever they are found, belong to his rule. But this school, along with many other institutions of Christian education, is

proclaiming, and giving evidence of, the reality of that rule. It means to bear witness to the fact that we can bring the deepest hopes and fears of educational and scholarly activity into subjection to the sovereign rule of Jesus.

How must King's go about bringing all that falls within its mission into subjection to the reign of Christ? There are at least two general aspects of this task which must be underscored.

The first can be described in the passive voice: King's must be a place in which Christians are acted upon by the kingdom of Jesus, where persons are shaped by the Gospel in ways which are appropriate to the educational and scholarly enterprise. This is not a "Bible school", nor is it a church, or a family, or an encounter group. It is a place where liberal arts education and scholarship take place. It is important that much attention be given to the ways in which the Christian Gospel can have a proper impact on all of the processes and procedures, programs and activities which are peculiar to an institution of this sort.

A Christian educational institution must be a place where sanctification takes place—where Christian persons are nurtured in such a way that the spirit of Christ is breathed into all that they do as educators, students, administrators, and scholars. This must be a place where... wisdom and knowledge are given scholarly utterance, where intellectual faith is exercised, where academic healing is experienced, where administrative miracles are worked, where the gifts of prophecy, discernment of spirits, and the interpretation of tongues are brought to bear on questions of culture.

As a centre of Christian nurture, this institution should not restrict its educational efforts to young persons in their late teens and early twenties but rather offer its services and resources to the entire Christian community as a place where persons from many vocations and situations can come apart for the gaining of a perspective on their work and play, their lives as consumers, parents, spouses, church members, and citizens. It is also important that this be a place where ecumenical discussions take place. Where Christians from different confessions, traditions, and cultural situations engage in the sort of dialogue that can build up the entire Christian body unto obedience.

The second aspect can be formulated in the active voice: The King's College must be an agent of the kingdom, it must engage in activities which extend the visible rule of Christ, carrying the influence of that rule into the larger human society. The passive and active dimensions of this task are complementary. As persons who have been nurtured by Christ, we must become sources of nurture in the world. As those who have been served by him, we must become servants of others, especially of the oppressed. As those who have been shaped by the kingly rule of Jesus, we must become shapers of culture in accordance with the Gospel's demands. As those who have been acted upon by his kingdom, we must be agents of that kingdom.

There are many ways in which King's can contribute to the expansion of the visible rule of Christ. It can do so by cooperating with Christian organizations in Canada and elsewhere, and specifically here in the province of Alberta. It can promote sensitivities in this part of Canada to the cries of the oppressed of the earth, to the victims of racism, sexism, and political and economic injustice. It can provide a clear model for all to see of what it is like to be a community of scholars fearlessly wrestling with urgent issues from a posture of obedience to God's word.

Not the least of the contributions this school can make is by promoting an awareness on the part of its students of the richness of the creation, of the brokenness of a cosmos tainted by sin, and of the full scope of the Gospel of grace. In a provocative address to the 1971 Jerusalem Conference on Biblical Prophecy, James M. Houston – now of Regent College in Vancouver – appealed to evangelical Christians "to use the whole range of their professional skills to speak prophetically about our times (reaching) into every professional area of life, just as in the past we have emphasized the geographical penetration of our world with the Gospel."

Dr. Houston's comparison of the cultural and scholarly calling of the Christian community today with the missionary enterprise of the 19th century is an illuminating one. Just as these missionaries ventured into uncharted continents with the confidence that there are no cattle of any of a thousands hills which have not been formed by the Creator, and that there is no human being in who has not been formed in the image of the God and Father of Jesus Christ, so we must enter into the difficult task of cultural

exploration—of penetrating the professions and disciplines—with the full confidence that there is no economic or aesthetic or legal sin for which the Lamb of God was not a worthy sacrifice. That, as Abraham Kuyper put it in his memorable words at the opening ceremonies of the Free University, "there is not an inch in the entire area of our human life of which Christ, who is the sovereign of all, does not cry: 'Mine!'"

In spite of the fact that I sound like I am telling you what you ought to do, I hope you will receive these remarks not as the condescending instructions of an American imperialist who has travelled over the border to tell you how you must do your business but as the personal reflections of someone who is inspired by this happy occasion to join you in considering what are our common obligations as supporters of the task of Christian education.

To all of you who have a stake in The King's College, I want to wish you well as you pursue this complex task. As a former resident of this city, an alumnus of the University of Alberta, a representative here today of one of your sister institutions, and as one who possesses the same Christian educational vision which informs this enterprise, I have many reasons to pray for God's blessing on this institution. But underlying our best wishes and our prayers for divine blessing is for all of us who love what is often called "the kingdom perspective," the conviction that someday the kings of the earth—the bearers of the glory and the splendor of the nations—will enter into the New Jerusalem bringing with them the fruits of human cultural formation.

It is my firm conviction as a Calvinist that someday the works of Plato and Shakespeare and Karl Marx, the sculpture of China and the paintings of Rembrandt and the Group of Seven, the music of Bach and Handel, and Dolly Parton, the novels of Hugh MacLennan and Margaret Laurence, the Articles of Confederation, our films and songbooks, our therapy textbooks and sex manuals, our creeds and manifestos, our games and our TV Guides – all of these things will be laid at the feet of King Jesus, for reshaping, healing, and cleansing, in acknowledgment of the fact that they were explorations of territory that belonged to him all along. It is my sincere hope on this joyous occasion that this institution, these humble beginnings notwithstanding, will be known on that day to be a faithful servant of the King. 🙏



Building on 40 years

Four decades of growth at The King's University

With photos and content from "A Step at a Time: A History of the First 25 years of The King's University" by Henk Van Andel and the Gerry Segger Heritage Collection









CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT FROM 1979 – PRESENT

- 1979 – 1980**
 - King's rents 4,000 square feet of office space in the Wawanese Insurance Building downtown
 - Initial library collection opens with 33,000 volumes
- 1981**
 - 70,000 square-foot 97 street campus allows for lab space, purpose-built classrooms, gym, and the "Oyster" chapel and activity space
- 1989**
 - Capilano Motor Inn, ALCC building, and surrounding grounds purchased to become the permanent home for King's
- 1990 – 1993**
 - 50 street campus opens in '93 following a massive retrofit and construction of a new gym, natural science wing, and fine arts wing
- 1997**
 - Development of swale as naturalized dry pond, construction of lowered soccer pitch, and additional 50 trees to improve aesthetics.
- 2004 – 2006**
 - Apartment residence opens
 - North Building opens with board rooms, drama studio, lounge space, and lecture halls
 - Level Coffee House developed
- 2008 – 2010**
 - Workout Centre opens
 - Construction of new residence lounges, centralized student life hallway, and natural science wing updates
- 2013 – 2014**
 - Gerry Segger Heritage Collection and reading room opens.
 - Tower Suite renovation and retrofit completed.
- 2019**
 - Academic Enrichment Centre (AEC) opens with dedicated writing and testing facilities, additional student work space, and new career centre

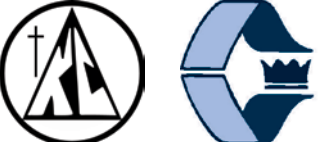



PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT FROM 1979 – PRESENT

- 1979 – 1982**
 - King's opens with 55 courses in the arts, social sciences, and biology
 - "The Core" is formed to ensure students receive a liberal arts foundation in addition to a chosen area of specialization
- 1982 – 1987**
 - Diploma programs in the arts, church music, commerce, and science
 - Certificate in religious education
- 1987**
 - College permitted to offer degree programs for the first time
 - 3-year B.A. with concentrations in biology, chemistry, English, history, music, philosophy, social science, sociology, and theology
- 1988**
 - 3-year B.Sc with concentrations in biology and chemistry
- 1994**
 - B.Ed in Elementary Education (after-degree)
- 1995**
 - First 4-year B.A. and B.Sc. programs in Environmental Studies
- 1998 – 1999**
 - 4-year B.A. in Psychology
 - 4-year B.A. in English
- 2000**
 - 4-year B.Sc in Biology, Chemistry, and Computing Science
 - 4-year B.Mus
 - 4-year B.Com
- 2004 – 2008**
 - 4-year B.A. in Politics-History-Economics
 - 4-year B.A. in History
 - B.Ed. in Secondary Education (after-degree)
- 2017**
 - 4-year B.A. in Sociology

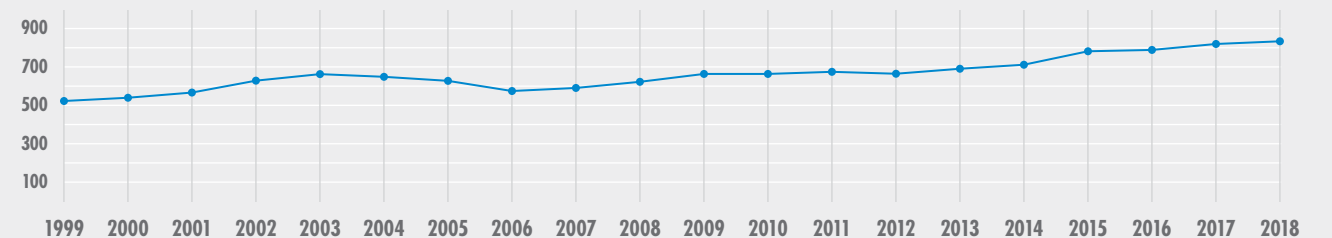
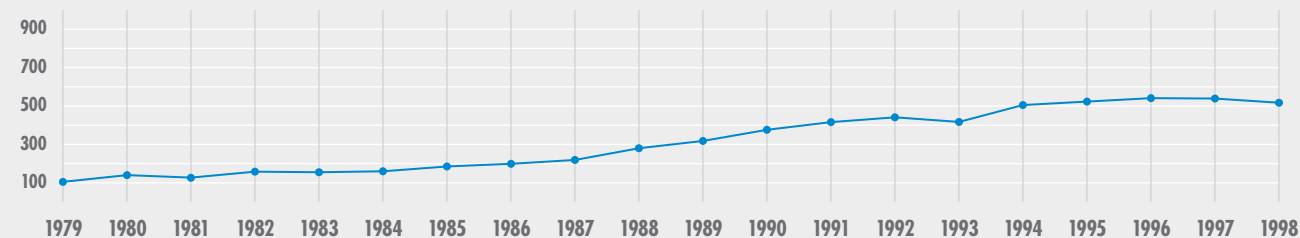
PRESIDENTS FROM 1979 – PRESENT

 <p>1979 – 1983 Dr. Sidney DeWaal In addition to overseeing first years of operations—including the establishment of key services such as a library—DeWaal introduces the Statement of Faith used to this day, and develops ambitious plans for program expansion and credit transfer opportunities.</p>	 <p>1985 – 2005 Dr. Henk Van Anandel Under King's longest-serving president the college sees rapid expansion of program offerings, extra-curricular activities, the establishment of a permanent campus, induction of the athletics program in the ACAC, and increased eligibility of King's to receive government funding.</p>	 <p>2005 – 2013 Dr. Harry Fernhout Affectionality referred to as "Uncle Harry" by students, key milestones under Fernhout include establishment of the Micah Centre and Centre for Visualization in Science, adoption of the current mission statement, and the completion of numerous large capital projects.</p>	 <p>2013 – Present Dr. Melanie Humphreys Dr. Humphreys leads effort to ensure King's is "widely known" by the public, prospective students, and in government and academic circles. Other noteworthy milestones under Humphreys include funding the Leder School of Business and construction of the AEC.</p>
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LOGOS FROM 1979 – PRESENT

 <p>1979 & 1981 King's first logo, used at the opening of the college in 1979; in 1981 a crown nestled in a stylized "C" is adopted.</p>	 <p>1993 – 2007 Upon receiving the designation "university college" King's struggles to agree on a logo, using seven different iterations at various times.</p>	 <p>2007 – 2015 A new logo is adopted to bring consistency and emphasize the word university in university college.</p>	 <p>2015 – Present Developed upon designation as a "university," new logo sees intersecting triangles represent multi-faceted approach to education and a return to a crown symbol representing the Servant-King.</p>
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STUDENT ENROLMENT FROM 1979 – 2018



Growing the Natural Sciences

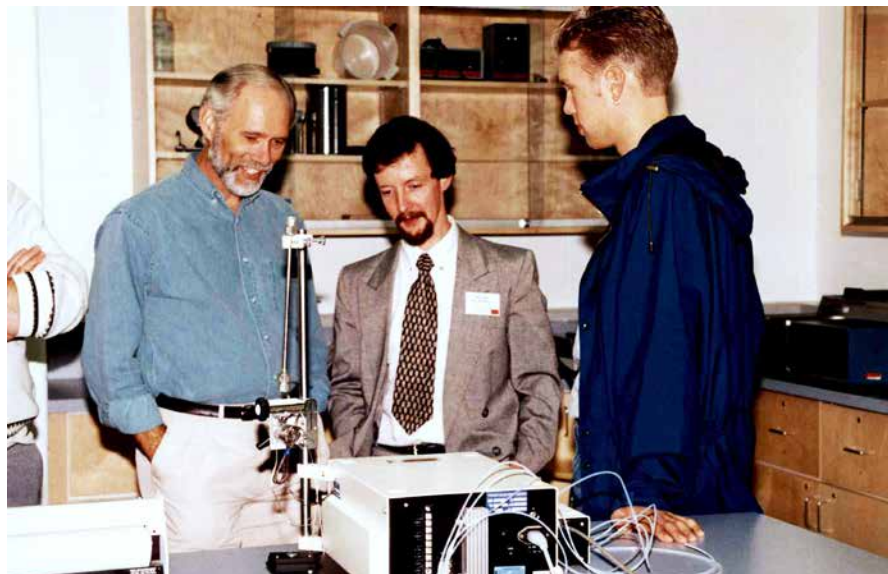
40 years of personal commitment and dedication to scholarly excellence.

BY TAYLA HASWELL

Harry Cook, with a twinkle in his eye, recalls his appointment to The King's University as the first biology professor in 1979. As he does, the stories begin to flow. Dr. Cook arrived at the Wawanesa Insurance building with no space for laboratories or equipment yet he was prepared to put in the necessary work to make King's an institution known for, and founded on, scholarly excellence in the natural sciences.

"I still remember in my interview, one of King's board members asked me — 'can you guarantee that you can do university level thinking and do it here at King's?' I still regret not asking the obvious question in response which was, 'can you guarantee that King's can make that kind of work possible?'" laughs Cook. "Well, we did and we still do."

Despite an intense lack of resources, Cook did his best to ensure that King's first science classes were delivered as well as could be expected given the circumstances. In his second year, he interviewed an aspiring academic who would become King's first chemistry professor, Dr. Peter Mahaffy. At the same time, the university began important discussions about moving into a new rented campus on 97 street which would provide better facilities for the sciences—including much-needed lab space.



Dr. Peter Mahaffy (centre) in one of the new labs at King's then brand new campus on 50 street.

"Peter said to me, 'I'm not moving from Carleton College to King's if we don't move buildings.' It was a little push to get us moving. Peter was ready to put sciences on the map," explains Cook.

The move to 97 street did happen and Dr. Mahaffy arrived in Edmonton from Minnesota in August 1981 with mere weeks to set up a chemistry lab and prepare for the arrival of students that September. Given a very nominal budget, Peter set off to a Saturday morning auction to purchase benches and anything else he could find.

"I arrived at the auction ready to purchase some benches that the University of Alberta's School of Dentistry were putting up. I went to bid on the ones I needed, there were several people bidding against me. These folks were looking for benches for their garages or tool sheds. Eventually two guys came up to me and asked why I was bidding on them? I explained who I was, what I needed them for, and that I needed 16 benches. After a moment, the men said to me, we want you to get your benches so we'll stop bidding until you get your 16," shares Mahaffy.

The early investment that King's made in science was unusual for a Christian college and it characterized King's as an institution with a strong emphasis on scholarship and research from the start.

Not long after, Peter recalls Dr. Cook bringing in a sessional instructor whose booming voice and pronounced Dutch accent could be heard down the hall.

Eager to establish biochemistry at King's, Dr. Hank Bestman withdrew \$400 of his own money – after receiving a pay cut right before he had even started – and purchased the necessary equipment from the University of Alberta. With a shrug and a laugh he explains, "we needed to start biochemistry labs, so I just went out and got what we needed."

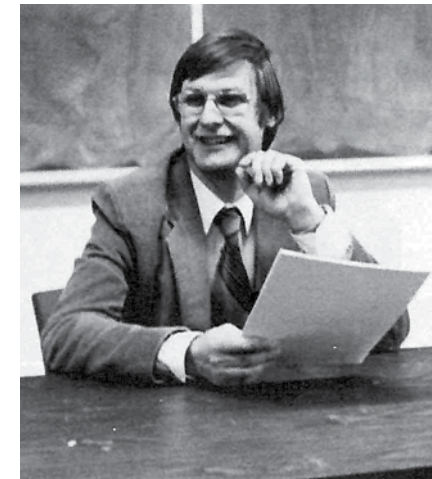


"Money is the means," explains Dr. John Wood. "It's the capacity to go and do what you want to do. The first natural science faculty were a group of people who came together and didn't let money, or lack of it, stand in their way. They chased excellence in spite of significant challenges."

Under the guidance of Dr. Wood, King's expanded the biology program and established environmental studies as King's first 4-year degree. With many field trips to Cypress Hills, Dr. Wood came ready to help students succeed.

"Sometimes we would rent a van and take students that wanted to explore a bit on a Saturday. Those early days were all about making things work," explains Dr. Wood.

Following the move to the Capilano Motor Inn, the building fondly known as The King's University's campus today, sciences really began to take off. A new dedicated science wing was constructed prior to students arriving at King's first permanent campus. Dr. Brian Martin, who had been an associate professor for many years prior, opened up opportunities in astronomy, while growing course offerings in mathematics and physics. Imaging and the rise of computerization led to the start of the King's Centre for Visualization in the Sciences in 2005 and soon after, the computing science program at King's.



Clockwise from top: King's science faculty – Dr. Hank Bestman (right), Dr. John Wood, and Dr. Harry Cook



"I think the story of the sciences at King's is that most faculty members have been offered positions elsewhere, at extremely prestigious universities and organizations, but chose to stay at King's because of the 'special things' that happen here," explains Mahaffy.

In December 1999, the Natural Sciences faculty wrote an overarching strategic document which laid out characteristics for the department such as creating a community of active learners, committing to teaching scholarship, and mentoring, and prioritizing teaching from nature, not simply about it.

"Myself, and other science faculty members recently went through this document," explains Mahaffy. "I'm proud to say that not much needed to be changed, we still hold true to the original values of the department."

"Everyone was here to do what was good for the development of this institution and to help our students grow. That remains true to this day," states Bestman. Today King's retains the personal commitment and intense dedication to excellence in scholarship that was present at the founding of the university. 🙌

Building a University-Calibre Athletics Program

BY TAYLA HASWELL

Starting as a program competing in church leagues, to the home of nationally ranked teams, the history of King's athletics is one of soaring to new heights.

Fall 1983 marked the arrival of Dr. Robert Day, Registrar and Director of Student Affairs, and with it, a real heart and vision for what an athletics program at King's could look like. Dr. Day had an idea of exponential growth for King's as an institution, a multisport athletics program was a major component in this vision.

"Bob Day was my personal mentor, even before I came to King's," says King's Director of Athletics, Grace Scott. "It's truly because of his vision and perseverance for King's as a whole that we have the programs we have now."

Dr. Day brought with him, a wealth of coaching experience from his time on staff with the University of Alberta Golden Bears and was instrumental in securing membership in the Alberta Colleges Athletics Conference (ACAC) and Canadian Colleges Athletics Association (CCAA) for new teams such as men's and women's volleyball and basketball.

Most importantly, Day founded an athletics program at King's built upon personal relationships, faith, and mentorship.

"Bob's passion for King's was evident in his care for students. He wanted to see them succeed in all areas of life," explains Scott.

This foundation is carried forward by King's current athletics staff who not only pour into student athletes' physical skills, but also commit to being a constant presence available for athletes in search of life coaching and mentoring. With this same focus on mentorship and fostering a heart for community building, King's athletics



Former Director of Student Affairs, hockey coach, and Athletics Director, Dr. Robert Day.

program continues to be mission fit – creating leaders who build a more just, humane, and sustainable world through sport.

"I am extremely grateful for my coaches here at King's," says 3rd year Eagles soccer player, Antonio Krajancic. "They have helped me grow exponentially, not only as a player but also as a person."

Today, King's is pushing the boundaries of athletic excellence and regularly produces nationally ranked teams. Women's volleyball has broken King's records by winning gold at provincials in the 2018-2019 season, progressing to the CCAA National tournament for the second time in team history, and coming home with a silver medal. Badminton men's singles also competed in the CCAA National tournament and earned a bronze medal.

The 2019-2020 women's volleyball team is currently ranked 1st in the ACAC North Division, men's volleyball are placed 3rd, and Eagles basketball teams are not far

behind with the women's and men's team ranked 5th and 6th respectively. Men's and women's soccer both finished their 2019 season with a trip to the ACAC championships.

When funding becomes available, there are big dreams for the program. King's hopes to expand staffing to include a recreation coordinator on campus whose time will be fully committed to establishing a multisport, recreational athletics program on campus.

There is also a vision for a new athletics and recreation complex which would provide new opportunities to expand both academic and athletic program offerings.

"My heart for this program when I started was to continue on Bob Day's vision for King's. I am pleased to see how athletics has developed and furthered Bob's vision. I want athletics to continue to be about King's growth, to work for the success of all students, and to see God's continued provision for this place," says Scott. 🙌

Hockey Legends

BY NIKOLAS VANDER KOOY

If you attended or became acquainted with King's after the turn of the century, you may not be aware of how big a deal hockey once was for this university.

True, King's never entered hockey into official intercollegiate league play, but to say the university never fielded competitive hockey teams would also be an understatement.

The university's history in hockey dates right back to the beginning; back to 1979 when King's took to the ice for the first time playing in a Christian men's league. For the next 20 years, men's hockey would be King's flagship team.

"For a while, even after the launch of new ACAC teams, hockey was one of the important games to be at," states Keith Nanninga.

Nanninga played men's hockey at King's in the early 90's and although the university was in the process of launching new ACAC caliber court sports, King's continued to get really excited about hockey.

The Eagles hockey team travelled across Alberta playing teams from local churches and Christian colleges. Decent rivalries formed against Trinity CRC, Prairie Bible College, and Concordia University. The Eagles even had the opportunity to go head-to-head against (and defeat) the Dordt College Blades on one of their Canadian tours. No rivalry stood out more than the one against Edmonton-based, North American Bible College (NABC).

Games - full contact within the blue line - against NABC were true battles and came to a head at winner take all matches at West Edmonton Mall. The upper and lower bowl of the indoor 'Ice Palace' would be packed with "intense" fans on both sides.



For 15 years, hockey was the game to watch at King's. Above: Team photo circa early '90s. Right: Men's hockey takes on NABC.



Many of the athletes on King's hockey teams had little in the way of competitive experience. Most were guys who grew up playing the sport, but never seriously. However, head coach Bob Day wasn't afraid to run practices and coach the men as though they were a 'real' team.

The glory days of Eagles hockey arrived in the late '80s when a mythopoeic rag tag group of outdoor rink/community league-trained athletes rose to league eminence. During this time, the men's hockey team even toured Europe.

"The atmosphere at games was just awesome," recalls Nanninga. "Huge crowds found their way to whichever arena we were playing at. Every group of fans had their pre and post-game rituals."

Slowly but surely, as King's ACAC teams began to gain traction and a foothold in the ACAC, attention slowly shifted towards games with higher stakes.

Today, though Eagles hockey teams continue to play in local rec leagues, the days where hockey mattered — where it really truly mattered — are little more than a part of King's folklore. However, every now and then, a group of students will walk past the hockey team boards from years past in the athletics breezeway and with a spark of wonder, hope that one day hockey will matter at King's once more. 🙌



Left: Photos of the May 2019 Honduras Water Project trip. (photo credits Erin Greidanus '19 and Saul Carvajal '20)
Below: 2001 Honduras Water Project team.

The Witness of Water

Celebrating 25 years of the Honduras Water Project

BY LINDSEY ECKERT

“God has brought you here. We are going to get water. With water, we are going to get our life back.”

Georgina, a woman from the community of El Espino spoke these words quivering with expectation as she imagined accessible water in her community. In 25 years, these words have been echoed in 25 communities by men, women, and children whose lives have been touched by the Honduras Water Project.

May 2020 marks the project’s 25 anniversary. Each year, the initiative partners between twelve and fifteen students from King’s with impoverished local communities in Honduras to provide a source of

clean running water. Working alongside local farmers, parents, and community leaders, the teams construct a low-maintenance gravity water system, which brings clean water directly to a village where only a dry well or hours-long walk to an unpredictable creek existed before.

Roy Berkenbosch, former director and founder of the Micah Centre, recalled that the Water Project’s first trickle began with a mixed group of university students on an informal trip to Honduras to provide clean water for a village. Henry Bosch, a consultant for the Northern Alberta Diaconal Conference (NADC) approached Roy, asking for help recruiting additional students for a second

trip. Roy saw the chance to create something long-lasting and formal—an opportunity for learning and community development in a fully-realized creditable course.

Through the support of fellow King’s professors, churches, the NADC, donors, World Renew and its Honduran partner *Diaconia Nacional*, the passion of students, and many others, the project became an official King’s course. To date, over 300 students have since taken part in the Water Project through the Micah Centre.

This project has changed lives on both sides of the hemisphere.

“Students are learning by being in a poor Honduran village for two weeks, which is a rare privilege,” says Jonathan Nicolai de-Koning, Program Director of the Micah Centre. “They see key institutions and experience local life. They visit a health clinic, high school, local political leaders, and farmers, to get a sense of what life is like in that community—learning from brothers and sisters in Christ and recognizing a shared humanity.”

Access to clean water has far-reaching effects beyond refreshing the body. Jonathan describes the four-hour treks young girls would need to take to haul water, time not spent in school. The ripple effect when these girls have access to water,

then to education, transforms communities. Children flourish in their God-given potential, local businesses can thrive, community initiatives can bloom.

Students recently got the chance to re-visit a village they were in last year, and were struck by the change. “The locals talked about the difference it made to have access to water in their backyard, the difference it made for their families and businesses,” says Jonathan. “The words of the local community, the witness, is amazing to hear.”

World Renew staff members send updates and videos as they can. Recently, their contact sent a video of the water pipe

being turned on for the first time in Varsovia. The children danced and splashed in the new gushing water. Images of pure joy.

For both Roy and Jonathan, it is the partnership between King’s and local Hondurans that is essential. The goal is to empower Honduran communities but at the same time, to listen and learn.

Looking back, Roy sees these years as an accomplishment to be grateful for. “When we started, we had no idea if it would last or what interest there would be. The students remember all the relationships we formed. They are precious. I am really pleased that we’ve made it 25 years.” 🙌

Friendship far from Home

Two Sri Lankan students find community at King's

BY TAYLA HASWELL

From 1983–2009, a civil war between the Tamil and Sinhalese peoples tore through the streets of Sri Lanka, leaving behind unspeakable destruction and an innumerable death toll.

Two King's students, Anjalee (Anji) Wijewardane and Suwadhini (Suwadhi) Pathmanathan, grew up on opposite sides of the conflict.

"As a child I was blessed not to live close to the centre of the conflict but it did become a regular part of my life. Seeing bombings on the news and hearing these stories of devastation and hate has a profound effect on a person," says Anji.

Decades of conflict, violence, and death has resulted in powerful hate growing deeper and more ingrained in generations of Sri Lankans. For many, the reality of this war is all they know.

On weekends, Anji attended English classes in Colombo, a major city in Sri Lanka, and would use public transit to get to class. "My mother didn't want me to go anymore because Colombo was a target for terror attacks but I was determined to attend class," says Anji. "One Saturday I was late and missed my bus. The bus I usually took—that I should have taken that morning—was bombed. It's terrifying to think that I could have been there. It serves as a reminder to me that you can't live in fear, you have to live your life."

Many Sri Lankans moved to Canada during the war. This influenced Suwadhi's decision to seek post-secondary education here. After searching online and attempting to contact various universities in Edmonton, Suwadhi found King's.

"I messaged King's and heard back from them within an hour. I didn't know if I would attend but they answered all of my questions regardless. I knew I was talking to a real person and felt like they were already invested in me. That's why I picked King's, I felt cared for before I even arrived here," Suwadhi explains.

"For me, finding King's was honestly a miracle," says Anji.

Having already earned a degree in human resource management in Sri Lanka, Anji was settling into a life she wasn't passionate about. "I wanted to surround myself with people that would challenge me to grow spiritually. I wanted a Christian environment where I could flourish and I found that at King's," Anji explains. Following her passion for chemistry and the recommendation of a King's alum, Anji landed in Edmonton in January 2018 ready for classes.

Suwadhi and Anji spent weeks walking the halls of King's before they met. Being the only two students from Sri Lanka at the time, there was a certain anticipation wrapped up in the moment. "I walked into the cafeteria between classes and

saw Anji sitting there. We had never met, I'd never seen her before but I instantly knew who she was," explains Suwadhi. Without saying a word, the girls simply hugged. They both recall this as a profound moment.

"It was so beautiful coming to King's and finding Suwadhi," explains Anji. "I was hoping to meet someone from Sri Lanka that I could share my culture with and I found that in her. I also found so many other people at King's that I can share my culture with and learn about theirs. These people, like Suwadhi, will be my friends for life."

One of the most special things about King's are the relationships both Suwadhi and Anji have found with fellow students, but also with staff and faculty. "I remember having coffee with my advisor sometime in my first semester and we didn't even talk about classes or schoolwork. He was solely concerned with how I was transitioning and what he could do to help me find my place at King's," says Anji.

Being an international student comes with its own set of challenges, fears, and anxieties—one being the fear of feeling different. "People at King's made me feel special," says Suwadhi. "This is my home now. All I know is the people here and how kind they are. I'm graduating this spring but I know that King's will always be a home for me. I wouldn't be who I am today without this place." 🙌



Anji (left) and Suwadhi.

The Exquisite Power of Bacteria

BY LINDSEY ECKERT

The world of bacteria is one at war. Bacteria fight for control of space, resources, places to thrive, and in doing so, affect things like your health, or how fast your food goes rotten.

What if you could tell those tiny bacterial soldiers to eliminate the unwanted bacteria causing your food to rot? That's what Dr. Leah Martin-Visscher, Associate Professor of Chemistry, is hoping to achieve.

Martin-Visscher's goal is to control good bacteria to act as a bio-preservative for food—a natural alternative to over-processing for artificially longer shelf life.

"A key thing any chemist recognizes," Martin-Visscher explains, "is that what we are able to do and make in the lab pales in comparison to the amazing phenomena that occur naturally in the real world. What bacteria are able to do and make is immensely more exquisite."

'Good' bacteria are millions of times more powerful than our synthetic antimicrobial agents produced to control bad bacteria. Finding a way of using these bacteria to eliminate the unwanted ones taps into nature's powerhouse.

To do this, Martin-Visscher's research is focused on understanding how certain types of bacteria target and kill their competitors using small proteins called



Dr. Leah Martin-Visscher working with a pipette.

bacteriocins. Working with undergraduate researchers at King's and collaborators at the University of Alberta, Martin-Visscher's research has uncovered a new bacteriocin produced by bacteria commonly found in fish and meat products. She is now exploring how the producer organisms protect themselves from these toxic peptides.

In 2017, alumna Sarah Vander Ende, (B.Sc '18), began research on an earlier phase of the project involving exploring and manipulating the bacteria's DNA.

"With knowledge of how bacteria kill each other while protecting themselves, we can begin to think about using bacteria to control and eliminate undesirable bacteria."

"We're working with such tiny volumes of solution, and you can't even see the DNA directly. Yet, in just a tiny droplet of solution, we're able to manipulate DNA—it's incredible," Martin-Visscher says.

Angelle Britton, a biology major in her fourth and final year at King's, completed research in the summer of 2019 focused on identifying which gene was responsible for conferring immunity and confirmed that the immunity protein was in the bacterium's membrane.

Student involvement has been essential in furthering this research and Martin-Visscher believes the independent lab study is invaluable. "If all you did was sit in the classroom or read textbooks...it's a different experience than if you get to hold a tube, add solutions, manipulate the

DNA, and know you're doing it yourself. It's a really important part of learning to me—it's a sensory experience."

This year, another phase of the research began: answering how the immunity protein provides protection. By mutating various parts of the immunity protein and seeing what changes occur, Martin-Visscher can determine which parts of the protein are essential to its immunity. "With knowledge of how bacteria kill each other while protecting themselves, we can begin to think about using bacteria directly to control and eliminate undesirable bacteria,"

says Martin-Visscher. In addition to increasing the shelf life of food, this understanding could potentially lead to creating brand new antibiotics.

This is an exciting, but lengthy, process. "There isn't instant gratification in this type of work," she said. "You never know until the next day what the results will be. You're either elated or you're not. It's living in hopeful anticipation—it's probably the best descriptor about what I love most about this work." 🙌

New Canada Research Chair to advance sustainability research at King's

BY KAYLA GAMROTH

The King's University was awarded a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC) in 2019, making it the fourth CRC currently designated to King's. Since 2016, King's has been the only independent university in Alberta to have been granted a Canada Research Chair.

The Canada Research Chairs program is a federal initiative that aims to put Canadian professors and their work at the forefront of global development and research. CRCs are appointed for five year terms but can be extended for an additional five years depending on overall productivity and research output. With this latest appointment, King's will receive over \$1.2 million per year in federal research funding.

King's was granted its first Tier 2 research chair in 2016 when professor of philosophy Dr. Neal DeRoo joined the university with a research focus on phenomenology and philosophy of religion. Three years in, DeRoo now plans to host colleagues from across the globe for a conference on international philosophy.

In 2018, King's received two additional CRCs. Dr. Elizabeth Willson Gordon, Assistant Professor of English, was chosen with her research focus on modernist literature.

"The hope is that the Transition to Sustainability Canada Research Chair will advance our understanding of the social side of sustainability."

Willson Gordon has since created valuable research partnerships and increased opportunities for students to attend important literary conferences.

Candidates have not yet been appointed for the third and fourth Canada Research Chair positions, however the focus of the most recent designation will be *Transition to Sustainability*.

"In regards to sustainability research at King's, we have developed many hands-on tools through centres like the King's Centre for Visualization in Science and are well versed in the natural science behind sustainability," says Vice President, Academics and Research, Dr. Hank Bestman. "The hope is that the Transition to Sustainability CRC will advance our understanding of the social side of sustainability."

Research will focus on asking faith groups and communities how social changes can

be implemented, and how large-scale societal changes might be brought about.

Having Canada Research Chairs at King's also qualifies the university to hire undergraduate student research assistants (USRAs). Each year, five King's students are hired through the grant to assist with faculty research, enhancing their learning experience, and equipping them with practical skills and knowledge for their university careers and beyond.

Successful research funding applications with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SHRC), Natural Sciences Research Council (NSRC), and Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), demonstrate industry investment in the research conducted at King's. In part, this is why the federal government has been so generous with awarding King's CRC designations. 🙌

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



Dr. Robert Greidanus (centre)

2019 Distinguished Alumni Dr. Robert Greidanus

From nervous King's science student ('89) to a successful family physician and surgeon, Dr. Robert Greidanus was awarded King's first Distinguished Alumni award.

Greidanus has achieved multiple awards during his career, including the Rajcoomarie Singh Memorial Achievement Award for progressive academic achievement from the University of Alberta.

Greidanus' career ambitions, however, are secondary to his faith and passion for serving the underprivileged. "The Gospel story is one of hope for the hopeless," remarks Greidanus. "We need to stand up for the lowly and be a voice of hope for those convinced there is none."

Having completed a rural family medicine residency through Memorial University in Newfoundland, Greidanus continued his academic pursuits to specialize in rural medicine and high risk obstetrics and general surgical procedures to better serve rural communities across Canada.

Greidanus' career took him to the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and, most notably, Africa where between 2005 and 2012, he and his family lived in Kenya and Namibia serving as volunteer medical missionaries.

During this time, Greidanus specifically served the disadvantaged in an area where HIV/AIDS continues to run rampant and malaria kills many children under five.

"God is passionate about justice and mercy and is concerned deeply for the lowly and oppressed. Our response should be to speak out in love to promote His justice. That is what I will fight for."

Today, Greidanus continues to practice medicine in the community of Peace River AB, with his wife and seven children.

2019 Servant Leader Jesse Edgington

The King's University Alumni Servant Leader award was presented to Mr. Jesse Edgington (2000) for his work with the Northern Alberta Diaconal Conference through which he mobilizes and supports Christian Reformed church deacons to alleviate poverty in their communities.

2019 Accomplished Young Alumni Dr. Christa Aubrey

Dr. Christa Aubrey (2008) received King's first Accomplished Young Alumni award for her work in gynecological oncology. Dr. Aubrey is fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada, and has also earned a Masters of Science in Public Health. 🇺🇸

AWARDS CELEBRATE ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

New alumni achievement awards will highlight the accomplishments of King's brightest graduates.

After 40 years, King's has over 5,000 alumni, many of whom have achieved outstanding professional accomplishments and made significant contributions to their communities.

"An alumni achievement award program gives us a way to recognize those who have gone above and beyond in their careers or lives of service," says Kathleen Busch, Manager of Alumni Relations.

An alumni may be nominated for one or more of the following awards:

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Presented to an alum with a track record of excellent academic performance and outstanding lifetime achievement, is an inspiration to others, embodies King's mission and vision, and brings recognition to the university. The recipient will have achieved national or international attention for their accomplishments, or made notable local impact through their contributions in any field.

SERVANT LEADER

This award is given to an alum who has lived out the call of Micah 6:8 to act justly, love mercy, and walk faithfully with our God. The recipient will have demonstrated extraordinary service to others, advocacy for the disadvantaged, and a commitment to volunteering.

ACCOMPLISHED YOUNG ALUMNI

This award is presented to an alum who is 35 years old or younger who has outstanding professional achievements and/or made significant community contributions. 🇺🇸

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Alumni Relations Hits the Road for a Grand Tour

In celebration of King's 40 anniversary, the Alumni Relations office hit the road this fall to reconnect with alumni, supporters, Christian schools, and churches in communities across Alberta and BC.

President Dr. Melanie Humphreys and Alumni Relations manager, Kathleen Busch, visited communities in Calgary, Lacombe, Lethbridge, Neerlandia, and Victoria. At several stops on the tour, King's had the opportunity to host special afternoon lectures led by its professors. Visits to Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Smithers, and Terrace, B.C. are planned for February 2020.

"The tour has been immensely successful," states Dr. Humphreys. "I've had



Joylaine DeGroot-Jonker ('98) and Janelle DeGroot-Reitsma ('98) sporting their King's alumni gear at an alumni event at Emmanuel CRC in Calgary.

countless opportunities to engage with and thank members of our community who have provided support for this university for years – and, at times, across generations!"

King's is supported by hundreds of local churches, schools, and communities each year. Because of the success of the 40th Anniversary Alumni Relations Tour, a similar tour is being planned for 2020-2021. 🇺🇸

Eagles Alumni Profiles



Brittany Wells (B.A. '17, B.Ed. '19) spent six years walking the halls of King's as an undergraduate student, and student athlete. Wells' time at King's prepared her for a future in professional volleyball and in education.

"Being at King's, both as a student and as an athlete, provided me with mentors that truly helped me succeed," explains Wells.

Following her graduation from King's education program with her second degree, Wells was given the opportunity to play professional volleyball and traveled to Norway to play for Pro Club in Oslo.

Wells has since returned to Edmonton and teaches kindergarten at Malcolm Tweedle School. 🇺🇸



Cameron Busch (B.Com '17) was a shooting guard for Eagles for five years and now works as the Director of Operations for Shiloh Youth Ranch, a non-profit that works exclusively with youth living at risk.

This role involves overseeing summer camps at Shiloh where youth living in high risk situations are encouraged, given hope, love, and mentorship in a positive environment. He also oversees a

connections follow up program that acts as a year-long mentorship program for these youth.

"Being an athlete developed a passion for leadership that I didn't know I had," explains Busch. "I felt a strong calling to ministry while at King's which led to pursuing a theology minor alongside my business degree. I use these skills daily in my life and work." 🇺🇸

ALUMNI UPDATES

ACHIEVEMENTS

Olejuru Anozie (B.A. '19) served on the Youth Advisory Group to the Ministry of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada following graduating from King's in 2019. In September 2019, Olejuru moved to New York City to pursue a master's program in narrative medicine at Columbia University.

Katie MacCrimmon (B.A. '19) started a Master's in Cultural Studies and English at McMaster University in September 2019.

Kagen Kieftenbeld (B.A. '19) is pursuing a master's degree at the University of Waterloo focusing on Shakespeare's "Titus Andronicus."

Daysha Albrecht (B.A. '19) began serving as the Business Coordinator for Treats n' Treasures Thrift Store which serves a social enterprise for Shepherd's Care Foundation, a not for profit organization in Edmonton.

Elizabeth Pshebylo (née Zee, B.A. '17, B.Ed. '19) recently moved to the Middle East with her husband, Hafon Pshebylo and is teaching at Maplewood International School in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Michelle Nguyen (B.Sc. '15) started a Masters of Education in Post-secondary Education through Memorial University.

Jenny McAlister (née Benoit, B.A. '02) was named one of Edmonton's Top 40 under 40 in Avenue Magazine.

Jesse Montes (B.A. '02) recently completed his PhD in Environmental Governance.

BABY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vicki Guthrie (B.A. '12, B.Ed. '14) and Jang Jung Moo welcomed Jung Kang Jang (Jay Jang), April 30, 2019.

Marcel (B.Ed. '15) and **Heather Wassink** (née DeBoon, B.Sc. '14) welcomed Isaac John Wassink on May 10, 2019.

Buddy (ENVS '12) and **Stephanie Morris** (née Clarke, B.A. '13) welcomed John Kenneth

Sioga Morris on April 9, 2019.

Nathan (B.Sc. '16) and **Kayla Flim** (née Walker, B.A. '14) welcomed Lyanna Grace Flim on November 26, 2019.

WEDDINGS/ENGAGEMENTS

Keith (B.Ed. '17) and **Kelsey Marshall** (née Heitkoetter, B.A. '17, B.Ed. '19) were married June 2019. Following their wedding, Keith and Kelsey moved to Doha, Qatar to teach at an Alberta-accredited school.

Paul Wilson (BA '15) recently married Tasha (née McGee) on April 21, 2018. Since graduating Paul has worked with Statistics Canada, and currently is a policy advisor for indigenous relations.

Carmen Strydhorst (B.A. '19) and **Daniel VanHeyst** (B.Comm '20) were engaged in May 2019, and will be married summer 2020.

Karen DeVries (née Lietz, B.A. '19) and her husband, Clayton, were married on May 18, 2019.

Tyler (B.Sc. '15) and **Corlis Letain** (née VanVeen, B.A. '17, B.Ed. '19) were married June 2019.

Pawel Zygmunt (B.A. Phil '10, B.A. Psych '15) married Allison Heath on May 18, 2019.

Taylor McConaghie (née Cameron, B.A. '14) married James McConaghie March 2019.

Brian and **Sherisse Huisman** (née Cameran, B.A. '13) were married July 27, 2019.

Tyler (ENVS '19) and **Jaden Shannon** (née Bouwers, B.Sc. '18) were married July 2019.

Nathan (B.Sc. '17, B.Ed. '19) and **Keelaina Oostenbrink** (née Loewen, B.Sc. '17) were married on July 27, 2019.

Mark (B.A. '15, B.Ed. '19) and **Sandra Holmes** (née Thiessen, B.A. '14) were married July 2019.

Lucas (B.Sc. '17) and **Mikayla Grove** (née Bradley, B.A. '17) were married on July 8, 2019.



REFLECTIONS FROM KING'S FIRST CLASS

"I believe King's first class had only two students who were not from the Reformed tradition; one of those was me. It was a little disorienting at times although I was excited to be at King's. I am very pleased to see great diversity at King's today including diversity of faith backgrounds."

Joy Monsma (née King, '82)

"Since King's just had an office building in downtown Edmonton, with no student housing, we had to find our own place to live. I remember, in the summer of 1979, as a 17 year old, heading to Edmonton with my friends to look at apartments for rent. We were farm kids, moving to the big city! Life on our own that first year was the biggest educational experience for me."

Judy Van Haren (née Prins, '80)

"History with Dr. Groenewold left a lasting impression because of how he conducted a lecture with material he had clearly mastered. I admired the way Dr. Greidanus taught theology — unabashedly firm with space for grace, for flavour. Was anyone more excited about biology than Dr. Cook? More humble than Dr. Klopers? Dr. Savage's warmth and light while presenting philosophy helped me digest the material. And Dr. Mos? I could barely keep up with his classes — I was too distracted with the way he pushed buttons just to spark reactions."

John Boonstra ('83)

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