AGRICOLA NEWS

For the Alumni and Friends of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Volume 31, Number 2, Summer 2007

Making things grow at NSAC!

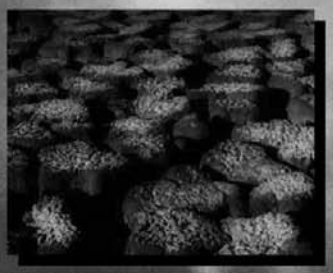
Nova Scotia Agricultural College

NSAC. Embrace Your World.

an inconvenient truth

A GLOBAL WARNING

A live presentation
of Al Gore's
Academy Award
winning
slide show
by Carl Duivenvoorden



October 19th, 2007
10am, NSAC Alumni Theatre

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Cover Story 6

Atlantic Poultry Research Centre *a Reality on NSAC Campus*

The Atlantic Poultry Research Centre on the campus of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College officially opened its doors on Wednesday, May 30th. The Centre, valued at $9.8 million, will provide teaching and research capabilities in all phases of poultry production from hatching to value-added product processing.

Highlights

A Passion for Politics 12

Dr. Hulan received the rank of Principal Research Scientist in 1986, the highest level possible within the research scientist category in Canada.

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Carol Goodwin, an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences at NSAC, has recently returned from her 14th annual trip to Writtle College in Chelmsford, England.

atlantic agricultural science & communication workshop 15

Take in the events at the Atlantic Agricultural Science and Communication Workshop (AASCW 2007) being held on the NSAC campus November 15th and 16th, 2007.

Who we are & **What** we do 16

You may notice a difference in the types of marketing activities and creative Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) is choosing to use this year as part of its 2007 marketing campaign.

2006-7 Report to Donors 17

Fundraising efforts at NSAC continue to be strong and show an increasing trend over the previous five years.

Departments

Front cover:
The Atlantic Poultry Research Centre will provide researchers at NSAC with a world-class environment to advance their groundbreaking work in the field of poultry production.

A Message from the Editor

It never ceases to amaze me how fast my nearly 4-year-old son is growing.

It seems like only a few short months ago he was learning to stand on his own two feet and say his first words. Every day he becomes more independent, more of his own person; exploring the world around him. In another short year, he will be leaving home for his first day of school - a day I am sure he will handle much better than his mother.

As quickly as children grow, so too is the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and thus the theme for this edition of the Agricola News. It has been two years since the university celebrated its centennial in 2005 and things are growing and maturing on campus at a record pace.

It has been two years since the university celebrated its centennial in 2005 and things are growing and maturing on campus at a record pace.

The university has embarked on another strategic planning process which is essential for the continued growth and success of the institution. It engages our entire community, both internal and external, in active dialogue about key issues, priorities and opportunities. The ultimate goal of the strategic planning process is the development of a common vision, helping us focus our collective efforts on a select number of priorities over the next five years as we work towards the realisation of NSAC's potential.

Several goals arising from this process include increasing the overall enrollment of NSAC to 1000 students, while ensuring that the student body is culturally and geographically diverse.

The university also plans to grow academic program offerings at the undergraduate level which respond to market needs. A proposed Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Technology in Management will meet the needs of non-science students. NSAC also plans to grow and diversify graduate level offerings and increase the number of graduate students by establishing a new PhD program. For more information on our strategic planning process please visit: http://nsac.ca/admin/stratplan/

These are just some of the many ways NSAC is growing and changing. New facilities continue to be added to campus as well. The university celebrated the grand opening of the Atlantic Poultry Research Centre at the end of May bringing the university to the forefront of research in this industry. Please see our cover article on page 6 of this issue.

Our marketing program for NSAC is also growing and changing, taking a more grassroots approach. You can learn more about what we are planning in our article Marketing - Who we are and What we do - on page 16.

Fundraising efforts continue to be strong and show an increasing trend of growth over the previous five years. Our 2006 Report to Donors is another highlight of this issue.

I certainly hope you enjoy this summer issue of the Agricola News. It may be cliche but the only constant thing in life is change. Embrace and enjoy the growth and change in your own lives, in whatever form that may take.

Stephanie Rogers

Letters

Stephanie,

I'm very pleased with the latest addition of the Agricola News, it was a pleasure to read. In particular, I really enjoyed the new feature 'Round and About'.

William Abraham Class of 1952

Stephanie,

First of all, thank you very much for the luggage tags. This is a good simple idea for getting the "brand" out there. I shall use them on all my trips. Secondly, I was reading the latest edition of the alumni magazine and I want to congratulate you and your group for such an excellent issue. It is professionally done, well-written and produced. I am glad to see such an enthusiastic, thoughtful magazine of which we can all be proud. Well done!

C.D. Caldwell, PhD, NSAC faculty

AGRICOLA NEWS

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Editor:
Stephanie Rogers

Contributing Writers:
Jim Goit, Lucy Uberoi, Adrienne Murray

Design & Layout:
Derek Sarty, GaynorSarty Design

Please send your letters, comments or correspondence to:

AGRICOLA NEWS
Nova Scotia Agricultural College
P.O. Box 550
Truro,Nova Scotia
B2N 5E3

phone: (902) 893-7247
fax: (902) 897-939
email: alumni@nsac.ca

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A Message from the President

This growth speaks to the optimism, commitment and energy of all who make up the NSAC community.

NSAC has shown desirable growth over the last four years during which time I have been fortunate enough to serve as its president.

This growth has been manifested in many ways. Some examples would include the steady growth in enrolment that we have enjoyed, since 2003. Another example would be our shiny new poultry facility. And let's not forget the centennial amphitheatre, the Canadian Centre for Fur Animal Research, the improvements made to the air handling in Cox Institute, our ever-more-gorgeous Rock Garden, plus of course the plethora of new academic programs being rolled out regularly.

This growth speaks to the optimism, commitment and energy of all who make up the NSAC community. I refer here not only to our excellent academic faculty but also to our academic and non-academic support staff, students, alumni, collaborators and industrial partners.

Truly, we are fortunate here at NSAC where we continue to grow and thereby stand apart from our less blessed educational institutions in the region.

NSAC is special and you have helped make it so.

Dr. Philip Hicks, President

Around & About...

Sarah Kimmins, Class of 1999

Science Applied to Teaching

Sarah Kimmins credits her success as a scientist to her education at NSAC and to the NSAC Vice President Academic, Dr. Leslie MacLaren.

Sarah, a native of Halifax, Nova Scotia, graduated with her Bachelor of Science degree from Dalhousie in 1996. She then pursued her Masters degree at NSAC under the supervision of Dr. Leslie MacLaren. Dr. MacLaren was interested in molecular and hormonal mechanisms regulating bovine reproduction.

"Leslie taught me how to write research papers, apply for grants and present research findings, but most of all she taught me how to study science with integrity," says Sarah. "She basically taught me everything I know about being a scientist."

"I wanted Leslie as a supervisor because she studied reproduction and it was a research area that I was attracted to," says Sarah. For her Master's degree, Sarah studied the role of the bovine estrous cycle in the regulation of adhesion proteins on the uterine surface that had been implicated in embryo attachment. The goal of her research was to gain insight into what makes the uterus receptive.

During her M.Sc. and Ph.D., Sarah identified a number of protein receptors expressed at the interface between the bovine embryo and its mother's uterus.

"The work was important because it identified molecular markers of pregnancy as early as day 16 following breeding, which is very early and also a critical time for embryo survival," says MacLaren. Sarah graduated with her Master's degree from NSAC in 1999. After that, she stayed in MacLaren's lab to work on her Ph.D. Her Ph.D thesis was an extension of her Master's work. She studied what specific hormonal factors regulated the timing of expression in the family of adhesion proteins involved in uterine receptivity. Sarah received her Ph.D from Dalhousie University in 2003.

"During her MSc and PhD, Sarah identified a number of protein receptors expressed at the interface between the bovine embryo and its mother's uterus," says MacLaren. "She explored the possible roles of these receptors in the fetomaternal communication process by examining how their expression patterns change in

Continued on page 28

Mark Dawson Class of 1980

It's a Small World

Mark Dawson started in the Engineering program in 1975 and eventually graduated with a Degree Course Diploma from NSAC in 1980. He then went to the University of Guelph and graduated with a BSc. Agr. Degree in 1982.

He then worked in Alberta in agriculture before moving back to Ontario in 1986. Today, he lives in Southwestern Ontario in the town of Mitchell and helps manage the operations of a three location New Holland Ag & Construction Equipment Dealership that is based in Mitchell. He met his wife, Laura Taylor, a potter, in Guelph and married in 1997. They have two wonderful sons, Roan (1998) and Luke (2002). Both of them want to be New Holland technicians when they grow up!

One of Mark's NSAC Engineering classmates, John Rudderham, is also in the dealership business in this area - as one of the owners of a multi-location John Deere Dealership. It's a small world.

Ryan Barrett Class of 2002

Jersey Canada Full-Time

Ryan Barrett, from Belmont, PEI completed his B.Sc(Agr.) in Animal Science in 2002 and then attended the University of Guelph where he completed an M.Sc. in Animal Science (Animal Breeding) in 2004. He is a proud four year resident of Fraser House and is currently living in Guelph, Ontario.

Continued on page 27

Carl Duivenvoorden, Class of 1983

NSAC Alumnus to Deliver Al Gore's Global Warming Message

Carl Duivenvoorden, an alumnus of NSAC and native of Fredericton, New Brunswick, is one of only two Atlantic Canadians tasked with spreading Al Gore's message on climate change.

Duivenvoorden, a member of the NSAC Class of 1983, was in Nashville, Tennessee recently for a training program led by former US Vice President Al Gore. Now, he's taking a one-year leave of absence from his job with Efficiency New Brunswick to spread Mr. Gore's message about global warming across Atlantic Canada.

"Carl will be spending the next year making presentations around his region, discussing how individuals, businesses, schools and other organizations can be a major part of the solution to the growing crisis of global warming," said Gore.

Gore's book, "An Inconvenient Truth", had a huge effect on Duivenvoorden. "Finally, here was a credible author echoing my own concerns about our climate crisis. It was like Global Warming 101, explaining the problem and describing solutions in a clear, simple way," he says.

After reading the book, Duivenvoorden found out that Mr. Gore would be training 1000 people to be 'climate change messengers', presenting the "Inconvenient Truth" slideshow in their own communities to build awareness and promote action. "So of course I had to apply," says Duivenvoorden. "And luckily, I made it into Class 6, the final group."

The training program was led by Gore and a team of renowned scientists and environmental educators. Each trainee received an intensive tutorial about issues surrounding global warming, plus technical training on how to present Gore's computer-based slide show. This slide was the basis of his best-selling book and Oscar-winning film, "An Inconvenient Truth."

"Al Gore is an incredible presenter, with broad knowledge and a deep passion for the issue," says Duivenvoorden. "He was compelling, entertaining, touching and convincing."

During the training, each participant had to agree to do 10 presentations over the next year. Duivenvoorden, however, is hoping to do 100 presentations by the time the year is over.

"I have two young sons, and I'm deeply concerned about the kind of world they will inherit from my generation. I believe solutions to the global climate crisis are within our reach. However, these solutions require action and action will only come when more people understand the threat of global warming. So my goal is to spread the word as widely as I can, to motivate as many people as possible to take personal action and be part of the solution," he says.

Duivenvoorden plans to focus his efforts on teachers and students. "Our youth have the greatest stake in the future of our environment and they can be leaders of change in their families too," he says. Of course, he'll welcome the opportunity to speak to any audience. "To me, there is no more important message to share."

Deanne Cardwell Class of 1997

Greetings from the West Coast.

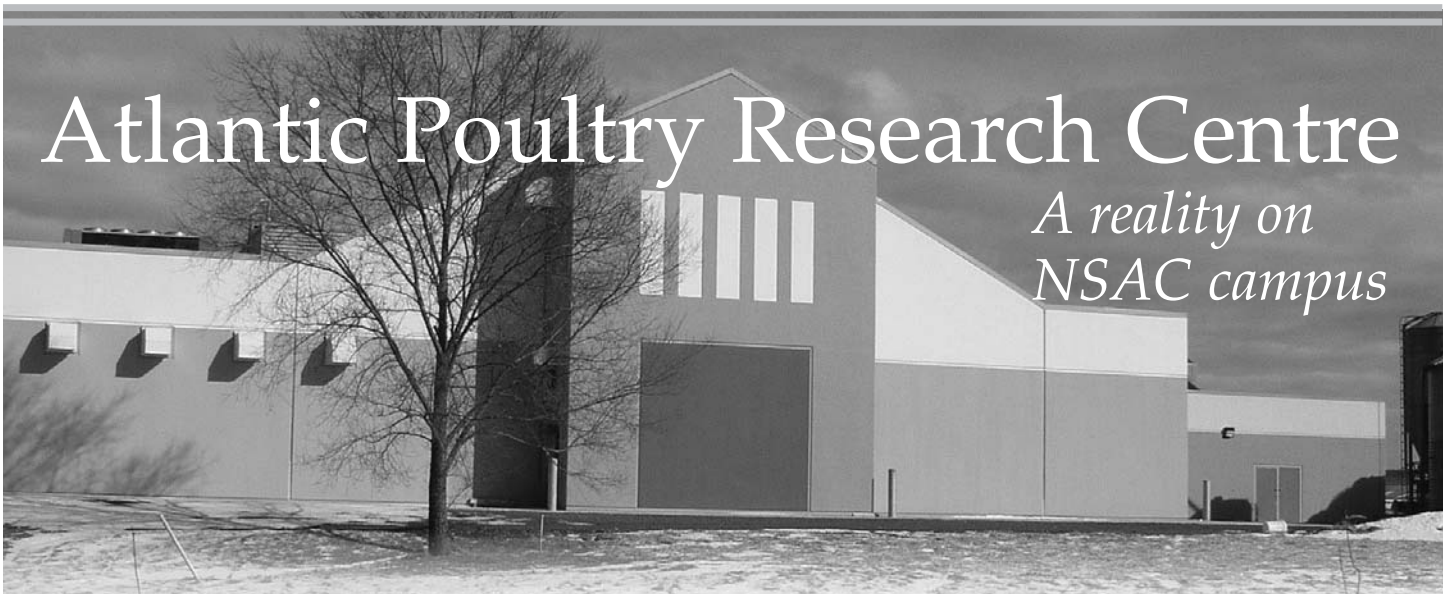
DeAnna Cardwell aka "Troi" (NSAC Animal Science Tech '97, transferred to Fairview College to graduate Animal Health Technology '98). She works at the Granville Island Veterinary Hospital in Vancouver, BC (www.bcpetvet.com). Technolgists provide complete support for anesthiology, radiology, surgery support, dental prophy/care, nursing care and work side-by-side with veterinarians from all areas of expertise. Her hospital offers the best of animal care for their patients and has been breaking ground in the area of animal welfare. One of her co-workers started the Canadian Animal Assistance Team (CAAT)to provide assistance to animals left behind during Hurricane Katrina (Tanya Vardy from NSAC accompanied the team and helped to save hundreds of animals). Since then, the CAAT has provide spay and neuter clinics in Fiji and the Northwest Territories and has made efforts to include animals and pets in emergency evacuation procedures in BC. More info can be found at http:// www.caat-canada.org

Deanne is the proud mom of six-year-old Brooke and three-year-old Lucas and is currently organizing a Human Vaccine Clinic for Rabies in the lower mainland of BC, in conjunction with the Public Health Department. While there is no great risk in the lower mainland, but there have been reported cases in the wilderness areas. Since people live such active out-door lifestyles with their pets, there is some potential for exposure.

Deanna misses Nova Scotia tremendously and truly values her experience as a student at NSAC. She is proud to have been part of such a ground-breaking institution and wishes NSAC the best in the future.

Atlantic Poultry Research Centre

A reality on NSAC campus



The Atlantic Poultry Research Centre on the campus of Nova Scotia Agricultural College officially opened its doors on Wednesday, May 30th. The Centre, valued at $9.8 million, will provide teaching and research capabilities in all phases of poultry production from hatching to value-added product processing.

"We are very excited with the opening of this important research facility," said Agriculture Minister Brooke Taylor. "We know the importance of good nutrition, high quality products and rigorous food safety practices. Along with these priorities the Centre will also look at innovative research opportunities for our province and region."

This state-of-the-art facility will allow fundamental research on nutrition, physiology, poultry product quality, food safety and poultry waste management while providing opportunities for the development of new and innovative research directions important to support key regional and national priorities.

"This new facility will provide researchers at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College with a world-class environment to advance their groundbreaking work in the field of poultry production," said Dr. Eliot Phillipson, President and CEO of the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). "The transformative research that will take place here will have an impact not just in Canada, but around the world."

At the core of the research facilities is a complex that will house poultry under research conditions with state-of-the-art environmental controls and computerized data collection to facilitate good science. Phase II will involve a transformation of the current feed mill into a nutrition complex capable of large and small batch mixing and commercial-style pelleting of feeds. Phase III will see a new fully functional hatchery for generating research stock and a federally inspected processing facility to support food safety and meat quality research.

"The type of applied research that NSAC is so well-known for is epitomized by this wonderful new Poultry Research Centre," said NSAC President Dr. T. Philip Hicks. "Without the support and encouragement of our industrial partners we wouldn't be here today. Once again, NSAC charts the way for research and innovation."

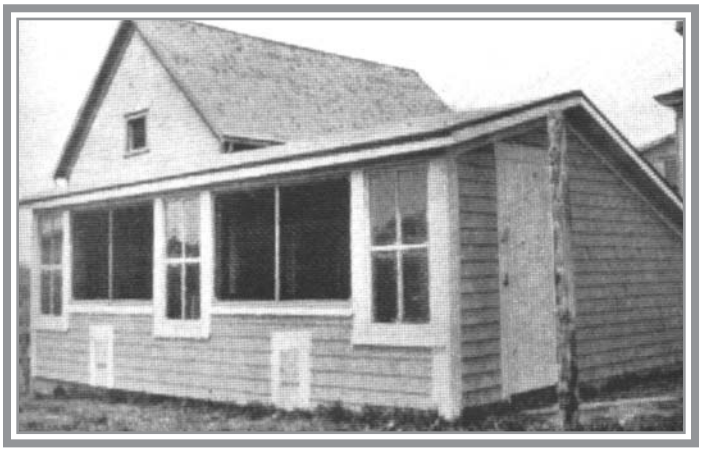
The sod was officially turned for the poultry centre on December 7th, 2005 with a great crowd in attendance.

Funding for the 3000 square metre Centre has been made possible through funds allocated by the Province of Nova Scotia, the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Nova Scotia Research & Innovation Trust. Additional funds have been generously provided by the National and Atlantic Feather industries, Atlantic provincial governments and various individual donors.

Participating in the official ribbon cutting May 30th, 2007 included Mr. Mike Dungate, GM, Chicken Farmers of Canada, Dr. Philip Hicks, NSAC President, Hon. Brooke Taylor, Minister, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Mr. Ross McCurdy, Canada Foundation for Innovation Director

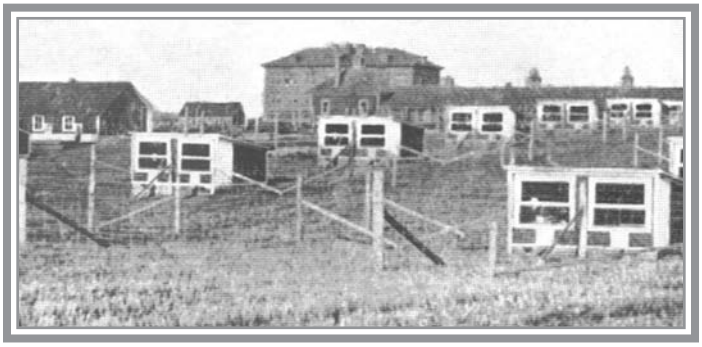
History of Poultry Research at NSAC

Teaching and research activities related to poultry have been ongoing at Nova Scotia Agricultural College since the early 1900s.



A traditional poultry house designed and demonstrated by NSAC's Professor Landry. Circa 1917.

The Poultry department at NSAC under the supervision of professor Joseph Landry was very innovative in extending information on poultry raising beyond the campus Professor Landry organized the first Nova Scotia egg laying contest to help identify and promote high producing birds. In 1919 and in response to requests from the Nova Scotia Poultry Association, 30 pens were constructed to accommodate five hens or pullets each. Thirty entries of five birds from owners in many parts of the province were accepted for trails each year. Professor Landry also regularly supplied settings of eggs to school clubs in



Nova Scotia Egg Laying pens in NSAC poultry yards. Thirty pens housed five hens or pullets each from owners in many parts of the province. Circa 1919.

Nova Scotia. He also gave extension lectures and reported on research projects at meetings of agricultural societies and farmers institutes.

The Poultry supply house was added to the farm complex in 1923 and was used for storage, instruction and demonstration projects until the 1960s.

During World War II, several efforts were made to improve the work environments on local farms where women were taking an increasing amount of leadership. The agricultural engineers ,under the leadership of Professor Angus Banting, focused their creativity on the challenge of improving the messy and unpleasant task of plucking chickens. A unique machine was invented and on July 4, 1944, a patent was obtained.

This poultry supply house was added to NSAC farm in 1923 and was used for storage,instruction and demonstration projects until the 1960s.

In the early 1960s new Poultry facilities were constructed on campus. Poultry I housed the Heritage poultry flocks. Four breeds of chickens, once common on Canadian farms, were maintained as part of a national program for conservation of farm animal biodiversity. Poultry II contained a 1450 hen layer room and floor areas for growing out broilers and turkeys. The floor growing areas consist of a number of small pens for research and/or student projects. Incubation facilities were located in another building on campus.

Poultry I and Poultry 11 provided the facilities for various research over the next several decades including AI techniques, fertility, nutrition, computerized environmental control systems and much more.

In 1989 the Atlantic Poultry Research Institute was established through collaboration between the poultry industry of Atlantic Canada and regional, provincial and federal institutions involved in poultry research and is housed on the university's campus.

Today The Atlantic Poultry Research Centre, valued at $9.8 million, will provide teaching and research capabilities in all phases of poultry production from hatching to value-added product processing.

This state-of-the-art facility will allow fundamental research on nutrition, physiology, poultry product quality, food safety and poultry waste management while providing opportunities for the development of new and innovative research directions important to support key regional and national priorities.

Poultry Research at NSAC

Graduate student sees potential in using by-products from Atlantic shellfish industry as alternative feed ingredient for laying hens.

According to NSAC graduate student Michelle Daniel, the secret to obtaining a good quality egg shell is sufficient calcium. Laying hens need a certain amount of calcium in order to prevent a soft shell or cracks in the shell. To meet the calcium requirement for shell quality, bird diets generally contain powdered limestone or a mixture of limestone and oyster shell. However, one of the biggest issues with oyster shell is that it costs approximately three times that of limestone. Hence, an alternative calcium source is warranted.

Michelle's research program was funded by the Graduate Research Training Initiative Scholarship Program under the federal-provincial-territorial Agricultural Policy Framework (APF), 2003-2008. The APF is funded by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture. The purpose of this initiative is to provide financial support to graduate students at NSAC whose research will benefit the Nova Scotia agriculture and agri-food industry. This initiative is intended to encourage qualified students to undertake graduate studies thus building a professional capacity to meet the future needs of Nova Scotia's agri-food industry.

Michelle Daniel

Since I've arrived at NSAC, I've had the opportunity to attend various conferences within Canada where I was able to interact with industry and communicate my research.

Michelle, a native of Herman's Island, NS, says that previous studies evaluating shellfish by-products as calcium sources for laying hens in Atlantic Canada are very limited. Her current project investigates the use of local by-products from the Atlantic shellfish industry as possible feed ingredients for laying hens under the supervision of Dr. Derek Anderson, Professor of Nutrition at NSAC.

A regional company in New Brunswick provided Michelle with the shellfish by-products for her experiment. One of her main objectives was to determine the effectiveness of crab and lobster meal as alternative feed ingredients for laying hens by evaluating their effects on productive performance and egg quality; specifically the composition and structural integrity of the eggs and calcium utilization by the hen.

Barn trials were conducted that involved a full-cycle production study that finished in August 2006 and took approximately 32 weeks. The control hens were fed a regular diet of oyster shell and limestone and the others were fed a diet supplemented with either lobster meal, crab meal or a combination of the both. In this trial, Michelle specifically investigated egg yolk pigmentation and egg specific gravity. The specific gravity test is an indicator of egg shell quality and Michelle found no difference between the control diet and test diets. The egg yolk colour yielded some interesting results, as the crab and lobster meal have red pigments which showed up in the yolk.

"One of the more interesting results discovered was the red pigment astazanthin that is present in lobster and crab meal which was transferred to the egg yolk," says Michelle. "The red pigment is also an anti-oxidant, so it would be interesting to test the levels to see if these anti-oxidant properties were transferred to the egg yolk. There could be an opportunity to produce value-added eggs."

Michelle also conducted an in vitro solubility study for calcium utilization, testing different types of shells of various local by-products of the Atlantic shellfish industry as potential feed ingredients for laying hens. Other calcium sources were analyzed for their calcium solubility, including commercial oyster shell, commercial ground limestone, surf clam shells, blue mussel shells, scallop shells and soft shell clams.

"The solubility study basically mimicked the bird's digestive system," says Michelle. "We weighed the shells before placing them in a hydrochloric acid solution and weighed them after a 24-hour period. From here, we evaluated the percentage of calcium that disappeared and relate it to how well we think the hen will utilize these ingredients as sources of calcium for egg shell deposition."

Results from the solubility test showed that many of the shells were in fact comparable to the conventional oyster shell. However, Michelle says that more research with production trials are necessary in order to determine if there is a similar in vivo degradation pattern throughout the laying cycle of the hen.

When asked about NSAC, Michelle had a lot of praise for the institution. "Since I've arrived at NSAC, I've had the opportunity to attend various conferences within Canada where I was able to interact with industry and communicate my research. I was awarded second place in the poster presentations in the graduate student research presentation at the annual meeting of the Canadian Society of Animal Science held in Halifax in August 2006."

The research facilities provide another incentive for attending NSAC. The opening of the Atlantic Poultry Research Centre, provides a world-class facility for poultry research. While Michelle has already finished her lab work, she says "Some of my results are already being formulated into new projects, which will benefit from this facility."

Alumni Perspectives

Kimberly Sheppard, Class of 1998

I feel that my training at NSAC set the stage for an interesting and dynamic career in animal sciences.

1. How did the education you received at NSAC help you further your career?

I was enrolled in the B.Sc. program with a major in Animal Science at NSAC. Coming from a hobby farm with a menagerie of animals from turkeys to goats, rabbits and even an orphaned skunk and fawn, I developed an appreciation for animals at an early age and especially for animal behavior. It was in Tarjei Tennessen's applied animal behavior class that I realized animal behavior was a real science and that the application of this science went beyond the fundamental workings of animals. I soon learned that understanding animal behavior could lead me into the world of animal welfare and into a respected and balanced career focused on improving the lives of animals we use everyday. I remember writing a literature review based on the work of Jeff Rushen and Anne Marie dePassier as part of a class assignment for Dr. Tennessen, which covered stress and stress physiology and I was hooked. Dr. Tennessen's class changed the course of my career. I feel that my training at NSAC set the stage for an interesting and dynamic career in animal sciences with a special focus on improving the lives of animals through animal science in general and especially animal welfare science. The training I received at NSAC helped to build a solid foundation that now allows me to branch out into a variety of areas, understand a variety of issues at farm and industry level, as well as the research and methodologies required to address these issues and advance animal agriculture for the better. The roles I am currently in allow a perfect fusion of the two. I feel privileged to now be in positions where I can use creativity to disseminate information from the research community back to where it can truly make a difference: industry and the public.

2. What do you think the Atlantic Poultry Research Centre at NSAC means to future students and the research community at large?

I had the privilege of touring the Atlantic Poultry Research Centre during its Grand Opening and was very impressed at the scale and the versatility of the Centre. From the fully automated environmental controls, to the fully adaptable rooms and housing facilities and the enriched colony cages, the NSAC has designed a very forward-thinking and versatile facility. Students studying poultry science, be it in animal nutrition, physiology, genetics, or welfare, now have an excellent facility in which to conduct their studies. I hope the establishment of the APRC will continue to attract excellent faculty for years to come, will aid in the production of quality research and that the research community in general benefits from collaborations with a poultry group that has new opportunities for research.

Biography:

After completing her Masters in Applied Ethology, Kimberly worked for almost a year at the Cambridge Humane Society as Community Relations Coordinator, before being hired as a research assistant in Dr. Suzanne Millman's Ethology Lab at the Ontario Veterinary College. During her three-year term in the Ethology Lab, she took on the role of Communication's Coordinator for the Col. Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare. She remains in this role currently, which involves education and outreach based on the results of research and various activities of the Centre. Kimberly also works as a Research Coordinator for the Poultry Industry Council for Research and Education.

Gerry Kennie , Class of 1986

I often credit my experiences at AC as providing the basis of my growth and development.

1. How did the education you received at NSAC help you further your career?

From a relatively early age, I knew I wanted to work in the agricultural industry. It seemed a natural fit to attend NSAC for my post-secondary education. The education I received supplied me with a foundation of knowledge that I have applied throughout my career. The learned, often scientific, information has proven invaluable for understanding processes and problem solving. The more subtle learning process of being open-minded, thinking critically when necessary and interacting with people was not as apparent at the time I attended NSAC as it has been since I have progressed in my career. Now, I often credit my experiences at AC as providing the basis of my growth and development, both personally and professionally.

2. What do you think the Atlantic Poultry Research Centre at NSAC means to future students and the research community at large?

The production of food has become very intensive and one of the key ingredients to being competitive from a business point of view is the ability to gather and apply knowledge. Having a modern, sophisticated facility such as the APRC will expose students to leading edge management practices used in the poultry industry. It will give them a reason to be excited about entering the industry from a career standpoint. Research is the beginning stage of progressive change. Without proper facilities and equipment, the research required to move industry and society ahead is not possi-

Continued on the next page

ble. The Centre will attract and retain quality researchers who will be able to do valuable work. The APRC will enable accurate, science-based research and teaching to occur that will benefit the research community and industry, both here in Atlantic Canada as well as the rest of Canada.

Biography:

Gerry Kennie is Vice President of Agriculture for ACA Co-operative Limited. Currently, Gerry is Director of the Atlantic Poultry Research Institute, Chair of the Canadian Hatchery Federation, Director and Treasurer of the Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council and a member of the Pricing and License Advisory Committees of the Chicken Farmers of Nova Scotia.

Alex Oderkirk, Class of 1973

I look forward to the days ahead as this facility erupts into a buzzing hub of poultry activity

1. How did the education you received at NSAC help further your career?

I'm a '73 NSAC graduate under the old B.Sc .(Agr) program (three years NSAC and two years Macdonald College). NSAC hands-on/discover-by-doing attitude solidified my path in continued studies and sparked my interest in animal science research, though poultry interests and career hatched at Macdonald College. Over the years work has spanned areas of poultry production, management and sharing poultry expertise as a specialist/consultant. Continuing development and involvement in poultry research, through the Atlantic Poultry Research Institute (APRI), the NSAC, the former Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Marketing and AgraPoint have helped keep clients at the leading edge of today's agriculture.

2. What do you think the APRC means to future students and the research community at large?

For any student or graduate, involved or looking to be involved in the poultry industry, the APRC becomes the focal point for training, research and staying current. Like many involved in the Atlantic poultry industry, to see the APRC open is absolutely phenomenal. Over the years a number of NSAC graduates have sat on the APRI Board and worked diligently on this project. Many attended the APRC opening and seemed very pleased with the new facility.

APRI's continuing and dedicated effort to ensure a full complement of research and staff, will use the APRC to draw students and research partners not only from here in the Atlantic Region but nationally/internationally. The APRC places APRI, NSAC and AAFC at the forefront for poultry research in Canada. This multi-faceted facility broadens the research capabilities where a multitude of disciplines will find the APRC very useful in pursuing research interests.

To be a student at NSAC, this state-of-the-art facility provides leading edge technologies and practices that will amply prepare them for not only the poultry industry, but for any field of agriculture or food production where food safety, animal care, bio-security, health and the environment are paramount. By implementing a secure facility design, practical protocols and using current and futuristic technologies, the teaching of students, graduate student work and research make the APRC a world class facility.

I look forward to the days ahead as this facility erupts into a buzzing hub of poultry activity where students, staff, researchers and the poultry industry and stakeholders realize the opportunities the APRC opens and the full potential of APRC is realized.

Biography:

Alex provides professional advice to farming operations in all aspects of poultry and fur production at Agrapoint. He specializes in poultry and animal health, food safety, bio-security, technology transfer, extension education, nutrition management, environmental control/ventilation and innovation application. In 2005 he was named as a "Who's Who" in the Canadian poultry industry by Canadian Poultrymen magazine.

Faculty & Staff: *Atlantic Poultry Research Centre*

Kristen Doncaster

"The new Atlantic Poultry Research Centre will support high quality poultry research and help bring NSAC and the Atlantic poultry industry into the spotlight. The Centre will allow new and existing students to experience a state-of-the-art production facility and will give them a competitive edge as they go on to join the work force or further their education."

Area of expertise:

Kristen works for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada as a Research Technician in support of Dr. Bruce Rathgeber's poultry program. She has a B.Sc. in Agriculture (NSAC) and an M.Sc. in Animal Nutrition (Dal). Her area of expertise is laboratory analysis, although she is looking forward to gaining more hands-on experience with the birds in the new centre.

Bruce Rathgeber

"The Atlantic Poultry Research Centre will raise the profile of NSAC as one of the premiere universities to receive education and conduct research in agricultural sciences. The new Poultry Centre is a sophisticated laboratory space that will provide researchers in Atlantic Canada with the tools needed to be on the leading edge of poultry research for the foreseeable future. This Centre will be a magnet for people from around the world interested in advanced training in various disciplines of science using poultry as the species of choice."

Area of expertise:

Bruce's area of expertise is the manipulation of poultry management and nutrition to improve the quality and safety of meat and egg products.

Ron Mekers

"I think the new poultry unit gives NSAC an opportunity to attract more students and researchers. As well, the excellent facility should help to attract more research dollars to our institution and the quality of our research will be second to none."

Area of expertise:

Ron is the poultry unit manager for the Atlantic Poultry Research Centre. His expertise is being able to take an idea that a researcher has dreamed up for poultry and running a trial in the new facility that meets the researcher's objectives.

Derek Anderson

"With this new Atlantic Poultry Research Centre facility, NSAC is better equipped to support the poultry industry in Atlantic Canada and make a larger contribution to poultry science in Canada as a whole. With commitment of adequate support for the human and material needs of this facility, NSAC and its partners can make this a 'state-of-the-art' teaching and research facility capable of nurturing the next generation of poultry scientists."

Area of expertise:

Derek's area of expertise is poultry nutrition and metabolism.

Janice MacIsaac

"The Atlantic Poultry Research Centre will provide NSAC with excellent facilities to conduct research on laying hens, chickens as well as turkeys from day one through to processing, a capability which we have not had before. The new facility will also provide students with the opportunity to learn about poultry husbandry with state-of-the-art equipment along with new procedures used in the poultry industry such as intense biosecurity measures."

Area of expertise:

Janice's area of expertise is poultry production and nutrition.

Donors

This facility would not have become a reality without the generous support of the many organizations and donors who felt it a worthwhile project. *(in alphabetical order)*

Government and Institutional Support

Canada Foundation for Innovation
Government of Canada
Government of New Brunswick
Government of Newfoundland & Labrador
Government of Nova Scotia
Government of Prince Edward Island
Nova Scotia Agricultural College
Nova Scotia Research and Innovation Trust

Industry Support

Agri-Adapt Council Inc. (NL)
Agri-Futures Nova Scotia
Atlantic Poultry Research Institute
Atlantic Provinces Hatchery Federation
Canadian Egg Marketing Agency
Chicken Farmers of Canada
Chicken Farmers of New Brunswick
Chicken Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador
Chicken Farmers of Nova Scotia
Chicken Farmers of Prince Edward Island
Egg Producers of Newfoundland and Labrador
Egg Producers of Prince Edward Island
New Brunswick Egg Producers
Nova Scotia Egg Producers
Nova Scotia Turkey Producers Marketing Board
Turkey Farmers of New Brunswick
Poultry Industry Council

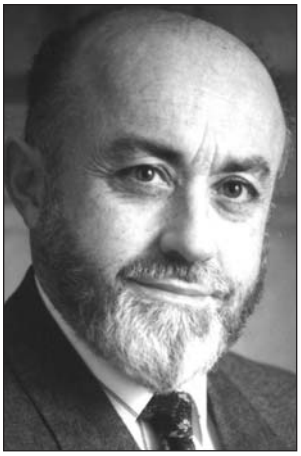
Corporate Support

ACA Cooperative Ltd.
Atlantic Systematic Envelopes Ltd.
Canadian Poultry Magazine
Farm Focus of Atlantic Canada
Merial Canada Inc.
Scotia Poultry Farm Ltd.
Specht-Canada Inc.
Tartan Advanced Poultry Management Systems
Willowdale Farms Inc.
Maple Leaf Poultry
LBJ Farm Equipment
Continental Poultry
Sani-MarcMenkhorst Farm Ltd.
Bourgeois Poultry Ltd.
Round Hill Poultry Ltd.
Seaview Poultry Ltd.
Quebec Farmers Advocate

Individual Support

Stuart F. Allaby
Dr. Harold & Marion Chute & Family
Donald Clark
Dr. Erroll Hancock
Dick Huggard
Bill & Mary Swetnam
Peter and Margaret Trenholm
(In Memory of Dr. Wes & Millie Trenholm)
Kevin Rathgeber
Mr. Keith Fancy
Dr. Roger B. Buckland

A Passion for Politics



Dr. Hulan received the rank of Principal Research Scientist in 1986, the highest level possible within the research scientist category in Canada.

Howard Winston (Bud) Hulan, a native of Jeffrey's, Newfoundland, received an associate degree from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in 1963. He then graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture in 1965 from MacDonald College, McGill University. He received his Masters of Science degree in Nutrition from MacDonald College in 1968. He then went on to receive his Ph.D degree in Nutritional Biochemistry from the University of Maine in 1971 and was awarded the Fred W. Griffee Outstanding Graduate Student Award.

Dr. Roger Buckland, a friend of Dr. Hulan's said, "Bud is so full of enthusiasm that I often tease him that he really should be in politics. I sometimes think that that is his first love." Dr. Buckland was right. In 1993, Dr. Hulan became a member of the Newfoundland House of Assembly, representing his home district of St. George's, under the leadership of the Honourable Clyde Wells. Dr. Hulan was appointed Minister of Fisheries, Food and Agriculture. He left the political arena in 1996 when his district was amalgamated with the district of Stephenville. Dr. Hulan then returned to his research and teaching at Memorial.

Dr. Hulan took sabbatical leave in 1999 to continue his studies on the biochemical effects of the Omega-3 fatty acids from Newfoundland seal oil at the Veterinary University of Vienna in Austria. Since then, he has returned to Vienna and the University of Ancona in Italy for three to four months every summer to continue his research with his colleagues. This summer, from May to August, Dr. Hulan will join a colleague at the FREIE University in Berlin, Germany to continue with this research. He will return to Memorial University in September to continue teaching.

For a complete profile on Dr. Bud Hulan, please visit:
http://nsac.ca/alumni/profiles/

Beautiful Brazil

Amy Sangster ,Class of 1999 & Heather-Anne Grant, Class of 1998.

Early in the morning of May 16 we found ourselves in the Halifax airport checking our luggage for a one month adventure that lay ahead of us.

Thanks to the Rotary Club of Truro and the Rotary International Foundation, we were on our way to Brazil for a once in a lifetime opportunity. We were part of Rotary District 7820's 2007 Group Study Exchange (GSE). The GSE program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange open to young professional men and women between the ages of 25 and 40. The program provides travel grants for teams to exchange visits between paired areas in different countries. For four to six weeks, team members experience the host country's institutions and ways of life, observe their own vocations as practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships and exchange ideas.

The Rotary Clubs of District 4700, South Eastern Brazil in the state of Rio Grande do Sul were our hosts. These people were incredible! They welcomed us into their homes, showcased their Rotary Clubs' community projects and delivered us a professional program that took us to farms, producer cooperatives, processors and agricultural research and educational institutes.

Brazil's traditional agricultural markets include soybean, coffee, sugarcane and cocoa. As a reflection of changing consumer tastes, the country's greatest rate of growth is being observed in the livestock sectors of poultry, pork and dairy. Target markets for Brazilian pork and poultry include Japan, Russia, Hong Kong and the European Union. Brazil is also investing heavily in wheat and viticulture. Brazil wants to become self-sufficient in wheat production- it currently imports 50 per cent of national consumption. The area surrounding the city of Bento Goncalves is establishing itself as an agri-tourism destination based on its vineyards and winery sector. Corn production is also increasing in Brazil, but not as a result of the demand for bio-fuels, rather due to improved technology and genetics. It is interesting to note that for two decades now, 90 per cent of Brazilian agriculture has been no-till- the primary reason for adoption is to prevent soil erosion.

The GSE Team: (L-R) Nola Seabright, Ann Jones, Amy Sangster, Heather-Anne Grant.

We had the opportunity to tour a bio-fuels facility being constructed in the city of Passo Fundo, 'BS Bios.' It is the second biggest out of a total of 20 bio-diesel facilities in Brazil. The goal of BS Bios is to produce 10 million litres of bio-diesel per year using canola (during winter), sunflowers and fava beans. Nationally, it is projected that by January 2008 Brazil will be producing 900 million litres of bio-diesel.

The south of Brazil is a subtropical climate extremely rich in natural resources, technology and land base. The potential for the expansion and intensification of its agriculture industry is obvious. The

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The Grass is Greener in England

Carol Goodwin, an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences at NSAC, has recently returned from her 14th annual trip to Writtle College in Chelmsford, Essex, England.

Carol created a three week long NSAC credit course titled the "British Garden" in 1994 and has traveled to Writtle College with NSAC and Finnish students every May since then. This trip gives NSAC students the opportunity to compare habits of growth of plants in a European climate and a Canadian climate. "The method of gardening in England is much different than gardening in Nova Scotia," says Carol.

Carol considers the trip to Writtle College to be a life changing experience for her students. "I want my students to experience a place where horticulture and landscape is a huge part of the culture," she says. Students learn about British garden history, British gardening techniques and traditional methods, garden design and plant identification. After completing the course, her students never look at or use plants in the same way again. "In the historical gardens, we could really understand and see with our own eyes the things we had learned about at our school in Lepaa, Finland," says Kirsti Palmu, one of Carols' Finnish students. "The gardens at Writtle College are a piece of art that you could enjoy forever." The students also learned that the historical gardens of England are worth six billion pounds of income each year.

"I want my students to experience a place where horticulture and landscape is huge part of the culture."

For three weeks, students visit different gardens every day, rain or shine. "The gardens are the most colorful when it rains," says Carol. Kirsti particularly enjoyed the colors of the gardens. "The colors and combinations of the plants really impressed me," she says. "In Finland, we don't use very many purple or yellow leafed plants but at Writtle College I could see that if you have the right combination, these special colors bring brightness to the gardens." The students have the opportunity to see gardeners at work as well. In England, gardeners seldom use machinery. They rely on tradition and often use hand tools to dig and turn over the soil. They believe that the work done by machinery is inadequate compared to the work done by humans. "The gardeners in England have a very different and strong work ethic that is part of their tradition," says Carol. "It is a real eye-opener for students." In fact, Carol and her students have visited complex gardens that cover up to 40 acres of land and only two gardeners care for them.

"In terms of environmental concerns and awareness, Europe is far ahead of Canada."

In addition to British gardening tradition and plant identification, students learn about conservation and come back with a new outlook on the environment. "In terms of environmental concerns and awareness, Europe is far ahead of Canada," says Carol. Peat moss is commonly used in Canada but many garden centres in Europe have a policy of being "peat free." They do not use peat moss because it is an unsustainable and non-renewable resource, and harvesting it threatens a special natural habitat in the United Kingdom. Instead, they use coconut fibre because it is a cost effective waste product that is easy to come across. By purchasing it, they have created a side industry in third world countries. In Europe, they use biodegradable containers, green roof technology and water recycling. There is a law where runoff water from new and large buildings cannot leave the site. Every new building has its own artificial wetland where all runoff water is filtered and then reused for irrigation or is treated and released back into nature. "By taking this course my students learn about these innovative solutions to environmental issues long before these issues are raised in Canada," says Carol.

Carol (in the white circle) and her students created chicken sculptures from the simple raw material of chicken wire. These sculptures were then placed on the grounds at Writtle College.

"By taking this course my students learn about these innovative solutions to environmental issues long before these issues are raised in Canada."

This year as part of the study tour module, Carol and her students explored the role and placement of sculpture in the landscape. They also studied the creation of a sculpture and how a sculpture could change the space into which it was placed. For one project, Carol and her students created chicken sculptures from the simple raw material of chicken wire. These sculptures were then placed on the grounds at Writtle College.

Although Carol travels to Writtle College every year and sees the same gardens every time, she says it never gets boring. "Gardens never stand still," she says. "They grow and evolve as gardeners become more aware of environmental concerns and new design innovation. Carol also never gets tired of watching her students enjoy the gardens. "Their wonder keeps it fresh and exciting," she says.

Carol decided to create the British Garden course after meeting Mark Lyne. He is a professor at Writtle College and was visiting agricultural colleges around the world to see how subject areas were taught and to also share his ideas. He was hosted by NSAC in

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Canadian Dairy Commission Scholarship Program

The Research & Graduate Studies office and NSAC are pleased to announce a new scholarship, the Canadian Dairy Commission Scholarship Program. The purpose of this scholarship is to support high caliber students who are registered in a research-based graduate program at NSAC and who are conducting a thesis research project that has application to the dairy industry and is in one of the following areas: agricultural economics and policy, food/dairy science, or animal science.

The value of the awards is $20,000 per year for up to two years. In addition, students who receive the scholarship may apply for a one-time additional sum of $5000 for travel costs to further their education or research program on the advice of their thesis supervisor. Recipients of this award must register as full-time students in the M.Sc. Program in Agriculture at NSAC.

To be eligible for support, applicants must:

- Be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada;
- Be admissible to pursue graduate studies at NSAC;
- Have obtained a first-class average (a grade of 'A-' in each of the last two completed years of study, regardless of the number of credits completed; and
- Intend to pursue graduate-level research in one of the following areas:
  - Agricultural economics and policy
  - Food/dairy science
  - Animal science

All thesis research projects must have application to the dairy industry.

Who is Eligible to Apply for Support at the Master's Level?

To obtain support at the Master's Level, applicants must meet the eligibility criteria listed above and have completed as of December 31 of the year of application, no more than the full-time equivalent of 12 months of studies in the Master's program for which they are requesting funding. Thus, eligible applicants include students who:

- Have completed a Bachelor's degree and have not yet registered in a graduate program at NSAC
- Are in their final year of their Bachelor's program
- Are in a qualifying year of study, or
- Are in the first year of their Master's program

Note: Students who have not yet registered in the Master's program at NSAC prior to receiving an award may elect to take up their scholarship in January, May or September in the calendar year fol-

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Research... is a responsibility to serve and care for the earth, environment and humanity as a whole; not just a job"— *Rajasekaran Lada*

"These days qualifications and participation are just not enough, the key for all researchers is passion, patience and persistence," says Dr. Rajasekaran Lada, a professor at NSAC.

A large part of Dr. Lada's research involves working with growers, processors and industry executives to show them how science can be applied to agricultural issues. He explains that the work of a plant physiologist is quite similar to that of a doctor. "Where a physician needs to know human anatomy to understand and treat diseases, a plant physiologist does the same for plants," says Dr. Lada.

You might ask yourself what do carrots, Christmas trees and rhubarb all have in common? For Dr. Lada, the link is that they have all attracted his interest and have become the subjects of his research.

"Where a physician needs to know human anatomy to understand and treat diseases, a plant physiologist does the same for plants."

To Dr. Lada, plant physiology is a fascinating field and he decided to look at carrot physiology to better understand what makes them grow. A few questions that he is working on are: What controls the root development? What compounds help to enhance growth? How can we improve carrot production per acre?

Nova Scotia's carrot processing industry is the largest in Canada producing nearly 60 million pounds of carrots per year. However, even though Nova Scotia supplies the world with its most preferred, sweet carrots, the industry often faces challenges due to the unpredictable quantity and quality of the carrots produced. Crop competition for resources such as light, nutrients, moisture and other factors, such as carbon dioxide levels and temperature can all influence yield and quality. Dr. Lada has been working with carrot growers for many years to improve carrot yield and quality based on environmentally-friendly scientific techniques.

Dr. Lada's Rhubarb Research Program (RRP) was established in 2004 and sponsored by Knol Farms Limited and Nova Scotia Agriculture. Rhubarb is a new crop for Nova Scotia, with only 45-50 hectares being harvested at this time. However, it has great potential as rhubarb contains phytonutrients that act as anti-oxidants and

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Atlantic Agricultural Science & Communication Workshop 2007

atlantic agricultural science & communication workshop

Book your calendar today as you will want to be first in line to take in the events at the Atlantic Agricultural Science and Communication Workshop (AASCW 2007) being held on the NSAC campus November 15th and 16th, 2007.

This workshop brings together a range of agri-food professionals and practitioners to focus on broad issues and information of current interest. It is a must for those who want to remain current in the science and technology of agriculture and food. For those who are interested in agricultural innovation and the emerging bio-economy, it simply can't be missed. Plan now to attend a forum for dialogue on new information and issues affecting the research, extension, infrastructure and private industry initiatives in our Atlantic agricultural and agri-food systems. Researchers, farm leaders, educators, extension workers, entrepreneurs, agri-food firms and services and students will participate in this workshop.

"With the demise of the Atlantic Agriculture Coordinating Committees, this workshop is meant to be an alternate venue to increase communication, cooperation and coordination in agriculture and related areas across the region. The goal of this workshop is to make sure that this region works together, communicates together and doesn't duplicate effort," says Dr. Claude Caldwell, co-chair of the AASCW.

"The goal of this workshop is to make sure that this region works together, communicates together and doesn't duplicate effort."

"The AASCW highlights new opportunities in agriculture related areas and rural development. The workshop gives people the chance to network across the Atlantic region, hear about successes in other places similar to our region and to learn from these successes to build better value chains and communities as well as safer food systems."

The theme for AASCW 2007 is Atlantic Bio-Renaissance: Health is our Future Wealth. This theme highlights three innovative sub-themes which will enable participants to develop new insights, network with colleagues and discuss future strategies that will have an impact on agri-business development.

"The AASCW is an Atlantic initiative. NSAC is facilitating it but it is Atlantic in scope," says Dr. Caldwell. "Bio-Renaissance speaks to the idea of the rebirth of the region using the bio-economy to work with communities and across commodities and provinces. Agriculture is people-centered and rural-centered and having a healthy population and community as well as healthy relationships between rural and urban, will be key to our success in the region."

The sub-themes are Bio-fuels, Rural health and agricultural safety and Food and the value chain. These sub-themes have been identified as prominent areas that will play a significant role in the future agriculture opportunities and challenges throughout our region. Bio-fuels is a timely subject because there are opportunities now to use bio-economy and technology to replace fossil fuels and to see how it affects the community.

"Often, in a value chain, the producers don't make enough money or their product is not developed enough so we end up exporting raw materials but we want economic spin-off and we want to export final products."

"We can look at this from a technical side and a social side," says Dr. Caldwell. The rural health and agricultural safety theme is about pulling in the number of AASCW partners in public health, environment, and water. Food and the value chain was also chosen as a sub-theme this year because rather than looking at the technology of food production or food to fork or soil to shelf, the workshop will look at how to make systems work.

"Often, in a value chain, the producers don't make enough money or their product is not developed enough so we end up exporting raw materials but we want economic spin-off and we want to

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Rock Garden Road... It is now official!

Darwin Carr of the NSAC Grounds Department and Dr. Bernard Jackson proudly erected the new Rock Garden Road sign this summer.

NSAC Administration renamed Tower Road on the NSAC campus to Rock Garden Road. This change was made to alleviate confusion over a second Tower Road in the Truro Power Centre.

Having two Tower Roads in the community led to confusion for delivery people and the general public, as well as caused a potential safety concern for emergency workers.

Rock Garden Road also better reflects the substantial addition of the NSAC Rock Garden to the beauty of the campus grounds.

NSAC adds additional value to NSAC Alumni

There are many benefits to being an alumnus of NSAC and the university is always looking for new programs and services to provide additional value to our alumni.

That is why we are so pleased to announce that NSAC and TD Meloche Monnex have recently signed an agreement to provide a group home and auto insurance program for alumni and staff of NSAC. Serving professionals and alumni since 1949, TD Meloche Monnex is Canada's leading provider of group home and auto insurance and is the logical solution for members of select professional associations as well as university and college alumni groups. They offer an array of high-quality home and auto insurance products and members can enjoy savings through preferred group rates. TD Meloche Monnex insurance programs are sponsored by over 200 councils, orders, professional associations, university and college alumni as well as university associations.

TD Meloche Monnex has an excellent reputation for high caliber and professional service which is why NSAC feels confident in recommending them to our alumni and staff. They promise exceptional service and superior value which means an extended range of products and a level of service that ensures your satisfaction.

Over the next few months you will receive more detailed information about the insurance program from NSAC and a request to allow TD Meloche Monnex to give you a quote for your insurance needs. You are under no commitment or obligation and if you do not wish to be contacted again on the topic, simply let them know.

(LtoR) Scott Grant, Manager, Affinity Market Group, Jean R.Lachance, Chairman, Affinity Market Group, Serge Godbout, Vice President, Affinity Market Group and Jim Goit, Executive Director Development and External Relations, NSAC.

Results will vary from one person to another however, early indications from staff who have already received a quote show that TD Meloche Monnex offers significant savings. We encourage you to give it a try.

Additional details on the programs and incentives are available at any time by connecting to the special NSAC section on the TD Meloche Monnex website TDMelocheMonnex.com/nsac or calling 1-800-339-1847.

NSAC - **Who** we are and **Wha**t we do

You may notice a difference in the types of marketing activities and creative NSAC is choosing to use this year as part of its 2007 marketing campaign.

Part of this shift is because of our objectives as a university and as a business line. Another part has to do with attempting to use our limited resources in the most efficient manner possible. But the main reason for the shift has to due with our continued learning of who we are and who the students are that we attract. Marketing is a relatively new activity at NSAC and we continue to evolve this function as our learning increases.

We used a number of tools over the past year to help increase our understanding of the people that choose NSAC. At the start of the school year we conducted a first year student survey. This was the third year that this survey has been used so trends are starting to develop in the results. This is a tool that helps us learn about our first year class from how they heard about us to their favorite type of music (it's country, in case you were wondering).

This year we also invested in a tool called the University Applicant Survey, which a number of universities from across the country use to help them learn about people they attract and would like to attract. This survey in particular has given us information around the importance of different information sources, which is truly valuable when trying to prioritize activities.

As in past years marketing has used focus groups to gather input from high school students. During the month of June three focus groups were conducted. We used this opportunity to learn about NSAC perceptions, test potential marketing activities and test three different creative concepts.

All of this information has helped guide the direction of the marketing strategy for the upcoming academic year. There will be a focus on improving the tools that were identified through the research as important. And there will be an effort to support the recruitment team by arming them with the right tools. Marketing and PR will also be working closely together. You also may notice a shift away from the use of some types of mass media in favor of grassroots activities.

Throughout the information we have been gathering one item is common. The majority of our students hear about NSAC through word-of-mouth. Word-of-mouth is one of the most trusted and important information sources for people considering post-secondary education. This is where our NSAC friends and family are helping our efforts. From another information source, the E-News, we found out that 96 per cent of alumni who responded to our poll have recommended us at some point. Thank you and please continue to

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NSAC Development and Alumni Relations

Report to Donors 2006-07

Fundraising efforts at NSAC continue to be strong and show an increasing trend over the previous five years.

Table 1: History of Donation Growth

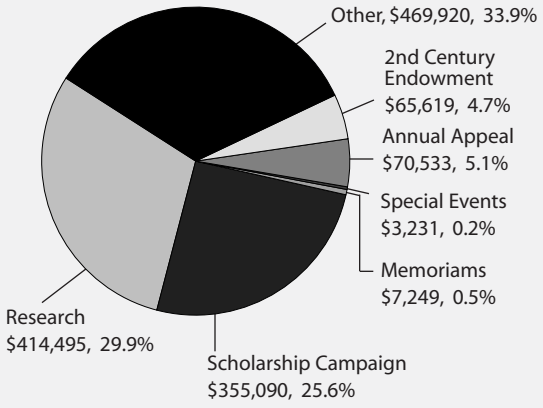
Year	# Donations	$ Total	Fund Balance	Disbursements
2006-07	702	$1,386,138	$5,696,166	$1,577,255
2005-06	1009	$2,703,971	$5,557,006	$225,792
2004-05	744	$733,965	$2,212,894	$273,563
2003-04	377	$258,262	$1,672,116	$215,259
2002-03	350	$204,671	$1,457,315	$158,425
2001-02	78	$43,105	$1,363,455	$67,649

Table 1 shows the history of donations and fund balance and disbursement over the last six years. The Foundation has been able to give an increasing amount back to NSAC for its students and programs. The NSAC Foundation's portfolio balance was $5,696,166 at March 31, 2007.

The 2006-07 fiscal year saw a more even distribution of funds from the various categories in this fiscal year. While donations in support of research continue to be important, 2006-07 showed a relative increase in donations to support specific international programs and targeted scholarships.

The NSAC Foundation has designated various methods that donations come to the university under a series of campaigns including: Annual Appeal, Second Century Endowment, Scholarship Appeal, Research Funding, Special Events and Memorials. The Other category includes transfers of funds to the Foundation for investment from other funds previously held elsewhere. As they are used to support NSAC programs, they fit the Foundation's objective. A summary of the various campaigns is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: 2006-07 Campaign Summary



The Endowment portion of the fund held by the Foundation has grown over the past four years. This is the result of both fund raising efforts and the transfer in of money that was previously managed by the NSAC Alumni Association. The amounts reported in Figure 2 are based on the calendar year end.

As important as donations are to NSAC, the real measure of the impact that the fund raising efforts are having is the amount of support that the Foundation can provide each year. Total disbursement for the year was **$1,563,755**. This is significantly greater that any previous year in the history of the Foundation. The breakdown of the disbursements from the various funds appears in Figure 3.

A total of $1,181,857 was expended in support of research projects. This is mainly due to the progress of the Atlantic Centre for Poultry Research project. Support for scholarships, bursaries and prizes was 25 per cent of the total disbursements from the fund. Several new scholarships and bursaries were initiated during the year increasing the support that will be offered to the students into the furure.

An example of support for research included $10,000 of the Class of '56 fund used to support the **Rural Water Policy Symposium Alumni Theatre, NSAC, November 8, 2006**. NSAC recognizes the considerable challenges that exist with respect to the management of water resources in our rural communities and that effective rural water management is essential to ensuring the long-term sustainability of the agricultural sector. The water policy symposium helped build knowledge within the farming community on the scientific, legislative and policy issues affecting rural water use.

Figure 2: Year Endowment Total

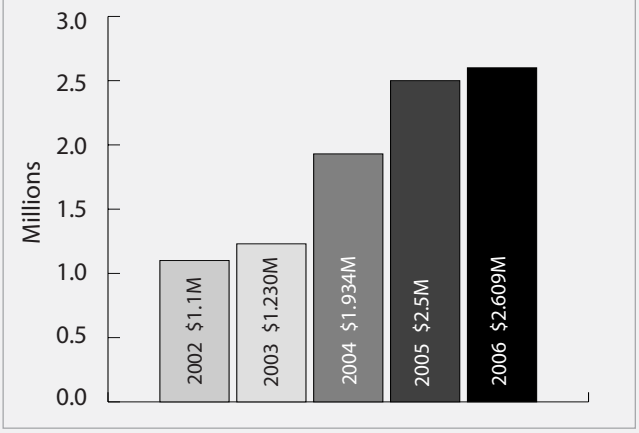
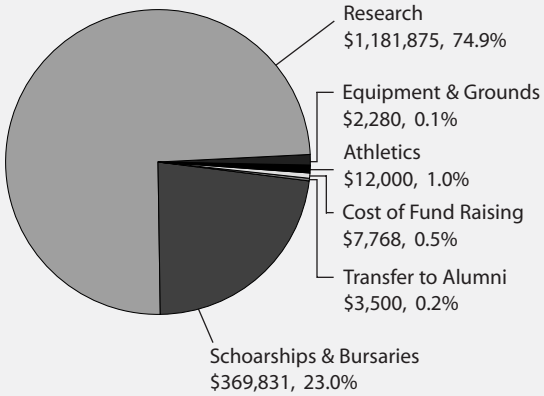
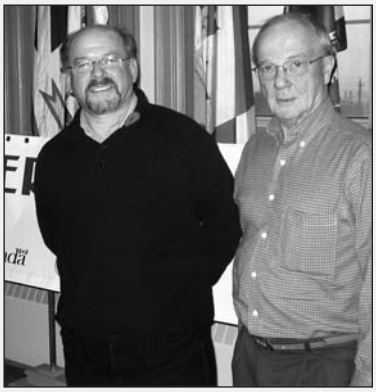


Figure 3: Disbursement Area 2006-07





Nelson Ball, Class of '56 (right) stands with John Baird, Director of the Royal District Planning Commission, Sussex NB during the Rural Water Policy Symposium held on the NSAC campus November 8, 2006. The symposium was sponsored in part by the NSAC Class of 1956, as part of their 50th anniversary activities.

Jim Goit, Executive Director, Development & External Relations, is shown offering congratulations to the 2006 recipients of the $2,500 **Renee Covill Scholarships**.

Back row—Jamie Wilt, Riverview, NB, 4th yr B. Tech. Environmental Horticulture student; Sebastian Margarit, Amherst, NS, 4th yr B.Sc.(Agr.) Plant Science student; Patrick Dunphy, Cherry Valley, PE, 4th yr B.Sc.(Agr.) Plant Science student. Front row—Barbara Fearon, Dartmouth, NS, 3rd yr B.Tech. Environmental Horticulture Technology student; and Jody Nelson, Stewiacke, NS, 3rd yr B.Sc.(Agr.) Plant Science student.

"I was notified about the scholarship at a crucial time. I was faced with dropping two of my courses for financial reasons. This scholarship will enable me to continue with my studies and I am very grateful to the Covills." Barbara Fearon

NSAC Donor Summary

Donations made between April 1, 2006 and March 31, 2007

The following is a list all those who have donated to NSAC between April 1, 2006 and March 31, 2007 arranged alphabetically by donation size range. For Donors who are alumni their class year is shown following the name. We do our best to ensure accuracy in the information however we apologize for any errors or omissions that may have occurred. (Number after name indicates Class Year for Alumni)

Planned Gifts

Mr. Peter Hamilton 1944
Mr. Malcolm MacQuarrie 1948
Mr. John Atkin

Gifts In Kind

Dupont Canada

Matching Gifts

Kraft Canada Inc.

Gifts Over $100,000

Canadian Dairy Commission
Canadian International.
Development Agency
Chicken Farmers of Canada
Nova Scotia Agricultural College
Nova Scotia Research and
Innovation Trust

$25,000 - $99,999

Chicken Farmers of Nova Scotia
Harrison Mccain Foundation
Mr. Bernard G. Kuhn 1939

$10,000 - $24,999

Mrs. Faye Cail
Dupont Canada
New Brunswick Chicken
Marketing Board
New Brunswick Egg Marketing
Board
Stuco Holdings Limited

$5,000 - $9,999

Co-op Atlantic
Mrs. Jean Irving
Mr. David H. Kuhn
PEI Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries & Forestry

$1,000 - $4,999

Ms. Tessa Aalders
ACA Cooperative
Limited/Eden Valley Farms
Limited
Mr. Stuart F. Allaby 1949
Mr. Glibert Allen 1956
Mrs. Margaret Archibald
Atlantic Fertilizer Institute
Mr. Augustus F. Butt 1956
Canadian Association of Agri-
Retailers
Chartwells
Chicken Farmers of Prince
Edward Island
Chicken Producers Association
of Nova Scotia
Mr. Robert N. Clark 1959
Cobequid Physiotherapy Inc.
Dr. William B. Collins 1946
Mr. Owen Craig 1956
Dairy Farmers of
Newfoundland and Labrador
Dairy Farmers of Nova Scotia
Mr. John E. Dalton 1971
Dykeview Farms
Egg Producers of
Newfoundland and Labrador
Egg Producers of Prince
Edward Island
Mr. Roger Ellis
Farm Credit Canada
Farmers Dairy
Mr. Gerald W. Foote 1956
Mr. Campbell Gunn 1959
Mr. Peter Y. Hamilton 1944
Mr. Dick Huggard 1956
Mrs. Jessie King
Kings Mutual Insurance
Company
L Mapplebeck & L Sanderson
1975
MER Enterprises Ltd.
New Brunswick Department of
Agriculture and Aquaculture
New Brunswick Institute of
Agrologists
Newfoundland and Labrador
Federation of Agriculture
Nova Scotia Animal Breeders
Nova Scotia Federation of
Agriculture
Nova Scotia Institute of
Agrologists
Nova Scotia Power
Incorporated
The Pepsi Bottling Group
Ms. Sherry E. Porter 1975
Dr. Robert G. Ross 1947
Rotary Club of Truro
Royal Bank of Canada
School Milk Foundation of
Newfoundland and Labrador
Inc.
Scotia Poultry Farm Ltd.
SHUR Gain Division Maple Leaf
Foods Inc.
Smucker Foods of Canada
Mr. Bill Swetnam 1956
Syngenta Pest Management
Taste of Nova Scotia Quality
Foods
Mr. & Mrs. David Thompson
1970
Mr. Harold J. Trask 1948
Peter and Margaret Trenholm
Mr. Havey Whidden
Ms. Barbara E. Whiston 1990

$250 - $999

Animal Nutrition Association of
Canada
Anonymous
Atlantic Land Improvement
Contractors Association
Atlantic Provinces Hatchery
Federation
Atlantic Rhodo and Hort Society
Mr. Douglas Bacon 1965
Mr. Ralph T. Ballam 1973
Bedford Horticulture Society
Mr. Byron E. Beeler 1956
Bible Hill Garden Club
Dr. Doug Byers 1956
Mr. James H. Card 1945
Dr. H. Garth Coffin 1960
Mr. Donald B. Cox 1976
Mr. Boyd R. Crouse 1978
Mr. Doug Crouse 1956
Dartmouth Horticultural Society
Ms. Edna Douglas
Mr. Keith R. Douglas 1965
Ms. Gisela E. Erf, 1979
Mr. Reginald D. Gilbert 1933
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Goit
Dr. Donald L. Grant 1958
Dr. Les Haley 1958
Mr. Robert W. Hanes 1949
Mr. Stephen & Mrs. Patti Healy
1973
Mrs. Edith Hudgins
Inverness County Federation of
Agriculture
Isgonish Chapter IODE
Kraft Canada Inc.
Mr. Arnold L. Lemmon 1962
Mr. Norman S. Logan 1950
Lunenburg Queens Federation of
Agriculture
Mr. George F. MacKenzie 1956
Mr. Rod & Mrs. Robin MacLennan
Dr. Ted MacNintch 1956
Mrs. Greta Mathewson
Mr. Roderick R. Nielsen1980
Nova Scotia 4-H Council
Nova Scotia Veterinary Medical
Association
NS/NF Holstein Association of
Canada
NSAC Association of Grad Students
Patterson Law
Pork Nova Scotia
Prince Edward Island Institute of
Agrologists
Prince Edward Island Potato Board
Mr. Donald A. Ramey 1959
Rix Family Farm
Ms. Martha H. Robinson 1985
Mrs. Nerenne Russell
Mr. Bill Seaman 1956
Mr. Keith Selwyn-Smith 1966
Stewiacke Valley Garden Club
Dr. Vernon R. Vickery 1947
Mr. David Webster
Wentworth Garden Club
Wesley United Church
Mr. John Wesselius 1988
Wild Blueberry Producers
Association of Nova Scotia
Dr. James M. Winmill 1948

Less than $250

Mr. William P. Abraham 1952
Mr. Robert G. Adams 1966
Agrapoint International Ltd
Mr. John W. Allan 1955
Ms. Shari D. Allan 1979
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Allen 1988
Ms. Lori L. Ansems 1994
Mr. Joyce Archibald
Mr. Marven H. Armstrong 1966
Mr. Derek & Ms. Lisa Ashworth 1997
& 1994
Mr. Roger Bacon
Mr. James G. Baillie 1974
Mr. Lorimer F. Banks 1948
Mr. G. Melvin Barclay 1961
Mr. Don Barry 1979
Mr. Nigel T. Bayliss 1982
Dr. Hubert S. Bennett 1950
Mr. David Bent
Mr. Alan H. Bentley 1959
Mr. Robert Bickerton
Mr. Donald C. Bishop 1947
Mr. Sterling Bishop 1973
Mr. William M. Bishop
Mr. Harold D. Blenkhorn 1947
Mr. Blair Bonnyman 1951
Mr. Peter W. Boswall 1981
Mr. Eric J. Bouffard 1951
Mr. Wallace C. Bowers 1945
Mr. Frank E. Boyer 1943
Mr. Andrew R. Breckon 1996
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Brennan 1974 &
1975
Mr. Charles F. Briggs 1995
Mr. John A. Brown 1975
Mr. Randy D. Buchanan 1980
Dr. Roger B. Buckland 1961
Ms. Cheryl Burgess
Ms. Edith Burnett
Ms. Ann Burnett
Mr. Donald L. Byers 1963
Mr. Frank H. Calder 1950
Honorable Donald W. Cameron
1966
Mr. Grant D. Campbell 1983
Mr. Paul M. Carroll 1987

Mr. Keith A. Casey, Sr. 1953
Mr. Stephen D. Casselman 1966
Mr. Elwyn A. Cavanagh 1966
Central Nova Horse & Pony Association
Mr. Harry H. Chapman 1952
Charities Aid Foundation America
Mr. Edward Chase
Ms. Alyson D. Chisholm 1983
Ms. Barb & Mr. Dave Christie 2002 & 2004
CIBC
CIBC WoodGundy
Dr. Maurice H. Clark 1948
Mr. Peter S. Clarke 1966
Mr. James Clayton
Ms. Katherine D. Cleghorn 1982
Mr. Gregory Coldwell 1970
Mr. Charles E. Coles 1970
Mr. Ronald V. Colpitts 1954
Mr. John S. Colwill 1996
Dr. Harold W. Cook 1966
Mr. Donald Corbett
Cornwallis Farms
Mr. Aaron J. Cottreau 1998
Mr. Warren H. Cox 1996
Mr. Bruce Cox
Dr. Don Craig 1945
Credit Union Central
Mr. L. James Crooker 1966
Mr. Harry F. Crouse 1956
Mr. Andrew B. Crouse 1980
Mr. Roger C. Crowe 1996
Mr. J. Gordon Crowe 1946
Mr. Allan J. Cummiskey 1982
Mr. Joseph A. Davidson 1952
Dr. Wayne E. Davidson 1962
Mr. Nick Duivenvoorden 1979
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Duivenvoorden 1982 & 1992
Mr. Brian H. DuPlessis 1971
Dr. Dale M. DuPlessis 1948
Mr. William C. Durant 1951
Eastern Veterinary Technician Association
Mr. John B. Eaton 1957
Mr. Freeman S. Eaton 1954
Mr. Dale Ells 1959
Mr. Leonard Ells 1989
Mr. Evans N. Estabrooks 1962
Farm Focus
Mr. David L. Faulkner 1966
Ms. Jean Fearon
Mr. Tim & Ms Sandra Fisher 1992 & 1994
Ms. Jean Fox 1942
Mr. R W R. Fraser 1965
Ms. Nancy Fraser
Ms. Debbie L. Freeman 1973
Mr D & Ms C Fullerton 1983 & 1990
Ms. June A. Fulton 1984
Mr. Eric Georgeson 1971
Mr. Courtney S. Gilliatt 1941
Ms. Kathleen E. Glover 1978
Mr. Robert C. Grant 1964
Lt. Col. Ernest A. Grant 1940
Mr. David Gray 1954
Mr. Michael R. Green 1982
Mr. Troy E. Greene 1994
Mr. & Mrs. Gerrit Groenenberg 1984 & 1985
Mr. Arnold J. Hagen 1985
Ms. Julie S. Hall 2005
Mr. Dean Hallett
Mr. William L. Hanlon 1952
Mr. Leo A. Harbers 1972
Ms. Wendy O. Harris 1979
Mr. George A. Harris 1979
Mr. Paul A. Harris 1966
Ms. Caye A. Harris-Allum 1976
Mr. Laurie D. Hennigar 1960
Mr. Rhodes L. Hennigar 1945
Dana N. Hicks 1985
Dr. Philip Hicks
Mr. Charles V. Hiltz 1966
Mr. Cyril Hiltz
Mr. Paul W. Hines 1965
Mr. William Hockey
Dr. Richard A. Holley 1964
Dr. Robert L. Horsburgh 1951
Mr. Don Huxter
Mr. David M. Jackson 1966
Mr. Richard W. Jacobs 2006
Mr. Nat James
Ms. Andrea J. Janzen 2000
Dr. William A. Jenkins 1938
Mr. Eric S. Jennings 1958
Mr. Franklin R. Johnson 1950
Mr. Michael A. Johnson
Rev. Grant Johnston 1971
Mr. Charles O. Keddy 1973
Mr. Vernon Kelly 1965
Ms. Maureen Kendall
Mr. Earl R. Kidston 1969
Ms. Heather A. Kinsman
Mr. Paul Kinsman
Dr. G. A. Klassen
Mr. Henry Knol 1969
Mr. George A. LaBelle 1955
Mr. Winston M. Langille 1940
Mr. Harry Lawson
Mr. Ronald Lawson
Mr. Ross B. Lister 1966
Mr. Aubrey Little
Dr. William J. Longley 1959
Mr. Douglas E. Lousley 1966
Mr. J. D. Lubin 1960
Dr. Bertrum H. MacDonald 1971
Dr. Bernie MacDonald
Mr. Ian P. MacDonald 1950
Mr. Donald L. MacDonald 1960
Mr. Brian MacDonald
Mr. Doug MacDonald
Ms. Kari L. MacInnis-Coles 1994
Dr. J. Allan MacKay 1943
Ms. Carolyn MacKay
Dr. Donald C. MacKay 1943
Ms. Jane R. MacLaurin 1993
Mr. William D. MacLean 1976
HCol C. R. MacLellan, MC, CD 1948
Mr. William E. MacLennan 1949
Ms. Helen MacLeod
Mr. Victor W. MacLeod 1967
Mr. Ed MacMillan
Mr. Gordon A. Macmillan
Mr. D & Ms. M. MacMillan
Mr. Eric P. MacPhail 1947
Mr. Albert W. MacPhee 1938
Mr. Norman G. MacQueen 1961
Mr. John S. MacRae 1939
Mr. John E. Madill 1966
Mr. Arlington S. Mair 1948
Mr. Kenneth Marchant
Mr. Francis C. Marks 1957
Mrs. Jean Marsh
Mr. Rylie Marshall 1940
Mr. Bruce Marshall
Mr. Derek Marshall
Mr & Mrs Brian Masters 1997 & 2001
Mr. Donald Matthews
Mr. George U. McBay 1938
Mr. Brian R. McCullum 1977
Mr. Robert McEwan
Mr. Donald P. McInnes 1955
Mr. & Mrs. Dale McIsaac 1973 & 1978
Mr. Bruce D. McKenzie 1943
Dr. Murray F. McLaughlin 1966
Ms. Patricia McLeod
Mr. Michael K. McNeil 1985
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Mellish 1965 & 1966
Mr. James F. Miller 1995
Mr. Tony Miller
Mr. Bill Moore
Mr. Lloyd & Mrs. Janice Morrison 1961 & 1978
Mr. John F. Morrow 1948
Mr. Gerald W. Moss 1966
Mr. Neil L. Murphy 1964
Mr. Vernon R. Murray 1954
Mr. Kyle M. Murray 1987
Mr. Robert A. Murray 1952
New Holland
Mr. Vaughn S. Nichols 1951
Novartis Animal Health
Mr. Rick O'Regan
Mr. Wayne Paquet
Mr. Robert G. Parker 1971
Mr. Wayne F. Parker 1962
Mr. Robert L. Parks 1954
Ms. Diana Patterson
Ms. Audrey S. Payne 1964
Ms. Kathryne Phillips
Mr. John A. Pierce 1971
Dr. Nancy L. Pitts 1978
Mr. Martin A. Porskamp 1977
Mr. G Post & Ms Y Thyssen-Post 1979 & 1980
Mr. Robert Prange
Mrs. Elizabeth Prentice-Hudson 1981
Mr. Allan Prest
Dr. James G. Purdy 1943
Ms. Emma Raghavan 1991
Mr. Bruce E. Rand 1970
Dr. Charles L. Ricketson 1951
Mr. W. C. Robinson 1966
Mr. Harold A. Rogers 1943
Mr. Alexander K. Rogers 1988
Mr. Terry Ross
Mr. Arnold A. Rovers 1965
Mr. Ronald Sampson
Dr. Wilma Schenkels 1988
Mr. Merritt B. Scott 1965
Seaview Poultry Ltd
Mr. John D. Secord 1966
Mr. Gary S. Selig 1969
Mr. Allen P. Shaw 1972
Shur Gain
Mr. Sedgewick P. Sinclair 1964
Mr. Douglas T. Slater 1947
Ms. Elaine Slauenwhite
Mr. David M. Smith 1947
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Smith 1983 &1981
Mr. Darrell W. Smith 1971
Mrs. Nancy J. Smith 1984
Rev. Angus J. Smith 1952
Mr. Alford L. Smith 1972
Ms. Margaret Smith
Ms. Evelyn Smith
Mr. Murray Snowdon
Dr. Harold B. Specht 1946
Dr. Donna E. Spracklin 1974
Mr. & Mrs Jim Steeves 1974 & 1976
Mr. Seymour M. Stewart, Sr. 1942
Ms. Cathy Stewart
Mrs. Catherine Streatch
Ms. Isabel Taylor
Mr. Stuart L. Taylor 1973
Mrs. Lily F. Terceira 1942
Mr. Jess M. Thompson 1958
Mr. Calvin R. Tilley 1954
Mrs. Marjorie Todd
Mr. Charles T. Trail 1962
Mr. Eric Trenholm 1969
Mr. Peter & Mrs. Margaret Trenholm 1981
Mr & Mrs John Van de Riet 1980 & 1981
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Van de Wiel 1992 & 1993
Ms. Mary P. Van den Broek 1976
Mr. Harry W. Van der Linden 1976
Mr. Gerry Van Dyk 1977
Ms. J.Van Dyk & Mr. J.Mclellan 1978 &1977
Mr. Effie Vanoostrum
Mr. Adrian J. Vermeulen 1980
Mr. Willie Versteeg
Mr. Francis J. Vosman 1984
Mr. Brian E. Walker 1966
Ms Janet L. Walker 2006
Mr. Bruce Wallace
Mr. Dave Wallace
Mr. Fred Walsh 1950
Mr. James G. Walsh 1963
Mr. Steven W. Watts 1983
Mr. William A. West 1939
Mr. Art E. West
Mr. James E. West 1987
Mr. John Whidden
Mr. Cyril B. Whiteley 1974
Mr. Thomas S. Whitman 1979
Mr. Christopher H. Winters 1972
Mr. Allison W. Woodworth 1963
Woolly Wanderers Rug Hookers
Ms. Pauline Wright
Ms. Nancy L. Zwicker 1981

Homecoming 2007

Plans are well underway for Homecoming Weekend, October 19th and 20th, 2007. We have some exciting events planned for all alumni and in particular our honour year classes ending in 2 and 7. We have made some changes to our usual program for Homecoming and are looking forward to an exciting new series of events.

Friday, October 19

Homecoming 2007 will begin on the morning of Friday, October 19th and will continue until noon on Saturday, October 20th. Over the course of these two days, several activities will take place, including campus tours, the option to "go back to class", mix and mingle socials, demonstrations and evening entertainment.

Currently, our tentative plans for the morning of Friday, October 19th include a breakfast with Dr. Hicks at 8:30 am and a Class of '44 lecture in the Alumni Theatre in Cumming Hall at 10:00 am. Carl Duivenvoorden, (Class of 1983) and native of Fredericton, New Brunswick, will be presenting An Inconvenient Truth, written by Al Gore. Duivenvoorden is one of only two Atlantic Canadians tasked with spreading Al Gore's message on climate change. Afterwards, lunch will be served in Jenkins Hall.

The afternoon of Friday, October 19th, will include an NSAC mini "Open House" from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. During this time, you will be able to tour the various departments at NSAC, ask questions and visit with staff and faculty. Areas available for viewing are the Ruminant Animal Centre, the Atlantic Poultry Research Centre, the Aquaculture Centre, the Engineering building and more. Get your walking shoes on and "go back to class"! There will also be College Royal activities in the Ruminant Animal Centre from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm and a campus tour will begin at 3:00 pm. At 6:30 pm, you are invited to attend a dinner and dance with live entertainment and the presentation of the Blue and Gold Awards.

Saturday, Oct 20

On the morning of Saturday, October 20th, you can enjoy Woodsmen demonstrations, College Royal activities and Varsity Athletic competitions. Brunch will be available during the presentation of class shield awards, 50 and 60 year pins, the development report and more.

In order to keep you up-to-date on Homecoming preparations we will be sending a monthly e-mail to your Class representative so please keep in touch.

Come and enjoy a weekend of great fun and entertainment! Please keep posted to our Homecoming website at http://nsac.ca/alumni/homecoming/homecoming07.asp for additional details as they develop and we wish you all the best as you celebrate your special anniversary with NSAC.

Teaching Development Fund Started by the Class of 1959

Alumni members and friends of NSAC are invited to assist in the growth of the new Teaching Development Fund.

Started by the Class of '59, the fund already has a little over $10,000 but the goal is to have that increased to $25,000 by the summer of 2009. Several in the Class remember and appreciate the interest and effective efforts of dedicated staff members during their time at NSAC. Many of the instructors had frequent involvement in the issues and practices of the agricultural industry and its related sciences. It is recognized that staff development costs time and money. As operating funds are becoming scarce and research funds usually favour professional development that directly relates to one's research activities, the decision was made to start a new fund, from which the interest earned, could assist faculty or staff members who undertake teaching improvement activities. Although initiated by Alumni members in the Class of '59, all interested in helping this cause are urged to make donations. All cheques should be made payable to the NSAC Foundation and state the donation is for the Class of '59 Teaching Development Fund. The mailing address is: NSAC Foundation, Box 550, Truro, NS, B2N 5E3.

Last summer class members met at Masstown Market before coming to the NSAC Campus for the family Barbeque on Open House Day. In the picture are: Front Row - (L to R) Robert Clark, Campbell Gunn, Earnie Maynard. Back Row - Cal Currie, John Fisher, Dale Ells and Bill Herbert.

Convocation 2007

2007 Governor General's Medal Winners Dr. Philip Hicks, President, NSAC, is shown with the 2007 Governor General's Medals recipients. Recipient of the Bronze Governor General's Medal was Joye Sears, Shelburne, NS, a High Honours graduate from the Animal Health Technology program. Joye was also the recipient of the Noel Enman Memorial Award. Recipient of the Silver Governor General's Medal was Katherine Rutherford, Truro, NS, a High Honours graduate from the B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science program. Katherine also received an NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award. Recipient of the Gold Governor's General Medal was Mason MacDonald, Brookfield, NS, a graduate from the Master of Science program.

Presentation of Faculty Teaching Award The 2007 recipient of the NSAC Faculty Teaching Award was Dr. Nancy Pitts, Professor, NSAC Department of Environmental Sciences, and NSAC Class of 1978. Dr. Ralph Martin, Chair, Instructional Development Committee, is shown offering congratulations.

NSAC Internationalization Award Presented at Convocation Dr. Dian Patterson, Dean Internationalization, is shown with the 2007 recipient of NSAC's Internationalization Award, Ms. Andrea Munroe, NSAC Class of 2006. Andrea, an alumnus of NSAC, is currently on staff at the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada. The award recognizes her achievements in raising the profile of international activities among NSAC students, in particular her support for the student refugee program.

Class of 2007 Life Executive Jeff Morton, President NSAC Alumni Association and Environmental Horticulture Instructor, is shown with the Valedictorian and Life Executive selected for the Class of 2007. David Brennan, Johnville, NB, a graduate B.Sc.(Agr) program, Agricultural Business option, served as the Valedictorian; Rebecca Daniels, Bridgetown, NS, an Honours graduate from the B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science program, was elected Life President and Holly McLean, Newport, NS, a graduate from the B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science program, was elected Life Secretary.

Presentation of Research Award The 2007 recipient of the NSAC Faculty Research Award was Dr. David Burton, Climate Change Research Chair. Dr. Rob Gordon, Professor and Director of Research, is shown offering congratulations.

The 2007 NSAC President's List

NSAC Alumnus Guest Speaker at NSAC President's List Jamie Johnstone, NSAC Class of 1998, was guest speaker at the President's List held February 7, 2007. Jamie is enrolled in medical school and is currently doing his internship rotation at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Charlottetown, PE. Jamie is shown congratulating outstanding Cape Breton students at the NSAC who were recognized this past winter for their academic achievement by being named to the President's List. Students attending the event—Jason Grant, Baddeck, NS, 1st year Plant Science Technology; Donald Buchanan, Glace Bay, NS, a 1st year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student; and Gillian Lake-Thompson, Mabou, NS, a 1st year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student.

Annapolis Valley Students Recognized at NSAC Outstanding Annapolis Valley students at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College were recognized this winter for their academic achievement by being named to the President's List. Jim Goit, Executive Director, Development & External Relations, NSAC, is shown offering congratulations to various students at NSAC honoured at the event—Ashleigh Whitman, South Farmington, NS; a 1st year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student; Elizabeth Gnemmi, Hantsport, NS, 2nd year Animal Science Technician student; and Jennifer O'Driscoll, Berwick, NS, 1st year Veterinary Technology student.

Outstanding Students Recognized at NSAC The President's List ceremony was held during February at NSAC. Students attended a reception held in their honour. Various students attending included (left to right): Maryam Jajouei-Moghaddam, Mashad, Khorasan, Iran, a 3rd year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student; Travis Smith, Port Howe, a 1st year Diploma in Enterprise Management Student - Equine; Megan MacEachern, Timberlea, NS, a 1st year B.Sc.(Agr.) Plant Science student; and Richard Benson, Springdale, NL, a 3rd year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student.

ATHLETICS

NSAC Sport Shorts

Matt Vair attacking in semi-final match.

Volleyball

The men's and women's teams competed well within the ACAA. The men's team lost in the semi-final of the Championships (held at NSAC) to the Kings Blue Devils while the women did not secure a play-off position.

Award winners include:

Hustle Award .....Matt Vair
.....Corrina Phillips
MIP .....Sheldon Savoie
.....Nelsa English
Rookie .....Justin Henwood
.....Mandy MacDonald
MVP .....Dave Milburn
.....Corrina Phillips

ACAA All-Conference: Matt Vair

Woodsmen

Having lost a substantial number of veteran competitors last year, the woodsmen were more of a 'rookie' group this year. That however, did not prevent them from performing very well at all four CILA competitions. The guys had two teams, while the girls had one team only for the first three competitions. All teams finished 6th or higher in all competitions, and the women repeated as the CILA Champions.

Award winners include:

Hustle Award ..... Corey MacDonald
..... Janette Archibald
MIP ..... Matt MacDonald
..... Tracy Marques
Rookie ..... Joe Ballam
..... Janelle Patriquin
MVP ..... Brent Jackson
..... Janet Walker

Janet Walker - log burling

Equestrian Club Team

This relatively new group, had a 'perfect season' winning every competition entered.

The following are team results for 06-07:

1. NSAC Equestrian Challenge - 1st
2. Acadia Intercollegiate Horse Show - 1st
3. Dalhouse Equestrian Show -1st

Award winners include:

MIP .....Ashley Gillies
MVP .....Amanda Leslie

Other Award Winners include:

KS Marchant Award

Technical:. . . Marissa Lynch, Albany, PEI
Degree: . . . . Justin Beck, Kingston, NS

Athletes of the Year

Female:. . . . . Kaili van Vulpen, Amherst, NS
Male:. . . . . Billy McNutt, Oxford, NS

SIRC-CCAA Academic All-Canadians

Nikia Stewart, Soccer
Megan MacLellan, Soccer
Trina Bennett, Soccer
Matt Vair, Volleyball

Fall Sport Team Awards

Hustle
Rugby (m) . . Phil Keddy
Rugby (w) . . Tanya McLaughlin
Soccer (m) . . Kyle MacRae
Soccer (w) . . Mandy Vandenberg

MIP
Rugby (m) . . Dan Gillis
Rugby (w) . . Sarah Haines
Soccer (m) . . Robb Smith
Soccer (w) . . Michelina Medicraft

Rookie
Rugby (m) . . Bryan Savage
Rugby (w) . . Kelsey Harpman
Soccer (m) . . Justin Henwood
Soccer (w) . . Trina Bennett

MVP
Rugby (m) . . Niels Langelaan, Aylesford, NS
Rugby (w) . . Meghan Miller, Clarenceville, QC
Soccer (m) . . Matthew Chiasson, Truro, NS
Soccer(w). . . Megan MacLellan, Charlottetown, PEI

Women's soccer: Megan MacLellan at ACAA Championships - vs- Kings in the semi final

Athletes of the Year

Kaili Van Vulpen

Billy McNutt

Billy McNutt and Kaili Van Vulpen were selected as the NSAC's Athletes of the Year for 2006-07. McNutt was MVP for the Men's Basketball Program and ACAA All-Conference , while Van Vulpen was ACAA All-Conference in both soccer and basketball and MVP for the Women's Basketball Program.

See: nsac.ca/athletics for the complete list of award winners

The 11th CCAA Nationals a Huge Success

The 2007 CCAA Men's Basketball National Championships (the 11th Nationals hosted by NSAC) went off without a hitch. The eight teams, 12 CABO officials, CCAA Executive and the thousands of spectators thoroughly enjoyed the event as hosted by the Athletic Department and Host Committee.

The first day of competition saw the Host NSAC Rams come within five points of the Number One Seed — Douglas College. In the other evening feature game, MSVU defeated Mount Royal of Calgary to move to the semi. The exciting first round games before a packed house guaranteed good second day attendance and set the stage for the best attended nationals at NSAC since 1980 when NSAC's Women's Basketball Team won the Silver.

Final results saw the Quebec Conference win Gold and Bronze (Dawson and John Abbott respectively) and the British Columbia Colleges Athletic Association won Silver (Douglas College). NSAC's Billy McNutt was selected to the First Team — All-Tournament Team.

Basketball

With two good recruiting years, the women's team had an excellent season. They won the quarter-final of the ACAA's against UNBSJ (06 ACAA Champs) and then lost the semi-final to a very talented University of Kings squad.

The men, although troubled by injuries at key times also had a great season. Earning a berth in the CCAA Nationals hosted by NSAC, through tough consistent competition and showing they deserved to be there, the team had two excellent games against the best in the country.

Award winners include:

Hustle Award ..... Thomas Teakles
..... Jessica Mitchell
MIP ..... Jonathan Kennedy
..... Stephanie Russell
Rookie ..... Andrew Canfield
..... Patti Gilroy
MVP..... Billy McNutt
..... Kaili VanVulpen

ACAA All-Conference . . Billy McNutt
..... Kaili Van Vulpen

Kaili Van Vulpen defends in semi against Kings.

In Memoriam

The university, along with the NSAC Alumni Association, acknowledges the passing of the following alumni members and extends its sympathies to friends and family.

As of January1, 2007

Mr. Elmer B. Babin 1930
Mr. Edwin P. Grant 1931
Mr. Fenwick A. Wood 1931
Mr. Thomas C. Chiasson 1933
Ms. Eleanor A. Johnson 1933
Mr. Clarence W. MacIntosh 1940
Mr. Hazen L. Boyd 1944
Mr. Harold J. MacFarlane 1946
Mr. Dennis G. Casey 1950
Mr. David R. Barrett 1956
Mr. Arthur G. Redden 1956
Mr. Jefferson M. Bujan 1956
Mr. Robert A. Purdy 1956
Mr. C. W. Davis 1964
Mr. Adam A. Mermuys 2003

Dr. Robert Gordon, Dean of Research, Canada Research Chair, NSAC receives Premier's Award of Excellence

The Premier's Award of Excellence is the most prestigious award a Government of Nova Scotia employee or team can receive. This highest form of honour recognizes outstanding on-the-job contributions of employees and teams of employees. To receive it is to know that your work made a difference to the people of Nova Scotia - an achievement of which you can be proud for a lifetime.

Dr. Robert Gordon is a 2007 recipient of this award. Dr. Gordon has dedicated his career to the public service of Nova Scotia and the Atlantic region by implementing creative and innovative solutions to problems in agriculture and the environment. He has made numerous contributions to applied research, outreach programs, environmental training and education, environmental improvements in the agriculture sector and the development of government programs and services in resource management. Also, his reputation as a leading authority on climate-related issues is well known throughout Canada.

In 1996, Dr. Gordon took on the challenge of providing an environmental audit service for farmers. The result is the Nova Scotia Environmental Farm Plan Program that includes more than 925 farms across the province. This program is now recognized nationally as the standard by which other programs are measured.

The passion brought to his work and the desire to make a difference shown by Rob in delivering quality research and outreach programs and his keen interest in teaching and mentoring young people in Nova Scotia, is second to none.

***Beautiful Brazil**, from page 12*

challenges and limitations to the growth of Brazilian agriculture fall in two categories: (1) lack of political stability domestically and international subsidies- particularly in the US and (2) lack of adequate infrastructure. The development of storage facilities port facilities, and roadways has not kept pace with the rate of growth of agricultural production and exports. Transportation is the highest cost of production facing Brazilian agriculture. In some areas we visited, transportation represented 30 per cent of the commodity's purchase price.

There is little direct government support for Brazilian farmers. During the early 1990s the government removed much of its intervention in agricultural markets by privatizing enterprises and eliminating minimum support prices, government purchases of wheat and milk and marketing boards for coffee, sugar and wheat. In 2004, total government support to agriculture averaged 0.5 per cent of GDP; comparable to that of Australia (0.3 per cent) and New Zealand (0.4 per cent). Extension provided to farmers is delivered by agrologists on staff at producer cooperatives, private processors and agricultural supply companies and agricultural research/educational institutes.

Brazil's primary agriculture sector is extremely diverse. Commercial crop farms tend to be the largest in terms of total land base, ranging from 1000 hectares to 35,000 hectares. The Governor of the state of Rio Grande do Sol is the largest soybean producer in the world with 100,000 hectares in production. The large farms with 20,000 hectares or more can have upwards of 5000 employees. These employees and their families live in houses on the farm property along with schools and medical centres for their use; all are funded by the farm business. Farm workers are required by law to have one month of vacation where they must receive 30 per cent of their regular pay. Farm owners are also required by law to supply their workers with pensions and health insurance. Dairy farms have smaller land bases (average 15 hectares) supporting an average herd size of 25 milking cows. Unlike Brazil's crop farms, on the country's dairy operations, family members represent the majority of the farm labour. It is important to note that despite a very modern, high-tech agriculture sector; over 50 per cent of Brazilian rural property is operated as a subsistence agricultural operation (less than ten hectares).

As mentioned above, along with delivering us a professional program, District 4700 showcased the Rotary projects in their communities. The hard work of our Rotarian hosts to make Brazil a richer country socially was inspiring. We visited orphanages, after school programs for at risk youth, schools for the disabled, a home for neglected seniors and day programs to teach disadvantaged mothers skills to support their families. The operation of these institutions depends on the Rotary members volunteering their time and fundraising abilities and represent the fundamental social programming for Brazil's poor. With its lush green landscapes Brazil is beautiful; but the enthusiasm, compassion, and determination of Brazilians to make their country a better place is even more beautiful!

Please visit our blog for a full account of our journey and follow-up activities: http://rotarygse2007.blogspot.com

***Ryan Barrett**, from page 4*

Current work: Currently he works full time for Jersey Canada, the national breed association for Jersey dairy cattle. He is Publications Editor, with specific responsibility for the creation of the breed magazine, The Canadian Jersey Breeder. In his spare time he is the Secretary-Manager of the Canadian Milking Shorthorn Society, the national breed association for Milking Shorthorn dairy cattle.

The Future: He hopes to return to PEI at some point in the not-too-distant future.

Favourite NSAC memories: AC Christian Fellowship coffeehouses in "The Barn", flipping sheep, house crawls in Fraser House, and spending time with closest friends, who have become life-long friends.

What did you like most about NSAC?: "I liked that I had challenging, interesting professors that were committed to teaching, not just publishing papers. I loved the closeness of the campus community, the unique events (Woodsmen weekend, Rugby 7's, etc). Finally, I loved meeting new friends, many of whom I still talk to regularly today.

You can reach Ryan at 202-8 Speedvale Ave W, Guelph, Ontario, Canada N1H 1J4 Ph: (519) 824-2119 E-Mail: milking.shorthorn@gmail.com

NSAC is closely involved with the many dedicated Friends of the Garden volunteers who help to maintain the specialist plant collections on campus including: the Herb Garden, the Native Plant Garden and the Alumni Gardens.

Did you know that there are trees on the NSAC campus that are approximately 120 years old?

Take note...

Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition
August 21-25th

Class of 44 Lecture
October 19th

Homecoming Reunion Weekend
October 19th-20

College Royal
October 19th - 20

NSAC Octoberfest 5 K Run
October 20th

Varsity Alumni Weekend
October 20th

Autumn Assembly
October 25

Agricultural Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
October 25

Festive Craft Market
November 17-18

NSAC Woodsmen Meet
February 9th

CCAA Women's National Basketball Championships
March 14-16

The Grounds Maintenance staff at NSAC is responsible for hard features on the campus such as: the gazebo in the Almuni Gardens, the decks of both the Women's Institue of Nova Scotia and the Rock Garden, the patios of the Alumni Gardens, Cox Institute and the Amphitheatre, the entrance arbors of the Alumni Gardens and the Rock Garden, the pergola of the Alumni Gardens and the individual benches and picnic tables found around campus.

Did you know that there are two irrigation systems on the NSAC campus? One is in the Athletic Field and the other one is in the Rock Garden.

***AASCW 2007**, from page 15*

export final products," says Dr. Caldwell. "It's how we build the value chains that makes the difference. At this year's workshop, there will be people from England, Western Canada and the local area specializing in value chains. We can learn from their experience how to build economic and environmentally sustainable food systems."

Poster presentations will also be featured at this workshop. The poster presentations will provide an opportunity to exhibit recent findings or work in progress on one of the three sub-theme areas or in a "wild card" sub-theme category on a specific research, extension, education or industry development program. "The 'wild card' posters will allow people to see new developments in the region that aren't necessarily part of the theme," says Dr. Caldwell.

A special section of the displays will be allocated to poster presentations from graduate students. "This will provide students with presentation experience and an opportunity to meet all of the best people in agriculture, rural development and environmental sciences in the region which creates the potential for future jobs," says Dr. Caldwell.

The posters will not be judged as a competition. It is recognized that many of these posters will feature work in progress and not necessarily all final conclusions. Participating graduate students may be from any university.

The 4' X 4' white Styrofoam display boards and straight pins will be provided by the workshop. Presenters will install their information on the assigned poster board between 1:30 pm and 4:30 pm on Wednesday, November 15, 2007.

Posters will be exhibited at the NSAC campus in Jenkins Hall from 4:30 pm on November 15 until 12:30 pm on November 16, 2007. To answer questions from viewers, poster presenters are expected to be present at their poster display from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm on November 15, 2007.

Poster authors should apply in advance to present a poster. The deadline for poster submissions is September 1, 2007.

For more information regarding the workshop and poster presentations, please visit http://www.nsac.ca/aascw/.

***Sarah Kimmins**, from page 4*

relation to key events happening during pregnancy recognition." After receiving her Ph.D., Sarah undertook her Post-Doctoral training at the University of Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg, France.

In September of 2005, Sarah became a member of the faculty at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. She is an Assistant Professor in the university's Department of Animal Science. "Sarah has always been an enthusiastic animal-lover and biologist," says MacLaren. "And among her many strengths is a keen interest in 'connecting the dots' between cell regulatory molecules and function using pictorial models." Sarah is also an Associate Member of the Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics at McGill University.

Sarah chose to study at NSAC because of its environment. "At NSAC, the environment is very collegial and there is a real sense of community," she says. She feels that the small class sizes at NSAC allow students to receive the individual attention they need. "I think NSAC has better communication because it is a small school. Students really get to know their classmates and can discuss their interests with them," she says. She was also impressed by the strong programs at NSAC and the great opportunities available for students to learn applied science in the topics of plants and animals.

Currently, Sarah lives in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue with her husband, Jean Paul Parkhill, and their two-year-old son, Eric. Her husband has a Ph.D. in oceanography and teaches biology at John Abbot College in Montreal. Sarah enjoys being active in her spare time by playing with her son, biking, walking her dog, skiing and riding horses.

***Dairy scholarship**, from page 14*

lowing the application deadline.

Two competitions will be held annually with application deadlines of May 1st and October 15th, respectively. Application is made directly through the NSAC Research & Graduate Studies office. For more information please see the following link: http://nsac.ca/research/graduatestudies/graduate/CDC_scholarship_program.asp or contact Jill Rogers at jrogers@nsac.ca.

***The Grass is Greener**, from page 13*

1992 and met Carol. He convinced her to visit Writtle College. The college is surrounded by its own estate, farm and gardens which serve as a "green laboratory" for students. During her first visit, Carol fell in love with the college and its beautiful gardens. "The course grew out of that visit," she says. The British Garden course became part of the Bachelor of Technology - Environmental Horticulture program at NSAC.

Carol also teaches arboriculture, the cultivation of trees and shrubs, at Häme Polytechnic in Lepaa, Finland. Her Finnish students are often interested in taking the British Garden course and regularly accompany Carol on her trip to Writtle College. "Finland looks a lot like Nova Scotia," she says. "The native landscape is similar. There are birch, spruce and pine trees which are different species from the trees in Nova Scotia, but they look the same."

Carol grew up in a gardening family. Her grandparents and her mother were avid gardeners. She planned on becoming a veterinarian after graduating from high school but she went to an NSAC Open House and attended a horticulture class and knew right away that it was what she wanted to study. "In order to be a horticulturist, one must be inspired or moved by the outside environment," says Carol. "I've always loved nature so this was the perfect profession for me."

A class full of NSAC students gets "up close and personal" bovine instruction thanks to facilities allowing animals to be part of the classroom experience.

Class of 1940

KUHN, Bernard G. — I attended NSAC in 1938-1939 in the General Course, class of 1940. Though I did not finish the course, NSAC made quite a mark on me. I worked for four years as a telephone technician in Halifax, served in the RCAF from 1943-1945, and graduated in electrical engineering from McGill University in 1949. I had a very interesting career in radar and communications development as an RCAF technical officer, MIT staff member in Massachusetts, and staff engineer and manager with McDonnell-Douglas, General Dynamics, Amex and Cubic Corporation in California. With my wife Elyse, a Montreal girl, and our family of three daughters, we moved many times across our continent and the Pacific islands until we retired in Ramona, San Diego County, California in 1984, and we've been here since. In 2006, I established, with the help of my siblings, the P.Max Kuhn Scholarship Fund at NSAC. P.Max Kuhn was my father, a career farmer in Halifax County. He attended NSAC from 1908 to 1910 and he applied a lot of his NSAC training with enthusiasm. Annual awards of the scholarship will start in the fall of 2007. Especially since I expatriated, I wanted to give something back to Nova Scotia, and establishing this scholarship gives me great satisfaction. NSAC is a very worthy recipient of support for students, and I recommend similar action to my alumni who can consider it. Jim Goit, the NSAC Director of Development and External Relations, was instrumental in setting up the scholarship and adding to my initiative for the project. I remember many classmates of the General Course of 1940 and would like to hear in these columns from any who are still out there. Best wishes to them and to all other NSAC alumni.

Class of 1959

LONGLEY, William — I have now completed 40 years developing diagnostic tests that have been used primarily in the medical field. This was first done to further understanding of the interactions of protein and steroid hormones in animal models. The tests were then applied to diagnosis of endocrine and cancer disorders. I have been fortunate to work with both academic and private companies that have allowed me to lead groups in the validation of these procedures and in many cases licensing the test by the FDA. At this time I am planning to retire to consulting only before reaching the age of 70 in 2008.

Class of 1962

AUCOIN, Kevin.....Retired in Jan/01 and continue to be very involved in my community. Started curling, again, this year.

Class of 1967

GALLANT, Faye.....is a Federal Fishery Officer with Fisheries and Oceans Canada. She also has a commercial blueberry operation and woodlot.

Class of 1972

CONNOLLY, Karen — Hi, Returned to PEI after spending 14 years working in Ontario for MacLeod Hybrid Swine Ltd. as herdswoman of a breeding stock, farrow to finish operation and 2 years in the Valley working for Joe Ueffing of Scotia Farm Services at a commercial hog operation. I returned to P.E.I worked for a time in the tourism field before I got a job with the Provincial Dept of Agriculture working on the Aphid Alert Program for Plant Health Services and then in 2005 started working on the CAIS program. I now work June to September on Aphid Alert and September to June on CAIS. kcmconnolly@gov.pe.ca

Class of 1976

LEMMON, Wendell Charles — Horticulture Commodity Officer with the Plant Health Division of Canadian Food Inspection Agency. Located in Ottawa with primary work focus on grapevine and fruit tree quarantines and certification programs. Splitting my life between Ottawa work and returning to my other home in Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia from time to time where life goes on at a more relaxed pace.

Class of 1983

FERGUS, Greg..... Hello Aggies. Living in Quispamsis, NB. Working for Moosehead Breweries for past 24 years. Would enjoy hearing from classmates and friends

Class of 1988

CORNISH, Lynn — Hello there, folks at NSAC! I graduated from that wonderful agricultural institution in 1988, and right away married Steve Spinney, the guy who introduced me to the NSAC opportunity in the first place. Together we have done some farming of our own, but we also work for Acadian Seaplants Limited, and what started out simply as interesting jobs, have turned into challenging careers. Steve can talk about his own evolution within the company, but I have one of the most interesting jobs in the world. Acadian Seaplants Limited is the epitome of work ethic and innovation, and much of its success has been built through the minds and bodies of NSAC graduates. My particular role is to grow the marine plant seedstock for our one of a kind cultivation facility located in Charlesville, Nova Scotia. Our primary crop is Chondrus Crispus, which is used to provide a well-liked and unique food product for the Japanese market. However, we have been carefully and selectively diversifying into other species, and I am tasked with learning how to grow and maintain cultures of weird and wonderful species and strains of seaweeds from our local areas, as well as from sources around the world. This is such leading edge technology, for no one else in the world can do some of the things we do, relative to the cultivation of marine plant species, and I have been very fortunate to have been mentored by scientists who are world authorities on seaweed. It is a bit ironic that I graduated with a BSc. in Agricultural Soils, and yet everything I do involves growing plants in water. A clear indication of the comprehensive and in depth education provided by NSAC, regardless of specific discipline. lcornish@acadian.ca

Class of 1989

HILTZ, Marlene..... Just want to congratulate Kriss Hiltz and Deidre Burns on the birth of their son "Riley william" on April 26 2007.Kriss said "He has a new little ram!!"

Class of 1990

FOSTER, Lynda (Lamb).....Hello Aggies of 89 & 90! Moved to AB in 92 and recently moved to SK & loving it. But , wow is it hard to find a good beach! Working as Payroll/Benefits accountant @ Nelson Lumber, Lloydminster AB. Would love to hear form old friends - Tracey McArthur, Chris Jordan, and anyone else. You too Edgar, stop changing your email!!

Class of 1993

WHITE, Michele — Hi Aggies! This is Michele White (now

Continued on next page

Leatherbury) - I graduated from NSAC twice (1993 BSc and 1985 Ani Sci Tech) and am now a vet on Virginia's Eastern Shore. In 2006 I opened my own solo doctor small animal practice. I'm married to an accountant and have 2 stepchildren in college and 2 cats and a dog at home. The Eastern Shore is beautiful with wonderful views of the sunsets over the Chesapeake Bay but I get very homesick for the Maritimes sometimes. My parents are still living in New Brunswick so we try to get home to see them each year. Old classmates, please email anytime - I would love to hear from you!

Class of 1994

TIBBETTS, Sean — (BSc Animal Science 1994 & MSc Animal Nutrition 1999) and Shannon Scott-Tibbetts (BSc Dal. Biology 1993 & BSc Aquaculture 1998) are pleased to announce the birth of their first child. Evyn Daniel Tibbetts was born in Halifax on November 30, 2006. We would love to hear from old friends from NSAC sean.tibbetts@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

Class of 1995

HOLLIS, Carolyn.....is a Veterinarian with the Amherst Veterinary Hospital. She has a daughter Mallory born 2002 and a son Evan born 2004

Class of 1997

BOYD, Troy — Hi Folks! I'm still here in Northern BC, teaching full time (grades 11 and 12 Chemistry and Geology) and working weekends/summers in the oil patch. Most of my oil work is pre-disturbance, but some reclamation/remediation. Agricultural background is very handy. The P.Ag group here doesn't meet very often and there are no pro-D opportunities, so I dropped my membership. I'm rethinking that...Hi Rhonda, Paulie, Nikki, Amber, Janice, et al.

Class of 1998

RALPH, Trina.....I was married to my best friend, Jonathan Ralph, on July 15, 2007. We have bought a house in my home town(Bay South, Newfoundland) last fall and share it with our boxer and our cat.

WESSELIUS, John.....is a dairy farmer with Dairy Sweet Holsteins Ltd. When my Dad retired in 2001, my four brothers and I each took over our own dairy farms. I live on the original farm which was purchased in 1983. I am married and have four children, Lee (13), Clark (11), Jeffrey (8) and Adrian (4). We currently milk 135 Holsteins.

RUSSELL, Amanda.....is a Quality Assurance Associate with Ocean Nutrition Canada.

Class of 1999

DRUMMOND, Mary Ann..... Hi there aggies I am just writing to say that I am at home and working on a dairy farm in Norton. I have two wondeful kids, Kathrynn 4, and Zackary 2. I am hoping to get to the Woodsmen competition this but we'll see. I hope all the Animal Sci. Techs of 1999 are still alright and having the time of their life. Hope tp see you this February for a little class reunion!!!! Go Aggies!!!!!!

WILSON, Cynthia..... Hello fellow aggies. Just a note to say hello. I am still in Windsor and I have a beautiful baby girl. She is five months old. I am engaged to Ian Duey from Dartmouth. I work for NSAB and my family farm. Love to hear from anyone.

Class of 2001

GRAHAM, Eliza.....is working at Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre

MCKAY,Joyce....Graduated in 2006 with a Bachelor of Education from University of Prince Edward Island and is currently teaching.

MCCARRON, Jenn (Herbin)..... Hi everyone, this is my first update ever! So here is a brief overview of the last 6 years! I finished vet school in 2005, spent the summer working in Ireland. Moved to Manitoba to work at a large animal practice for a year (and missed my first woodsmen competition in 8 years!) Married Ryan in September 2006 and moved back to PEI. (We made it to woodsmen this year!) I am now working as a farm service vet at the AVC. I am specializing in dairy and working on my masters in epidemiology. We'll be here for a couple more years then after that...who knows!

KING, Alicia (Baxter) .....Hello Everyone! Just thought I should drop a line as it has been a long time. Danny and I were married in May of 2002 and are living in the Valley with our three children, Makayla (March 2005) and Casey and Percy (October 2006). All is well here, we are currently working on a move to the Oxford area. Take care.

Class of 2002

STUCKEY, Amanda..... hello to all my fellow aggies! I am finally finished vet school and am now working at the Sussex Animal Hosp. in NB. Randy Holm and I got married in may 2006 and are loving our new house we just bought here in NB.

***Research**, from page 14*

could offer health benefits such as enhancing our immune system. Rhubarb production of this crop is however limited by the cost of harvesting and the cost of planting. Nearly 40 percent of the cost of producing rhubarb is spent on harvesting. Dr. Lada is looking at how rhubarb can be grown to reduce harvesting costs and to further examine the potential health benefits of rhubarb extracts.

Dr. Lada has also been actively working with another industry. In 2006, he established the Christmas Tree Research Program to look at the problem of needle retention after the trees and branches are cut. The program is sponsored by the Nova Scotia Christmas Tree Council and focuses on identifying the physiological mechanisms of needle drop and providing solutions to control it. Their initial evidence suggests that the needle drop is triggered by factors other than how well the plant is watered before cutting. However the question remains, is this process caused by a genetic response? Further research in this program is in progress.

Finding funding for his research has never been a issue for Dr. Lada, but finding enough time has been his greatest challenge. Prioritizing his responsibilities as a professor, a researcher and as a supervisor requires good time management. "To be everywhere and to be able to participate in everything is almost impossible," he says.

The benefits of Dr. Lada's research reach a wide audience. Industry partners, research partners, students as well as the general community all gain insight and knowledge from being involved with him and his research. Dr. Lada likes to contribute to change and he gets great satisfaction in passing the torch to the next generation. As a professor, he explains his role is to: "Kindle a student's sprit, enlighten their mind and soul, quench their thirst for knowledge and to stimulate their creativity resulting in discoveries and innovation."

"Education is like a candle that brings
light into a dark room,
Eliminating ignorance,
And enriching knowledge and wisdom,
In a journey To serve the humanity
And To create a better tomorrow."
Rajasekaran Lada.

Look Who's Talking...

Dr. Roger Buckland, *Class of 1961*

Look Who's Talking is a regular feature of Agricola News. An alumnus, each issue discusses his or her thoughts on various topics relevant to the NSAC. This issue, we asked Dr. Roger Buckland, Class of 1961 to take time to sit down and talk with us.

It has been more than 45 years since you left the NSAC. What memories does this bring back of your college days?

My most significant memory of NSAC is of Win Langille, who taught chemistry and coached the NSAC hockey team in the Truro and district hockey league. Win Langille gave me the opportunity to play hockey on both teams. Today, the NSAC athletic centre is named after Win Langille. The student government at NSAC really impressed me. I was the director of athletics on student council for one year and found it very intriguing.

I enjoyed the town of Truro. At the time, NSAC had a primarily male student population so we all recognized the attributes of the Nova Scotia Teacher's College and what it brought to our community!

I came from a rustic boarding school in New Brunswick and went on to Macdonald College and by comparison, was impressed with the quality of meals provided at NSAC. We always had great meals.

In terms of academics, I am not sure that we really appreciated the more than full course loads that were required by NSAC at that time. Any spare periods were filled in with applied agriculture courses which definitely benefited us all in the end.

I participated in the College Royal and thoroughly enjoyed all of its activities, especially the livestock show. I remember Paul Burgess, the President of Student Council when I was in my first year, visited the College Royal at the Ontario Agricultural College and Macdonald College. It was Paul's 'job' to report back to us in terms of where we should continue our education after NSAC. He told us that the Ontario Agricultural College was nice but that there were seven girls for every guy at MacDonald College. So, of course, 90 per cent of us decided to go there. That is where I met my wife Vicki.

Overall, the two years that I spent at NSAC were a great time in my life.

What do you see as the most significant and positive changes in the NSAC since you were a student?

There's no question in my mind that the introduction of the four year degree program at NSAC completely transformed the institution. Before this program, students could only study at NSAC for two years and then had to continue their education at other universities such as McGill or Guelph to complete their degrees. The four year degree program was created under the leadership of Dr. Herb MacRae, a dear friend of mine. I also think the Langille Athletic Centre at NSAC was a positive addition to the campus because it shows that the university supports academics as well as extracurricular activities. To support this academic development, there also was a renewal and expansion of the physical facilities at NSAC to provide the academic space required.

This issue of the Agricola News highlights the grand opening of the Atlantic Poultry Research Centre. You were a member of the CFI review committee when this proposal was brought forth. Why did you feel this was an important facility for the NSAC and what do you think it means for future students and the research community at large?

The Canada Foundation for Innovation that year asked me year to chair the committee that reviewed all the proposals in a the broad area of agriculture. The voting members were an international committee. Every member was, as all members were, from beyond the shores of Canada. The NSAC proposal was recognized as being very strong in relation to regional needs. The Canada Foundation for Innovation was put in place to provide, replace, upgrade and fund innovative initiatives from in Canadian universities, colleges, research hospitals and non-profit research institutions. We had to do something with Canada's infrastructure. If Canada did not open facilities such as the Atlantic Canada Poultry Centre, we do not have the possibility of attracting and keeping the best intellects and researchers in Canada. If we do not have world class facilities and equipment in Canada, researchers simply will not stay here. This is why the Poultry Centre is so important to NSAC. This facility has the capability for students to do research and for students at the undergraduate and graduate levels to see top quality facilities and the type of environment and biosecurity controls that will be a huge part of the industry. Plus, the centre is located right on campus which makes it easily accessible to all.

If Canada does not open facilities such as the Atlantic Canada Poultry Centre, we do not have the possibility of attracting and keeping the best intellects and researchers in Canada.

If you had a vision for NSAC and how it would look 20 years from now, what would it look like and why?

Continued on next page

I see two phases:
First, agriculture will continue its transformation of the reduction in the number of farms and an increase in the size of agricultural business operations. NSAC must continue to move forward in order to be relevant to agriculture and food systems. Curriculum and facilities must also move forward and improve. NSAC will find it a challenge to keep up with the industry let alone become a leader. This, in my view, is true for all of Canada's faculties of agriculture.

Second, with the decline in numbers of people and operations in agriculture and food chains, NSAC must not only remain relevant to the industry as per above but it must have an international reputation in teaching and research.

Thus, it is extremely important that NSAC continues to grant degrees from Dalhousie University to its students. Dalhousie is an internationally recognized university. The partnership that NSAC has with Dalhousie is vital to its success.

The Department of Agriculture should enter into discussions with Dalhousie University to make the appropriate financial decisions so that staff members of NSAC become full faculty members of the academic community of DalhousieUniversity.

In fact, it is my view that 20 years from now, NSAC should become a full faculty of Dalhousie University and second campus of Dalhousie University instead of being a separate institution. The Department of Agriculture should enter into discussions with Dalhousie University to make the appropriate financial decisions so that staff members of NSAC become full faculty members of the academic community of Dalhousie University. This way through this change, NSAC would have enhanced academic rigor, an international reputation, a full-fledged graduate program and serve as a second separate campus for Dalhousie University. This would also mean that students from Truro and its surrounding area who would like to attend Dalhousie but do not want to move and/or do not have the finances to live in Halifax, have the opportunity to attend Dalhousie University in Truro.

As a poultry professor at Macdonald College, do you see this new facility as key to advancing a new poultry professor's career?

NSAC absolutely needs these new facilities in order to be a leader in our industry and attract students, researchers, professors and leaders, and to provide the quality care of domestic animals and birds.

The Grounds Maintenance staff at NSAC includes two full-time co-managers, three seasonal casuals (April 1November 30) and five NSAC students for the summer (April 25- August 30).

Did you know that you can find approximately 15,000 annuals in flower beds, planters and hanging baskets around the NSAC campus?

About 5,000 crest plants are greenhouse propagated by the Grounds Maintenance staff at NSAC to be used in the carpet bed planting near the athletic field on Pictou Road.

Dr. Roger Buckland

Dr. Buckland is a graduate of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and earned a Bachelor of Science (Agr.) in 1963 and a Master of Science in 1965 from McGill University. After completing his doctoral studies at the University of Maryland in 1968 he worked as a Research Scientist with Agriculture Canada before joining McGill University in 1971 as an Assistant Professor of Animal Science and as Director of the Poultry Unit. His research focused on poultry physiology and genetics, particularly in relation to male reproduction. He was promoted to Full Professor in 1980.

Professor Buckland's academic leadership was soon recognized. He was appointed Chair of the Department of Animal Science in 1979 and Dean and Vice-Principal (Macdonald Campus) in 1985, a post he held for ten years. During his two terms as Dean and Vice-Principal, the Faculty changed its name to the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and Macdonald College became the Macdonald Campus of McGill University.

Professionally, Dr. Buckland has made important contributions to the Poultry Science Association and the World's Poultry Science Association. He was the founding president of the Confederation of Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine and was instrumental in establishing the Canadian Poultry Research Council. Dr. Buckland has received numerous distinctions acknowledging his contributions and service. These include the Poultry Science Association Research Award, the Nova Scotia Agricultural College Distinguished Alumnus Award and he is a Fellow of the Agricultural Institute of Canada. In 2004 on the 50th anniversary of Canada's Who's Who, Dr. Buckland was named one of the 35 most influential people in Canada's poultry industry.

Since 1996 Dr. Buckland has played a leadership role in establishing the joint McGill University and Université de Montreal Centre for Poultry Research. Funding received from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Gouvernment du Quebec and the private sector has resulted in new teaching and research facilities being built at both universities which will result in inter-university teaching and research programs.

***Who we are**, from page 16*

talk about your experiences here and tell others to consider us as an option when thinking about post-secondary education.

In the marketing office we will continue to gather information that will help us understand our students. We believe speaking to potential students who share similar attributes, lifestyles and values with our university is key. It is this group that we believe will find NSAC the most appealing and will enjoy their experience at NSAC the most.

NSAC Luggage Tags

Traveling abroad or just out of the province? Why not travel in style with NSAC Luggage tags?

If you are an NSAC alumnus, just mail us your business card and we will return to you an NSAC luggage tag, ready to attach to your luggage — Free-of-charge!*

Please forward your cards and return address to:

NSAC Alumni Office
P.O. Box 550
Truro NS B2N 5E3

**Please forward one card per tag. Limit four per alumnus.*

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