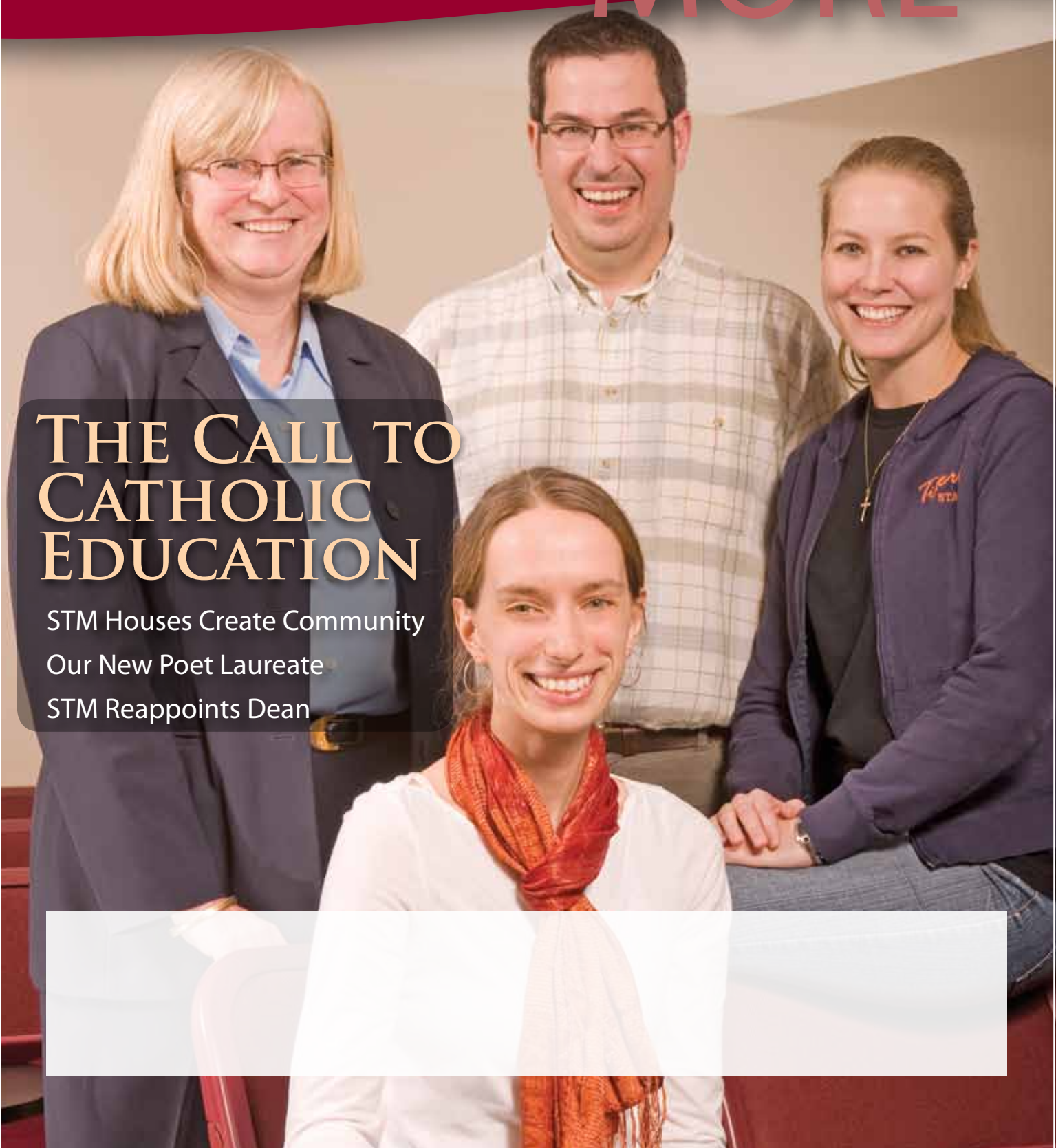


STM

ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

DISCOVER! MORE



THE CALL TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION

STM Houses Create Community
Our New Poet Laureate
STM Reappoints Dean

FROM THE STM PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Honoured Alumni and Friends,

I trust that bragging isn't a sin because in this issue of Discover More we will be bragging about what STM was, is and will be. Since I am convinced that we are speaking the truth about STM, our bragging can't be sinful. Everyone knows " ... the truth will set you free." (John 8:32)

Over the next little while, be prepared to hear lots of bragging. STM begins its 75th academic school year next September and there will be a number of celebrations during the year. Founder's Weekend in September kicks off the celebrations. There will be an open-house with opportunities to interact with friends, professors, colleagues, and supporters – past and present. Founder's Weekend will be an opportunity for people to brag about what they did and what they didn't do while at the College. It will be a time for the College to brag about you as alumni, and to give thanks for the many gifts we have received, including the gifts from the founding Basilian Fathers. The weekend ends with the celebration of the academic mass with Bishop Donald Bolen and the annual commissioning of students, staff, administration and faculty. Elsewhere in this edition you will read more about Founder's Weekend and about another anniversary celebration, the More Rejoicing Gala scheduled for November.

Last December, a special opportunity arose to brag about the College when the members of the Board of Governors of the University of Saskatchewan visited STM and met with our Board of Governors. Michele Wright, Chair of our Board, wowed everyone with an outstanding presentation describing what STM is today and provided a brief overview of what it means to be a Catholic college federated with a university. She reported on the close and mutually respectful relationship that exists between STM and the University – particularly the outstandingly positive working relationship between STM and the College of Arts and Science.

When bragging about the College, we reserve our biggest brags for the students – the future alumni. As much as we love having our students with us, we recognize that their stay here is relatively short. They will one day leave us and hopefully continue to develop according to God's plan. Career choice is part of that plan, and you will read later in this issue how the STM Plan Your Career Week initiative facilitates our students moving from their college years into their vocational future. Thanks to those alumni, who by sharing their stories of their own transition, provide guidance to current students contemplating their post-degree future.

If you, like me, believe that bragging about STM is right, go ahead and do it! Tell your friends! Tell your family! And tell us! We want to hear from you about what's good about STM. A special website is available for posting your brags about the College. See page 5 of Discover More to learn more about sending in your "STM BRAG." Stay in touch.



Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Smith

DR. CARL STILL APPOINTED DEAN OF STM



Effective July 1, 2011, Dr. Carl Still will begin his second, five-year term as the Dean of St. Thomas More College, U of S. The appointment was made earlier this year after an extensive review process and approval by the College's Board of Governors.

"We are deeply grateful for Dean Still's dedicated service to our College and its Catholic Mission," said Michele Wright, Chair of STM's Board of Governors. "The STM community acknowledges with deep gratitude the excellent service Dean Still has provided to the College during his first term, and we look forward to the benefits his leadership will provide during the implementation of the recently approved academic and strategic plans."

Dr. Still was first appointed to the Department of Philosophy at St. Thomas More College in 1995. He completed a doctoral program in Medieval Studies (Philosophy) at the University of Toronto. In addition to an M.A. (Medieval Studies) from the University of Toronto, he has earned a Licentiate Medieval Studies (Theology) from the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, also in Toronto. His B.A. in history was earned at the University of South Carolina, his home state.

In addition to his administrative work, Dean Still has co-edited three books. He has also authored seven chapters in books, seven journal articles, and numerous book reviews and academic presentations. His most recent book, *Aquinas: A Guide for the Perplexed*, was published in 2010.

AWARD OF TENURE

Two of our faculty were awarded tenure this year.

Dr. Heidi Epstein of the Department of Religion and Culture was awarded tenure at the rank of assistant professor, and **Dr. Arul Kumaran** of the Department of English was awarded tenure at the rank of assistant professor.

Congratulations to each of them on their achievement.



Dr. Heidi Epstein



Dr. Arul Kumaran

JOIN THE CLUB!

Enjoy the benefits of our **NEW STM Alumni card. Discounts at Choices at STM, 10% off Newman Players productions, & much more!**

For more information, call 306-966-8918 or toll free 1-800-667-2019

ST. THOMAS MORE | NEWMAN
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Mr. Dean Schmidt, B.A.
(2005)
Member - 12345

STM HOSTS CATHOLIC STUDIES CONFERENCE



On March 11-12, 2011, STM hosted an international conference in connection with its new Minor in Catholic Studies featuring a keynote address by the renowned Catholic philosopher Joseph Boyle, Professor of St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto. Sixty-five people registered for the conference, which drew scholars from universities across Canada and the United States.

Under the theme "In Search of the Good in the World: Scholarly Perspectives in Conversation," the conference offered three thematic sessions examining the pursuit of "the good" through the disciplines of economics, politics, and philosophy, as well as a fourth featuring papers by graduate students. Attendees heard a total of nine presentations on topics ranging from social encyclicals, ethically responsible development, deliberative democracy, and secularism to mysticism and the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas.

The conference was generously supported by conference grants from the University of Saskatchewan and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), and discussions are already underway about planning future meetings of Catholic Studies scholars at other participating institutions.



Directors of four Catholic Studies programs opened the conference with a panel discussion on the state of Catholic Studies programs in Canada. L-R Steven Baldner, St. Francis Xavier; Michael Duggan, St. Mary's University; William Sweet, St. Francis Xavier; and John Zucchi, McGill.

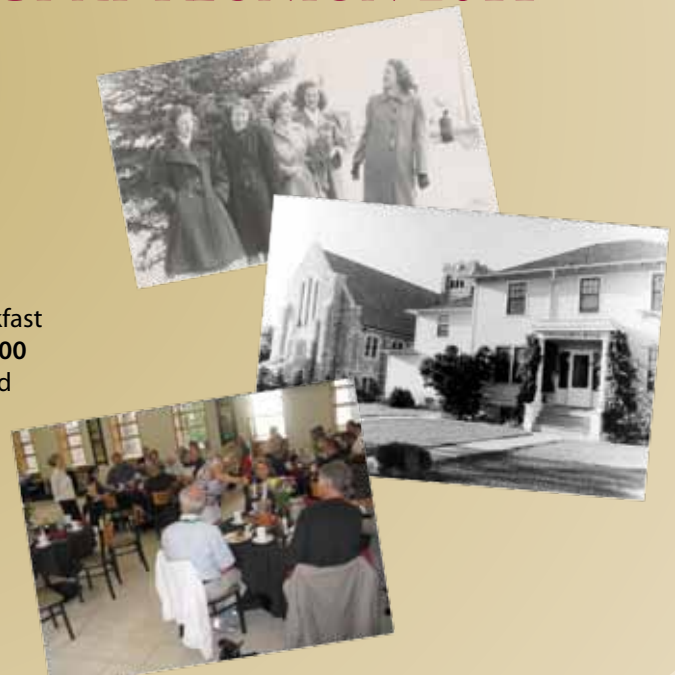
REMINISCE AND RECONNECT AT REUNION 2011

St. Thomas More College is pleased to welcome back all of its honoured-year graduates from 1971, 1966, 1961, 1956, and 1951 and earlier to...

**University of Saskatchewan's
2011 Alumni Honoured-Years Reunion
June 23-25, 2011 TCU Place Saskatoon, SK**

STM honoured-year alumni are invited to a special college breakfast to celebrate your Reunion 2011. **Join us on Friday, June 24 at 9:00 a.m.** in Choices at STM for a special complimentary breakfast and tour of STM College.

If you are an honoured-year graduate and are not attending the Reunion, but wish to attend **ONLY** the breakfast, please RSVP to Dianne Anton at 306-966-8918. To register for all Reunion 2011 activities, visit www.usask.ca/alumni/reunion



THE TRADITION OF FR. JOSEPH O'DONNELL

Since Joseph O'Donnell, C.S.B., first came to STM more than 60 years ago, Newman Players has always loomed large in College life.

"Newman Players is an important part of our College's history," says Associate Dean Dr. Patti McDougall. "It has always played a critical role in fostering a strong sense of belonging among our students. These productions provide us with the opportunity to build a community of students, faculty, staff and sometimes alumni – all of whom become part of the life of STM."

In the theatre company's early days, the Newman Players focused their production efforts on Shakespeare. The philosophy then, as it is now, was that students can learn a great deal by being involved in theatre, and that working together on a play builds a stronger sense of engagement.

This past November, the theatre company produced Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, adapted for stage by John Jory, which was a big hit with audiences.

Directed by Richard Medernach, Coordinator of Student Services at STM, *Pride and Prejudice* was a good fit with the curriculum of several English classes.

"We encourage Newman Players to produce plays that might also be included in English classes here at the College," says Dr. McDougall. "When connections can be made between what is being taught in class and what is successfully performed on our own stage (with such talent!!), learning opportunities are enriched."



*The cast and crew of Newman Player's production of *Pride and Prejudice**

STM HOUSES CREATE COMMUNITY

"Building community has always been a priority for St. Thomas More College," says Student Services Coordinator Richard Medernach. "It's the STM way."

Medernach, who has worked with STM students for almost a decade and was the recipient of the USSU Academic Advising Award in 2009, has recently implemented a new program designed to foster community among incoming STM students and, by extension, increase student retention and success rates.

The STM Houses Program, which was implemented in September 2010, consists of several web-based communities or 'houses' for new students. Through these virtual houses, new first-year students become part of a reliable and supportive network of students and mentors.

Similar to a residence on campus, each house has a faculty mentor, a staff advisor, and upper-year student mentors. Through the house webpage, students can interact virtually to ask questions about writing papers and exams, form study groups, and make new friends. But the online communication is only the start.

"We want our students engaged in the life of the College and we want them to succeed academically," says Medernach. "The link between student engagement and student success is proven, and this program aims to strengthen that connection."

The STM Houses are named after Basilian Fathers who founded the college and who played a central role in developing STM's strong student community.

CELEBRATE. SOCIALIZE. REMINISCENCE.

SAVE THE DATES

FOUNDER'S WEEKEND
CELEBRATIONS
SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2011
STM COLLEGE

"MORE REJOICING" GALA
NOVEMBER 5, 2011
FEATURING WORLD
RENOWNED VOCALIST
ANNA MARIA KAUFMANN
DELTA BESSBOROUGH HOTEL



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF CATHOLIC HIGHER EDUCATION

WWW.STMCOLLEGE.CA/75

"STM BRAG"

STM is gearing up for their 75th Anniversary Celebrations this fall. **We would like to hear from you.** We are collecting memories and short stories from your time at STM. Why are you proud to be a STM graduate? **Visit our Anniversary Website at www.stmcollege.ca/75 to submit your memories.** If you require more information please call Dianne Anton at 306.966.8918

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Q&A WITH DIANNE ANTON

We met with former entrepreneur and new STM Development Officer Dianne Anton to talk about life beyond the private sector and find out more about what's in store for STM's 75th Anniversary Celebrations.

You've been a successful entrepreneur and you've had a successful career in the private sector. What attracted you to a career in Catholic post-secondary education at STM?

I have always felt a strong connection to STM. My parents met one another as Newman Club members in 1955. As a family, we often attended mass at STM. And in memory of my father, my mother established the Wilfrid & Sylvia Hinz Family scholarship at STM to support Catholic post-secondary education generally. I'm keenly aware of the need for financial support for students. The decision to work at STM and support students' education really was an easy one.

Why do you think it's important for alumni and friends to support the College financially?

Financial assistance from alumni and friends is absolutely vital to the future of STM. In order to continue offering the very best Catholic, post-secondary education in the province we must ensure we can attract the most qualified instructors – that our students have access to contemporary and leading-edge facilities. Of course, we must also make sure that our students have the kind of financial support necessary through scholarships and bursaries so they may succeed and become our leaders of tomorrow.

In your role as Development Officer, you will also be working closely with STM's newly formed Alumni Association. What role do you see the Alumni Association playing in the future of STM?

My goal will be to help develop more alumni programs and benefits, along with more social activities that will allow alumni to engage more fully with STM and each other. An alumni network can also be a powerful tool for providing mentorship, professional guidance, and possibly even employment opportunities for other alumni. We need to keep the Alumni Association growing so that we continue to have strong leadership and a vibrant STM College.

STM will be celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2012. Can you tell us some of what the College has planned for celebrating this milestone?

We plan to kick off the celebrations starting with *Founders Weekend* on Sept. 23-25, with an open house and interactive tour, a special collection of art and memorabilia, and even an evening pub at the college that will see the revival of the now notorious Ulcers, which was the former STM cafeteria. A fun casino night is also part of our plans.

Our *More Rejoicing Gala* will be held on Saturday, November 5th at the Delta Bessborough Hotel. This special anniversary Gala will be an evening of divine cuisine followed by a private concert by internationally acclaimed soprano Anna Maria Kaufmann. This important event will be our main fundraiser to raise money for student scholarships and bursaries that directly support STM students.





Cynthia Sprung, Laura Foley, Reanne Lajeunesse, and Jason Cody respond to questions during the Careers in Education panel.

THE CALL TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION

If you ask former STM student Cynthia Sprung why she became a high school teacher, she'll tell you it had less to do with liking English or Math and more about wanting to make a difference.

"Teaching should be something you do because you want to help kids learn and you get enjoyment out of their victories – however small they sometimes seem."

Like so many who have studied at St. Thomas More College, her impulse to "help kids" is strong, and also manifests in another role she takes very seriously, which is that of mentor.

In fact, Cynthia, who is a math teacher at Tommy Douglas Collegiate, recently participated in STM's 'Careers in Education' panel, which was designed to offer support and guidance to students considering careers in both the Catholic and public systems. She was joined on the panel by fellow educators and former STM students Laura Foley, Reanne Lajeunesse, and Jason Cody (BA'01).

The panel was part of STM's Plan Your Career Week, which was a week-long mentorship and career discernment initiative in February. It included sessions such as, "Finding a Good Summer Job" and "A Life of Service: Joining the Public Sector."

"At STM, we feel that it is important that our current students see role models who have been involved in our College in a variety of ways," says STM campus minister and one of the event organizers Michael MacLean (BA'93). "This year's Education panel offered that type of variety – teachers from both the Catholic and public systems, teachers in administration, chaplaincy, special education, in both the high school and the elementary school classroom."

For Jason Cody, a Teacher Chaplain at St. Joseph's High School in Saskatoon, this kind of panel is not only a chance for him to give back to the college as an alumni mentor, but it's a significant opportunity to alert aspiring young teachers to the profound impact of an STM education.

"AT STM, WE FEEL THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT OUR CURRENT STUDENTS SEE ROLE MODELS WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN OUR COLLEGE IN A VARIETY OF WAYS."

"I owe much to my years at STM," says Cody. "I was provided with opportunities to explore Catholic traditions. And now, in my own teaching, I try to infuse my lessons with reflections on Catholic tradition, philosophy, and values."

While it's important that Plan Your Career Week emphasize the importance of mentorship, particularly in a Catholic context, it's equally important that it offer opportunities for students to explore the process of career discernment, which requires them to reflect on their vocation.

Though not frequently used in secular contexts, the term vocation originated primarily in Christianity and refers to the belief that God has created in everyone particular gifts and abilities that inform and direct their earthly purpose.

For panelist Laura Foley, Principal of St. Goretti Community School in Saskatoon and a sessional lecturer of archaeology at STM, there was no question that she felt called to a career in education.

"I had not considered teaching school until very late into my University career – until my 5th year," she says. "The call was a quiet one but prayerful discernment led me to decide on teaching."

But no matter how quiet the call, the impact can be significant.

"I actually ended up leaving a PhD scholarship to pursue my BEd," she says. "Now, teaching allows me to create a community where faith and learning are integrated. It's amazing!"



Don Beazely (BA'78), Director of the Saskatchewan Public Service Commission, addresses a packed house at a panel focused on the various challenges and rewards of public service.



Fr. Mark Miller talks to STM students at Lydia's Pub about faith and spirituality in the workplace at Theology on Tap, which was part of this year's Plan Your Career Week.

The idea of integrating faith and learning in education is central to STM's Catholic mission. And events like Plan Your Career Week, with its emphasis on career discernment and alumni mentorship is a striking example of the College's mission at work.

"Vocation is all about God calling each person to use their gifts and talents for the common good," says MacLean. "Our events can stir up questions, and provide moments of self-reflection for students in which they can examine the paths they are currently taking, and decide what direction they are truly called."

ALUMNOTES



Madeline Oliver (BA'94) studied Religious Studies at STM. Her work began in the Diocese at St. John Bosco Parish where she was a Youth Minister and then took her to the Diocese at Holy Spirit Parish where she was a Pastoral Associate.

Now that Madeline is back at St. Thomas More College, she's experiencing the same comfortable, kind, and familiar community she knew well as a student. "In some ways," she says, "it feels like no time has passed!"

Madeline is delighted to be a part of the Campus Ministry team, living out the Basilian Charism.



We are pleased to welcome **Vanessa Leon** (BA'10) as our interim Student Recruitment Officer. Vanessa is no stranger to the College; she served as President of the STMSU for two consecutive years and we have been lucky to have her working in the Dean's Office for the last three summers.

Vanessa has recently completed her degree in Public Administration and will commence her student recruitment travel in the months ahead. Vanessa has considerable knowledge of STM, and we look forward to having her as part of the Student Services Team.

OUR NEW POET LAUREATE

Don Kerr (BA'57) wasn't much interested in reading and writing until his first year at the University of Saskatchewan when he met and took a class from STM professor Father O'Donnell.

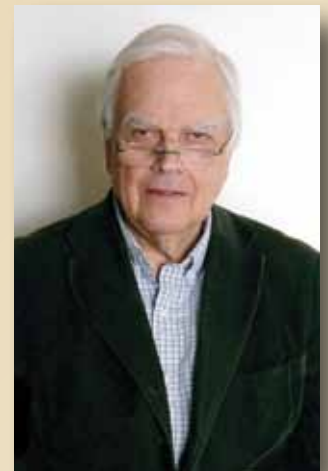
That changed everything. Kerr not only became fond of writing, it became his passion. Today, he is arguably one of Saskatoon's best-known poets and "public intellectuals."

Born in Saskatoon, Kerr received his BA (Honours) in English from the University of Saskatchewan, and went on to complete his Master's Degree from the University of Toronto. He also studied in London, eventually returning to Saskatoon to teach for the next 40 years in the English Department at the U of S.

He has published eight books of poetry, his most recent work entitled, *The Dust of Just Beginning*, which was shortlisted for the 2010 Saskatchewan Book Awards. He is also an established playwright, having had plays produced at 25th Street Theater, Greystone Theatre, the Roxy Theater and the Persephone Theater.

He and his wife Mildred, who he met at STM, have three sons: David, Robert, and William.

Kerr was inaugurated as the province's fourth Poet Laureate on January 10th, 2011 and will hold the position until December 31, 2012. Others who have occupied the position include Glen Sorestad (2000-2004), Louise B. Halfe (2005-2006), and Robert Currie (2007-2010).



THE GIFT OF ART

STM graduates **Henry** (BA'65) and **Cheryl** (BA'70) **Kloppen- burg**, who have been collecting art from around the world for 40 years, recently decided to share some of their collec- tion with the University of Saskatchewan.

In January, the College of Agriculture and Bioresources announced the Kloppenburgs have generously donated a rare collection of Inuit sculpture, which will be permanently housed in the College.

"Collecting [art] has been a gratifying experience for us," says Henry. "Being able to give the collection to the university ... will provide an environment wherein generations of students can enjoy the collection and share our experience."

The Henry and Cheryl Kloppenburg Collection of Inuit Sculpture is comprised of 55 works created by people of the Canadian Arctic. The works of several dozen artists are repre- sented, as are 14 of Canada's northern communities.

This new collection of Inuit sculpture complements the exist- ing Kloppenburg Collection of paintings, which can be found throughout the College.



This stone and antler carving, entitled "Mother and Child with Bear Spirit", is one of 55 pieces now on display in the new Henry and Cheryl Kloppenburg Collection.

A MAN OF 'PRINCIPAL'



Rev. Patrick Fulton, C.S.B. (BA'90) was recently appointed principal of St. Thomas High School in Texas, which was founded by the Basilians in 1900 and is the oldest Catholic boys' school in the State.

Fr. Fulton came to STM in 1986. With the encouragement of the diocese and the Basilians, he pursued a double major in Religious Studies and Philosophy, graduating in 1990. He completed his Novitiate in Sugarland, Texas, and was awarded a Masters of Divinity from the University of St. Michael's College, Toronto, in 1996. Later he attended the University of Alberta where he obtained his Bachelor of Education with honours in 2000.

Fr. Fulton was assigned to St. Michael's College School until his appointment as principal of St. Thomas High School. He is currently enrolled as a doctoral candi- date at the University of Toronto, the Ontario Institute of Studies in Education, in the Department of Educational Administration, Theory and Policy Studies.

ST. THOMAS MORE | NEWMAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The STMNA Alumni Association is a volunteer-driven, non-profit organization that works in partnership with St. Thomas More College to strengthen the bond between alumni and the college.

Mike Carey (Newman '80-'84)
President, 306.373.7515
mike.carey@investorsgroup.com

Adam Day (BA'06)
Vice President, 306.280.3001
acd768@mail.usask.ca

YOUR ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU!

SOCIAL AND INFO EVENING



Tuesday, May 17, 2011
7:00 p.m., STM Chelsea Commons
Room 231

Enjoy drinks and appetizers, meet the alumni Board, and learn more about volunteering to help with STM's strategic planning and the planning of alumni events and programs.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, June 15, 2011
6:30 p.m., STM Chelsea Commons Room 231

Agenda available online at www.stmcollege.ca

IN MEMORIAM

"In death the relationship we have with the world is not abolished, but is rather for the first time completed."
- Karl Rahner, SJ, theologian

Joseph Kammermayer, BA'67
Joyce Dielschneider
Dr. Patricia Witzel

If you know of any members of the STM community who, in the past year, has departed this world to enter into the Lord's presence, please let us know. Contact the St. Thomas More Main Office at (306) 966-8900.

OUR MISSION

As the Catholic liberal arts college federated with the University of Saskatchewan, St. Thomas More College courageously explores the "riches of Revelation and of nature so that the united endeavour of intelligence and faith will enable people to come to the full measure of their humanity" (Ex corde ecclesiae, 5). We are an inclusive community open to all persons. Through our teaching we are devoted to a partnership of learning and growth with our students which addresses the synthesis of faith and reason in all aspects of the human condition. The creative discovery of truth and its open dissemination nourishes our life as teachers and members of the wider academic and Catholic intellectual community. As a Catholic college we are called to share in Christ's service to the people of God. Thus, the work of our college is not an end in itself, but must find application for the good of humanity.

Contact Our Office

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