

THE KING'S NEWS FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE KING'S UNIVERSITY | SPRING 2019

CONNECTION



COMMON THREADS



THE
KING'S
UNIVERSITY

IN THIS ISSUE

DR. HANK BESTMAN: A FAITHFUL SERVANT
WEAVING A TAPESTRY OF LEARNING
EAGLES WOMEN REAP REWARDS OF A STELLAR SEASON



UPCOMING EVENTS

APR
05

KING'S VIEW FRIDAY

8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | The King's University

Are you or is someone you know considering King's?

Visit campus for a full-day experience and discover what it's like to be a student here!

APR
28

COMMUNITY CHORUS CONCERT

3 – 5:00 p.m. | First Baptist Church, 10031 - 109 St. NW, Edmonton

On April 28, The King's University and Concordia University Community Choruses are coming together for a joint performance you won't want to miss.

MAY
04

SPRING CONVOCATION

2:00 p.m. | Evangel Pentecostal Assembly, 4461 - 50th St. NW, Edmonton

You're invited to join us for our 2019 graduation celebrations. This year's speaker is Dr. Steven R. Timmermans, Executive Director of the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

AUG
26

EAGLES VOLLEYBALL CAMPS

August 26-29 | 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.

SEP
14

U-NIGHT MUSIC FESTIVAL

4:30 p.m. | The King's University Field

Feat. Royal Foundary and more! Join The King's University for an evening of food trucks, Alberta's largest blanket fort, carnival amusements, and fantastic music!

SEP
28

40TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

5 – 9:30 P.M. | The King's University

Since 1979, King's has been deeply committed to providing inspiring, Christ-centred education. Join us as we celebrate King's 40th anniversary.

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Cover

Hand weaving is the intricate process of using a loom to intertwine hundreds of different threads into a single fabric. Warp threads are held stationary in tension on the loom while weft threads are drawn over and under the warp to fill in the weave. The weaver then uses a ‘shuttle’ to shoot unique threads into the emerging fabric and hand braids these strands to create a unique and colourful garment.

CHRIST WORKS ALL THINGS TOGETHER FOR GOOD



I am excited about this edition of *Connection*. It weaves a rich and compelling story of the incredible impact and legacy of a King's education. I hope you pore over every story as I have. Like in every good story there are plot twists, unexpected roads, challenges, victories, and a lot of interesting characters.

You will be introduced to tales of loss, hope, risk, and generosity. Some of our alumni have found themselves in far-off places such as Bulgaria and Bangladesh. Others found themselves closer to home in places like Edmonton, Fort McMurray, and Tofino. From teaching in an inner-city school to dental surgery, a resident chocolatier to a career in film and dance,

freelance vocalist to a Christian labour union director, our alumni are putting their King's degrees to good work!

In each of these stories there is a deep working out of the knowledge that Christ works all things together for good and that a King's degree uniquely prepares people in ways that go far beyond their program. These, and many more, are our stories as a university community. Stories of the working out of our mission and vision. Stories of hope and a future. Enjoy! 🙌

DR. MELANIE HUMPHREYS



Members of the Eagles women's volleyball team pose with Izzy the Eagle at a pep rally on March 4 in support of the Eagles athletes headed to national tournaments – including the women's volleyball team.

THE DELEGATE FROM KING'S HAS THE FLOOR

Ten Politics-History-Economics (PHE) students from King's filed into Kule Theatre at MacEwan University on March 2 to take part in the 2019 Model United Nations (UN) Conference. Students from across Alberta represented 38 nations for a two-day mock debate on nuclear disarmament.

"It was a really well-organized event. This was the first year King's students have taken part," says history professor, Dr. Mark Sandle.

The 10 students from King's represented Brazil, China, Cuba, and Poland. The group representing Brazil, including three students from King's, won best delegation.

Students had to thoroughly prepare leading up to the event by familiarizing themselves with National Model UN (NMUN) rules and reviewing resources on nuclear disarmament policies. Students were also required to write their resolutions to conform with NMUN guidelines.



Ben Oostenbrink (B.A. '21), was one of the winning participants from King's.

"It was an incredible experience and couldn't have turned out better," he says. "It was a great opportunity to practice negotiating. We spent a lot of time preparing and it was rewarding to see that the other delegations were also well-prepared. It was interesting to put aside individual stances regarding nuclear

disarmament, and represent Brazilian interests and foreign policy."

The event included a keynote address from the Honourable Douglas Roche, O.C., former senator and Canadian Ambassador to the UN Disarmament Commission.

"It was an amazing experience and they all loved it. We will definitely do it again!" says Sandle. 🙌

TWO-FACED: SELF-PORTRAIT OF A CHEMIST BY MCKENZIE TILSTRA



The painting "Two-Faced" by 4th year chemistry student McKenzie Tilstra represents the capacity a chemist has to perform good or evil with their knowledge of the molecular world. To illustrate this, the left half of the painting is of a WWI gas mask while the right is of a brightly-coloured human face.

The painting is currently on display in the Natural Science Wing.

STUDENT ENTREPRENEUR EARNS SPOT IN NATIONAL COMPETITION

The King's University is proud to celebrate with Peter Nsaka (B.Sc. '20), who qualified as one of 12 finalists in the Enactus Canada Student Entrepreneur National Competition. The competition recognizes and rewards full-time post-secondary students operating a business in Canada. Peter will

compete, along with the other finalists, in the national round in Vancouver.

The only program of its kind offered in Canada, the Student Entrepreneur National Competition has been operating since 1997. It aims to recognize businesses

that address a gap in the marketplace. The competition provides students with opportunities to grow their businesses and self-confidence, and celebrates their commitment, determination, and achievements toward their education and entrepreneurial endeavors. 🇺🇸

AN EXCITING SEASON OF BUILDING AT KING'S

Construction for King's Academic Enrichment Centre (AEC) begins this spring!

At 2,800 sq ft, the project will repurpose space on either side of the existing library and include a new writing centre, testing facility, work room, meeting room, and group study areas. The AEC will also house new individual study space, King's existing academic skills programs, and support and accessibility services.

A curved, wood-clad corridor will provide access to these new spaces and the library. New offices and meeting areas are designed to take advantage of natural light. Timeless and durable materials will be used throughout the space – with the use of natural materials and tones – intended to set a new precedent at King's for thoughtful and simple design.

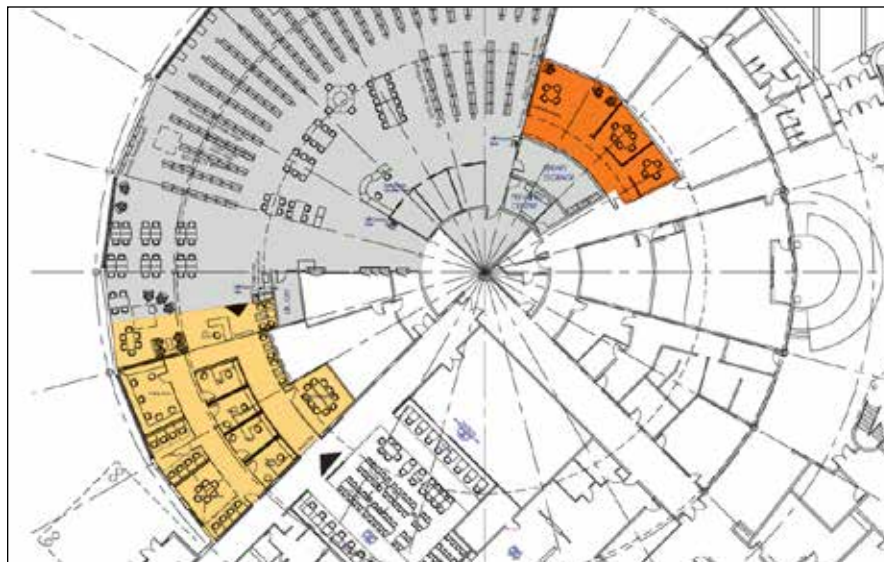
The centre is expected to be open in time for the 2019–20 academic year.

AN EXTRA HELPING OF COMMUNITY

“So much community happens around good food and good friends,” says King's president, Dr. Melanie Humphreys.

This summer, the King's cafeteria is slated for a significant renovation. The idea is to begin applying the contemporary design principles planned for the AEC to other spaces on campus.

Plans feature a wide range of soft, fixed seating – booths, banquettes, bar top seating, and long tables – allowing for short drop-in visits and longer study sessions. Clearer circulation and wayfinding will reduce congestion and confusion in the cafeteria space, to make it a place students will want to be in and walk through.



Construction drawings for the new Academic Enrichment Centre.



One of the many new seating areas planned for King's cafeteria.

Humphreys continues, “The cafeteria at King's has always been a place where lifetime friendships are formed and

critical dialogues happen. A refresh of this important place ensures community can continue to happen here to its fullest.” 🇺🇸



DR. HANK BESTMAN: A FAITHFUL SERVANT

BY LINDSAY ECKERT

From being the second professor in the Biology department to serving a faculty of almost 50 strong, Dr. Hank Bestman, Vice President Academic and Research, has been part of King's development and flourishing for 32 years.

July 1, 1987 marked Dr. Bestman's first day at King's. June 30, 2019 will mark his retirement.

"We were a small faculty and staff," Dr. Bestman remembers. "We had limited programs, but within a few years King's started expanding." Once established on the current campus, four-year degree programs in several disciplines were added and new academic programs were developed. Each year King's welcomes more and more students, but Dr. Bestman knows King's can go even further.

A graduate program in counselling psychology, four-year degree offerings in theology and philosophy, a degree in public administration, and public education courses for the community are only a few budding ideas that Dr. Bestman hopes King's continues to develop after his retirement.

"I would like to see King's as more of an educational centre, not just for students to get a degree, but as a place that provides education for the public. King's has a lot

"King's has allowed me to flourish and develop the gifts I was given by God. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity I have had to serve in this place."

to offer," Dr. Bestman remarks, "because King's is a place that engages with the important underlying foundational issues of the day. What does it mean to be a faithful servant of Christ in the 21st century? We need to see King's as an educational community that desires to be of service to the broader Christian community."

While King's is unique for its embrace of a Christian liberal arts education, what this truly means for Dr. Bestman is making sure students become acquainted with fundamental questions about the nature of what they're learning and how their faith influences their answers. "We expect our students to engage in discussions and tackle a range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary topics," Dr. Bestman explains. "This happens not just in philosophy, but as a strongly uniting theme through everything from computing science to drama, history to chemistry."

As this year marks King's 40th as a post-secondary institution, Dr. Bestman looks back on all he's seen King's accomplish as an emerging university. Five thousand alumni, 24 accredited programs, four Canada

Research Chairs, and two 3M National Teaching Fellowships is nothing to scoff at. "We're an institution with outstanding teachers and researchers. A unique gem in the Canadian post-secondary landscape."

As his 32 years with King's testifies, he's moved by the fact that faculty and staff members dedicate their entire careers to serving at King's—himself included. "To be honest, when I was appointed in 1987, I didn't expect to stay long," he laughs. "I was not expecting to enjoy teaching and administration as much as I did. How often do you get a chance to contribute to the development of a university with such a distinct mission and with such gifted and committed colleagues? King's has allowed me to flourish and develop the gifts I was given by God. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity I have had to serve in this place."

King's has become very close to Dr. Bestman's heart. As his retirement date comes closer, he has a lasting hope that King's will always be a place for faithful learning, Christian love, and welcoming, supporting community. 🇺🇸

GRACE SCOTT NAMED 2018-19 CCAA WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL COACH OF THE YEAR

Grace Scott, head coach of The King's University Eagles women's volleyball team, has been selected by her peers as the 2018-19 Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) Women's Volleyball Coach of the Year.

The prestigious award was presented to Scott at the 2019 CCAA Women's Volleyball National Championship banquet held at Niagara College in Welland, ON. It is Scott's first time receiving this award as a CCAA coach.

In her 11 years as head coach, Scott has led the Eagles women's volleyball team to five consecutive provincial championships. Throughout the 2018-19 season, her team consistently held a top three national ranking. The team also finished first in the conference, earning the program's first Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference

(ACAC) Championship gold medal and banner before going on to place second in the CCAA national tournament.

"Grace is a dedicated, disciplined, and passionate coach and athletics director," says King's Vice President of Student Life, Dr. Michael Ferber. "Her strong work ethic, decisive leadership, high expectations, and commitment to her players have won her the respect of colleagues, athletes, and coaches across the province."

Scott is an athlete-centred coach who desires to see students grow in confidence, care about others, and learn to be leaders. This means faith, family, and friends are always a priority.

Under Scott, players in the athletics program have not only learned to work hard, but in ways that make each other better.



Eagles Athletics Director, Grace Scott

Scott loves spending time with players and seeing them develop their skills and reach their goals. 🏆

WOMEN'S FUTSAL KICKS IT UP A NOTCH

With a 5-2-3 record in their regular season and a 3-2 record at provincials, the Eagles women's futsal team was awarded silver at the ACAC Provincial Championship this spring — a first for King's soccer program.

In one nail-biting game after another, the Eagles started off the tournament by squeaking out a 4-3 win against Medicine Hat. They fell to Keyano College but rallied to beat Olds 6-5, securing a spot in the semi-finals. The Eagles tied their semi-final game against SAIT with under a minute of play left in the game, and won it with a goal in the very last second of the game.

The Eagles took silver after losing the final match to Ambrose University 3-1. 🏆



The King's University women's futsal/soccer team – ACAC silver medalists.



The King's University women's volleyball team at the national championship banquet.

EAGLES WOMEN REAP THE REWARDS OF STELLAR SEASON

To say the Eagles women's volleyball team had an incredible season would be an understatement. The women finished the regular season with an 11-1 record and five-game win streak; at provincials, they swept their matches 3-0. Finally, at nationals, they finished 2-1 to earn second place.

Such a stellar season earned the Eagles women more than a few distinctions. In addition to taking first place at the ACAC Provincial Championship, the women's team finished second at the CCAA National Tournament, and four players earned all-conference awards. Additionally, Head Coach Grace Scott was awarded both ACAC North Coach of the Year and CCAA Coach of the Year.

"Our team was thoroughly prepared for nationals. We were ready to trust our skills and to focus on our side of the court," says team captain Sydney Warchola.



Celebrating another win at nationals.

"This group of women have impressed us as coaches so much, especially the championship week where they had quiet confidence and poise," says Scott. "It was so much fun to see their confidence—to see their belief. There was just no doubt that these girls were going to go to the final and were going to give it their best. To earn the provincial championship and have the privilege to represent King's and the ACAC nationally was so exciting!" 🏆



Narayan Ramdhani at nationals.

A SMASHING SEASON

Going undefeated for the first two ACAC badminton tournaments this season, Narayan Ramdhani dominated his competition.

Easily securing a spot at the provincial championship in February, he emerged from the tournament ranked second nationally. In the process, Narayan was awarded an ACAC All-Conference award.

This March, at the CCAA National Championship held at Dalhousie Agricultural Campus in Truro, NS, Narayan finished with a 3-2 record in his matches and a bronze medal around his neck—third in the nation!

"Narayan is a tall, fast, smart player. I'm very proud of what he's accomplished," says Head Coach, Naeem Haque.

"I was talking to Narayan after he won his bronze medal," explains President Melanie Humphreys. "He said, 'next year I'm getting a gold!' I told him to celebrate this win, he was third in Canada, after all! It was very, very cool, and he's ecstatic as well."

Eagles Athletics badminton program joined the ACAC in 2014. Badminton athletes have represented King's at nationals previously, but Narayan is King's first to medal. 🏆

WEAVING A TAPESTRY OF LEARNING

INTRODUCING THE KING'S COMMON CURRICULUM

BY CHERYL MAHAFFY

Anyone who has worked at a loom knows the miracle of turning disparate threads into a tapestry that adds beauty, warmth, and meaning to life. As King's President Dr. Melanie Humphreys puts it, "A wonderfully woven tapestry is so much more than the sum of its parts."

Students at King's create tapestries of learning. Guided by curricular requirements, they weave a rich array of liberal arts courses into their program. The approach helps students think deeply about their central area of focus.

Alumni from King's are known for their ability to sift through all that's bombarding us in this accelerated age and to make choices that "bring renewal and reconciliation to every walk of life."

Tayla Haswell, an English student who graduates this spring, can testify to the benefits of a diverse course load. "It affects you profoundly as a person if you

allow it to," she says. "Things always tie together if you want to make those connections, and your learning becomes all that much more valuable."

A TIGHTER WEAVE

In fall 2019, King's is implementing a new Common Curriculum. This curriculum is not a radical departure but builds on a framework developed 20 years ago intended to prepare students not merely for employment, but for "full lives of service and enjoyment" in God's creation.

The new curriculum sets a goal of integrating key narratives and themes throughout every course. Each discipline is in the process of developing new introductory and capstone courses that intentionally tie a program together and integrate it with themes from other disciplines.

"Students will see more deliberate connections between courses and disciplines but also between thinking and action,"

says Dr. Hank Bestman, Vice President Academic and Research at King's. "In the old curriculum there was an emphasis on head knowledge. We assumed thinking eventually leads to action. Now we're more intentionally saying, 'This is how thinking necessarily leads to action.'"

NEW COMMON COURSES

The Common Curriculum calls students to take three types of courses:

Learning to think well: Curated courses in philosophy, theology, English, history, and fine arts nurture reading and writing skills and encourage deeper questioning.

Ideas shape our world: Courses in the natural and social sciences along with additional philosophy, theology, English, history, and fine arts courses deepen knowledge while linking to root issues.

Acting to bring flourishing: Taken throughout a student's chosen program, these courses tie directly into threads woven in previous courses, equipping students to engage deeply and creatively with challenges.

BY DESIGN

Three years of study, research, and debate went into designing the Common

Curriculum. "It was a bold, soul-searching endeavor," Dr. Bestman says. "Nothing was left unexamined." The Foundations Review Committee, a team of faculty and students charged with leading the work, knew every decision had implications for students and programs. They also knew, through alumni and student surveys and focus groups, that the existing framework was already equipping students with a "richly disciplinary and interdisciplinary" liberal arts education – but that students didn't always fully grasp what they had gained until later.


Dr. Kristopher Ooms, an alumnus who returned to join the Chemistry department in 2008 and served on the Foundations Review Committee, recalls his own discovery about the significance of his learning at King's. "Even when I finished, I don't think I properly appreciated what I'd been given," he says. "In graduate school, I realized how prepared I was to wrestle with ideas and issues others only touched on."

Faculty members are meeting twice a month to wrestle with what this new Common Curriculum means for each discipline and the campus as a whole. "To keep doing better," Bestman says, "we need to be actively involved in pedagogy and continually ask big questions."

To gauge progress, new learning outcomes have been developed outlining what students will ideally know, do, and value as a result of their studies. Outcomes focus on attributes highly sought after in today's economy yet downplayed at many universities such as critical thinking and ethical action. Dr. Humphreys notes, "people are concerned whether they'll have a job at the end; these are the outcomes that are going to prepare you best for a disrupted world where you're likely to go through multiple careers."

STORY WEAVING

Work on the Common Curriculum is reinforcing the role of narrative in King's distinctive approach to teaching and learning. "We ground what we do in story because it gives us great connection to the Biblical story. When we use that lens to analyze chemistry, math, psychology and other subjects, amazing things pop out for us," Dr. Ooms observes.

The Common Curriculum invites students to weave their own stories, but also to become part of a shared tapestry. Dr. Ooms adds, "you are choosing the majority of the threads in your tapestry, but we'll show you how to look beyond individualism, to see how you fit into the larger story of God's plan." 

SARAH CHOI
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE '10

HOPE AND LIGHT

BY LINDSAY ECKERT



Overnight, I lost everything I had.” It was only three years ago, and the weight of it is still fresh in her voice.

Sarah Choi’s road to becoming creator and executive director of Lights Dance Festival was a journey through countries, degrees, and loss to a pursuit of hope.

Sarah was a nomad from an early age. Her family was constantly on the move through Korea, the States, then Canada, but her interest in dance was a constant. “I had my pink tutu and ballet slippers,” Sarah recalls, laughing. For her, dance was also how she expressed her faith.

“I think dance is spiritual,” she explained. “The Bible says the Spirit groans for you when you can’t think of words to say. I think dance and physical movements are an expression of your spirit.” Though she actively pursued dance from high school on, she didn’t consider dance as a career

for herself. Then began the hunt for a university degree.

Her nomadic history shadowed her as she chased different degrees. The pre-med biology program at the University of Alberta was her first stop but it didn’t feel like the right path. Neither was a broadcasting program, nor an undergrad in organic chemistry, Spanish, or zoology.

“Then I heard great things about King’s,” Sarah said. “It opened a whole new world for me in developing my worldview and what I was passionate about.”

Sarah graduated from King’s in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science, but it was on a trip to Bangladesh during her last year of study that she was spurred toward a career in fine arts. Armed with a camcorder to record her journey, Sarah chronicled her four months abroad, capturing the raw beauty of Bangladesh.

The footage eventually became a documentary. This prompted Sarah to think about the impact film media could have to amplify voices that otherwise would go unheard. Two documentaries later—one on Omar Kadhr and the other on her life as a nomad—Sarah decided to work on her Master of Fine Arts in documentary filmmaking in New York City. After her first year, she transitioned to creating dance films instead. “I felt I was dancing with them as I edited,” she recalls.

Her six years in New York were marked by attending film festivals, creating films, and acting in gigs around New York. Then a quick visit to Canada turned her life on its head.

Sarah was visiting her brother in Toronto when she received a call that she’d been cast for an exciting role. She quickly booked a bus ticket back to New York, but Sarah never made it past the border.



The Lights Dance Festival production, "Wanderers" premieres June 1 in Toronto.

"They revoked my visa," Sarah recounts. "I was sent back to Toronto. All I had were the clothes on my back and my laptop."

"Overnight I lost everything I had. I lost the commercial gig, I lost my friends, my apartment, my church, all my possessions."

The loss forced some soul-searching. She remained passionate about storytelling through film and dance and wanted a new way to pursue her interests but it didn't come easy. Sarah lived on social welfare for months, working odd jobs, as an idea blossomed during her evenings and weekends.

"At the time I felt lost, rejected. I felt like my life was similar to Joseph's; left in a pit where his brothers threw him, gaining favour, then being thrown in prison. I groped around in utter darkness and I needed to hold on to the light."

"Studying at King's opened my eyes to how important being a well-rounded person is. You just never know where life is going to take you."

That's where her dream to create a space where people could celebrate art and stories—a festival where people could feel hope—began.

Seven months later, in June 2017, the Lights Dance Festival was realized at the Drake Hotel in Toronto.

The festival weaves together dance and film performance. Sarah says her goal is to break down barriers from people's perception of dance who have not had contact with dance before. She also wants to connect film makers to dance creators, and vice versa, to strengthen collaboration and increase networking between visual artists with varying backgrounds. The next festival, Wanderers, opens June 1 in Toronto.

Sarah's passions for dance, film, and faith finally found a haven.

She looks back on her King's memories with great fondness. "Studying at King's opened my eyes to how important being a well-rounded person is. You just never know where life is going to take you. Having literature, philosophy, science, and art was part of making me who I am today. It's critical in how I practice my art. I'm grateful for that."

"Sometimes I look back at my twisting, turning life and wonder what it would look like if I had just pursued arts from the get-go."

"Then again," she muses. "Every part of my journey has had meaning." 🙌

KIMBERLEY SHAW
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE '04

GRADUATE TO GANACHE MASTER

BY SANDRA THIESSEN



Imagine this. You're driving west, just about as far west as you can travel in Canada by car. It's been a long drive; the single lane highway twists and turns in every possible direction, the corners are sharp and tight. You've driven past moss-covered trees so tall they brush the sky and lakes so still they seem to be made of glass.

The road begins to open up in front of you as you near the coast. The landscape changes from rugged mountains to gleaming ocean waters, long sand beaches, and deep green cedar rainforests. Just past the "Welcome to Tofino" sign sits an old wooden building with a funky bright-colored sign that reads "Chocolate Tofino."

It didn't look like much but Kimberley (née Tomiyama) and Cameron (Cam) Shaw stopped in for a fateful visit nine years ago that would change the course of their lives.

The Shaws got married a few months after Kim's graduation from King's in 2004 and both found good jobs. Unfortunately, Canada's economic climate became unfriendly and Kim lost her job six years later, causing Cam to question his.

Cam took a leave of absence from his job and the Shaws planned a sabbatical. "It was a time to take ourselves out of the regular grind," recalls Kim. So they bought a Volkswagen van and hit the road to Tofino.

Beyond the basic necessities, Kim and Cam only allowed themselves to bring 10 items each for their five-week excursion. They also made lists of the things they were going to focus on during this time: at the top of Kim's was learning Japanese, for Cam it was surfing.

Cam describes the sabbatical as a rather strict and intentional time. "People didn't understand that it wasn't a vacation. It

was a refreshing but focused time that took us out of the ordinary.

During their time in Tofino, some local friends recommended they try the sweets at Chocolate Tofino, and Kim and Cam ended up there often. As they were packing up to leave, some new-found Tofino friends suggested, out of the blue, that they should move to Tofino and buy that chocolate shop.

Kim and Cam laughed off the idea. After all, they didn't even know if it was for sale!

Their sabbatical came to an end and the Shaws packed up and took the winding road back out of town, driving past the chocolate shop once more—but it wouldn't be the last time.

For each of the 1,700 kilometers back to Lloydminster, Kim and Cam took turns asking if the other was still thinking about



Chocolate Tofino, Tofino, BC

“... the beauty of life is that as much as we plan or hope for things, it doesn't always go that way.”

purchasing the chocolate shop. The answer was always “yes.”

Upon their return, they talked through the idea with mentors, friends, and family.

“We didn't fit the ordinary when we came home. Going back to work was not only a shock but also disappointing. That's what triggered the change,” Cam explains.

They soon took a leap of faith and emailed the owners and asked if they were interested in selling the business. They waited for a response. Finally a notification popped up on Kim's laptop. The Shaws were invited to come meet the owners and start learning the ropes!

Kim and Cam had only two weeks to tackle the task at hand. “There was a lot of learning in a very short amount of time,” says Kim. “When you spend eight hours a day learning to make caramels, ganache, chocolate, and ice cream you pick up a lot, but it was a steep learning curve for two people who had never run a business.”

Nevertheless, the Shaws dug in and pursued their professional chocolatier certificates at École Chocolat in Vancouver, BC.

The Shaws have now called Tofino home for nine years. So what does a day for a resident chocolatier in Tofino look like? “I spend a lot of my mornings surfing and then go to work and get everything done as fast as I can,” starts Cam. “We come in the morning and start up our big chocolate wheel.” It takes about an hour to an hour-and-a-half to temper the chocolate every day. “From there it's moulding chocolates, dipping truffles, making ice cream, fashioning caramels and ganaches, decorating, filling, and piping,” adds Kim.

The Shaws work really hard to make high quality chocolate and ice cream but their main mission is the people of Tofino.

“We strive to invest in the kids that grow up in town and go on to work in our shop and in the local residents that come in. They might not know us or know that we're Christians but they often pop in and talk

with us. It's a huge compliment,” explains Kim. “It has been a unique and fun ministry. We're really doing a whole lot more than making chocolate and ice cream.”

“We've always had callings on our hearts,” says Kim. “When I was called to King's I just knew that it was what I was supposed to do.” Cam adds, “We've tended to lean toward choosing the more adventurous option, not always the easiest but something we won't have regrets about. We choose the trail requiring some growth.”

From Edmonton, to Lloydminster, to Tofino, and back, the Shaws summarize their journey saying, “You don't really know how your life is going to turn out. This wasn't what either of us planned when I was at King's,” says Kim, “but the beauty of life is that as much as we plan or hope for things, it doesn't always go that way.”

The Shaws are proof that the road that twists and turns is worth travelling. Eventually these roads may open up to life-changing Tofino sunsets. [👑](#)

COLIN WIEBE
BACHELOR OF ARTS '85

ROOTED IN GENEROSITY

BY CHERYL MAHAFFY



My earliest memory of Colin Wiebe dates back to April 1985, when he and two friends from then-fledgling King's College walked into the Royal Alexandra Hospital with a gift for our newborn son.

We still have that multi-coloured plush ball with its hexagonal patches, perhaps a nod to my husband Peter, their soccer-playing chemistry professor. Colin—now Dr. Colin Wiebe, a Fellow of the Royal College of Dentists of Canada—still has the generosity of spirit that brought him to my bedside that day.

Fast forward several decades, and you're likely to find Dr. Wiebe at work at the South Calgary Periodontal clinic which overlooks Calgary's Lake Bonavista, a quick jog or cycle from his home. Thanks to two professional partners and a staff of 17, he also has the flexibility to indulge in a variety of passions which have taken root

in his life as surely as an implanted tooth.

High on the list is a desire to use his skills to help others, often in places where the lack of a dental chair results in an aching back by day's end. "The thrill of seeing what God is accomplishing through dedicated teams outweighs the lack of creature comforts," says Dr. Wiebe. As so often happens, one good deed leads to another.

Even before graduating from the University of Alberta in 1992 with a doctoral degree in dental surgery, Dr. Wiebe began honing his extraction skills by volunteering with the Evangelical (now Education) Medical Aid Society in Ecuador, where many patients suffered from severely decayed teeth. Those skills have proven valuable in countries such as Nepal, where in 1994 people were dying of infections rooted in their teeth—and dentists were so rare that Wiebe's nickname became One-in-a-Million. "Extractions

are in some ways the most barbaric part of dentistry," he reflects. "It is hard to fathom that something so simple to provide in Canada can be lifesaving in another country."

After dental school, a hospital residency alongside oral surgeons at the Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon gave Dr. Wiebe a fast-tracked course in dental implants, which were just gaining acceptance in the late 90's. That experience led him to specialize in periodontics and implants at the University of British Columbia. Graduating in 1997 with a specialty diploma and a Master of Science in clinical dental sciences, he accepted an invitation to join the faculty there, opening up new international opportunities. Research in the jungles of Panama with an isolated group suffering from Kindler's Syndrome, for example, led him to link that skin blistering disease to aggressive gum disease in children as young as 13.



On another one of his service trips to Rwanda, Dr. Wiebe works closely with local medical professionals like Isabelle (centre), to perform complicated dental procedures such as oral tumour extractions.

In 2001, Dr. Wiebe, his wife Patty, and daughter Janelle headed to Calgary in search of an affordable home for their growing family. He continues part time at UBC, collaborating on research into wound healing while also supervising graduate students, a task he does not take lightly. “When students are motivated to learn and serve, it is so exciting to be part of their education,” he says. “I’m responsible for what they’re doing with that scalpel.”

Not that life has been stress-free. Daughter Isabelle was born in 2001 with hypoplastic (undeveloped) heart syndrome, spent months in critical care, and underwent multiple surgeries at the Stollery Children’s Hospital. “That has been the most difficult part of my life, hands-down,” her father says. With the support of mentors who, “just like at King’s,” made space for her to follow her interests, Isabelle is now a thriving 17-year-old who (perhaps inspired by her


“[King’s] gave me a whole different way of looking at the world. If I had taken only science courses, it wouldn’t have exposed me to the areas I now find so interesting.”

active father) has run triathlons, played on the Trinity Christian School basketball team, and finished 5 km fundraising runs for the charity Heartbeats.

Looking back, Wiebe appreciates the variety of courses required at King’s. “It gave me a whole different way of looking at the world,” he says, recalling his shift from being a reluctant reader to having multiple books on the go at all times. “If I had taken only science courses, it wouldn’t have exposed me to the areas I now find so interesting beyond biology.” Decades later, he took a King’s political science course long distance, paying another class member to video the lectures. As his two daughters enter post-secondary programs, he encourages them to explore subjects beyond their majors.

Now 53 and still grateful for his formative time at King’s, Dr. Wiebe not only mentors aspiring dentists but has created the Cook-Mahaffy Scholarship to support science students at King’s. He recalls breaking an expensive round-bottomed flask in organic chemistry lab and approaching Dr. Mahaffy, chequebook in hand, only to hear him say: “No, no, you don’t have to pay for that; but when you’re rich and famous, remember King’s.”

“So I’m paying King’s back for that round-bottomed flask,” Wiebe says laughing.

In truth, Dr. Wiebe is not so much paying back as paying forward, helping other science students experience the learning and relationships that made the difference for him. 



DAVID MCCUNE BACHELOR OF MUSIC '17

NETWORKING TO NORWAY

BY SANDRA THIESSEN

Now boarding those passengers seated in zone B. David McCune joins the line with a scarf wrapped around his neck, hot tea in hand. When your voice is your livelihood you will go to any length to protect it.

David is flying from Sofia, Bulgaria, where he now lives, to Norway for a performance. He is a freelance vocalist, singing in choirs or as a soloist.

Splitting time between Bulgaria, Norway, Switzerland, Germany, and Canada makes for a lot of air travel. "When the person beside you is coughing you hope you don't get sick and that you can still sing well!" says David.

When he lands in Norway, he will head straight to rehearsal, which lasts for about four days leading up to a performance—four to six hours each day.

"Every single time I open my mouth in rehearsal, that's an audition. It's always real-time evaluation. Every time I make a sound, or don't, that's my job on the line. It can be a scary thing but it's actually quite enjoyable," David says.

David's parents got him started in music at an early age. He has sung in choirs and played the piano his whole life. "It was something I really enjoyed but never something that I considered doing as a career at all," David explains. When he turned 17 he began taking piano more seriously, thanks to a teacher who encouraged him and pushed him to excel.

The McCunes were always supportive of David pursuing music. All of their six children have participated in music at some level. "I'm the only one who pursued it full-time, but my parents should have known that was a possibility when they put all of us in music," he jokes.

Retracing all the steps that got him here, David confesses that at 17 he still didn't fully know what he wanted to do with music. Then he went to a King's open house. "I walked by the music table and Dr. Segger talked with me. He was inspiring and I learned a lot, so I applied. Once I was in the program I realized it was a perfect fit for me."

As a piano major, David started taking voice lessons for fun on the side. He would later earn his post-baccalaureate performer's certificate in voice at King's. "Turns out I had sort of just missed my calling. I loved piano but discovered I was better at voice—now it's actually my career," David explains.

David sang bass in Pro-Coro, a professional choir in Edmonton, from the end of his first year of university. When the opportunity to sing with Pro-Coro first presented itself, two directors David



Nidaros Cathedral in Trondheim, Norway, one of the many historical venues McCune has had the opportunity to perform in.



worked with recommended him for the position. “I got a chance,” he says, “without going through the usual process of auditioning, to sing with a professional choir. The conductor was impressed with my performance and invited me back to be involved in more projects.” The years he spent in professional choir laid the groundwork for David. Without knowing it, he was building a network that would connect him with professional performances on another continent.

“So much of this career is networking. In this case it was Pro-Coro that got me into the Canadian National Youth Choir and World Youth Choir. This got me connected with two friends who first brought me over to Norway to do a big recording project with the Norwegian Soloists’ Choir. Now I’m on a two-year contract with them!”

As a freelance musician David gets to see and perform in many places of historical

“The music faculty at King’s were really supportive of me doing professional work while I was still studying, and I’m grateful for that. Through this, I was in a good position to make the leap to Europe when I graduated.”

significance. One that stands out for him in particular is a choir concert in the 11th century Nidaros Cathedral in Trondheim, Norway.

Like any new job, joining the Norwegian Soloists’ Choir came with a learning curve, but David felt prepared. “The music faculty at King’s were really supportive of me doing professional work while I was still studying, and I’m grateful for that. Through this, I was in a good position to make the leap to Europe when I graduated. I learned about as much from performing as I did from university. King’s gave me my theoretical and technical

background and my voice teacher there was absolutely irreplaceable.”

David says he had some reservations at first about whether music could be a reliable source of income. Now though, he says, “It seems like too much of a coincidence that I spent my whole life doing music yet never thought I should pursue a career in it.”

David is currently applying for his long-term visa which will become his residence permit. His long-term goal is a move to Norway, the Netherlands, or Germany to continue a lifelong career in music. 🇳🇴

WAYNE PRINS
BACHELOR OF ARTS '03

CLIMBING THROUGH CLAC

BY SANDRA THIESSEN



Steel toe boots? Check. Safety vest? Check. Hard hat? Check. Finally, a four month break from classes and homework. Time to work and make money!

How often does a summer job shape the rest of your life? For Wayne Prins it did. During the summer break between his second and third year of university, Wayne worked as an equipment operator at a diamond mine construction site in the Northwest Territories as a member of the Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC). It just so happened that this first hands-on experience would launch Wayne's career in the world of labour unions.

Founded on the belief that a different kind of union was needed in Canada, CLAC got its start in 1952. Unlike the traditional labour movement's view that the interests of labour and management were inherently at odds with each other, CLAC put forth the idea that both sides could

work together for the betterment of the enterprise. Furthermore, CLAC believed that better outcomes for workers were achieved within the context of a cooperative and positive relationship between labour and management. From humble beginnings, CLAC has grown into one of the largest independent unions in Canada serving nearly 60,000 members in a multitude of industries.

Wayne says that CLAC is rooted in core principles of the Christian faith, "It's a union based on the belief that we are all created equal, that there's inherent value and dignity in every person and, therefore, every worker. Also that there's value in the labour of our hands because through our work we engage the gifts and abilities that we've been given. These principles remain central to the organization today."

In his fourth year at King's, like any soon-to-be graduate, Wayne began to think

about life after school. As he pondered his uncertain future, an opportunity presented itself: CLAC was looking for new representatives and Wayne landed a position at their Edmonton office.

"At the beginning there was exponential growth in the oil sands and CLAC was growing dramatically in Fort McMurray. There was incredible opportunity and CLAC needed an office there. So we moved in the fall of 2004."

It was in Fort McMurray that Wayne's climb began to escalate.

"We grew in incredible ways. Membership grew from a few hundred to almost 10,000 in the course of five years. It was a wild ride, it was a lot of fun. We recruited a number of other representatives and their families to move to Fort McMurray, many of whom were also King's alumni. We grew to be a large office," explains Wayne.



Prins got his start with CLAC working at a diamond mine site in the Northwest Territories.

In his 12 years in Fort McMurray, Wayne progressed from being a representative, to the regional director in Fort McMurray, and finally the Alberta provincial director.

Then came the opportunity to take on the role of national executive director. At that point, the Prins family felt it was time to move back to Edmonton.

Wayne describes his role as being a mix between a chief executive officer and a chief operating officer, managing both the vision and mission of CLAC and developing a strategy going forward, but also managing the day-to-day operations of the organization.


On top of his CLAC duties, Wayne has many external engagements. Currently he is serving on the board of Build Force Canada and serving as president of the World Organization of Workers. "These are unique opportunities to take what we've

"My experience at King's rolled easily into a passion for the work we do at CLAC. We have to look to our faith to help us understand how we are to respond to the things happening around us as we operate in a highly complex and rapidly changing world . . ."

learned at CLAC and extend the influence and reach of this approach globally."

Of course, no one goes from representative to executive director overnight and in looking back, Wayne sees the slow weaving that brought his life to this point.

"I don't recall a single 'open door moment,'" says Wayne. "I see clearly the significance of an education from King's as the starting point for the whole narrative of my professional life. Certainly I look back on my time at King's and see how it equipped me to do this work. My

education challenged and prepared me very well to make hundreds, even thousands of decisions throughout the course of my career. My experience at King's rolled easily into a passion for the work we do at CLAC. We have to look to our faith to help us understand how we are to respond to the things happening around us as we operate in a highly complex and rapidly changing world, whether it's dealing with members and issues at the ground level, or speaking with political leaders." 

KYLA DYKEMA
BACHELOR OF ARTS '15
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION '17

INSPIRED TO CONNECT

BY LINDSAY ECKERT



A classroom isn't only a place of curriculum learning. It's a place of discovery, exploration, and growth.

For Kyla Dykema's students, it's also a place of safety and connection.

"I deal with a lot of kids who come from difficult home lives," she explains. "In every school you'll get that of course, but I get a lot of refugees and kids who've been through some real hard stuff."

Having graduated from the elementary education program in 2017, Kyla is just beginning her career and already faces some of the toughest situations teachers experience.

The neighbourhood in which her school is located means the majority of her students come to the classroom with behavioural issues, difficult home lives, cognitive delays, autism, or are refugees

just learning English. It makes for a challenging educational environment. From day one, however, Kyla was uniquely prepared. Though each day is difficult, she is determined to make a difference—though sometimes it feels like a very small difference—in the lives of her students. It's a vision she's had since she was a child.

"Growing up, both my parents were teachers," she says, "and I could see the difference they were making in their students' lives and the connection they continued to have with students long after they sat in their classrooms." This lasting difference had a strong impact on Kyla from an early age as she watched students interact with her parents at the grocery store or hang out in the classroom after school. Kyla knew she wanted to be a teacher, and that idea only strengthened as she grew inspired by teachers who spent time helping her tackle subjects she struggled in.

When it came time to pursue her education degree, Kyla says she was drawn to the sense of community at King's and the buzz surrounding the education program's positive reputation. With her desire to make a difference in mind, one core teaching principle in particular resonated with her: build relationships.

"If you don't have relationships, your students will not listen to you and certainly won't want to work hard. I learned that in my management class," she says, laughing. She took this lesson to heart for her students. "The most important thing you can do is to say good morning to them. I try to connect with every single one of my students before we start our day."

Before she had finished her education degree, Kyla worked with Elves Special Needs Society, a program that gives children with severe disabilities or special needs specialized education programs.



Dykema works hard to provide a safe and welcoming classroom environment.



She most often worked with children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. It was this combination of experience and education that made what happened next seem like a God-led plan.

“The school I work at now phoned me on one of my last days of work. They just asked, ‘Do you need a job? Can you come in for an interview? They hired me that very same day.’”

Her school is one of Edmonton’s toughest elementary schools but she’s resolutely held to her goal of intentionally connecting with her students and encouraging them as they encourage her.

“In the morning when the kids come in, they will give me hugs and say ‘I missed you so much!’ That encourages me. They’re my own students so I feel connected to them. I like helping them improve their writing and learning about

“I have days where I think, ‘why am I doing this?’ There are times I even consider a change in career but those moments pass and I realize that God truly did lead me here for a reason.”

their personalities as I see what they write about. Anytime I get to connect with students and learn something about them is great.”

Working in a setting where you see children struggling with anything from challenging home lives to mental illness can take a serious toll on someone. “You go home and think ‘I hope they’re ok tonight.’ That’s been difficult,” Kyla explains. “I have days where I think, ‘why am I doing this?’ There are times I even consider a change in career but those moments pass and I realize that God truly did lead me here for a reason.”

Despite how hard it can be, Kyla is determined to stay and teach, to make the difference for her students—to be like the teachers who inspired her.

“Even just to be a safe place for some of your kids, because you know when they go home it’s not always going to be a safe place. I can provide a place they know they belong. To see improvement is a huge reason why any teacher wants to teach—to see kids who struggle and then finally get something. But I think the biggest thing for me is to see students begin to flourish in a warm, welcoming environment I’ve worked hard to create.” 🙌

GREETINGS FROM ALUMNI RELATIONS

When I saw the job posting for Alumni Relations Manager, I clicked on it. At the top of the page the heading read: “Help us build a top Christian University.”

I was challenged by this phrase and it ended up being one of the main reasons I chose to apply. I want to be a part of building an amazing Christian academic institution that will serve students with excellence for years to come.

This task will take all of us working together.

This is the second time I’ve worked at King’s. I first came here as the Residence Director from 2002-05. It was a ton of fun. I loved hanging out with students, talking, playing Settlers of Catan, and opening my apartment doors to Tuesday night Survivor nights. I loved working with students in leadership development. I witnessed young minds being stretched, new families finding their beginnings, and students growing into callings.

After I left King’s in 2005, I accepted a call to be an associate pastor at a Mennonite Brethren church in Victoria, BC. I spent the next 13 years of my life there and during that time I adopted two amazing kids. My oldest is attending King’s for the first time this year, which is part of what brought me back. It has been a natural step into the Alumni Relations Manager position as I’ve felt God calling me once again to King’s.

Starting this September, King’s is celebrating 40 years. I can’t think of a better time for our Alumni Relations office to recommit itself to intentionally connecting with alumni of all ages. We will be sponsoring several gatherings across Canada and hosting visiting faculty lectures. My goal is to create a place of welcome, connection, community, and home.

We plan on developing other events and new ways to help alumni connect with each other, with meaningful work, with faith communities, and volunteer opportunities. We plan to build on the great work already being done in the Alumni office—work we need to do a better job of communicating. We plan on being more intentional about helping our alumni with job resourcing and connecting alumni with other alumni.

I am so encouraged by King’s and our alumni who are doing amazingly well at living out our shared values all around the world through their careers, education, the arts, sports, sciences, medicine, research, music, parenting, and much more. Every alumni has a role in promoting King’s and advocating for the inspiring work of our university.

If you look through Scripture, you will often see a time of great blessing after a period of 40 years. I am confident that this next year will be filled with the Lord’s continued favour on us as a growing faith-based institution.

Yours sincerely,



KATHLEEN BUSCH



If you are interested in helping sponsor an alumni event in your area or have other connection ideas please contact me at:

Kathleen.Busch@kingsu.ca
780.465.3500 ext. 8133

Find us on social media for regular alumni updates and news!

Looking to give the gift of time?

There are many opportunities to help us build a top Christian university. Here are a few you may consider:

- ▶ Mentoring students living in residence
- ▶ Coordinating an event for alumni in your home town or community
- ▶ Getting involved with King’s Parent Relations program
- ▶ Inviting a professor to speak at your church, volunteer organisation, or place of employment

THRIVING ATHLETES, CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS

BUILDING A TOP CANADIAN VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM

BY NIKOLAS VANDER KOOY

Gabriel (Gabe) deGroot waits at the corner of Aberdeen and Earl Street on a snowy February morning before finding a gap in traffic and darting across to the gym. It reminds him of old times, walking through the Ottewell neighbourhood in Edmonton to early-morning volleyball practices at The King's University.

His commute to school is a little longer now than it was then—a brisk 20 minutes on a good day—and Gabe's walk now takes him past century-old limestone buildings and red brick homes. Sometimes, in the dead of winter when the wind shifts to blow cold air from over Lake Ontario, his walk can be downright chilly!

Gabe is now the head coach of the men's volleyball program at Queen's University in Kingston, ON. He joined the program in 2011 as an assistant coach and was named head coach in 2018 after a national head-hunting process. Every day he works to further develop one of Canada's top men's volleyball programs.

His morning begins with individual training sessions on the court with his athletes. He then spends time in his office communicating with top recruits and prospects across North America. Afterward, Gabe meticulously plans and runs two-hour daily practices with the entire team.

Then comes video—hours and hours of rewinding and analyzing plays, breaking down systems, and planning new strategies, all to take his knowledge of the game to the next level and better his team.

"I usually get to the gym at 8 a.m., and rarely leave before 8 at night," laughs Gabe. Twelve-hour days are what it takes to compete at one of the highest levels of volleyball in the country. "I'm here, we're here, to win championships."

Gabe loves to compete but his motivation goes far beyond winning tournaments.



Head coach of the Queen's University men's volleyball team, and King's alumnus, Gabe DeGroot.

Student-athletes sometimes need help balancing the workload that comes with studying at a prestigious university with 15 hours of weekly practice time and socializing, but Gabe is dedicated to helping his players thrive in their university experience. Currently 12 out of 18 players on his team are academic all-Canadians in programs ranging from law to engineering.

Gabe himself excelled as a student-athlete at King's. He came in as a setter but his coach at the time, Greg Bartel, quickly switched him to libero. Gabe credits Bartel's insights and passion for the sport for setting him up for success. After a stellar couple of years starting for the Eagles, he transferred to the University of Guelph where he played out the rest of his eligibility in the Ontario University Athletics Conference (OUA), receiving the Libero of the Year award two years in a row.

Gabe had a more challenging time with academics. In 2008 King's offered far less support for students who required it, and, unfortunately, Gabe left King's not feeling thrilled about his academic experience. "There just wasn't enough support for athletes like me at the time," he muses.

Overall, though, Gabe thinks fondly on his time at King's. Like many King's students, he moved into a small house with seven other guys in the Ottewell neighbourhood. There he learned the value of building strong relationships.

Ironically, Gabe never planned on sticking with volleyball when he first began his career as a student-athlete. "I set out to start a construction business with my brother," he laughs. Yet the passion for building relationships and excelling at his sport that developed during his time at King's has seen him advance further in his athletic career than he ever imagined. Just this year, the Gaels took first place in the OUA provincial championships and Gabe was voted 2018-19 Coach of the Year by his colleagues. Last summer, Gabe had the opportunity to be an assistant coach with the National Men's Indoor Senior B team. He dreams of working for the national program one day.

"Not one day goes by that I don't love my job," says Gabe. "It's inspiring to see young men develop into excellent student-athletes and move on to great careers. I'm honoured to be a part of that journey." 🏆

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

ACHIEVEMENTS

Kayla Boone (B.A. '19) is working with World Renew as a youth ambassador.

Josh Noble (B.A. '10) received his Prosci Management certification. He recently ran his ninth half marathon!

Keltie MacKenzie (B.A. '14, B.Ed. '16) is now a heritage interpreter at the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

Katie DeJong (B.Sc. '16) started medical school at the University of Alberta.

Tracy DeBoer (B.A. '10) completed her Ph.D. in clinical psychology at the University of Manitoba.

Jeremiah Basuric (B.A. '13) became ordained as a commissioned pastor. He is a teaching pastor at mosaicHouse Church in Edmonton.

Paige Knickle (B.A. '15) was a finalist in *Rejoice Alberta*, a gospel singing competition.

Courtney Streu (B.Sc. '17) started medical school at the University of Alberta this fall. She will specialize in pediatrics or family medicine.

Chris Mostert (B.Sc. '17) started medical school at the University of Alberta this fall.

Lynette Postuma (B.A. '00) is currently working as a landscape architect for Waterfront Toronto.

Kwabena Apomah (B.Com. '15) had the honour of leading a troop in Banff for Remembrance Day 2018.

Miriam Mahaffy (B.Sc. '15, B.Ed. '20) ran the Hypothermic Half Marathon in Edmonton in -40 weather!

Jacquelyn DenHaan (B.A. '15) wrote a short story that was featured in Canadian literary magazine, *Blank Spaces*.

Caleb Sorenson (B.A. '18) released an album, "Hearts on Fire," inspired by other King's alumni and students.

WEDDINGS/ENGAGEMENTS

Teresa Prokopanko (née Looy, B.A. '13) and Adam Prokopanko were married in August and are expecting their first child in May!

McKenzie Oliver (B.Sc. '18) and **Jared Henze** (B.Ed. '16) were married in July.

Heather VanderHoek (B.Sc. '08) and Paul Adams got married in September.

Cassidy Vanderschee (B.Sc. '14) and **Kaden Forsberg** (B.A. '14) recently got married in Blackfalds, AB. Cassidy is working on her masters of chemistry at McGill and Kaden continues to study music in Montreal.

Kelsey Heitkoetter (B.A. '17, B.Ed. '19) and **Keith James** (B.A. '15, B.Ed. '17) will be getting married in June!

Becky Statchuk (B.Sc. '17, B.Ed. '20) and Cole Vriend got engaged in October.

Cameron Bush (B.Com. '17) and Alyssa Schmidt were engaged in November.

Zoe Wawryk (née Brinkman, B.A. '16) and Nicholas Wawryk were married in June. Zoe has completed her bachelor of social work and Nicholas is currently studying at the University of Alberta.

Sherisse Girard (B.A. '13) and Brian Huisman got engaged in November.

Jaden Bouwers (B.Sc. '18) and **Tyler Shannon** (B.A. '19) were engaged in October.

Melanie Wright (née Reynders, B.A. '13) got married to Nathaniel Wright in August.

Hannah Kui (B.A. '19) and **Aaron Steenhof** (B.Com. '19) got engaged in December.

Sandra Thiessen (B.A. '14) and **Mark Holmes** (B.A. '15, B.Ed. '19) got engaged in November! Their wedding will be in Edmonton in June.

Pawel Zydunt (B.A. '10, '15) and Allison Heath just got married in March 2019!

BIRTHS

Renee and **Derrick Lee** brought daughter Evangeline into the world in October. Renee graduated from King's in 2010.

Fiona and **Josh Aldrich** are proud parents to their daughter, Eliana, who was born in February. Fiona graduated from King's in 2012 and 2014 (B.A. and B.Ed.)

Hans and **Leah Doef's** daughter, Rebecca, was born in October. Hans graduated in 2004.

Latasha (née Smith, B.A. '12, B.Ed. '14) and **Ryan Hazlett** welcomed their smiley daughter, Emelyn, into the world in November.

Matthew and **Christina Guay** (née VanBerkel) brought little Lynden into the world in January. Matthew graduated from the science program in 2010.

Joseph (B.Sc. '15) and **Lydie Zondervan** had a daughter, Emmaline, in January. Joseph is currently attending law school.

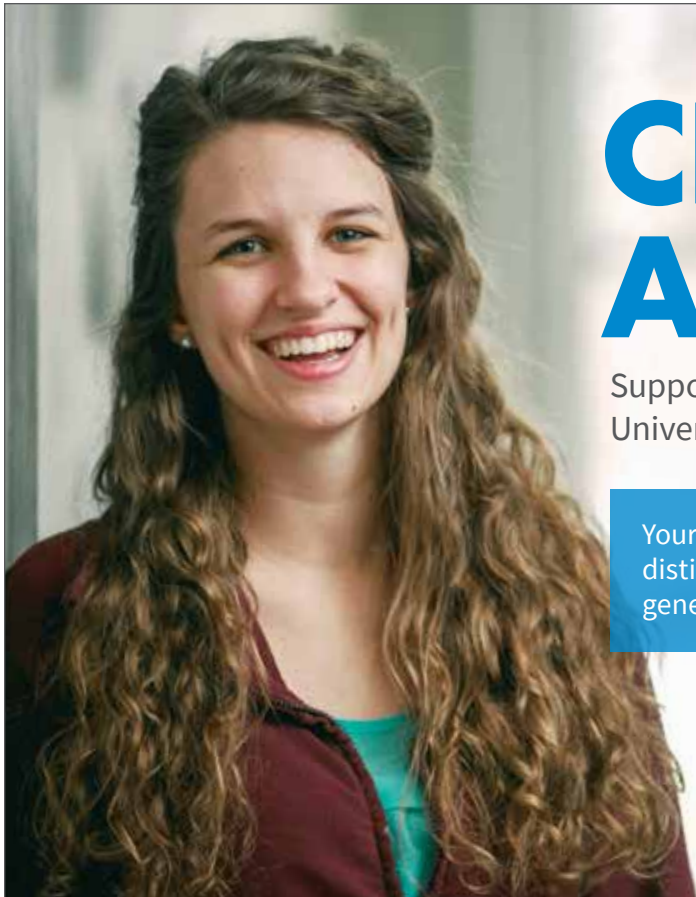
Hannah (née Vanderveen) and **Sebastian McClement** became first-time parents! Their daughter, Eila, was born in January. Hannah and Sebastian both graduated from King's in 2015.

Aaron and **Jillian Takel** were joined by their new daughter, Ellie, in January. Aaron graduated from King's education program in 2016.

David (B.Mus. '14) and **Qelsey Fraser** became second-time parents in November with the birth of Alden. David is currently playing with the Royal Canadian Airforce Band.

Josee and **Gilles Boisvert** welcomed a baby in March!

Anna-lise Berkenpas (née DeGroot, '11) and Matthew Berkenpas welcomed their first daughter, Madeleine, in July.



CREATE A LEGACY

Support the ongoing mission of The King's University by leaving a legacy gift in your will.

Your gift will make it possible for us to provide distinctly Christian higher education for the next generation of King's students.

For more information, contact:

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