



AGRICOLA NEWS

For the Alumni and Friends of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Volume 27 Number 2 Summer 2003

BIO-ECONOMY LEADING THE WAY





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October 24th, 25th, 2003

(A special welcome is extended to honour year classes ending in 3 and 8.)

Homecoming Weekend

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College Alumni Association welcomes all alumni back to campus!

If you are interested in hosting your class reunion, please contact the alumni office by calling (902) 893-7247 or e-mail srogers@nsac.ns.ca

Don't forget to check out our web site for all the details:
www.nsac.ns.ca/alumni/homecoming.htm



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BIO-ECONOMY — *Leading the Way*

In Central Nova Scotia's "hubtown", opportunities for growth and development in the bio-based economy continue to present themselves. The non-traditional use of agricultural commodities for bio-pharmaceuticals, functional foods, bio-fuels and other industrial products is part of the growing trend towards value-added agriculture.



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"I am tremendously excited about coming to NSAC this summer, as well as at the prospects that lie ahead of me in this new position as President."



NSAC Centennial _____ 17

The third oldest centre of agricultural education and research in Canada prepares to celebrate its 100th anniversary.

New International Gambia Project _____ 13



\$535,000 to develop a five year training program addressing food security.



Donations Annual Report _____ **Insert**

Fund raising activities increased and both the numbers of donations and the amounts contributed were up significantly over the previous year.

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AGRICOLA NEWS

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A Message from the Principal and the President



Fellow Alumni, Friends,

The early days of spring have brought good news: we have a new President! On your behalf, I take great pleasure in welcoming Dr. Philip Hicks to this position. The principal to president transition represents not only a change

in title more in keeping with how most college and university leaders currently are identified, but also represents much more in terms of what Philip brings to this position.

As a neuroscientist who has long had exposure to the global frontiers of progress across a breadth of disciplines, Philip brings a whole new perspective to this institution. He immediately recognized the strengths and potential of NSAC and this greatly fuelled his enthusiasm. Given the realization that we need to broaden the scope of NSAC activity in order to build enrolment, his richness of experience and knowledge of various fields of science will be important assets.

Besides the search for a President, there have been other developments at NSAC. In January, I helped launch a new Bachelor of Technology program at the College of Agriculture, Science and Education (CASE) in Port Antonio, Jamaica. The project, led by Professors Diane Dunlop and Nancy Crowe, and supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), involved per-



Hello everyone,

Sitting in the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo looking out over the recently blooming cherry trees, and thinking back on last week's convocation at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, I'm filled with excitement at the challenges and opportunities lying ahead of us. There are so many new

possibilities for initiatives, network building and renewal that spring to mind, it'll be quite hard for us all to know just where to begin.

The excitement and enthusiasm I felt on Convocation Day was pervasive. It made me realize that faculty and students are eager to move forward to consolidate the gains made by Dr. Coffin during his tenure as College Principal. An increased focus on internationalization is clearly one route to pursue, and I know there'll be wide support from the student body for that activity. After all, doesn't nearly everyone love to travel to foreign countries, especially during early adulthood? I therefore expect there to be positive con-

sonnel from both institutions developing an attractive program that will see its first graduates this fall under NSAC supervision.

At home we have begun to implement our strategic plan, "Looking Outward-Embracing Change" by revising programs, adding strength in marketing, (Susan Michel) and developing stronger relationships with other Atlantic Provinces and the local community. Dr. Rob Gordon was our first Canada Research Chair appointment in Agricultural Resource Management; Professor Kevin Sibley has been appointed Head of the Department of Engineering.

We were excited to host the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association Women's Basketball Championship in which the Lady Rams, performed admirably. Finally, another 172 students graduated at our 98th Convocation on May 2nd, at which time we introduced Philip.

My term ends June 30th. It has been a great honour to serve as NSAC Principal. As I reflect on the past six and one-half years, I would like to think that NSAC has grown in stature and maturity. Besides adding nearly \$10 million worth of research infrastructure, we have worked on building relationships with industry and other Atlantic Provinces. An Office of Development and Alumni Relations and a strong regional Advisory Board to help guide NSAC into the future, now exist. As I look to that future, I do so with confidence and comfort, knowing that NSAC is in good hands with Dr. Philip Hicks as President. Over to you Philip!

Garth Coffin, Class of '60
Principal

sensus for supporting more international activity, be it academic study in an overseas university or research at a colleague's laboratory abroad.

What other new directions will NSAC indicate it's eager to pursue? I know everyone's keen to engage in efforts to boost the reputation and quality of NSAC and it's programs, respectively. "Talking it up" among our colleagues, sharing positive views about NSAC excellence and the high quality of the students as well as of the teaching and research, will provide a necessary foundation for promoting the school within the region and beyond. Only in this manner will others come to hear the good news about the university's high reputation. That will be prerequisite for boosting enrollment.

Once on campus this coming August, I intend to begin a process of dialogue with every single stakeholder that will help me get a clear feel for the issues facing the university and for the aspirations of its students, faculty, staff and alumni, regarding what and how to bring about change in alignment with the recently published Strategic Plan. I look forward to your support. ☺

Philip Hicks
President

A Message from the President



The NSAC Alumni Association Board of Directors has been working on behalf of the Alumni membership on a number of issues affecting the NSAC, alumni and current students. One approach we have taken is to investigate ways to better support students through the management of the funds and resources that we currently hold in trust for several scholarships and other awards. I believe we are getting close to developing a new spirit of cooperation with College Administration and the NSAC Foundation. The NSAC has pressed resources to development issues over the past two years and the Board of Directors has needed to adapt its focus to take the most advantage of the changes for the students at NSAC.

Looking at the bylaws, forging new relationships with current students and focusing on the future have been approaches the Board is currently taking to develop a new and strong partnership between the NSAC and its Alumni.

The NSAC Alumni Association has certainly enjoyed a good relationship with the departing principal, Dr. Garth Coffin and looks forward to continuing the excellent working relationship as the new president Dr. Philip Hicks takes his place this coming fall.

I encourage alumni to come to Homecoming this fall and renew those old friendships, see the tremendous changes ongoing at the institution and enjoy the advantages of campus life for a few days. Through your support over the past several years at Homecoming the Alumni Association has been able to enhance the NSAC Student's Emergency Fund to assist with extreme cases of need. I invite you to continue to participate in the activities of the alumni to support the students at the NSAC. ☺

The NSAC Alumni Association has certainly enjoyed a good relationship with the departing principal, Dr. Garth Coffin and look forward to continuing the excellent working relationship as the new president Dr. Philip Hicks takes his place this coming fall.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeff G. Morton".

*Jeff Morton, Class of '79
President*

Around & About.....

Toni Kennedy, Class of '01

The Central Nova Tourist Association 2002 Individual Ambassador Award



Left to right: Rob Laceby, Outgoing President of CNTA, Toni Kennedy and Carol Taggart, Incoming President.

The Central Nova Tourist Association 2002 Individual Ambassador Award was presented to Toni Kennedy of Irwin Lake Chalets.

Toni is the epitome of the spirit of hospitality and there is absolutely no end to her dedicated enthusiasm. Her persona of high energy, her outward friendliness and her genuine spirit of hospitality have not only largely contributed to a successful business, but have also had a tremendous impact on tourism in the entire region.

Every reservation confirmation package that she forwards to guests from out of province is packed with information on things to see and do in our region - guides, brochures, maps, menus, and attractions —anything that helps potential guests to plan their itineraries. This has frequently resulted in visitors extending their stay in our region.

Always willing to contribute, her infectious manner, and her genuine concern for all visitors' well-being speaks volumes to those who stay. And many, many have said they will be back. Their appreciation for the hospitality received has created a memory to last.

The Central Nova Tourist Association is pleased to bestow the CNTA Ambassador of the Year Award to Toni Kennedy of Irwin Lake Chalets

At the time of printing, Toni received notification that she has been nominated for the Canadian Woman Entrepreneur of the Year Award! Congratulations Toni.

Dr. Andrew van Kessel, Class of '86

2003 Bioscience Awards Honouring Exceptional Achievement



Dr. Andrew van Kessel

In celebration of the golden anniversary of the DNA double helix, Ag-West Biotech Inc. introduces its first annual BioScience Awards to recognize excellence in the field of bioscience in Saskatchewan. Awards for Entrepreneurial Leadership and Vision, Lifetime Achievement, Outstanding Scientific Achievement, and Communications and Public Awareness were distributed to worthy recipients at a luncheon on Friday, May 9 at the Candle/Spa Rooms, Innovation Place.

The Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award recognizes an early career scientist who has made a significant contribution to Saskatchewan's bioscience community. This year's award was presented to Dr. Andrew Van Kessel, Associate Professor, Department of Poultry and Animal Science, University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Van Kessel graduated from the University of Saskatchewan and continued his career in Saskatchewan with a postdoctoral fellowship at the Vaccine Infectious Disease Organization. He is now the Director for the Animal Biotechnology Centre. Dr. Van Kessel is actively involved in a research project analyzing the relationship between intestinal microbial colonization and animal health performance.

Ag-West Biotech's BioScience Awards are set to become an annual event honoring Saskatchewan's best in the bioscience industry. A nominating committee for 2004 is being formed and nominations will be accepted throughout the year. Detailed nominating procedures, forms and deadlines will be posted on the Ag-West website: www.agwest.sk.ca

Dick Huggard, Class of '56

Village of Bible Hill Special Recognition Award

Mr. Dick Huggard was nominated by the Nova Scotia Agricultural College to receive a Village of Bible Hill Special Recognition Award. Each year the Village of Bible Hill recognizes individuals who have made a contribution in the area of volunteer community services. Dick was honored for his time, enthusiasm and volunteer efforts to the community of Bible Hill. Congratulations Dick!



Dick Huggard

NSIA Annual Honors and Awards Banquet

held May 7th in Cumming Hall, NSAC.

NSIA Presents 50 year Pins

The Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists celebrated its 50th anniversary by presenting 50 year pins to honor its longstanding members. The pins were presented at the Honors and Awards banquet held May 7th in Cumming Hall.



(L to R) Moe Kennie, Class of 1946; Don Cox, Class of 1946; John Hilchey, Class of 1941; Gordon Crowe, Class of 1949; Scottie Fair, Class of 1948; Frank Calder, Class of 1944; David Crowe, Class of 1942; Bob Ross, Class of 1947; Bill Jenkins, Class of 1938; Jack Johnson, Class of 1950; Peter Hamilton, Class of 1944 and Carl Gourley, Class of 1947.

George MacKenzie, Class of 1956 and Bob Murray, Class of '52

NSIA Authors

As part of a 50th anniversary project for the NSIA, members George MacKenzie and Bob Murray wrote a history of the NSIA and its predecessor, The Canadian Society of Technical Agriculturalists, Nova Scotia branch. The book was launched at the NSIA's annual meeting in Truro.



NSIA Awards

The Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2003. As an anniversary project the NSIA commissioned a Wall of Honor to recognize all those who have made an outstanding contribution to Nova Scotia Agriculture in the last 50 years. The Wall of Honor hangs in the upper foyer of Cumming Hall.



Participating in the unveiling of the Wall of Honour at Cumming Hall at the NSAC were (L to R) Dave Sangster, NSIA's Immediate Past President, Stephen Douglas, son of Charles A. Douglas, one of NSIA's founding officers, Jim Goit, representing the NSAC and Dr. David Chanasyk, Agricultural Institute of Canada President.

Dick Huggard, Class of '56 Tom Nunn, Class of '61

NSIA Distinguished Life Member Award



Dick Huggard

Member Award. A Member is any member of the NSIA over 60 years who has rendered signal service to the Nova Scotia Agricultural industry or to the affairs of NSIA. The outstanding Young Agrologist award is presented to

Both Mr. Huggard and Mr. Nunn were congratulated by NSIA President Dave Sangster and President Elect Merridy Rankin on receiving the Distinguished Life Distinguished Life



Tom Nunn



Maria McCurdy

of age. The award was presented by Jim Neary to Maria McCurdy, Class of 1994. Brian Smith, Class of 1971, was presented with the Distinguished Agrologist award. This is presented to a member of the Institute who has rendered signal service to the agricultural profession.



Brian Smith

Nicole L. Allain, Class of '02

The James Robb Award Winner

The James Robb Award acts as a living memorial to James Robb, a King's College lecturer in Chemistry and Science who recognized the potential for agriculture in our province and gave unstintingly of his time and talents to furthering the development of farming and farmers. His work helped found the Board of Agriculture that eventually emerged as the Department of Agriculture.



Nicole Allain is shown with APANB 1st vice president Hans Kristensen.

Every year the Agriculture Producers Association of New Brunswick presents the James Robb Award to honor a New Brunswick agrologist whose contributions are recognized by his or her peers and the agricultural community as exemplary and above the normal call of duty.

The 2003 award is presented to Nicole L. Allain, NSAC Class of 2002. A native of Bouctouche N.B. Pays de la Saquoine area, Nicole graduated from Mount Allison University in Sackville with a Bachelor of Science —Major in Biology in 1993. Following this she continued her education at the NSAC graduating with her Bachelor of Science in Agriculture —Major in Plant Science in 1996. Her undergraduate thesis on "Wind Stress effect on fall-bearing red raspberries" is presently published in the Canadian Journal of Plant Science.

During the course of her work experience Nicole has become trained and received certification in On-Farm Food Safety, Nutrient Management Planning,

Handling of water samples and volley ball coaching certification. Nicole has also delivered many presentations to the public and agricultural producers within the Atlantic Provinces about the concept of a Conservation Club, Nutrient Management Plan, IPM strategies in horticultural crops and environmental issues. She also designed and developed a field crop record book for the agriculture producers in Kent County.

Nicole was the first coordinator to pilot the agricultural conservation club in Kent County, has implemented Nutrient Management Plans and Environmental Farm Plans for livestock farmers and horticultural growers in the Atlantic Provinces, developed strategic plans, land use management plans, brochures and various newsletters for Agri-Conservation Club, Ducks Unlimited Canada and other associations. More recently she developed an agricultural program for Ducks Unlimited Canada for the Atlantic Provinces.

Nicole sits on many technical and envi-

ronmental committees across the Atlantic Provinces to improve the stewardship of the land, water quality and wildlife habitat. At present she has relocated to Bouctouche with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture as the Land Use Development Officer for the Southeast part of N.B.

She is already seated on technical and working committee groups for several watersheds in the South Eastern part of NB to make sure the agricultural sector is well presented. She is also acting as the DAFA's coordinator of Agro-Environmental Clubs in N.B.

She is currently working to develop an environmental scan for the province that will help identify the needs and concerns in each area of the province. This will help the AFP working group identify the needs of funding programs for the province. Nicole is looking forward to contributing to the growth of sustainable development, general environmental issues and agricultural sector problems within the province.

Pam Allen-LeBlanc, Class '88

AIC Outstanding Young Agrologist Award

Pamela Allen-LeBlanc is truly a remarkable young woman. While devoting herself tirelessly to a full-time career, Pam has participated actively in her profession and community organizations. During her term as NBIA president, Pam implemented a number of initiatives to strengthen communications and increased effectiveness and efficiency of the professional organization.

When it was announced that the NS Department of Agriculture and Rural Development would be combined with

Fisheries and Aquaculture and staff would be cut dramatically, Pam used her position as NBIA president to communicate with farm organizations, commodity groups and agrologists on a regular basis to encourage an agriculture industry response to this major upheaval. She was instrumental in the successful persuasion of the NB government to decrease planned staff cuts in the agriculture department.

Through her efforts most farm organizations and general public became aware of

what an agrologist was and what they do.

Being a great people person, Pam, during her work with 4-H was able to rejuvenate interest in development of 4-H for rural youth through introduction of new programs, activities and a concentrated recruitment effort.

As trade development officer and trade executive with two departments of NB government she was able to help many NB agricultural businesses, prepare for, market and complete product sales both in North America and overseas.

Jim Rainforth, Class '54

Ontario Distinguished Agrologist Award

The dedication and many contributions made to the advancement of Ontario and Canadian Agriculture by James Richard Rainforth for more than 40 years have been exemplary. Among Jim's greatest assets is his ability to work with people and bring them together as demonstrated throughout his career.

During his career, Jim was instrumental in the development and implementation of the Integrated Pest management program in Ontario. In 1968 Jim was promoted to the position of Associate Director of the Soils and Crop Branch of OMAF. In 1976 he became Director of the branch and secretary for the Ontario Soil and Crop improvement Association. During this time he was responsible for horticulture advisory services in Ontario. His support for innovations such as code-a-phone and monitoring programs for apple scab and mites, as a forerunner to integrated pest management programs is well known. He is quoted as saying that the environment "is there for all of us to use, but it should not be there for any of us to abuse."

Jim also played a key role in the evolution of the Ontario fruit and vegetable industry. Jim was recruited in 1977 to take over as the general manager for the Ontario Grape Grower's Marketing Board, the Tender Fruit Growers Marketing Board and the Ontario Asparagus Board. Throughout these years of change and progress Jim was a powerful force. He was a tireless advocate of the growers in the grape and tender fruit industries as demonstrated when he spearheaded the negotiations with both the provincial and federal governments during the days of the Free Trade Agreement. Jim was awarded the award of merit from the Ontario Grape growers Marketing Board in 1991 and the award of Merit from the Niagara Fruit and Vegetable association in 1998 for his significant contributions.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to agriculture, his unselfish contributions to his profession, colleagues and to his community the Ontario Institute of Agrologists is pleased to name Jim a Distinguished Agrologist.

Brian (Class of '90) and Edna Newcombe

Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers Award



Brian and Edna Newcombe are presented with the Outstanding Young Farmers Award by Atlantic Farm Mech Show director David Francis. (Photo by Allison Finnamore)

Brian and Edna Newcombe of Cornwallis Farms are the recipients of Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers award. Cornwallis Farms is located in the beautiful and fertile Annapolis Valley in western Nova Scotia. The original farm was settled by the Newcombe family in 1760 after arriving from the new England Colonies. Nine generations later, Brian Newcombe and his brother Craig own and operate the farm with the help of their father Robert.

Brian's responsibilities in this diverse mixed farming operation are the dairy herd of 150 purebred Holsteins, 1200 acres of crops and a custom work enterprise. He is pleased with the direction the farm has taken over the years and feels the strength of the farm lies partly in the diversity of their operations and the beneficial effects the enterprises have on each other.

Brian always knew he wanted to work on the farm and believes his love of farming began the day he learned to walk. As a child he would help his father in the barn but his official full-time career as a farmer began the summer of 1991 after graduation from the NSAC. Brian enjoys working with the animals and being outdoors working the land as well as the challenges farm-

ing presents and seeing the rewards of his labor.

The introduction of minimum and no-till cropping systems have helped the Newcombes deal with drought conditions they've experienced in four of the last five years. This combined with running two 12 hours shifts during spring planting allow them to get the crop in the ground sooner to take advantage of early moisture levels before droughts become too severe.

The Newcombes believe one of the major challenges facing agricultural producers today is attracting and keeping good employees. Open lines of communication, mutual respect, competitive salaries and benefit packages and positive reinforcement combine to maintain a staff of skilled and committed workers who contribute to the success of the operation.

Brian designed the floor plan of the new 95 cow dairy barn built in 2002. This is a loose housing, pack bedding barn which is rarely seen in the Maritimes but which Brian believes can work well in our climate if designed and managed correctly. Some of the improvements the Newcombes have seen already are better cow comfort and cleanliness, a drop in somatic cell

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BIO-ECONOMY

LEADING THE WAY

In Central Nova Scotia's "hubtown", opportunities for growth and development in the bio-based economy continue to present themselves. The non-traditional use of agricultural commodities for bio-pharmaceuticals, functional foods, bio-fuels and other industrial products is part of the growing trend towards value-added agriculture.



The Nova Scotia Agricultural College's new bio-product research program will explore healthful components of tree fruit to develop functional foods and nutraceutical products. Cropping systems research programs at the NSAC are investigating the aromatic and medicinal properties of selected plants. Other examples of bio-product research programs currently underway at the NSAC include initiatives in the wild blueberry, potato and dairy sectors.

NSAC's strategic alliance with AgriTECH Park provides the fertile environment necessary to grow and develop real economic opportunities for the agriculture, food and environmental sectors. AgriTECH Park, "Atlantic Canada's Bio-economy Village", offers facilities and services which enable small business to develop commercially viable, innovative products and services through partnerships and alliances in the public and private sector. The Park, in addition to providing laboratory and processing space to start-up companies, is also a full-time home for agencies who have the resources to support the growth and development of promising new companies.

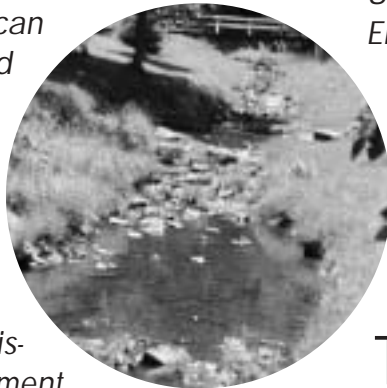




The following articles feature a few of the clients at AgriTECH Park.

The Development and Growth of BioScan Analytical Services

In January of 1995, BioScan Analytical Services opened its doors for business. Its mission was to offer environmental laboratory analysis to the industry and business sectors, with an emphasis on microbiology and toxicology. The discontinuation of government provided testing services to the public, as well as a tightening of water quality regulations provided some of the demand for testing.



As in most projects, the business plan is intended to guide the enterprise through its development and provide a reference point to measure its success or failure. The reality is however, that the markets will dictate what is possible from a business perspective and the flexibility of an enterprise will reflect well on its bottomline. Part of the success of BioScan lies in its ability to fill market requirements as they develop or become available.

BioScan is approaching its tenth year of operation. We have been involved in many different research projects, provided analysis on tens of thousands of samples. Its employees and management have gained a lot of experience. BioScan is recognized as an expert provider of analytical, consulting and environmental services.

It has been said that in business, if you're not going forward, you're going backwards - a status quo is not acceptable. BioScan now has offices and laboratory facilities in Truro and Moncton, an environmental products company, concrete / soil testing facility and an environmental services section all included under the umbrella of "The BioScan Group." Our center of operations recently changed, with our new and improved facilities located in The AgriTECH Park, 199 Innovation Dr. Expansion into other markets is planned, as laboratories are an important support industry for many businesses and industries. With new business relations, expanded analytical capabilities and the professionals that staff this company, the potential for BioScan's continued growth is excellent.

Thomas Falle, President. (Class of 1994)

The Centre for Water Resources Studies

The Centre for Water Resources Studies, Dalhousie University, is developing (at the Bio-Environmental Engineering Centre, AgriTECH Park) an On-site Wastewater Research, Evaluation and Training Facility. This facility is intended to be a major resource for applied research, training, demonstration and product evaluation related to on-site wastewater systems, which serve up to 45 per cent of the population of Nova Scotia.

This facility is being developed with the support of departments of the Nova Scotia Government and national and provincial funding agencies and private sources and in collaboration with AgriTECH Park INC., the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and the Dalhousie Department of Biological Engineering.

It is intended that research conducted at this facility will reduce the cost and improve the effectiveness of existing on-site system designs and will introduce, evaluate and demonstrate improved systems and system components. The site will also provide a resource for demonstration and training related to on-site wastewater management, which can address issues that are of concern to government agencies, the private sector and building owners throughout Atlantic Canada.



Construction of the first experimental sand filter systems began in the Fall of 2002 and will be complete by the Summer of 2003. (See photo above)

It is intended that this facility will be recognized, by all of those with interests and responsibilities related to small scale wastewater management in Nova Scotia, as a central resource for applied research, product evaluation and education related to the on-site industry in this province and that it will ultimately be recognized nationally and internationally as an Atlantic Canada center and one of the small number of such centres in this country.



Canadian Centre for Fur Animal Research

— the vision for the future

*The construction of a new mink barn has begun at the Canadian Centre for Fur Animal Research, NSAC campus. This infrastructure development project expands and upgrades the existing NSAC Fur Unit facilities to provide for the increasing provincial and national demand for research on the nutrition, physiology and breeding and genetics of mink (*Mustela vison*) - hence the vision for the future.*

The project will diversify the breeding stock to include 200 females and 50 males of both the dark and brown genotype of mink. Along with increasing the animal numbers available for research, a technologically advanced mink housing and management system will be implemented. A multi-row mink housing facility with automated watering and mechanized manure removal is being constructed. The feeding management will be a wet feeding system based on the use of waste and by-products from the fishery and poultry and livestock slaughter. An integrated data collection system will be put in place consisting of computer infrastructure compatible with electronic weigh scales for measuring animal weight, feed consumption, ingredients and ready mix diets, a bar code tag printer and reader for identification of mink nest boxes and tagging pellets for processing, quality grading and auction sales. Electronic animal identification will also be applied.

The new barn has been designed by D. A. Browning and Associates Inc. and is being constructed by Flagship Construction Limited. Funding support for this project and the development of the mink industry was provided by the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Nova Scotia Research and Innovation Trust, the Canada/Nova Scotia Cooperation Agreement on Economic Diversification, members of the Nova Scotia Mink Breeders Association and SF Rendering, as well as Patrick Fur Farm and the Mink Farmers, Research Foundation, USA. We thank all contributors for their support.

The team members behind this project are Dr. Kirsti Rouvinen-Watt (Project leader), Dr. Hossain Farid and Dr. Derek Anderson. With this renewed capability the NSAC hopes to better continue to serve the research and education needs of the mink industry in Canada and North America.

The key research areas the new facility will support are mink nutrition and physiology and breeding and genetics. The applied nutrition research will focus on the utilization of food industry waste and byproducts as feed ingredients and their effects on animal growth and production traits. Basic research will be carried out on carnivore animal physiology, nutrient and energy metabolism and neonatal development. Long-term genetic studies will focus on mink genome mapping and identifying DNA markers. These will be used in selection for economically important production traits.

Please visit the Canadian Center for Fur Animal Research at www.nsac.ns.ca/pas/instind/ccfar/index.htm. This site provides an overview of the NSAC Fur Animal Research Program and a list of researchers as well as funding support and research partners.

Azar Agriculture Inc.

Azar Agriculture Inc. is becoming known in the Maritimes for its agricultural research services and technology evaluation and transfer. With a staff of one research scientist, three biologists, a project manager and two summer students, the company will conduct a variety of field trials in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, this summer.



However, at the heart of Azar is their own R&D program. Since the company's inception in 1992, owner and scientist, Dr. Kathleen Glover, has been working on developing new varieties of plants with unique characteristics for unconventional applications. There is tremendous opportunity to utilize plants in uncommon ways and hence develop niche markets. One case in point is the development of a native grass species as a living mulch for erosion control in wild blueberry.

The introduction and wide spread acceptance of hexazinone (Velpar) into lowbush blueberry culture in the early 1980s encouraged a number of industry changes that contributed to a 4- to 5-fold increase in annual production. Since then, the repeated use of this product has led to serious problems with soil erosion and degradation in many lowbush blueberry fields and expansion of blueberry clones into these regions is inhibited, threatening sustainable production with current weed management practices. The development of a companion species which grows non-competitively with blueberry, allows for expansion of blueberry clones but protects the soil from erosion and is tolerant to Velpar, would be ideal. In fact, native grasses with Velpar tolerance have been observed in many blue-



berry fields. One species, *Agrostis hyemalis* or hairy ticklegrass, was identified as having a number of traits that would make it a living mulch candidate, (e.g.) apparent low competitive potential and Velpar tolerance.

Dr. Klaus Jensen, a weed scientist at the Atlantic Food and Horticulture Research Centre, has been studying the toler-

ance of ticklegrass populations found in Velpar-treated blueberry fields to various herbicides and has confirmed their tolerance to Velpar, while sensitivity to other herbicides is maintained. Azar has collected ticklegrass seed from various wild populations in Nova Scotia and has selected the most Velpar-tolerant plants for further propagation and field testing. Azar, in partnership with the Wild Blueberry Producers, Association of Nova Scotia (WBPANS), is currently evaluating different seed propagation and field establishment techniques, while Dr. Jensen is focusing on selective herbicides to prevent flowering without killing the grass in harvest years. Azar hopes to be the first to market a novel variety of ticklegrass for use in sustainable management systems for lowbush blueberry production and other applications requiring a living mulch.

interactive way to learn about new innovations in field, vegetable and fruit crops and how such innovations lead to delicious, nutritional local food products. Agrifest also offers Maritime companies and associations access to new customers, a unique way to sell their products and services (from farm equipment to cheesecake) and an effective way to increase their profile by visiting only one event with lots of people. Please visit AgraPoint at www.agrapoint.ca to learn more! Or call Tawnya or Sara at AgraPoint's Resource Contact Centre at (902) 896-2345.

The second initiative is providing personalized business webpages through the AgraPoint Marketplace (www.agrapointmarket.com), the first on-line market for members of the agri-food community and the companies servicing them (eg. consultants, lawyers, accountants). Joining the Marketplace is a terrific way to a) drive more traffic to an existing website and take advantage of the "Request a Quote", and on-line coupons, features, or b) provide businesses with no web presence a quick, easy and affordable way to get on-line and have a web address that can be used on business cards, letterhead and brochures. For \$99 a year you can have a do-it-yourself webpage with your selection of one graphic, background and text colors and unlimited updates. And, AgraPoint will promote the website for you, through regional newspapers, national websites and regional agricultural publications. For more information, please visit www.agrapointmarket.com or call Lynne at (902) 678-7722. ☎

AgraPoint Launches AgriFest 2004 and a New On-line Marketplace

AgraPoint International Inc., an agri-food advisory and consulting company with offices in Truro's AgriTECH Park, as well as Kentville, is working on two unique and exciting initiatives to benefit the agricultural industry.



The first is Agrifest, a unique outdoor celebration of innovations in food production. Taking place August 12 - 15th '04 on a 50 acre site in the beautiful Annapolis Valley, it is expected to attract

25,000 visitors over four days. Agrifest is the first of its kind in the region and will offer Maritime farmers and consumers a fun and



Continuing Education

1999

66% of the M.Sc. Class continued their studies or worked in research

2001

30% of the B.Sc.(Agr.) class continued their studies

17.5% of Technical grads continued their studies

2002

45% of the Animal Science class continued in further study.

(Students continuing their education following graduation enrol in a wide variety of programs: DVM, B.Ed., M.Sc., MBA programs, as well as Pharmacy, Law and Medicine)

56% M.Sc. Class continued their studies or worked in research



Dr. Philip Hicks Confirmed as New NSAC President

Gordon Balsler, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries has announced that Dr. Philip Hicks will be the new president of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

"The Nova Scotia Agricultural College is the Atlantic region's premiere agricultural research and educational institution and it is an exciting time to welcome a new President," said Mr. Balsler.

Born in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Dr. Hicks completed his undergraduate degree at Carleton University in 1973. He returned to Halifax to study science at Dalhousie with the intention of entering medical school. Opting for graduate school instead, Dr. Hicks received his PhD in Physiology from the University of British Columbia in 1979 completing his post doctoral work at Gifu University in Japan and the Max-Planck Institute in Germany.

"I am tremendously excited about coming to NSAC this summer, as well as at the prospects that lie ahead of me in this new position as President. After arriving on campus one of my first and most important tasks will be to schedule meetings with each faculty and staff member so that I can better learn what that person's role is and how each individual fits into "the big picture". I'm also very keen to come to grips with some long-standing issues of concern such as declining enrolment for example, and I also look forward to promoting a greater internationalization of the NSAC mandate, both in terms of research and of the composition of the student body".

For 15 years Dr. Hicks was a professor, first with the University of Calgary, then with the University of North Carolina. In 1996,



"I am tremendously excited about coming to NSAC this summer, as well as at the prospects that lie ahead of me in this new position as President."

Dr. Hicks joined National Research Council (NRC) in Ottawa as Group Leader and Senior Research Officer. Three years ago he was approached by the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, Japan to take on the role of Science & Technology Counselor. Dr. Hicks is responsible for reporting what the Government of Japan is doing in the areas of science and technology; including new policy development. His audience consists of science and technology professionals from universities, agencies, the NRC, government scientists and private industry in life sciences.

Dr. Hicks, an accomplished public speaker, is multilingual speaking English, French, German and Japanese and is the winner of numerous awards recognizing research excellence. He has been published in more than 100

invited and original refereed articles in various disciplinary sub areas. He has an outstanding record of research management and catalyzing R&D opportunities and has an in-depth knowledge of government with a wide network of national and international contacts.

Dr. Hicks also has experience in the organization, development and implementation of curriculum in a variety of disciplines and was invited to establish a core course on iontophoresis technology at the state university in Brazil.

Dr. Hicks had an opportunity to meet students and staff when he attended the NSAC Spring Convocation May 2, 2003. Dr. Hicks will begin his position in late summer.

Dr. Hicks and his wife Keiko have one son, Brian. ®

NSAC Advisory Board Appoints two Additional Members

Two additional members were recently named to the Nova Scotia Agricultural College Advisory Board at its meeting May 8th, 2003 on the NSAC campus; Mr. Rod MacLennan, former Senior Vice President - Corporate Development Scotsburn Dairy Group and Professor David M. Cameron of Dalhousie University.

"On behalf of Board Chair John Bragg and other members of the Board, we welcome Mr. MacLennan and Dr. Cameron and thank them for agreeing to serve," said NSAC Principal Dr. Garth Coffin. "Together, they bring a wealth of experience and knowledge of both business and post-secondary education to bear on challenges and opportunities facing NSAC."

In creating the Advisory Board, the NSAC sought the cooperation of provincial governments in the Atlantic region to name leading members of the agriculture and food industry to the Board. The new members are appointed by the Board itself. Members will serve staggered three-year terms, renewable one time.

The NSAC Advisory Board meets at least twice a year and consists of 12 members appointed by the governments of the Atlantic provinces, by the NSAC and by the Board itself. The Board will be involved in long-term planning, which will include development initiatives, academic offerings and facilities, research directions and external communications as well as governance.

The Board is chaired by John Bragg, CEO of Oxford Frozen Foods. Other members include: Mr. Barron Blois, farmer, Kennetcook NS; Mrs. Lynn MacLean, High School Principal, Pictou; Mr. Elmer MacDonald, farmer, Augustine Cove, PEI; Mr. Joseph Brennan, farmer and President NB Agricultural Producers Association, Johnville, NB; Dr. Hugh Whitney, Provincial Veterinarian, NF; Ms. Heather Topley, Graduate Student, NSAC Truro; Dr. Jeff Hoyle, Chair, Faculty Council, NSAC Truro and Dr. Bernie MacDonald, Vice-Principal, NSAC Truro. The President of NSAC will serve as an Ex-Officio member while Theresa Blois will be Secretary to the Board. One other appointment remains to be made. ®

NSAC Awarded New International Project in The Gambia

NSAC has been awarded funding to work with Gambia College's School of Agriculture to develop a training program over the next five years to address food security issues in this African country. The total project value is \$535,000.



Food insecurity is the leading cause of chronic poverty in The Gambia. The Gambian economy's dependence on subsistence agriculture, employing 75 per cent of the population, creates an acute and ongoing need to strengthen domestic institutions responsible for addressing the problems of agriculture.

"NSAC has a long history of working in The Gambia, including an earlier project with the Gambia College," said NSAC Principal Dr. Garth Coffin. "We are pleased to have the support of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to continue our work of helping to strengthen the agricultural sector in the Gambia."

The Sustainable Food Security project will contribute to the alleviation of extreme poverty in The Gambia by building the capacity of communities to increase their

supply, access and consumption of food. This goal will be achieved through building the capacity of Gambia College to deliver its mandate of providing technical training in agriculture. Through staff upgrading, development of client-centered training materials and delivery methods, increased awareness of the role of women in agriculture and the adoption of interdisciplinary approaches to training, the project will respond to community-identified food insecurity problems.

The Sustainable Food Security project is funded by CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency) through the Canadian Colleges Partnership Program, which is administered by ACCC (Association of Canadian Community Colleges).

NSAC has been active in The Gambia since the early 1980s and has developed a

successful partnership with Gambia College. Through a ten-year, CIDA-sponsored linkage beginning in 1984, Gambia College's capacity was strengthened through staff training at NSAC and several NSAC staff worked as replacement instructors at Gambia College and helped establish a working farm as a teaching and research tool. Given the shared history of the two institutions and the strong partnership that has developed over the years, it is fitting that the two institutions should work together again to develop new approaches to training and education to meet the changing needs of Gambians.

The NSAC Coordinator on this project is Professor Sam Asiedu. Mrs. Ena Corrah is the Acting Head of School of Agriculture at Gambia College and is the Gambian Project Coordinator for this project. ☺

Outstanding Young Farmers continued from page 7

count, improved herd health and a better work environment for employees.

Brian is very active in community and industry groups and helps promote agriculture and educate the public through open houses, school class trips and farm tours. He realizes though that this would not be possible without the support of his wife, Edna and family. Brian and Edna have two children, Evan and Lea. ☺

Alicia (Baxter) Class of '01 & Danny King, Class of '97 Annapolis Valley Agro-Tourism Investment Fund Inc.

Located in North Kingston, AVAIF is a Community Economic Development Investment Fund started to raise equity to be invested into a new Agro-Tourism business Babbling Brook Chalets and Farm Inc. Their goal is to provide an agricultural vacation and learning environment both guests and the community. Guests will be welcome to stay in top quality chalets with an original country touch and amazing valley view. Visitors will be invit-

ed to visit and participate in the farm which uses sustainable agricultural and environmentally sound practices. How all natural meat products, vegetables and fresh flowers are produced will be demonstrated, providing an excellent learning opportunity with safe and healthy farm produce and the ultimate vacation atmosphere.

For more information contact Danny and Alicia King at (902) 678-6513.

NSAC and Macdonald College Plan Exchange Award Named in Honour of Dr. Herbert F. MacRae



Dr. Herbert F. MacRae

Dr. Herbert F. MacRae will be remembered as a person who had a major impact on both NSAC and Macdonald College. A student, scientist and administrator at both institutions, he constantly worked to develop linkages between the two.

The Executives of NSAC and Macdonald College have agreed to establish an award in Dr. MacRae's name that will be designed to provide funds to support students and/or faculty exchange between NSAC and Macdonald College, thereby

perpetuating and strengthening the relationship between two of Canada's oldest agricultural educational institutions.

The first priority will be to support student exchanges at the undergraduate and/or post graduate level which could

involve a semester of course work at the other institution and/or working on a research project. Professor exchanges will also be considered. An application process will be developed and each institution will establish an endowment fund from which the income will be used to provide support for the visiting student or scientist who comes to that institution.

The committees may approve as many awards as there are funds available from investment income on the endowment to the agreed upon maximum. NSAC's objective for the endowed fund is \$50,000. This would normally provide income to support two awards annually. Donations from individuals, alumni, groups or corporations will be greatly appreciated in reaching this goal. Donations to the fund are eligible for a receipt that may be used for income tax purposes.

Please contact the Development and Alumni Relations office for more details or to make a donation please call:

(902) 893-6721 or e-mail Jo-Anne Jordan at: jjordan@nsac.ns.ca ☎

Certificate in Atlantic Canadian Agriculture

Through the Centre for Continuing Education, the Nova Scotia Agricultural College now offers a Certificate in Atlantic Canadian Agriculture.

The program, intended for agriculture students registered in universities and colleges outside of Atlantic Canada, involves full-time study followed by a 12-week practical work placement in an agricultural environment. "In keeping with the tradition of NSAC, there is no better way to learn than through hands-on experience," said NSAC Principal Dr. Garth Coffin. "As our international enrolment grows, we want our visiting students to know, first hand, about agriculture in Atlantic Canada."

Courses for this Certificate are taken on a letter of permission from the student's home institution and are required to register in at least three courses per semester and to complete a work term, which is not for credit.

Work experience in a Canadian agricultural workplace provides international students the opportunity to learn about the practice of agriculture in Atlantic Canada. This work experience can be made more valuable when provided along with one or two semesters of courses in agriculture as it is practised in Atlantic Canada. Advantages would be extended to Atlantic Canadian students who would find themselves studying in courses along with students from other parts of the world.



International students who wish to attend NSAC often have limited financial resources and are not used to paying tuition in their home country. A work term offered through NSAC will provide an opportunity for such students to gain practical experience and earn at least part of the cost of tuition and living expenses for courses taken at NSAC.

The work term is normally undertaken after the courses are completed. This involves off-campus learning experiences in an agricultural workplace setting. Workplaces include farms and other agricultural enterprises. A list of available workplaces will be supplied, but students are encouraged to find their own placement when possible. Workplace components will be three to four months (one semester). The supervisor, in consultation with the employer, will monitor and evaluate the student based on willingness and ability to learn and integration into the workplace practice.

Enrolment in this certificate program will be limited by available workplace positions. Students must apply six months in advance through the NSAC Centre for Continuing Education. ☎

NSAC signs Agreement with the Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College, a leader in agricultural education and research, is pleased to announce a new partnership with Brock University and its Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute in St. Catharines, Ontario.



L toR) Dr. Michael Owen, Dr. David Atkinson, Dr. Garth Coffin, Mr. Jim Gray, Mr. Doug Corkum

This partnership agreement will allow NSAC students admission into Brock's oenology (wine-making) and viticulture (grape-growing) program after one or two years of study at NSAC. A new course in viticulture has been approved for delivery at NSAC next year. The agreement with Brock will also facilitate student and faculty exchange as well as credit transfers.

"Although still relatively small, the wine industry is one of the more rapidly growing sectors of agriculture in the Atlantic Region," said NSAC Principal Dr. Garth Coffin. "We are proud to have this

articulation agreement with Brock University which will help to ensure a supply of well-trained professionals to support this industry in the future."

David Atkinson, President of Brock University was on the NSAC campus Monday, June 23, 2003 for an official signing ceremony along with Michael Owen, Interim Director of the Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute at Brock. ☺

NSAC and MSVU sign Memorandum of Agreement



Dr. Sheila A Brown and Dr. Garth Coffin, Monday, March 24th, 2003. The Meadows, Mount Saint Vincent University.

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) and Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU) are pleased to announce the recent signing of a Memorandum of Agreement to facilitate academic cooperation in science education and program development.

The five year agreement will allow both institutions the opportunity to promote a range of strategies which will prove beneficial to many. The Vice-President (Academic) at MSVU and the Vice-Principal (Academic) at NSAC will work together to coordinate cooperation in such areas as internationalization and distributed learning.

"Partnerships and collaboration are important to NSAC in pursuing broader goals than our own resources would support," said NSAC Principal Dr. Garth Coffin. "Mount Saint Vincent University has strengths which comple-

ment our strengths at NSAC, making them a natural partner in certain fields. Exploitation of these complementary strengths enables both institutions to accomplish more."

Dr. Sheila A. Brown, President of MSVU commented "Mount Saint Vincent University is pleased to have entered into this agreement with NSAC. We feel that there are some natural synergies between our institutions that could benefit our students and our faculty and allow us to broaden our horizons, nationally and internationally."

The Memorandum of Agreement was signed at a special ceremony on March 24th at Mount Saint Vincent University with NSAC Principal Dr. Garth Coffin and MSVU President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Sheila A. Brown. ☺

Canada Research Chair in Agricultural Resources Management at NSAC

NSAC Professor Robert Gordon has been named a Canada Research Chair in Agricultural Resource Management at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

The Canada Research Chairs program is a federal government initiative to strengthen the research and innovation capacity of universities across Canada. The Chair is a five-year term, renewable once and is targeted at researchers who are acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to be leaders in their field. It is valued at \$100 thousand per year in salary and research support.

"The Canada Research Chairs Program is one we can be proud of. It will serve three generations of scholars and scientists: the senior researchers, the younger ones and the graduate students who will benefit greatly by being able to work with world-class researchers in a high-profile environment," said Allan Rock, Minister of Industry. "Congratulations to all new Chair recipients."

Around the globe, there is increased awareness about the environment and the need to better manage and sustain key resources, such as air and water, for future generations. One of Canada's top environmental concerns relates to specific agricultural processes that are affecting air and water quality in rural Atlantic Canada. The research of leading agricultural engineer, Dr. Robert Gordon, is improving these processes.

"It is very fitting that Dr. Gordon is the first of four such appointments we expect to make over the next couple of years," said NSAC Principal Dr. Garth Coffin. "Dr. Gordon has proven himself to be a versatile researcher with a great sense of the important elements to be addressed in order to render his work valuable to industry. He is a leader, team builder and teacher who has attracted international attention with his work and is a great asset to the agricultural research capacity of NSAC and the Atlantic region."

For several years, Dr. Gordon has concentrated on enhancing the performance of small scale agricultural wastewater treat-

ment systems primarily related to constructed treatment wetlands, and reducing gaseous emissions from agricultural systems, with particular emphasis on ammonia emissions that result from manure spreading activities. Increasing understanding about the fundamental aspects of both has allowed him to develop many of the innovative environmental management processes currently in use among Atlantic Canada's farming community.

Dr. Gordon recognizes that agricultural management strategies all too often focus on environmental issues in isolation of one another. He intends to bridge the gap that exists between air and water quality research and develop innovative, affordable solutions that allow farmers to improve the overall sustainability of the industry. To achieve this, he will further expand his current focus to address farm-level resource management in a more comprehensive way by integrating water and air quality issues. In so doing, he believes he can better prepare farmers and the agriculture industry to meet future environmental challenges such as more restrictive regulations and farming standards.

This program promises to develop highly skilled and technically adept graduates with practical experience in agricultural resource management, foster collaborations with other researchers around the world, increase the profile of agricultural resource management, and enhance the quality of life, environmental sustainability and economic viability of the agri-food sector.

Dr. Gordon is the recipient of several top honours including Young Engineer of the Year in Canada (2001), Outstanding Young Agrologist in Nova Scotia (1998) the Graham Walker Memorial Award and was a past leader of Environmental Research for Nova Scotia's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. ☎



\$750,000 in Scholarships and Bursaries

—your generosity makes it all possible!

If you have already considered the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in your charitable giving we thank you. If not, we ask that you please consider the positive impact your generosity could have on our students and community. A lasting commitment to the educational development of our students will give the gift of knowledge and opportunity to many for years to come.

For more information on how you can make a gift to the Nova Scotia Agricultural College please contact:

Jim Goit

Executive Director
Development and
External Relations

Tel: (902) 893-7950

Email: jgoit@nsac.ns.ca

www.nsac.ns.ca

NSAC Prepares to Celebrate Centennial Anniversary!

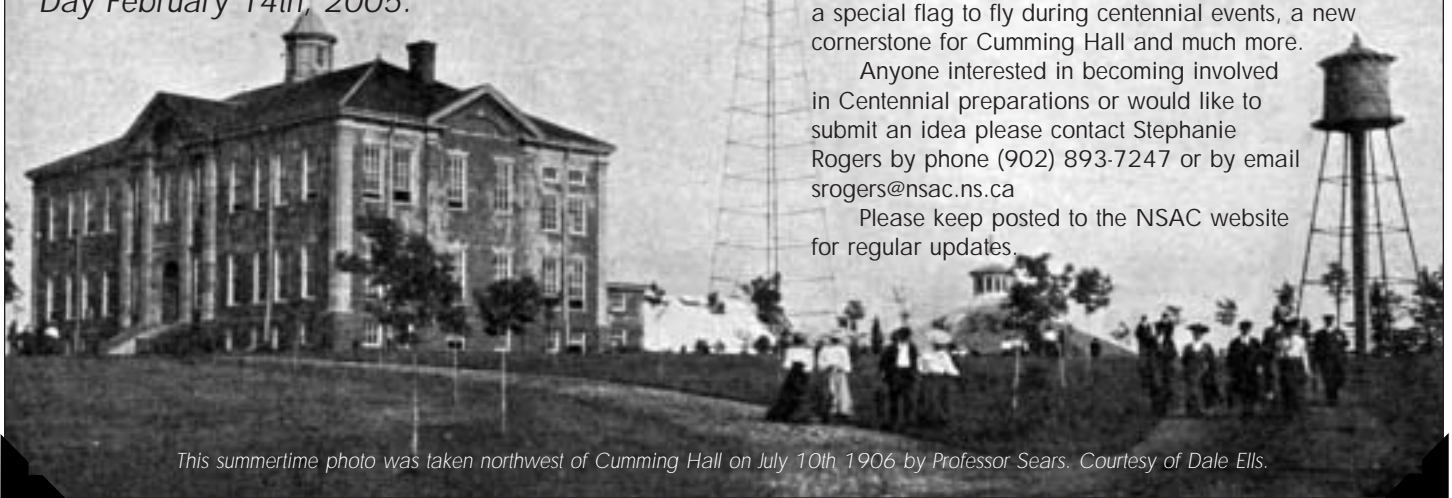
The Nova Scotia Agricultural College is the third oldest centre of agricultural education and research in Canada and is preparing to celebrate its 100th anniversary on Founding Day February 14th, 2005.

The Steering Committee will help NSAC prepare for Centennial celebrations and will act in an advisory role. A series of events will be planned throughout the year beginning Founding Day 2004.

Some ideas for consideration include a commemorative Canada Post Stamp, a commissioned painting of Cumming Hall, the naming and dedication of the NSAC Rock Garden, a special Floral arrangement for Pictou Road, the commissioning of a special flag to fly during centennial events, a new cornerstone for Cumming Hall and much more.

Anyone interested in becoming involved in Centennial preparations or would like to submit an idea please contact Stephanie Rogers by phone (902) 893-7247 or by email srogers@nsac.ns.ca

Please keep posted to the NSAC website for regular updates.



This summertime photo was taken northwest of Cumming Hall on July 10th, 1906 by Professor Sears. Courtesy of Dale Ellis.

The Great NSAC Centennial Theme & Logo Contest



NSAC will celebrate 100 years of service in 2005. Through excellence in Education, Research and Extension, NSAC has had a major impact on the agricultural industry in the Atlantic Region and beyond.

Planning is underway for centennial celebrations. In preparation for that we need a theme phrase and appropriate logo that will be used on promotional material, memorabilia, correspondence etc. This is your chance to put your creative thinking to the test. The Great Centennial Theme and Logo Contest is designed to give you a chance to come up with a theme and a logo concept design that will be used during our centennial.

Here's what you need to do to enter:

- Send in theme wording along with a sketch or concept for the design of a logo to the Development and Alumni Relations office, NSAC no later than September 30, 2003.
- Entries should be no more than three pages in length including explanation and justification of the concept.
- A committee will review the entries and make a selection.

Entries will be judged on:

- degree of representation of the history and service of NSAC
- originality
- design elements that allow the logo and theme to be used in a variety of sizes and on various media.
- The winning concept theme and logo may be further refined and may be altered at the discretion of the committee.
- The winner will be announced and the theme and logo will be unveiled by the president at Autumn Assembly, October 22, 2003.
- All entries to the contest become the property of NSAC.

If you have any questions please contact the Development and Alumni Relations office, (902) 893-6721 or jjjordan@nsac.ns.ca

Homecoming Weekend 2003

NSAC alumni and their families are welcomed back to the Nova Scotia Agricultural College on October 24th- 25th, 2003 for the fourth annual Fall Homecoming Weekend of the NSAC Alumni Association. The event will be held in conjunction with College Royal celebrations.

A full schedule of events will be planned in an effort to mix alumni with current students and various faculty members. The Reunion Program will honor graduates from Class years ending in 3 and 8.

Start planning now for October 2003.

Keep this address handy as it is your connection to Homecoming Weekend:

www.nsac.ns.ca/alumni/homecoming.htm

Tentative Schedule

Friday, October 24th, 2003		Saturday, October 25th, 2003	
5:00 p.m.	NSAC Alumni Board Meeting Jenkins Lounge <i>Alumni Board members will eat in the Jenkins Hall Cafeteria</i>	8:30 a.m.	MacRae Library Breakfast MacRae Library <i>Keep posted to the Alumni web site for updates on the theme of this year's MacRae Library breakfast.</i>
6 - 8:00 p.m.	Registration Desk Athletic Centre Foyer <i>Sign your class list, buy tickets, purchase souvenir clothing all at the registration desk</i>	9 - 2:00 p.m.	Alumni Registration Desk Athletic Centre
7:00 p.m.	Farmer's Night MacMillan Show Centre <i>Bale rolling, Tug-of War etc.</i>	9 - 4:00 p.m.	ACAA Tip-Off Women's Volleyball Tournament Athletic Centre Event is free
7:30 p.m.	Meet & Greet Reception and Mini -Expo Athletic Centre foyer <i>Enjoy the bar, learn about what is new at the NSAC since you were a student, view various College displays, see your old class photo</i> Event is free of charge. Cash Bar.	10 - 2:00 p.m.	NSPE Farm Equipment Museum Exhibition Grounds
8:30 p.m.	Men's Conference Soccer Game NSAC vs University of Kings College Athletic Centre Event is free	10:00 a.m.	ACAA Soccer Championships Begin Athletic Centre Event is free
		11 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch Program Riverview Room Presentation of Distinguished Alumnus Award Alumni Association AGM Event is free, spouses welcome. <i>Please sign up for this event on Friday night.</i>



Silent Auction '02

At Homecoming Weekend 2002 approximately \$1500 was raised through the Silent Auction for the NSAC Student Emergency Fund. This fund provides relief funding for students who experience unplanned (and unbudgeted) financial hardship through the school year such as emergency trips home.

Need a place to Stay?



A view of the east end of the old NSAC Dairy barn which was constructed in 1896.

As Homecoming Weekend is being held on the NSAC campus in October, residence rooms are unavailable to alumni. However, residence accommodations are available for any alumni who wish to stay on AgriTECH Park campus during the weekend. AgriTECH Park is within three kms of the main College campus.

Please make your reservations for residence rooms by calling Sharon MacKenzie at (902) 893-4145. Quality accommodations are also available at various local hotels who are offering preferred rates for alumni during Homecoming Weekend.

Quality Accommodations

The following local hotels have agreed to offer preferred rates to those alumni needing accommodation during Homecoming weekend. When making reservations, please indicate that you are here to attend the NSAC Alumni Homecoming Weekend. The rate is the same for either single or double occupancy. Please book by Oct.16.

Best Western Glengarry Motel
(902) 893-4311
150 Willow Street, \$85 plus tax

Howard Johnsons
437 Prince Street
(902) 895-1651, \$76 plus tax

Comfort Inn
(902) 893-0330
12 Meadow Drive, \$64 plus tax

Other Accommodations:

Irwin Lake Chalets
1-866-55IRWIN (46946)
Old Barns

Continued on page 21

Saturday, October 25th, 2003 continued

1:30 p.m.	Class Photos Athletic Centre
1- 7:00 p.m.	Mini-Expo Athletic Centre foyer <i>Learn about what is new at the NSAC since you were a student, view various College displays. Event is free.</i>
2 - 3:30 p.m.	NSAC Campus Tours - Alumni Gardens and Aquaculture Centre. <i>Enjoy a guided tour of the new NSAC Rock Garden. Tour to form at the Athletic Centre. Event is free.</i>
1 - 5:00 p.m.	College Royal Livestock Show Ruminant Animal Centre <i>Beef, Dairy, Sheep</i>
3 - 8:30 p.m.	Class Meetings/Class organized events <i>Meet in the Athletic Centre Varsity Lounge to catch up with classmates and make plans. Enjoy beverages and fellowship and view the Mini-expo</i>
8- 11:00 p.m.	Alumni Reception/Silent Auction Cumming Hall <i>Help raise money for the NSAC Student Emergency Fund. Enjoy hot and cold hor doeuvres. Presentation of Class shield awards and others will also take place</i>
9:00 p.m.	Pub Night at The Barn

Please note: This is a tentative schedule. Please keep posted to the web site or call Stephanie Rogers at 902-893-7247 for further updates and changes.

Convocation 2003

Achievement in Teaching and Internationalization Awards



Presented at Convocation Dr. Garth Coffin is shown with the 2002-2003 recipients of the College's Internationalization and Teaching Awards. Anna Fitzgerald, NSAC Class of 1986, Department of Environmental Sciences, was the recipient of the Internationalization Award; Debbie Mellish, Class of 1976, Department of Environmental Sciences, was the recipient of the Technical Teaching Award, and Prof. Lynn Crosby, Department of Environmental Sciences, received the Faculty Teaching Award. The announcement of names during the Convocation ceremony met with enthusiastic response from the graduating class emphasizing the dedication that all three had played towards NSAC's reputation as a superior institution of higher learning.

Dr. Gerry W. Friars Undergraduate Research Award



Erica MacInnis, Antigonish, NS, a B.Sc. graduate was the recipient of the Dr. Gerry W. Friars Undergraduate Research Award during NSAC Convocation exercises. Erica was judged to have completed the best written research report as part of her fourth year project. She graduated with a B.Sc.(Agr.) degree—Agricultural Business option and plans to pursue a Masters program at the Agricultural University of Norway in the fall. Erica is pictured with Dr. Bruce Gray, Vice-Principal Academic (left), NSAC and Dr. Garth Coffin, Principal, NSAC (right).

Life Executive



Janelle Frail, Upper Rawdon, NS, a B.Sc.(Agr.) graduate, Agricultural Environmental option, was elected Life Secretary of the Class of 2003 by fellow classmates. Janelle is also the recipient of a Silver Distinction Award. Matthew Reeves, New Ross, NS, was elected Life President of the Class of 2003. Matthew is also the recipient of a Bronze Distinction Award, Student Leadership Award. Jeff Morton, President, NSAC Alumni Association, is shown congratulating them on the honour.

Farm Credit Canada Farm Business Planning Awards



NSAC is pleased to announce the winners of the first Farm Credit Canada Farm Business Planning Awards. The award program encourages agricultural diploma students in their final year to apply their knowledge, and create "real-life" farm business plans for their farm operations. Selection is based on project content, writing, format and presentation. The 2003 recipients were: 1st Prize \$2,500 —Mitchell Thomas, Centreville, NB, graduate from the Agricultural Business Technician program; 2nd Prize \$1,500 —Barrett Gaunce, New Scotland, NB, graduate of the Farming Technology program; 3rd Prize \$1,000 —Josh McFadgen, Harvey, NB, graduating from the Farming Technology program; 4th Prize \$1,000—Dennis Habold, Belleville, NB, graduating from the Agricultural Technology program. Remi Lemoine, Vice-President, Lending Operations, Atlantic & Eastern Alliances, Farm Credit Canada, was on hand to make the presentations.



Alumni News



2003 Calendar of Events

- Novartis Agri-Golf Classic July 25
- Nova Scotia Agricultural College Open House . . July 26
- Homecoming Reunion Weekend October 24—25
- NSAC Octoberfest 5 K Run October 18
- Varsity Alumni Weekend October 18
- Autumn Assembly October 22
- Agricultural Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony . . . October 22
- Festive Craft Market November 15—16
- NSAC Centennial Day February 14



In Memoriam

Bruce McInnis

Class of '89
Jan 2003

Thomas Mack

Class of '52
Feb, 2003

Howie Rand

Class of '61
2002

Paul Eaton

Class of '48
March, 2003

Lawrence A. Jess

Class of '44
May 2003

Robert Gibbon

Class of '66
May, 2003

Bruce Pettipas

Class of '81
May, 2003

Christopher Stewart

Class of '99
April 2003

A Place to Stay, from page 19

At the Organery Bed & Breakfast
Jan van der Leest (Class of 1971)
(902) 895-6653
53 Farnham Road, Truro
E-Mail: organery@ns.sympatico.ca

AgriTECH Park Residence Accommodations
(902) 893-4145
Private Room \$30 + tax
Double Room \$40 + tax
Check in before 4:00 p.m.
Check out by 12:00 noon ☎

Barnyard Banter, from page 23

CRAWFORD, Jared (B.Sc.(Agr.) Aquaculture)..... is at Memorial University doing a Masters degree in Marine Studies. He recommends the one year course-based program for anyone planing to work in the management sector. He says the program is 'interesting and involves the management of the fisheries resources via an interdisciplinary approach (economics, business, biology, policy, management, sociology, etc.)."

DELANEY, Tim: Hi folks! I've recently started working at the AC as webmaster and my wife Kim and I live in Stewiacke. I can be reached by email at tdelaney@nsac.ns.ca ☎

Don Palfrey Scholarship

A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded annually in recognition of the many years of service and contributions to weed science in Nova Scotia by Don Palfrey. The Scholarship will be awarded to an undergraduate student who is carrying out a senior year pest management research project with a preference given to students involved in weed science, either through academic work or summer employment. Applications are due to the NSAC Awards Office no later than September 15. ☎



Current & Past Award Winners

- Jack Johnson 2002
- Byron Beeler 2001
- Richard James Huggard 1999
- James R. Wright 1998
- Dr. Murray F. McLaughlin 1997
- Dr. J. Clifford Mclsaac 1996
- Dr. Roger. B. Buckland 1995
- Harold L. Chute 1994
- Brigadier General - Courtney S. Gilliatt 1993
- Dr. Kenneth Cox 1991
- Dr. Herbert F. MacRae 1990

Distinguished Alumnus Award

The Distinguished Alumnus Award allows the Association, on behalf of its membership, to recognize the outstanding contributions of alumni to the College and to their community.

Criteria for the Selection of Nominees

Nominees must be eligible for membership in the NSAC Alumni Association and have distinguished themselves in the field of agriculture or a related field and brought credit to the NSAC.

Nominees must have provided a good role model for the College and agriculture and made a significant contribution to agriculture through teaching, research, industry, extension or production or to society in general.

Please submit the name, address and phone number of your nominee to:

The NSAC Alumni Association
Box 550, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E3

no later than August 31, 2003.

Please attach a brief biographical sketch of the nominee clearly outlining the contributions which qualify him/her as a candidate for the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Nominations can also be submitted via email (please visit the website for our on-line form) or via FAX (902-897-9399).

reside in Burton, NB. Bill retired from career with NB Agriculture in September 2001.

Class of 1974

WOODROFFE, Cathy.....is still working as a research chemist and living in England but hopes to return to Nova Scotia in the next couple of years to live. Cathy can be contacted at cathy.woodroffe@matthey.com

Class of 1980

JARVIS, Patrick.....Hello. Just a short message to update those who may wonder. Currently, I am retired due to disability have arthritis on my upper spine which leaves me for the most part unable to work. Before onset, I had been involved in many industries (forestry, fishery, agriculture, construction, etc..)Also, I became an artist of note, a wood carver (check "The Upper Canadian" magazine, Sept/Oct.1993 issue.) These days I maintain a small garden in the summer and do a little carving as the back permits in the winter. The rest of the time is spent communing with nature and my 20 lb cat. No, he doesn't talk back.I only check my email on Tuesdays and Fridays at the local C@P site. My email addresses are as follows:
mastyrjar@hotmail.com
mastyrjar@canada.com,mastyrjar@fundymail.com
m. My regards to all aggies (especially the class of 1980).

Class of 1986

DICKSON, Peter.....Hello to all Aggies then and now! Life is too too busy and I have lost touch with too many. I often have flashbacks of days and nights at NSAC. I am still in Moncton with my wife Gisele and kids; Devin (18) Dominique (7). Still love my plants but sell houses for living (figure that one out) Would be great to hear from old friends and drinking buddies. Still drinking beer and loving life!

Class of 1987

FAGE, Paul.....I guess you can't really get any further from home than Western Australia, exactly 12 time zones away from the Maritimes. I've been living and working over here for the last 8 years and it has been a real adventure which has become my life. My wife, Cindi and I have four children which keeps us on the go. Three girls and one boy. I am currently employed with Farmer's Centre, a large Case IH dealership group consisting of 6 branches across the south of WA. I work as a hands on foreman, technician. My work consists mostly of large broad acreage equipment mainly combine harvesters, tillage equipment, front well assist and four wheel drive tractors. I am in charge of an apprentice, two other ag mechanics and a detailer, all of them really good men. The work's good and sometimes very challenging, especially when its 45C and the flies are out but I love it. In our leisure time we do a lot of 4 wheel driving, fishing, surfing (not on the net) and swimming. If any of the old class is ever thinking of an overseas holiday, be sure to look us up. I have sort

Class of 1956

WARD, Dave..... After 31 years in Alberta, Dave and his wife Trudy have decided to return to the Maritimes and have purchased property in Nova Scotia. They moved to Alberta in 1972 after 14 years with P.E.I. Agriculture and retired after 19 years with Alberta Agriculture; the past 12 years have been spent driving trucks! Welcome home Dave and Trudy!

Class of 1967

Lunnie, William (Bill).....Bill and Sally (nee Deakin) have a new grandson, Joshua Buying, a brother to Marieke Dawn. Mother Sarah (Class of '97) and husband John Patrick Buying,

Barnyard Banter



of lost touch with a lot of old classmates so look us up at pcfage@omninet.net.au and let us know what you're up to.

Class of 1989

HUME, Jill.....after graduating from NSAC in 1989, I attended the College of Geographic Sciences (COGS) in Lawrencetown, NS. At COGS, I took a year of land survey technology and a year of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Since then I've been working as a GIS Analyst in NS, Saskatchewan and Alberta. I'm now in Calgary and would enjoy hearing from any former aggies. My e-mail address is jill.hume@gov.ab.ca

FRASER, Janis.....Would love to talk to some of my former classmates. Have a five-year-old son who will be in school in the Fall. He's been on tour of the AC campus and has decided he's going when he gets old enough. Friends can contact me at janisfraser@canada.com

Class of 1994

MACDONALD, Colleen (Miller).....Hi all, we have moved yet again! Hugh(Class of 1994) and I now live in the town of St. Mary's Ontario where we have bought our first home. We were married in October of 2000 and are pleased to announce the birth of our little girl Emily Clara-Ann born on October 5, 2003. Emily weighed 8 lbs, 4oz. Now 1 years old she's keeping Mom on her toes. I'm a stay-at-home mom while Hugh is now working at Greiden Farms just outside of St. Mary's. Hope all grads from '94 and '96 are doing well. Give us a call at (519) 284-4521. Take care.

Class of 1996

GAREAU, Amber (Walker).....works at Ocean Nutrition Canada www.ocean-nutrition.com as a Stability Co-ordinator. I am happily married since Aug.12/00 to Pierre Gareau and we are currently living in Halifax. My e-mail is agareau@ocean-nutrition.com and feel free to drop me a line anytime

FARRELL, Geoff was home for a few days over the holidays. He is currently finishing up a two year term teaching in Korea. The school he and his wife teach at has provided a wonderful experience for Geoff. He highly recommends it to any who are looking at teaching English overseas. He will be completing his contract at the end of May so would appreciate being kept in mind for job leads.

HUGGARD, Sarah (Kirkpatrick).....Sarah and Gary Huggard (both Class of 96) had their first baby in March 2002. She's Madeline Elizabeth and keeps us busy. We'd love to hear from any classmates (sarahhuggard@hotmail.com)

ALLAIN, Nicole, a land development officer with New Brunswick's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and Aquaculture was named Agriologist of the Year by the Agriculture Producers Association of NB during its annual meeting. She received the award from APANB vice-president Hans Kristensen

Class of 1997

Buyting, Sarah (Lunnie)... Hi everyone! Hope all of the AHT '97 grads are doing great! I was married in 1998 to JP Buyting - a dairy farmer in Maugerville, NB. We have a 3 year old daughter, Marieke, and a newborn, Joshua. I have been at the Valley Veterinary Hospital in Fredericton, NB since 1998 and love it there. Drop me a line at khylar_creek@hotmail.com

Class of 1998

HAGERMAN, Brynne - AHT (High Honors) '98. After graduation I moved to Delta, BC - about a half hour outside Vancouver - and was employed as a technician at a small animal practice for 4 years. In August 2002 I accepted the position of Territory Manager - British Columbia for Pet Plan Insurance. This position allows me to travel all over the province and talk to veterinarians and staff about the benefits of pet health insurance. I would love to hear from old classmates - you can email me at bhagerman@petplan.com

SAUNDERS, Josh..... Josh married Lisa Slaunwhite on December 16th 2000 (Animal Science, Class of 2000) We both abandoned the agricultural scene and entered Acadia University where we graduated with our teaching degrees in the spring of 2002. We moved to Dartmouth where we both began our teaching careers. I'm teaching at Auburn drive High School and Lisa is teaching at Bridgeway Academy. Hope everyone else is doing well.

WHELAN, Patrina..... is currently working as the Executive Director for the Combined Councils of Labrador which is an association of the Municipal units in Labrador. Much of the work in this position is as a lobbyist. She's been in this job for 1 years and she has been living happily in Goose Bay now for three years.

JOHNSTONE, Jamie.....a Professional Service Representative with Frosst Endocrinology, Mississauga, ON, reports he is doing very well in his new territory. He and Andrea bought a house this fall and are busy with renovations. Andrea is an Industrial Hygienist in Sarnia, ON, for Imperial Oil. She does medical, health and safety consulting and Jamie calls her job one with a lot of responsibility.

MELLISH, Angus (B.Sc.(Agr.) Plant Science) is moving to a new position with Vesey's Seeds. He will be doing their vegetable variety trials and some commercial seed sales. Following graduation he completed his M.Sc. from the University of Saskatchewan and has been working at AAFC in Charlottetown.

Class of 1998

HILTZS, Drew L..... (written on Drew's behalf by Gerald Foster) Drew presented his paper "Thermochemical Boronizing for Crop Harvesting Applications" at the ASAE convention recently. The second International Crop Harvesting Conference was held simultaneously (last time in 1977). Both conferences were held in Louisville Kentucky, February 2003.

Class of 1999

SAVOY, Jeanne..... is now well established in Calgary with a promising career with Shell Canada Limited. She is working in the accounting software department... an interesting place for an NSAC Animal Science graduate.

Class of 2000

BELLIVEAU, Daniel Bonjour les ami(e)s! How's everyone doing? I've been working for Co-Op Atlantic, Agriculture Division, for two years now and am enjoying every minute of it. My boyfriend and I just bought a house in Riverview, NB last summer. We have two cats (Indy and Maxie), a dog (Jax) and fish. They keep us very busy. If any of you are in the Moncton area and would like to go out for a "drink", don't hesitate to call or e-mail. PH: (506) 386-4569 or bell-dan@co-opsonline.com

FAULKNER, Kenny (B.Sc.(Agr.) Ag Economics)..... has left Alberta Agriculture where he had worked since graduating. He is now a project manager for an internet research company. The project he is currently managing deals with the development of distance education resources over the high speed research network in Alberta.

SAUNDERS, Josh and Lisa (Slaunwhite) both B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science completed B.Ed. degrees from Acadia University in 2002 and have teaching positions in Dartmouth, NS. Josh is teaching at Auburn Drive High School and Lisa is at Bridgeway Academy.

BROWN, Colin has been in Ottawa for the last two years working for an engineering consulting company 'getting lots of environmental experience.'

Class of 2001

LOWERISON, Mark (B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science) is now working in Calgary for the Canadian Charolais Association in their breed improvement program.

Class of 2002

BARRETT, Ryan..... (2002, B.Sc.(Agr.) Animal Science) received an Industrial NSERC Post Graduate scholarship in January. He is studying at the University of Guelph towards his M.Sc. and is also serving as the executive secretary of the Canadian Milking Shorthorn Society (a part-time position).

Continued on page 21



Athletics in Review

The 2002/2003 athletic season got underway in the fall with soccer and rugby teams in action the very first week of classes. Woodsmen practices started immediately also as they geared up for their first competition in October at UNB.

Women's Volleyball

The Women's Volleyball team, under rookie coach Peggy Tuttle, faced a few challenges at the beginning of the year. The coaching staff in place, with assistants Teri Kennedy and Kim Francis, the team began with a roster of only nine players. After a few line-up changes, the team settled into a very competitive mode. At the Christmas break, more changes took place as the team lost three players, putting them in a position to play the remaining part of the schedule with a small roster. Shelley MacLean was added to the team in the second semester and the Rams completed their push to the end of the season. The team finished in 5th place and out of the play-offs, but received contributions from many different players. Award winners were Angela Newell (MVP), Melissa Greer (Rookie), Cindy Hache (MIP) and Amanda Hickey (Hustle).

Men's Volleyball

Mens Volleyball was led by coach Jeff Morton in his first full-year as head coach. The Rams were in a season-long battle with UNBSJ for the final play-off spot and finished tied for fourth place with the Seawolves with a 3-13 record. They lost the play-off spot in the league tie-breaking system and did not advance to STU for the conference championships. Team awards went to Dan Ross (MVP), Joe Smith (Rookie), Barrett Gaunce (Hustle) and Dan Hunt (MIP). Ross was also named to the ACAA All-Conference team.

Men's Basketball

The 02/03 version of the Men's Basketball program was led by senior guard Craig Curley and sophomore centre Nathan Bokma. This team demonstrated team unity and hustle on a consistent basis and were viewed as a very competitive foe by the opposition. Head coach Tom Doucette, assistant coach Garth Perrin and manager Jeff Kay were extremely impressed with the significant skill growth of the players and their adherence to the concepts of fair play and sportsmanship. Stated Coach Doucette - " These players were committed to sport and academics, while displaying a sense of pride in representing NSAC". The Rams finished in 6th place with a record of seven wins and 14 losses. Craig Curley, in addition to his team MVP award, was selected as the Male Athlete of the Year at NSAC. Nathan Bokma was selected to the ACAA All-Conference 1st team and was a CCAA Academic All-Canadian. Other awards went to Mike Ackerley (MIP) and Darren Marlborough (Rookie).

Academic All-Canadians



The Canadian Colleges Athletic Association has named four NSAC students Academic All-Canadians. (L to R) Emily Fraser, Dartmouth and Maria Didkowsky, Kennelcook, Women's Soccer; Lindsay MacCormack, Sydney, Women's Basketball and Nathan Bokma, Shubenacadie, Men's Basketball

Women's Basketball

The Women's Basketball team was led by first year head coach Anne Armstrong and assistant coach Karen Piers. The Rams got off to a slow start in a very strong ACAA women's division. They returned as defending league champions and finished the 02-03 season in 5th place. However, with a league record of ten wins and 11 losses, only three of their losses were by more than six points. Their competitiveness within the league garnered them a spot at the CCAA National Basketball Championships at NSAC as the host team. Joined by league champion MSVU, the Rams played their best basketball of the season at the championships. After playing a very tough game against #1 seed Montmorency from Montreal, they lost to Ste. Foy from Quebec by three points and then beat Ontario champion Fanshawe College in the game for 7th place. Jenna Tait was named to the tournament all-star team as a member of the 2nd team. Catherine Steiner and Carla Shaw were also selected as players of the game. Graduating players this year are Shaw, Kathryn Bremner, and Leanne Doyle. Team award winners were Tait (MVP), Bremner (MIP), Steiner (Hustle) and Jennie Pryor (Rookie). Second-year player Lindsay MacCormack was selected to the ACAA All-Conference 2nd team and was a CCAA Academic All-Canadian.

Athletic Awards Banquet

A highlight of the team awards at the 29th annual Athletic Awards Banquet in April was the announcement of the NSAC All-Academic Athletes.

There was a grand total of 45 athletes receiving this distinction (were members of a varsity team and had a first semester average at the Honors level) and two very noteworthy winners.

The K.S. Marchant Awards



The K.S. Marchant Awards (for the highest academic standing by a varsity athlete) were presented to students enrolled in the degree and technical programs. This year's degree winner was Emily Fraser of the women's soccer team. Emily, in her first year, is from Dartmouth, N.S. The technical winner was Amy DeGroot from North Shannonville, N.B. Amy was a member of the 02/03 Woodsman team.

Golf

The NSAC Golf team competed in the fall ACAA/AUS Championship - held at the Truro Golf Club. The team finished 3rd, while Jon Garron was the top individual for the round.

Women's Soccer

The Women's Soccer team was led by first year head coach Jen Cameron and assisted by Treasa (Caldwell) Pauley. Eight returning players and eight "rookies" provided Coach Cameron with experienced athletes for the upcoming season and established a foundation for a strong nucleus for the 2003 season. Finishing with a league record of three wins, three losses and four ties, the Rams finished fourth and advanced to the ACAA Championships where they lost in the semi-final by a score of 2-0 to regular season champion St. Thomas. Maria Didkowsky and Emily Fraser were both multiple winners on the season. Maria was team MVP and was selected to the ACAA All-Conference team, while Emily was team Rookie of the Year in addition to her selection on the All-Conference team. Both Maria and Emily were CCAA Academic All-Canadians and Maria completed her list of accomplishments by being named NSAC's Female Athlete of the Year. Other awards went to Shelley MacLean (Hustle) and Leanne Doyle (MIP). Completing the numerous awards captured by the Rams this season, Jen Cameron was selected as the ACAA Coach of the Year.

Men's Soccer

The Men's Soccer program, in a rebuilding year, started their practices with numerous players on the turf and with anticipated potential. Although finishing 0-8 in league play, they remained a very committed group of soccer players and were competitive to the very end. With a talented group of returning players, head coach Gary Gorringer and assistant coach Charles McNally are expecting a run for the play-offs in the 2003 season. Shane Sutherland, along with his team MVP award, was selected to the ACAA All-Conference team. Shane was also the MVP for the NSAC Indoor Soccer League which followed the regular season. The mens team advanced to the ISL final losing in a shoot-out. Other award winners for the ACAA season were Steven Laing (MIP), Kurtis Langille (Rookie) and Chris Stokdijk (Hustle). Captain Iain Caldwell, playing in his last season, contributed much to the team on and off the field.

Men's Rugby

The Mens Rugby team of 2002 were into action immediately with two games on the very first week-end of the academic year and head coach John MacKenzie got his squad to come away with a split. They lost to Acadia, but rebounded with a win over UCCB. After the team re-grouped, they had a solid season and won all but two matches, before losing to St.F.X. in the final. Players moving on that provided much leadership on and off the pitch are Matt Beal, Randy Shepherd, Matt James, Gerry Russell and O.J. Lien. Coach MacKenzie feels that the returning players will make the program strong if there is a commitment to learning the sport during the off-season. The league will be joined by Kings College next year, adding two more games to the schedule. Award winners for the season were O.J. Lien (MVP), Gerry Russell (Hustle), Tyler Campbell (Rookie) and Matt Beal (MIP).

Athletes of the Year 2003



Male and female Athlete of the Year honours went to Maria Didkowsky and Craig Curley.

*2003 Canadian Intercollegiate
Lumberjacking Association All-Canadians*



The Canadian Intercollegiate Lumberjacking Association All-Canadians for the year were Kelly Cousins (Women) and James Trueman (Men).

Woodsmen's Team

The 02/03 Woodsmen team once again had a full squad of 26 dedicated athletes (13 returning and 13 rookies) under coach Rick Russell. Assisting Rick this year were Trevor Dillman and Manager Sally Gallant. Two mens and two women's teams competed in three CILA events at Sir Sandford Flemming College, UNB and NSAC and a non-sanctioned event at the MacDonald College on the McGill University campus. A small contingent competed at Unity College in Maine on Sept.21st. The first full event at UNB in October had the two mens teams finishing 2nd and 12th, while the women were 3rd and 8th. The November meet at Sir Sandford Flemming in Ontario was a successful competition with the top mens and women's teams placing 3rd and 4th respectively. After the Christmas break, it was off to Quebec for competition at MacDonald in a new format that stressed individual events over the team events. Second place finishes were captured by both the mens and women's #1 teams, while the second teams both finished 5th.

In February, NSAC hosted their own CILA event at the MacMillan Show Centre and it was a huge success and well attended. The women's #1 team once again placed second in their events, while the men captured 3rd. The overall CILA point standings found the #1 teams from NSAC both placing second behind MacDonald College.

Award winners for the season were Amy DeGroot (Hustle), Nick Juurlink, Nick Graham, Chris MacKenzie and R.J. Dillman (Hustle), April Gardiner (MIP), Jeremy MacLean (MIP), Beth Trueman (Rookie) and Tyler Campbell (Rookie). The MVP's for the season were Kelly Cousins and R.J.Dillman. The CILA All-Canadians for the year were Kelly Cousins (Women) and James Trueman (Men). Kelly also added the CILA MVP award to her list of accomplishments. The Woodsmen team extend thanks to James Bezanson for again supplying the practice wood for the season.

Women's Rugby

The 2002 Womens Rugby season was no exception to their tradition of success. Twenty-five players, including ten rookies, gave the Rams plenty of depth for head coach Laura Lee McInnis. After posting a 3-1 league record, the championship game took place in Halifax against University of Kings College in the pouring rain. In sudden- death overtime, Kings scored a try to win the title game 10-5. Season leaders for the Rams were Amy Higgins (MVP), Melissa Dodge, Amy MacLean and Andrea Larter. The team also participated in Indoor Sevens, entering two squads in competition against 30 other teams from the Maritimes, Ontario and Quebec. The four graduating players are Amy MacLean, Audrey-Jo Vink, Jennifer Mazerolle and Norma MacLellan. Other award winners were Stephanie Hogue (Rookie), Amanda Estabrooks (MIP) and Tara Moreau (Hustle).

Badminton

The 02/03 Badminton team had a new coach this year in Michelle Smith. Although not having a mixed team, the team placed 3rd at the ACAA Conference Championships hosted by NSAC. The women's singles title went to Nathalie Chiasson, putting her in a position to qualify for the Nationals the next day. At the CCAA Qualifiers, the team dropped to 5th place, but Nathalie's second place finish in women's singles got her a spot at the CCAA National Championships in New Brunswick. Nathalie had a strong showing and finished 4th. Team award winners for the season were Brad Forbes (MIP and Hustle), Cindy Duff (Rookie) and Nathalie Chiasson (MVP). Additional team members were Brian Smith, Mason MacDonald and Coby van der Giessen. ☺

COMING UP!

Varsity Alumni Day
October 18, 2003

- 12:30 pm Volleyball (m and w)
- 2:30 pm Soccer (m) Basketball (w)
- 4:30 pm Basketball (m) Soccer (w)

2003-2004 ACAA Championships
Hosted by NSAC

October 25-26, 2003
Men's and Women's Soccer

March 5 - 7 , 2004
Men's and Women's Basketball



Kevin Sibley

C.A. Douglas Award presented to Professor Kevin Sibley, Class of 1980

NSAC Engineering Professor Kevin John Sibley is the 2003 recipient of the C.A. Douglas award. The C.A. Douglas Award is presented on an annual basis to an outstanding extension worker providing public service in the Province of Nova Scotia. The award, \$1000.00, is used for a self-improvement program to further the development of the individual and/or agricultural extension in Nova Scotia.

Following graduation, Kevin, B.Sc. (Agr. Eng.), M.Sc., was employed as Farm Supervisor with Cherryfield Foods Inc., in the State of Maine. As part of the company's general management team, he was responsible for the 5,000 acre commercial wild blueberry farming operation and 110 outside-grower service network.

Kevin served as a part-time lecturer, Math and Physics Department, NSAC, while he was employed full-time as a Project Engineer with the Atlantic Farm Mechanization Institute of the Nova Scotia Research Foundation Corporation in Dartmouth.

He was appointed Assistant Professor in the Agricultural Engineering Department, NSAC, in 1989 with teaching responsibilities for both technical and degree level courses in agricultural power and machinery. He has risen through the ranks and is currently Associate Professor and Head of the department.

Kevin has been an NSERC scholar conducting research in the area of precision farming and been responsible for a number of applied research projects in the areas of wild blueberry mechanical harvesting, thermal pruning, irrigation and processing and mechanized rhubarb harvesting that have directly benefited the agricultural industry. He has published 22 scientific papers and research reports and holds one patent.

Since 1993, Kevin has also been consulting to industry providing agricultural engineering and business management services. ©

LOST SHEEP

Roberts Augustine . . . 1945	Mitchell Craig 1978	Whidden Nikki 1995
Quinn Harry 1946	MacMullin Deborah 1980	Batchelor Lori 1995
Eaton Paul 1948	Morris Stephen 1982	Butt Jacqueline . . . 1996
LeBlanc Leo Charles . . . 1957	Rowland Joseph 1982	Dayle Rachelle 1996
Singer Gilmore 1962	Deveau Catherine 1982	Crocker Darren 1996
Woodman William 1965	Marchand Michele 1983	Coffin Tamara 1996
Moss Gerald 1966	MacLeod Scott 1983	Larisey Karen 1997
Hutchinson Andrew 1969	Rumbolt Richard 1984	Powell Leslie 1997
Mosher David 1970	Carter Jeffrey 1985	Fisher Colin 1998
Craig William 1970	Morrell Myles 1986	Ricketts Krista 1998
Christl Leo 1970	Thistle S Kim 1986	Hominick Craig 1998
Dykeman Brian 1970	Coldwell Martin 1986	Talbot Carrie 1999
McLaughlin Dale 1971	Yurchesyn Kathaleen . . . 1986	Peach Randy 1999
Brownell James 1972	Dawe Beverly 1987	Stiles Michael 1999
Beaton Brian 1972	Kraitzek Joanna 1987	Snow Mona 1999
Hominick Paul 1973	Gearing Dwayne 1988	Gallant Steven 1999
Rennie Stuart 1975	Conrad Douglas 1990	Roberts Andrea 2000
Bishop Randall 1975	Fox Trevor 1991	Elliott Amanda 2000
Pound Rosalind 1975	Herrington Beth 1991	Martin Andrea 2000
Bay Alfreda 1975	Crocker Stephen 1992	Joy Phillip 2000
Fillmore Ann 1976	Van Campen George 1992	Rose Melanie 2001
Menzies Wilma 1976	Allan Mark 1994	Blundon Teri-Lynn 2001
Parsons Michele 1977	Curtis-Keenan Stacia 1994	Goff Alicia 2002
Patterson Eric 1977	Layton Heather 1995	Kennedy Duggan 2002
MackKeigan John 1977	Robar Michelle 1995	

Look Who's Talking!



Dr. Garth Coffin

1. This fall you will celebrate your 43rd class reunion. What memories does this bring back of your College Days

My days as a student at NSAC have always stood out in my mind for the learning experience and the dedication of the teaching staff as well as the camaraderie of my classmates. As young farm boy from PEI my life and career was likely shaped more in two years here at NSAC than by any other single experience. The reunion brings back memories of classroom learning, field and lab experience, sports activities, life in residence and especially the building of lasting friendships

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

NSAC has matured greatly as a post secondary institution and has advanced more in size, research activity and international work that I would have thought possible some years ago. It is a tribute to the vision of previous leaders, the dedication and energy of faculty and staff and the generous support of the Government of Nova Scotia that NSAC has become such a significant presence.

3. This issue of *Agricola News* highlights the bio-economy and non-traditional uses of agricultural products. What is your view of the growing trend toward value-added agriculture?

This is an exciting time for agriculture as the potential for vast, new, non-traditional markets unfolds. With diminished concerns about the adequacy of food supplies, the prospect for new uses of agricultural products through the application of sophisticated technology is interesting for both scientists and industry

4. What impact do you think the AgriTECH park has on NSAC students and their educational experiences?

AgriTECH park is still an under-exploited resource for NSAC. We need to find ways to build on the experience of the graduate students working on research with Rob Gordon and the Department of Engineering. We still need to develop our appreciation of the value of the research we do through the commercialization of results and the exposure of our students to that process.

Harold Garth Coffin was installed as the tenth principal of the NSAC at Convocation May 1997. A graduate of NSAC, he came to the post of Principal from several years on Faculty at the McGill University, where he had served as Acting Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Science at the Macdonald Campus.

Despite serious staff reductions and cut-backs in the provincial budget, the budget of NSAC grew considerably during Dr Coffin's principalship. For example, budget allocation from the Department of Agriculture and Marketing (later Department of Agriculture and Fisheries) increased by at least \$1.5 million to approximately \$6 million annually.


Dr Coffin worked hard to develop a relationship with the three other Atlantic Provinces in an attempt to counteract reduction in their financial support to NSAC. This led in Dr Coffin's final year as Principal to the creation of a Regional Advisory Board for NSAC. He also developed and maintained excellent relationships with industrial partners, several of whom supported the salaries and research programs of Research Faculty at NSAC.

Under his leadership, NSAC worked with the College of Agriculture, Science and Education (CASE) in Jamaica to develop a Bachelor of Technology Degree to be offered jointly by CASE and NSAC. The

year 2003 will present the first graduates of the NSAC/CASE joint B Tech program.

Dr. Coffin supported international exchange opportunities for Faculty, staff and students. Numerous exchange agreements were negotiated with partner institutions in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas providing for exchange opportunities for students of both partner institutions.

Dr Coffin recognized research as an essential component of NSAC as a university. Under his leadership, NSAC's rate of success with NSERC post-graduate scholarships increased significantly. Funding of research at NSAC has grown to over \$4 million annually, representing a ratio of over \$65,000 a year per faculty member. This figure is 2.5 times larger than it was when Dr Coffin came to NSAC. While he was principal, NSAC saw its infrastructure improved by greater than \$5 million through the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the programs that support it. NSAC is currently seeking matching funding for the CFI supported \$5 million poultry research centre.

Dr Coffin appointed NSAC's first Canada Research Chair and a second has been nominated for appointment in September. 

Look Who's Talking is a regular feature of *Agricola News*. An alumnus, each issue discusses his or her thoughts on various topics relevant to the NSAC.

Web-Based Organic Agriculture Courses

- **Transition to Organic Agriculture**
- **Composting Skills**
- **Organic Field Crop Management**
- **Organic Livestock Production**
- **Principles of Organic Horticultural Crop Production** (Under Development)

Respect for soil, plants, animals, air and water contribute to respect for people and the planet.

Course Development Funded By:



Organic Agriculture
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Agriculture and
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