



For the alumni and friends of Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Agricola News

Volume 37, Number 1, 2012



Nova Scotia
Agricultural
College

NSAC. Embrace Your World.

Agricola News

For the alumni and friends of Nova Scotia Agricultural College

A Message from the Editor



Happy New Year to you and your family!

Dear Friend,

As always, a new year brings a new edition of the *Agricola News*. This past year was good to NSAC and we already know that 2012 will be full of more excitement on campus!

NSAC and Dalhousie University are well into merger discussions, with a memo of understanding expected to be signed in the near

future. This edition of *Agricola News* provides full information on the merger process to date. On page 11 you will find the principles and objectives for the merged entity, as were released in October. You can read about the merger timeline on page 13. Additionally, a story about existing joint initiatives between NSAC and Dal can be found on page 14.

Most recently, a series of alumni events were held in N.S., N.B. and P.E.I. These events, which had a merger focus, provided alumni with a merger update and an opportunity to ask questions. Co-Leader, NSAC-Dalhousie Merger, Dalhousie University, Susan Spence Wach and NSAC's Vice President, Research, Extension and Outreach, Dr. Richard Donald led these events.

If you were unable to attend the event nearest you and would like to ask a question or make a comment, please send your questions to alumni@nsac.ca. We will be sure to forward any inquiries to the merger team.

Aside from the merger, alumni activities at NSAC were very busy this past year. Campus was hoppin' in July with class reunions (page 18) and we had a great turn-out for our Lockett Vineyard tour (page 24) in October.

Classes celebrating honour year reunions this year are those ending in "2" and "7" (ex: 1962 and 1997). If you are from one of these classes, touch base with your class life president, or contact me so we can get the ball rolling on your reunion! We're always pleased to help with all aspects of reunion planning and execution.

On other news, our Development & External Relations office was sad to bid farewell to our Executive Director, Jim Goit after 11 years. Read more about Jim and his retirement on page 16.

Keep reading and I hope you enjoy this edition of *Agricola News*!

Hope to hear from you soon!

All the best,

Alisha Johnson

KEEP IN TOUCH! Follow us Online

You can reconnect with former classmates, hear about events and find out what's going on at NSAC by following us online. Join us on the following social media sites:

Twitter: twitter.com/nsacu

Facebook: facebook.com/nsacu

YouTube: youtube.com/nsacalumni

If you haven't already, sign up for our monthly alumni **e-News** by sending a request to alumni@nsac.ca

To request your version of **Agricola News** electronically e-mail us at alumni@nsac.ca

"In Touch!"

Submissions for the regular feature in *Agricola News* can be sent to alumni@nsac.ca, through a Facebook message, or by mailing the Development & External Relations office, PO Box 550, Truro, NS B2N 5E3

Address Change

Update your address by calling 902-893-6721, e-mailing alumni@nsac.ca or fill out our online form at nsac.ca/alumni/update

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Agricola News

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This knit NSAC sweater, from the late 1930's, was recently donated by Joan Schofield. This rare sweater belonged to Joan's brother, Francis Lawrence. After graduating from NSAC in 1940, Francis went to war with the air force. He did not return. The NSAC badge also belonged to Mr. Lawrence.

Old NSAC sports equipment, hockey helmet and goalie glove, also pictured on cover, are from the 1970's.

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The Dr. Ted MacNintch Class Engagement Award was conceived in 2011 to recognize individuals for outstanding alumni class leadership.

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A Message from NSAC's Co-Presidents

As co-presidents of Nova Scotia Agricultural College, we are very pleased to provide you with an update on the activities and developments taking place at your alma mater.

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne!*

These are lyrics to a song traditionally sung by most of us on the stroke of midnight each New Year's Eve as we reflect on love and friendship in times past and toast to future ones.

This year, *Auld Lang Syne* may have particular meaning for NSAC as we reflect on our long and proud history as a unique university specializing in agricultural science and work towards a merger with Dalhousie University.

We know many of you may feel a sense of loss in response to a merger but we encourage you to remember this is about improving opportunities. We have written our own history over the past 106 years. And we will continue to write it.

At NSAC we aspire to offer our students a unique educational experience in a small, friendly environment. Our small student-to-faculty ratio means students learn "hands-on" from world class researchers. Our expertise in the areas of agriculture, agri-food and bio-resources enables students to support healthy, sustainable communities – to make a difference.

As we approach this next phase in NSAC's evolution, these, our core values will not change. They have grown out of our past, remain central to our present and will guide our future.

And NSAC's future continues to look bright. This year NSAC reached its highest enrollment in 106 years with 994 students, surpassing an all-time high of 961 students last year. This represents a three per cent increase over 2010.

The university also welcomed 62 new international students from China, India, the Netherlands, Germany, Vietnam, the Czech Republic, Finland, Ethiopia and Scotland. International student enrollment remains at 19 per cent of the student body.

For the fifth consecutive year in a row, NSAC ranked No. 1 in research intensity among Atlantic Canadian universities according to Research Infosource Inc. and its Canada's Top 50 Research Universities List.

NSAC's grounds continue to be a source of learning, pleasure and pride for the university and wider community and we were



so pleased to be able to officially open the NSAC section of the Cobequid Trail this past October. This 1500m trail was developed by the Municipality of Colchester in partnership with NSAC and the Village of Bible Hill.

We also held the first official lighting of the Centennial Amphitheatre in September. The centennial amphitheater lighting was a fundraising project of our Technical Teaching Association under the theme *Lighting the way for students since 1905* (more on page 13).

NSAC will continue to light the way in 2012 and beyond. So as you welcome the New Year, remember NSAC and all that it has accomplished and will continue to accomplish as we move forward together in our story with Dalhousie University. As a merged institution, NSAC and Dal can truly become a more prominent centre of excellence in Canada for research and innovation in agriculture, agri-food and bio-resources.

Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing many of you in 2012.

Sincerely,

Dr. Leslie MacLaren
Co-President, Vice President Academic

Dr. Bernie MacDonald
Co-President, Vice President Administration

Rick Hansen Relay Stopped at NSAC

Making a difference in the lives of others comes easy for four NSAC participants in the 25th anniversary Rick Hansen Relay, which stopped on campus in late September.

NSAC alumni Mattea Tracey (Class of '10) and Dwane Mellish (Class of '75), along with Students' Union President, Paul Manning and staff member Lugene Young were among 7,000 participants from across Canada helping to retrace the Canadian segment of the original Man In Motion World Tour. This time, one man in motion was represented and celebrated by many in motion, engaging Canadians who are seeking ways to generate change and improve the lives of others.

"NSAC's people are often described as quiet crusaders – individuals who make a difference on a daily basis in their communities and to their environment," explained NSAC Co-President,

Dr. Bernie MacDonald. "They roll up their sleeves and help out because it's the right thing to do," he added. "We are so pleased that these four are being recognized in this way."

Mattea Tracey, an NSAC Masters student is heavily involved in the Drive Away Hunger campaign annually raising much needed food for the Colchester Food Bank. Dwane Mellish is a 30-year volunteer veteran of the Bible Hill Fire Brigade. NSAC Nurse Educator, Lugene Young, believes in the power of setting a positive example and contributes her expertise to many community organizations. Paul Manning is making a difference on a global basis raising funds for victims of natural disasters and has volunteered his services in a developing country.

As the Relay connected the country from coast-to-coast, the symbol that linked each participant to the next was the Rick Hansen Medal, designed and handcrafted in sterling silver by the Royal Canadian Mint. In addition to their participant uniform, every Medal-Bearer received their own commemorative medal from the Royal Canadian Mint to permanently remember the way in which they personally added to the momentum of the 25th Anniversary Man In Motion World Tour.



Photo L-R: President, NSAC Alumni Association, Dwane Mellish, Nurse Educator, Lugene Young, Rick Hansen, President, Students' Union, Paul Manning and Masters student, Mattea Tracey before leaving Langille Athletic Centre for their leg of the relay.

Around & About...

Metro couple go from farmers to vintners

Jeff (Class of '81) and Janet (Class of '80)



Jeff and Janet Everett of Magnetic Hill Winery and Bed & Breakfast promote local products and local attractions to the extent that every ingredient in their hand-crafted artisanal wines is either grown on their own farm, or is sourced within a half-hour of Metro Moncton.

Like all farmers, Janet and Jeff Everett were always battling what they call "the four toos."

"Too wet, too dry, too hot and too cold," Jeff says.

"And too hard, too."

The Everetts always wanted to be farmers, but by the late 1990s, with their berry farm only performing above expectations in one single year due to factors out of their control such as the weather, and with their four children who formed the bulk of their manpower leaving the family nest, they knew there had to be a better way.

The Everetts decided to use the produce of their popular berry farm - Utopia U-Pick - and develop a winery.

The original plan had been to host the winery on their existing farm, but then they learned that the vacant 1867 Lutes estate beside the Magnetic Hill theme park was available. To the Everetts, the combination of the house, the spectacular view of Moncton and its location next to the area's premier tourist attraction made it an irresistible part of their plans to build a winery that would in turn promote local foods, products and attractions.

This would be the home of Magnetic Hill Winery and the start of a lot more hard work.

The winery opened in 2005 and has been a great success with sales rising annually.

The Everetts have since received the 2008 Greater Moncton Excellence Award for Top Emerging Business and the 2008 Best of Show Wines at the N.B. Savour Food and Wine Show. Two of their wines have won gold and silver medals at an Atlantic wines competition and now the couple are starting an on-site vineyard as well as a selection of grape wines, while continuing the tradition of wine-

making with different local fruits and flowers, just as their ancestors would have done a century ago.

After five years, the Magnetic Hill Winery and Bed and Breakfast is still a lot of work, but success is flowing from that work, Janet says.

"Every single thing is hands-on," she says. "All the way through the entire process."

Every ingredient is either grown on their farm or is accessed from within a half-hour of their farm.

From 5,000 litres per year, production has quadrupled.

Each bottle is three or four months in the making and their fruit wines contain a quarter-pound of fruit.

And in keeping with the Everetts' tenet of using local products in their wines and their mandate to promote the local area and all it has to offer, their wines' names reflect local tourist attractions. Bay of Fundy Blue gets its name from the Bay of Fundy, home to the highest tides in the world and is made from wild blueberries. Illusions is named after the famous Magnetic Hill optical illusion. The Chocolate River Dessert wines depict the fruit flowing in on the tidal bore of the Petitcodiac River and is so named because of their excellent pairing with chocolate, with dark chocolate Chewter cups available to pour the wine in.

Janet says the couple are "probably" never going back to their Utopia U-Pick days, for which they became widely known in Metro Moncton and beyond.

Jeff says there's no "probably" about it.

"She says probably. I say no we're not. Well, I'm not, anyway."

The Everetts were the presenting guests at September's annual general meeting of the Probus Club of Greater Moncton which promotes fellowship and networking for its members, mostly retired and semi-retired businessmen.

The entire Magnetic Hill Winery and Bed & Breakfast operation is located on Front Mountain Road, near Mountain Road and near the Magnetic Hill attraction site, offering a majestic vista of the city, in a farm house as old as Canada itself, the restoration of which is nearing completion as the Everetts have tried to keep the house's old-time original charm intact as much as possible while accommodating the needs of a modern winery and bed and breakfast.

Their fall hours are from 1 to 5 p.m. until Christmas Eve.

"Drop in any time," Janet says.

As its name grows in renown, so does the business and what it offers guests, including patio picnics, tastings, parties, corporate meetings and weddings - including a tent big enough to host 175 guests. Or if you prefer, a cozy gazebo just for you and a special someone.

In 2011 they accommodated eight weddings. They are booked for nine nuptials for 2012 already.

And usually, Janet says, after someone visits for the first time, they are back in short order with friends in tow.

As printed, Sept. 8, 2011 in the Times & Transcript.

Women in Aquaculture: Jackie Rose (Gaulton) Class of '02

There are a number of women who are playing a key role in the growth of the aquaculture industry in the Coast of Bays. One of these interesting women is Jackie Rose, a young woman from St. Alban's.



Jackie Rose at work at the new Centre for Aquaculture Health and Development in St. Alban's. Rose manages the three DFA labs in the province that are located at St. John's, Grand Falls-Windsor and St. Alban's.

Alban's who is today the manager of three fish health laboratories in the province.

Jackie Rose grew up in St. Alban's and headed off to NSAC following her graduation from Holy Cross High School.

While back home from the college on a summer break she landed a job with Dr. Leighanne Hawkins who was a veterinarian working with the provincial Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (DFA) in the St. Alban's area at that time.

Rose said, "It was while working with Dr. Hawkins that I simply fell in love with aquaculture. We'd be out on the water collecting samples and doing some work back at the lab here. I knew then that I wanted to pursue aquaculture as a career."

Rose graduated in 2002 with a degree in agriculture that contained a major in aquaculture. She then volunteered to work at the University of Louisiana in their estuary program for a year.

However, she felt Newfoundland calling her back and she was soon in St. Alban's again where she has been working with the provincial DFA Department since 2003.

"I started working with DFA in a lab/field position under Dr. Daryl Whelan. I attended the site visits and would come back to the old lab to process the fish myself and send samples off to the veterinary college in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island."

All that hard work has certainly paid off for Rose as she is now the lab manager for the three DFA laboratories in the province - the ones in St. John's and Grand Falls-Windsor and the brand new Centre for Aquaculture Health and Development in St. Alban's.

"My job here has evolved over the years to this new position of being the senior lab technologist here at the new health centre in St. Alban's. My role has changed too, of course, in that I'm now more involved with managing as well as the hands on laboratory duties.

Rose said that she really likes her new position with DFA.

"I'm not the type of person that likes to do repetitive work every day. While the actual technologies may be routine, as a whole, this job is different every day.

"I could be helping with a post mortem or autopsy on a fish, or I could be setting up equipment in our new facility. Just recently, for example, we installed some very technologically advanced equipment valued at a million dollars at this facility. I could be travelling to Grand Falls-Windsor to train a new technician or to a meeting in St. John's or abroad for various laboratory training.

"To me, this position was a long time coming but it's very exciting. I love working with Dr. Whelan and all the staff here at this new state-of-the-art centre."

Rose said that she is looking forward to the extra work and new experiences that the new centre will offer her and the staff.

"One of the main advantages of this new health centre is that we now have the capability to do almost all of our testing in-house. This will mean more interesting work for us, and we're all eagerly looking forward to that."

As published, Aug. 16, 2011 in The Coaster.

Women in Aquaculture Angela Laing (Class of '99)



Angela Laing hasn't kept the fact that she didn't have a strong background in aquaculture from stopping her getting involved with the growing aquaculture industry in the Coast of Bays.

Laing grew up a long way from the industry in North Boat Harbour on the Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland and Labrador. She graduated from James Cook Memorial All Grade School in 1990 and went on to earn her Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in Biology

from Memorial University in 1995.

After graduating from MUN she went on to complete a three-year diploma program in Animal Health Technology from NSAC.

While attending the college in Truro she met another Newfoundland girl, Jackie Gaulton from St. Alban's and the two became friends. Laing could not have known it then but the friendship would play a key role in her career a few years down the road.

After working at a small animal clinic in Gander, Laing got her first job that directly dealt with aquaculture in 2005.

She said, "All this came about only by chance really. I was finishing up a contract when Jackie, who was working in the aquaculture lab in St. Alban's, had gone on maternity leave. I was

searching for a job, the position was there, it appeared to be interesting work, so I decided to apply for the lab position.

Of course, I had a background in animal health. My experience included working with household pets, some farm animals as well as exotics and wild animals. I thought this is just another animal, so I'll give it a try."

Laing worked at the lab in St. Alban's for five months during that time period.

In the meantime, she went back to MUN to work toward her Education Degree, which she needs four more courses to complete.

However, fate stepped in before she completed her Education Degree as the provincial Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (DFA) was looking for another laboratory specialist in St. Alban's.

"This position came up, I knew the area, I knew the people, I liked the job so I applied and here I am working as a veterinary laboratory technologist with the Aquatic Animal Health Division of the provincial DFA in one of the most modern fish health centres in the world."

Laing said that her role as a laboratory technologist is very interesting work.

"Our role is to ensure the health of the aquaculture species out there, namely salmon and steelhead trout. We ensure their health and advise on management strategies to lead to better health and performance.

"Although our lab work may be somewhat routine, every day here is different to some degree. We could start out in the morning by doing a necropsy on a fish to collect various samples.

"We could be looking for bacteria or viruses. I could be working in any of the rooms in this new facility or in all of them throughout any given day. It's just amazing really, especially now in getting our new equipment up and running at this ultra modern centre.

"I could also get to spend some time out on the water which is always an extra bonus for me."

Laing said that the new Centre for Aquaculture Health and Development will be very important for the future of the aquaculture industry in the Coast of Bays.

"All this modern equipment in house means our turn-around time on our results is going to be so much quicker. If there is an issue with the fish, producers will know about it a lot faster than before because we couldn't do some testing in-house.

"Our turn-around time on results is going to be quicker which also means a faster response time on our part. Producers can then be secure as well in knowing that the fish are being looked after and everything is going to be fine much sooner than before.

"Basically, this lab here in St. Alban's gives producers security in knowing that there are well-trained, educated people here that are working in their best interests in making sure the fish are as healthy as they can be.

"What this all means in the long run is that the aquaculture industry should see tremendous sustainable growth in the Coast of Bays over the next few years."

As published in "The Coaster".

Magnitude of Success

Arch Chisholm (Class of '62)



New business owners continually question their success. Success can be measured in the cash flow, the line-up at the counter, or even in the amount of orders to be filled. Sometimes success can also be determined from an

event or unique situation.

"I received a phone call from this designer in Manhattan, she said she was opening up a new store and wanted a hammock to hang in the window," said Arch Chisholm, owner of The Bay Hammock Company. "Her name was Vera... something like that... Vera Wang."

Arch didn't immediately realize the magnitude of the phone call he received from famous couture fashion designer, Vera Wang. The designer's all black hammock now hangs from the ceiling of her new "Alexanger Wang" store in SoHo, New York.

"When I went to buy this hammock company, I had never sat in a hammock before in my life," said Arch, "but I knew I could run a business. I bought with my heart, not my head." After discovering what type of order the custom all black hammock was, Arch realized he made the right choice.

Located in Seabright, N.S., The Bay Hammock Company is the only hammock company in North America that specializes in custom hammocks and sun shades. The family run business also makes their own rope. Arch takes care of business while his wife deals with the public relations aspects.

There are so many great experiences when starting a company, but Arch has had more than one unique request. His favorite being a shipment to Texas for 1,000 hammocks.

"I received a phone call for 1,000 hammocks and pillows. I thought the customer was joking! They weren't," said Arch. "They were going to be given away as gifts for employees, which I thought was such a great idea, I was really proud to be able to provide that."

Along with accomplishments come the stresses of owning a business. According to Arch the most stressful part of his business is meeting the deadlines.

"Once you commit to having that product to some part of Canada or the U.S. in a short amount of time, you have to make the deadline."

Arch, who has taken on seven businesses since retiring from Ford Motor Company, after 30 years, has advice to offer those interested in owning their own business.

"Do your market research. You need to see if it will succeed in the market, give it a few years and if it succeeds then buy your own building," says Arch. "Seriously, you do not want to pay rent, it is a pain in the butt owing somebody rent every month, plus you lose profit. Read carefully, read everything carefully,

contracts, instructions, everything.”

Arch is also quick to admit the importance of an education in today’s world. “I really appreciate the time I spent at both NSAC and Guelph University. Because of this, I’m successful today.”

“I got life experience from NSAC and it opened the door to get a job. You use your education every time you open your mouth. There is a whole world to be discovered out there, its life experiences that make life happen.”

Ontario man sets World Record for Biggest Squash

Joel Jarvis (Class of ’93)

Joel Jarvis watched with the anticipation of an expectant father as his baby put on as much as 40 pounds a day.

The St. Thomas, O.N. resident knew it was going to be a big one but never imagined in his wildest dreams that it would easily “squash” the world records.



Joel and his daughter Brooklyn, four, proudly reveal the world’s largest squash.

His prizewinning squash tipped the scales at 674.3 kg or 1,486.6 pounds, easily eclipsing the old record of 560 kg or 1,234 pounds as confirmed by Guinness World Records.

Jarvis broke the record on Oct. 1 at the Port Elgin Pumpkin-fest, which Jarvis describes as the “Kentucky Derby” for giant vegetables.

“This has been a long time coming,” he told the Toronto Star. “I’m 38 and I have been doing this since I was 11,” said the horticulturist, who got his training at NSAC.

“Sometimes the wind blows the right way and the sun shines right.”

No matter how you slice it, this is a big deal in the world of oversized vegetables. Word is seeds from the world’s largest pumpkin last year sold for more than \$1,600 apiece.

“To be honest I might get \$40 a seed,” said Jarvis, who figures his various prize monies — including from the Giant Vegetable

Growers of Ontario — will add up to as much as \$8,000, and that will likely go toward a new van now that his family has just expanded by one.

That’s right, he’s also the proud papa of a seven-pound baby girl, Rayna, who decided to arrive just as he was showing off his prize squash.

The added twist to the gargantuan squash is that it out-plumped the largest pumpkin at the Norfolk County Fair, which Jarvis also grew. The pumpkin weighed 1,426 pounds or 646.822 kg and fetched \$2,000 in prize money at the fair in Simcoe, ON. The squash, meanwhile, won \$300.

As far as anyone knows in the 171 years of the Norfolk County Fair, this is the first time a squash beat out a pumpkin on the scales, according to Karen Matthews, the fair’s general manager.

The heaviest pumpkin on record weighed 821.23 kg (1,810 lb. 8 oz.) and was presented by Chris Stevens at the Stillwater Harvest Fest in Stillwater, Minn., on Oct. 9, 2010, according to the Guinness Book of Records.

Jarvis says his squash is not genetically modified but is the result of cross breeding and a whole bunch of fertilizers and non-stop tender-loving care. It was planted on May 6, 2011.

“You start off with a little seedling and it grows the same length of time as a regular squash or pumpkin, but as soon as you get it in the ground you are pushing it to the extreme with your fertilizers,” he said.

Jarvis said the vegetables actually grew for about 90 days and “there were days that it was putting on average 35 to 40 pounds a day. That’s bad for people, but when you are talking pumpkins and squash. . . .”

He said most people think that given its size, the squash wouldn’t be edible, “but my wife (Kristine) made squash soup last year with ours (another whopper of a squash) and it was fantastic.”

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NSAC | Dalhousie Merger



“NSAC’s role in creating and transferring knowledge in support of agriculture, food and bioresources is critical to Atlantic Canada and a merger with Dalhousie University will enhance NSAC’s capacity to collaborate and innovate on a much bigger playing field,” said Dr. Leslie MacLaren.

The proposed merger between Nova Scotia Agricultural College and Dalhousie University is entering negotiations following the completion of the discovery phase. “There’s been a huge amount of collaboration thus far and the individuals who have been contributing to this process have really been doing so above and beyond their day-to-day roles,” explains Susan Spence Wach, associate vice-president, academic programs at Dalhousie, who is representing the university in the discussions. It’s an intense timeline: the parties involved—NSAC, Dal and the Government of Nova Scotia—are hoping to have next fall’s cohort begin their studies as Dalhousie students. Meeting this target requires provincial legislation to be passed in the spring, meaning a working agreement for a merger needs to be reached in the next month or two.

A series of alumni meetings were held earlier this month, with one more scheduled for Kentville, N.S in February. The purpose of the events are to keep alumni engaged and informed of the process and to provide opportunity for valuable input. Dr. Richard Donald, NSAC vice-president research, extension and outreach, Susan Spence Wach, associate vice-president, academic programs at Dalhousie were in attendance.

Since the merger talks were announced in May, members of 14 working groups have been looking into the opportunities and concerns that a merger would present and issuing reports that will inform the negotiations. As there is already a strong academic relationship between the two schools, it will be administrative matters—finance, human resources, information technology and property and assets—that are likely to be the major topics in negotiations between Dalhousie and the Government of Nova Scotia.

Because NSAC is a government operated institution, as part of the Department of Agriculture, many of its administrative tasks are performed by government so therefore any agreement would require government approval as it transitions NSAC from government to being part of Dalhousie.

The NSAC community has been critical to the process and has helped to shape the principles and objectives, which enshrine the guiding ideas of the merger. Among these: that a merger will seek to maintain not only NSAC’s agricultural mandate, but also its small-campus culture.

“NSAC’s role in creating and transferring knowledge in support of agriculture, food and bioresources is critical to Atlantic Canada and a merger with Dalhousie University will enhance NSAC’s capacity to collaborate and innovate on a much bigger playing field,” said Dr. Leslie MacLaren, NSAC co-president and vice president academic. “Our strength is our ability to integrate

ideas, student experience and quality research into strong relationships that support the rural economy. We now have the opportunity to grow these relationships even further with Dalhousie's comprehensive range of expertise and talent."

While many of the details are still being negotiated, the proposed governance structure would see NSAC become a campus of Dalhousie (with a name still to be determined) and home to a new Dalhousie faculty. It would be led by a campus principal/dean, a dual role that would oversee both the academic and operational elements of the new campus. The campus would also have an advisory body with representation from government and industry, ensuring that it fulfills its community-focused agricultural mandate.

"A merger of NSAC and Dalhousie offers exciting opportunities to build and enhance academic and research programs at both campuses and better equips NSAC to be a regional, national and international leader in agricultural research and education," added Dr. Bernie MacDonald, NSAC co-president and vice president administration. "This merger will also help to ensure the 106 year history and tradition of NSAC continues. As a centre of agricultural excellence, NSAC, as part of Dalhousie, will continue to be well-positioned to contribute to the growth and development of the regional rural economy and beyond."

Discussions have been informed by leaders at NSAC, members of the merger working groups, students and alumni. Members of these key groups will be critical to the success of the merged institution and its alumni, part of the tradition and history of the university moving forward.

There will be intense weeks of work ahead as negotiations begin in earnest with both lead negotiators looking at the possibilities for the future that include increased collaboration between faculty and researchers, more chances for international development work and more program options for students.



Principles and Objectives

The principles and objectives for NSAC-Dalhousie merger discussions were developed by government, NSAC and Dalhousie along with input from many stakeholders. These principles embrace the things which have made NSAC what it is today and also help position NSAC and Dalhousie for continued success in the future. They will be used to help guide discussions and decisions related to the merger of NSAC and Dalhousie.

1 Institutional Identity and Mandate

1.1

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will maintain and strengthen the NSAC mandate as defined in section 4 of Nova Scotia Agricultural College Act (2008 c.7).

1.2

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will maintain NSAC's identity and reputation, its small campus culture and agricultural mandate, which will be reflected in its name.

1.3

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will maintain and develop current NSAC property and facilities essential to its mandate and its efficient operation.

1.4

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will maintain and enhance educational programs in agriculture, renewable resources, environmental stewardship and related fields.

1.5

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will maintain and enhance research & development in agriculture, renewable resources, environmental stewardship and related fields.

2 Collaborative Relationships and Other Benefits

2.1

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will increase opportunities for both institutions to contribute to economic development and enhanced resource and environmental stewardship throughout rural Nova Scotia.

2.2

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will strengthen existing academic programs and provide greater opportunities for future educational program development to benefit students on both campuses.

2.3

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will provide greater opportunities for collaboration with government and industry to better align academic and research & development priorities with the economic development, innovation and productivity needs of Nova Scotia.

2.4

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will maintain and grow the economic, social, and cultural contributions to the Bible Hill/Truro community.

2.5

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC, through increased collaborative opportunities, will benefit researchers and their current and future projects.

2.6

The merged institution of Dalhousie University and NSAC will support and expand research & development activities and extension services across the province; in particular it will work closely with Acadia University, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and agriculture industry stakeholders in the Annapolis Valley.

2.7

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will be undertaken with the intention of avoiding an adverse impact on the financial situation of Dalhousie University and the Province of Nova Scotia.

3 Governance, Management and Administration

3.1

The merger of Dalhousie University and NSAC will be planned and implemented to achieve efficiencies and improved cost effectiveness for the merged institutions.

3.2

The governance arrangement will enhance opportunities for continued and meaningful input and participation by industry and rural community stakeholders.

3.3

The merged institution of Dalhousie and NSAC will continue to be a responsible and respectful employer, and the merger will be conducted in a way that is mindful of the interests of employees.

3.4

Dalhousie-NSAC will honor historic commitments to NSAC alumni, donors and partners.

Fast Facts

Dalhousie University

- Founded in 1818
- Enrolment: 16,693 students
- Faculty and staff: 5,570
- \$132 million in external research funding
- 100,000 graduates, with over 1,000 alumni in the Truro area

Nova Scotia Agricultural College

- Founded in 1905
- Only university in Atlantic Canada specializing in agricultural science
- Enrolment: 994 students
- Faculty and staff: 383
- Ranked no. 1 in research intensity among Atlantic Canada's 16 universities
- 87 per cent of graduates live in Atlantic Canada

For more on the merger—including Q&A's and regular updates—visit <http://nsacdalmerger.ca>

If you have specific questions, contact Dr. Richard Donald, NSAC's vice president research, extension and outreach at rdonald@nsac.ca or 902-893-6036.



Merger Timeline

May 20th, 2011

Announcement

June 2011

Project teams appointed

June 16th, 2011

Joint discovery workshop with Dal, NSAC and Gov

Summer/fall 2011

Merger discussion and discovery phase

October 2011

Principles and Objectives finalized for NSAC/Dal merger discussions

November 2011

Proposed governance model introduced

December 2011/January 2012

Negotiation, agreement and approvals

February 2012

Transition begins

Spring 2012

Legislation

Summer 2012

Effective date of merger

Fall 2012

Students enter classes in newly merged entity

Lighting of the Centennial Amphitheatre



Lighting the way for students since 1905 was the theme of a lighting project for the NSAC Centennial Amphitheatre and was a fundraising project of the Technical Teaching Association.

The lights were officially turned on for the first time during the Maritime Kitchen Party, Thursday, September 29th, 2011. There are 15 low voltage lights installed by students of the Horticulture 2010 Project Management Class to accentuate the features of the amphitheatre. The lights are low voltage consuming a total of 1000 w. The lights will be timed to come on at dusk and turn off at 10:00 p.m. The light bulbs are halogen and will be replaced with LED bulbs which will reduce power consumption by 80 per cent.

Cumming Artifacts



Peter Outhit and NSAC's Chief Librarian, Elaine MacInnis.

Peter Outhit, grandson of Dr. Melvin Cumming, the first principal of NSAC, recently donated a large collection of pictures, certificates, personal letters, newspaper clippings and notes belonging to Dr. Cumming. They include the manuscript for an unfinished book that Dr. Cumming was working on at the time of his death describing the soils of Nova Scotia.

NSAC is indebted to the Outhit family for sharing these historical items about Dr. Cumming and they will be preserved in the MacRae Library collections for future generations.

A new courtship

by Ryan McNutt

When it was announced on May 20 last year that NSAC and Dalhousie University were commencing merger discussions, it may have seemed to some like the start of a new courtship.

In fact, the relationship between the two schools is well-established, with many collaborations and points of academic integration over the years. Those involved with the discussions are excited by the potential to build on these connections.

"The more discussions I have with individuals, the more they talk about the possibilities for the future – increased collaboration between faculty and researchers, more chances for international development work, more program options for students," says Susan Spence Wach, associate vice-president academic at Dalhousie. "The breadth of what NSAC delivers in the agricultural spectrum continues to inspire me and I think that the opportunity for Dalhousie to help increase the reach of those academic and research programs is a very exciting one."

It's at the academic level where some of the strongest connections already exist. NSAC's degree programs, established in the 1980s, are granted formally by Dalhousie, with the parchments bearing the names of both institutions. The programs themselves are also reviewed and approved through the Dalhousie Senate.

"Anything on a degree level—from new programs to reviewing existing ones—goes through the exact same process that a Dalhousie degree does," explains Lloyd Fraser, chair of the Dalhousie Senate.

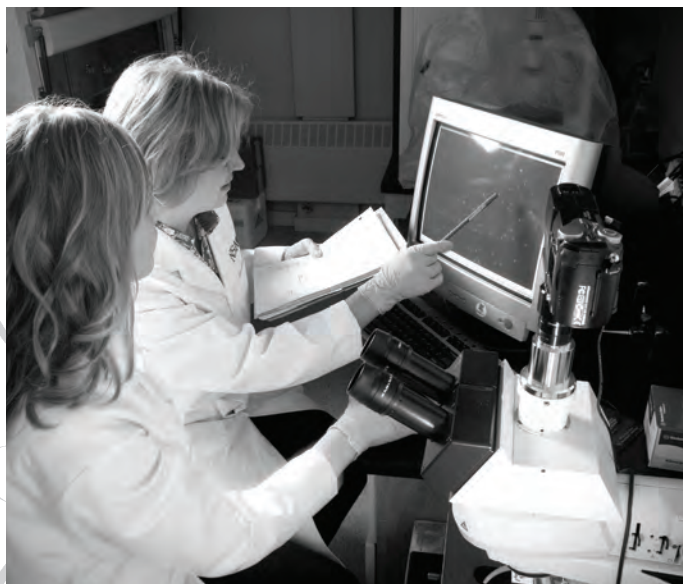
Dalhousie is represented on NSAC's Faculty Council and NSAC is represented on the Dalhousie Senate by Co-President Leslie MacLaren.

On a student level, there are many Dalhousie and NSAC faculty who collaboratively supervise masters and Ph.D. students, or serve as examiners on their theses. Sina Adl, associate dean of the Faculty of Science at Dalhousie, is presently supervising several Ph.D. students with NSAC faculty members including Gordon Price, Mehdi Sharifi, David Burton and David Percival and has co-supervised many other students in the past.

Dr. Adl has also been involved in several collaborative Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) grants with NSAC, in work ranging from sustainable pasture management to the influence of composts and compost teas on berry crops and soil properties.

"We probably underestimate the amount of it that there is," says Dr. Adl of NSAC-Dal collaboration. "NSAC has a lot of expertise in agriculture, soil, certain areas of environmental research, where we don't have those same skill sets here. So I think the two schools merging will be useful."

One of NSAC's more prominent research facilities—the



Bio-Environmental Engineering Centre, located at the AgriTECH Park—was established jointly with Dalhousie's Department of Biomedical Engineering in 1992. It has become a state-of-the-art environmental research facility to work with and in support of the Atlantic Canada agri-food industry and Dalhousie professors often make use of it.

One of the more prominent collaborative research projects presently underway involves Vasantha Rupasinghe of NSAC's Department of Environmental Sciences and George Robertson of Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine. Together, they've developed a flavonoid-enriched formulation called AF4 from apple peelings.

Dr. Rupasinghe, who is the Canada Research Chair in Fruit Bioactive and Bioproducts, developed the formula, which was then tested by Dr. Robertson. So far, it has shown that it can safely and markedly reduce brain injury and motor deficits in a mouse model of stroke, as well as decrease spinal cord injury and paralysis in a mouse model of multiple sclerosis.

The collaboration dates back more than eight years.

"I think this is a very unique collaboration because [Dr. Rupasinghe] brings considerable expertise in food chemistry and natural products, whereas as a pharmacologist having worked in both the academic and industrial sectors, I bring expertise in animal disease modeling and therapeutic development," says Dr. Robertson. "It's a nice hand-in-glove fit."

As merger discussions continue and make progress, many more collaborations for NSAC and Dalhousie University are bound to surface. As Dr. Robertson said, the two institutions seem to fit together like a "hand and glove".

Hands-on learning

by Ryan McNutt

Julie Berkshire (B.Sc., Agriculture - Plant Sciences, '09) leaves no doubt as to what sort of learning she enjoys: as hands on as possible.

When she was completing her B.Sc. in agriculture at NSAC, her favourite courses were the ones that brought the real world into the classroom. She remembers fondly Kris Pruski's classes in vegetable production, small fruit crops and plant propagation, where it was less about seeing and more about doing.

"Rather than sitting there and reading it from a book or bringing it up on a slide, he'd bring what we were working on right into the lab," she says. "In plant propagation, I grew some oak trees that I still have growing at home, as well as some begonias and an apple tree."

Berkshire, who is originally from Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, always saw her NSAC experience as a starting point on the road to becoming a pharmacist and now she's starting to see that ambition become tangible in her third year at Dalhousie. In addition to working part-time at the hospital, where she does sterile compounding, she's at the point in her program where the general background has all been covered and the lessons and learning opportunities are becoming more directly applied.

"They really need to keep the agriculture in mind – it's crucial to what NSAC is," says Julie.

"It's the most practical work we've done so far – these are really the skills that we're going to be using to help people. We just had a diabetes workshop where we learned about all the different devices that are used to measure blood sugars. You know right away that you're learning something that's directly applicable."

A small-town girl at heart, Berkshire admits that it took her a bit to warm to city life after four years at NSAC. Even though Dalhousie's pharmacy program is a close-knit community—she spends nearly all her classwork with the same 90 people—that's still a lot of strangers to get to know at first.

"It's a little intimidating," she says. "You get used to it and I've grown to like the city, but I certainly see myself working in

a rural area when I'm finished my degree. That's what's so nice about NSAC for me: it's a small town, you live on a small campus and there's just a lot of land around. That's something you don't get here [in Halifax]."

Berkshire lived in residence all four years at NSAC, becoming vice-president of Trueman House in her fourth year. She draws a blank when asked to name something she didn't like about

residence life; entirely positive about the experience, she's grateful she had the chance to get to meet so many people who came through Trueman's doors over her four years there.

No surprise, then when asked about her success at NSAC—she was scholarship-funded throughout her degree and received the Governor General's Award upon graduating in 2009—she credits the community learning environment.

"You had close-knit classes and lots of chances to work with your teachers. I was pushing myself hard, because I knew that

I wanted to get into pharmacy and that it's a very competitive program at Dal. But I had so much support in that – anytime you needed to go and talk to a teacher, or your fellow students, they were there to help."

Though Berkshire admits she's been too busy to keep that close an eye on the merger process between Dalhousie and NSAC, she hopes that the elements that define NSAC to her—the small campus community, the focus on agricultural research—remain intact.

"They really need to keep the agriculture in mind – it's crucial to what NSAC is," she says. "There are so many courses that you'd never see at a larger institution. I know merging with Dal will help with research money and stuff like that, but it's a whole different group of people at NSAC than you'd see anywhere else. It needs to keep that."

As someone who's been at both institutions, she says the experiences have been complimentary, but each school brings something unique to the table.

"Dal gives me a totally different experience, even though, on its own terms, the College of Pharmacy is fairly small. But for people who want a small town, small community education, NSAC is a really wonderful experience."



NSAC's Executive Director, Development & External Relations to Retire



After a long and lustrous 35 year career with the Province of Nova Scotia, Jim Goit will officially retire from NSAC at the end of February, 2012.

"Seeing Jim leave NSAC is a sad moment... bittersweet, shall we say," said former NSAC principal, Dr. Garth Coffin (Class of '60). "Jim has done such a good job for the campus."

After completing his B.Sc. in Earth Science in 1975 and his M.Sc. in Soil Science in 1976 at

the University of Guelph, Jim joined the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Marketing as a soils and crop specialist. In 1986, he became a director with the Department, working with several branches over the years.

"Jim was a huge contributor to agriculture in Nova Scotia, throughout his career," said Jack Johnson (Class of '50).

In 2000, Jim's career changed direction and he was appointed executive director, Development and External Relations at NSAC, a role he has held ever since.

Arriving at NSAC, Jim was tasked with building the university's Development and External Relations team. Over the 11 years, he grew his team from two employees, to six. His group is responsible for all communications, marketing, alumni relations and fundraising for the institution.

Among Jim's career achievements include developing NSAC's first website and making great strides advancing NSAC's fundraising portfolio.

"Jim worked hard and really served us well," said NSAC's Co-President, Dr. Bernie MacDonald.

Relationships with people have always been at the heart of any work that Jim has had over the years. From the early days as an extension specialist, through his time in management and administration, it has always been the people around Jim that were important.

This is equally evident in Jim's community involvement. As a member of the Rotary Club of Truro, since 2005 and current president, Jim has been very active in helping one of the oldest service groups in town modernize and implement plans to continue to give back to the community of which it is a part.

In his retirement, Jim will be greatly missed by his Development & External Relations team, NSAC alumni, which he knew so many on a personal level and colleagues across the country.

Jim looks forward to his new career as a ski instructor in Wentworth and working towards his goal of mastering the fiddle. Along with wife Barb, Jim hopes to do some travelling, including

frequent trips to visit their two grown sons and daughters-in-law in Ottawa.

Noticeable Differences at Work from 1976 – Present

By Jim Goit

- Almost everyone smoked - in the office, during meetings, at meal time, in the car – anyone's car. No-one asked permission!

- Women in professional roles were relatively rare and fewer still in management positions. The number of female students was increasing rapidly at NSAC.

- There was a secretary for every four or five professional staff. Everything was typed and retyped on IBM Selectric typewriters – and they had no correction ribbons. Whiteout was used for ordinary memos and some reports but not good correspondence. Copies were done on onionskin paper or with real carbon paper and mailed with Canada Post. Filing was a major task of office support staff. On the first "office" photocopier in Soils and Crops, the whole top of the machine moved back and forth and it printed on thermal paper. If you wanted something in colour, you used crayons.

- The agricultural industry was very different. There were many more farms in what are now the fringe parts of the province. The farms were smaller and less capital intensive. There was an equipment dealer in almost every small town. There were a lot more dairy farmers. The quota system was pretty new. Upright silos were just getting a foothold. Extension was a major part of the role of every employee at the Department and NSAC. There was still a Home Economics section of the Extension Branch. Both are long gone.

- Most people worked until they were 65 and they were forced to leave. There was no early retirement unless it was for ill health. Not many people left the Department or NSAC once they started. We had our own Credit Union as well as the Autopact. Credit was not as available and we all had to visit Ian Swan to get a loan for a car. Only the Autopact survives today.

Dr. Ted MacNintch Class Engagement Award

The Dr. Ted MacNintch Class Engagement Award was conceived in 2011 to recognize individuals for outstanding alumni class leadership.

Keeping alumni classes together is important to the overall communication between NSAC and those that attended classes here. Class reunions are often the main reason that alumni come back to NSAC and good reunions start with leadership from with-

in the class itself.

Those professionals who work with alumni recognize the importance of the special role that these class leaders put into their efforts to keep the class together. To recognize this role, and the



Executive Director, Development & External Relations, Jim Goit, presented Ted with the first Dr. Ted MacNintch Class Engagement Award.

outstanding effort of some of these individuals, the Dr. Ted MacNintch Class Engagement Award was created.

As Class of '56 president, Ted is the most outstanding class president NSAC has ever seen. For 55 years, Ted has been "the glue that holds the Class of '56 together".

Through faithfully distributing a class newsletter at least once per year and initiating class reunions, Ted has played a huge role in the strong bond held by his classmates. The Class of '56 is one of NSAC's most active classes. After meeting every five years for many years, the class now meets every year somewhere in the Maritimes. They have sponsored a scholarship and members have been involved in many fundraisers and activities on campus.

For Ted's incredible leadership with the Class of '56 and his devotion to NSAC, NSAC was pleased to create this new award named in his honour, the **Dr. Ted MacNintch Class Engagement Award**.

This award may be awarded annually by NSAC, to a class

member who has exemplified the importance of maintaining engagement within an NSAC class. Ted is truly the example for all alumni classes.

Read Ted's full award citation online at

http://nsac.ca/alumni/awards/macnintch/Ted_MacNintch.pdf

Do you have any old NSAC Calendars and Yearbooks?

Do you have any old NSAC calendars and yearbooks? The MacRae Library is working on a project to digitize and make available online the complete set of NSAC calendars and yearbooks! In order to complete the collection, we were hoping that alumni could help us find some missing issues.

NSAC Yearbooks – We are looking for the following years:

- 1963 and 1994

NSAC Calendars – we are looking for the following years:

- 1906-07
- 1908-09
- All the years from 1910-1911 to 1927-1928
- All the years from 1929-1930 to 1936-1937
- 1941-1942
- 1944-1945
- 1956-1957
- 1964-1965
- 1970-1971
- 1985-1986
- 1988-1989
- 1989-1990
- 1996-1997

If you have any of the above yearbooks or calendars, please contact Erin MacPherson at the MacRae Library at **902-893-3296** or emacpherson@nsac.ca. We will digitize them and return them to you, or, if you wish, you may donate them to be housed in our library archives.

Alumni Reunite

Leonard D'Eon (Class of '40) and Bernie Kuhn (Class of '39), two of NSAC's oldest alumni, reconnected this past fall, after 71 years, in Pubnico, N.S.

Bernie of San Diego County, California, age 90 and Leonard of Lower West Pubnico, N.S., age 93, were classmates in NSAC's General Course, 1938-40. Both have good memories of NSAC and its contribution to their education.

Leonard became a welder, boat builder and metal fabricator and taught welding in community colleges in Shelburne and Yarmouth for 16 years. He finally retired recently.

Bernie became an electrical engineer and had a career in radar and communications.



Events & Reunions

Class Reunions 2011

NSAC was a hoppin' spot around its annual Open House day, July 21. The Classes of '51, '56, '61 and '66 gathered on campus for their class reunions and to take advantage of the Open House festivities. Reunion classes also spent time as one big group for a reunion lunch, where an update on NSAC's activities was provided by Vice President, Research, Extension & Outreach, Dr. Richard Donald.

Many classes remained for a few days, spending more time on campus and taking in near-by attractions



Class of '41

Arnold Blenkhorn and John McLean, two of the three remaining class members from '41 spent July 21 reminiscing on campus. While it was not their first visit since graduation, they did notice a few changes from 70 years ago.

Class of '51



What better way to spend a 60th reunion than right where it all began – on campus! Members of the Class of '51 and partners, enjoyed a day reunion, touring NSAC's grounds and visiting the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Farm Museum. An evening dinner concluded the celebrations at the Glengarry Motel.

Class of '56

Continuing their tradition of meeting at least once a year, NSAC's active Class of '56 spent their 55th reunion on campus and in the local area. During their three-day gathering, class members and wives enjoyed a banquet in Jenkins Hall. Jeff Campbell, NSAC Masters' student and first recipient of the Class of '56 Graduate Scholarship addressed the attentive group, during dinner, providing a summary of his research work.



Also at the banquet, a surprise presentation was made to class president, Ted MacNintch. NSAC's Development & External Relations office created an award in Ted's name, to recognize individuals for outstanding alumni class leadership, as Ted

has done tremendously for many years. Ted was honoured as the first recipient of this award (more on the award on page 16).

During their reunion, the Class of '56 also enjoyed a campus tour, a visit to the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition Farm Museum and a class meeting. The gathering concluded with brunch at the Crouse residence in Folly Lake.



Class of '61



The Class of '61 gathered for their first time since graduation, 50 years ago for two days, on campus. Aside from taking in Open House activities and the reunion lunch, the group enjoyed social time at the Franklin residence, brunch in the MacRae library,

a tour of the farm museum, a meet and greet, with special guests in Alumni Gardens and a class supper at a local restaurant.



Class of '66



NSAC's Class of '66 celebrated their 45th reunion with a guided bus tour of campus, hosted by NSAC's Executive Director of Development & External Relations, Jim Goit. Class members and their spouses also enjoyed the reunion lunch and social time at the Holiday Inn. Day two

of the reunion was filled with breakfast at Sugar Moon Farm in Earlton, tours of local museums and a visit to Jost Vineyards.

Class of '01

The Class of '01 celebrated their 10 year reunion in early August, on campus. Classmates and families gathered for outdoor activities, a BBQ and evening social time.

Be Great. Do Good.



NSAC's quiet crusaders have created a community of learning that lasts. These great alumni, staff, faculty and students, that do good things were celebrated at NSAC's first Maritime Kitchen Party in late September.

Under a big white tent, pitched in the middle of campus, honourees, students, staff, alumni and community members celebrated to local music, traditional Maritime music and art by Holly Carr. Visit nsac.ca/learningthatlasts for more details on NSAC's great people doing good things.



Divot & Dine 2011

NSAC's Divot & Dine has become an annual event for local alumni at Riverrun Golf Club in North River. "Fun, tormenting and high scores" was heard to be the mantra of this golf game! Once again, this past June, several new participants joined regular alumni golfers for nine holes, a BBQ, prizes and lots of laughs.



Team "CAN", Cindi Crossman (Class of '07), Tracey Murdock (Class of '86) and Jean Lynds (Class of '90) captured the "Best Dressed Team" award.

Stewart Yuill (Class of '06), Holly Hines (Class of '05), Jeff Kay (Class of '86) and Jason Bouma (Class of '92) stop for a refreshment.



Scholarship Banquet 2011

Thirty-eight per cent of NSAC's student body were honored during the 2011 NSAC Scholarship Banquet, in early November, with the presentation of \$1 million in scholarships and bursaries to deserving students.

"We are very proud of our students," said NSAC Co-President and Vice President Academic Dr. Leslie MacLaren. "Their leadership in academics, in university life and in our stakeholder communities is a big part of what makes NSAC the great place to work and learn that it is. I'm so glad that we are able to acknowledge that leadership through our scholarships and bursary programs"

Stuart & Ruth Allaby Graduate Studies Scholarship Presented



Juan Manriquez, Viña del Mar, Chile, an M.Sc. student at NSAC, was selected as the 2011 recipient of the \$1,000 Stuart & Ruth Allaby Graduate Studies Scholarship at NSAC's Scholarship Banquet. Mr. Stuart Allaby and daughter Sharon

Dewar are shown congratulating Juan. The scholarship is awarded to an M.Sc. student at NSAC concentrating on animal research.

First Presentation of \$5,000 Class of '56 Graduate Student Scholarship



Jeffery Campbell, Kensington, PE, a first year M.Sc. student at NSAC, was the first recipient of the \$5,000 Class of '56 Graduate Student Scholarship. NSAC was pleased to have Dr. Doug Byers, class representative, attend the Scholarship Banquet to congratulate Jeff.

This \$5,000 scholarship (per year, for up to two years), is available to graduate students (M.Sc. or Ph.D.) at NSAC conducting a research project in one of the following areas of study: Agricultural Economics and Policy, Social Sciences, Engineering and Environmental Sciences. The scholarship is intended to stimulate research on rural water supply and rural watershed management in Atlantic Canada.

Several NSAC Alumni Family Bursaries Presented at Scholarship Banquet

NSAC is pleased to present several \$1,000 and \$500 bursaries to family members of NSAC Alumni studying at NSAC. Alisha Johnson, development officer, NSAC is shown with some of this year's recipients (back row, from left) –



Connie van den Heuvel, Heatherton, N.S., a second year B.Sc. (Agr.) Pre Vet student; Terra MacDonald, Truro, N.S., a second year B.Sc.(Agr.) Pre Vet student; Cassandra McDonald, Milford Station, NS, second year Plant Science Technology student; Rebecca McDonald, Milford Station, a second year B.Tech. Environmental Horticulture Technology student; Cory Cox, Maitland, N.S., a first year B.Sc.(Agr.) Agricultural Business student; Caitlin Congdon, Great Village, N.S., a fourth year B.Sc.(Agr.) Plant Science student; and Jennafer Bent, Lawrencetown, N.S., a second year B.Sc.(Agr.) student.

Front row: Ms. Johnson; Robyn McCallum, Tabusintac, N.B., a third year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; Kelsey Cheverie, Elmira, P.E., a second year Engineering student; Adam MacKinnon, Grand River, P.E., a second year B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student; and Robert Thomas, Truro, NS, a B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science student.

Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame Inductees 2011

The Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame was established in 1968 as a means of honouring individuals in Atlantic Canada for their contribution to the development of the agricultural industry in the region. Each year, one person from each of the four Atlantic Provinces is honoured at an induction ceremony and reception held at NSAC during the month of October.



Frank Thomson's significant contribution to the growth and expansion of agriculture in Nova Scotia earned him a nomination by the Antigonish Guysborough Federation of Agriculture.

The New Brunswick Cattle Producers recognized Bill Pryor as a worthy inductee into the AAHF for his over 50 years of contributions to the farm community and farm families in New Brunswick.



William Cairns was nominated by the Prince Edward Island Federation of Agriculture and the Dairy Farmers of PEI for his lifelong dedication to agriculture, his family and community.

Melvin Rideout is credited with introducing modern agriculture into the Cormack area, encouraging agricultural development in his community and throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. For his outstanding service, he was nominated by the Newfoundland and Labrador Horticulture Producers Council.



To read more about this year's inductees, please visit the AAHF online: nsac.ca/halloffame

2011 Blue & Gold Awards Gala Nov. 4, 2011

NSAC alumni have distinguished themselves through outstanding service to their alma mater, their communities, the Province of Nova Scotia and beyond. Many have achieved great distinction and success in their professional endeavours, have made significant contributions to progress in their field of work and/or humanity and have made extraordinary contributions either through their work, their volunteer efforts, or their financial support to the university. The Blue and Gold Awards program honours the recipients' achievements and demonstrates NSAC's pride in these accomplishments.

Young Alumni Achievement Award

The Young Alumni Achievement Award recognizes the outstanding achievements of NSAC alumni within 10 years of receiving a degree/diploma or within five years of receiving a graduate degree. Alumni are recognized for truly outstanding

achievement that may have earned them regional, national or international prominence through service to humanity, in their profession and/or volunteer organizations, through community service, the advancement of knowledge and service to NSAC.

Alumni Volunteer of the Year

The Volunteer of the Year Award honors a volunteer, who has consistently and enthusiastically donated their time and talents to advancing the objectives of the university and/or the Alumni Association and with whose support has significantly enhanced the success of various programs. The nominee must be a member of NSAC's Alumni Association and have represented NSAC as well as an ambassador.

Distinguished Alumni Award

The Distinguished Alumni Award is NSAC's most prestigious award, recognizing truly outstanding service and commitment to NSAC, industry and the Alumni Association. Nominees must have distinguished themselves in their area of expertise, bringing honour to the university.

And the winners are...

Mark (Class of '05 & '06) and Sally (Class of '06) Bernard

Young Alumni Achievement Award 2011



Sally, Mark and President, NSAC Alumni Association, Dwane Mellish.

Growing up on the family potato farm in Freetown, P.E.I. and helping out when possible, it seems like a natural choice for Mark to have furthered his education at NSAC. Mark's studies earned him a degree in Agricultural Business and certificates in Organic Agriculture Specialization and Agriculture Technology. It was while studying at NSAC that Mark met, who would eventually become his future business partner and wife, Sally Wilson.

Farm lifestyle was also in Sally's blood. Raised on a beef and

sheep farm in N.B., Sally attended Mount Allison University, before later switching gears and receiving her Plant Science Diploma at NSAC.

After graduating, the young P.E.I. couple jumped in as fourth-generation farmers and have been making a big impact ever since. Mark and Sally work the 500-plus-acre Bernard family farm, Barnyard Organics, which they have converted to 100 per cent certified organic. For their efforts, Mark and Sally were recipients of the 2010 Organic Farmers of the Year award from P.E.I. Certified Organic Producers Co-operative.

The organic certification was a gradual process, taking three years. Mark and Sally found themselves accessing what they studied at NSAC on a daily basis. One of the biggest challenges for this couple was to completely shift their way of thinking from how things were done before, to what works in the present.

Barnyard Organics is one of the largest organic farms on the Island. Not to mention, it is operated by one of the Island's youngest farming couples. They focus on soybeans, field peas and grains, such as wheat, barley and oats. Sally's livestock background has also contributed to the mixture as Barnyard Organics produces organic chicken and lamb, which is sold directly to consumers, as are their organic eggs, at the farm gate.

Mark and Sally continue to build and expand their farm, paying particular attention to their ecological footprint and the quality of their products.

On the livestock side of things, Mark and Sally take great pride in being able to produce all of the feed for their chickens and sheep, confident in the superiority of their grains and hay and knowing exactly where everything comes from.

The infrastructure at Barnyard Organics is also an asset to the organic industry in the Maritimes. With a soybean roaster, which is dedicated to roasting strictly organic and non-GMO beans, organic soybeans from around the region are roasted for organic livestock feed.

Between all of their accomplishments and hard work on the farm, Mark and Sally are also assets to their community. Mark has been closely involved with the P.E.I. Certified Organic Producers Co-op, as well as the Atlantic Certified Organic Co-op and he sits on the Environmental Advisory Council for P.E.I. Sally sits on the boards for Atlantic Canadian Organic Regional Network and the National Farmers Union. She is also the music director for the Sunday school program at Summerside Presbyterian Church.

Mark and Sally are proud to be building a farm for generations to come and their children, Lucy, Wilson and Thayne, are already showing a love of agriculture. Creating a future in sustainable farming, for their children, is perhaps their proudest accomplishment of all.

Mark and Sally are real leaders and ambassadors for agriculture in the Maritimes and they are making a big difference.

Kara Irving (Class of '95)

Alumni Volunteer of the Year 2011

The description "an amazing leader and tremendous volunteer" came up many times while completing background research on NSAC's 2011 Volunteer of the Year award recipient. What makes this description all the more impressive is not only the vast number of agricultural organizations



NSAC Co-President, Dr. Leslie MacLaren, Kara and Dwane.

and clubs in which our volunteer of the year dedicates her time, but her willingness to give each group 100 per cent.

Kara Irving's passion for agriculture steeps so deep that it has always filled her spare time, it was the focus of her education and it's her career.

After graduating from NSAC in 1995 with a science degree, Kara spent some time employed as a dairy specialist with the Department of Agriculture and as a teaching assistant in the animal science department at NSAC. Eventually Kara's full-time day job became the family business in Pugwash, N.S., Straitside Holsteins, which she shares with her parents, Keith and Joan.

As for her other "jobs", Kara is very active with 4-H, judging every category from poultry, demonstration, to public speaking at local and provincial events, often with barely a moment's notice. She clerked the dairy category at the N.S. 4-H Show for more than a decade, assisted at the pro show as ring steward, official judge and even substitute show announcer.

The Central Nova Holstein Club has also reaped the benefits of Kara's time for many years. Serving as club secretary, Kara volunteers at shows and sales hosted by the club. She helps with club functions, including Master breeder recognition evenings, judging schools and picnics. For the most part, Kara is the sole organizer of such events. Additionally she looks after the club finances, meeting notices, agendas, awards, advertising, promotions and annual meetings.

Kara is an official judge with Holstein Canada and for the 2011 National Holstein Convention, she was the first volunteer to sign-up. As secretary and chair of the banquet committee, Kara co-ordinated the Master Breeder Banquet, Atlantic Lobster Feast, Exhibitors Breakfast, and refreshments at the annual meeting.

Kara spent eight years as a member of the Dairy Farmers of Nova Scotia Board of Directors. During this time she was an adamant supporter of emergency planning at the farm level. Kara volunteered to serve as co-chair of the Atlantic dairy emergency planning committee. She oversaw numerous meetings and conference calls of the steering committee and sub committees to ensure delivery of an emergency management plan to every dairy farm in Atlantic Canada. She very much believed in the cause and volunteered her time for this very special initiative.

Among these activities, Kara has opened the barn doors at Straitside Holsteins nearly every year for Open Farm Day, she's also been involved with the Ag Awareness committee and active with the Maritime Fall Fair.

Perhaps what makes Kara such a valuable volunteer is her strong people skills. Kara has a very natural knack for dealing with others, bring-

ing them onside and making everyone feel a part of the success. She has been described to have a “cool head” from start to finish of a task and more importantly, can find the humour needed to get a group through almost any situation.

When not attending meetings, volunteering or milking cows, Kara enjoys travelling, photography and spending time at her cottage.

Arch Cook (Class of '60) Distinguished Alumnus 2011



Dwane and Arch.

Early on, Arch Cook mastered the traits that would later be the key to success throughout his career – a sense of responsibility and appreciation of the importance of hard work. At the age of 10, following the untimely death of his father, Arch was tasked with assuming the role of “man of the house”, looking out for his mother, younger brother and two sisters at their South Ohio, N.S. home.

Shortly after taking on this role, Arch also began to develop his business and entrepreneurial instincts. He acquired a cow and cared for it to help support the family. Perhaps it was this cow that led Arch to an agricultural education and a life-long career in the dairy industry.



The Cook Family.

Arch attended NSAC before going on to complete his degree in Dairy Administration from OAC. While at NSAC, Arch excelled as a guard on the basketball team, was actively involved with the

Students' Council, as well as other clubs and had a strong academic performance.

Arch's career with the dairy industry began with Amalgamated Dairies in P.E.I. and then Farmer's Dairy in NS. Arch played a leadership role with the development of Farmer's Cheese Division in Salmon River, selecting the plant site, leading plant design, supervising construction, selecting equipment for the plant, as well as hiring and training staff to run the cheddar cheese operation.

After leaving a big mark at Farmer's, Arch took a position with Baxter Dairies Ltd. Here he spent the rest of his career in leadership roles, furthering their portfolio and eventually earning the title, vice president, operations.

In this role, Arch was responsible for operations of four large plants, a hefty vehicle fleet and an ice cream novelty operation. Arch's title of vice president, operations eventually shifted to the Baxter's owned, Kelly Tire (later Coast Tire and Automotive Services). Arch made a huge impact, growing the operation and turning it into a huge success.

Arch's sense of responsibility, business instincts and capacity for hard work are qualities which Arch has retained and reinforced throughout his career. To those he has added strong management skills, which he has used effectively both at work and in the community at large.

Arch is a “no nonsense” performer who likes to get things done quickly. When he is criticized by colleagues for being demanding and impatient, when he feels that a project is going too slowly, he has been heard to reply, “I know that Rome was not built in a day, but then, I was not the foreman either!”

In his spare time, Arch served as director and president of the Atlantic Dairy Council and been involved with the Technical Committee of the National Dairy Council and the Board of Directors for Junior Achievement in Saint John.

Along with his life partner, Marg, Arch has always been actively involved with their local church, serving a number of roles. In retirement, Arch and Marg are dedicated volunteers with the Sower Ministry (Servants on Wheels Ever Ready to Serve) in Southern U.S. During the winter months they work in Christian camps, orphanages, senior residences and colleges.

Arch has truly distinguished himself in his area of expertise, bringing honour to NSAC and the Alumni Association. Arch's younger brother, Harold, was named NSAC's Distinguished Alumnus in 2007. This is the first time that an NSAC alumni award has been shared by family members.

Alumni Vineyard Tour Lockett Vineyards



In mid-October, many alumni and their families gathered at the beautiful Lockett Vineyards in Wolfville, N.S. Hosted by Pete Lockett himself, the group from NSAC enjoyed wine tasting, delicious food and a tour of Pete's new property.

A yearly vineyard tour seems like a great new tradition for an NSAC alumni event!



Alumni Association Board Member, Janice Lutz (Class of '85), NSAC Development & External Relations staff, Jim Goit and Alisha Johnson, as well as Matthew Horne (Class of '90).



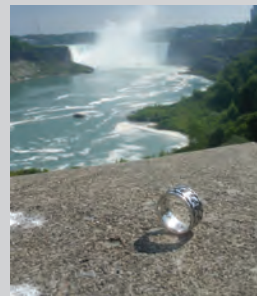
Daniel Scotborn (Class of '97) arrived in fine style!

Ring Sightings!

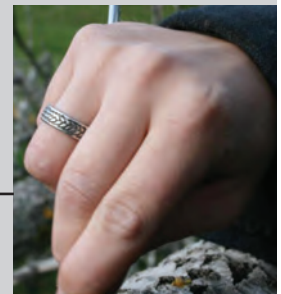
We often receive photos from proud NSAC ring owners, depicting their rings in unique settings, or faraway places. Check out some of the "ring sightings" we've received, or have had posted to our Facebook page lately.

You can also see these rings and others, by viewing our online ring album:
<http://nsac.ca/alumni/ring/gallery/>

Send us your ring photos - we love to hear where our alumni, who wear our rings with pride, have been! Photos can be submitted to alumni@nsac.ca



Submitted by Corinna Taylor (Class of '09) after a visit to Niagra Falls, O.N.



Submitted by John Oostvogels (Class of '09). A photo of sister, Tara (Class of '10 & '11) "collecting lichen off a fallen tree at Sherbrook Village to use in its dye bath production. An unintentional but great shot of the alumni ring."



Colette Wyllie (Class of '10) proudly poised her ring while visiting The Burren, County Clare, Ireland this past fall.



Colette's ring visits the Guinness Storehouse, Dublin, Ireland.

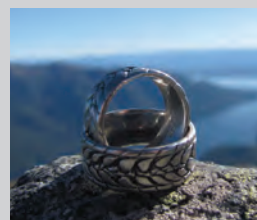


NSAC's first ring to go international! Niels Broersen, from the Netherlands, proudly accepts his alumni ring during a visit to Canada in September. Niels also returned to the Netherlands with former Internal Food Business classmate, Dennis Reus' ring.

Submitted by Shawn Loo (Class of '10)



Submitted by Paul Manning (current student). "Misfortune struck at Saltsclapes Restaurant while passing over Connie McLellan's (Class of '08 & '10) grad ring."



Kelsey Harpman (Class of '10) and Will Shaw's (Class of '10) rings during a Christmas hike in New Zealand. Their rings are displayed at the summit of Mt. Luxmore (1474m).

Class of '59 Teaching Development Fund

by Dale Ells (class secretary)

NSAC's Class of '59 highly valued the excellent teaching experienced in classes, labs and special projects during their NSAC years. Helping to maintain and improve the quality of instruction, surfaced in 2004 when the class members were selecting a gift idea in celebration of our 50 years in 2009. Our priority area was discussed with NSAC officials and a plan was adopted.

The name of the project was: The Class of '59 Teaching Development Fund.



Back L-R: Dr. David DiBattista (workshop presenter from Brock University), Dr. Mehdi Sharifi, Dr. Sam Asiedu, Dr. Nancy Pitts, Dr. Norman Goodyear, Mr. Mark Mason, Ms Shannon Kilyanek

Seated L-R: Campbell Gunn and Dale Ells (Class of '59 representatives)

Purpose: To provide financial assistance to faculty, technicians and all who directly assist with the learning experiences of students, so that the institution can carry out its mandate to the best possible level of excellence, thereby ensuring that as many NSAC students as possible benefit from that higher personal/educational development.

Administration: Initiated by Class'59 and open to contributions from others. The fund and its use would be systematically administered by NSAC. Operating criteria for administration would be that: assistance be available based on the annual expenditure of the maximum of 90 per cent of the average of the previous five years investment income from the fund; assistance available annually based on application to the fund and as determined by the management committee.

Our class gift was presented to NSAC Co-President, Dr. Leslie MacLaren, at our 50th class reunion in July 2009. During the five years prior to the anniversary gathering, members donated money to institute the Class of '59 Teaching Development Fund. By spring of '06, \$6,210 had been collected.

At the 50th reunion time \$30,800 was in the fund. Class president Campbell Gunn made the presentation and asked that it now be activated to support projects that lead to teaching improvements.

In selecting projects to support, the NSAC administration has taken advice from Dr. Norman Goodyear (Class of '75), dean of teaching and learning. He, with the Instructional Development Committee of Faculty, have chosen events to receive support from the fund.

The first project to receive assistance from the fund was the NSAC "Webinar Series" which introduced a new certificate in University Teaching and Learning. Financial support was given to purchase CDs and related supplies for learning packages relating to instructional development. Some of these were used as part of lunch box sessions which brought together faculty and teaching staff to discuss selected topics.

Last fall, the fund financially assisted a workshop on teaching and evaluation effectiveness at NSAC. The guest presenter was Dr. David DiBattista from Brock University. Twenty - one participants attended and actively worked through the materials and examples.

It is hoped a varied and worthwhile series of project, will be assisted throughout the future.

The fund is open for anyone to support. If interested in this particular area you may designate the "Teaching Development Fund" when making contributions to NSAC.

In Memory

The university, along with NSAC's Alumni Association, acknowledges the passing of the following alumni members and extends our sympathy to friends and family.

Dr. Don Craig.....	1945
Mr. Alfred J. Scotthorn.....	1946
Dr. Douglas C. Eidt.....	1947
Mr. David M. Smith.....	1947
Dr. Vernon R. (Vic) Vickery.....	1947
Mr. Aubrey W. Hutchinson.....	1948
Mr. Howard Y. Clark.....	1954
Mr. Robert T. MacLean.....	1954
Mr. Maurice Dubois.....	1956
Mr. Lloyd E. Crowell.....	1960
Mr. Philip B. Stead.....	1965
Mr. Michael P. Beagan.....	1965

NSAC's Annual Appeal 2011-12



Nova Scotia
Agricultural
College

NSAC. Embrace Your World.

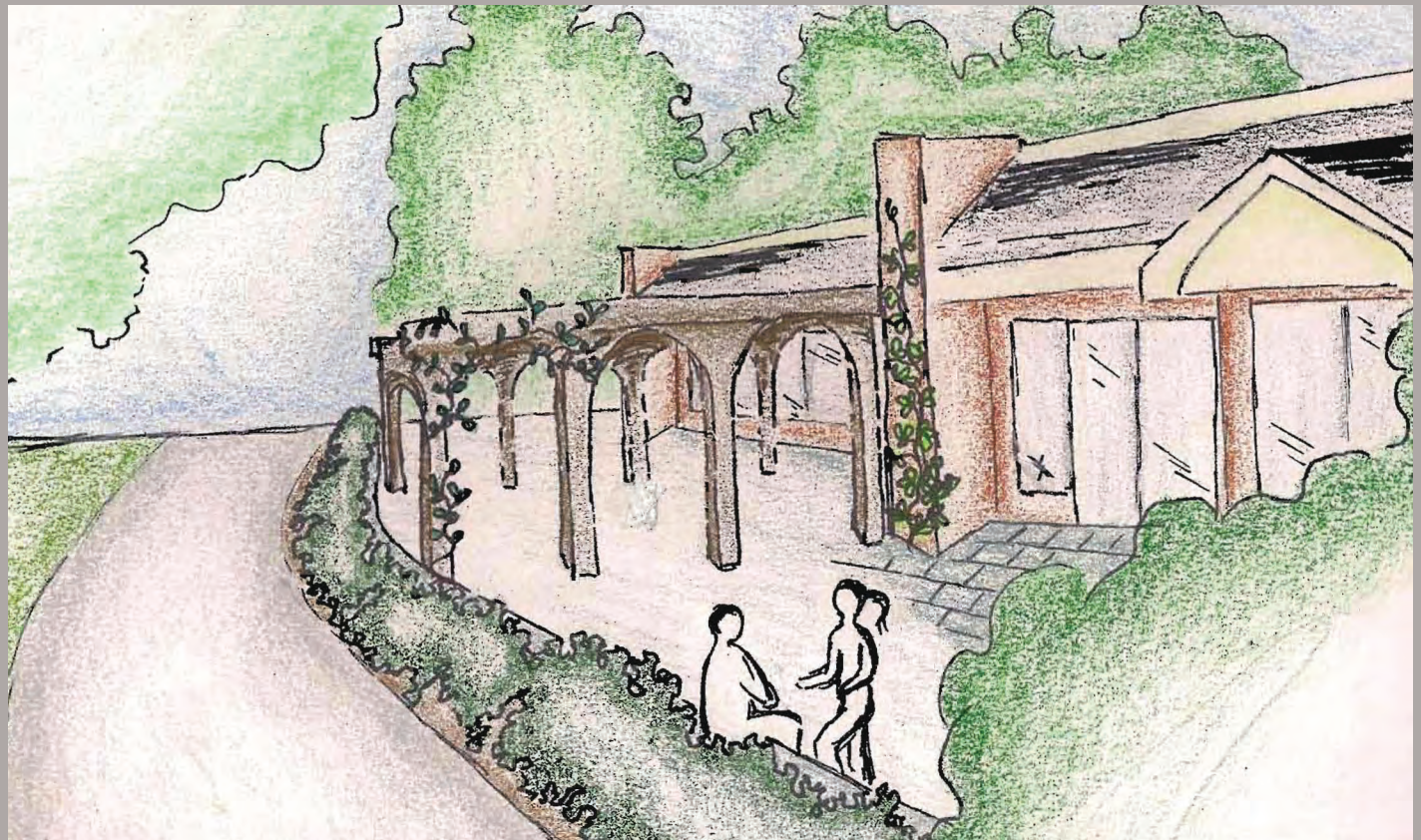
Enhancing grounds, improving campus for our community

Last year we asked for your support to enhance NSAC's picturesque grounds and not only make campus more functional for students, but also for our community. Last year's gifts were set aside to support a specific grounds improvement project that could be enjoyed by NSAC's entire community. Just over one quarter of the required funds, for this project, have been collected. We need your support this year to **help make this \$50,000 project a reality.**

What your gift will do...

Behind Jenkins Hall awaits an accessible, hard surface extension of the dining/social area, which would permit larger outdoor events to be held on campus.

It's not too late to donate!



Donations can be sent to:

NSAC
Development & External Relations
PO Box 550
Truro, NS
B2N 5E3
902-893-6721

You can also donate online at nsac.ca/donate

Thank you for making a difference!

For more information visit <http://nsac.ca/annualappeal/>

Athletics Update

2011 Eastlink Agri-Golf Classic



This year's event was a huge success. With 32 teams registered, we had excellent weather and the golf course and food were exceptional. Thanks to our major sponsors and prize and product sponsors. Involvement from these groups enhances the participant experience and enables Athletics to raise funds in support of athlete bursaries and exhibition travel. A huge thank you to our title sponsor, Eastlink, for participating in the first year, of their three year, sponsorship agreement.

Check-out our site for sponsor recognition (<http://nsac.ca/athletics/golf/sponsor.asp>) and photos of category winners, teams and candid

Category Winning Teams Include

Overall – Shurgain

Alumni – Team Watts

Business – Green Diamond

Farm – Wesselius

Sponsor – Coca Cola

Deputy Minister's Challenge – PEI Dept. of Agriculture

nsac.ca/athletics/golf

Agri-Golf Classic 2012

Royal Oaks Golf Club
Moncton, NB
Friday, July 20, 2012

Visit nsac.ca/athletics for more details

NSAC Varsity and Club Team Updates for Fall 2011

Golf Team

Coach: Fred Fergus

Although small in numbers, this year's golf team was big in results. The women's team of Jennifer Cousineau and Jescynda Cain-Hotham finished second in the ACAA Golf Championships earning the right to attend the Ping CCAA Golf National Championships, hosted by Holland College at Brudenell Golf Course and Resort. The NSAC team finished the shortened two-day event just shy of a medal, in fourth place. A wonderful showing for NSAC and the ACAA in the Nationals!

Cross Country



Coach: Joy Galloway-Jones

NSAC's runners competed in all competitions hosted by the ACAA – Holland College, Universite Ste Anne and Mount Allison. The men's team challenged for top spot in all competitions and finished the season in second behind MTA at the ACAA

Championships. The women's team also placed well through the season and finished in third at the ACAA. The ACAA championship meet was hosted by NSAC and held on the newly opened NSAC section of the Cobequid Trail. An excellent venue for a cross-country race, the runners enjoyed the course, excellent weather and the championship meal following.



Equestrian

Coach: Dara Pelkey-Field

Competing in the Atlantic Intercollegiate Equestrian League, NSAC's teams have competed in competitions hosted by St. FX, Acadia and NSAC. Moving steadily up the placing, the NSAC riders finished the last competition of the semester in a close second at Acadia. The league continues second semester with three more competitions.

Rugby



Coach: Lauralee MacInnis

The rugby squad started with a good number of rookies and therefore tentative, but steadily improved for a third place league standing. In the semi-final against MTA in Sackville, the Rams lost 17-0. Individual league award winners for NSAC include:

2011 ACAA Women's Rugby Award Winners
All Conference
Holly Morton Position: Flyhalf
Deanne O'Reilly Position: 8-man
Kathleen Carroll Position: Flanker

Soccer – Women's

Coach: Claude Caldwell
The women's team had a difficult season with a small team roster and timely injuries. Although finishing in seventh place with a 1-1-10 record, the student-athletes felt good about their efforts and the learning that occurred. Coach is recruiting for next season and with the base from this year, the Rams will be in good shape to move up the rankings in the ACAA. ACAA All-Conference selections include:
Megan Turple
Julie Poirier

Soccer – Men's

Coach: Keith Partridge
The men's team, with an abundance of players, had an exciting season, as they competed well in all contests and finished a place ahead of 2010-2011 in sixth with 1-1-8 as a league record. ACAA All-Conference selections include:
Andrew Myette (defender)
Chris Ross (striker)

Woodsmen

Coach: Scott Read
The woodsmen teams are off to an amazing start to the 11-12 year. The "A" teams for both men and women have finished first in both competitions (UNB and SSFC) this semester. The "B" teams are also placing well with both teams eighth at UN, women seventh and men eighth at SSFC. The team members are pumped to go into second semester and maintain their excellent record. The final CILA standings will be determined and awarded at the NSAC Rick Russell Competition February 11, 2012.

Volleyball -Women's

Coach: Paul Settle
The Rams are off to a great start for the year, finishing the first semester schedule in second place with a 6-1 record. The only loss was to STU in Fredericton. With seasoned veterans and rookies that are experienced elite athletes, the women are setting their sights on an ACAA play-off position and a great shot at an appearance in the ACAA Final. CCAA volleyball player of the month(November) for ACAA: NSAC's Cassandra Teed

Basketball – Women's

Coach: Shelly Roberts
The Rams are struggling to get their second win, as they sit in eighth in the ACAA with a 1-6 record. Still with a play-off position as their goal, the second semester Rams will be without exchange student and stand-out Kristyna Wolffova, who has returned to Prague, Che to finish her aca-

demio program. Having played the toughest part of their schedule, the Rams are optimistic that they will move up the rankings in 2012.

Basketball – Men's

Coach: Colter Simmonds
The Rams are pleased to have their first win of the schedule and are working hard over the Christmas break to stay in shape for second semester, as they look to increase their standing in the ACAA.

Watch volleyball and basketball home games in 2012 through SportsCanada.TV. The link can be found on the ACAA athletics home page. nsac.ca/athletics

March 2012 – CCAA Men's Basketball National Championships at NSAC

Watch the Athletics website for information leading to the Nationals.

Homecoming Alumni Games

Basketball alumni came back to play the varsity teams in October and showed good skill and stamina against the varsity teams. Former stand-outs playing for the alumni teams included:

Women's



Front (l-r): Ann Allen, Felicia Strickland, Patti Gilroy
Back (l-r): Rhonda Kennedy, Jenna Tait, Deanne MacLeod, Jenna Hazelton, Rebecca Poole and Carla Shaw

Men's



Front (l-r): Gerry MacDonnell, Ken Edison, Thomas Teakles
Back (l-r): Keigan Fiske, Donnie MacGregor, Nick Marchand, Jason VanKessel, Dave Walker

Look Who's Talking

Paul Manning **Environmental Science Student, NSAC** **Current Students' Union President**

Look Who's Talking is a regular section in Agricola News. Each issue, an alumni discusses his or her thoughts on various topics relevant to NSAC. This issue, we decided to talk to a future alumnus, a current student, who is the president of NSAC's Students' Union. We asked Paul Manning to share his opinions.

Biography

Paul Manning, from Canning, N.S., is a third year Environmental Science student. Aside from being the current Students' Union president, Paul is very active on campus and has been since his first year.



He's a member of the campus community garden. He's volunteered with NSAC's Orientation and Operation Red Nose. He's on numerous campus committees. He's played varsity soccer and been a member of the cross country running team. Paul has even maintained a photo blog, reaching his goal of taking one photo a day, for 365 days.

When severe floods hit Pakistan last summer, Paul headed up a variety show and silent auction on campus, to raise funds for victims of the tragic disaster. He's helped make a difference in a developing county. Paul embraces every experience that's put in front of him because he believes in trying new things.

As for the future, Paul plans to further his education in the field of agricultural ecosystems, particularly in the area of conservation and promotion of beneficial insect populations, by completing a M.Sc and Ph.D in agricultural entomology. Ultimately, Paul would like to return home, to the Annapolis Valley, to work in the agricultural research sector and possibly do a little bit of small fruit farming, on the side, with his brother.

NSAC is a pretty unique place, as we hear over and over. What's your favourite characteristic of NSAC?

It's tough to pick one thing as my favourite characteristic. I think I would have to say that my favourite characteristic about campus would be either the rock garden or the alumni gardens. They are both beautiful and unique aspects of NSAC that are beneficial to all visitors to campus. They serve as wonderful places to relax and unwind after a long day of courses and get people excited about horticulture. Between the cacti, the crocuses and the rhododendrons, there is always something beautiful to appreciate.

What needs improving?

I think the biggest improvement that could be done on campus, would be some sort of addition to a building to act as a space for students. The current Students' Union lounge is a great place to relax and unwind, but it could certainly be a more accessible, larger and a more inviting place for students to take some time between classes or meet with clubs and societies.

If a graduate from 1950 arrived on campus today, for the first time since graduation, what do you think they would notice as the most significant change?

Besides the obvious changes in campus layout with the addition of major buildings, I think there would be a few things that would immediately jump out. The first would be all the wonderful ladies

that we're so fortunate to have on campus, there's definitely been a shift in gender ratios since 1950. The second change that would be noticed, would be the amount of people in general on campus, there's certainly been an increase in the hustle and bustle on College Road.

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

In 20 years, I know that NSAC will continue to provide a huge variety of excellent academic programs that prepare its graduates for careers in the agricultural sector and beyond. NSAC will continue to attract the same sort of wonderful students, staff and faculty, which is really what makes attending university at the NSAC such a special experience.

Twenty years down the line, I still want to picture NSAC being as bright and beautiful as it is today; with all of the vivid gardens and unique features including the water tower, silos and Cumming Hall. These features are important to the history of the school and are a clear representation of values that students both past and present hold. I think one thing that our campus could benefit from as a feature would be a large sign, akin to the granite Acadia sign, or the structure near the front gate at Université St. Anne.

This issue of Agricola News highlights the merger discussions with NSAC and Dalhousie University. How do you feel about the proposed merger? How do you think it will impact NSAC?

I have good feelings about the NSAC-Dalhousie merger. I think that there are many advantages to come along with the merger for students; particularly in course selection, work opportunities, program diversity and international exchange. I think that the merger with Dalhousie will open all kinds of new doors for NSAC students, staff and faculty. I'm looking forward to seeing the new collaborations, opportunities and other great things to come out of the merger.

At the same time, I think it will be tough to see something as unique as NSAC be included under the big umbrella of Dalhousie. Though, I feel it's important for us to be grateful in realizing that our campus will still be here in ten, 20, or 50 years. I believe that NSAC will continue to attract the same sort of students, staff and faculty, which I reiterate in saying is the most unique part about NSAC that contributes to the dynamic environment on campus.

What are students saying about the proposed merger?

Students are saying a lot of different things about the merger. Many students are indifferent to the merger, but an equal or greater number of students are very concerned about the place that they love being changed. Students today are very much attached to the way things are done at NSAC. From dynamic, hands-on learning, to woodsmen competitions, livestock shows and nights at Pub - I'm comfortable in saying that students at NSAC are for the gross majority motivated, happy and dedicated students who happen to share a passion for agriculture.

From talking to alumni in my hometown and at alumni functions it seems that the campus was equally as exuberant, unique and diverse as the campus is today as it was ten, 20, or 50 years ago. Many students have had family members study here.

Someday, I want to sit down and explain to my family what a great time I had at NSAC. I want to tell them stories about the pranks in residence, the funny moments in class, the late nights running around residence and the beautiful grounds and gardens. I want them to meet my friends from NSAC, to see the connection that we've established together, over a common love for agriculture.

In Touch!

Class of '71

Mitchell, Terry... worked for 35 years within the co-op system. Specifically, eight years with Scotian Gold Co-op in the Annapolis Valley and 27 years with Co-op Atlantic, Moncton N.B and Truro N.S. Terry retired in October 2010.

Class of '75

Porter, Sherry... now chairs the Board of Directors of the Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation.

Class of '76

Casey, Brian... currently serving as second vice-president with the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions, an organization he has been active with for some time. After graduating from NSAC, Brian became business partners with his father as they acquired a dairy farm. Casey still operates the farm with his son, Chris (Class of '05). In his spare time, Casey along with wife, Janice and daughter, Courtney, proudly show a six horse hitch of Clydesdales at exhibitions.

Class of '77

Sampson, Glen... since retiring from NSAC, has been spending time between Truro, N.S., Bathurst, N.B. and Montreal, QC. In retirement, Glen has continued to maintain connection with the agricultural and landscape industry through teaching continuing education courses and speaking to grower groups and garden clubs. Glen has continued to be involved in research, particularly in the area of biological control and integrated pest management and currently has two book projects on the go. Additionally, Glen has taken up studies in theology and is working towards ordination as a minister in the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Glen has linked his environmental background with his studies in theology and has been teaching courses in environmental sustainability at Presbyterian College in Montreal.

Class of '78

Allan, Gailen... has been working full time on the family farm in partnership with his brother in N.B. Gailen has been involved with the N.B. Seed Potato Producers Assoc as a board member for 25 years, currently serving as the chair for the second time. Gailen has been a member of the local volunteer fire department for 27 years. He is also involved with the church serving on various committees, as chair of most. Gailen and his wife celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary last August and their daughter graduated from high school last spring.

Gardner, Nell... recently hired part-time to restore the historic gardens of the Frank Lloyd Wright designed, Darwin Martin House in Buffalo. Nell also operates a cut flower operation in Spencerport, N.Y. on her historic, renovated Harris seed farm.

Class of '79

Duivenvoorden, Nick... along with running a successful dairy farm, Nick has been mayor of Belledune, N.B. for the past 10 years.

Class of '83

Duivenvoorden, Carl... was one of 23 volunteer presenters joining Al Gore, in Greenland in September, for 24 Hours of Reality, a 24 hour event to raise global awareness of climate change. Millions viewed the amazing event via the internet. Carl, who lives in N.B. is a speaker, writer and green consultant.

Class of '90

Atwood, Chris... elected in April as president of the Nova Scotia Chambers of Commerce for a one-year term. Chris is past president of the Yarmouth and Area Chamber of Commerce and is employed as executive director of the Yarmouth Community Business Development Corp.

Johnston (Quartermain), Lisa... has been living in the U.S. since 1995 and employed as a vet tech for 20 years. Lisa works in a mixed animal practice and sees everything for rats to llamas. She works mostly with horses and is a member of AAEPV. Lisa and her husband and live 60 miles south west of Kansas City K.S. They have two cats, two dogs and one horse. Would like to hear from some other Aggies!

Class of '94

Shiell, Kevin... recently awarded the 2011 Environmental Leadership Award from the Province of New Brunswick. Employed as an instructor with the New Brunswick Community College, Shiell has been involved in research that has a positive impact on the environment for more than 10 years.

Class of '05 & '10

Hutchinson, Cary... after receiving his Technology degree in Applied Science, Cary accepted a position as an environmental technologist with AEL Inc in Jacksonville, Florida. AEL is the largest environmental testing facility in Florida and has labs throughout the state.

Class of '10

Vosman, William... Since graduating last spring Will has been working on another degree (business administration) at St.F.X. He enrolled at St.F.X. primarily to play football in which he played three games before being injured for the rest of the season. Will really misses the agricultural focus of many of the classes he took at NSAC. Will reports that without a doubt, the quality of teaching at NSAC is equally high as it is at St.F.X.

Join the tradition!

Order your ring, exclusively for NSAC alumni, today. Available in two different widths of 14k gold and stainless steel.

Drop by NSAC's Development & External Relations office, Cumming Hall to view samples and place your order.

For more information, including online orders, visit nsac.ca/alumni/ring/ or call 902-893-6022



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Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
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The TD Insurance Meloche Monnex home and auto insurance program is underwritten by **SECURITY NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY**. The program is distributed by Meloche Monnex Insurance and Financial Services Inc. in Quebec and by Meloche Monnex Financial Services Inc. in the rest of Canada.

Due to provincial legislation, our auto insurance program is not offered in British Columbia, Manitoba or Saskatchewan.

*No purchase required. Contest ends on January 13, 2012. Each winner may choose the prize, a 2011 MINI Cooper Classic (including applicable taxes, preparation and transportation fees) for a total value of \$28,500, or a cash amount of \$30,000 Canadian. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Skill-testing question required. Contest organized jointly with Primum Insurance Company and open to members, employees and other eligible persons belonging to all employer groups, professional groups and alumni groups which have an agreement with and are entitled to group rates from the organizers. Complete contest rules and eligibility criteria available at www.melochemonnex.com.

Actual prize may differ from picture shown. MINI Cooper is a trade-mark, used under license, of BMW AG, which is not a participant in or a sponsor of this promotion.

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