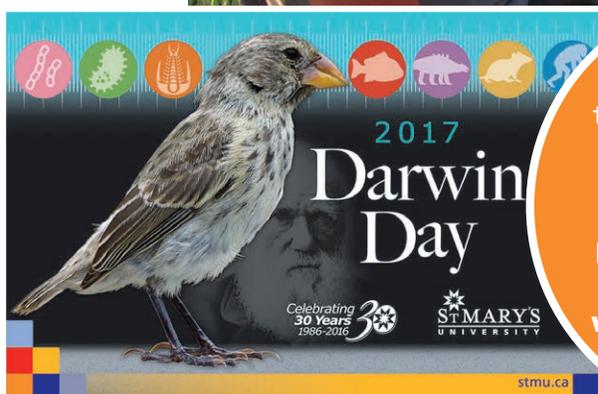
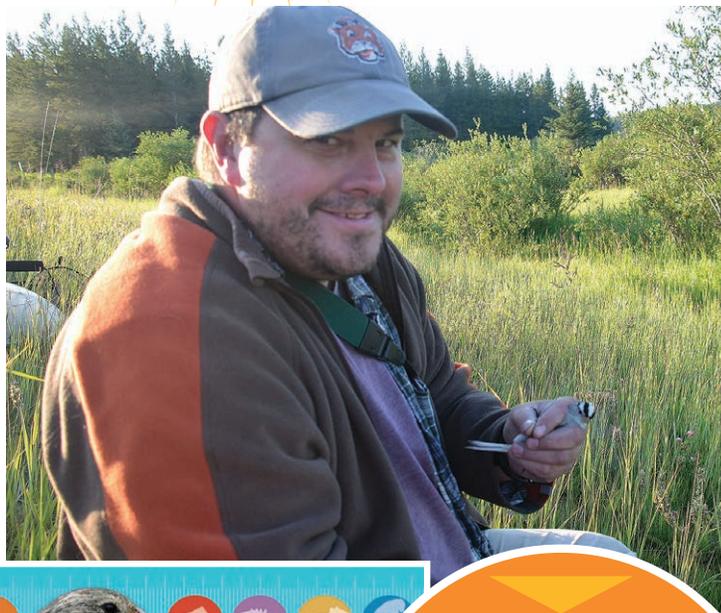


## Dr. Scott Lovell: *Climate Change is (Not) for the Birds*

The sparrows that we see flitting around on campus and in our backyards are so common that we may hardly give them a thought. But the research of Dr. Scott Lovell (Biology) compels us to think again: those little birds may be an important source of information about climate change.

Thanks in part to a Conservation, Community and Education Grant from the Alberta Conservation Association, Dr. Lovell spent the summer of 2016 examining the dynamics of a contact zone between two subspecies of white-crowned sparrow (*zonotrichia leucophrys*) along the front range of Alberta's Rocky Mountains. Lovell's ongoing project is to try and determine which, if any, climatic factors influence the current distribution of these subspecies, and to predict how climate change may impact white-crowned sparrow distributions. He's been looking at variations in song pattern, plumage, and nuclear and mitochondrial DNA to characterize clines and gene flow. Together with his field assistant, Dr. Lovell has been collecting field and historical data to conduct ecological niche modeling analysis on these bird populations.

Lovell and his assistant sampled birds from 13 locations along the Front Range of the Rockies, from Livingstone Falls to Cardinal River, AB. They captured 60 white-crowned sparrows, obtaining a blood sample (for DNA analysis) from 57 birds, and recorded songs from 190 individual birds. Preliminary analysis of song and plumage data suggests that the contact zone between the two subspecies



You are invited to join Dr. Scott Lovell for Darwin Day, **February 12, 2017**, at the Calgary Zoo. For more information please visit [www.stmu.ca/news](http://www.stmu.ca/news).

has continued to move north by at least 60 km between 1995 and 2016. What's responsible for this shift? That's something Dr. Lovell will be researching, and his findings will further our understanding of how climate change is (or is not) affecting avian populations—and the rest of us—in southern Alberta.

## Teaching Updates

Employing a flipped model for senior organic chemistry classes, Dr. Matt Clay has been using problem sets as a way to help students learn by understanding and applying the course material. Students enthusiastically endorse the new model, reporting that the pre-lecture readings and the worksheets really enforce the ideas needed for the course. This summer, based on his success with organic chemistry, Dr. Clay is building a flipped biochemistry course. Dr. Linda Henderson's experience teaching Sociology has contributed to her development of a new "SGS model" for teaching gender diversity, a teaching

practice she is sharing through conference presentations and a forthcoming publication. A new partnership with United Active Living (UAL), a retirement home across the street from St. Mary's University, has opened possibilities for teaching and research collaboration, with the spring students from Dr. Alisa McArthur's Psychology of Aging course getting firsthand insight into a social model of retirement living with an on-site visit. This fall, Dr. McArthur's senior Psychology of Aging class will be held at UAL, furthering opportunities for research and teaching partnership.

# A Message from the Vice-President Academic & Dean

Typically, Spring and Summer find St. Mary's University faculty focusing on their research projects, attending conferences and implementing changes to their courses or developing new ones. In this issue of *Illuminate*, we share the latest work that has been engaging our faculty over the last several months and celebrate projects that, in many cases, are the fruition of many years of work.

One of the ways in which faculty keep current in their fields and contribute to critical discourse is by attending conferences. This spring, St. Mary's University hosted *Rouge Forum: Teaching for Democracy and Justice in an Age of Inequality* (May 27-28, 2016). Over 100 scholars, educators, and policy makers shared their work and took part in lively dialogue. Many StMU faculty participated in the conference, highlighting the passionate pedagogy and research that animates our university. We are looking forward to convening many more vital exchanges of ideas through future conferences and workshops.

The growth of St. Mary's University as a dynamic place of scholarship is evident in the depth and array of research and publishing undertaken by the faculty, including conference presentations, peer-reviewed articles, encyclopedia entries, chapters, and books. This year, our professors have released books by major publishers, have been sought for national and international lectures, and have had the quality of their research recognized and supported by major grants.

The teaching and research contributions of our faculty are making StMU a vital force in the world of ideas, impacting not only our students, but also the world around us, building and sharing knowledge across disciplines and contributing toward a dynamic future.

**Tara Hyland-Russell**

# Collaborative Teaching, Authentic Learning



At the meeting of The Canadian Association for Teacher Education (CATE) at the 2016 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences held at the University of Calgary, Drs. Laurie Hill and Paolina Seitz (Education) co-presented on how integrative, interdisciplinary, and collaborative learning can provide student teachers with authentic and holistic learning opportunities. Their research examines how education professors can create more meaningful classroom practices for pre-service teachers and their work in schools. Hill and Seitz base their research on their own experience at St. Mary's University, where the pair collaborated to enable their students to integrate their perspectives from two courses into a single meaningful final assignment rather than two disparate and fragmented capstone projects.

# Michael Duggan Speaks on Medically Assisted Dying

This spring, as Canadian Parliament was debating legislation on end-of-life issues in Ottawa, the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Calgary was sponsoring a conference called Assisted Death: A Mental Health Perspective. Dr. Michael Duggan (CWL Chair, Catholic Studies) was invited to speak to some 40 medical professionals on the subject of medically assisted death within the context of various belief traditions. "Death, Suicide and Assisted Death: Perspectives of Major World Religions" focused on the Abrahamic traditions, First Nations traditions in Alberta, and Hinduism and Buddhism among the Eastern traditions.

Because conference participants wished to enhance their ability to listen to and appreciate the unique perspective that each of their patients may have on medically assisted suicide, Dr. Duggan spoke to the diverse ways in which religious traditions approach issues of death and dying.

By helping medical practitioners on the front lines of Canada's new assisted dying policies, Dr. Duggan has helped ensure compassionate, insightful and respectful medical care to the very ill amongst us—no matter their faith tradition. We at StMU are proud of and grateful for his participation in this most important conference.

The **Teaching and Research Newsletter** is published by St. Mary's University and distributed to faculty, staff, alumni, friends and supporters to celebrate the accomplishments of the University's faculty and share news and information throughout the St. Mary's community.

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# Norman Knowles Refines Understanding of Indigenous Agents

The 2014 final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission exposed the dark history of Canada's church-run Residential Schools. According to Dr. Norman Knowles (History), one of the consequences of the report has been a tendency to frame the relationship between First Nations and Christianity as almost entirely one of colonialism and cultural destruction, and to view Indigenous peoples simply as victims of an oppressive and assimilationist missionary agenda. Such representations overlook the important part that Indigenous persons played in the missionary encounter and the meaningful place that Christianity came to occupy in many Indigenous communities.

On sabbatical as a Visiting Research Fellow at Ripon College Cuddesdon (UK) this spring, Dr. Knowles conducted research on the Indigenous teachers, catechists and clergy employed by the Church Missionary Society (CMS) in Rupert's Land between 1840 and 1900. At the Crowther Library in Oxford, he examined the CMS archives—including journals and diaries of many of the 60 Cree and Ojibwa men deployed as CMS agents in western

Canada—and concluded that the missionary encounter was not simply one of cultural imposition and erosion but part of a complex dialogic process in which both missionaries and missionized actively participated. Through their understanding of Indigenous world views and life ways and their ability to communicate in Native languages and idioms, these Indigenous missionaries gained an entry into Aboriginal society rarely achieved by their European counterparts.

Unlike European missionaries intent on pursuing an agenda of assimilation, CMS's Indigenous agents retained much of their identity and sought to create a distinctive Native church that accommodated the changing needs and aspirations of the indigenous peoples they served. These Native churches became important centres of refuge and advocacy as Indigenous peoples strove to maintain their language and identity in the face of the sweeping changes that followed the integration of the northwest into the Canadian confederation, the opening up of the settlement frontier, the negotiation of treaties and the establishment of reserves.

While in England, Dr. Knowles reported on his research to faculty and students at Ripon College as part of their annual Church History lecture series, and delivered the keynote address at the annual meeting of the Fellowship of the Maple Leaf held at Lambeth Palace, London. The Fellowship of the Maple Leaf, an organization formed in 1917 to support Native ministry and to foster ties between clergy, teachers and researchers in England and Canada, partially funded Knowles' research trip.

Next for Dr. Knowles: expanding his work to include a comparative study of the work of the Church Missionary Society among the Maori of New Zealand.



## Announcements

- **Dr. Jennifer Garrison (English)** has been awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada (SSHRC) Insight Research Grant for her project "Confessing Masculinity: Gender, Penance, and Futurity in Medieval English Literature." As part of her grant, Dr. Garrison will employ a senior undergraduate student as a research assistant. This opportunity will provide a St. Mary's University student with valuable research experience and the opportunity to accompany Dr. Garrison to the International Congress of Medieval Studies at the University of Western Michigan in May 2018.
- **Dr. Corinne Syrnyk** has been awarded the Dr. David Lawless Award for Scholarly Achievement for her research in developmental psycholinguistics; psychosocial educational interventions for marginalised adult learners and children

with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEBD); and the human and animal volunteers involved in animal-assisted therapy activities.

- **Dr. Michael Duggan** will be Beaufort Visiting Scholar at St. John's College, Cambridge University, for the Lent term of 2017. He will be researching a monograph on the Temple in Ezra-Nehemiah. His study will employ both diachronic and synchronic approaches to the Hebrew and Aramaic texts in Ezra-Nehemiah.
- **St. Mary's University** will host the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Region of the American Academy of Religion, Society of Biblical Literature, and American Schools of Oriental Research (May 15-17, 2017). Information about the annual meeting can be found at <http://pnw-aarsbl.org>.

# Recent Faculty Activity

**Dr. Lourdes Arciniega (English)** will publish "Home as an Activist Stage: Women's Performative Agency in the Drama of Susan Glaspell" in *Performing the Family Dream House: Space, Ritual, and Images of Home*, ed. Jill Stevenson, et al. (forthcoming).

**Dr. Peter Baltutis (History and Catholic Studies)** will publish "Building a Movement: The Transition of Development and Peace from A Seasonal Fundraising Charity Into a Nationwide Movement for Social Change" in *People to People: The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace*, ed. Danny Gillis and Fabien Leboeuf (Novalis, 2017). He has also published "Ecumenical Movement," in *Encyclopedia of Christianity in the United States*, eds. George Thomas Kurian and Mark A. Lamport (Rowman & Littlefield, 2016).

**Dr. Trent Davis (Education)** will publish "Between the Teacher's Past and the Student's Future: A Psychoanalytic Interpretation of Pedagogical Presence," in *Philosophy of Education* (2016).

**Dr. Peter Doherty (Psychology)** presented on the Spirituality of Addictions at the Living with Addictions conference April 30 in Nelson, BC.

**Dr. Michael Duggan (Catholic Studies)** presented "The Temple and Community Identity in Ezra 1-6," for a Canadian Society of Biblical Studies session entitled Hebrew Scriptures: Comparison and Competition at the 2016 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Calgary. He was also a panelist at a plenary session reviewing the book "Fighting over the Bible: Jewish Interpretation, Sectarianism and Polemic from Temple to Talmud and Beyond" by Isaac Kalimi.

**Dr. Jennifer Garrison (English)** presented "Reading Community: Prophecy and Penance in Gower's *Confessio Amantis*" at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society of Medievalists at the 2016 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Calgary.

**Dr. Linda Henderson (Sociology)** reviewed *Start Talking: A Handbook for Engaging Difficult Dialogues in Higher Education and Stop Talking: Indigenous Ways of Teaching and Learning and Difficult Dialogues in Higher Education*, in *Teaching Sociology* 44.1 (2016). Her article, "SGS: A Sensitizing Concept for Teaching Gender Diversity," is forthcoming in *Teaching Gender and Sex in Contemporary America*, eds. K. Haltinen and R. Pilgerem (Springer Publishing, 2016).

**Dr. Laurie Hill (Education)** published (with Jackie Seidel) "Thinking Together: A duoethnographic inquiry into the implementation of a new field experience curriculum," in *Education*, 21(2) (2015). She also reviewed B. Berila's *Integrating Mindfulness into Anti-oppression Pedagogy: Social Justice in Higher Education in Canadian Journal of Higher Education*, 46(1) (2016).

**Dr. Norman Knowles (History)** published "'O valiant hearts who to your glory came': Protestant Responses to Alberta's Great War," in *The Frontier of Patriotism: Alberta and the First World War*, eds. Adriana Davies and Jeffrey Keshen (University of Calgary Press: 2016). He also reviewed Cecilia Morgan's *Creating Colonial Pasts: History, Memory and Commemoration in Southern Ontario, 1860-1890 for Social History/Histoire Sociale* (Spring 2016).

**Dr. Carolyn Salomons (History)** published "Paradoxical Toleration: Hernando de Talavera and interfaith relationships in early modern Castile" in *Sixteenth Century Society* (October 2015). She also reviewed Shifra Armon's book *Masculine Virtue in Early Modern Spain*, in *Sixteenth Century Journal* (forthcoming).

**Dr. Corinne Syrnyk (Psychology)** and Dr. Tara Hyland-Russell (VP Academic and Dean) published "Teaching from the Margins: Democracy Depends on the Humanities," in *Teaching for Democracy in an Age of Economic Disparity*, eds. C. Wright-Maley and T. Davis (Routledge: 2016), as well as "Challenging change: Transformative education for economically disadvantaged adult learners," in *International Journal of Lifelong Education* (2015).

**Dr. Cory Wright-Maley (Education)** published (with P. Joshi) "Why OPEC is still relevant—Especially to the Social Studies," in *Social Education*, 80(3) (2016). He also published "Their definition of rigor is different than ours": The promise and challenge of enactivist pedagogies in the social studies," in *Cogent Education*, 3(1) (2016).

**Dr Michael MacLeod (Political Science)** presented "The Alberta Oil Sands and the Politics of Shareholder Activism" at the annual conference of the Prairie Political Science Association held in Banff, September 2015; he also published "Religion and Corporate Social Responsibility: Taming Neoliberalism?" in *Religion and the Global Political Economy*, ed. J. Smith and S. Dreher (Rowan and Littlefield, 2016).

**Dr. Gayle Thrift (History)** will publish "'The Blue-Eyed Sheik of Saudi Alberta': Peter Lougheed, Oil Shocks, and the National Energy Policy of 1980," in a forthcoming volume of *Alberta History*. She also has an article, "'Has God A Lobby in Ottawa?' The Protestant Left in the United Church of Canada During the Vietnam War, 1966-68" in the forthcoming collection *Christian Worldwide Community and the Cold War*.

## Upcoming Events

### Public Book Launch

*Teaching For Democracy in an Age of Economic Disparity*  
by Dr. Cory Wright-Maley & Dr. Trent Davis

**October 6, 2016**

at the John Dutton Theater, 616 Macleod Trail SE  
6:30pm - 9:00pm

For more information please visit [www.stmu.ca/news](http://www.stmu.ca/news)