

## Inside this issue





4 CORE VALUES

Booth UC is proudly nestled in the heart
of downtown Winnipeg, and that sends
a message



6 BOOTH BOUND
A decade ago, Booth Bound began as
a vision and a dream



**7** "HERE I AM!"

The son of Booth UC alumni, Jonah
Bulgin now calls the school home—
thanks to Booth Bound



8 WHO IS MY
NEIGHBOUR?
Finding God in the alleys of
downtown Winnipeg



10 FROM WINNIPEG TO LITHUANIA AND BACK
In an unlikely place, an idea was planted that led Dr. Aaron Klassen to where he is today



12 FRIENDS FOREVER
Yuly Johnson and Kate Martinez
Torres – a unique friendship that began
at Booth UC



14 ANNUAL REPORT



16 GOING THE EXTRA MILE
How Booth UC is creating community
by building each other up



18 GIVING WITH PURPOSE
Two Booth UC alumni are paving the way for current students and alumni



19 STAFF & FACULTY NEWS

Booth UC Connect Magazine is published three 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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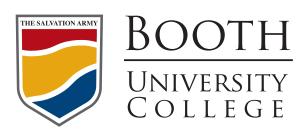
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**EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD** 



"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed...

Although it is the smallest of all seeds, yet it grows into the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches."

Matthew 13:31-32

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2020 winter edition of *Booth UC Connect*. With cold temperatures and snow covering the ground, it is easy to forget the warmth that comes with spring. Yet we know that seeds that are dormant now are being readied for spring and that in time they will demonstrate God's power and glory in creation. In a similar way, Booth University College began as a "seed" planted through the vision of others that has been nurtured since then by many more. In "Core Values" you can read about key decisions that were made in the early days of Booth UC, from people who were there: Stephen Makkappallil-Knowles (DP/84) and Dr. Donald Burke, Professor of Religion. These decisions shaped the growth and development of Booth UC.

New seeds are still being planted at Booth UC. You will find an article detailing how Dr. Aaron Klassen's life was shaped by ideas that took root, were given time to grow, and brought him to where he is today, a faculty member of Booth UC. Two of our alumni, Majors Al and Karen Hoeft are featured in "Giving with Purpose"; and our Winnipeg campus community continues to support and encourage the well-being of students who go "The Extra Mile". Some seeds are planted in students who visit our campus for brief events such as Booth Bound, and some help students to build their own communities, like friends Yuly Johnson and Katerine Martinez Torres. We thank God for the blessings that each person brings by contributing their own unique gifts and abilities to the growth and development of the students and community of Booth UC as we live out "Education for a Better World".

Thank you for engaging with us as you read this issue of *Booth UC Connect*. May it draw to your mind examples of seeds that have been planted and nurtured in your own life, reminding you of God's continual presence within and around us.

God Bless You,

Dr. Marjory Kerr, President







As they go to and from class each day, many Booth University College students may not give much thought to why the campus is situated in the heart of downtown Winnipeg. Booth UC is the only Christian post-secondary institution in Canada that is located in the centre of a major city – the decision to do so was very intentional.

## This fact was not a given.

Catherine Booth Bible College, located at 340 Assiniboine Avenue, on the banks of the Assiniboine River circa 1982

"The evaluation and final decision to physically remain in the urban core was perhaps a small chapter in Booth UC's rich history," says Stephen Makkappallil-Knowles (DP/84), "but speaks to the unique perspective and skills of those early participants."

In fact, when Booth UC opened in 1982, the original plan was to locate the campus in the south end of Winnipeg.

"There was a Nazarene college located at that time across the street from where the property for the proposed campus was purchased originally, and the idea was there would be some kind of collaboration between the two institutions," says Dr. Donald E. Burke, Professor of Religion at Booth UC. "So the Army purchased 40 acres of land in South Winnipeg in order to build a teaching facility near the college."

But over a period of three to four years, practical considerations were raised regarding the proposed move to the suburbs. There was a strong interest on the part of the City of Winnipeg to keep Booth UC downtown.

Many members of the student body also weighed in, advocating that Booth UC should remain downtown as well.

"As a student during that period, my perspective takes me to the first two years of Catherine Booth Bible College, at the first downtown location," says Stephen, "just west of the Donald Street Bridge on the north bank of the lengthy Assiniboine River near the junction of the Red River. For example, I observed the statues of Louis Riel, Queen Victoria and Taras Shevchenko, and gained a growing awareness of history, politics and power.

"As a student, I would study, reflect and write about the early church community, the critical role of William and Catherine Booth, the effects of marginalization and the necessity of genuine self-reflection.

"All this, while struggling with learning Greek and Hebrew," he states. "It made for a heady mixture, this combination of geographic

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(left) Then Majors Earl and Benita Robinson, who established the Catherine Booth Bible College, (upper right) the Book Nook and (lower right) the library circa 1988



and educational factors, which helped set my direction and gave me momentum over the years."

Ultimately, after weighing the pros and cons, The Salvation Army decided the college would remain downtown and purchased the YWCA building at 447 Webb Place as Booth UC's new home. Now know as Waldron Building, this has been the main campus building since 1988.

the decision to stay.

downtown also made sense from the point of view of the mission of both the Salvation Army, and Booth UC.

From a practical standpoint, Booth UC's central location is far more convenient for students, faculty and staff commuting to the school from all over the city, as well as for those journeying to and from field placements. This ready access is an advantage that is enjoyed by the entire campus community.

But seen in retrospect, the decision to stay downtown also made sense from the point of view of the mission of both The Salvation Army and Booth UC.

"There's a close identification between The Salvation Army and its historic mission to serve those in major urban centres," says Dr. Burke. "A number of years ago when there was a need to relocate the Army's divisional headquarters again, there was a renewed decision to remain in the city rather than move out to the suburbs."

Booth UC's location is a concrete reminder that The Salvation Army and Booth UC are serving the people of Winnipeg. "Simply being in the core of Winnipeg is a statement by the Army of their commitment to the city, and that is something that cannot be discounted," concludes Dr. Burke.

## All Roads Lead to Booth Bound

A decade ago, Booth Bound began as a vision and a dream

At that time, former President Dr. Donald E. Burke gathered a team of campus partners to share his vision for raising the profile of Booth University College amongst Salvationist high-school students. The committee began the task of creating a "preview weekend," which would allow students to experience first-hand the quality of a Booth University College education.

We now know this weekend as Booth Bound.











Booth Bound is a unique campus visit weekend that is tailored to Salvationist students. Qualified students from across Canada and the U.S. travel to Winnipeg, attend classes taught by our faculty, participate in a service learning project, explore the city, enjoy great food in the Booth Bistro and experience Winnipeg culture.

Most recently, the event took place October 24-27, 2019. On the first morning, 12 Salvationists (high-school students and youth leaders) embarked on the journey to Booth UC. Although many of them were tired from many hours of travel, the sparkle in their eyes showed excitement at being on campus and experiencing the life of a Booth UC student. Booth Bounders were captivated by the warmth of our community, the diversity of our student body, the hearty meals in the Booth Bistro and the variety in program offerings.

Throughout Booth Bound, students interacted with our faculty one-on-one over meals in the Bistro, in sample classes and at the Program Information Café. This allowed Booth Bounders to explore all programs offered at Booth UC and learn how they can participate in "Education for a Better World." When asked what surprised them most about the weekend preview event, many students mentioned

the programs offered at Booth UC, the close rapport between students and faculty, and the unique approach to education with a social justice mission in mind.

Booth University College aims to prepare and inspire its students to go out and make a meaningful difference in their communities and the world around them. As a result, it is no surprise that the schedule during Booth Bound had an off-campus component. Students had the opportunity to participate in an urban service learning experience at The Salvation Army Weetamah, attend a tour and participate in discussion at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, learn about the historical importance of the Forks, meet polar bears at the Assiniboine Park Zoo, and even watch as the Winnipeg Blue Bombers qualified for playoffs. Then, the weekend came to an end with a Sunday meeting at The Salvation Army Heritage Park Temple.

Throughout the event, Booth Bounders were able to see first-hand the support and guidance that awaits them should they choose to come study at Booth University College. A home away from home, a tight-knit community and, most of all, a family.

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Born in Ottawa, Jonah grew up attending a Salvation Army corps. He became familiar with Booth UC at an early age, as his parents, along with his aunt and uncle, had attended.

"My parents actually met at Booth UC, so it kind of runs in the family," Jonah smiles.

Jonah had planned a career in law enforcement and was attending university in Ottawa.

"But I found the program unfulfilling," he says. "I wasn't enjoying it, and I was searching for something satisfying."

"So Booth Bound was filled with a lot of fun times."

Jonah also got to sit in on some Booth UC classes during the weekend.

"I was impressed that the professors took time out of their weekend to give the Booth Bound participants a little taste of the programs here," says Jonah.

"I sat in on English, psychology, business and social work classes. They were all interesting, and that really got me thinking about going to Booth UC."

## "Booth UC was where I was meant to be"

While working at summer camp, he became friends with Kailey Gillis, a Booth UC student, who suggested he try out Booth Bound.

"I kept saying, 'No, no! I'm already in this other college program.' But she persuaded me that it wouldn't hurt to check it out. Who knows? I thought. It could be fun!"

And it was.

Jonah thoroughly enjoyed his Booth Bound experience.

"I was probably one of the older people attending Booth Bound because most of the other participants were still in high school," he says. "But I still felt very welcome by the staff and the Booth UC students. They went above and beyond to make all of us feel welcome."

Jonah and the rest of the Booth Bound group were taken on a tour of Winnipeg, which included the Assiniboine Park Zoo, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and a Blue Bombers game. While Jonah did make some inquiries that weekend—"I was encouraged that many of my credits could be transferred"—it still took him a couple of weeks to finally make up his mind.

During the summer, Jonah worked at The Salvation Army's Newport Adventure Camp in Ontario. He roomed with a co-worker, Paul Morgan, who happened to be from Winnipeg, and they became friends.

"As we grew closer, we studied the Bible and prayed daily that God would direct my path," says Jonah.

"What's my problem with Booth UC? I thought to myself. Am I just afraid of change?"

And then it clicked: "Booth UC was where I was meant to be.

"So I stopped procrastinating, I contacted Booth UC, made a firm commitment, signed up for classes, and here I am!"



# Neighbour?

Finding God in the alleys of downtown Winnipeg

BY KAITLIN VANDEURSEN

the Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighbourhood.

—John 1:14 (The Message)

Over the past few months, this verse has become so much more real for me. I'm studying social work at The Salvation Army's Booth University College in Winnipeg, and have been doing a practicum at Main Street Project, a non-profit community health agency, located behind the Army's Centre of Hope. I'm there 40 hours a week and on the ground running for most of those hours.

The neighbourhood around the project is a stark contrast from the safe, supportive and loving community I grew up in. As I walk through the garbage-littered streets, I often look over my shoulder to be aware of my surroundings. When meeting with clients, I wonder, "God, how can this be happening to Your people?" Sometimes I go home at the end of the day and realize I haven't spoken with God at all, because He feels so distant.

It is hard to see people suffering from the effects of intergenerational trauma, abuse, addiction and poverty. Our city is hurting. In the last months, there have been robberies, violence and senseless murders, including two stabbings right outside my practicum. I've seen a group of teenagers with a gun just down the road from me.

But John 1:14 reminds me that while the Word was in my comfortable neighbourhood growing up, the Word is also in Winnipeg's downtown. When the Word became flesh and blood in the form of Jesus, our Saviour, He did not just move into affluent neighbourhoods or church communities. He moved under the Osborne Street Bridge, he moved into the tent city, He moved into the crack houses and cockroach-filled hotels, He moved into the dark back alleys and into the dumpsters.

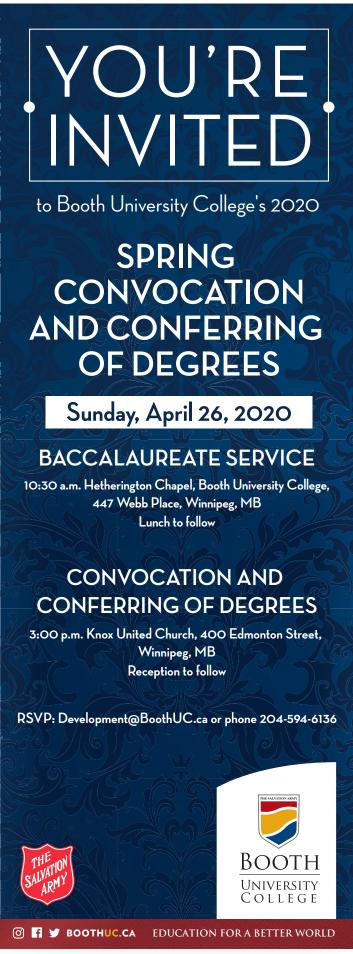
Kaitlin vanDeursen, a Salvationist and social work student at Booth University College in Winnipeg, in front of a mural by artist Mike Valcourt. The mural is dedicated to missing and murdered Indigenous women While it may not be glamourous to think about our Saviour in this way, we have to remember that in his time on earth Jesus associated with many people who would be the impoverished, addicted and homeless of today. He socialized with lepers and those with physical disabilities. He spoke with people tormented by demons and various mental illnesses. He walked through areas of conflict. He went to Jerusalem, knowing there were people who were going to be violent toward Him.

In a way, Jesus is one of the people sleeping on mats in a room of 75 other people. You can see Him in the person in psychosis and talking to the voices in their head. You can see Him in the faces of the cold and shivering. You can see Him in the physically ill. Jesus became a neighbour to the addicts, the chronically homeless, the mentally ill and the heavy-burdened.

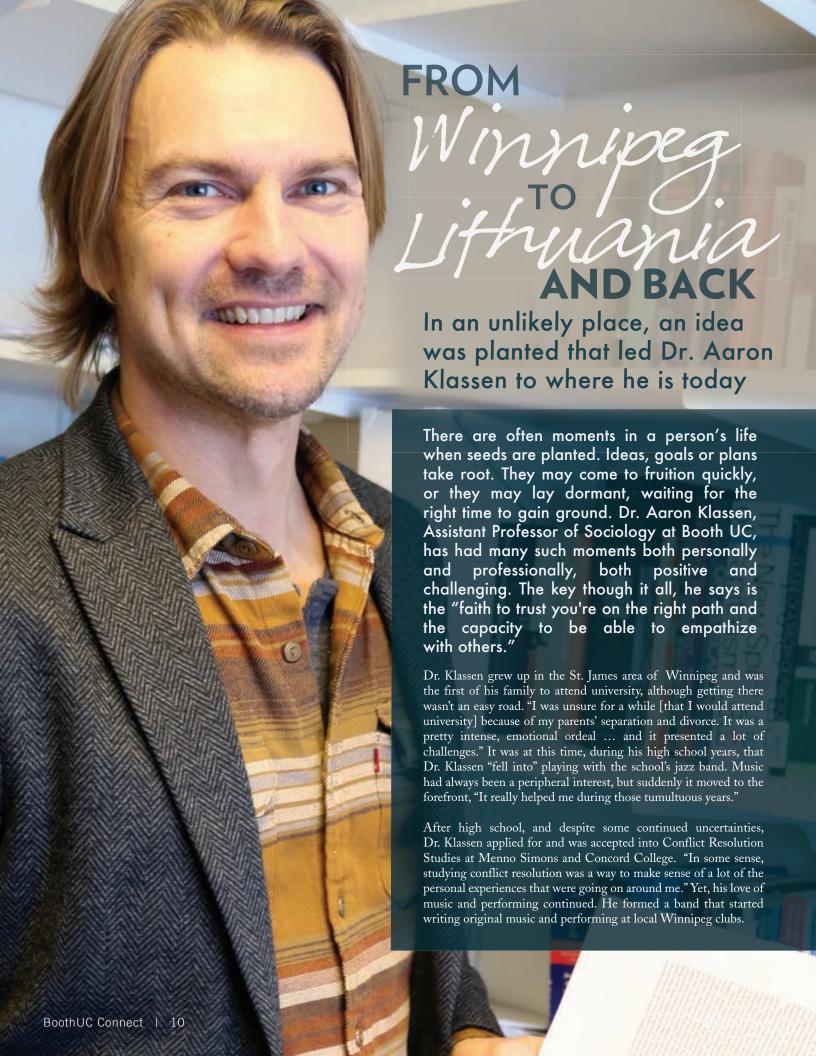
I encourage you to take a little extra time this week to reflect on John 1:14. Do we fully believe that the Word became flesh and moved into the neighbourhood? Do we believe that the Word only moved into "nice" communities or do we believe that He is also present in the "not so nice" neighbourhoods?

Let's keep this verse in mind as we minister to those who are from neighbourhoods different from our own. Let's also remember that even though society characterizes some people as unlovable (and some days we might be unlovable ourselves), Christ loved each and every one of us so much that He came to be our neighbour, and He is still with us.





BoothUC.ca Photos: Justin Russell BoothUC Connect | 9



Just as Dr. Klassen's band was getting more stage time at local clubs, a well-known Christian songwriter and musician was looking for a replacement backup band. Juno-nominated contemporary Christian artist Jon Buller, known for his eclectic catalogue of worship, "came to our rehearsal, heard what we played, loved it, and asked us to be his new backing band." It ended up being perfect timing, as Dr. Klassen was just finishing his undergraduate studies.

They hit the road in 2001, toured all over North America for the next three years, and had the chance to travel to Lithuania to perform and work at the LCC International University in Klaipedia, Lithuania.

After the Iron Curtain came down, LCC International University was started with the vision of transforming the former Soviet Bloc countries. As a Christian Liberal Arts university, the school hired Buller to fill out the chapel services, present conferences on worship, give music lessons and integrate music on campus. "A lot of the students had experienced and remembered the fall of the Iron Curtain, so there was still an excitement about their independence from the Soviet Union."

During his down time, Dr. Klassen decided to audit a class on conflict resolution. "When the professor found out that I had studied the subject in Winnipeg, she asked me if I would consider teaching the class! Now, I didn't do it [laughs] because I didn't have anything prepared, but it got me thinking about what I could maybe do, beyond performing, that was still music." It was in that moment that the seed was planted to start a teaching career.

Dr. Klassen returned to Winnipeg, but soon had the chance to head back to Eastern Europe in 2006 and tour again, this time in secular venues with his band The Attics. "We went into Latvia, Russia,

festivals with tens of thousands of participants every four or five years. They call it Laulupidu. During the Soviet era, these performances were heavily censored and songs were mostly chosen by the culture police. Nonetheless, the Estonians were allowed to choose some songs, and they used those songs to preserve their culture. After the country started to open up, the songs became not just cultural preservers but revolutionary resistance songs. It fuelled their drive for independence."

After the tour, Dr. Klassen took some time off from both university and touring. "I met my wife, we got married. I went into carpentry for a few years. It was really good, in the long run, to get some space, but I realized that the seed that was planted in Lithuania way back in 2003 [to become a professor] was still there."

"What I find interesting is to explore instances where music relates to specific challenges."

He returned to university to complete his Master's and PhD, studying music and self-transformation, and began his teaching career as a Sessional Instructor at Booth UC. Then in July 2019, he became a full-time Assistant Professor teaching Sociology as part of the behavioural sciences program. He is excited about the opportunities this presents, particularly in connecting his love and knowledge of



Ukraine, Poland, some major capital cities and some smaller cities, and some places that were formerly off limits to foreigners ... it was an adventure!

"Some of my best musical memories were playing at a club in St. Petersburg where the young people were requesting songs because they had found our music online, and sang along as we played them."

Before the tour, Dr. Klassen had already started the process of pursuing an Honour's degree, and one of the topics he studied was the history of music in Eastern European countries. "I started to find out about these singing choirs in Estonia that would hold

music with urban studies, and teaching others how music can transform those who face crises. "What I find interesting is to explore instances where music relates to specific challenges, whether on an individual, community or institutional basis, and in terms of race, class or gender."

Teaching at Booth UC also allows Dr. Klassen to help his students "put into words the challenges young people face today, and [guide them] in the process of facing those challenges on the road to building a better world." In this way, he hopes to equip students to become critical thinkers and problem solvers and, hopefully, plant the seed of possibility in their minds so ideas can take root, flourish and inspire their futures at Booth UC and beyond.





To watch Yuly Johnson and Katerine "Kate" Martinez Torres together, one would be forgiven in thinking they've known each other all of their lives. But their friendship only began at Booth University College.

Yuly Johnson was born in Columbia, one of six daughters.

"My mom is very strong, very strong," says Yuly. "A victim of domestic violence, she left her husband and raised us herself. Then, she left everything behind – friends, family, her job – to give us a safe home in Canada. She overcame every obstacle in her path."

The new Canadians arrived in Winnipeg in October 2009.

"Oh! It was raining, and it was very cold," laughs Yuly. "When we were going to Canada from Columbia, we were told, 'Imagine you have been in a stove. Now you are going to go to a fridge!' We knew it would be cold, but -40?"

Yuly graduated from high school and studied to be a health-care aide. But after three years of study and feeling she needed to do something else with her life, she dropped out. She considered nursing and social work. Then one day, her friend's husband suggested Booth UC.

"I told him I was thinking of social work and he replied: 'Why don't you study at Booth UC, which is a Christian school?' "says Yuly. "I decided to check it out.

"And I met Katerine on my second day here."

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Kate was born in the Dominican Republic and came to Canada when she was 12. Like Yuly, Kate's mom was a single mother and, like Yuly, her mother wanted a better life and a better education for her daughter. And where Yuly's family was sponsored by a church group, Kate and her mother were sponsored by a friend who owned a cafeteria in Winnipeg.

After high school, Kate went to university but dropped out after the second day: "I was lost."

"My mother kept asking me when I was going to go back to school and I kept asking God for guidance: 'Please give me a sign.'" And one day, He did. "I was walking down the street and I saw this billboard for Booth University College," says Kate. "Booth University College? I thought. "Where is this school?"

She did some research and liked what she saw but decided to put it off. However, she kept seeing Booth UC signs everywhere she went.

"So I applied and was accepted," says Kate. "I just felt like I needed to be there. "And then I met Yuly on the second day of school."



While the two had met each other in passing before, as soon as they reconnected at Booth UC, Yuly and Kate became best friends.

"One day, I was coming out of my class and Yuly was walking by, and we locked eyes."

"I know you," Yuly said.

"I know you, too," Kate replied.

"We just started talking from there," smiles Kate, "and the rest was history."

It didn't take them long to discover how much they had in common.

"We both have single mothers, we were both immigrants who couldn't speak any English when we came to Canada, and we will be the first in our families to obtain degrees," says Kate.

Throughout their time at Booth UC, the two have become inseparable.

"We talk for hours and hours and hours. And then we study," laughs Yuly.

"But our friendship is more than that," she continues. "We are always supporting each other. If one didn't show up to class, the other would text, 'Where are you? What's going on? Why are you not here today?' If there is something happening in our families, we have each other's backs."

classes. To study, focus on school and connect with my friends and professors.

"It's just a place where I feel I can be myself and where I can practice my faith," she continues. "Going to Booth UC was the best decision I could have made."

For Kate, it was also a feeling of belonging.

"When I went to university, I didn't know anyone," she says. "I had to wait weeks to see a professor. Here, they know my name, and they're always caring and available. Booth UC is a multicultural school as well as Christian so I really like that and I really like how we are all connected, one big family."

"It's been a unique friendship. I can only. describe it as 'pure'."

- Yuly. Johnson

Yuly and Kate are planning to graduate this summer, Yuly in social work and Kate in applied psychology. Though their futures may take them in different directions, they have a bond that can never be broken.

The friends travelled together during the summers off and when Yuly was married in June, Kate was a maid of honour.

"It's been a unique friendship," says Yuly. "I can only describe it as 'pure.'"

Kate and Yuly have thrived at Booth UC.

"For me, it's like a community," says Yuly. "It's my community, the place I could go to every day, even if I don't have

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## 2018/19 ANNUAL REPORT

### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

William and Catherine Booth University College, a Christian 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.

It is with gratitude that I present to you the annual report for 2018/2019. This is a unique annual report as we have changed our fiscal year end from June 30 to March 31. As such, this report represents a one-time, nine-month fiscal year that covers the period July 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019. In future the fiscal year will be from April 1 – March 31.

During this nine-month year we continued with positive momentum and demonstrated progress in many different capacities. We increased our enrollment to 288 students on the Winnipeg campus, including 29 cadets, plus 188 students in the School for Continuing Studies for a total head count of 476, and a Full-Time Equivalency (FTE) of 323 students. This represents Booth UC's highest enrolment to date.

We also continued to enhance the student experience with the election of a new student council and the appointment of student members to the Booth UC Senate, Board of Trustees and various institutional councils and committees.

We remained committed to furthering implementation of the institutional strategic plan, Vision 2020: The Road to Booth University, and priorities from our Indigenous Advisory Plan. We welcomed nine new staff and one faculty member to Booth UC. In all that we do, our overriding Mission is to bring together Christian faith, rigorous scholarship and a passion for service.

Thank you for being such faithful partners, for sharing in our vision, and for your practical and prayerful support. It is your investment, entrusted to our care that makes these outcomes possible.

God bless you, Dr. Marjory Kerr President

## 2018/19 fiscal year Board of Trustees

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#### **TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES AWARDED**

\$148,587

Booth University College is grateful for the generous support it receives from a number of organizations. The funds provided allow the University College to extend its reach and to improve the quality of education available to its students. Thanks to their support, we have been able to serve students from Winnipeg, across Canada and from around the world.

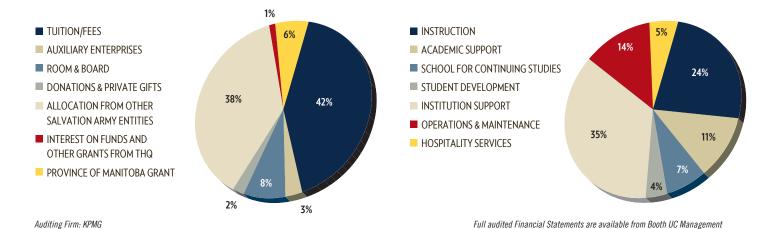




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#### OPERATING FUND ACTIVITIES

	\$ 5.084.819		\$ 4,823,141	
Province of Manitoba Grant	\$ 301,425	Hospitality Services	\$	261,806
Interest on funds and other grants from THQ $$	\$ 32,896	Operations & Maintenance	\$	648,502
${\bf Allocation\ from\ other\ Salvation\ Army\ entities}$	\$ 1,953,000	Institution Support	\$	1,681,780
Donations & Private Gifts	\$ 90,674	Student Development	\$	198,294
Room & Board	\$ 392,523	School for Continuing Studies	\$	349,806
Auxiliary Enterprises	\$ 175,707	Academic Support	\$	527,245
Tuition/Fees	\$ 2,138,594	Instruction	\$	1,155,708
REVENUE:		EXPENSES:		



Booth University College is grateful for the support it receives annually from many generous donors. A special thank you to the following who gave during the period from July 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

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(Listed in alphabetical order.)

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Raymond H. and Audrey Rowe Henry and Elva Rowsell Joan Rowsell Shirley Rowsell Tom Royan Shari Russell Joy Seiler-Rennick Ulyana Snytsar Irene Stickland Gilbert St-Onge Ron Taylor The Salvation Army- Prairie Division lan and Ann Tilley Georgine Van de Mosselaer Gary and Marion Venables Edith Verstege Juanita Waaner Buetta Warkentin Ruth Watkin Shawn D. and Kim Way Dean and Peggy Whitbread Darrell Whittaker David and Joan Wilder Gordon and June Wilder James Wilder Len and Laura Williams Kim Wilson Denise and Mark Young

Linda Zimmerman



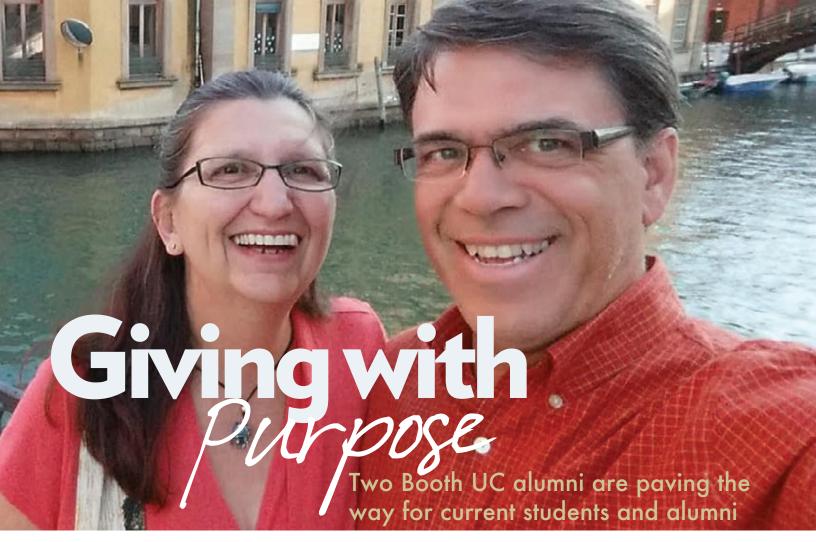
BoothUC Connect | 16 BoothUC.ca Our fall student orientation welcomed more than 80 new students to Booth UC, eager to start learning and building campus friendships. The Booth UC Student Council underwent a few changes over the summer and fall with changing life circumstances for several students, but others have stepped up enthusiastically and the team has put together an energetic program of events this term to engage our community both on campus and off. They have led Booth UC students in marching for climate action, in giving to the city's less fortunate through the annual Toy Mountain campaign (raising over \$1700—the highest amount to date!) and building strong friendships through many campus activities. It is a joy to see Booth UC students setting this example of generosity on campus.

In addition to the Student Council activities, Student Services at Booth UC has also been busy with increasing student participation in Accessibility Services and the Academic Learning Centre. We have invited our campus community to grow in our activism towards preventing sexual violence and becoming better stewards of our environment. Spiritual formation is encouraged through our regular Booth gatherings, student-led worship, Bible studies and contemplative practices.

Through all our many activities, we continue to be mindful that our greatest impact is when we face each other with respect and compassion to offer what we can to build each other up. Blessings flow in both directions when we "go the extra mile" for each other.







Majors Al (DP/85) (BA/03) and Karen (DP/85) (BA/03) Hoeft are alumni twice over from Booth University College, graduating first from Catherine Booth Bible College in 1985, then again from Booth College in 2003. The Hoefts have put their educations to great use serving in many locations with The Salvation Army. Currently, they are stationed in Edmonton with Major Al as the Divisional Secretary for Public Relations for the Alberta and Northern Territories Division, and Major Karen as Corps Officer at Edmonton Crossroads Community Church.

"Booth UC opened up a lot of doors. We attended in a different era than now, when there were more biblical courses. It gave us a broad and interesting foundation for education, ministry and partnering in community," says Major Al.

The Hoefts have maintained a strong connection to Booth UC, both through having their son Zachary attend and by being proud donors. In April 2019, Majors Al and Karen were two of the first donors to give to the Booth UC Alumni Giving Challenge in support of the Alumni Bursary started by Captains Jeff (BSW/05) and Graciela (BSW/05) Arkell.

"It's a valuable investment! We donated in the early '80s to the Ministry Enrichment Program fund that started Booth College at the time. We were dedicated to enriching the ministry of The Salvation Army," Major Al remembers.

"I like the concept that Booth UC is offering degrees that people can use in the world and not just in the church. We are teaching people to be good citizens no matter what, and to participate in the world. The diversity of Booth UC is really powerful and should be celebrated" Major Karen says.

The Hoefts have a message for current and future alumni of Booth UC.

"As alumni, our hope is that we continue to work towards [changing the world] and that we actually live it. Make a difference in the world. Everyone from front lines to social services, and public policy, speak up on behalf of those who have no voice."

"The diversity of Booth UC is really powerful and should be alebrated".

- major Karen Hoeft (DP/85) (BA/03)

Booth UC alumni like Majors Al and Karen Hoeft have paved the way for current students and new alumni. They truly are creating a better world.

You can also give back to Booth UC through donations to the Alumni Bursary, telling your stories in *Booth UC Connect* and other Booth UC publications, and volunteering your time at events. As April approaches, consider giving as a part of the Alumni Giving Challenge. You too can make a difference at Booth UC.

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Marilyn Coupland

As the fall term came to a close, Booth UC faculty and staff gathered for a Christmas lunch and celebration. We also took the time to bid farewell to our HR Coordinator, Marilyn Coupland. After seven and a half years, she retired from her role at Booth UC. Marilyn has been an integral member of our campus community, always welcoming and ready with a friendly smile or encouraging word. When asked what she is looking forward to most about retirement, Marilyn listed a few things such as finishing projects around the house and spending time with her grandchildren. But one thing that she was particularly eager about was "being rather than doing, especially when it comes to [her] relationships with others." We wish Marilyn all the best in her retirement!







# Dr. Michael Boyce

Effective January 1, 2020, Dr. Michael Boyce transitioned from an interim role and was appointed by the President as Vice President Academic and Dean. Congratulations Dr. Boyce! We look forward to your continued leadership in all aspects of Academics and Admissions.





WHEN THE WORLD CLOSES ITS EYES,





