LEADING with HEART

STORIES OF HURON ALUMNI AND FRIENDS WHO EXEMPLIFY WHAT IT MEANS TO LEAD WITH HEART

GET TO KNOW

MICHAEL MEDLINE

CLASS OF 1984, Huron 2019

Learn why one of the most recognizable names in business is championing education that nurtures students’ hearts as much as their minds.
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JOIN HURON AS WE CULTIVATE LEADERSHIP WITH HEART

A MESSAGE FROM DR. BARRY CRAIG, PRESIDENT

This Fall will mark the completion of a four-year cycle. That is, with the arrival of our freshman class in September, I will have welcomed all of our students from first to fourth year. Knowing these young people, I am more confident than ever Huron is an institution with an important role to play in Canada and beyond.

We often think of education as primarily a private good. That is, we talk about the need to acquire education in order to get a good job and so on. It is something that benefits ourselves. This is certainly true. In fact, education is more important than ever in securing a living in an economy that is increasingly knowledge-based.

But, there is another aspect to education, particularly post-secondary education. That other aspect is to understand education as a public good. In a democratic society, it is vital that citizens be equipped to play their role in self-governance. If we are to continue to be a free and open society, we need to be citizens who are educated and capable of questioning perceived truths. Especially now, when we are inundated by a vast flood of information from seemingly limitless sources, we need to be able to assess that information and determine how best to use it.

Since we launched our Leaders with Heart mission two years ago, the response has been overwhelming. Our application numbers have more than doubled. We have raised our entrance standards such that they are now among the highest in Canada. And yet, ever larger numbers of qualified young people are being drawn to Huron. After doubling our first-year class last September, we are on pace to increase it again this Fall. Why is this happening? I believe young people are looking for opportunities to serve and Huron is in the right place at the right time in order to respond to this need. We are well on the way to completing our goal of providing a volunteer opportunity for every student who attends Huron. These opportunities help develop leadership skills in our students and assist in the development of empathy also.

In order to accommodate our growing student body, we have just announced the most significant building project at Huron in more than a quarter century. Our new $18.5 million academic building will contain seven new classrooms, offices, a welcome centre, a new Student Activity Centre, and a state-of-the-art 450-seat performance theatre. Designed by Tom Tillman and constructed by Ellis-Don, this striking structure, standing on Western Road, will make a statement to everyone who sees it.

As I write this message, I am concluding my third year in the President’s office at Huron. To say that these three years have flown by quickly would be an understatement. At the same time, paradoxically, I feel as if I have been working at Huron my whole life!
This new building will serve two purposes. On the one hand, it will provide our students with modern, bright and functional facilities. Equipped with the latest technology, both students and faculty will benefit. On the other hand, it will serve as a bridge to the wider community. We envision the new theatre as a venue that will host not only performances, but community events, such as political debates, prominent speakers, and public policy exchanges. Huron will become a focal point for civic engagement in the city.

The new academic building is a complement to several new academic programs, new messaging, and a new relationship with the world beyond our doors. Whether studying theology, arts, or social sciences, our students are called to engage with a global society. The energy, vision, intelligence and compassion our students possess is sorely needed by the world today. I call on all alumni to rally behind these young people. Please help me support them in becoming Leaders with Heart.

As we publicly launch our most ambitious capital campaign ever, we will all have an opportunity to be part of this remarkable period in Huron’s long and distinguished history. Huron has something wonderful to offer to Canada and to the world beyond. I count myself fortunate to be part of this great community.

“Huron has something wonderful to offer to Canada and to the world beyond. I count myself fortunate to be part of this great community.”
“A surreal experience,” is how Michael Medline, the President & Chief Executive Officer of Empire Company Limited (Empire) and its wholly-owned subsidiary Sobeys Inc., described receiving an Honorary Doctor of Divinity during Huron’s Spring Convocation.

Our university was proud to present Mr. Medline with this award in celebration of his significant professional achievements and long record of community involvement. Alongside his whole family — accomplished wife, Tracy Dalglish, and all four children included — our newest cohort of graduates and President, Dr. Barry Craig, applauded Mr. Medline’s approach to personal and professional achievement:

“Mike’s legacy is not only defined by great tangible accomplishments, but it also demonstrates his strength of character, which consistently balances effectiveness with ethical conduct.”
As the class of 2019 became the newest members of Huron’s elite alumni network, their eyes widened listening to the CEO of one of Canada’s largest employers share a deeply personal perspective on staying true to yourself and making deliberate choices to carve your own, unique path to success.

“When I sat where you are today, I didn’t take the safe career advice for that time. And I don’t give that kind of advice now, period,” Medline said.

“The individuals who succeed are the ones who are able to adapt, embrace change and – most importantly – follow their passions. My time at Huron gave me that foundation for my future, and it led me to where I am today.”

Prior to Medline’s ascension to his current role, he earned a BA in History at Huron and then a law degree at the University of Toronto in 1987. One year later, he supplemented this degree with an MBA from the Raymond A. Mason School of Business, which led to him practising law for two years with McCarthy Tétrault.

During his time there, Medline began to see his true passion lay beyond a typical day as a corporate lawyer. “I remember being in meetings to provide legal advice to business clients and thinking the whole time that I wanted to be on the other side of the table with them,” said Mr. Medline in an interview.

This Huron alumnus embraced his emerging passion and appetite for intellectual risks that came from his Liberal Arts background at Huron. He then applied a great deal of hard work to build a truly remarkable professional legacy — one that is still in the making.

“I believe in passionately Leading with Heart wholeheartedly,” Medline said. “It’s not good enough to run a business or just do your job, it’s got to be about something more.

At Sobeys, it’s very important we give back to a wide variety of communities, so Barry’s vision really resonated with me and everything I’ve worked towards in my career.”

Some of the many ways Medline lives Huron’s commitment to bettering the world is through his support of Canadians — regardless of income, age or ability — to access resources that support healthier and more vibrant lives. He is currently a member of the Board of the SickKids Foundation, Grocery Foundation, The Sobey Foundation and former member of the Board of Governors for Canada’s Sports Hall of Fame and was previous Chair of the Retail Council of Canada.

“The work your President has done to raise the bar here is incredibly impressive — so impressive that, truth be told, I wouldn’t make the cut to get into Huron today.” Mr. Medline is so much more than a celebrated business executive. His professional and philanthropic pursuits perfectly represent the importance of cultivating your personality and work ethic, as much as the technical skills that will support your ambitions.

We hope all our alumni will join us in celebrating Michael Medline. Not only because of his outstanding accomplishments, but also his commitment to being authentic and courageous, and leading with compassion within each and every one of the ventures that led him home to Huron.

“Leading with Heart – Alumni News” | 2019

“We’re proud one of the most recognizable names in business is a willing advocate of the type of education that nurtures your passions as much as your mind. Mr. Medline’s captivated audience of new graduates were excited to hear how he feels about our university’s new direction and the significant changes that have taken place since Dr. Craig articulated his vision for a school that stretches the traditional Liberal Arts model to develop socially-conscious citizens who are capable of creating change within our world’s chaotic climate.

“Our university is a more dynamic place than ever. The work your president has done to raise the bar here is incredibly impressive – so impressive that, truth be told, I wouldn’t make the cut to get into Huron today,” Medline said. “So, I know I’m extra lucky to be here. I’m honoured to be in the company of the best and brightest students out there. The future is yours.”
On November 30, Huron celebrated its 155th Founder’s Day by awarding one of Canada’s most-recognizable business leaders, Melinda Rogers, with an Honorary Doctor of Divinity. This was the first time in the university’s rich history that this prestigious degree was awarded to a female who had previously been a student of Huron.

Most excitingly, Melinda was not the only formidable example of charismatic and compassionate leadership to walk across the stage during the ceremony. Alongside the Deputy Chair of Rogers Communications Inc., Huron also acknowledged the significant personal and professional achievements of Jane Caskey, a Partner and Global Head of Risk Advisory at Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP, as well as Chelsea Smith, a bilingual class action lawyer at McKenzie Lake LLP.

Setting the Stage for Diversity, Equality, and the Common Good at Our 155th Founder’s Day

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“It’s fantastic to see this great institution building on their tradition of bestowing honorary degrees upon women as well as men. I am grateful to become a part of, what I hope will be, an ever-growing legacy of deserving female recipients from Huron,” Melinda said. “I am especially proud to be celebrating with these two outstanding women who are both shining examples of leaders who live with heart and embody the university’s mission of giving back.”

Despite their diverse trajectories, each recipient spoke with a shared enthusiasm regarding the leadership qualities they see within one another and hope to cultivate within themselves, their organizations and our world more broadly. Most notably, they emphasized the importance of fostering diversity as one of the most significant ways to uncover effective solutions to the issues our world is facing.

When discussing the legal field, Jane Caskey placed special emphasis on recognizing the vibrancy previously underrepresented voices contribute to the highest levels of organizations.

“In my field, there has been tremendous advancement in diversity. When you look at a law school’s graduating class, it’s typically, at least, 50 per cent female,” the internationally-recognized partner said. “However, within more senior levels of the profession, it is closer to 25 per cent representation. Collectively, we are putting in significant effort to move that needle forward.”

“Some of the greatest role models, in my life, have been feminists — both men and women. They have not only been my mentors, but they have propelled me forward through true sponsorship: they put me in front of influential contacts and clients, advocated for me and continuously gave me insightful feedback and career advice. This support has been absolutely fundamental for my career.” - Jane Caskey

As a young woman in law herself, Chelsea Smith reaffirmed Jane’s sentiments when discussing the perseverance of mentors who have inspired her upward momentum. “Empowering women is one of the keys to building the future we want because it encourages young females to feel capable of Leading with Heart in ways they may have never before felt were accessible to them,” she explains. “Considering women have already been able to accomplish so much — even in the face of adversity — I’m eager to see what we will achieve as we overcome more and more barriers to inclusion.”

Huron is proud our Founder’s Day celebration became a platform for these exemplary women to share about the importance of recognizing the value of diverse leaders even when, as Jane puts it, “They do not come in the packages we’re typically used to.”

In keeping with our promise to develop effective and empathetic citizens, our university welcomes its obligation to foster a more equitable future. We also recognize our efforts must extend beyond gender equality to, as Melinda shares, “Create more space for a variety of voices to be heard and for people from every background, to develop into their best selves.”

Just as each of these three previous Huron students show, when we encourage others to be authentic, speak up and share their unique perspectives, we suddenly have a far better chance of creating companies and communities that effectively address the needs of all — not just the privileged few.

We hope our alumni network will help further Huron’s vision of developing students’ open-mindedness and willingness to challenge stagnant social views and structures. As we pursue our ethical and sustainable approach to education, we will continue to look to our alumni as beacons of mentorship who will engage with their alma mater to set an extremely high moral and professional bar for the next generation of Leaders with Heart.
“Two very simple, but incredibly powerful things got me to where I am now: kindness and belief. Even when I first arrived at Huron, people didn’t question my ability to positively influence my peers as a student leader. They took for granted I would succeed and encouraged me to take advantage of opportunities to get involved.” Christianne Morrison, HUCSC’s new President, sums up the distinctive environment our alumni help create for our students.

Formal and informal mentorship opportunities have not only helped shape Christianne’s personal and professional achievements, but also imbued her with meaningful lessons about how engagement with diverse communities can fundamentally transform the ways we interact with the world.

Now, the HUCSC’s new President wants to build upon and create even more opportunities that will help the next generation of Huron students interact with people, at various stages in their lives and careers, so they too can learn and benefit from a wide range of unique lived experiences and the lessons that come with them.

“There’s a great opportunity for alumni to make connections with current students,” Christianne says. “Leaders, who are more advanced in their careers, are invaluable to young people who may not know exactly where they’re headed – or how to get there. We absolutely see your value and want to get to know you.”

“I want to be a part of the movement that is pushing Huron to be the most inclusive and influential Liberal Arts university it can be,” she explains. “The more we bring in students, who wouldn’t traditionally have been able to access Huron, the better off everyone becomes: our campus, neighbourhoods and broader communities all become more representative, supportive and empowering places.”

Christianne is excited about creating more initiatives that will connect Huron with our alumni because, she knows, it will further our university’s mission of Developing Leaders with Heart.

Huron continues to attract leaders who are serious about making a difference in the way companies behave, people are treated and privileges are distributed. Christianne is optimistic the university’s Heart of Huron campaign is going to enhance the school’s ability to welcome even more globally-minded and conscientious citizens.

While discussing the opportunities presented by Huron’s new academic building, collaborative spaces and classrooms, Christianne explains they can set the stage for big changes in campus culture.

As Huron increases its capacity to welcome more influential personalities into our centre for civic engagement, more opportunities will be created to show our students the importance of thoughtful global action.

“If students have a really strong drive to help people and you’re determined to develop your skills, within a community that will push you to rise to the demands of our growingly complex world, we want them at Huron,” Christianne says. “So, we need to continue to create teams of people, who are dedicated to making our school the best it can be, but more than that, who will provide the resources we all need to do and be better as well.”

Rest assured Christianne and her team of passionate student representatives will further our alumni’s legacy of excellence in leadership. We hope you’ll accept this visionary advocate’s invitation to get more involved with our student community, so students can emulate your contributions to making our communities more just, compassionate and vibrant.
Huron is pleased to announce we have officially launched a new Career Development Centre. All Huron students are encouraged to visit the Career Development Centre to work one-on-one with their personal Career Development Coordinator to identify volunteer, mentorship, professional development and internship opportunities to help them build a competitive resume prior to graduation.

It is our promise to work with each student to help them gain the work and volunteer experience necessary to attain personal and professional fulfillment.

Looking to give back or get involved? We encourage you to reach out to the Career Development Team to:

- Hire an intern
- Become a mentor
- Request volunteers for your civic engagement event
- Post an opportunity in our Career Development Centre
- Recruit top talent for your organization

The best seat in the house is waiting for you!

By naming a seat, you become part of a lasting legacy of alumni and friends who share your belief that access to a well-rounded education matters. There are many reasons to Name a Seat:

- Make your mark on Huron’s largest-ever construction project
- Celebrate the years you spent developing into a leader with heart at Huron
- Celebrate the hard work of a current or recently graduated student
- Pay tribute to an inspirational faculty mentor

"This space will become a doorway linking Huron to the wider community." — Dr. Barry Craig, President

Why alumni support Huron

"The Huron learning experience was an amazing, door-opening time in my life, thanks to the warm, caring and inspiring teaching staff." — Anonymous

"Excellence in education is a rare thing and it behooves us, as alumni, to support as we are able." — Barbara Wellwood-Warnock

"One of the best memories that I have!" — J. David Smart

"I give to Huron because Huron assisted me when I was paying my own way through school." — Chris Cassidy

"Huron was a great experience for me." — Mary Joan Hollebone

"Our family has a long history with Huron." — Betty Townshend

"I had three of my best years of life there." — Gail Fary

"My Huron education changed my life." — Gary Batstone

"Huron was there for me. I’m here for Huron now." — Anonymous

"I enjoyed many of the best years of my life at Huron — and made lifelong friends." — Lynne Gibbons

Connect with Huron’s Career Development Team!

Sarah Noad
AVP, Community Partnerships
sarah.noad@huron.uwo.ca

Britney Hunter
Coordinator, Career Development
britney.hunter@huron.uwo.ca

Megan Dykstra
Coordinator, Career Development
megan.dykstra@huron.uwo.ca

New to Huron’s Career Development team this fall: Zach Anderson Coordinator, Employment Relations, zach.anderson@huron.uwo.ca
When Alfred Apps (Class of ’79) arrived at Huron, it was the first time the Woodstock-born student had ever been surrounded by people from all over the world. Even after all these years, Alfred explains the immersion within the rich tapestry of Huron’s campus has stuck with him because, “Interacting with people of different backgrounds and cultures showed me how exciting the world could be, if you were actually willing to get out into it.”

With his charismatic personality and colourful rhetorical style, Alfred initially arrived at Huron with the intention of going into the priesthood. However, after falling in love with the human-centric subjects that formed his Liberal Arts degree, he decided to put his problem solving and creative writing skills towards a career in law.

Alfred’s drastic change of heart could be the making of a great comedy routine. But instead, Huron’s cultivation of his globally-minded approach to relationship building has helped him earn the title of “Canada’s leading lawyers.”

Alfred Apps, Class of ’79
Alumni Award of Distinction Recipient
Founder’s Day in 2017
It wasn’t just the university’s distinct approach to education that helped position the Miller Thomson LLP Partner for significant success. Alfred’s experiences living in residence, acting as the O-Week Co-Chair and positions as HUCSC President and Vice-President for Western Students’ Council redefined the way he conceived of leadership and connected him with one of Canada’s most iconic influencers – Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

Alfred’s conversation with our former Prime Minister, which remains one of the alumnus’ favourite memories, led to his involvement in Trudeau’s campaign as a speech writer. Not only did this help pay his way through law school, but the celebrated politician’s globally-focused perspective extended Apps’ recognition that, while at Huron, he didn’t just study the humanities: his own humanity was strengthened.

He hopes other young Canadians will engage with the opportunity to enrich their minds through the critical study of our planet – and its complex issues – so they have the ability and desire to positively influence it.

Not only did his mom develop a close relationship through her work with the Diocese, but two of Alfred’s siblings and his brother-in-law also donned the Huron red. On October 19, we look forward to celebrating the significant contributions of the Apps family, during a celebratory “house crawl” and ribbon cutting at Homecoming.

Like Alfred, we’re hopeful the newly renovated Apps International House will set the stage for many meaningful moments for students who are pursuing their unique purpose within our close-knit community. With the continued support of our vibrant international alumni network, we’re confident his vision will be realized.

“As a small-town boy, Huron lifted me up to a life of much broader human experience and helped me create a network of extraordinary friends and relationships,” Alfred shares. “It transformed how I communicate and understand the world, and my hope is every student takes part in those types of transformative experiences.”

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We must all do theatre to find out who we are, and to discover who we could become.

– AUGUSTO BOAL
Louise is the winner of a National Broadway Touring Award, a New York Theatre World Award, a San Francisco Theatre Critics’ Award, a Betty Mitchell Award and four Dora Mavor Moore awards, all for best performance by a leading actress in a musical.

Sean Yauk, Executive Producer of the production, said, “It’s an immense pleasure to have such a renowned artist come back to visit us,” Yauk said. “Louise is a veteran actress with a beautiful voice and a big heart. Such a gift — an inspiring experience we will always remember.”

Earlier this year, Sean reached out to Louise, and to the Mamma Mia! actors’ very pleasant surprise, she willingly took time out of her schedule to support them. Our young, but immensely talented actors, were thrilled to work with such a seasoned artist whose passion for performance shone through every creative direction, as well as her not-so-subtle sentiments surrounding the value of engaging with the arts:

“I feel like we’re losing sight of the fact that, in order to be a well-rounded person, you require an education that offers some of everything,” Louise shares. “Theatre allows us to live in this heightened way. Then, when we leave that space, we talk about it and what the messages mean: that just might change us, and sometimes it does. That humanness is what we lose out on without the arts.”

Even though HUDS has involved and entertained thousands of alumni, there may still be some of you who are not familiar with the magical, creative and socially-progressive projects they’ve been showcasing since 1963. Despite our talented students’ significant contributions to our community, during all these decades, they have never performed on a purpose-built stage, within a designated theatre space.

Shakespeare may have said, “All the world is a stage,” but Louise argues that is simply not the case. “You need a stage to be an actor. You can’t pretend the stage, but from there, you can pretend everything you need to persuade your audience to experience particular emotions and grapple with transformative narratives.”

This innovative 450-seat space will empower Huron to more fully realize its vision of, “Developing students who society is crying out for — those called to lead with a heart and a conscience — through Liberal Arts’ experiences,” Dr. Barry Craig explains. “Their involvement in theatre and civic engagement encourages their ability to empathize with others, while also fostering the confidence and skills to address the significant challenges affecting humanity.”

If you would like to learn more about this exciting initiative, please visit huronatwestern.ca/theatre to see how our alumni will be “wearing their hearts on their seats,” to further build upon Huron’s legacy of Canada’s leading Liberal Arts institution.

“We look forward to having you join us as we raise the curtain on the Heart of Huron and seeing our Leaders with Heart engage creatively with who they want to be and how they want to “act” within the broader context of the world.”

“‘To me, art goes beyond the intellect to the heart where we experience our initial and immediate responses to other people. Theatre develops the part of you that reacts to things as a human being,” Louise shares. “Because it’s about connecting and communicating with each other by telling stories in heightened ways, so we understand our lives, histories and world more deeply.’”

– Louise Pitre, Tony Nominated Performer

Leading with Heart – Alumni News | 2019
Each professor is committed to Huron’s vision of educating the next generation of Leaders with Heart. Huron is committed to furthering the careers of the best and brightest academics in the world. Dr. Akai, Dr. Lu and Dr. Lindsay Scorgie-Porter are Huron’s newest Assistant Professors, all in probationary tenure-track positions.

A familiar face to many previously graduated and current Huron students, Dr. Akai has been teaching at Huron either part or full-time since 2001. Originally from Kyoto, Japan, she received her B.A. in English language from Kansei Gijuku University in Osaka, Japan in 1998, obtained her M.Ed. in Curriculum Studies at Brock University in 2007 and her PhD in Education from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education in 2017. Her PhD dissertation is entitled, Transformative Learning in an Interculturally-Inclusive Online Community.

Dr. Akai says she first became interested in languages in high school. The thirst to learn a new language soon morphed into wishing to learn how to teach a foreign language. Learning new teaching techniques is another one of my passions, and so too is incorporating new technologies into her teaching. “I facilitated a project for online communication between Canadian and Japanese students. The wonderful thing here is that I helped create an opportunity for students to build lasting friendships online. Both Canadian and Japanese students became more motivated to learn Japanese/English and in the process became more culturally aware and accepting of others.”

In the age of information overload, the goal of university teaching is not simply to impart knowledge, given that what is taught in class always remains limited and might become outdated in our rapidly changing world. Good teaching is more like opening a window for students through which they can look into the beauty and wonder of the world, and, step by step, learn to perceive the world with passionate hearts, open minds and critical eyes. I believe only when the students learn how to enjoy the marvelous kaleidoscope of literature can they develop a genuine interest in reading, writing and thinking that lasts long after graduating from university.”

Dr. Lu has worked at Huron for the past year in the Department of East Asia Studies and is a valued member of the community. She received her BA in English at the Beijing Normal University in 2005 and her MA in Translation Studies also at the Beijing Normal University in 2008. She completed her PhD in Comparative Literature at the University of Toronto in 2015. Her PhD dissertation is entitled, Minor Transethnicity: Chinese, First Nations, and Blacks in Multilingual Chinese-Canadian Fiction.

The love of reading was instilled in Dr. Lu from her parents, she says, and literary books and journals were a mainstay in her household. “For me, the beauty of literature is distinct from many other disciplines because it lies in enjoyment, the aesthetic enjoyment of language and texts as well as the intellectual enjoyment of literary criticism.” Dr. Lu says she enjoys pushing her students to realize Chinese literature is an intrinsic part of world literature and its value isn’t just within China’s borders. She encourages her students and in particular, her international Chinese students, to consider the literature beyond national boundaries and read Chinese literature from global and cross cultural perspectives. She also reminds students to never forget to enjoy what they are reading. Analysis must always take place but so to must enjoyment of the written word.

“Conflict studies is inherently such a dynamic and timely subject area, as there are always (unfortunately) cases occurring in real time. The number of conflicts around the globe are drastically fewer than when I first started my postsecondary education, and the trend looks to continue – which is excellent news. However, there is still so much we don’t know about such things as conflict motivators and dynamics.”

Dr. Scorgie-Porter has been a sessional instructor at Huron for years and has been recognized for having organized two student trips to Rwanda. She was also the 2017 winner of the Faculty of Arts and Social Science Award for Excellence in Teaching. Dr. Scorgie-Porter graduated with her BA in Political Science and Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Toronto in 2005. She obtained her MA in Global Politics at the London School of Economics in 2006 and received her PhD in Politics from the University of Cambridge in 2013. Her PhD dissertation is entitled, Renzori Rebels: The Allied Democratic Forces Conflict in the Uganda-Congo Borderland.

It was through Dr. Scorgie-Porter’s undergraduate studies that her interest in studying conflicts developed into a full-fledged passion. She says she couldn’t understand how she had not heard of such things as the civil war in Somalia or the Rwandan genocide. After completing internships in both West Africa and New York City and deciding a career in the think tank industry wasn’t for her, she knew obtaining a PhD was the right course so she could ask her own research questions and delve deeper into certain topics.
All three of these professors were hired due to their commitment to their research, dedication to their students and love of their subject matter. All three, also, share more than just their place of employment. They’ve worked incredibly hard to get where they are and all have faced barriers, in one form or another, along the way. They also all share their love of Huron and the unique students it attracts.

“

When I was looking for academic jobs in China a few years ago, women, especially young women, were put at a severe disadvantage compared with men,” says Dr. Lu. Women, she explains, were thought to be more expensive — as they would most likely take maternity leaves and replacements would have to be found and paid for — as well as unreliable as it was thought family commitments would always take precedence. For Dr. Scorgie-Porter, her gender also came into play when she was doing research. “I had to conduct extensive fieldwork in eastern Congo and western Uganda for my PhD and, at times, cultural norms there meant I faced some challenges on my own as a woman,” she shares.

Despite the difficulties, all three women say changes are being made. Women are gaining places in academia that before may have been out of reach and they are optimistic these changes will only improve further as there are still challenges to be worked through. For Dr. Lu, for whom the female stigma in China is still prevalent, she is pleased with Canada’s more liberal view on the subject.

For Dr. Lu who is a relative newcomer to Huron, she says Huron is unique. “I joined Huron last September and I felt warmly welcomed from the very first day. As a Liberal Arts institution, it’s quite different from large research universities,” she shares. “I have a lot of opportunities to mingle with my colleagues outside my field and foster interdisciplinary collaboration. I also have substantive interactions with students thanks to the small classes. I can tailor my teaching to the individual needs of students from a wide variety of backgrounds and make myself available for one-on-one conversations,” she says. “Huron is like a family. Whenever I need help, I know there’s always someone there to support me.”

Dr. Akai also sees signs of glass ceilings being broken. “I am encouraged by the many accomplished women who refuse to shy away from academic pursuits. Many of my colleagues are wonderful women who have made progressive and impactful changes in education,” she says.

All three professors also point out there are other hurdles to choosing a career and teaching duties with the 24-hour reality of family and other personal interests.

Despite their shared and individual challenges, these three distinguished faculty members are quick to celebrate the respect and mutual camaraderie they have found at Huron. “I’ve been at Huron for a few years, but I’m still very excited to know I’ll have more of a permanent presence here,” says Dr. Scorgie-Porter. “The Huron community has been so welcoming — I’ve taught at a few other campuses, but this is by far my favourite,” she says.

Dr. Akai also sees signs of glass ceilings still exist. Women are far outnumbered by men at higher level positions. For example, “when I was looking for academic jobs in China a few years ago, women, especially young women, were put at a severe disadvantage compared with men,” says Dr. Lu. Women, she explains, were thought to be more expensive — as they would most likely take maternity leaves and replacements would have to be found and paid for — as well as unreliable as it was thought family commitments would always take precedence. For Dr. Scorgie-Porter, her gender also came into play when she was doing research. “I had to conduct extensive fieldwork in eastern Congo and western Uganda for my PhD and, at times, cultural norms there meant I faced some challenges on my own as a woman,” she shares.

“The policies are more supportive for female academics in Canada,” she says. “However, glass ceilings still exist. Women are far outnumbered by men at higher level positions. For example, there is much less female representation at the rank of full professors. I am glad Huron has hired quite a few female faculty members at various ranks in recent years.”

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Dr. Akai couldn’t agree more with the family statement as she calls Huron ‘home’. “I came from Japan to Huron 20 years ago to teach Japanese and lived in Young House for one year. Huron accepted me as one of its own, taught me teaching and Canadian cultural skills which enabled me to succeed in my life as a newcomer to both Canadian academia and Canadian society. To me, Huron is home.”

Huron is proud to welcome Dr. Sawako Akai, Dr. Yan Lu and Dr. Lindsay Scorgie-Porter as its newest faculty members. We look forward to their continued contributions to our growingly diverse educational environments - where students will be challenged to be Leaders with Heart by many of Canada’s most supportive and accomplished academics.
Huron has a long and rich history of delivering a Theological education that nurtures students’ spiritual, moral and intellectual entities. As part of our vision of empowering students to lead more charitable and ethical lives, we surround them with bright minds and compassionate hearts who are willing to share their journeys and inspire our students to discover how they too can contribute their unique gifts to our communities.

On March 18, 2019, during a special Theology Convocation, Huron conferred the Degree of Doctor of Divinity upon Dr. Rowan Williams who served as Archbishop of Canterbury, from December 2002 to December 2012, and was the officiant for the Royal Wedding of Prince William and Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cambridge.
Lord Williams is internationally recognized as an outstanding thinker, writer, scholar and teacher. He is the author of more than two dozen books on a wide range of theological, historical and political themes, and has published studies on Dostoevsky, C.S. Lewis and Teresa of Avila. Dr Williams is also a noted poet and, apart from his native Welsh, speaks or reads nine other languages.

Directly following the award ceremony, Dr. Williams presented a special lecture to the university community entitled, “What Shall I Cry? How Do We Preach Today?”

During his impassioned remarks, the world-renowned scholar and spiritual advisor lamented the current state of societies around the world and advocated for our collective action to amend them:

“Our world can be unjust and divided, but there are flesh and blood ways we can bring people together and inspire hope. And, that — I believe — is something worth “crying” about.”

Dr. Williams remarked.

The issues the 104th Archbishop spoke about focused mainly on our treatment of one another. He identified, what he argued to be, one of humanity’s greatest afflictions: the pervasiveness of apathy that allows poverty, injustice and inequitable access to resources to persist — despite our power to positively influence them. With his gentle tone and powerful message, at first, the poet philosopher moved the audience to silence. But, far more indicative of the potency of his rhetoric, after he finished speaking and the room had time to digest his words, an excited chatter erupted.

Audience members of all ages, from across Canada — and even those who had traversed our southern border and overseas — were eager to ask after Dr. Williams’ perspective. Many listeners were intrigued by his challenging, but hopeful viewpoint about what is affecting people and preventing them from being truly connected to one another — and themselves. It was truly remarkable to see a room full of people of every belief system — and of none — engaged with a sermon of love, peace and justice.

This event and its keynote speaker are treasured additions to Huron’s rich legacy, and we are so honoured to have been host to such an exemplary model of Leadership with Heart. Dr. Williams’ emphasis on the importance of leading with compassion, selflessness and wisdom seamlessly aligns with Huron’s vision of reshaping the world by balancing effectiveness with empathy and profitability with moral and ethical conduct.

“Dr. Williams’ commitment to cultivating peaceful and inclusive international relations, as well as his unyielding support for vulnerable populations makes him an exemplary model of the Leadership with Heart we encourage our students to develop within and beyond our classrooms,” shares Dr. Craig.

Thank you to all those who attended and participated in this unforgettable event — we hope its lessons will stay with all of us and inspire us to make changes — big and small — to address all the aspects of humanity worth crying for.
In 2017 Asmat arrived in Canada via the Vancouver border. Before that, he was a young man living entirely alone in the United States after travelling there to secure his personal safety. “If I hadn’t come to Canada and I hadn’t crossed the border that night, I would have returned back to Afghanistan and who knows if I’d be alive now,” reflects Asmat.

Asmat’s residency in Canada was made possible through the benevolence of a sponsor named Cory Miller. Cory had heard Asmat’s story, which included a narrative of the young refugee’s perseverance, courage and compassion. Miller wanted to help the young man realize not only his intellectual potential, but also his vision of redefining the way immigrants are welcomed into our country and are cared for once they settle in.

“It was an opportunity to help someone who clearly has so much potential, it felt like a very easy decision to make,” Cory said. “Helping a student refugee in this age of growing xenophobia felt like my small gesture of social justice.”

As a student refugee, Asmat understands the challenges of integrating into a new community, while also navigating the complexities of a foreign language. Once Ridley College chose to financially support Asmat’s high school education, his opportunities to support others flourished.

He established the Rooted Justice 2020 Club to support migrant workers and led an initiative to bring a student from Malawi to Canada, so they too could access the life-enhancing experiences that would have otherwise been denied to them - simply based on where they were born.

Asmat is furthering his admirable mission by engaging with Model United Nations and the World Affairs Conference. His efforts continue to be acknowledged within and beyond his school community.

In celebration of his exceptional academic and extracurricular achievements, Huron surprised Asmat with a full scholarship during his wintry visit. He would later accept our offer of admission to become a member of Huron’s Class of 2023.

“Asmat is an exemplary model of the attributes our Leaders with Heart will require as they navigate competing interests within each of the spheres they operate,” Dr. Craig says. “We know he will inspire his classmates to recognize their prerogative to reach beyond our campus and uplift communities who have, so far, been denied the humanity and happiness we all have a right to.”

After much celebration and sincere congratulations from all his peers and supporters, Asmat told Huron he will pursue a double-major, combining Governance, Leadership and Ethics with Economics. Asmat also plans to study photography, while obtaining an online business certificate from Harvard University.

“I want to get into politics [and] I’m committed to transforming our globe because I believe in equality of opportunity for everyone, which currently does not exist,” Asmat said. “My path at Huron is going to open the door for me to influence much positive development in this world.”

We’re honoured and excited to have Asmat on campus with us this fall. We look forward to supporting him to shape a future where circumstance doesn’t dictate whether young people are able to realize their potential. We hope you’ll join us in cultivating the greatness of students, like Asmat, who are overcoming significant barriers to become the next generation of influential Leaders with Heart.

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1950-1969

Stan Taylor ’68: “My days and five years at Huron are still fresh in my memory banks as being some of the best years in my life. From my days as Theological Representative on the Huron Student Council through graduating with an L.Th. in 1968, to earning a Merit Award, to being made a deacon are memories that molded me into the man I am today. After serving in the Diocese of Fredericton and the Diocese of Michigan, I left the ministry, returned to university and earned a B.A. in one year and a B.Ed. the following year.

I taught elementary school for the TCDSB for 23 years, took an early retirement and joined Scientists in School. I am in my 18th year with them. Four out of the past six years, I have given science workshops to educators from around the world at the Space Exploration Educators Conference at Johnson Space Center (NASA) in Houston, Texas. Last summer I enjoyed 5 days of simulated astronaut training at the Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. On February 24, 2019, I started the Young Canadian Space Club in Uxbridge, ON. Not bad for a 78-year-young Huron Grad. I continue to give workshops within Ontario communities.

Honesty, trust, self-confidence, leadership skills were all honed at Huron. I am grateful to Huron for giving me so much.

1980-1989

Tim Allen ’81 shares that he is happily retired from the publishing management/sales management industry and that he and his wife, Laurie, have recently been travelling throughout Ontario and Switzerland.

Katherine (Fleischer) Englander ’81 is proud to announce that on April 1, 2019 she incorporated her company HRP4B Inc. HRP4B Inc is a full-service Human Resources Consulting and Contracting Company based in Port Stanley, Ontario.

1990-1999

Congratulations to Adrienne Arsenault ’90 who won the Best Host or Interviewer in a News or Information Program or Series award at the Canadian Screen Awards.

Congratulations to Ryan Rodrigues ’98 who has been re-elected to the Canadian Professional Sales Association (CPSA), the CPSA Foundation and the CPSA Institute Board of Directors. He has also attained his Certified Sales Leader (CSL) Designation recognizing Canada’s top sales leadership talent.

Jan-Oliver Schmidt ’93 and his wife, Nicole Brende Schmidt, are proud to announce the birth of their son, Thor-Olav, born October 12, 2018. Jan-Oliver describes Thor-Olav as a “bright-eyed explorer who keeps his parents hopping.”

Grant Beggs ’96 writes, he recently joined Sotheby’s International Realty in San Francisco, and is in the top 1% of realtors nationally. He, his husband David and daughter Gigi recently moved to the Presidio area of the city.

2000+

Dr. Kendra Coulter ’02 has been named a Fellow of the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics for her outstanding contributions to the field. To be considered for Fellowship, nominees must have a deep commitment to the ethical treatment of animals and demonstrate excellence in scholarly work and relevant research. Dr. Coulter is widely recognized as a leading and innovative analyst of labour involving animals.

Congratulations to Christopher Harry Luke ’02. Huron’s first World University Service Canada (WUSC) sponsored student on his appointment as Senior Project Analyst with the Ontario Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines in Toronto. Chris was sponsored as a Liberian refugee student by Huron in 1998, and completed his studies at Huron in 2002. Chris lives in Toronto with his wife Tracy and six-year-old son Christian. Chris says he would like to thank the Huron and Western community for the opportunity given to him to study at Huron as a sponsored student. He is hoping his son will consider Huron for post-secondary studies in the future.

Jiaqi (Jackie) Nie ’02 is proud to announce the attainment of his new role as the Chief Operating Officer, Global and President, Greater China of Gravitas Ilium Corp.
Deborah Lucas ’03 is proud to announce the birth of her son, Clark Ford Arblaster, born May 10, 2019, sibling to Keaton, aged 3. Clark is the grandson of Rick Lucas ’69, and the nephew of Jonathan Lucas ’07.

Congratulations to Kristi Soomer ’03 who was named as one of Canada’s 2019 Clean 50 leaders for her outstanding contribution to sustainable development and clean capitalism through her work in her eco-friendly fashion company, Encircled.

Debbie Hudson ’04 writes: “I am excited to announce that I have opened my own Labour + Employment law firm, where I advocate for clients in relation to human rights and workplace related matters.”

Congratulations to Dr. John Gibson ’06 whose book, Participatory Hermeneutics and Worldview: An Interpretation of Origen of Alexandria in Dialogue with Paul Ricoeur, will be published by Gorgias Press in winter 2019.

Jenn (Oswald) Miller ‘06 proudly announces her marriage to Joshua Miller on June 30, 2012. The couple are the proud parents of Ava Eowyn, born March 6, 2014 and Brody Morris, born May 13, 2015. Jenn shares she graduated with the highest distinction from Fanshawe College in Human Resource Management in December 2018.

Meg Pirie ‘07 and Aaron Lawrence ’07 proudly announce the birth of Eddie, born January 14, 2019. Eddie is the younger sibling of Jasper, aged 3½.

Congratulations to Dr. Claire L. Halstead ’10 and Kyle Hartlen ’14 who became engaged in October 2018! Claire writes: “Kyle and I met in 2008 at Huron and after a decade together, we became engaged in Montreal in October 2018. We were married on August 3, 2019 in Nova Scotia where we now live. We will always be thankful to Huron for giving us a very strong academic, community and social undergraduate experience and also for bringing us together!”

Jonathan Lees ’10 is proud to announce birth of his daughter, Isabelle, born November 11, 2017. Isabelle is the younger sibling of Theodore, aged 3½. Jonathan writes, “Isabelle’s personality is just fantastic, and she’s such a little goofball – seeing her smile is enough to make any of my days brighter.”

Jonathan Lees ’10 and his wife, Carolyn Marshall, are the proud parents of Abigail Lorraine, born August 26, 2018, sibling to Hannah.

Congratulations to The Rev. Joey Royal ’11 who was elected a Suffragan Bishop for the Diocese of the Arctic.

Congratulations to David Brooks ’16 who was named a finalist for Western University’s Award of Excellence for Undergraduate Teaching. David is a lecturer in Business Foundations at Ivey.

FRIENDS OF HURON

Congratulations to Janet Stewart, Q.C. for winning the 2019 YMCA Women of Excellence Award for Outstanding Achievement. Janet was recognized for her legendary and inspiring contributions to philanthropy, most specifically as a founder of Big Sisters in London, and her service to numerous Boards and Committees. This year also marks her 50th anniversary at Lerners LLP in London, Ontario.

NEW ADDRESS?
Let us know so that we can send you the alumni newsletter and updates on Huron to keep you in the loop.
Update your address at huronatwestern.ca/alumni/update-your-address
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Class of 1956
A. E. (Klein) Storrs

Class of 1957
Archdeacon Peter B. Moore

Class of 1958
Mary Courtnay
Peter J. Sturby

Class of 1959
Ron Billings
D. A. Borens
H. Carter
Robert Hart
Andrew Pressburger
Don Woodley

Class of 1960
Bill Bartham
The Rev. John F. Flindall
Don M. Henderson, Q.C.
A. Benson Lorrimer
Clare Pace
Mary (Griffin) Pace
George R. Powell
J. Robbi Reynolds*
Patricia (Joselyn) Thompson
The Rev. Clifford Trelfa
Ken Turnbull
Paul Waring

Class of 1961
Murray Brown
The Rev. John R. Clarke
Peter F. Hancock
Doug Moulton
Michael Prior
Damasus (Hans) Robinson
Paul Smart
Sara (Willis) Smith
Edward Snowdon
The Rev. Bill White* 1961

Class of 1960 +
Anonymous
The Rev. Greyham Bowcott 1960, 1960
Rev’d Andreas Tsal* 191
Ernest H. Buffet’ 11
Jacqueline K. Matt* 11
The Rev. Dr. John M. Thompson 11
The Rev. Michael DeKay 12
The Rev. Darlene Kuhn 12
The Rev. Andrew Wilson 12
The Rev. Matt Koivuik 13
Rev. Mary Farmer 15
George Ethymlandis 16
The Rev. Andrew Rampton 17
Ian Edgar 18
Luis E. Martinez 18
Eric J. Pachar 18
Andra Townshead 199 18
John Aybeymi 19
Stefan H. Nicols 19

Class of 1962
Ailenn Balken
John Block
Don Cox
The Rev. Thomas Granger
Michael Hamilton
Heather MacNaughton Hoestt
Douglas Love
Lynn (Harris) McLeod
Danny Miller

Helen (Nassen) Moore
Leonard Owen
Lynne (Stevens) Owen
Nancy Hungford Titlay
Mary Lou (Barnes) Tomlits
Michael B. Vaughan
The Hon. Mr. Justice John deP. Wright

Class of 1963
Bruce Anthony
Christopher Brian Barnes
Margaret Church Little
Lawrence C. Cumming
The Hon. J. Douglas Cunningham
Elaine (Bramham) Duncanson
Joe Essaye
Mary Pratt Harlan
Glen H. Hoerner
Prof. John D. McCamus
Donald G. McFarlane
Linda J. McMullen
J. David McPhail
Henry Nelles*
Malcolm Nourse
Ted Pullar
Nestor Prisco
W. Gerald Strongman
Connie (Reid) Webster
Rev. Robert W. Wills

Class of 1964
Jane (Dalton) Baldwin
Ronald F. Barber
William G. Bickle
Lee Buffin
Captain (Ret.) James A. Burton
Margaret (Rae) Carver
R. Gary Dallner
Connie (Reid) Webster
Ted Petter
J. David Smart
Jack Wood
Ross Wright

Class of 1967
Anonymous
Calla Arceh
Aubrey W. Baille
Gary Barnes
Paul Baston
James C. Carr
Ken Fong
Robert Glass
Cairn (Gibson) Huff
Ron K. Lewis
Paul Mackin
Teressa Millet
Linda (McCreary) Nourse
Peter D. Omnet
Bill Robinson
Patamie (Robinson)
Mary Anne (Toomath) Seppala
James Simpson
Barry Weir
Martha Fidler Wilson

Class of 1968
Anonymous (2)
Colin Cowie
Douglas Derry
Mary Louise (Thrus) Doig
Rick Gravets*
IN MEMORIAM

As of July 25, 2019

Jaffray Smith ‘63, June 24, 2019
J. Robb Reynolds ‘60, May 14, 2019
Fred Kingsmill, a Friend of Huron, May 13, 2019
Margot (Birth) Bogdon ‘80, May 8, 2019
The Rev. Doug MacKenzie ‘86, April 26, 2019
Jim Coons ‘60, April 19, 2019

Bill Jamieson ‘73, April 3, 2019
Ian Skaith ‘69, March 10, 2019
Dale Galloway ‘77, March 4, 2019
Don McFarlane ‘79, March 3, 2019
Judy (Quist) Adams ‘67, February 26, 2019
Paul (Tony) Kyle ‘80, November 2, 2018
Paul D. Phelan, Douglas G. Fraser, Maribeth Ditchfield, Sally Bennett, Class of 1972

The Rev. Donald Axford ‘77, August 24, 2018
George Baker ‘77, July 11, 2018
Patricia Mitchell ‘03, August 15, 2018
Ngaire (Lowndes) Wadman ‘76, March 20, 2018
John Wood ‘64, December 25, 2018
Henry Nelles ‘63, December 20, 2018
Mary Ellis, a Friend

The Rev. Ed Healey ‘79, February 26, 2019
Marie Cliff ‘06 and ‘09, March 3, 2019
John A. Grant, a Friend

Don McFarlane ‘79, March 4, 2019
March 10, 2019
Ian Skaith ‘69, April 3, 2019
Paul (Tony) Kyle ‘80, November 2, 2018
Richard LeGresley, Millman ‘85, December 10, 2018
Dr. Donald Axford ‘77, Pete Evans, a Friend

Paul (Tony) Kyle ‘80, November 2, 2018
Richard LeGresley, Millman ‘85, December 10, 2018
Dr. Donald Axford ‘77, Pete Evans, a Friend

Mary E. (Crump) Kilner, June 20, 2019
Henry Nelles ‘63, December 20, 2018
John Wood ‘64, December 25, 2018
Henry Nelles ‘63, December 20, 2018
Mary Ellis, a Friend

Time

Mary E. (Crump) Kilner

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You’ve been offered the TD Insurance Melleco-Montreal program. This means you can get preferred insurance rates on a wide range of home, condo, renter’s and car coverages that can be customized for your needs. For over 65 years, TD Insurance has been helping Canadians find the best insurance solutions. Feel confident your coverage fits your needs.

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The Ven. Dr. Gordon J. Simmons
Rchard Lardner
James Purvis
Jim Stevens
James Purvis
Rychard Lardner
The Rev. Dr. Gordon J. Simmons
Dr. Louis E. Weatherhead
Class of 1973
Anonymous
Janice (Durrant) Andreac
Marsha DaFore
Lynne Thabron
Michael W. Good
Terry Peach
Class of 1974
Elspeth L. McFadden
Susan (Marrinico) Peach
Ross Reid
Gay (Stewart) Singer
John Whittically
Class of 1975
Donna (Powars) Bristow
Mary Anna (Almost) Dowling
Bill Haust
Judy (Bettendorf) Haust
Greg Smith
Mark TarBush
Mark Tinnaearer
Class of 1976
Bill Harris
Dave Hutchinson
Barry Kueh
Janet (Mottet) Lardner
Mary Lu Rifeley Redden
Rev. Robert Shaw
Professor (Widow) Wauchuck
Class of 1977
John D. Blackwell
Debra (Lohman) Casper
Jordan Casper
Stephen M. Dopp
Jean (Conn) Harris
Bruce Hynds
John Letch
Terry (Geddins) MacDonald
Mark Riley
The Ven. Peter T. Townsend
Barbara Wellwood-Warnock
Class of 1978
Bob Duncanson
The Venerable Christopher Dunn
Debbie Eyton Edmonds
Warrren Garnett
Townsend Haines
Mary E. (Crump) Kilner
Linda Kopetzki
Jill (Tempany) Lawford
Stuart Macrae
Mary Lynn (Turner) Mansell
Proff. Richard H. McLaren
Lloyd W. Preston
Ann (Hosack) Robertson Seigal
Brian A. Shaw
Elaine (Piazzo) Wright
Fred Kingsmill, a Friend

George Baker ‘77, July 11, 2018
Patricia Mitchell ‘03, August 15, 2018
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