

# Surfite

A Brock  
community  
magazine

Vol.10 No.1,  
Spring 2018



**COVER STORY**

**Their roads to  
Brock led to  
each other**

**PLUS**

Landmark research  
makes global waves

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for teaching excellence



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# CONTENTS

- 4 Brock News
- 6 Nurturing the next generation of Brock leaders
- 8 Sexual orientation research gets global attention
- 10 Decades of commitment — to Brock, and each other
- 12 Brock wins another teaching excellence award
- 14 Badger pride on tap for Homecoming
- 17 Brock-enhanced tracking tool provides surgical updates on patients
- 19 Co-op champion honoured by Brock
- 21 SPMA experience leads alumna to Canada Games role
- 23 Brock's mosquito experts conducting Dominican research
- 24 Rankin Family Pavilion highlights a new look for Brock
- 27 Hitting the bricks — or concrete — for Community Care
- 28 Brock Badgers make national waves
- 30 Remembering Bill Matheson

## Surgite

[brocku.ca/surgite](http://brocku.ca/surgite)

*Surgite/sur-gi-tay/Latin for "Push on" The inspiring last words of Maj.-Gen. Sir Isaac Brock*

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Outgoing Brock University Alumni Association President Chris Phillips.

## Alumni Association President says farewell

Over the past three years, I've had the pleasure to work and engage with passionate and enthusiastic alumni who are proud of their connection to Brock and dedicated to contributing to future growth.

A solid foundation has been key to building a long-lasting relationship between the University and its alumni. Although there is work still to be done, successes are easy to see.

Alumni engagement through activities and events has expanded significantly in the past few years. We also recognize the new role the Alumni Association can play in helping graduates grow their networks and develop their professional skills.

Working with Brock's students' associations, opportunities have also been created for students to work and meet with alumni. This includes the successful Grad Send-Off, which this year drew more than 1,200 graduating students. The event showcased career opportunities (50 employers attended), our affinity partner programs (TD Insurance, Manulife Insurance and MBNA credit card) along with information about our alumni chapters and ambassador program.

With a seat on Brock's Board of Trustees and Senate, alumni also have a voice at the table and can contribute to important discussions taking place at these governing levels to support the University in its mission.

I want to personally thank all of the alumni I've met over the years for their support, encouragement and loyalty to Brock. For those who received special recognition throughout my term, I say, 'Congratulations.' I have been humbled by your stories and proud of your accomplishments. And to alumni from all walks of life spread throughout the world, be proud of Brock's past and I encourage you to share in our future together. *Surgite*.

*Chris Phillips (BBA '94) is the outgoing President of the Brock University Alumni Association, whose three-year term concluded at the end of May 2018.*

# THE BrockNews



Students Matt Durham and Ben Skippen enjoy the new Brock study space sponsored by the Children's Educational Foundation of Canada, which officially opened to the Brock community March 6.

## Renovated library space unveiled

In March, Brock University introduced a new space meant to inspire creative and collaborative activity in the James A. Gibson Library.

With lounge seating, ample lighting and tables designed to accommodate group projects, the new fifth floor space, called the Children's Educational Foundation of Canada Commons, quickly became one of the most popular study spots on campus.

The \$460,000 project aimed to create 3,600 square feet of fresh and modern study space that accommodates a variety of learning styles and encourages both individual and group study with 130 new study spaces and three new group study rooms.

The renovation was made possible by a generous donation from the CEFC. The \$263,000 gift supported the fifth floor project, while also contributing to Brock's Archives and Special Collections endowment and the purchase of library resources.



From left, Tony Baldinelli, Niagara Parks Senior Manager, Communications and Stakeholder Relations; David Adams, Niagara Parks Chief Operating Officer; Niagara Parks Chair Janice Thomson; Brock University Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic Tom Dunk; and ESRC Director Ryan Plummer.

## Brock teams up with Niagara Parks

The longstanding relationship between Brock University and the Niagara Parks Commission has entered a new era after the two institutions inked an agreement related to environmental sustainability.

A memorandum of understanding was signed on April 20 to enhance the conservation practices of both organizations, while creating educational and research opportunities for Brock students and faculty through their work with Niagara Parks staff.

Brock's Environmental Research Centre will play a key role in the collaboration.

The MOU calls for creating an environmental stewardship initiative that uses the expertise and resources of both organizations to increase environmental stewardship through public events and, in the case of students, through co-op education opportunities, coursework and research.

The partnership comes on the heels of the ESRC unveiling its new home in the renovated Theal House on Brock's campus, which is now a focal point for the University's sustainability efforts.



## Fans flock to campus to see MLS Cup

Brothers Arnav and Manav Sharma joined Boomer the Badger for a close-up visit with the MLS Cup during a community open house on March 12. The trio were joined by hundreds of other soccer enthusiasts who lined the outside of Ian Beddis Gymnasium waiting for their turn to grab a photo with the famous silver hardware.



Tim Kenyon.



Ingrid Makus.



Brian Power.

## Academics, research under new leadership

Brock’s continued quest for academic and research excellence is now taking place with new leaders at the helm. The University has seen three prominent roles filled on campus since the beginning of 2018.

Tim Kenyon was appointed Brock’s Vice-President, Research in January; Brian E. Power will start a five-year term as Brock’s Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Academic in July; and Ingrid Makus will formally take on the role of Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences in July. Kenyon joined Brock from the academic ranks

at the University of Waterloo, where he most recently served as a Philosophy professor and the Associate Dean of Arts (Research).

Power has been Associate Dean of the Faculty of Humanities for the past six years and is also former chair of the Department of Music, part of the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts.

Makus had been working as the Faculty’s interim Dean for 17 months before her appointment was announced in May.



From left, Director of Brock International Leigh-Ellen Keating, Director of the ESKD Ministry Susan Larmonie, CEO of the Ministry of Finance of ESKD Rosy Reyna and Minister Marilyn Alcalá-Wallé during the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the island nation of Curaçao and Brock University.

## Free parking model introduced for spring and summer

A new parking model has been implemented at Brock’s main campus, introducing free parking in the University’s two biggest lots during spring and summer.

From May 1 to Aug. 31, permits are no longer required in Zones 1 and 2 on weekdays or weekends. Parking is still prohibited in both zones from 2 to 5 a.m.

Brock President Gervan Fearon said the new model will favourably impact hundreds of Niagara residents who come to campus for everything from lectures and conferences, to swim lessons and participating in projects with Brock researchers.

“We hope this small change during less busy times can help provide our community partners with more opportunities for engagement,” he said. “Brock is the community’s university. We must make sure our neighbours feel welcome when they come to campus.”



Brock University has introduced a new parking model for Zones 1 and 2.

## Brock becomes first Canadian university to sign scholarship agreement with Curaçao

The doors to a Canadian education have now been opened for students in the Caribbean island nation of Curaçao. Located about 65 kilometres north of Venezuela in the Lesser Antilles, Curaçao is known for its beaches, coral reefs and a strong education system with students eager to leave the island for their post-secondary education. A memorandum of understanding signed on Feb. 16 made Brock the first university in Canada to implement a scholarship agreement with the country.

The agreement will enable Curaçaoan students to use their nation’s educational loan program (similar to OSAP in Ontario) to pay for an international education at Brock. The students will also have full access to Brock University’s various scholarship programs. Curaçao joins Brock’s growing international community representing more than 100 countries on campus.



Members of the 2017-18 Brock Leaders' Citizenship Society oversaw a number of events and initiatives throughout the school year.

## Nurturing the next generation of Brock leaders

By Ana McKnight and Sarah Moore

Each year, the Brock Leaders' Citizenship Society (BLCS) calls on a new slate of students to 'Lead the Change.'

The motto is top of mind for the young leaders who are inducted in the spring before starting their journey at the University in September.

Once their time as full-fledged Badgers begins, they are relied upon to spend a four-year term overseeing numerous initiatives that create positive change on campus and in the local and global communities.

"Beginning time on campus as BLCS members acts as a very warm welcome to Brock and gives the students an immediate sense of belonging within an excellent cohort of community-minded individuals," said Kristen Smith, Manager, Student and Community Outreach in Student Life and Community Experience.

Founded in 2008 by Brock alumnus W. Aaron House (BA '01, MEd '09), Brock's homegrown honour society was modelled after a scholars program at the University of Southern Mississippi.

The scholarship-based program accepts about 10 first-year Brock students annually

who exhibit academic excellence, leadership and community engagement.

"The scholarship element of the society is significant and a number of students have told us that the generous donor support to the BLCS program has allowed them to focus on their studies, their extracurriculars and their community initiatives so they can really make the most of their Brock experience," Smith said.

This year's students will join former members like Megan Brown (BSc '17), who served as President of the society in 2016-17, and more than 60 alumni who have gone through the BLCS ranks.

Brown's experience with the organization was so impactful that she came back to Brock after graduation to serve as the University's community engagement co-ordinator in Student Life and Community Experience.

"BLCS really connects you with people who are driven to give back to the community," said Brown, who graduated with a bachelor's degree in Medical Sciences in 2017. "I've seen the level of passion and commitment that goes into the work that these students are doing first-hand as a past member, and being able to help other students have that same

awesome opportunity is why I am still here and enjoy doing what I do."

During the 2017-18 school year alone, the 46 BLCS members devoted more than 3,100 volunteer hours on campus and in the community. They participated in nine events, including two fundraising campaigns that generated nearly \$30,000 for various Niagara causes.

Fourth-year Concurrent Education student Aynsley Maves led the charge on this year's Diamonds, Denim and Diplomas, a BLCS event that supports bursaries for DSBN Academy students who will become the first in their family to attend post-secondary school. Since the event's inception three years ago, more than \$64,000 has been raised.

"Denim, Diamonds and Diplomas is one of the initiatives that I am most proud of. I wouldn't have had the opportunity to put on such a large-scale event without the support of the BLCS," Maves said. "Brock Leaders is fantastic, and through them I developed leadership abilities, professional skills and have a great network of people both inside the University and out in the community."



### David Nguyen, former BLCS President, is proud to be a Brock alumnus

David Nguyen (BSc '16)

MD candidate 2019, McMaster/Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine — Waterloo Regional Campus, Kitchener, Ont.

Program studied: Biomedical Sciences

Past President of Brock Leaders' Citizenship Society

"The Brock Leaders' Citizenship Society provided me with such a well-rounded university experience that now, as a medical student, I have used the skills I learned to become an advocate for interprofessional education, youth and community engagement, and patient health."



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# Research on sexual orientation made headlines around the world

By Dan Dakin

Groundbreaking research led by a team from Brock University has made international headlines after further confirming that sexual orientation for men is likely determined in the womb.

In the first-ever laboratory study of mothers of gay men, the research was prompted by more than two decades of statistical data examining the 'older brother effect' which shows that biological older brothers — but not older sisters — increase the odds of homosexuality in later-born males.

The study, "Male Homosexuality and Maternal Immune Responsivity to the Y-Linked Protein NLGN4Y," was published in December in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The research has since been featured by hundreds of media outlets in 19 countries across the globe.

Brock Health Sciences Professor Tony Bogaert, lead researcher on the project, said the new study has produced some of the most significant findings in men's sexual orientation research in the past 10 or 15 years. The team included researchers from Harvard and the University of Toronto.

"The implications of this study, especially if and when it is replicated by an independent team, are profound," said Bogaert. "Along with more deeply understanding the exact origin of the older brother effect, it helps solidify the idea that, at least in men, there's a strong biological basis to sexual orientation."

"This is the culmination of more than 20 years of research where we started looking at the older brother, or fraternal birth order, effect. The current study adds to the growing scientific consensus that homosexuality is not a choice, but rather an innate predisposition."

Bogaert, an internationally recognized expert in human sexuality, said the study is groundbreaking for at least two major reasons:

It supports the conclusion, suggested by previous studies, that genes alone do not completely account for homosexuality.

It suggests that immunological factors

should be considered along with genetic and hormonal factors as possible biological influences on sexual orientation.

Joining Bogaert from Brock were Health Sciences Assistant Professor Adam MacNeil, Health Sciences PhD student José Gabrie, and Psychology PhD students



Brock Professor Tony Bogaert headed up the international research team.

**"The implications of this study, especially if and when it is replicated by an independent team, are profound."**

— Tony Bogaert,  
Brock Health Sciences Professor

Malvina Skorska (now at University of Toronto) and Mark Hoffarth (now at New York University). The team also included Harvard's Chao Wang and University of Toronto's Doug VanderLaan, Ken Zucker and Ray Blanchard.

Bogaert said that since the older brother effect was first discovered two decades ago, many studies have replicated it, including cross-cultural ones. But when a Bogaert research project 10 years ago strongly indicated that the older brother effect in men was likely biological in origin, he saw the need to look at prenatal factors, and set out to test the major biological theory explaining this effect through a lab study.

The team of psychologists and immunologists tested 16 women with no sons, 72 mothers with heterosexual sons, 31 mothers of gay sons with no older brothers, 23 mothers of gay sons with older brothers, and a control group of 12 men.

The women's antibody reactivity was measured to two proteins (PCDH11Y and two forms of NLGN4Y) found only in males, both of which are expressed in the male fetal brain.

The team found that mothers of gay sons, especially those with older brothers, had significantly higher antibody levels to both forms of NLGN4Y than did the control samples of women, including mothers of heterosexual sons.

"It seems that some women during their first male pregnancy, or just after their first male birth, begin to detect this foreign substance (the NLGN4Y protein) and start to develop an immune response. And then later, with further male pregnancies, the high levels of antibodies directed toward this substance may change brain development in these later born males," Bogaert said.

This confirms that the older brother effect is very likely immunological in origin.

"We think it's very important to understanding male sexual orientation," said Bogaert. "It speaks to the mechanisms of sexual orientation development."

However, the psychologist cautions that the effects are modest and the likelihood of a male child being born gay is still small — even if they have multiple male siblings.

"The vast majority of men with older brothers are still heterosexual, but it says something very broad about sex and gender development."



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Karen McAllister-Kenny and Joe Kenny take a lunch break together at Alphonse's Trough in 1999.

Karen McAllister-Kenny and Joe Kenny will be recognized during Homecoming weekend in September as Brock's 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award winners.

# Decades of commitment — to Brock, and each other

By Maryanne Firth

Peer out into the stands at any Brock Badgers game or onto the sidelines during intramural sports and you'll likely catch a glimpse of someone from the Kenny family.

Just as sports and fans go hand-in-hand, Joe Kenny (MEd '85) and Karen McAllister-Kenny (MEd '97) have become synonymous with athletics and recreation on campus.

The married couple have spent decades helping to shape the athletic and recreational landscape at Brock University, supporting students to the best of their ability each step of the way.

Karen, Brock's Director of Youth Programs and Recreation, and Joe, Head Athletic Therapist and Manager of the Athletic Therapy Clinic, will be recognized

for their longstanding commitment to the University during Homecoming weekend in September.

They will be the first joint recipients, and first married couple, to be honoured with the annual Distinguished Alumni Award by the Brock University Alumni Association. Joe and Karen each completed their Master of Education while working for the school.

When Joe began his career at the University in 1981, he hadn't yet met his future wife, despite both having completed their undergraduate degrees at the University of Waterloo.

In 1983, Karen learned of a job opening coaching Brock's women's volleyball team and threw her hat in the ring.

With time at Waterloo under both of their belts, Joe was asked if he knew the coaching prospect and he confirmed she would be a great fit.

When Karen started in the role shortly after, the two met face-to-face for the first time — with Joe realizing he had mistakenly recommended the wrong person for the job.

"Joe's not good with names," Karen says with a laugh as she shares one of the couple's fondest memories. "He thought I was one of my volleyball teammates. That's how I got here."

As luck would have it, the mix-up was a win for the University.

Karen quickly excelled in the role, adding intramurals to her roster of responsibilities the following year and recreation four years later. In her 10 years coaching volleyball, she led the women's team to two OWIAA West Division wins and two Ontario bronze medals.

She played a pivotal role in growing student and community recreation opportunities on campus, helping to create



Karen McAllister-Kenny on the track above the Ian Beddis Gymnasium in 2002.



Joe Kenny stands in what is now the Bob Davis Gymnasium in the 1980s.

the fulsome offering available today.

Known for having a similar passion for athletics, Joe is often seen at weekend games supporting his student trainers and is no stranger to late-night emergency calls asking for help with an injured athlete.

“We often come back after hours or on weekends for needs that need to be met. We like to be there for the students,” Joe says.

Adds Karen, “Recreation and athletics is not a 9-to-5 job — you have to enjoy that.”

It was their love of sport, and of Brock, that ultimately united the pair not only in work, but also in life.

In their early years at the University, Karen and Joe’s paths crossed constantly.

“The reality was we attended a lot of varsity games for entertainment because that was a big part of our lives,” Joe says. “We were always at the games, often going out afterwards to share some fellowship with coaches, trainers and everyone else.

“We spent a lot of time together,” he says.

“You wore me down,” Karen quips.

“I did,” he responds. “And we’ve been together for nearly 26 years.”

“Wonderful years,” she adds.

The pair now have two grown children, Chris and Erin, who at an early age could also be found at various Brock sporting events showing their Badger pride.

Over the years, Joe and Karen have been at the forefront of the evolution and expansion of the University’s athletics and recreation departments.

Throughout the many changes, their biggest motivator has remained the same — the joy of watching students succeed.

In his role, Joe oversees about 75 students, many of them student athletic trainers who are working in the field for course credit.

“When they tell me they’re going onto physiotherapy, chiropractic college, to

be a paramedic or massage therapist, or taking another route, it’s so exciting to hear,” he says. “It means through their practical training and experiential learning they’ve gained an advantage that’s helped them decide their future. Deep down it says we’ve had a chance to help guide a person to a career and I think that’s tremendously rewarding.”

Joe’s face lights up as he talks about the directions his past students have gone in, whether to professional sports teams such as the

Toronto Blue Jays and Ottawa Senators, or to successful health-care careers.

“They all got their start here thanks to our many really great professors,” he says.

Of the clinic’s 10 staff members, including doctors, therapists, physiotherapists, chiropractors and osteopaths, eight are Brock graduates.

“I take a lot of pride in that,” Joe says. “To me, it says we’re doing something right somewhere along the line.”

Brock’s recreation department also employs a handful of Brock grads, in addition to hundreds of students who act as the lifeguards, program leaders and fitness instructors.

Campus recreation is a key part of the university experience, whether students are participating in or facilitating programs, Karen says.

“It’s all about the connections you make with people. It helps to make you feel like you’re part of something.”

The couple were both surprised and humbled to learn their efforts have led to the alumni honour, to be bestowed at the Alumni Recognition Reception on campus Sept. 22.

“Few people have had the pleasure and the privilege to work with young students as closely for as long,” Joe says. “It has been an amazing experience.”

**“Few people have had the pleasure and the privilege to work with young students as closely for as long.”**

—Joe Kenny, 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award winner

## Brock University Alumni Association Recognition of Excellence Awards

The awards identify and honour graduates who have earned prominence as a result of their exceptional professional achievements and/or service to society. This recognition promotes the excellence of the University, its graduates and the Alumni Association.

- **Taylor Book (BA '14)**  
Faculty of Social Sciences
- **James Crichton (BA '79)**  
Faculty of Humanities
- **Peter Putnam (BSc '77)**  
Faculty of Mathematics and Science
- **Brian Parsons (BAdmin '90)**  
Goodman School of Business
- **Gerry Townend (BEd '90)**  
Faculty of Applied Health Sciences
- **Michele Zoccoli (BA '89, BEd '91)**  
Faculty of Education

# FoE's Hutchison wins nationally for excellence in teaching



Professor of Teacher Education and Digital Humanities David Hutchison has been awarded a 3M National Teaching Fellowship.

By Dan Dakin

Eighteen years after his mentor was awarded a 3M National Teaching Fellowship, Brock University Professor of Teacher Education and Digital Humanities David Hutchison has had the same honour bestowed on him.

Hutchison is among 10 academics from across Canada who are the 2018 recipients of what is widely seen as the country's most prestigious award for teaching excellence. Over more than three decades, Brock is Top 5 among all Ontario universities for 3M award winners.

The Director of Brock's Centre for Digital Humanities credited those around him with helping him earn the award.

"For me, it's really a recognition of the high quality of teaching at Brock University," Hutchison said. "I don't think anyone can receive an award like this without the support of colleagues and students they've had the privilege of working with and teaching."

It's the third time in two years a Brock faculty member has been awarded the fellowship. Since the award's inception by 3M and the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education in 1986, Brock has had 12 faculty members make the list.

"David is a most-deserving recipient of the 3M Teaching Award," said Tom Dunk, Interim Provost and Vice-President, Academic. "By earning this fellowship, he is contributing to the tradition of pedagogical excellence that is one of Brock's defining strengths."

Dunk said Hutchison has been a champion and leader in the areas of interdisciplinary collaboration, experiential education and community engagement.

"It's wonderful to see him getting national recognition for his efforts," he said.

For Hutchison, the award continues a career path that follows in the footsteps of Barry Joe. The longtime Brock faculty member, who retired in 2015, won the

**"I don't think anyone can receive an award like this without the support of colleagues and students they've had the privilege of working with and teaching."**

— David Hutchison, 3M National Teaching Fellow

3M award in 2000, a year after Hutchison began teaching at Brock. It was Joe who started the Centre for Digital Humanities in 2003 and was its first director.

"Barry was one of the first recipients of the award at Brock so I became aware of it through him," said Hutchison. "He has been an inspiration to me. He is an

excellent and well-respected colleague, and even today, students talk about his teaching effectiveness."

Dean of Education Michael Owen said the 3M Fellowship acknowledges Hutchison's "leadership in interdisciplinarity and collaboration, allowing students to imagine, co-create and deliver projects in partnership with community organizations."

"These capabilities, aptitudes and hands-on skills will help our students as they transition from the classroom to careers and the community," he said.

Helping students collaborate with community partners is something Hutchison takes great pride in.

"That cycle from students planning a project in the beginning to actually bringing it to fruition and sharing it with the community sponsor is really exciting," Hutchison said.

Hutchison adds to a growing list of Brock faculty members being named 3M National Teaching Fellows. Previous recipients include Clarke Thomson (1989), Don Ursino (1991), Barry Joe (2000), Anna Lathrop (2001), Maureen Connolly (2003), John Mitterer (2004), Lorne Adams (2004), David DiBattista (2007), Zopito Marini (2010), Tim O'Connell (2017) and Nicola Simmons (2017).

As part of the Fellowship, Hutchison and the other 2018 winners were invited to a Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education conference in June 2018 in Sherbrooke, Que., followed by a retreat in Montebello, Que., in November.



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Alumna Megan Brown (BSc '17), second from right, connects with students, from left, Anushka Lalwani, Victoria Parlatore and Tayler Villamere in the 2017 Niagara Grape and Wine Festival Alumni VIP area, which will return this year on Sept. 22.

# Badger pride on tap for Homecoming

By Ana McKnight and Sarah Moore

The Niagara region will be awash with Brock red this fall as new and returning Badgers come together to celebrate Homecoming weekend.

Brock University's annual Homecoming celebration will take place Friday, Sept. 21 and Saturday, Sept. 22, with festivities happening both on and off campus.

Fan favourites, including class reunions, campus tours and the Steel Blade Classic hockey game, will be back for families to enjoy, in addition to Brock's increased presence at the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival. The University's partnership with the popular St. Catharines festival continues to grow, reflecting Brock's involvement in the local grape and wine industry.

"We are thrilled to celebrate another engaging Homecoming weekend with alumni," said Shelley Huxley, Director, Alumni Relations. "Our planned events and activities always inspire alumni, their families and the broader community to come together to reconnect, applaud joint achievements and show their Badger pride."

The weekend provides a chance for Brock

to celebrate its close ties with the region's grape and wine industry through events like the popular campus Grape Stomp — Canada's messiest university tradition — and the second-annual VIP Alumni Social, held during the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival in downtown St. Catharines.

4,000 attendees to Montebello Park since they began 20 years ago.

"It's great that we have been able to maintain a strong presence at the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival and connect Brock with the wine industry and broader Niagara community," said the program's

**"It's important for me to remain a part of the University and to help students who are now starting their university experience."**

— Rachel Kvas, Brock alumna

Brock's Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute (CCOVI) also invites alumni to learn about wine and cheese during the popular Educate Your Senses seminars. Alumni of the University's Oenology and Viticulture (OEVI) and Grape and Wine Technology certificate (OEVG) programs often lead these seminars, which have drawn more than

academic advisor Steven Trussler (BSc '09, BEd '17), who is an OEVI alumnus himself. "Having our alumni return for the festival to represent the industry and our program really helps to connect and grow the industry to continue making it the success story that it is."

There have been 176 alumni who have graduated from either the OEVI or



The Steel Blade Classic will return to the Meridian Centre on Sept. 21 as the Brock Badgers kick-off Homecoming weekend celebrations.

OEVC program at Brock, which is the only Canadian university to offer a degree program in grape and wine studies and certificate in grape and wine technology.

Trussler said that small class sizes, experiential learning opportunities and the close connection with CCOVI and the local industry are among the contributing factors to the program's nearly 90 per cent post-grad employment rate.

Rachel Kvas (BSc '14), who was recognized in April among the Ontario Hospitality Institute's Top 30 hospitality and foodservice professionals under the age of 30, attributes her career success to her time at Brock.

"One of the things the program does very well is ensure that you make those industry contacts and get that hands-on exposure to different areas of the wine industry," said Kvas, who is currently working as the research and development co-ordinator for Arterra Wines Canada. "That community building and work experience makes the program stand out, and ensures that you graduate with a well-rounded classroom education and beneficial work experience, too."

Although she completed one of her co-op terms abroad in Hungary, Kvas said Niagara truly is home. She was passionate about working in the local wine industry

after graduation and is glad to be living and working in the region with her husband, Dan Lonergan, who works in Co-op, Career and Experiential Education at Brock.

"It's important for me to remain a part of the University and to help students who are now starting their university experience," she said. "I love the Niagara



Brock alumni, including members of the University's first men's hockey team from 1967, celebrate during Homecoming weekend.

region and am passionate about the local industry, so it's important to give back and network with the next generation and others who have gone to Brock."

The events taking place at Niagara Grape and Wine Festival are a portion of what Homecoming weekend has to offer.

Alumni are encouraged to register early and update their contact information at [brocku.ca/alumni](http://brocku.ca/alumni) to stay informed of upcoming activities.

# HOMECOMING EVENT LINEUP:

**Friday, Sept. 21, 2018**

**Steel Blade Tailgate Party**  
Location: Meridian Centre  
Time: 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

**Steel Blade Classic**  
Location: Meridian Centre  
Time: 7 to 9 p.m.

**Saturday, Sept. 22, 2018**

**Alumni Recognition Reception**  
Location: Brock University  
Time: Noon

**Sporting events**  
Location: Brock sports fields  
Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Educate Your Senses seminars**  
Location: Montebello Park  
Time: 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.

**Brock Night at the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival**  
Location: Harvest Lounge, Montebello Park  
Time: 5 to 7 p.m.

## Reunions

Reunions happen throughout Homecoming weekend and more are always being added to the lineup. If you're interested in helping host a reunion or don't see something on the list, please reach out to [alumni@brocku.ca](mailto:alumni@brocku.ca).

- Class of 2017 — One-year reunion
- Class of 2013 — Five-year reunion
- Class of 2008 — 10-year reunion
- Class of 1993 — 25-year reunion
- Class of 1968 — 50-year reunion
- Earth (Geological) Sciences 50th anniversary
- Eighth annual Rusty Blade fencing reunion
- Men's hockey
- Men's and women's curling

Stay tuned as more are announced.

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Through Brock's I-EQUIP program, Niagara Health's surgical tracking display system has been enhanced to keep local families up to date as they wait for loved ones in hospital.

# Brock-enhanced tracking tool provides surgical updates on patients

By Douglas Hunt

Waiting in hospital as a loved one undergoes surgery can be stressful, with worry only growing as minutes tick by without word.

In an effort to help keep families informed about their loved one's progress, a surgical tracking display system, developed by Niagara Health, was recently enhanced by fourth-year Brock University student James Hall.

In 2012, Niagara Health launched the system, which provides confidential updates for families in real time on monitors in waiting rooms. In September 2016, the system's enhancement was identified as a potential project for Brock's Interprofessional Education for Quality Improvement Program (I-EQUIP). The program provides health professionals and Brock students from any Faculty the opportunity to work together on two-year health system improvement projects.

As an I-EQUIP participant, Hall was instrumental in helping to enhance the tracking system based on user research he conducted.

"When we were doing interviews, people indicated there is a lot of anxiety around a surgical procedure, and expressed that they wanted to know what was going on with their loved one," said Hall. "We used the data we collected in a report to make the necessary adjustments. We came up with a layout that made things easier for everyone to read and allowed families to remain informed about their loved one's progress."

The new system gives families

confidential electronic updates to let them know exactly where their loved one is in the surgery process.

Jean Paul Paraiso, Niagara Health Perioperative Business Manager, said Hall helped to "improve a legacy system for patient communication by understanding their needs."



James Hall spent two years in Brock's I-EQUIP helping Niagara Health enhance their current surgical tracking display for patients and families.

"Together with our IT department, he was able to make improvements to that system based on data and feedback," Paraiso said. "He was very methodical."

Hall was humbled by the opportunity to engage in an experiential learning exercise that created tangible and immediate benefits to the community.

"I think experiential learning is very

important and is the way of the future for education," he said.

The tracking tool is one of 22 I-EQUIP projects that took place during the 2017-18 school year, focusing on a variety of topics such as care transitions, medical imaging management, patient satisfaction data and music therapy in extended care. For the program's founder, Associate Professor Madelyn Law, the impact I-EQUIP has on its participants and the community is evident.

"In the program, our students develop transferable skills, like networking, communication and teamwork, that they don't always learn in the classroom," she said. "And they do all of that while assisting health-related organizations to enhance their services and programs for the people of Niagara."

With the tracking program receiving positive feedback from users, work is now underway by Hall and Niagara Health to develop an app to further display the improved system on mobile devices.

Linda Boich, Executive Vice-President of Quality, Community Development and Mental Health and Addictions for Niagara Health, said I-EQUIP provides value in many ways to both the organization and participating students.

"The program provides an excellent opportunity for Niagara Health staff to serve as mentors; our staff and physicians are leading innovative quality improvement projects and the students are obtaining important hands-on experience, learning about how the health system functions within a quality improvement environment," she said.

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Brock Alumnus Fred Barzyk is the inaugural recipient of the Alumni Co-op Award.

# Co-op champion honoured by Brock

By Erin Court

**B**rock alumnus Fred Barzyk (BAdmin '88, BA '89) has seen the impact the University's co-op programming can have on students.

That's why the director at Statistics Canada is so passionate about advocating for Brock co-op students to work with the federal government agency.

His efforts have not gone unnoticed.

In recognition of the work he has been doing to help promote Brock Co-op as well as the University itself, Barzyk was chosen as the inaugural recipient of the Brock University Alumni Co-op Award.

"The letters of support and feedback I received during the nomination process for this award was really touching," Barzyk said. "To be recognized and appreciated for my hard work by Brock University for this award is such an honour. I feel emotional and to say I appreciate it would be an understatement as my heart has always been with Brock."

Barzyk has been instrumental in developing quality opportunities for co-op students at Statistics Canada in Ottawa. He

has earned a reputation as a champion of co-op programming within his organization, while also serving as a mentor to students and going above and beyond to help promote Brock co-op opportunities.

The Brock University Alumni Co-op Award was presented to Barzyk jointly by Brock Co-op and the Brock Alumni Association during a special February ceremony held at the National Museum

**"Fred's efforts should serve as the benchmark for all Brock alumni."**

— Dana Tonus, Senior Employer Development Manager for Co-op Education

of Science and Technology in Ottawa. He was also honoured as the award's inaugural recipient during a celebration of National Co-op Education Week at Brock in March.

"I am such an advocate for Brock students because the University's co-op program gives them the opportunity to grow within the organization during a longer, more strategic work term and allows them to become engaged in their co-op workplaces," Barzyk said.

Throughout his Statistics Canada career, he has proudly advocated as a Brock graduate and encouraged his colleagues to hire the University's students.

"His efforts are noteworthy and his willingness to go above and beyond to help students and advocate on behalf of his alma mater are admirable and make him the ideal recipient for this award," said Dana Tonus, Senior Employer Development Manager for Co-op Education. "Fred's efforts should serve as the benchmark for all Brock alumni."

Barzyk often acts like a mentor to students, offering personal and professional guidance on career and workplace success.

"Seeing the impact I have had on so many students and to be appreciated by Brock University in this way is truly humbling," he said.

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# SPMA experience leads alumna to Canada Games role

By Ana McKnight

When Niagara welcomes the country's next generation of elite athletes for the 2021 Canada Summer Games, Brock University will be buzzing.

Held every four years, the Games are Canada's largest multi-sport event, and when Niagara plays host in 2021, Brock will be a central hub for the region, including holding several athletic events and serving as the athletes' village.

As well, Brock President Gervan Fearon was appointed by the Government of Canada to sit on the board overseeing the 2021 Games, joining Brock senior official Tom Arkell on that panel.

But the connection to the marquee event doesn't end there.

At the forefront of planning the mammoth undertaking is Brock alumna Erin Mathany (BSM '05), who was recently named the Canada Games Council Vice-President, Marketing and Partnerships.

Armed with 10 years of experience between the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and as the Director of Strategic Partnerships for the Canadian Olympic Committee, Mathany credits her success to the life-changing time spent in Brock's Sports Management (SPMA) program.

"I enjoyed my SPMA experience because I'm passionate about sport and it gave me the opportunity to learn from a business-oriented perspective while getting invaluable hands-on experience in the industry," she said.

"My early internships, mentorship under Professor Cheri Bradish and networking with other students exposed me to a lot of industry connections that helped me line up a job even before graduating."

Mathany is in good company. With more than 1,000 SPMA alumni out in the workforce, many hold high-profile roles in the Canadian sports industry, including:

- Kyle Dubas (BSM '07), General Manager, Toronto Maple Leafs
- Corey Wray (BSM '07), Assistant General Manager of the Toronto FC
- Andrew Tinnish (BRLS '99, BSM '01), Assistant General Manager, Toronto Blue Jays

Mathany shared advice for prospective SPMA students, urging more females to enrol rather than shy away.

"Play your own game and don't be intimidated if you don't know all of the box scores," she says. "I enjoyed the business of sports and that led me to pave my own path to success. You can do the same."

Inspired to give back to Brock, Mathany frequently returns to



Erin Mathany has gone from being a SPMA grad to a critical part of the planning committees of several major sporting events.

campus and takes great pride in her board member role with the Brock University Alumni Association.

"As a leader among the Brock alumni community, Erin is in a wonderful position to know and understand how best to tap into this community of leaders in Niagara and beyond," said David Patterson, President and CEO of the Canada Games Council.

Mathany believes the strength of Brock's alumni will be crucial to the Games' success. "I look forward to engaging Brock and SPMA alumni and volunteers to help the 2021 Canada Summer Games in Niagara come to life."

Opportunities for students to get involved in the Games will be developed by Brock and Niagara College, with internships, placements, co-op positions and jobs related to planning and hosting being made available through experiential programming.

**"Play your own game and don't be intimidated."**

— Erin Mathany, Canada Games Council Vice-President, Marketing and Partnerships

The Games, which began in 1967, will be divided into two, one-week competitions, with Brock hosting 2,400 athletes each week. The University will also host wrestling, swimming, mountain biking and other sports competitions.

Brock will also house the Games' provincial mission offices, transportation centre, administrative offices, polyclinic and information centre.

To learn more about how to get involved, visit [canadagames.ca/2021-canada-summer-games](http://canadagames.ca/2021-canada-summer-games).

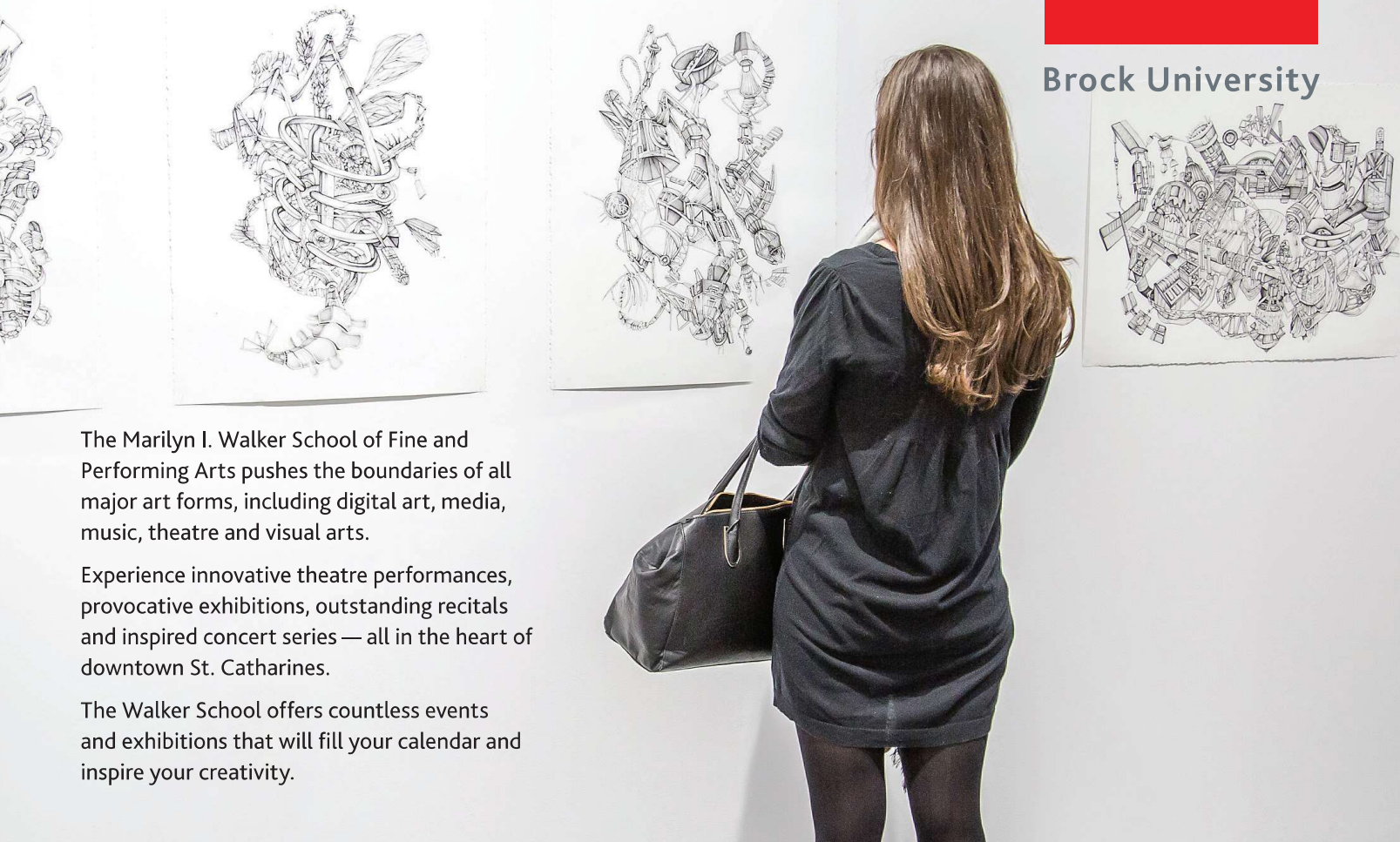
 CELEBRATING BROCK ATHLETES

There have been 28 editions of the Canada Games, alternating between summer and winter sports. Are you a Brock graduate who has previously participated in the Games? Send your stories to [alumni@brocku.ca](mailto:alumni@brocku.ca).

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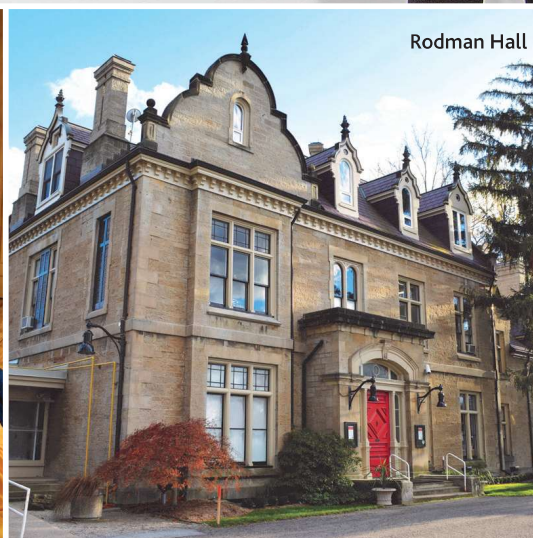
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# Brock experts join Dominican colleagues in mosquito probe

By Cathy Majtenyi

To medical entomologist Fiona Hunter, the Dominican Republic had always been a place of rest, with its warm breezes, snow-white beaches and turquoise waters. Two years ago however, the Brock University Professor of Biological Sciences saw another side to the popular holiday destination.

Faced with the prospect of a Zika outbreak in the country, Autonomous University of Santo Domingo (UASD) and the Research Institute of Microbiology and Parasitology (IMPA-FC) invited Hunter to train a research group on how to recognize mosquitoes carrying the Zika virus.

“At the time, Zika was just coming through,” says Hunter. “The country had just been battling with chikungunya and dengue, both mosquito-borne diseases. The team was getting a program up and running to do mosquito surveillance.”

The week Hunter and Brock alumnus Alessio Gasparotto (BSc '05), who manages the professor's Entomogen consulting firm, spent travelling with the University's researchers was an eye-opener. Hunter witnessed first-hand how homes in the Dominican Republic lacked window screens, air conditioning, mosquito repellent and other “First-World” ways of protecting against mosquito bites.

“It really struck me how vulnerable the people are,” says Hunter.

That visit, along with subsequent activities, have culminated in a US\$250,000 grant from the Dominican Republic government for a mosquito surveillance research project.

Hunter and her UASD co-investigator, Modesto Cruz, applied for a three-year National Fund for Innovation and Development of Science and Technology grant for their project titled “Zika Virus: Factors Influencing Vector Competence in the Dominican Republic.”

In April, Hunter's team and Cruz began working with additional researchers and students from the Dominican to conduct

field research which involves identifying and collecting mosquitoes from sites all across the country.

Once treated with a substance called a lysis buffer that inactivates any viruses they may be carrying, the dead mosquitoes were then shipped to Brock University's laboratories, where they will be tested for mosquito-borne viruses that cause diseases such as West Nile, dengue, chikungunya and Zika.

“This will give us a greater understanding of geographic patterns of transmission and the mosquito species that are present in there,” says Hunter.

Cruz said the two universities are working together to determine the distribution of mosquito species *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* in the Dominican initially before expanding to other Caribbean countries.

Gathering data on mosquito distribution patterns and Zika infection rates in different mosquito species “will contribute to implementing a better vector control system, reducing diseases and preventing neurological complications and microcephaly in the Dominican Republic population and Caribbean region,” says Cruz.

In the two years since her visit, Hunter and her Canadian and Dominican colleagues have worked hard to pave the way for the successful grant.

Shortly after her return, Hunter, along with then-Interim Vice-President, Research Joffre Mercier and Faculty of Math and Science Dean Ejaz Ahmed, funded the purchase of a dry ice maker that UASD researchers could use to attract



Brock alumnus Alessio Gasparotto sets up a light trap baited with dry ice to capture mosquitoes in the Dominican Republic. Looking on is Modesto Cruz, Director of the Research Institute of Microbiology and Parasitology.

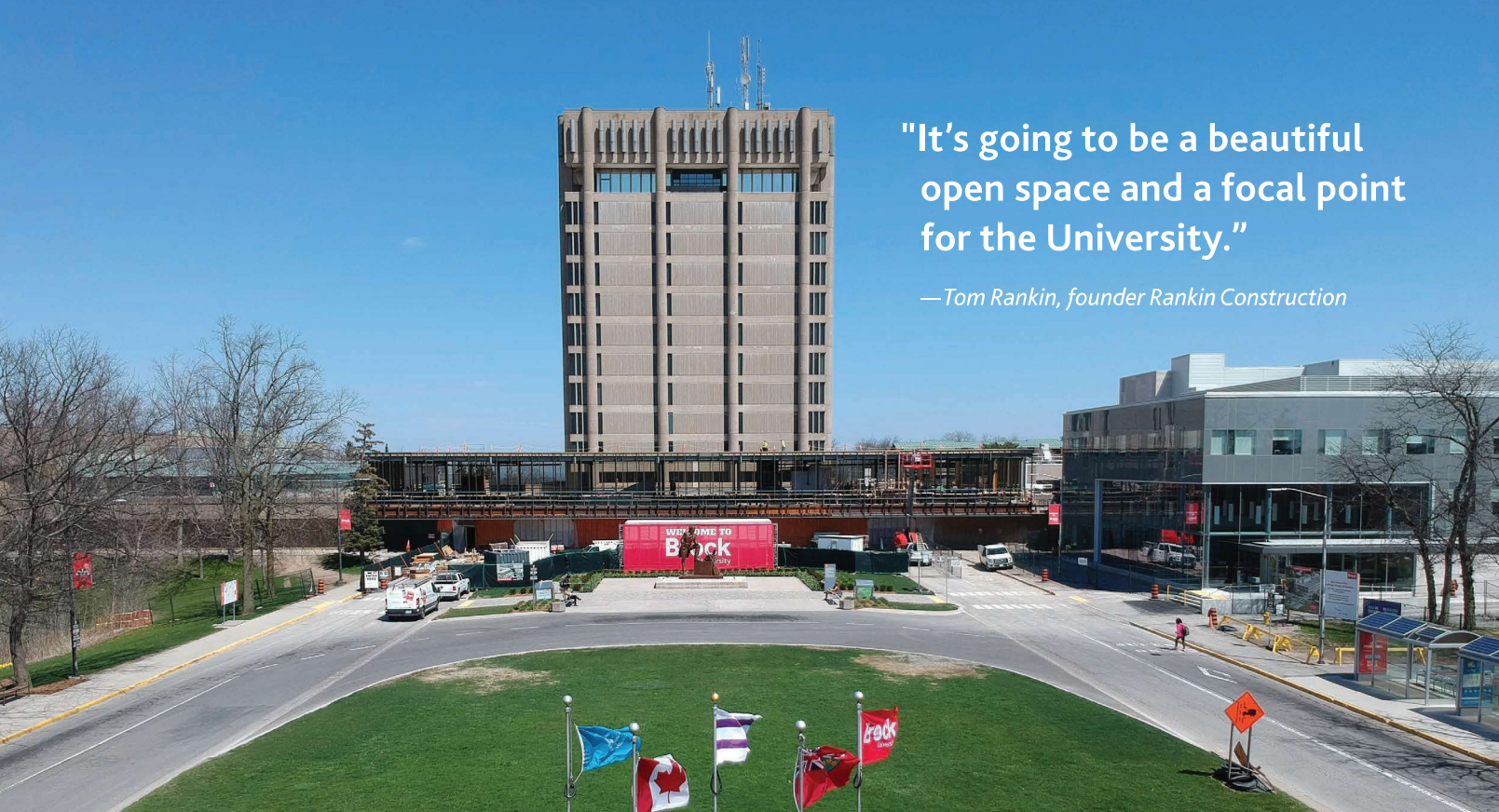
mosquitoes to the mosquito traps as well as preserve and ship biological specimens in dry ice.

Hunter also took some older dissecting microscopes from her teaching labs to the Dominican researchers.

“Those tiny little investments have blossomed into this new grant,” she says.

She met with many senior officials in the government and at the University and, with Cruz, crafted a 2016 Memorandum of Understanding between Brock University and UASD. The Dominican Republic government urged the duo to apply for the Innovation and Development grant.

Because the Caribbean is popular with tourists, Hunter says the research will help Canadian vacationers take necessary precautions for the specific places they're going. The research project also opens up opportunities for graduate student exchanges between the two countries, she says.



"It's going to be a beautiful open space and a focal point for the University."

—Tom Rankin, founder Rankin Construction

Two of Brock's biggest projects currently underway, the Rankin Family Pavilion and Goodman School of Business expansion, have dramatically transformed the entranceway to the University.

# The landmark Rankin Family Pavilion leads a parade of new Brock facilities

By Dan Dakin

When anyone walks through the striking new front entrance at Brock University, they will forever be reminded of the generosity of a Niagara construction entrepreneur.

Set to open later this year, the Rankin Family Pavilion is a conversion of the former open-air pedestrian mall in front of the iconic Schmon Tower into a modern, purpose-built 41,000-square-foot innovation centre that places research, commercialization, entrepreneurship and innovation at the entranceway to the University.

First announced in November 2016, the \$19-million project moved forward with funding from both the federal and provincial governments. A \$2-million gift from Rankin Construction founder Tom Rankin, along with numerous other donations, were critical pieces of the puzzle. Fundraising continues for the project.

"It's going to be a beautiful open space and a focal point for the University," said Rankin, a former Brock Board of Trustees member who was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University in October 2017. "With the Maj.-Gen. Sir Isaac Brock statue right in front of it and the Goodman School of Business right there, everything kind of emanates from that spot."

Rankin is thrilled to be supporting a project he has been thinking about for years.

"A number of years ago when I was on the Board of Trustees I had this idea of closing it in. I saw the potential in making this a real focal point for the University," he said. "It's going to be a great front entrance to Brock."

Although Rankin Construction has become a well-known company behind major civil projects such as the Meridian Centre in downtown St. Catharines, Tom Rankin is known as a generous philanthropist whose impact on the community includes the annual Rankin

Cancer Run, which has raised \$7.5 million for local cancer care facilities.

"I grew up in Catholic schools and we were always taught to be generous to your fellow human beings," Rankin said. "I often say I'm an entrepreneur with a conscience. I've never been in business just to make money."

The Rankin Family Pavilion will include important collaborative research space.

"Students and researchers will work alongside entrepreneurs, industry partners, community members and social service groups," said Brock University Vice-President, Research Tim Kenyon. "They'll combine their disciplines in the pursuit of open-ended innovation that seeks to improve public services or create new enterprises for Ontario's knowledge-based economy."

The Pavilion is one of three major projects well underway at Brock while a fourth is now in the planning stages. While the construction work means faculty, staff and students are dealing with a few





The atrium is a focal piece of the Goodman School of Business expansion and will play host to many future Brock events.



Brock University is upgrading its co-generation facility, a reliable and energy-efficient source of electricity, cooling and heating on campus.



An artist's rendering of the Zone fitness centre expansion.

pedestrian detours and a bit of noise, it will all be worth it in the end.

The first of the three projects to get started was a \$22-million expansion and renovation of the Goodman School of Business. Expected to be finished in late 2018, the project will see 79,000 square feet of new and renovated space including six new and nine refreshed classrooms. Also new are five employer interview rooms and the Bloomberg financial research lab along with graduate student study space, faculty research space and additional offices.

The most visible change, however, is Goodman's large two-storey atrium that looks out across Isaac Brock Boulevard and the Maj.-Gen. Sir Isaac Brock statue.

For the business school's namesake, supporting a university isn't about the financial return on investment.

"To see the Goodman School of Business flourish and know that my support and involvement played a critical role in it provides me with a return that is not measurable in dollars or percentages," said Ned Goodman. "It provides the ultimate meaning of a lifetime of work and study."

With exterior construction wrapped up in the spring, and the first event in the new atrium expected to be held in June, the construction project is now focused on renovating offices and classrooms inside Taro Hall, the original home for the School of Business.

Goodman Dean Andrew Gaudes said the new space will give students a sense of community.

"I think what we're going to see is a place that has a gravitational pull for the business programs, for the business faculty, students, staff and the business community," he said. "They're really going to have a sense of place when it's completed."

Although less visible than the Goodman or Rankin Pavilion projects, the equally important District Energy Efficiency

Project (DEEP) is a nearly \$20-million, two-phase project to upgrade and modernize Brock's co-generation facility.

A reliable and energy-efficient source of electricity, cooling and heating on campus, the co-generation plant is getting a full makeover through funding from Ontario's Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development Greenhouse Gas Campus Retrofits Program, as well as the Federal Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund.

The first, \$10.8-million phase of the DEEP project started in 2016 and included the replacement of half the existing natural gas-powered co-gen engines with state-of-the-art, high efficiency, electronically controlled units.

The second phase, funded entirely through the Ontario government's \$7.9-million investment, will replace the remaining co-gen engines and install a new high-efficiency electric chiller unit. Work got started in March 2018 and will be wrapped up by March 2019.

"Phase 2 is fully focused on carbon reduction and efficiency," said Scott Johnstone, Associate Vice-President of Facilities Management. "The existing plant is about 25 years old. We're replacing it with the latest technology that will make the entire co-gen facility more efficient."

The completed DEEP project will result in Brock's annual NOx (nitrogen oxide) gas emissions dropping from 55 tonnes to just eight tonnes and non-methane hydrocarbons reducing from 15 tonnes to four. The new co-generation engines will also consume 26 per cent less fuel and result in hundreds of thousands of dollars in utility cost saving each year.

Though still in the planning stages, the fourth project on the table is a significant expansion of the Zone fitness centre in the Walker Sports Complex.

The expansion project was the brainchild

of outgoing Brock University Students' Union President Faisal Hejazi, who identified a need for a larger fitness centre while campaigning for his role.

"I ran a survey of 1,000 students and their two major concerns were a need for more study space on campus and Zone capacity," he said. "Student mental health is an extremely important topic and there is lots of research that shows that there is a direct positive relationship between physical activity and mental health."

Along with other BUSU executives and Brock staff, Hejazi researched what other schools offer, and found that Brock's fitness facility was the smallest in Ontario at 4,300 square feet. By comparison, McMaster is currently building an 80,000-square-foot fitness centre while Queen's currently has the largest in Ontario at 24,500 square feet.

With all of Brock's nearly 19,000 students having unlimited access to the Zone, expanding it has become a priority. After students decided in a March referendum that they would be willing to pay for the expansion, design and planning work is now underway.

"Our gym is extremely small and future students are walking into it and have to consider what other schools have," said Brian Hutchings, Vice-President, Administration. "It will be a huge competitive advantage to be on the same level as the other schools."

The \$6-million expansion will see the Zone expand to 15,500 square feet from its current 4,300. The new space will be built to the north of the existing fitness centre, stretching through part of the existing courtyard to the area of the Walker Sports Welcome Desk.

Construction will likely get started by early to mid 2019 and will take about a year to complete. The new Zone is expected to be fully operational by September 2020.



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Brock University President Gervan Fearon, third from right, stopped in to speak with students participating in the 5 Days for the Homeless campaign. With the President, from left, are students Rocky Brar and Emma Munday, Community Care Fund Development Officer Laura Byers, and students Cody Weber, Connor Kuzmich and Breanne Van Den Breemen.

## Hitting the bricks – or concrete – for Community Care

By Jane van den Dries

**B**reanne Van Den Breemen has felt the impact of homelessness.

While she's never been without a place to lay her head, the 19-year-old Hamilton native has a close relative who, despite the best efforts of family and local shelters, has experienced life on the streets for many years.

"It's difficult when we're always wondering where he is and if he's safe," said the second-year Brock Bachelor of Arts student. "I wish I could have a greater understanding of who he is and what his life could be like if he had the proper support to have a home."

Having witnessed the profound effect the circumstances had on her family, Van Den Breemen was motivated last March to take on a challenge meant to raise awareness of homeless in Niagara.

She was among a dozen Brock students who spent five nights braving the bitter cold, sleeping outside on campus as part of the national 5 Days for the Homeless campaign.

From March 12 to 16, the group of volunteers gave up their warm beds, showers and hot meals to actively raise both funds and awareness for homelessness, particularly among at-risk youth.

They were able to eat only donated food and, with the exception of using technology for homework and sharing their experience on social media, also gave up their smartphones and laptops while continuing to attend class.

Organized by the Goodman Business Students' Association, the campaign partners annually with Community Care of St. Catharines and Thorold. This year's initiative, which also included a doughnut drive and donation collection at Niagara IceDogs games, resulted in close to \$9,000 in monetary and non-perishable food donations being raised for the organization.

"We are grateful to be the recipients of Brock's 5 Days for the Homeless campaign once again," said Betty-Lou Souter, CEO of Community Care of St. Catharines and Thorold.

"Through this initiative, the issue of homelessness is brought to the forefront in a unique way," she said. "The outreach of the students is vast and reinforces the importance of supporting those who through no fault of their own do not have the luxury of sleeping in a warm bed with a roof over their heads each and every night."

The mentally exhausting and physically taxing experience left Van Den Breemen feeling both lucky and thankful to have a bed to return home to.

While she expected the 5 Days campaign to be eye-opening, she could not anticipate the shift in perspective it caused.

The experience left her eating and sleeping patterns disrupted, ultimately impacting her focus in the classroom.

It's a lesson she plans to keep in mind as she ventures into a career in teaching, where she will inevitably encounter students who are going through difficult personal circumstances — whether she realizes it or not.

"There will always be challenges in the classroom and I recognize that I won't know what every student is going through," Van Den Breemen said. However, that small glimpse into youth homelessness has taught her the importance of considering what may be happening in a student's life behind the scenes.

"Knowing that everyone has a different story is crucial to my future job as a teacher."

Goodman School of Business Dean Andrew Gaudes credited students for stepping up to raise awareness of homelessness in Niagara.

"This is an incredible accomplishment," he said. "It's clear the efforts students put into this campaign have reached the hearts of the community."



Brock Badgers forward Dani Elgadi and Calgary Dinos player Connor Foreman fight for a rebound in the first half of a U SPORTS National Championship quarter-final game at the Scotiabank Centre in Halifax.

# Brock Badgers made national waves

By Dan Dakin

When men's hockey player Clint Windsor and women's wrestler Jessica Brouillette walked across the stage to be named 2017-18 Brock Athletes of the Year in late March, it wrapped up one of the most successful seasons in the history of Brock University athletics.

The Badgers captured five provincial and three national championships in 2017-18, giving the University 123 titles in school history. Brock teams also took home two Ontario University Athletics (OUA) silver medals, two OUA bronze, one U SPORTS bronze, one world championship bronze and a Canadian University Field Lacrosse Association silver.

That success was celebrated at the annual Athletics Award Banquet attended by more than 800 Brock athletes, staff and supporters at the Holiday Inn and Suites Parkway Conference Centre in St. Catharines.

"Our coaches did a great job of getting us to the next level in performance and student experience, which is really important to us," said Brock Sports Director Neil Lumsden. "It's important to recognize the cross-section of success, from

wrestling, basketball and hockey to teams like ultimate frisbee winning a national title and ball hockey winning a provincial title. It's all ends of the spectrum."

Windsor had one of the best-ever performances by a Brock goaltender,

**"We were labelled as underdogs, but we kept proving people wrong in the playoffs."**

—Clint Windsor, men's hockey player

and led the men's hockey team to its first appearance at the U SPORTS National Championships in 10 years.

"I am so proud of the guys and the way we competed throughout the year," he said. "We were labelled as underdogs, but we kept proving people wrong in the playoffs."

"It is definitely an honour to be recognized," Windsor said of the award. "There have been a lot of great athletes that have come through Brock and to be named Male Athlete of the Year is

something I would have never dreamed of. It is an incredible token to take away from my time at Brock."

The men's hockey team, led by first-year coach Marty Williamson behind the bench and Windsor between the pipes, won the playoff series against Laurier, Guelph and York. They lost the OUA championship game to McGill, but still earned a trip to the nationals in Fredericton for just the second time in school history. A first-round loss to University of New Brunswick wasn't the result the team wanted, but the success set a new bar for the program.

"They have done great things for me in terms of recruiting and they've set a standard for our hockey teams going forward," Williamson said. "We want this to be a common occurrence that we give ourselves an opportunity and that's what we did today."

The men's hockey team wasn't the only one going to the nationals for the first time in a decade. The Badgers men's basketball team also made it to the U SPORTS Championships for the first time since 2007-08, when they came home with the title.

This time around, the Badgers earned a wild-card entry to the tournament, held at the Scotiabank Centre in Halifax.

Brock faced the Calgary Dinos in the



The Brock Badgers men's and women's wrestling teams were double champions at both the OUA provincial and U SPORTS national championships this year.



Brock Sports Director Neil Lumsden, centre, is pictured with 2017-18 Athletes of the Year Jessica Brouillette, from women's wrestling, and Clint Windsor, from men's hockey.

opening round and lost a heartbreaking 78-76 decision to the team that would go on to win the national title. That sent the Badgers into the consolation round, where they beat the University of New Brunswick in the semifinals before knocking off Acadia to finish fifth in the country and win the consolation title.

"The more games we played, the more we settled in and played like we have all year. I'm proud of these guys. Their last game at the nationals was a blast," said head coach Charles Kissi, who set out a five-year goal of getting to the Nationals when he arrived in 2013. With the win, Brock's record for the season finished off at 31-8, matching the record of the national championship-winning 1991-92 team.

Also making it to the U SPORTS National Championships in March were the Badgers men's and women's curling teams. While the men went into the tournament as the OUA Champions, it was the women who had a stellar run at the nationals, held in Leduc, Alta., where they came home with the bronze medal.

But of course, when it comes to success at the nationals year after year, no program at Brock has been as consistently dominant as the men's and women's wrestling teams.

Brouillette, the female Athlete of the Year, was a good example of the program's success once again.

The fifth-year captain led her team to their

eighth U SPORTS National Championship and 17th OUA Championship in the program's history. She became the first Brock female wrestler to capture five-consecutive team national championships in a career and just the third to capture four individual national titles. She was named a U SPORTS First Team All-Canadian for

team and coaching staff, who have been so supportive throughout the years was also very exciting. It was a perfect end to my varsity career."

Both the men's and women's teams were named Brock's teams of the year at the awards banquet, having dominated both the OUA and U SPORTS Championships.



Skip Terri Weeks, of McDougall, ON, led the Brock Badgers women's curling team to a bronze medal at the 2018 U SPORTS/Curling Canada Curling Championships in Leduc, AB in March.

the fourth time in her career and an OUA First Team All-Star.

"It was really exciting and really special to win the team and individual title at Nationals in my last event as a Brock student-athlete," said Brouillette, who was part of the wrestling team named women's team of the year. "To do it with this great

The women had a school-record seven U SPORTS All-Canadians, eight OUA All-Stars and the team was ranked No. 1 the entire season. Head Coach Marty Calder was named both the OUA and U SPORTS Women's Coach of the Year.

Men's wrestling captured its 18th U SPORTS National title and 20th OUA title in school history. They had a school-record eight U SPORTS All-Canadians and 10 OUA All-Stars.

Lumsden said he was happy to see Brock coaches and athletes recognizing the push to succeed.

"Our expectations are that everyone should continue to improve through recruiting and we saw some fabulous results in many of the sports that got us to national prominence," he said. "Everyone understands

what we're trying to accomplish, whether it's winning championships in ball hockey or ultimate, or getting to the nationals in basketball, hockey and curling. It's a tremendous reflection on the coaches and athletes."

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Bill Matheson teaching in 1987.

## Remembering Bill Matheson

By Kim Post

Whether they studied under him or spent time hitting the books in the learning commons bearing his name, the lives of many students have been touched by William Matheson.

By the time he retired in 1998, Bill Matheson had devoted 30 years at Brock, leaving a deep mark as a scholar, a trailblazing senior administrator and a popular, award-winning teacher. He indelibly impacted students, and helped guide a fledgling University through its crucial formative years.

Matheson was Brock's first Dean of Social Sciences, first Vice-President, Academic and an award-winning Political Science teacher who was known for his passion for supporting students in their academic pursuits.

That legacy has continued on following his death in December 2017.

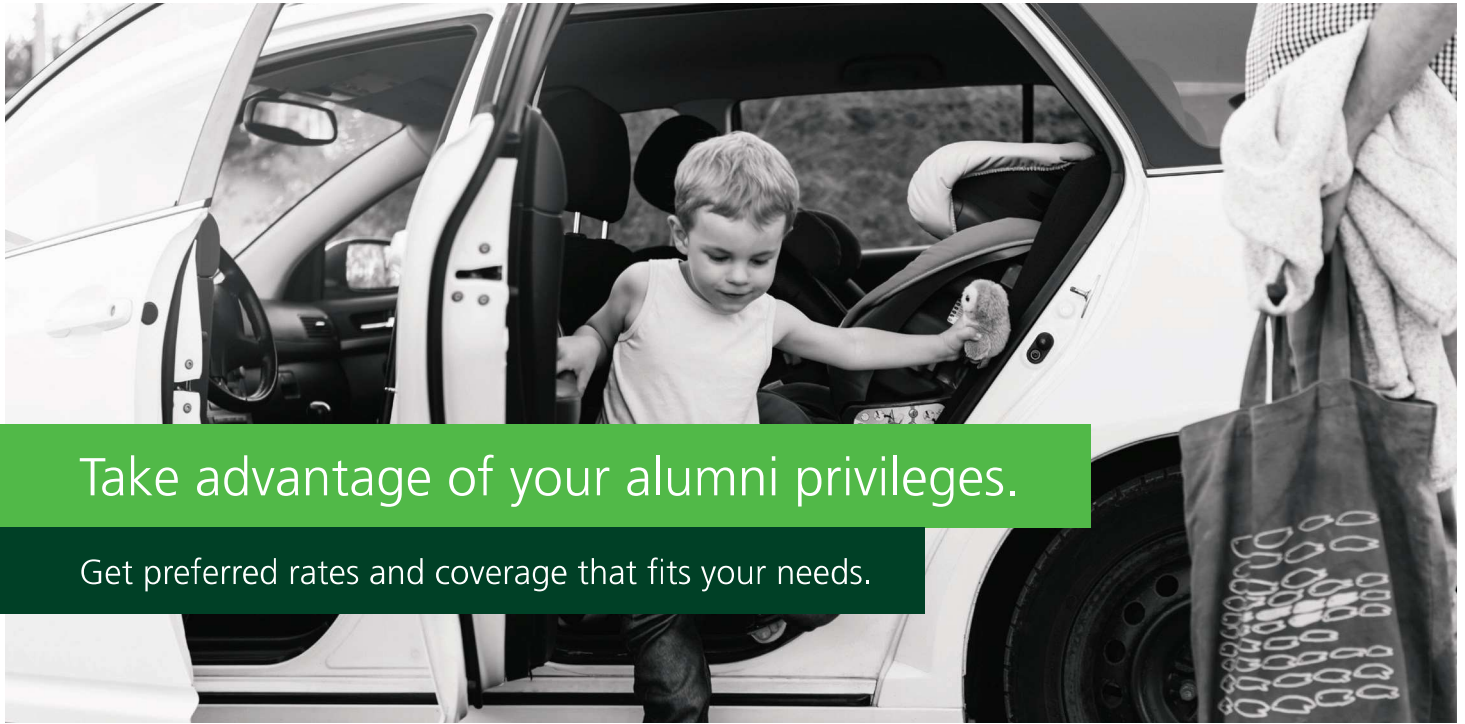
Matheson left a gift to the University in his will to enhance the William Matheson Bursary — an award established in his honour upon his retirement from Brock.

The bursary is given to full-time Political Science students in financial need who have an average of 75 per cent or higher in their most recent year of study.

Once awarded to a single student per year, Matheson's gift has opened the door to have more than one recipient chosen annually.

"Student awards and bursaries are essential in supporting students in their access to post-secondary education, their success in their studies and their ability to cross the stage for convocation," said Pamela Shanks, Executive Director of Development and Alumni Relations. "We are truly grateful to donors who leave a gift in their will to support student awards, which profoundly help and benefit students throughout their Brock journey."

For more information on making a gift in your will to the University, please contact Tracy Geoffroy at 905-688-5550, ext. 4519 or [tgeoffroy@brocku.ca](mailto:tgeoffroy@brocku.ca).



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