



BOOTH UC

CONNECT



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EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD

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Booth UC Connect Magazine is published two times yearly. We want to share the good news of what has been happening at Booth University College.

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 this institution 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.

William and Catherine Booth University College, rooted in The Salvation Army's Wesleyan theological tradition, brings together Christian faith, rigorous scholarship and a passion for service. The University College educates students to understand the complexities of our world, to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to be active contributors to society, and to know how Christian faith compels them to bring hope, social justice and mercy into our world.

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BOOTH
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE

EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD



President's Message

As I write this message, the sun is out, I can hear the birds singing and the wind in the trees. The beat of summer is here. It has been a long time coming. It leads me outdoors into nature and into my garden. It encourages me to enjoy the moment and delight in the unexpected. It reminds me to take in every breath, sound, taste and smell. And I hope the abundance of summer will do the same for you.

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

James 1:17

Perhaps you are sitting outside as you read this magazine. I hope you will enjoy and be inspired by the stories within. You will meet Jael Jeremano, a social work student who was recently awarded the Manitoba Council for International Education's Post-Secondary International Student Award. You will revisit our Spring Convocation. For the second (and hopefully final) year, it was held virtually. While we remain ever thankful that technology has allowed us to celebrate with our students, we look forward to joining together in person in 2023. This issue of *Connect* also pays tribute to Lt-Colonel Dr. Lloyd B. Hetherington and Gordon Fairbank, and introduces you to Major James Mercer, a graduate of the School for Continuing Studies.

Stories of inspiration, learning and hope. That is what we hope to impart with every edition of *Connect*. So many of our students, both present and alumni, are embarking on new adventures. And I pray you will also be open to the exciting things, both small and big, that summer can bring. As you feel the sun on your face, I pray you will feel rested, restored and rejuvenated.

Susan

Lieut. Colonel (Dr.) Susan van Duinen

President: Booth University College

Indigenous innovation

stories and reconciliation in Manitoba.



These are just some of the new topics featured on our YouTube Channel.

Check them out today!





A Pause to Reflect

For valedictorian Michaela Cardamone (BSW/22), Booth UC sharpened the tools she needed to succeed.

Michaela Cardamone knew Booth UC was the place for her on her very first day of orientation.

“People started talking to me!” Michaela marvels. “I made friends that very first day! It was an experience I wasn’t used to up to then in my university journey. I knew going to Booth UC was the best decision I could make.”

Getting to Know You

Michaela was a transfer student who joined Booth UC in 2019 after doing nursing prerequisites at the University of Manitoba.

“I wanted to go into nursing. I wanted to be in a field where I could help people,” she says.

But it was only in her first year there that she realized she didn’t like needles “or any of that other stuff,” she smiles.

Bereft of her chosen profession, Michaela felt “lost” for a time. “I didn’t really know what I wanted to do.”

“I kind of stumbled upon Booth UC,” she recalls. A neighbour had graduated from Booth UC with a social work degree, and this inspired her to apply.

Michaela was impressed by the application process.

“Booth UC really vetted the applicants, especially for the social work program,” she says. “They really get to know you, and it’s not just about GPA. It’s really about the services you’re involved in and your moral character. And then to my surprise, I got in!”

Full Circle

Michaela enjoyed her time at Booth UC.

“I got a taste of everything,” she says, “both in-person and virtual learning.”

While she wishes she had had more of an experience on campus, Booth UC went to great lengths to keep everyone connected, and the virtual classes were still a success.

“It was nice to have the smaller classes, but virtual was good, too,” she says. “I feel like I really got to know a lot of my peers that I was graduating with.”

“I was able to reflect on being myself.”

— Michaela Cardamone

The professors were great as well, Michaela continues, especially as students could sit down and get to know their professor pre-COVID.

“Professors would e-mail back right away,” she reports. “Many professors even provided their cell phone numbers in case we needed to text them for anything, and they would respond right away.”

As a fitting way to end Michaela’s time at Booth UC, the neighbour who recommended the institution to her ended up being her last field supervisor at Grace General Hospital.

“She herself actually did her student placement there, too, when she was at Booth UC. For me, it was a nice way to close the circle.”

Being Herself

Michaela graduated with a Bachelor of Social Work and has already secured a full-time position at a personal care home.

She’s grateful for her time at Booth UC, as it gave her an opportunity to build and strengthen her skills as a social worker. But the school did something more.

“I was able to reflect on being myself,” she says. “In the social work program, our professors always told us that we were our greatest tool in our toolbox of social work. But I also feel that I’m my greatest tool in the journey of my own life. And Booth UC helped me realize that.” 🇨🇦



Doing What is Good



“Let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up.”

- Galatians 6:9

As we come to the end of our second year of post-secondary education in a pandemic, Booth UC students continue to demonstrate resilience, adaptability and commitment to their learning. They are pursuing “what is good” with determination, making the most of their time, undeterred by the wearying circumstances of the pandemic. Just ask the tutors in our Academic Learning Centre, who have experienced their busiest year on record!

Booth UC students have shown dedication not only to their own education this term but also to the encouragement and positive influence in our Booth UC campus community. Together with staff and faculty, our students planned several awareness weeks this term to help our Booth UC community focus on important topics of common concern. The first of these virtual events was a celebration of Booth UC’s 40th Anniversary during our annual Heritage Days. With the theme, “Flowing Forward: 40 Years of Booth UC’s Transformative Impact in our Community,” we listened to stories from students, alumni, faculty and staff—both past and present—about the difference Booth UC is making within The Salvation Army and in the wider community.



In March, another team of volunteers facilitated a week of reflection and learning about Indigenous history, language and culture through our Indigenous Perspectives Week. Through various virtual platforms, our Booth UC community discussed Indigenous films and books, learned Indigenous words and recipes, and tried Indigenous beading. We gained insight into the Indigenous experience with the Canadian justice systems through keynote speaker and Booth UC Assistant Professor Jen Meixner. As students and staff interacted, we continued to grow an understanding of how to journey in a good way toward healing and reconciliation.



In the final days of the winter term, Booth UC held its first ever Disability Dialogue Week. People with disabilities make up the largest minority group in the world, according to keynote speaker Dr. Nancy Hansen. We should expect them to be among us, make them feel welcome, and ensure our schools and organizations enable them to be full participants and equal contributors. Our Booth UC community responded enthusiastically as we learned how to be more inclusive and accepting of people with disabilities.

Many other events and activities throughout the term have enabled our students to build bonds of friendship and mutual support, whether by meeting virtually or in person, whether in campus residence or out in the community, whether in Winnipeg, elsewhere in Canada or around the world. One such event planned by our Student Council at the end of term enabled some of our graduating students to meet in the park and celebrate their accomplishments, some of whom were meeting in person for the very first time!

Despite the separation and isolation of the past few years, Booth UC students continue to be positive influencers for good, and that is truly a blessing! 🇨🇦



PAST

PRESENT

FUTURE

40 Years



A Retrospective from Staff and Faculty.

PAST



"When I first started with the college, it didn't even have a name. I bought into a vision of something that was really important. By 1987, there was a need to move from the original small campus on Assiniboine Avenue, and that was a good thing. We had started with a couple of dozen students and it had grown from that, as we had hoped, and so we needed to relocate."

- Dr. James Read, Associate Professor

"It was very small on Assiniboine Avenue. The residence was in a separate building. The library was in the basement, and the chapel was an all-purpose room that was also a classroom. When we moved to 447 Webb Place, we had large classrooms, a large chapel and a gymnasium. And now, with 290 Vaughan Street, we have a beautiful library and, most recently, Petersen Hall."

- Denise Young, Vice President, Administration



"When I first started at Booth UC, the atmosphere was a little bit more like a Bible College. So, if you go back to the summer of 2001, that was the ethos Booth UC was transitioning from. And they were just starting to move out of that into more of a University College model."

- Megan Morash, Director of Library Services



PRESENT

"A big sign of Booth UC coming of age is the fact that four faculty here now are former students. And the fact that they've chosen to come here is a testament to what they received and the contribution they are now making."

- Dr. Isaiah Allen, Assistant Professor, Religion



"My favourite part about working at Booth UC is working with the brilliant staff and faculty that are here. We have the slogan 'Education for a Better World,' and that's pretty bold and powerful. But I also like the slogan 'We Are Better Together.' When we link arms as a staff and faculty, we look at the world and what Booth UC can do to make a difference."

- Lt-Colonel (Dr.) Susan van Duinen, President





"The biggest change I've seen at Booth UC is in technology. When I first started, there was one computer. And at the end of each month, I would gather all the ledgers and take them into the library and sit for three days typing all of the financial activity for the month into the computer. And now, for the last two years, we have been running Booth UC remotely from our living rooms and kitchens and home offices."

- Denise Young



"I think because we've identified those three pillars, we do a really good job of addressing them within our degree programs. And, more than once, they are touched on within any one of the disciplines that a student might take here. That is something that I don't think students are going to get at a larger more secular institution."

- Meagan Morash

"For me, because of the pandemic, I had to learn how to teach clinical skills on Zoom, have students present on Zoom and give them feedback. It was challenging, but it was a great learning experience. I like the fact that the faculty were very supportive of each other. It made it not as tough as some of us thought it was going to be."

- Dr. Cynthia Sottie,
Associate Professor, Social Work



"When we began in 1982, we had little idea of what it would become. And it still has a big vision, bigger than the institution is right now. But 40 years, that is something to celebrate. So congratulations, Booth University College. I'm really proud to still be a part of it, and its legacy and its future."

- Dr. James Read

"Over the next five years, I'm looking forward to increasing student enrolment and also looking forward to starting a Master's in Social Work program."

- Dr. Cynthia Sottie

"I think in the next five years, Booth UC has a very bright future. We have proven over the past two years that we can be nimble and move quickly. And, as what people want from an educational institution changes, I believe we can change quickly to respond to that. I see Booth UC continuing to serve locally in Winnipeg through our on-campus programs where students come not just from Winnipeg but from all over the world and also internationally."

- Denise Young

"Besides the rolling out of new programs and initiatives such as our Corporate Learning Academy and International Program expansion, we remain mindful of the fact that we are based on Christian faith and principles such as love, mercy, service and social justice. So, as we bring all of those pieces together, I believe it's going to be an exciting future for Booth UC."

- Lt-Colonel Susan van Duinen



Twin Pillars

Booth University College staff, students and faculty owe a debt to two impressive and influential men.

#ElderWisdom

Lt-Colonel Dr. Lloyd B. Hetherington

Lt-Colonel Lloyd served with his wife, the late Lt-Colonel Margaret Hetherington, as a Salvation Army officer in Zambia and Canada for more than 50 years. He was also President of Booth University College (then William and Catherine Booth College) from 1993 to 1999. At the end of their Bible College term, they moved to the Toronto Training College where he served as the Director of Personnel and Assistant Principal until their retirement in July of 2000.

Lloyd was passionate about education. He believed that no matter your age, there is always something to offer and to learn; he inspired others, including many Booth UC alumni, to find wisdom in their pursuit of education.

“Lt-Colonel Hetherington left his mark on my life as he shared from his heart the most important things in life which he himself discovered while on the mission field,” says Lt-Colonel Dr. Susan van Duinen, Booth UC President and Vice-Chancellor. “They remain a part of me. One man—such influence!”



Gordon Fairbank

Gordon and his late wife Jean's commitment to education impacted the Booth UC community in a myriad of ways. This conviction found many footholds over the years, particularly in the John Fairbank Memorial Library.

As The Salvation Army's only degree-granting institution,

Booth UC's extensive library collection reflects the academic rigour and requirements of its faculty and students. In 2003, there was a great need for new software to aid with the cataloguing of the collection. Meagan Morash, Director of Library Services at Booth UC, remembers when the library search system was on its last legs. “We never knew if we'd walk in the next morning to the dreaded system error that meant we had to restore from our last back-up. All the new books added and circulation data since then would be lost”.

Gordon and Jean Fairbank had already been long-time supporters of Booth UC's library, helping to grow it from a small closet space in 1982 to its current location at 290 Vaughan Street in Winnipeg. They met this challenge in 2003 with funding for a new software system, in honour of their late son, John Fairbank.

John Christopher Fairbank was born profoundly deaf in 1967 and passed away unexpectedly in 1997 at the age of 29 from complications due to diabetes. Support for the library was a fitting way to honour his memory and show the Fairbank's commitment to education.

“Gordon and Jean Fairbank were foundational to the library. They rescued the staff from certain digital disaster, made the space more comfortable for students, and brought countless necessary resources within reach of Booth UC, CFOT and community patrons who walked through the doors and then back out to the community. That impact is immeasurable,” Meagan states.

This feeling is echoed by all who walk through the doors of the John Fairbank Memorial Library. 



THEORY TO PRACTICE

For Major Jim Mercer (CNFP TSA/20), the classroom skills he learned at Booth UC's School for Continuing Studies have proven invaluable.

"I've always had a desire to work in the field of addictions," says Major Jim Mercer, the corps officer at The Salvation Army's Barrhaven Church in Ottawa. "In the course of my career, it was something I always felt comfortable doing. Some don't feel at ease in that setting. I do."

In 2015, Major Jim shared his interest with his then-divisional commander, who suggested Booth University College's two-year not-for-profit executive leadership course, part of the School for Continuing Studies. That would prepare him for any kind of an appointment should an opportunity in addictions come up.

"And that's what I did," he says. "I applied and, within no time, I was on my way."

Best of Both Worlds

Major Jim's classes were online though he had to be on campus for three intensive one-week courses over successive summers between 2018 and 2020.

For a Salvation Army pastor who already had a heavy workload, Major Jim took the extra work in stride. "I was a bit anxious about how I would be able to manage everything, but it didn't take long."

Major Jim enjoyed the courses he took.

"If there were articles to be read, we students had to post our reflections and thoughts, and then engage in conversation back and forth," he says. "And the instructors were very prompt at responding to our work."

"I had fantastic teachers," he continues. "Not all the instructors were from The Salvation Army but they understood the Army and they were Christians, from what my fellow students and I sensed, so we had the best of both worlds."

Snapshot

At the end of the program, the students were required to do a final presentation.

"We had 30 minutes to sum up everything we had done in two years," smiles Major Jim. "I incorporated every possible element I could think of in that paper. You couldn't cover everything but that snapshot really showed how much I had learned, and my ability to retain what I had learned."

Major Jim was nervous before his presentation but the feedback from the class and the instructor dissipated his trepidation.

"I felt great!"

Conferring Success

Major Jim's experience with Booth UC's School for Continuing Studies paid instant dividends.

"While I enrolled with a view to work in addictions, the interesting thing is that I was able to apply what I had learned to my present context," he explains.

"I was a bit anxious about how I would be able to manage everything, but it didn't take long."

—Major Jim Mercer

As it happens, Barrhaven is in the midst of a seven-year building project, and the church is at the point of putting shovels in the ground.

One of the courses Major Jim took was on strategic planning and leadership, and "I was able to immediately use what I learned in my current setting. That alone would have made my Booth UC experience worth it, but I know that my School for Continuing Studies degree will be with me for years to come."

Major Jim highly recommends Booth UC's School for Continuing Studies.

"The instructors were very qualified, some with 30 years in the work. They were tough but not insensitive. And they didn't hesitate to mark up your paper with lots of red to help you learn. They were smart enough to know whether you had put in the work or not. They weren't there to fail you. They were there to give you success—and they did!" 🇨🇦

A Threshold Moment

Booth University College's 40th anniversary graduation ceremony introduced a new class to the world.

Booth University graduands gathered together online once again this past April 24th to mark the 2022 Spring Convocation and Conferring of Degrees.

"We gather this day to acknowledge a threshold moment, a thin place between what has been and what is to be," declared Lt-Colonel (Dr.) Susan van Duinen, Booth UC President and Vice-Chancellor. "Graduating class, you have made it! In these last couple of years, your resilience has been tested as you worked to complete your program of studies. Overcoming COVID challenges speaks volumes to your capacity, to go out into the world and to make a difference. Congratulations again to each one of you, and may you all succeed in the years ahead."

After the invocation of the ceremony by Commissioner Floyd Tidd, Booth UC Chancellor and Territorial Commander of The Salvation Army's Canada and Bermuda Territory, Michaela Cardamone (BSW/22) gave the valedictory address.

"These past few years have been difficult for everyone in many different ways," she said. "Many have experienced uncertainty, loss, helplessness, isolation, grief and separation from their loved ones. We are here to celebrate my fellow graduates' strength, perseverance, courage and dedication."

While she knows that she couldn't speak for all of the graduands, Michaela confessed that she enjoyed the online experience.



In God's Timing

Lieutenant Marco Herrera Lopizic (BA/22) is the recipient of this year's General's Medal, awarded to an extended learning graduating degree student who has achieved a high academic standing, a minimum GPA of 3.6, has demonstrated potential leadership in The Salvation Army, and has demonstrated clear intellectual and experiential grasp of the distinctive mission and theology of The Salvation Army, including the Doctrine of Holiness.



What attracted you to Booth UC?

There is a natural connection between The Salvation Army's College for Officer Training (CFOT) and Booth University College. After finishing two years of on-campus training at CFOT, we received the great news that we could complete a Booth UC Bachelor of Arts in Theological studies if we completed 40 more credits. More importantly, I wanted to continue learning about the Bible and God, which was possible at this Christian University College.

How did you find your time at Booth UC?

My time at Booth UC was great despite COVID-19. I had the pleasure to have classes with Dr. Donald Burke, Dr. Roy Jeal and other great members of the faculty. At the Booth UC library, I always found a helping hand to guide me in finding what I needed amidst the thousands of books. The Academic Learning Centre also was very helpful as I navigated my degree in the Canadian context.

How did you balance the demands of work, school and home?

It's hard to find a real balance between work, school, home and life in general, and COVID-19 changed a lot of my normal routines. I completed eight classes on campus while the rest of the classes were online. At one point during lockdown, my daughter was at home, making it very challenging to have time to study or write papers. However, God gave me strength and, in His timing, I completed all the requirements to graduate.

What did you enjoy most about the experience?

I enjoyed the fellowship I had with other students and cadets. It is a great environment to make friends and to participate in worship. I love the fact that I could talk about God with others without any fear.

How does it feel to have your degree in hand?

I'm happy and looking forward to the next challenge in my life. It's great to graduate, and I know that God will open new doors for academic achievements.



April 24, 2022

THE SALVATION ARMY BOOTH UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

SPRING

CONVOCAATION



BOOTH
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE

Congratulations Graduating Class of 2022

CERTIFICATE IN CHAPLAINCY AND SPIRITUAL CARE

- Danielle Nicole Feltham
- Russell Brent Hobden
- Cory Hoogsteen
- Jamie Lynn Johnstone
- Isobel Lippers
- Thomas Philip Peter Marsh
- Tania Lynne Kristin Morton
- Adetunji Olsaunkanmi
- Bruce Keith Peterkin
- Rodolfo Alberto Ramon Sanchez
- Susan Reimer
- Deloris Devan Seiveright
- Katherine Walker

CERTIFICATE IN KROC CENTER LEADERSHIP

- Deann Aiu
- Jason Isaac Bigelow
- George Gustav Burkhardt, Jr.
- Timothy John Erlandson
- Shanell R Johnson
- Chelsea Leigh Johnson
- Predrag N. Jones
- Bonita Kelsey
- Sean Kelsey
- Deanna Lynn Markham
- Roland J. McGowan Jr
- Joan Renee McMahon
- Benjamin A Ovadia
- Johanna Pook
- Charlton O. Rafaela Balentina
- Kip Mathew Sharbono
- Allison Sunshine Struck

CERTIFICATE IN NOT-FOR-PROFIT MANAGEMENT

- Tinuola Abimbola Akhere
- Darlene Flora Burton
- Amanda Dawn Butt
- Charles Edward Neil Church
- Stephanie Corringham
- Joe D'Ambrosio
- Emily Melody Newbury
- Andrea Lenorah Randall
- Mary Elizabeth Tim
- Irene Vitalicio

DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

- Yinka Akinola Samuel

BACHELOR OF ARTS

- Basem Ahmed
- Simone Folly Barreto
- Anne Beinker
- Andrew Paul Benson
- Amy Nicole Brereton
- Rayah Kristine Brothers
- Richard David Cole
- Chad Ronald Cole
- David J. Dale
- Monika Ilse Gillard
- Weldon Hayward
- Marco Bramwell Herrera Lopizic
- Bernard Albert Lippers
- Brenden Loewen
- Jessica Dawn MacKenzie
- Lorri Anne Mitchell
- Rachit Kumar Rabari
- Robert Bramwell Roffel
- Nathaniel James Robert Roffel
- Marianne E. Sawatsky
- Darsh Vimalkumar Shah
- Jhonny Rene Valencia Gonzalez
- Adam Jordan Wallace Woodland
- Yaning Zhang

MAJOR

- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Psychology *
- Biblical & Theological Studies
- Biblical & Theological Studies
- Behavioural Sciences
- English *
- Biblical & Theological Studies *
- Biblical & Theological Studies *
- Biblical & Theological Studies **
- Biblical & Theological Studies
- Biblical & Theological Studies
- Biblical & Theological Studies *
- Biblical & Theological Studies *
- English **
- Religion **
- Biblical & Theological Studies
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Biblical & Theological Studies *
- English *
- Psychology (Honours) **
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Biblical & Theological Studies
- Religion
- Interdisciplinary Studies

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

- Aliyatou Omolala Bisola Alamou *
- Daphne Paulette Bungay *
- Mikayla Maria Conci Financial Crimes *
- Fabian Joseph Lehmann

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

- Erica Lydia Jamile Ammeter *
- Debra-Ann Vanessa Barkman **
- Jodi Alice Brown *
- Melissa Margaret Broza *
- Kerrie Lynn Calvadores
- Michaela Cardamone **
- Sarah Kimberly Chan **
- Breanne Elaine Christofalos
- Mark Philip Coronel **
- Brooke Leigh Davison **
- Anna Karen Enns Epp **
- Adi Orly Farage *
- Kierra Lyn Paige Ferguson **
- Ursula Souza Ferreira **
- Ashlyn Frost
- Lise Yvonne Marie Furet *
- Amy Lyn Graceffo **
- Jessica Alexis Hallett **
- Dayna Marie Handkamer **
- Hayley Anne Husmann
- Brittany Joy Krahn **
- Tate Catherine Kushnir *
- Jackson Ndongo
- Benjamin Joshua Neufeld
- Ashley Dahlia Reid
- Zoe Lauren Roberts *
- Zahra Sakhafnia **
- Melissa Leigh Shapiro **
- Stephanie Sowa-Rajotte
- Ashley Anne Swift *
- Carly Taggart **
- Olaitan Sofiyat Taiwo *
- Shania Lynn Thiessen
- Danielle Van Gompel **
- Abigail Marie Wiechman *
- Mikayla Tace Wiens **
- Ainslee Marie Willis **

* With Distinction

** With Great Distinction

Congratulations to our 2022 medal recipients!



Chancellor's Medal Recipient

Lieutenant Marco Herrera Lopizic (BA/22) is the recipient of this year's General's Medal, awarded to an extended learning graduating degree student who has achieved a high academic standing, a minimum GPA of 3.6, has demonstrated potential leadership in The Salvation Army, and has demonstrated clear intellectual and experiential grasp of the distinctive mission and theology of The Salvation Army, including the Doctrine of Holiness.



General's Medal Recipient

Jessica Dawn MacKenzie (BA/22) was awarded the Chancellor's Medal, given to a graduating Winnipeg campus degree student who has achieved a high academic standing, minimum of a 3.6 GPA, demonstrated significant spiritual development and has contributed in significant ways to the life of the college and the wider community.



BOOTH

UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE

447 WEBB PLACE
WINNIPEG, MB
R3B 2P2



A Transforming Influence

Jessica Dawn MacKenzie (BA/22) was awarded the Chancellor's Medal, given to a graduating Winnipeg campus degree student who has achieved a high academic standing, minimum of a 3.6 GPA, demonstrated significant spiritual

development and has contributed in significant ways to the life of the college and the wider community.

What attracted you to Booth UC?

I was initially drawn to Booth UC because of my Salvation Army roots. I was looking for a Bible College whose theology was similar to mine, where I would be able to develop the skills needed for a life in ministry, which is the life that God has called me.

How did you find your time at Booth UC?

I loved my time at Booth UC! I moved to Winnipeg in 2018 and lived in residence, which is where I met so many people who eventually became a second family to me. I was only in residence for two years because of the pandemic, but the people I met in person are still some of my best friends. I had so many opportunities to push myself beyond my comfort, and I thrived. I also learned so much more than I thought I would, and discovered a passion within me for the Word of God.

How did Booth UC's faith aspect influence your decision to attend?

Booth UC's faith aspect was the deciding factor for me. I wanted my time at university to be spent deepening my faith and growing in my understanding of Scripture and theology. That's why it was so important to me to find a Bible College whose values and beliefs were similar to mine. Booth UC seemed like the only logical option.

What did you enjoy most about the experience?

There were so many things that I loved about my experience at Booth UC, and there are so many memories that I will treasure for the rest of my life. The people I met and the relationships I built are precious to me, but I also loved taking courses that focused on one book of the Bible at a time. Not only did I find them fascinating but I also developed the skills I need to be able to really study and interpret Scripture for myself.

How does it feel to have your degree in hand?

I feel ... satisfied. It's that feeling I always get when I finish a really big project that took a lot of time and effort—I'm a bit sad because the reason I put so much time and effort into it is because I enjoyed it but, at the same time, I'm very happy that it is finally complete, and I am so excited for everything that is coming next!

"A part of me did miss in-person classes," she acknowledged. "I'm sure we can all agree that we missed each other. We missed walking to our classes together, eating lunch together in the Bistro and the joy of each other's presence. Despite the absence of in-person classes, I still believe we have all made beautiful connections with one another. Friendships that got us through our degrees and friendships to cherish."

In conclusion, she quoted a line from the classic movie *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*: "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

"I want you all to be proud of how proud you've come along," Michaela said. "Be proud of the hard work that got you to this moment in time. But most importantly, enjoy this moment. It is a moment that won't happen again. Capture it, remember it and embrace it. As today will soon be a memory to hold onto for years to come. Life has only just begun for us. So make every moment count."


After Lt-Colonel John Murray, Chair of the Booth UC Board of Trustees and Territorial Secretary for Communications, presented a prayer and scripture reading for the day, Dr. Kenton C. Anderson, President of Providence University College and Theological Seminary, provided the keynote address.

"We are here to celebrate my fellow graduates' strength, perseverance, courage and dedication."

- Michaela Cardamone

The convocation and conferring of degrees by Dr. Michael Boyce, Booth UC's Vice President Academic and Dean, followed these remarks, and 106 students graduated with a diploma, a certificate or a degree, from there to move beyond Booth UC to wherever life takes them.

The ceremony completed, Lt-Colonel (Dr.) van Duinen awarded the Chancellor's Medal to Jessica MacKenzie (BA 22) and the General's Medal to Lieutenant Marco Herrera Lopizic (BA/22).

"Heavenly Father, please bless all of our graduates and their families," said Wendy Thiessen, Associate Professor, Business Administration, in her dedicatory prayer. "In spite of the ongoing challenges of the COVID pandemic, by Your grace, You have enabled us to provide excellence in the classroom and continue to provide guidance to Booth University College's leadership. We thank You for the privilege of teaching these students in a world that seems volatile and unhinged, we pray that Booth University College's teachings and values will go with each of these graduates as they are challenged to live out their beliefs and apply justice and mercy in their decisions and areas of responsibility." 



Living it Out

Moving to Canada as a mature student with school-age children to support takes courage, vision and a whole lot of determination. Jael Jeremano has proven to have an abundance of these qualities. Embarking on a four-year Bachelor of Arts degree in September 2019, and recently transitioning to a Bachelor of Social Work, Jael has demonstrated a remarkable commitment to both her studies at Booth UC and her new Winnipeg community.

While the decision to move to Winnipeg was “actually quite easy for me and my family,” navigating the system was a bit of a challenge. “Applying for and receiving visas was quite a difficult process to go through,” Jael explains. “I truly believe that it is because of God that our papers were approved. I know someone who applied at the same time and was not approved. I feel as if I literally put my life in God’s hands.”

This strong faith, as well as an established and close-knit Kenyan community in the city, helped Jael and her family settle quickly and smoothly. “We knew other families here. We had the support. We had friends, so settling was easy.” What was more of a shock was the class sizes at Booth UC. “I came from studying at a large university in Kenya where you are just a number. I could sit in the back of a class of 200 students and just hide,” laughs Jael. “At Booth UC, there is no hiding! All your professors know you and are happy to talk with you. I found it very surprising. It’s a good thing, but it keeps you on your toes.”

“I Belong Here”
- Jael Jeremano

When asked about other first impressions of Booth UC, Jael is quick to mention Sherilyn Burke. “She was the first person I met, and she was so helpful. We talked and I felt, *Wow I’m home!* It’s good. Booth UC is no longer just a name I was googling. It’s a real place and I belong here.”

In addition to the small class sizes and the welcoming atmosphere, Jael speaks fondly of Booth UC’s diversity. She recalls how in one of her classes of about 12 students, “I think everyone was from a different country and that is amazing! I had never experienced that before.” This diversity allows Jael the opportunity to support other international students whose first language is not English, offering mentoring support as she is able. She also supports the broader Winnipeg community by volunteering for Winnipeg Harvest and working as a STEP Services student for the Government of Manitoba.

“My mom always taught us to think of other people, help other people. No matter what space you are in, do whatever you can do and try your best.” This outlook has served Jael well. In 2021, she was awarded the Manitoba Council for International Education’s Post-Secondary International Student Award.

“Despite her quiet, humble demeanor—or maybe because of it!—Jael has become a leader on campus,” explains Rhonda Friesen, Dean of Students. “Her strong commitment to the community and the many contributions she has made in a very short time has made her an exemplar of how international students enrich and strengthen our city and province.”

Jael continues to credit God with any success she has had. “I lean on God and pray about everything, even exams! I believe He cares about everything we go through and we can trust it all in His hands. We can trust an unknown future to a known God.” 🇳🇸



Forward Mission

Booth UC's Corporate Learning Academy will be a one-stop shop for mission partners including volunteers, employees and officers.

Business
Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
Diploma in Business Administration
Red River College Polytechnic
Degree Completion (RRC Polytech 2+2)

Humanities
English Bachelor Degree (BA)
Interdisciplinary Studies Bachelor Degree (BA)
Religion Bachelor Degree (BA)
Diploma of Liberal Arts
Certificate of Christian Studies

Social Sciences
Behavioural Sciences Bachelor Degree (BA)
Community and Urban Transformation Bachelor Degree (BA)
Psychology Bachelor Degree (BA)

Social Work

Global Partners

Continuing Studies
Advanced Leadership
Chaplaincy & Spiritual Care
Community Capacity Building
Leadership Essentials
Not-for-Profit Management
Master of Theological Studies

Pre-professional Pathways



Corporate Learning Academy

While Booth University College is an institute of higher education, there are many pathways to this education. One such pathway is by way of the Corporate Learning Academy.

"As an innovative partner, Booth UC connects well with The Salvation Army's Mission Statement," states Lt-Colonel (Dr.) Susan van Duinen, President and Vice-Chancellor of Booth UC. "We see students engaged in being shaped, mobilized and sharing hope in a tough and rough world through Booth UC's many pathways. We are also engaged in sharing hope wherever there's hardship, in building communities that are just and know the love of Jesus."

Booth UC's faculty leads the way in this engagement and mobilization as it equips students across Canada and Bermuda right in their own communities, the ground where they are planting the theoretical seeds that will transform their communities through innovative partnerships.

Culture and Experience

Further evidence of this innovation and connection to the Army's Mission Statement is the Corporate Learning Academy (CLA).

"I believe every mission partner is an innovator for the Kingdom of God," states Lt-Colonel (Dr.) van Duinen. "And through the CLA, participants will experience learning, gain knowledge and develop skills."

The CLA is committed to lifelong learning for mission advancement, training and development programs that can accelerate The Salvation Army's innovation journey and help it develop the processes and culture required for innovation to thrive.

"As participants take part in the CLA, we can see that a culture of innovation will emerge through the experiences of mission partners," says Lt-Colonel (Dr.) van Duinen.

From Courses to Webinars

SOME OF THE CLA OFFERINGS WILL INCLUDE:

- faith-based management
- leading a virtual team
- transitioning to supervising or managing others
- communication with diplomacy, tact and credibility
- spiritual wholeness for clergy officers
- a healthy church



“When employees are meeting with their supervisor for their annual PEAC review, for instance, they might want to take a course that would help them in their work,” explains Lt-Colonel (Dr.) van Duinen. “Or maybe someone working in a thrift store or community and family services sees a posting for a manager. That person might take one or more of the courses offered by the CLA to apply for that posting.”

Booth UC is developing partnerships with other companies and organizations who specialize in corporate learning centres, so that the CLA can offer excellent and professional courseware.

*“I hope the news of the CLA will get right down to the grassroots.”
—Lt Colonel (Dr.) Susan van Duinen*

The courses will be on-demand and self-paced, and will last anywhere from three to six hours, with quizzes and interactive elements, and will be taken at a time when it’s convenient for the participant.

“A person could put in 15 to 20 minutes in an evening, or they might be given some time at work by their supervisor,” says

Lt-Colonel (Dr.) van Duinen. “It’ll entirely depend on the person taking the course.”

The CLA will not be limited to online courses, however. After the official launch, workshops, seminars and webinars will be offered where anyone can sign up.”

Exciting Initiative

The CLA is looking at a soft launch in June, where faculty and staff will have the opportunity to experience the CLA. The official launch will be in September 2022.

“I hope that the news of the CLA will get right down to the grassroots so that people will come to know about it,” says Lt-Colonel (Dr.) van Duinen. “They’ll be able to access it and develop their skills, and perhaps discover new skills they weren’t even aware of.”

Lt-Colonel (Dr.) van Duinen also hopes that the CLA will work with other Salvation Army departments that are working on their own initiatives, such as Leadership Development, Human Resources and even Booth UC itself.

“When I think of that, it really excites me,” she smiles, “because I want to see our employees, volunteers and officers flourish, and that can only help The Salvation Army move its mission forward.” 🇨🇦

PROFILES

Meagan Morash, Director of Library Services

Q: Tell us a little bit about your background

My whole family are information magpies; we love to collect and store all kinds of information on any topic we come across. Family trivia games are fierce! In Grade 9, I carefully considered all the things I loved and my strengths and decided, “Hmm, I think Librarian is the way to go.” I got my first job in the Saskatoon Public Library’s children’s department at age 16 and have never looked back. I completed a Bachelor of Education with a minor in Teacher Librarianship. I worked in the public school system in Saskatchewan for five years and then continued on to my Master’s at McGill University in Montreal, where I got to indulge myself in my love of old books and history in the Rare Book Room. From McGill, I came to Booth UC and the rest is history, as they say.



Q: How do the students at Booth UC inspire you?

Every year, I watch the students persevere in so many ways. They face challenges inside and outside of their classes, schoolwork, home life, work life. They are so resilient and creative. I get to watch their understanding of concepts, issues, and dynamics get deeper and more complex each year.

Q: What topic is particularly exciting for you to teach at Booth UC and why?

Talking with students one-on-one about their research. Sometimes it’s watching a first- or second-year students make connections during conversation about their topic; I see their faces change as ideas come together and their understanding goes further and wider. Alternately, I love talking with upper-level students about their niche topics. I learn along with them.

Q: What gives you inspiration/motivation in your field?

When students come to us with difficult or unique research topics. Remember: information magpie. I love learning, and sometimes a topic is new to me and I get to delve into it with or for a student.

Q: How does your research and/or teaching help “Education for a Better World”?

Information used to be scarce. There was only a handful of places you could go to get good information. Technology has brought more information that we can ever use to our fingertips, but we need to learn how to sift through what’s merely bright and shiny to find what is solid and

true. My role is to show students how to find evidence-based solutions, to look at all sides of an issue, to critically assess what they find in print and online, and to be persuasive and grounded in what they say and do. That will hopefully enable them to become the most positive force they can be in the world.

Q: Outside of your work at Booth UC, what are you interested in?

I live in the woods outside of Winnipeg with my husband, one dog and three cats. You’ll usually find me gardening and chopping trees in summer, hiking and walking any time of the year and, of course, reading, usually mystery and scifi/fantasy. I’m a big believer in volunteering and have volunteered recording books for the blind, manning a booth at Folk Fest and working with strays at a local animal shelter. 🇨🇦

Dr. Evan Curtis, Associate Professor

Q: Tell us a little bit about your background

I completed a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in psychology at the University of Manitoba in 2010, a Masters of Cognitive Science at Carleton University in 2012, and a Doctor of Philosophy in brain and cognitive sciences back at the University of Manitoba in 2017. My background is inter-disciplinary, combining psychology, philosophy and computer science.

Q: How do the students at Booth UC inspire you?

The conversations I have with our students genuinely help me grow as an academic and a person. This past term, I ended up with two new research ideas as a result of my conversations with students in class!

Q: What topic is particularly exciting for you to teach at Booth UC and why?

Oddly enough, my favourite topic to teach is statistics. The chance to demystify mathematics and computer programming for students and help them succeed at something they were not confident they could do is something I deeply appreciate.

Q: How does your research and/or teaching help “Education for a Better World”?

To better understand the mind is to better understand ourselves and others. The concepts I teach and research have applications to problems such as memory disorders, problem gambling, cognitive biases and educational practice, to name a few.

Q: What gives you inspiration/motivation in your field?

I am inspired by the sheer complexity of the brain/mind. With approximately 86 billion neurons in the human brain, each being “on” or “off” (a vast oversimplification), the number of patterns that can occur in the brain well exceeds the number of particles in the known universe!

Q: Outside of your work at Booth UC, what are you interested in?

I have been a bassist for 18 years and am still playing music every opportunity that I get. I am also passionate about food and cooking, especially traditional Southern BBQ. 🇨🇦



Prof's & Their Pets

Behind many hard-working Booth UC professors are loving pets. In the first of a series, we get to know Pancakes, Mariah and Ringo.

Professor Michael W. Boyce
Vice President Academic and Dean
English and Film Studies Program

This is Mariah. She was adopted as a senior (she was 12). She'd been through a lot before she'd been found, but her sweet nature remains intact. We were told that she had a year, maybe a year and half left. That was two and half years ago. She loves naps and a very brief game of fetch once in a while. 🍷

"Mariah had been through a lot before she'd been found, but her sweet nature remains intact." – Professor Michael W. Boyce



Wendi Thiessen
Associate Professor
School Director, Business Administration

Ringo is a cockerpool who joined our family 15½ years ago. Our boys saved up their allowance and paid for most of the puppy. He has been an important member of our tribe and feels most at home sitting on the couch watching us or just hanging with us. He typically knows when a family member is missing and circles through the rooms until he finds them. 🍷

"Ringo has been an important member of our tribe." – Associate Professor Wendi Thiessen



Mandy Elliott
Assistant Professor
English & Film Studies

This is our sweet cat, Pancakes. My husband, Aaron, and I got her in late 2019, after a friend found her abandoned in a snowbank when she was only five months old. Because she was so young when she was separated from her mother, she never learned to meow properly. Instead, she utters the most adorable little squeaks whenever she wants to be heard. She has been so pivotal to our efforts to improve our mental health—it's amazing how hard things seem to become slightly easier when an animal chooses to love you. Pancakes is an integral part of our family and we just can't imagine being without her. Always a glutton for attention, Pancakes enjoys belly rubs, chasing her pink bouncy ball around the house and sitting in the porch window chattering at squirrels. 🍷



"Pancakes utters the most adorable little squeaks whenever she wants to be heard." – Assistant Professor Mandy Elliott

The Man Behind the Design

An 18-year connection
with Booth UC



Scroll through a website, glance at a billboard, skim over a digital ad. These are things we do dozens if not hundreds of times everyday. Probably about 95 percent of the time, we don't consider the person behind the design. For Booth UC, however, that person is Steve Boyd, a talented artist and graphic designer who has been creating Booth UC's "look" for more than 18 years.



Steve is a multiple international award-winning graphic designer who got into the business because, "I wanted to be an artist in some way. And graphic design provides the opportunity to do that."

The story of how Steve got connected with Booth UC is unique. By pure serendipity, it involves The Salvation Army, Major Harold Aitkenhead and Grace Hospital.

"I don't mind talking about it, but I had a nervous breakdown," explains Steve. "I was working in a very high-stress job that was demanding 70-90 hours a week. I had just finished a big project and was going on about five nights without sleep. It reached a point where my wife had to take me to the hospital."

It was at Grace Hospital where Steve met Major Harold. At the time (around 1998), there was always someone from the Army on staff. Steve was recovering in the psychiatric ward and happened to bump into Major Harold. They chatted for a bit, but it soon became much more than a one-time, 10-minute conversation. "He kept coming back every day to follow up with me!" exclaims Steve. "The thing I remember the most is that he was all about encouraging me and helping me get myself back on track to get back into the world and do all the things I'm capable of. He was one of the largest influences toward me getting better and getting out."

Because of those interactions, and the impression Major Harold left, Steve decided that if he ever got the chance to pay it forward in some way, he would.

Fast forward a few years and he received that opportunity through Jill Jeffries at Booth University College. After quitting the job that put him in the hospital, Steve made the decision to go freelance and built a successful, award-winning design shop. "I assume Jill heard of me through word-of-mouth, but I really have no idea," Steve says with a laugh. "She told me that the college was growing and they wanted to try and appeal to a larger market. Could I help them with that?"

Steve recounts how he jumped at the chance because of the interactions he had had with Major Harold and the impression it left on him. "Plus, at the time I was really moving toward working with clients that I believed in, who were doing things that I supported such as education, health and community-focused groups so, Booth UC and its connection to The Salvation Army, was a really good fit."

That moment began an 18-year relationship that has seen Steve do just about every creative project one can imagine for Booth UC. “I started by doing what were called ‘special projects.’ If the college needed an invitation for an event or a poster, it came to me.”

At that time, Booth UC (then William and Catherine Booth College: WCBC) was still quite small, and when Steve would visit campus for meetings, he would often run into the President at the time, Dr. Donald Burke. “I got to know Don and he liked me,” Steve says with a chuckle. “He was always friendly; we’d chat and he’d invite me to have coffee. Don was really great at knowing when to move things forward, to not let things become stagnant.”

Soon the scope of Steve’s work expanded, and he was designing fundraising packages and materials for the Office of the President. However, the moment that truly solidified the relationship came when the institution was transitioning from WCBC to Booth University College. WCBC’s logo was more traditional and Salvation Army-focused, and a new logo was needed to engage with a wider audience.

“Dr. Burke’s assistant, Peggy, reached out to me to ask, ‘When an organization needs a new logo, how do they go about doing it?’” Steve explained to her that the school was large enough that they could put out a tender for logo design, never assuming he would be one of the people to have a shot at it. “A couple weeks go by, and she calls me back and asks if I want to submit my work for consideration ... umm ... YES!”

Steve and two other designers were given the option to submit work. “They did a blind draw and my logo design got 86 out of 110 votes. So I guess people liked my work,” Steve laughs.

From that moment, Steve and Booth UC have built a strong partnership over the years. One that has created multiple campaigns with billboards, print ads, brochures, banners, a website, digital advertising and countless other materials—including the magazine you are holding!



#BOOTHBOUND

From logos to advertising campaigns, Steve's work continues to evolve as Booth UC evolves. This page showcases a few, of many, examples.

“I love working with Booth UC,” Steve states. “The relationship we’ve built allows me to be creative and open with any crazy idea I might have! At the same time, I hope and I think it gives Booth UC confidence to trust my work. Because at the end of the day, what matters is that the work is successful. And I think it has been. And I hope it will continue to be.”

William and Catherine
BoothCollege



BOOTH
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE



Staff & FACULTY NEWS

We would like to extend Congratulations to the following staff and faculty members who are celebrating milestone years of service this year!

5 YEARS



Rhonda Friesen



Cynthia Sottie



Kristen McLean



Jeremy Perrott

15 YEARS



Michael Boyce



Chris Nelson



20 YEARS



Meagan Morash



Thank you for all your work and dedication over the years.

Jennifer Meixner

Welcome Jennifer Meixner (BSW/10). Jennifer holds a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Conflict Resolution, a Bachelors of Social Work (registered) and a Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance. In addition to working at Manitoba Justice for ten years, she was employed with The Office of the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth as an advocacy officer and a registered Social Worker. Jennifer will be joining Booth UC as an Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work on July 1, 2022.





Start Here

Booth University College | 