

→  BOOTH UC  
CONNECT



SHOCK & AWE

FALL/WINTER 2016



**5**  
**BOOTH**  
is the best



**9**  
They pushed  
me **HARD**



**10**  
**SHOCKING**  
moments



**11**  
Taking on the  
**WORLD**



**14**  
Forging  
**LEADERS**

## A NEW CONNECTION

Keeping you in the loop at Booth

September marks the one year anniversary since I stepped into my role as Vice President, Advancement at Booth University College and it brings me great pleasure to introduce *Booth UC Connect Magazine*.

Over the past year, the advancement team has made huge strides in the promotion of Booth UC. We have developed great partnerships both locally and globally. We have successfully raised Booth UC's profile across The Salvation Army internationally.

Great things are happening all around Booth UC and we are very happy and blessed to have your support. Donations are the lifeblood of our institution and our success is only possible because of the support of our donors, alumni and particularly The Salvation Army. Your donations to Booth University College help our students to find their calling, change our world and 'make a life worth living'. Your gift will impact these students. Make your online donation today: [BoothUC.ca/Give](http://BoothUC.ca/Give)

As we enter into a new academic year, we are hopeful that you will continue to support Booth UC as we provide students with an education for a better world. We look forward to sharing with you the amazing successes the year will bring. Watch for the next edition of *Booth UC Connect Magazine* in the spring and once you have finished reading the good news here, continue to stay in touch through our newly streamlined social media program.

*Major John P. Murray*  
Vice President, Advancement

## Coffee and Conversation:

Exploring the Intersection of Faith and Pop Culture

*What impact is pop culture having on your faith?*

Please join us as we explore this topic through a fun and informative conversation over coffee with Dr. Michael Boyce, the head of Booth UC's English and Film Studies program.

November 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.  
John Fairbank Memorial Library  
3rd floor, 290 Vaughan Street

RSVP: [development@boothuc.ca](mailto:development@boothuc.ca)

Refreshments will be served



**BOOTH**  
UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE



Publisher | **Booth University College**  
Editor | **Bramwell Ryan, Lyf Studio**  
Layout & design | **cityfolkcreative.ca**

*Booth UC Connect Magazine* is published twice yearly. We want to share the good news of what has been happening at the institution over the last few decades. We will also highlight some of the people who make Booth UC such an engaging expression of The Salvation Army.

As the name of the publication suggests, Booth UC thrives on our connections, between instructors and students and between theory and practice. Equally valued are the linkages between the school and learning partners across Canada and around the world. And then there are the connections with people like you. Together we are shaping the future.

**Booth University College**  
447 Webb Place  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada R3B 2P2

T: 204-947-6701  
Toll-free (in North America): 1-877-942-6684

E: [development@BoothUC.ca](mailto:development@BoothUC.ca)  
W: [BoothUC.ca](http://BoothUC.ca)

# DEEP ROOTS ANCHOR NEW PRESIDENT DR. MARJORY KERR

Strong relationships and a common vision are key



*There is so much going on at Booth...  
we are still a young institution.*

Relationships and vision are the words driving the new president of Booth University College. Although Dr. Marjory Kerr took over the top spot in July of this year, she's not a new face on campus. Six years on the board of trustees, including a three-year stint as Board Chair and Vice President Academic and Dean since 2013 has helped her to develop deep roots in the institution. With a doctorate in industrial and organizational psychology and years of experience working in public, private and not-for-profit entities, Kerr knows that the strength of any organization lies in its relationships and common vision.

The direction Kerr brings to her new position is one she helped forge. She led the process that created Vision 2020 resulting in six strategic goals. "They are not just my vision, they're our vision," she says. "The real challenge with any strategic plan is implementation."

"There is just so much going on at Booth. We are still a young institution; there's been tremendous growth and change overall. Now we are poised to leverage that, to establish new programs and new offerings, sustaining existing programs and looking to grow our student body."

Outside of the office, Kerr delights in time with family, friends and in singing alto with the Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir. As the new academic year gets underway, Kerr is enthusiastic about what lies ahead. "I see us shifting from maintaining and holding steady to sustaining and leveraging what we have," she says. "I want us moving from surviving to truly thriving."

# VISION 2020: THE ROAD TO BOOTH UNIVERSITY

The adventure continues

Booth was established as a "Bible college" in 1981 and vigorously implemented that model of post-secondary education. By 2006 however the needs of The Salvation Army and society-at-large had changed. As a result, the Board of Trustees cast a new vision for the institution as a "growing Christian university college of choice," with an expanded mission that resembles more closely William Booth's dream of a university of humanity.



Since that time, Booth has undergone significant transformation. In June 2010 the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba passed legislation that gave Booth 'university college' status and we officially changed the name to The Salvation Army William and Catherine Booth University College, typically known as Booth University College. This represents much more than a name change. Existing programs have been redesigned, new ones developed and we continue to broaden our academic offerings. Our enrolment has grown consistently. Our degrees are widely recognized and more of our students are continuing on to graduate degrees. We have open enrolment and welcome the diversity of thought that is represented in students of all faiths and cultures. We value the dialogue of learning from and with each other, respecting differences and engaging in open and honest discussion reflecting the range of perspectives and experiences represented.

Now it's time to look beyond the present to envision and shape the future of Booth as a growing Christian university of choice.

## EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD

As a Christian university college, Booth's mission is shaped by the biblical realism which acknowledges that the world, though created by God and therefore endowed with the goodness and beauty of God, is nevertheless deeply troubled. Alongside the rich diversity of creation and the dignity of human life, we recognize that we live in a world that has fallen short of the glory in which it was made.

We want our students to see the beauty of the world while being informed about the challenges of life together on this planet - the challenges of an environment which is in deep distress, by

*Continued on page 4...*



societies and social systems voracious in their appetite for “muchness and manyness” and by injustices which spring from self-interest run rampant.

As a Christian educational institution, we explore the world as it is, with its mix of splendour and degradation, its mix of despair and hope, its mix of injustice and a longing to do better. Much of our work together is an effort to expand our understanding beyond what we have always thought, known and believed.

But as a Christian university college it is imperative that we do more than simply understand creation as it is. We must also look beyond what currently exists and the constraints of the moment, to envision a better world. We must prepare our students not only to identify and understand the challenges of the present, but also to envision solutions for the future. We must not only seek to understand why the world is as it is, but also work to make it better; not only comfort those who are suffering, but also bring healing.

It is for this reason that ‘education for a better world’ is central to the mission of Booth University College. Our goal is to provide educational programs and opportunities that equip our students to live lives informed by the discipline of their minds and to be a transforming influence in their communities. We want to prepare students who are willing and able to work hard to help create a better world. We do this within our foundation as a Christian university college.

## THE ROAD TO BOOTH UNIVERSITY

Achieving the next stage of our mission requires a vision designed to move us forward with clarity and purpose. We envision Booth University College in new ways:

1. Booth as a growing Christian university with an enrolment large enough and a breadth of programs wide enough to develop graduates who are passionate contributors to a better world;
2. Booth as a vibrant learning community actively engaged in the process of translating a vision for a better world into reality;
3. Booth as a vital partner with The Salvation Army in the achievement of its mission through the provision of education and training for Salvation Army personnel;
4. Booth as a sustainable, effective and mission-focused institution of Christian higher education.



Then-Booth UC President, Dr. Donald Burke (front row far left), Commissioner Susan McMillan (front row centre) and then-Vice President Academic and Dean, Dr. Marjory Kerr (front row far right) with the Board of Trustees at the April 2016 Convocation.

I’ve watched Booth for nearly 22 years and it’s thrilling to see how it has expanded and gained credibility. This institution does things I would not have dreamed of when I first joined the board.

**COLONEL  
GLEN SHEPHERD**  
Chair of Booth UC and  
Divisional Secretary, Québec



**ELISSA GABRIEL**

My goal is to help families, especially those of murdered and missing aboriginal women. I want to stand in the gap for them.

## BOOTH DELIVERS FOR NEW MOM

First Nations graduate puts education to good use in helping change lives

Elissa Gabriel, 31, has remarkable self discipline. She was so determined to pass her final Booth UC exam that she studied while in labour with her youngest child and just days later, took the exam. Dealing with the unexpected comes naturally to this mother of seven kids: five adopted youngsters and two of her own. Supported by a stay-at-home dad, Gabriel is making a difference in the world.

The skills Gabriel uses in her work as a Family First Home Visitor for the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority were learned and honed at Booth UC. When she moved the 430 km south from Misipawistik Cree Nation to the capital in 2009 she was looking for a school that shared her Christian values and could equip her to become a change agent. "I was looking to turn my life around," she says. "To put the past behind me, to educate myself and get on the right path. Going to school would help me set goals, and I could see a successful future. That encouraged me to stay focused." That focus resulted in an undergraduate degree in behavioural science.

"Booth is the best. The professors are really supportive. They cared. And the small classes made it much easier when discussing tough topics." That ability to integrate theory and practice is now a daily reality for Gabriel. In the working class neighbourhood of Point Douglas she meets with pregnant women - mostly single - and supports them through their child's birth. She then continues to work with them on parent-child bonding and to help them shape healthy families.

While Gabriel doesn't recommend that her clients take text books into the delivery room, if any of them ask, she's an advocate for the life changing impacts of higher education. "I turned my life around at Booth and I miss it. I miss the learning, the challenges and the rush of succeeding."



**BEN LOWELL**

Our denomination needs strong, sound theological thinkers to ensure those things we believe are involved in those things we do. I see Booth UC as vital in that task.

## IT ALL STARTED AT BOOTH!

'Old School' takes on a new meaning as alumni looks back

The original campus for the newly-born Catherine Booth Bible College was inauspicious. It was a run-down apartment building that used to be a house of ill-repute jammed in beside a fly-over bridge in a well-worn part of downtown Winnipeg. Yet when a young Ben Lowell arrived there in 1983 he knew he was where he should be. "It was the kind of spot where The Salvation Army itself started," he recalls with a laugh. "It felt right."

Both the school and Lowell have changed significantly over the past three decades. What was CBBC is now Booth University College and occupies two buildings in a nicer part of the city. Ben is no longer a youthful student from Ontario; he's CEO of Back to the Bible Canada, a national media ministry based in Abbotsford, BC and director of worship at the Army's Cascade Community Church.

As one of the original students and first certificate graduates, Lowell says his short time at the college was key to the direction of his life. "I found a sense of authenticity in mission," he says. "My foundational values started to be shaped there."

*Continued on page 6...*



CBBC circa 1983

*Continued from page 5...*

What impressed Lowell was the passion and commitment of the professors. “They believed in what they were doing academically, but they also believed in the mission of The Salvation Army.” And that fervour reached outside the classroom. “They were concerned about how I was coping and growing as an individual and their willingness to reach out and be real in the way they lived their lives made a lasting impact. I learned what it took to do ministry from them.”

While what Lowell learned academically at Booth those years ago was important, of more enduring significance, he hastens to add, was the fact that he met Deborah Lansing at the school. Three years later they married and Deb Lowell now works for the Army’s divisional headquarters in Vancouver. “While I discovered much about authenticity at Booth, the exemplar of that, for me, was Deb. And if I’m eternally grateful for anything from Booth, it would be that it was where I met her.”



### MAJOR DARLENE MORGAN

In her current appointment as Director of Personnel at the College for Officer Training Morgan is in a position to work with cadets who themselves are doing studies at Booth and who will continue after commissioning as they work toward a post-CFOT degree.

In 2000 Booth UC and CFOT formed a partnership to strengthen officer preparation and continuing education. Today that collaboration continues to deliver an undergraduate program to officer cadets.

## DISTANCE LEARNING GOES A LONG WAY

Booth becomes a family tradition for the Morgan family

Major Darlene Morgan started her undergrad degree studies as a distance student way back when completed assignments were sent through the mail and a new invention called email was just starting to shake things up. She finished it when assignments could be posted online rather than in a mailbox and instead of a text book she could access required reading through library databases. The years between 1997 and 2014 saw huge technological change and huge changes for Morgan and her family.

During that time she and her husband Andrew had three international appointments as Salvation Army officers, suffered through a death in their family, gave birth and tackled the challenges of raising children while also moving frequently. “Learning is always good,” Morgan says with a smile. “But sometimes it can take awhile.”

She was pursuing the post-College for Officer Training program offered to all newly ordained Army ministers, a mix of distance education and periodic residential sessions delivered by Booth UC. It just took Darlene a bit longer than most to get to graduation day. In 2014 she received a BA in Biblical and Theological Studies. In thinking back to the program completion Morgan mostly feels relief. “It was just good to be done,” she says, “and not worried about how many courses I had left to do.”

During her last years of study, Darlene wasn’t the only Morgan attending the school. Her eldest son, Nathan, was enrolled as a full time residential student working his own way through a degree program.

Darlene Morgan recently started a Master’s degree in Global Studies with a major in Missiology at Providence Seminary. “At Booth I always found what I learned to be beneficial in helping me better understand my world and my ministry. I see a continuance of that in what I’m doing now.”

## *Beyond* SOUP, SOAP & SALVATION

Social Work program adds 30 years of experience to Salvation Army's 150 years

Social work is a large program at Booth University College. The students are a diverse group; some straight out of grade 12 and others pursuing studies mid-career. There are three ways to earn a social work degree. Direct entry following graduation from high school leads to a four year program of study. Students can transfer in from another institution. And a two year option is also available for those who already have a university degree. "With our program available across the lifespan we see some fascinating classes," says Bonnie Bryant, program director. "It makes for very interesting discussions and learning opportunities."

The social work program recently celebrated its 30th year, evidence of long experience shaping passion into effective professionalism. A new social work student is someone intent on making a difference. "A common thread is a vision for a better world," says Jennifer Hedges, assistant professor. "They recognize some of the injustices that exist and want to be a part of making a better change. They believe in people's potential and want to work alongside others."

"Outrage is a good thing," says Dr. Alex Sawatsky, an associate social work professor. "There's a lot in the world to be outraged about and we teach students how to take what they are learning and apply it to whatever they feel strongly about. It's about harnessing the passion."

When that passion to make a difference comes face-to-face with the reality of classroom studies, mandatory courses and the apparent distance of theory from the realities of a hurting world, it draws on the resources of the professors to help the students take a long view.

"To be a part of making change you have to first dig deep into the issues, build a foundation, learn problem solving and be creative," adds Hedges. "We instil and nurture a sense of hope."

"When we ask people why they want to be social workers," says Bryant with a chuckle, "they say they 'want to help people'. And we tell them that one of the best ways to start is to be a good listener. They all think they are good listeners but by the end of the course most realize they have a lot to learn."

Those early wobbles quickly pass and by the second year students are in practicum placements, working hands-on in social work settings throughout the city. Because of some innovative teaching methods and the cutting-edge social work lab, Booth UC students often secure more advanced placements for their 800 hours of practicum than students from other schools. That higher level of engagement makes for a more rewarding experience. After graduation, 96% of Booth UC social work degree holders have employment in their field within months.

Considering the long history of social work and activism practiced by The Salvation Army, it's appropriate that a school named after the founder equips people to continue that legacy. That alignment of faith, denominational identity and cutting edge practice is why Bryant still thrills to her work after 17 years. "It's natural for Booth UC to have a social work program and it's within the lineage of the Army," she says. "If you go back to William Booth's vision of a liberal arts institution, our social work program is a great fit and one that speaks to me personally as a Salvationist."

## PRACTICAL PRACTICUM PLACEMENTS

Booth social work students are all over the map in Winnipeg

Social work students must complete 800 hours of practicum placement. Through long-standing connections in the community, Booth UC students have the opportunity to learn on the job while making a solid difference in the lives of many.

Here are some of the varied placements our students have experienced.

### HOLY FAMILY HOME

At this home for the aged, social workers manage waiting lists, coordinate admissions and support new residents, helping them to adjust to their new environment. They also complete cognitive and psychosocial assessments and coordinate respite care. Students have the opportunity to become trained in a specialized program for working with elderly.

### JEWISH CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

The agency provides many services to the Jewish community, including child welfare, mental health, newcomer and elder care. Placement involves various aspects of these roles.

### SALVATION ARMY CORRECTIONAL & JUSTICE SERVICES

Students work in the Positive Lifestyle Program, in both group and individual settings. Students have also been involved in the prostitution diversion camp, a retreat for women involved in the sex trade, offering a supportive setting to get off the street for a night or two and space to identify other options for themselves.

### CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

Students involved in CFS placements develop solid case management skills through working with families. Students gain skills in relationship building with challenging clients and situations, and gain exposure to a broad range of issues that affect clients, including poverty, mental health, addictions and corrections. They also develop a good understanding of community services and appropriate referral and strong assessment, planning and intervention skills.

### BOOTH CENTRE

This Salvation Army shelter offers a safe place for the night to Winnipeg's homeless. Social work students engage with these individuals and work with them to address some of the barriers that prevent them from accessing stable housing.

### SELKIRK MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE

A 252-bed facility offering specialized mental health, brain injury treatment and rehabilitation services to those whose challenging needs cannot be met elsewhere in the health care system. Students work in a variety of areas.

### BONNIE BRYANT (below left), Director of the Social Work program

"You can't begin to imagine the change from the day they enter [Booth] to the day they graduate and exit as professionals. They become our peers and it's so exciting to say that and to watch their growth."





I believe social workers should be upset and on fire with whatever it is they want to change. If I can help light that fire here in the classroom, I've done my part.

**DR. ALEX SAWATSKY**  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SOCIAL WORK

SOCIAL WORK

# SHAKING THINGS UP

## SOCIAL WORK STUDENT IS AGENT OF CHANGE

**M**arkus Beveridge leaves behind work that may shake things up in Winnipeg. The 22-year-old Booth UC social work student spent the summer in a placement with the Social Planning Council. In just four months he put together a plan to end youth homelessness and worked-up a policy paper on how to launch a low-income transit pass, which will be presented to city council in the fall.

Now Beveridge is back in hometown Saskatoon where he has started his final practicum, this time with Child and Family Services. It is the last step in getting his social work degree. Over his three years of study he learned that nothing comes without hard work. "With the small classes the professors get to know you and know what you do well. But that means they really pushed me in those areas where I struggle more."

When his heart broke working with kids in need at a summer camp years ago, Beveridge decided he wanted a career helping young people recover from tough circumstances. He says it's Booth UC that has equipped him for what lies ahead. "I'm very well prepared to begin my journey as a social worker."



# RESEARCHER SUBVERTS STATUS QUO

Dr. James Cresswell sees education as a liberating force for good in the world



*And then there  
are those  
shocking  
moments  
when they see  
things differently...  
[that's] why I  
love teaching.*

Connecting what happens in the classroom with what is happening in the real world is Dr. James Cresswell's passion. He's the program head of Psychology and Behavioural Sciences at Booth UC and sees the connections he's forging as branching out in all sorts of directions.

An obvious priority are his students. He delights in spending lots of one-on-one time with those he teaches, helping them see the world in new ways. "I like to really get to know my students and help them develop a passion for learning," he says. "And then there are those shocking moments when they see things differently and come alive in exciting way. That always reminds me of why I love teaching."

A part of what sparks students is the fact that their studies with Cresswell allow them to be connected to some of the other bridges he's built. He is deputy editor-in-chief of an online journal called *Dialogic Pedagogy*, and a fellow of the Centre for Community Based Research in Ontario. This allows his students to become involved in compelling and cutting-edge research. One of the key areas he's looking at is the highly topical subject of how faith-based

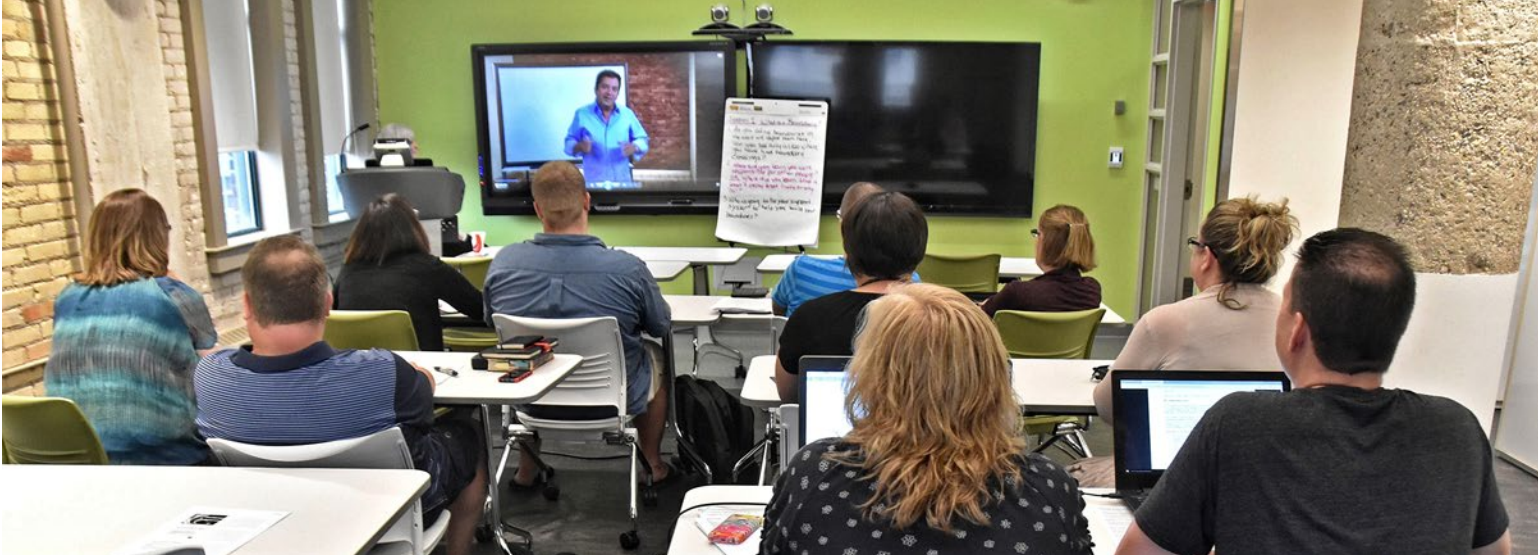
organizations are picking up the slack from government in immigration. With migration being in the headlines around the world, a better understanding of how newcomers are being welcomed and settled is vital for both church and state. This research, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, engages students in conducting interviews, focus groups and in developing training materials for The Salvation Army.

Cresswell says the results of this type of primary research can impact the wider Salvation Army, which is extensively involved in welcoming and settling refugees. The results of these studies may inform the policy decisions coming out of Army headquarters.

Another area Cresswell is looking into is the psychology of religion. This is a personal project looking at how psychology tends to study religion in ways that have little to do with how people live out their beliefs. Convinced that a better understanding between mental health care providers and people of faith will result in better outcomes, Cresswell sees this work once again connecting different areas of society in ways that can have a long term impact.

The fit 40-year-old is an unlikely professor. He rides his trail bike to work and during the summer goes mountain climbing. The orientation to an active lifestyle comes from growing up in the rugged ski hills and forests of south western BC. Cresswell never imagined a life of research and teaching. But squeaking into an undergrad program at the University of Saskatchewan "changed everything", he says. It awakened him to possibilities to make a solid difference in the world, something he tries to stimulate in his current students.

Inspired by the life-changing possibilities of the Bible, Cresswell says he is driven by social justice. "It's what the gospel is all about," he asserts. "Doing good and subverting what oppresses people. That's also the job of a university; using education to liberate by challenging the status quo."



## CIRCLING THE GLOBE IN A WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS

Partnerships are key in the complex and fast-changing area of leadership

When the School for Continuing Studies officially opened in April 2014, it was more of a gathering together of disparate functions within Booth UC rather than the creation of something completely new. After all, since its founding more than three decades ago, Booth UC has always had an intentional impact far outside its classrooms and the Winnipeg city limits. But this new school for what used to be called distance education focuses efforts to spread Booth UC's knowledge, expertise and learning around the world, something increasingly possible with advances in technology.

Petersen Hall houses both the School for Continuing Studies and Booth's business program. It is a unique space that blends high tech with exposed brick walls, concrete pillars and the tall windows of a heritage building, all in downtown Winnipeg. The centre is named after Bob and Helen Petersen, parents of a long time Booth UC board member from Sherwood Park, Alberta. A generous donation of \$1 million by Allen and Janet Petersen was instrumental in birthing the new learning facility.

There are three classrooms, each fully equipped with sophisticated online learning tools. Over time, that technology, coupled with Booth UC's existing online management systems and capability, will allow real-time delivery of courses, workshops and seminars around the world. But while eyes can easily be drawn to the gleaming technology, a lot is happening elsewhere at the school too.

Lt-Colonel (Dr.) Susan van Duinen, Dean of the School of Continuing Studies, says many of the immediate plans for the school involve partnerships. She is currently working with Simon Fraser University to develop a certificate program in executive leadership.

The school is working with Tyndale University College and Seminary in Toronto to write and design six specialty Salvation Army courses for the Master of Theological Studies program. Elsewhere, the budding partnerships with The Salvation Army in the USA and Latin American North territory (see stories elsewhere) are helping to fulfil the school's mission: to be a transforming influence through education.

"Leadership today is very complex and changing fast," says van Duinen. "The Salvation Army, through Booth UC, is helping to meet the needs and demands of officers and lay people to be able to be more mission forward, develop skills and increase knowledge."

While deepening existing partnerships and moving increasingly online with new technology are priorities, van Duinen says they could be doing even more. The near-term challenges are about better marketing and finding increased resources. She sees a renewed emphasis this year on promoting the school's courses and offerings. "We can help meet the needs of leadership in a demanding world and it's a priority to get the word out." And while having the best new tools helps get any task done, it takes staff time and expertise to create new course offerings. That's where additional resources are needed, says van Duinen. Developing and designing programs costs money and while a portion of existing distance education course revenue returns to the school, new funding sources are also needed.

In a world without borders this school's goal is to embrace the globe. Says van Duinen, who served in Canada and internationally as an officer. "We see ourselves as really being able to move forward the mission of The Salvation Army, around the world."



**BOOTH**  
UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE

# HIGHER EDUCATION FOR A HIGHER PURPOSE.

EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD

[boothuc.ca](http://boothuc.ca)



# AMERICAN SALVATION ARMY PROFITS FROM NON-PROFIT COURSE

Partnership program trains Kroc Center leaders in Central USA



**COMMISSIONER CAROL SEILER**  
 USA Central Territorial Leader  
 & Chair of National Kroc Center Taskforce

The package being developed with Booth UC can work really well in terms of flexibility, mobility and credibility.

**K**roc Centers are unlike any other kind of ministry in The Salvation Army in the United States. They exist to provide people with individual opportunities to develop body, mind and spirit in a caring, state of the art Christian environment. There are 26 Krocs across the country and each one has hundreds of staff and volunteers, thousands of paying members and dozens of programs. They also have to juggle the call to do ministry with the need to make money so that they remain sustainable. They're not typical corps or social service settings. Managing a Kroc is complex and for most, a completely new experience. They are appointments that demand new skills from those who work there.

Some time ago, in the USA Central territory, it became apparent that Kroc-specific training was needed for people moving into leadership at their six centres. The issue was how to better

equip existing officers and others identified as potential Kroc appointees with the skills required to run these ministry centres. Lt-Colonel James Nauta, a USA Central Kroc project specialist, says early in the search for a solution they discovered Booth University College and its program in non-profit management. "The excellence of Booth is unsurpassed and the excellence of their certificate program served us well," he says.

Talks got underway between the USA Central Territory and Booth UC. "This program will equip our leaders with a baseline understanding of what they will see when they come to work at a Kroc," says William Rossi, the Central Territory's Kroc operations director based in Chicago. "This is an important partnership."

This collaboration sees the framework and learning objectives of the current Certificate of Non-Profit Management reworked to make sense in an American setting, with a focus on teaching students the skills they need to manage a Kroc Center. Courses offered during the one-year certificate will be a mix of online and in-person. Booth UC provides the infrastructure and accreditation; the USA Central territory provides the course content, instructors and students. The goal is for this to eventually be offered to officers throughout all four US territories.

"This is a chance for us to piggy back our Kroc-specific requirements onto what Booth UC is already doing," says Commissioner Carol Seiler, the strategic mission planning coordinator for US Central and the national chair of the Kroc Taskforce. "And it really helps that with Booth located in Canada it's territorially neutral for us here in the US."



"The excellence of Booth is unsurpassed and the excellence of their certificate program served us well."

**LT-COLONEL JAMES NAUTA**

The first Kroc management course starts in January 2017

# BUILDING BRIDGES AND EQUIPPING SAINTS

Continuing education is the key to effective mission in Latin America



## Cuba

Cuba is the gateway to The Salvation Army’s Latin America North territory, comprised of 10 countries throughout Central America. The territorial leadership team is keen to enhance ministry across this diverse and culturally unique part of The Salvation Army world. Recently, the territory partnered with Booth UC’s School for Continuing Studies, to better equip officers and cadets in Cuba and Costa Rica. This educational initiative is part of an emphasis by the Territorial Commander, Colonel Tito Paredes, to prioritize lifelong learning among his personnel in an effort to help them become more effective for mission.

Leadership development is the key to personnel growth across the region and in May and June Major Phil Davisson, then Booth UC’s Associate Dean for the School for Continuing Studies, travelled to Havana and San Jose, to teach a Wesleyan distinctives course. Each week-long session, taught in Spanish, took place at the College for Officer Training in both cities. In attendance were 45 officers and cadets. It’s the goal and prayer of territorial leadership that Booth UC’s School for Continuing Studies will engage in a broader and more comprehensive educational leadership development program across the territory in the years ahead. “Booth University College is an important partner”, says Colonel Paredes. “We value and appreciate

the investment of time and personnel and are hopeful that together we can build a stronger Army in the Latin America North territory through continued educational development.”

Sincere thanks to Booth University College’s School for Continuing Studies, and to Major Davisson for his instruction and willingness to share wisdom with our cadets. [Todos aquellos que tuvieron la oportunidad de escuchar sus lecciones estan deseosos de aprender mas.](#)

The Army’s ministry across the region is vast, varied and complex, yet the opportunity for expansion is significant thus the need to continue to invest in personnel through education. Lt-Colonel (Dr.) Susan van Duinen, the Dean of the School for Continuing Studies, understands the educational challenges and demands. “Leadership development is vital to personnel and mission growth,” she says. “We are grateful to the Latin America North territory for their partnership and look forward to formally exploring additional educational programming designed to suit their needs.”

The Latin America North territory and Booth UC’s School for Continuing Studies are in a relationship that affords each partner rich learning and insight. Time will tell how this opportunity develops, however it certainly connects with Booth’s promise of “education for a better world.” Regardless, one thing is for sure: The Salvation Army’s long history of using education to build bridges, stronger communities and people will continue, as it has for more than 100 years.



Costa Rica

**COLONEL TITO PAREDES**

**Territorial Commander  
Latin America North**

Sinceros agradecimientos a la escuela de educacion continuada de Booth University College, y al Mayor Davisson por sus ensenanza y deseo de compartir su sabiduria con nuestros cadetes.

All those who had the opportunity to listen to his lessons are eager to learn more.



THE *year* **AHEAD**

- OCT 20-23, 2016 Booth Bound Weekend for Salvationist students
- FEB 13-17, 2017 Booth UC Founding Week
- FEB 20-24, 2017 Reading Week
- APR 28-30, 2017 35th Anniversary Celebrations
- APR 30, 2017 Spring Convocation





**BOOTH**  
UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE

**SOCIAL JUSTICE  
ISN'T A CLASS.**

**IT'S A CALLING.**

**EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD**

[boothuc.ca](http://boothuc.ca)

