

# CANADIAN CAMPUS

For Alumni and Friends of Burman University and Parkview Adventist Academy



## STUDENT PROFILE

Get to know 1 of the 480 students on our campus this year.

## STANDING OUT TOGETHER

Find out a bit more about our PAA faculty and staff.

## SERVICE DAY

One of our favourite days on campus is our annual service day!

## A Message From Your Alumni President

# Let's Get Excited!

For some reason it seems that it is the observable enthusiasm of those not inherently aware of, or a part of, our educational institutions that serve as a reminder of the educational treasure that lies “under our noses.”

To illustrate this point, I present my senior work colleague and his wife, whose daughter recently enrolled at our newly minted Burman University. While these folks are certainly of a social and fiscal conservative political stripe they are by no means religious. Although I did actively encourage them to consider Burman for their daughter, I have, since the start of the school year, been watching and waiting for a report from them as to how things were going.

The early reports are in and they are spectacular. I have been on more than one occasion told about how this young lady is extremely happy with her experience thus far. She raves about her fellow students, the deep sense of community and the amazing professors on the Hilltop. Her enthusiasm is so pronounced that she has approached administration about the need to advertise “in the community” and wants to be at the front and centre of any such effort. Does any of this sound familiar? Are we, as alumni and friends, as excited about our educational product – because, to be blunt, we should be. We have a gift that needs to be shared.

And with that, I say goodbye. This will be my last President’s Message as, after seven years, it is time to pass on the mantle of leadership of this fine Alumni Council. To all of the faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends, I say thank you for allowing me to be a voice trumpeting the virtues of our beloved Burman University and Parkview Adventist Academy. To my fellow council members, I have been duly impressed by your love, support and commitment to these our schools. It has been my pleasure to serve with you.

To my fellow friends and alumni, please continue to support Burman and PAA in any and every way you can. Let’s make them a reality in the educational experience of any person who desires a Christian-based education that is top-notch and that produces graduates that will not only make this world a better place, but will take their skills, talents, and gifts to the world to come.

God bless.



Loney Ziakris  
Alumni President

## Alumni Council



**Back Row: L-R:**  
Mark Haynal, Keith Clouten, J.D. Victor Fitch, Rod Jamieson, Jerrold Ritchey

**Front Row: L-R:**  
Diane Southcott, Shannon Bechthold, Shari Hagen, Carrol Smith, Angie Bishop, Rhanda Bonet-Graham

**Missing from Photo:**  
Michael Berdan, Angela Deibert, Marisa Jackson, Anne Tetz, Loney Ziakris

## CANADIAN CAMPUS

**Editor** - Jerrold Ritchey

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**Design & Production** - M&E Design Studio

**Photography** - Randy Chenoweth  
Christian Lintan

**Publications Agreement Number**  
40063295

**Vision:** Burman will be the school of choice for those students who desire a quality education in a Christian setting that values individual achievement and the spirit of community renewal.

**Mission:** Burman will educate students to think with discernment, to believe with insight and commitment, and to act with confidence, compassion and competence.

### Alumni Council

President .....Loney Ziakris  
Honorary President.....Mark Haynal  
Vice President ..... Keith Clouten  
PAA Principal.....Angie Bishop  
Council Member ..... Angela Deibert  
Council Member .....Carrol Smith  
Council Member ..... Shari Hagen  
Young Alumni Chair..... Marisa Jackson  
PAA Faculty Rep ..... Rod Jamieson  
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J.D. Victor Fitch  
Anne Tetz  
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**Website:** www.burmanu.ca

**Our street address has changed to  
6730 University Drive.**

**On The Cover:**  
Service Day 2015 group photo in front of the CHSDA church.

# COLUMNS



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The campus gathered in front of the Administration Building for the annual Welcome Back Bash.

# Empty Spaces

In September my wife and I moved to a new home. You know what happened next: the living room cried out for a new sofa. The master bedroom just had to have new curtains. Our dining room was just one new table short of being perfect.

Because we either didn't have furniture for the new spaces or our existing stuff was quite old and we had arranged to give it away, it made sense to purchase a few new things. Everything made sense until I put together our new entertainment centre from IKEA. When I saw our 10-year-old 36-inch VIZIO TV sitting in a space designed for a 60-inch screen I had this overwhelming urge to immediately buy a new TV! (I'm still resisting that urge.)

Every time I tour our campus I get similar overwhelming urges to make things look right. Many of the upgrades our campus needs aren't luxuries like a 60-inch TV. They're more like the items my wife and I purchased for our new home because we either didn't have them or what we had was way beyond its "use by" date.

Look at this photo of the unpaved area between West Hall and the Administration Building. Our architects refer to it as the "goat trail." Doesn't that photo give you an overwhelming urge to make that area look presentable? To make it easier for our visitors with mobility challenges to negotiate?

Look at how the sidewalk from the Chan Shun Science Centre peters out half way to the intersection of College Avenue and University Drive. It cries out to be finished so pedestrians can walk safely away from traffic and out of knee deep snow.

It's true our campus looks better now than it has ever looked. We care for it as best we can, given our limited resources. But parts of it still cry out for new carpet. Certain buildings just have to have the paint and stucco touched up. Other areas are just a new sidewalk or parking lot short of being perfect.

I'm not asking for 60-inch luxuries. I invite you to help us take care of a few necessary things that should have been done years ago when we first moved in. You may be in a position to cover the entire cost of a section of sidewalk. This may be the year you can pave the "goat trail." Maybe, like me, you can only make a small contribution.

Every year well over a hundred new students move to our campus and into what will be their new home for four years. Given the hours they spend working here, our hilltop is like a second home for many faculty and staff. As we plan our year-end giving, let us together do what we can to take care of their "home."

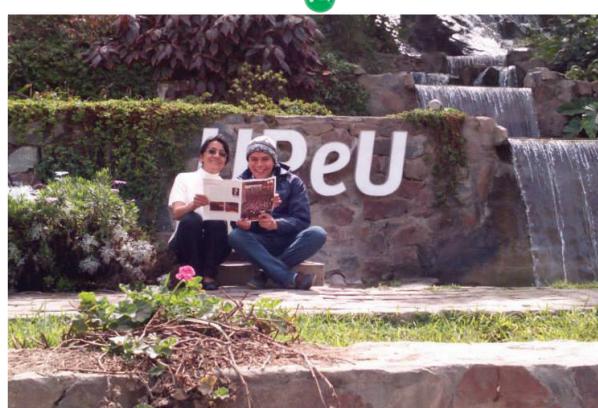


Mark Haynal  
Burman University President

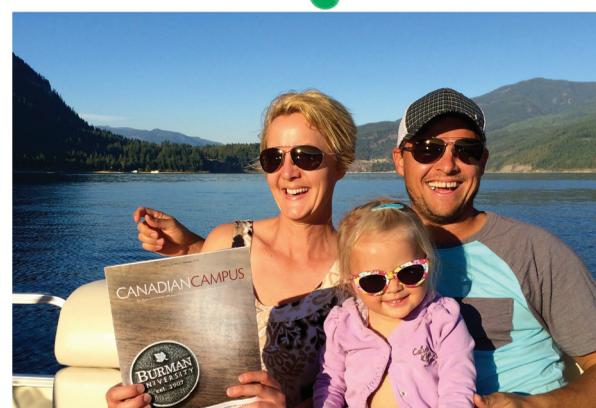




In July 2015, Gerd Meichsner (att. C '74-'75) and his wife Uschi travelled to Russia and Gerd stopped to read his *Canadian Campus* in Red Square in Moscow. They currently reside in Germany.



In June 2015, Burman University Division of Science Contract Instructor, Sara Chavez, visited with graduate, Josias Sanchez (U '13) at Universidad Peruana Union in Lima, Peru, where he was working as a music teacher.



Jonathan (HS '97), Rachael (Hanoski) (HS '98) and Abigail Ganson peruse an issue of the *Canadian Campus* while enjoying a staycation that included a day on Shuswap Lake, British Columbia.

Continue to send us pictures of where you read the **CANADIAN CAMPUS**. Keep them coming!

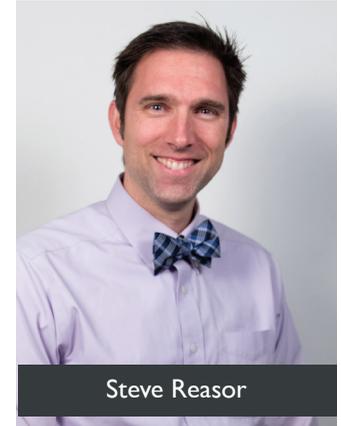
Send us your picture with a copy of *Canadian Campus*. Let's see how many different locations, near and far, your *Canadian Campus* travels to!

**SEND DIGITAL PHOTOS & INFO TO:** [dsouthcott@burmanu.ca](mailto:dsouthcott@burmanu.ca)

**OR SEND YOUR HARD COPY TO:** Attn: Diane Southcott / Office of Advancement  
Burman University / 6730 University Drive / Lacombe AB T4L 2E5

# Resolutions

It is nearly 2016! Have you made any resolutions? Maybe, after the year-end-rush, you are just now picking up this issue of Canadian Campus and January 1st has already passed. What resolutions did you make? If you are anything like me, you made a resolution or two for this year, to exercise more or be kinder to your family. Unfortunately, again if you are anything like me, by January 15 most New Year's resolutions for 2016 will have been cheated on, forgotten, faked, or abandoned altogether. Which is why many of you are already thinking, "That's why I don't make New Year's Resolutions!"



Steve Reasor

Living up to an ideal for 366 days straight (it is leap year after all) seems impossible. Why make a resolution that is likely to fail? I am tempted to resolve to not make any more New Year's Resolutions. And yet, many of us continue to make, and break, New Year's Resolutions every January, and we do not want to hear from you over-achievers who keep your resolutions all year. The rest of us are doomed to live in the same ruts and repeat the same mistakes as last year. It all seems so futile.

Maybe that is why James, the brother of Jesus and leader of the church in Jerusalem, had a cautious view of long-term plans. He encouraged us to say "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that" (James 4:15 NKJ). He put each day in the Lord's hands and trusted that the grace needed for tomorrow would be available when needed. And that is my biggest problem with my New Year's Resolutions: they usually involve my disappointments and fears.

As you look back at 2015 are you disappointed with yourself in any way? And as you look forward to 2016 are you worried that you will make similar mistakes? My resolutions are an agreement with myself to make a clean break from mistakes, addictions, negativity, and failures because I am afraid of what will happen in 2016 if I do not change. And even though fear is a great motivator to initiate change, it is not able to carry us far into the year. So our resolve falters and our resolutions fail.

The good news is that there is something better than a New Year's Resolution. I call it the New Day's Resolution. There is nothing magical about January 1st. "Today" is the only day you live in, so a resolution can only be lived out "today." This is the wisdom that Jesus calls us to; that we be concerned about today and not place on ourselves the weight that comes from worrying about getting it right for the next 366 days. He said, "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things" (Matthew 6:34 NKJ). When the sun rose this morning it was a new day, what will you resolve to do better today? I am going to resolve to be faithful to Jesus' calling today and leave tomorrow for Him to worry about.

Steve Reasor is an Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Burman University

## Kevin Burrell, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies

Kevin did not always want to be a pastor. “I decided to become a pastor because I felt that God was specifically leading me in this direction. I was also motivated by the encouragement I received from many people who pointed me in this direction,” said Burrell. The encouragement he received from his family at home and his church family fueled his push toward ministry.

Through the encouragement of his mentors he decided to move to Lacombe, Alberta with his wife Val and their two children Jonathan and Jesse. Being in a university environment sparked his own academic interests.

Burman University professors and administration saw the potential in Kevin and encouraged him to think about becoming a Burman professor in the future.

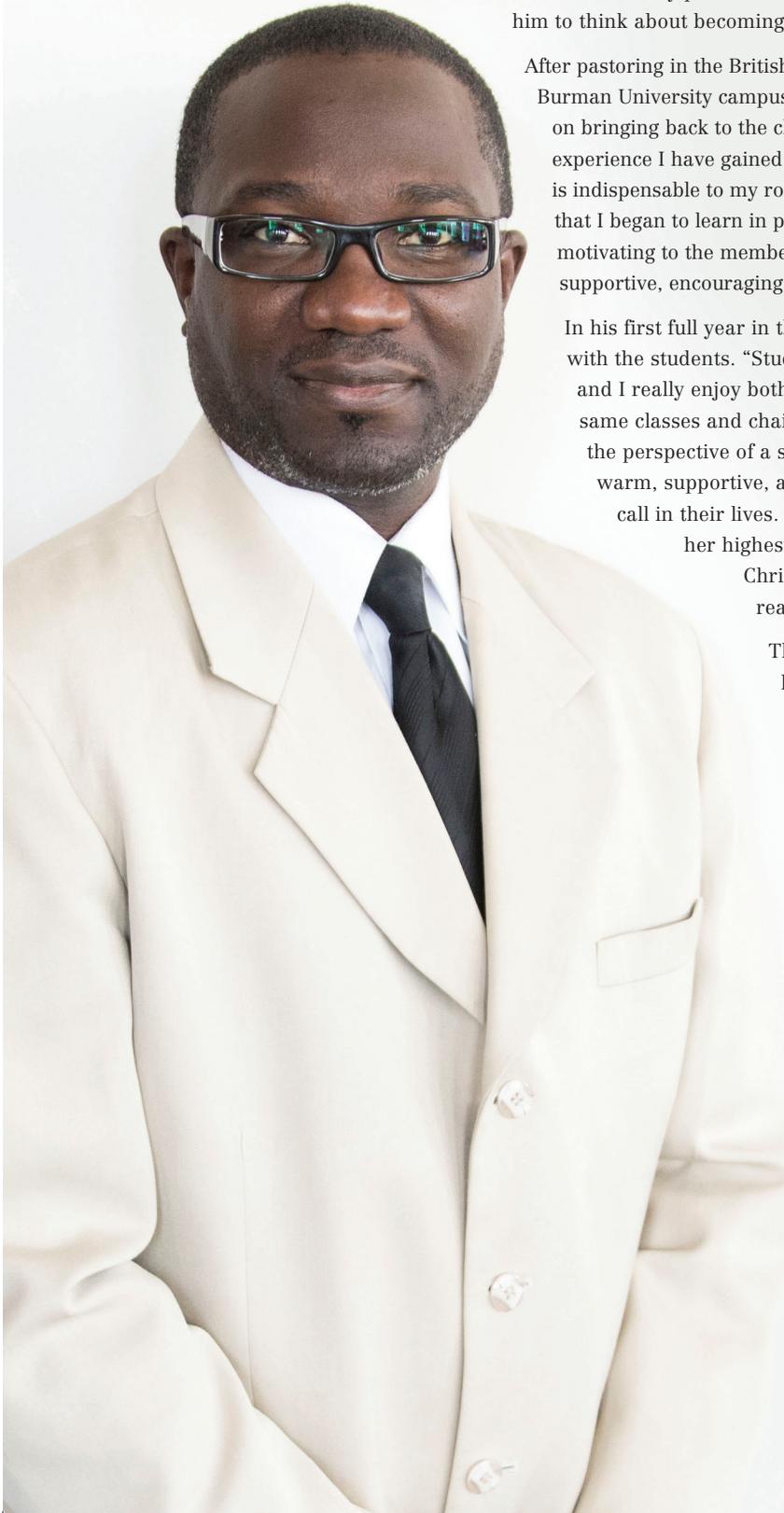
After pastoring in the British Columbia Conference Kevin and his family moved back to the Burman University campus as a professor in the Religious Studies department. He plans on bringing back to the classroom what he has learned from pastoral ministry. “The experience I have gained from my short time as a pastor in the British Columbia Conference is indispensable to my role as a Religious Studies professor. It was while serving as a pastor that I began to learn in practical terms the value of being supportive, encouraging and motivating to the members of my congregations. At minimum, I wish to bring this kind of supportive, encouraging, and motivating spirit to the classroom,” says Burrell.

In his first full year in the Religious Studies department he is excited for the interaction with the students. “Students bring such enthusiasm, insights, and fun into the classroom, and I really enjoy both teaching and learning from them” says Burrell. Having sat in the same classes and chairs as his current students, Kevin is hoping that he can share both the perspective of a student and a teacher to his class. “Students can expect to find warm, supportive, and academically competent teachers who are serious about God’s call in their lives. Like I was, so each student will be encouraged to strive for his/her highest spiritual and academic potential. This is a great place to learn of Christ, grow spiritually, and be prepared for Christian service. This is really a great place to be,” says Burrell.

These students will receive a passionate education in the biblical languages as Hebrew is one of his favourite classes to teach. “I find Greek and Hebrew extremely liberating when studying the Bible. This is because you get to experience the text in the original languages with all of the idioms and nuances which are necessarily lost in translation. The Biblical languages allow you to appreciate the literary and historical contexts of Scripture much more fully than you would without them,” states Burrell.

After all the biblical languages classes and papers are done there are two things that he wants each of his students to come away with. He foremost wants each one of them to develop authenticity in their ministry: “Being genuine about one’s Christian profession by dispensing with superficiality (also known as “hypocrisy” from the Greek hupokrites, meaning “actor,” “pretender”). That has remained an important goal of mine, and a value I wish to pass on to students,” says Burrell.

The second value he would like to impart on his student is servant-leadership. He wants to see the shift focus more on the servant aspect. He states, “We typically stress the leadership facet of servant-leadership while often ignoring the servant aspect. I wish to model the full measure of servant-leadership in my own life and teaching, while trusting that students will find value in the same.”





**Breeann Burghardt**

Wetaskiwin, AB

Business Administration (Accounting Track) - Year 3

Native Ministries Coordinator (Campus Ministries)  
President of the Business Club  
Women’s Basketball Team  
PLT (Dorm Club)

**What do you hope to do after you graduate?**

My plan is to do graduate studies at the University of Alberta either in Native Studies or in Social Work with an emphasis in Native Studies. My goal is to work for the Government of Alberta’s Aboriginal Relations Department as a Support Coordinator whose job it is to allocate funds where they’re needed most.

**Why did you decide to come to Burman University?**

I wasn’t planning on going to Burman University initially. When I did more research on Burman I found out that I was eligible for the Athletics, Citizenship, and Academics entrance scholarships. I told my mom, “I think we can do this. I can afford to go to Burman!”

**How is the Burman experience preparing you to meet your goals?**

Being at Burman University is the reason I decided to become involved in Aboriginal Relations. I had never worked with native people before coming here and being invited to work with kids’ church in Maskwacis. I loved it so much that I worked with the kids over the summer. After that I was totally addicted to the kids and wanted to come back every week and love them and spend time with them and help make their lives better.

**What is your hope for Native Ministries at Burman University?**

I REALLY want Campus Ministries, which sponsors Native Ministries, to expand its work with an investment of money, time, and student involvement. I’m at the church in Maskwacis every Sabbath and I still have kids texting me throughout the week asking if I can come watch their volleyball game or hang out with them. That’s a big commitment that needs a bigger investment. The misunderstanding surrounding Aboriginal people needs to be removed.

**An Investment in Burman University is an investment in our students**

Breeann is one of our 600 university and academy students who will be tomorrow’s inspiring educators, compassionate health care professionals, uplifting ministers, dedicated church leaders, ethical entrepreneurs, trailblazing development and relief workers, and invested psychologists and counsellors.

By giving to Burman University you are investing in our students who are the future of our church, our communities, our country, and our world.

[www.burmanu.ca/alumni/giving](http://www.burmanu.ca/alumni/giving) / 800.661.8129 ext 8 / [alumni@burmanu.ca](mailto:alumni@burmanu.ca)

# Standing Out Together



Parkview Adventist Academy's high school culture is a generationally celebrated experience: Six of the 15 PAA staff members are high school alumni while 11 of the 12 teachers completed Bachelor's degrees on this campus. Additionally, more than 20% of currently enrolled students are the children of graduates, and can spot their parents' photos in the hallways. Some of that group and others make up the 30% of PAA students who come from families employed by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada. In many ways, PAA is both literally and figuratively, family!

While the 2015-2016 list of PAA's committed teachers remained the same as last year's, the physical space changed over the summer. Upgrades were made to the student lounge, study centres, and new flooring and paint colours were added/updated throughout the building.

Every day, students make use of these additions as they charge their devices (including Google Chromebooks for every grade 10 student) to film and edit mock political campaign ads or to create graphics representing personal scheduling commitments. Expanded instructional areas will allow one of the larger spaces to be used for training 35% of PAA's student body in Standard First Aid by Christmas. Other students make use of study nooks to plan for PAA's student-led Sabbath Schools, Chapels, and daily worships.

As PAA's Chaplain, Pastor Ted Deer, and his wife, Pastor Sandra Deer, celebrated the arrival of their first-born this September, the student Campus Ministries team jumped into action to keep programs running smoothly and make plans in advance of PAA's fall Week of Prayer (October 19—24). Led by grade 12 student Thembe Mhlanga, and grade 11 student Busi Dzingirayi, PAA's student body is involved in worship where each student can "*Stand Out: Be Outstanding.*" Some have contributed musical gifts while others shared spiritual reflections through skits, and still more have led out in the laughter of community-building activities and games. A different student each week has bravely shared about what God is doing in their lives, inspiring their classmates to stand out in faith and in love.

In this way, PAA realizes its mission of being "Distinctly Academic. Decidedly Christian." Mission marks a discernable difference between our brand of education and that found anywhere else. Seven of the 34 potential graduates of PAA's Class of 2016 are first-time students in this, their senior year. Other newcomers in lower grade levels have registered on the recommendation of a caring relative or church member, and still more are drawn to our campus after interacting with PAA students at Canadian camp meetings or through the school's many ministry, music, and athletic tours. God continues to bless the scope and reach of PAA's influence for Him, and we ask you to keep PAA in your prayers so we can stand out together in Heaven.

by Katelyn Ruiz





# Service Day

The campus is silent but in the city of Lacombe red-shirted Burman University students can be seen all over the community. From the local care home to the hospital, from the city hall to the local trails, Burman students are out in force serving their community for our annual Service Day. Taking place towards the end of Burman's Week in Spiritual Emphasis, Service Day is a chance for students to put into action the thoughts and messages that have been discussed during the Week In Spiritual Emphasis meetings. This is also a chance for this campus to go out into our host community and share God's love in the form of service.

Jessica Richter, a 2nd-year Music Education major, was this year's student coordinator. "Service Day is a unique experience! It's a day when people of different ages work together to do good for others. I believe the value in service is in being given an opportunity to be others-centered! In taking our minds off our own problems, we can grow and be blessed while blessing. We learn to be part of a community in giving and receiving actively. My favourite part of coordinating was being given the opportunity to say to the community, 'What can we do for you, for free!' It was such a blessing to be able to work alongside so many wonderful people in serving and being blessed in return," remarks Jessica. She continues, "I would say the best part of the day was more a general attitude rather than event. It was amazing for me to see how the students responded to their service project! As I visited the project sites, I was met by enthusiasm and a beautiful spirit of happy giving. The most important thing I learned is that it takes a team to make something of this magnitude happen. I was so blessed by each staff, each faculty member, and each student that made this day possible."

The campus ministries team along with the service day coordinator managed over twenty-six projects utilizing over one hundred and fifty

students, faculty and staff all over the city of Lacombe. No project was too small and participants picked the best project that suited their individual gifts. "This past service day I had the privilege of serving an elderly couple in their yard clean up. Our team was able to beautify their home by raking acorns off their lawn, cleaning water drains on the roof, washing windows and repainting their kitchen door, amongst other projects. One of the most exciting things, of course, was being allowed to use the power hose and the lawn mower. Another exceptional aspect was not having classes and seeing the efficiency and fun of students, faculty and staff working alongside each other," remembers Ashia Lennon, a 3rd-year Religious Studies major.

While Service Day falls under the Campus Ministries umbrella, the majority of the work is student driven and most importantly, student staffed. All this is done under the grateful eye of the Burman University chaplains. "Jessica has been working toward this day since early summer - everything from making contacts with the community to arranging projects, to coordinating student and staff sign-up, to making sure everyone had a good meal and all of the supplies they'd need to do their jobs - and the results of her hard work have been exceptional. Campus Ministries exists to provide students with service, ministry, and leadership opportunities, and Jessica is a shining example of what can happen when young people are enabled to use their gifts and talents in direct and meaningful ways," says Adam Deibert, Burman University senior chaplain. He continues, "we are so proud of the students and staff for their record involvement in our Service Day activities. Together we made a huge impact on the greater community that shows that we take our greater calling as Christians seriously, and the response has been very positive from all involved."



### OPENING CONVOCATION

Our academic school year began with our first ever Opening Convocation as Burman University. The program began with the entrance of the platform party led by Mace Bearer Dr. Mark Froese, Associate Professor of Political Science and chair of the Faculty Council. New to this year's Opening Convocation was the oath taking for the Burman University Student Association. Always a favourite of the audience is Registrar Larry Murrin's report on enrolment. Currently the enrolment for the 2015-2016 academic year sits at 480 students. This year's new student population of 161 is an increase of almost 40 more new students than last years new student population of 124.



### DR. SAMANTHA NUTT PRESENTS AT THE HERR LECTURE SERIES

A full house was present at the Administration Building Auditorium for Dr. Samantha Nutt's presentation for the Herr Lecture Series on September 17, 2015.

Dr. Samantha Nutt, founder of the renowned humanitarian organization War Child, has worked with children and their families in some of the world's worst war zones for over two decades. In her talk, the Order of Canada recipient and bestselling author draws on her experiences on the ground in places such as Iraq, Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Darfur to explore the effectiveness of our current models of humanitarian aid to war ravaged regions.

The Denise and Larry Herr Lectures in the Humanities feature presentations by highly qualified speakers on issues of public interest. The lectures provide a forum for dialogue, open discussion, and reasoned debate in Central Alberta. The lectures series' name honours two of Burman University's retiring professors, Dr. Denise Herr and Dr. Larry Herr.



### STEVE GREEN PERFORMS AT THE COLLEGE HEIGHTS SDA CHURCH

Grammy award winner Steve Green presented a concert at the College Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church on October 3, 2015. The Burman University Choral Union, under the direction of Dr. Wendolin Munroe, backed Green for six songs during the concert. Also joining Steve Green on stage were elementary students from the College Heights Christian School.

Born in Portland Oregon, Steve began his career in Christian music in 1976 when travelling with his first group, Truth. In 1980, Green joined forces with the Gaither Vocal Band, with whom he sang tenor for three years. Green's break-out year came in 1985 with the release of his hit *He Holds the Keys*, which earned him the Dove Award for Contemporary Christian Music's Male Vocalist of the year. He is a seven-time Dove Award winner and four-time Grammy nominated artist over his 35 year career.

# The CUC High School Class of 1976



“Class of '76 and Friends” Alumni Caribbean Cruise  
A 40 Year Celebration - Everyone is Welcome!

July 31 – August 7, 2016

## CRUISE ITINERARY

Sun. July 31	Depart - Fort Lauderdale Florida
Mon. Aug 1	at sea
Tues. Aug 2	Cozumel Mexico
Wed. Aug 3	at sea
Thur. Aug 4	Falmouth Jamaica
Fri. Aug 5	Labadie Haiti (private beach)
Sat. Aug 6	at sea
Sun. Aug 7	Arrive - Fort Lauderdale Florida

## COST (Based on Double Occupancy)

- Inside Room - \$1494 CDN (Category N)
- Inside Room - \$1519 CDN (Category L)
- Balcony Central Park View  
\$1704 CDN (Category C2)
- Balcony Boardwalk View  
\$1764 CDN (Category B2)
- Balcony Ocean View \$2014 CDN  
(Category D5)

Pre-cruise hotel accommodations can be made through Evelyn. She will also be able to arrange your flight to Fort Lauderdale. Call her for more information.

Deposit: \$265 CDN per person  
Refund available up until April 21, 2016  
(less \$25 and GST)  
Final payment due on April 22, 2016

I am pleased to invite you to join the CUC high school class of 1976 as we plan our fourth “Class of '76 and Friends” Alumni Cruise. Our first cruise was to the Caribbean, the next two explored the beauties of Alaska, and in celebration of our 40th year since graduation we are inviting everyone to join us on a 7 day fun filled cruise to the Caribbean. The “Allure of the Seas” is the world’s largest cruise ship and will provide the perfect setting for fun, sightseeing, relaxing, rekindling old friendships, and a great chance to recharge the aging batteries!

Even though the cruise is organized by the class of '76, everyone, and we mean EVERYONE (even if you never attended PAA or CUC), is more than welcome to join us.

Do plan to be on board on July 31, 2016.

Sincerely,

Ron Schafer, Class President 1976

For more info contact:

Ron Schafer (Tour Coordinator)  
rschafer@burmanu.ca / 403-391-6909

Canada One Travel  
Evelyn Sinclair (Travel Consultant)  
esinclair@canada-one.ca / 204-988-1850

## Alum Notes



Blake



Hort



Guild



Edgson



Hodder



Wiebe



Williams

### **Valerie Hodder (HS 1965, C 1967)**

Valerie resides in Shearstown, NL with her husband Edward. They have 3 adult children: Janis, Jodi, and Brent (deceased), and 5 grandchildren. Valerie was a teacher before switching careers to go back to school for nursing. She was a manager for the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton for 13 years until retirement. She and Ed are enjoying retirement in their small community of Shearstown.

### **Ben Hort (HS 1960)**

Ben resides in Beaumont, AB. He was married to the late Vivian (Emmerson) Hort. They had 3 adult children: Cheryl, Nicholas, and Margaret and 1 grandchild. Ben retired in 2008 as an administrator for various organizations. During his career he was involved in the planning and building of six classrooms and a gym for a high school, new nursing home, senior complex, and church. Since retirement Ben has kept busy serving on community committees and in his local church.

### **F. Martin Ytreberg (HS 1960, C 1963)**

Martin resides in Garden City, ID with his wife Sylvia. They have 2 adult children: Marty and Michael. Martin is a retired accountant. He worked for the church his entire career in various treasurer positions.

### **Gordon Guild (HS 1960)**

Gordon resides in Ooltewah, TN with his wife Carol. They have 4 adult children: Mark, Geoff, Carmen, and David (deceased), and 10 grandchildren. Gordon is a retired family physician. Since retirement he has run in triathlons and travelled with It Is Written to India to help with medical evangelism. Gordon and Carol recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on a river cruise to Russia. They enjoy spending time with their grandchildren and anticipate the soon return of our Lord, Jesus.

### **J. Keith Edgson (HS 1960)**

Keith resides in Fairview, AB with his wife Ruth. They have 3 adult children: Wendy, Brent, and Melodie. Keith has been involved in many careers such as farming, building log homes, gold mining and building sluices, hauling produce, and hauling logs. He and Ruth enjoy their country home at Dunvegan on the Peace River.

### **John Blake (HS 1960, C 1964)**

John resides in Clive, AB with his wife Alberta. They have 4 adult children: Joan, Judy, Jean, and David and 9 grandchildren. John is retired but currently volunteers as the Director for the Deaf Ministry Department of both the Alberta SDA Conference and for Gospel Outreach. Last summer John and Alberta celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

They praise God for His blessings through the years.

### **Vera (Werner) Wiebe (HS 1965)**

Vera resides in Lacombe, AB with her husband Ken. They have 2 adult sons: Bradley and Randy and 4 grandchildren. Vera has worked in medical offices and Adventist schools. She has also taught private piano lessons and been involved in organizing music for camp meetings in 3 conferences. Vera and Ken have enjoyed sharing their home with students and young adults. Vera likes writing for the Women's Devotional book. Her hobbies include knitting, reading, and sewing for American Girl Dolls.

### **Tammy (Teed) Reitz (HS 1990)**

Tammy resides in Spangle, WA with her husband Steve. They have 2 children: Braden and Kailey. Tammy enjoys being a stay-at-home mom with her kids.

### **Jennifer (Hudema) Williams**

(HS 2000, U 2005)

Jennifer resides in Sylvan Lake, AB with her husband Kyle. They have a dog named Kobi and recently celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary in May of 2015. Jennifer is the training coordinator at HSE Integrated where they offer training courses as well as other industrial safety services.

**JOHNSON, MABEL CAMPBELL** HS 1955, C 1994.

*b. Jan. 8, 1936, Leaman, AB;*  
*d. Oct. 11, 2015, Chilliwack, BC.*  
Mabel was the wife of Pastor/  
Evangelist Ron Johnson who passed  
away in 2006. Mabel served as a  
teacher, principal and an evangelist  
assistant to her husband. She is  
survived by three children: Trevor,  
Colleen Elliott, Lorna Lou Johnson,  
and George.

**KANDT, OPAL BECHTHOLD**  
CJC 1937.

*d. Oct. 21, 2015, Kelowna, BC.*  
Opal was a teacher and active in the  
church's Dorcas Society. She was  
predeceased by her husband Bert.  
She is survived by four daughters:  
Sheila May Garrow, Roberta  
Chowanietz, Shirley Ann Goerlitz and  
Marilyn Kandt.

**KNIGHT, LYNDA ERICKSON** HS 1972.

*b. Jan. 1, 1954, Prince George, BC;*  
*d. Apr. 3, 2015, Vancouver, BC.*  
Lynda was involved in church and  
church school activities. She is  
survived by her husband, Chris Knight  
and children: Kevin, Jordan, and  
Karrah Hansen.

**KURULAK, VICTORIA** att. 1949-1953.

*b. Jan. 9, 1930, Canora, SK;*  
*d. Aug. 7, 2015, Caldwell, ID.*  
Victoria's life work was as a Seventh-  
day Adventist colporteur. She is  
survived by her children: Doyle Bull,  
Dianne (Mays) McCann and Shawna  
(Mays) Maker.

**NAGY, JIM IMRE** att. 1976-1981.

*b. Nov. 30, 1952, Hungary;*  
*d. Sept. 26, 2015, Kelowna, BC.*  
Jim was a devoted Christian and  
passionate about raising funds for

the Canadian Cancer Society. He is  
survived by daughters: Esther and  
Andrea and their mother Glenda.

**PESTES, CORNELIUS "NEIL"**

att. 1947-1948.  
*b. Nov. 25, 1926, Crystal Hill, SK;*  
*d. Apr. 9, 2015, Portland, OR.*  
He is survived by his wife Ruth (Stickle)  
and sons: Dale, Larry, and Ron.

**PIERCE, BEATRICE** staff 1978-1989.

*b. Jan. 25, 1924, Lenoir, NC;*  
*d. Aug. 30, 2015, Apopka, FL.*  
At CUC Bea served as Administrative  
Secretary to the President. She  
accompanied her husband as  
he taught music in several SDA  
academies and Washington Missionary  
College in the United States. While  
at Mt. Vernon Academy she was  
employed with the General Conference  
Risk Management. They spent three  
years at the Adventist College in Sao  
Paulo, Brazil. She is survived by her  
husband Charles and children: Chuck  
and Cheryl.

**PIERCE, CHARLES** staff 1975-1990.

*b. Jan. 11, 1924, Candler, NC;*  
*d. Sept. 10, 2015, Tavares, FL.*  
Charles taught music in several SDA  
academies and Washington Missionary  
College in the United States and three  
years in Sao Paulo, Brazil before  
coming to CUC to serve in the music  
department as voice teacher and choir  
leader at CUC for 15 years. On Sundays  
he shared his talents with the United  
Church in Lacombe, playing the organ  
and conducting their choir. He was  
named a Paul Harris Fellow in 2007  
by the Lacombe Rotary Club. His wife  
predeceased him by 11 days. Survived  
by two children: Chuck and Cheryl.

**REISWIG, REGINALD** att. 1959-1961.

*d. Aug. 9, 2015, Red Deer.*  
Survived by his wife Donna May and  
children: Brian, Drena Dechant, and  
Treaa Webb.

**ROBSON, ELSIE TUZ** att. 1947-1948.

*b. Nov. 21, 1924, Sheho, SK;*  
*d. May 15, 2015, Gresham, OR.*  
Elsie is survived by her son Dayle and  
daughter Claire Robson.

**ROWSE, NORMAN** att. 1949-1950.

*b. Oct 16, 1932;*  
*d. June 25, 2015.*

**SAYLER, MARJORIE LARSON**

HS 1946, C 1947.  
*b. May 22, 1922, New Norway, AB;*  
*d. Oct. 8, 2015, Strathmore, AB.*  
Marjorie loved her family and friends;  
she was a devoted wife and mother.  
She enjoyed gardening, cooking,  
baking, sewing, knitting, crocheting  
and reading. Her hands told the story  
of how hard she worked. Her character  
was an amazing story of love, wit,  
wisdom, strength and courage. She  
loved to share stories of her childhood  
and youth. She had a strong faith  
in God and He gave her strength  
and direction for each day. She was  
predeceased by her husband Walter in  
2000. Five children survive her: Glen,  
Don, Joan, Gordon, and Darrell.

**SEIDEL, WERNER** HS 1958, C 1964.

*b. Mar. 4, 1938, Rimbey, AB;*  
*d. Aug. 21, 2015, Strathmore, AB.*  
After graduation Werner began a  
teaching career in Saskatoon, SK.  
He then pastored in all the Canadian  
Conferences, including the Northwest  
Territories. He also spent two years  
in Zaire as project manager. He is  
survived by his wife, Geri, and sons:  
Brent and Kevin.

**SLUSARENKO, MICHAEL**

att. 1946-1947.  
*b. Oct. 22, 1928, Beauvallon, AB;*  
*d. May 2, 2015, Ukiah, CA.*  
Mike served mission building projects  
around the world with Maranatha  
International and The Quiet Hour. He  
also helped build the Chehalis, WA  
church. He is survived by his wife Joy  
and children: Brian, Bob, Don, Debbie  
Merritt and Leanne Kunihira.

**WINSOR, CYNTHIA DEER** HS 1990.

*b. Dec. 25, 1971, Canora, SK;*  
*d. Oct. 2, 2015, St. Catharines, ON.*  
Cyndi served as a medical secretary.  
She was musical, a gifted writer and  
created floral arrangements. She is  
survived by her husband, Bob, and  
children: Kaitlyn and Justin.

**WYMAN, JAMES** att. 1947-1948.

*b. Sept. 30, 1924, Daysland, AB;*  
*d. Apr. 17, 2015, Lake City, MI.*  
He is survived by his wife Marie I.  
(Fraser) and children: Donald and  
Pat Wyman.

Please send information for In Memory  
of former students and staff to Office  
of Advancement, Burman University,  
6730 University Dr., Lacombe, AB  
T4L 2E5.

# Year End Reflections

Early in the fall semester the campus came together to help out in our local community on Service Day. From cleaning roads to painting dumpsters, Burman students cheerfully took on their tasks of helping across the city. Student Jessica Richter did a tremendous job of organizing and making sure the day worked smoothly and all projects were completed.

Speaking of our awesome students, by now many of you have responded to our *SOS—Support our Students* campaign. Thank you for your gifts! Many youth that simply are stretched beyond their means are helped and encouraged by your thoughtfulness. John Bunyan said “You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.”

In October, Steve Green, renowned vocal artist, held a concert using our elementary school choir as well as the Burman University choir as backup singers. The packed congregation was greatly blessed as were the choir singers by the way they sang and were engaged. A true worship experience for all!

Pictured below is our new entrance sign coming north from Rosedale Valley. This high-quality and enduring sign was constructed to let people know they have arrived on campus. It has been supported by Burman University board members, June Homecoming offerings and a substantial gift from the grad class of 2015. A

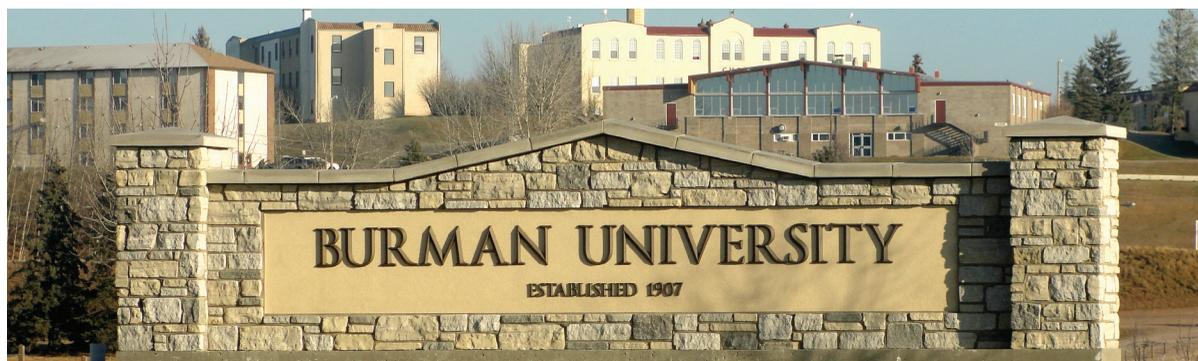
similar sign will be constructed coming up College Avenue from the east; once again clearly indicating arrival to campus and funded by the *Committee of 100*.

In closing, a scripture comes to mind—Jeremiah 29:11: “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” This campus is where a great number of youth have come and found the road to their future. Maybe you had a similar experience. It has been a blessing for me over the past eight plus years to see the growth and development of so many awesome students.

As 2015 draws to a close, please consider a year end gift to benefit your university in Canada in an area you care about. You are welcome to return your gift by using the enclosed envelope or going to the website, [www.burmanu.ca](http://www.burmanu.ca) and giving online, thereby receiving an immediate donation receipt.



Jerrold Ritchey,  
VP for Advancement



The new Burman University sign on University Drive south of the campus.

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