

Atlantic Centre of Research, Access and Support for Students with Disabilities

Annual Report
2009 – 2010

Table of Contents

Atlantic Centre of Research, Access and Support for Students with Disabilities

Message from the Director.....	3
Atlantic Centre Staff.....	4
History of the Atlantic Centre.....	5
Services Rendered: 2009-2010.....	10
Liberated Learning.....	12
Events & Resource Activities: 2009-2010.....	14
Appendices: Table of Contents.....	16

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Message from the Director

May 20th, 2010

On Friday April 16th, 2010 Saint Mary's University co-hosted the Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defense, to commemorate Canada's ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Saint Mary's University president Dr. Colin Dodds, along with Mount Saint Vincent University president Dr. Alexa McDonough and several federal, provincial and municipal government representatives, joined the honourable minister in celebrating the pride Canadians take in supporting the UN convention. The dignitaries present at this event also took the opportunity to recognize the achievements of the Atlantic Centre on behalf of students with disabilities.

The accolades generously provided to the Atlantic Centre that day prompted me to reflect upon the amazing progress that has been achieved relative to the inclusion of persons with disabilities in higher education. Twenty-five years ago, only a handful of students with disabilities enrolled at Saint Mary's University; compared to the 302 students that are currently registered in 2010, the contrast speaks to how far we have come.

As a witness of this transformation that has taken place within higher education, it is particularly heartening to observe not only the increased numbers of students with disabilities attending university, but the pervasive, supportive, and welcoming spirit amongst all members of the university community for these students.

Along with the positive attitudinal changes that have occurred, there has been a strong corresponding commitment of resources to ensure the best possible accommodations are made for students with disabilities. Saint Mary's University and The Atlantic Centre have been fortunate to have the financial support from the Nova Scotia Department of Education, numerous private donors, and from local, national and international corporations to ensure that we continue to have one of the most accessible campuses in Canada.

Another essential resource for any organization (of course) is its people, and it is an honour for me to work with staff who are unfailingly kind and dedicated to the students being supported by the Atlantic Centre.

Sincerely,

David Leitch, Ph.D.

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History of the Atlantic Centre

Below are listed a number of the key initiatives undertaken over the past years by the Atlantic Centre, which elucidate the breadth of individual and community commitment toward fulfilling its fundamental goals through consistent, active support and ingenuity.

1968	Edmund Rice student residence opens. Four floors are specifically designed for students with physical disabilities.
1975	Community Tape Resources Library is established by Saint Mary's University students. Volunteers read books onto master tapes, which are duplicated and used by students who are unable to read fine print.
1981	The Post-Secondary Education Association for the Deaf is formed. Saint Mary's plays a pivotal role in the work of the association, which is comprised of a group of university representatives and community persons, chaired by Dr. David Leitch.
1985	The Department of the Secretary of State grants Saint Mary's University \$600,000 to found the Atlantic Centre of Research, Access and Support for Disabled Students. The Atlantic Centre begins operation. A Federal/Provincial agreement provides funding for a Visual Language Interpreter Training Program at the Atlantic Centre, the first such program in the Maritimes.
1986	New facilities for the Centre are completed in the O'Donnell-Hennessey Student Centre Maritime Telephone and Telegraph contribute \$180,000 to support an endowment fund for programs to serve students with visual and hearing disabilities. Local philanthropist, Raymond Ferguson, makes a gift of \$60,000 to the renamed Ferguson Tape Library for Print Handicapped Students.
1987	Services are broadened from the initial focus on students with hearing impairments to include students with other disabilities. Deborah Robar becomes the first Deaf student to enroll in the Saint Mary's University Bachelor of Education program.
1988	An \$822,000 Federal Government grant from Canada Employment and Immigration enables the Atlantic Centre to establish a three year program, the Employment Connection, which aims to improve meaningful, career-track employment for persons with disabilities. The program also raises the awareness of the business community about the possibility of hiring persons with disabilities. Deborah Robar becomes Canada's first Deaf Canadian University Valedictorian.

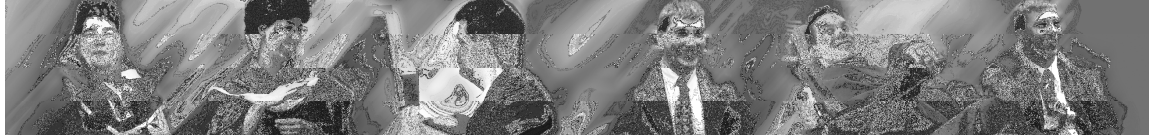
<p>1990</p>	<p>The Learning Disabled Students Program commences services through support from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services. Special remedial and tutorial services, as well as other services, are available from a counselor trained in the special needs of students with learning disabilities.</p> <p>Bryan Levangie is the first Saint Mary's student with a disability to enroll in the Computer Science Co-operative Education Program.</p>
<p>1991</p>	<p>The Ferguson Tape Library for Print-Handicapped Students receives funding to hire a full-time coordinator.</p>
<p>1992</p>	<p>Dow Chemical Canada Inc. makes a financial contribution toward the expansion of the Atlantic Centre learning laboratory.</p> <p>The Centre completes its first major research project, an empirical study on literacy levels of Nova Scotians with Cerebral Palsy.</p>
<p>1993</p>	<p>By May 1993, the Atlantic Centre has provided American Sign Language instruction to over 800 persons.</p>
<p>1994</p>	<p>The Atlantic Centre receives a major commitment from Xerox Canada Ltd. to assist with the development of technology for students with disabilities. This support is on-going.</p>
<p>1995</p>	<p>In January, thanks to the financial support of Nestlé Canada Inc. to the Atlantic Centre, the Employment Connection is re-established and integrated into the Saint Mary's Student Employment Centre.</p> <p>Expansion of the Centre, primarily of the learning laboratory and study areas for students, is made possible by Xerox Canada Ltd. and Saint Mary's University.</p>
<p>1996</p>	<p>Thanks to an active committee comprised of local community members and members of the university community, the <i>University House Lottery Project</i> is a success. This fundraising effort made it possible for the Centre to purchase state of the art computer technology for both visually impaired and mobility impaired students.</p> <p>There are two distinguished visitors to the Atlantic Centre this year, Rick Hansen and Dr. I. King Jordan, President of Gallaudet University. Both individuals receive honorary degrees from Saint Mary's University.</p>
<p>1997</p>	<p>The Atlantic Centre hosts the inaugural meeting of the Canadian Association of Disability Service Providers in Post-Secondary Education (CADSPPE). For over a decade these professionals, doing work similar to that performed by the staff at the Atlantic Centre, had been striving to form a national association. The Atlantic Centre played a key role in making this association a reality in Canada.</p>

1998	<p>The Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education confirms long-term funding for the core operations of the Centre.</p> <p>With funds raised by the University House Lottery and IBM Canada Ltd., Saint Mary's becomes the first university in the world to test speech recognition technology as an alternative to conventional classroom note-taking.</p>
1999	<p>The Atlantic Centre receives a \$1.2 million grant from The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation, allowing the Liberated Learning Project to begin using speech recognition to enhance accessibility.</p> <p>In the fall, the Atlantic Centre hosts the inaugural meeting of the Liberated Learning Project. Comprised of some of the top scientists and academics in their respective fields, the meeting brings together the Project's partners from around the world.</p>
2000	<p>The Atlantic Centre receives worldwide recognition for developing technological innovations to assist with the integration of persons with disabilities into higher education. <i>University Business</i>, which is disseminated to 31,000 senior university administrators, is just one publication that recognized the Atlantic Centre. Furthermore, the Liberated Learning Project housed by the Atlantic Centre is included on IBM's web page.</p>
2001	<p>Aliant, one of Canada's top high-tech companies providing integrated communications and IT solutions world-wide, publicly recognizes the Atlantic Centre and its director Dr. David Leitch for their long-term commitment to using technological innovations for fostering greater independence amongst students with disabilities in higher education.</p>
2002	<p>Ruth and Hermann Schwind make a \$100,000 donation to Saint Mary's University to endow the <i>Nicola Schwind Memorial Scholarship</i>. This scholarship will award up to \$5,000 to a first-year student with a disability entering an undergraduate program at Saint Mary's University.</p>
2003	<p>The Liberated Learning Initiative receives a gift of \$25,825 (USD) from the Coca-Cola Foundation.</p>
2004	<p>Gordon Nixon, President and Chief Executive Officer of RBC Financial Group, announces a generous leadership commitment of \$400,000 in funding to the Atlantic Centre.</p> <p>The Federal Government of Canada awards almost \$400,000 toward a collaborative effort by the Alexander Graham Bell Institute, Cape Breton University and the Atlantic Centre to research and develop a Liberated Learning Showcase to be tested at the Bell National Historic Site in Baddeck, Nova Scotia.</p> <p>A well known Canadian philanthropic organization, The Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation, provides the Atlantic Centre with a \$25,000 scholarship endowment.</p>

<p>2005</p>	<p>GIFT Atlantic Foundation presents a cheque for \$155,000 for testing the Liberated Learning technology in a high school environment.</p> <p>As part of the Liberated Learning partnership, the Atlantic Centre hosts a visit by three distinguished professors from Hiroshima University, Japan. A reception was held to introduce the visitors to the Saint Mary's University community.</p>
<p>2006</p>	<p>The Atlantic Centre received funding from the NS Department of Education's Rehabilitation Programs & Services Department for three projects; (1) Library Feasibility Study – orchestrating the production and distribution of Alternate Format materials for print-handicapped students amongst Nova Scotia universities, (2) a conference entitled; “The Whole Student: Meeting the Needs of Students with Disabilities. From Technology to Positive Growth & Development”, held in November, 2006 & (3) renovations to establish the Atlantic Centre Test Accommodation area.</p> <p>Tara Lynn Cosman, a mobility impaired student at Saint Mary's, became an exchange student at Hiroshima University in Japan with assistance from the Atlantic Centre.</p> <p>The Atlantic Centre was honoured to welcome the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, the Honourable Myra Freeman, as Patron of the Atlantic Centre. A reception of invited guests was held in March to celebrate the appointment.</p>
<p>2007</p>	<p>The Atlantic Centre was proud to open the Exam Accommodation Centre, a renovated classroom allowing more space for students with disabilities to write tests/exams under the supervision of the Exam Coordinator. With an average of 500 exams per semester, the Exam Accommodation Centre allowed the Atlantic Centre Computer Lab to remain available for other students during exam times.</p> <p>Saint Mary's University dedicated more than \$350,000 to be spent over the next year to campus-wide accessibility improvements for students with disabilities.</p>
<p>2008</p>	<p>The Atlantic Centre was the recipient of tremendous generosity from two outstanding philanthropists: Dr. Gary Mooney, President and Chief Operating Officer of Fidelity National Financial (FNF) Canada, supported the Centre with a wonderful gift of \$250,000. Dr. Nancy Smithers, President and Chief Operating Officer of Naturally Nova Scotia Health Products Limited and Mr. Fred Smithers, OC, President and Chief Executive Officer of Iona Resources Holdings Limited gave, without fanfare, an amazing \$1 million gift to support the services and activities for Students with Disabilities at the Atlantic Centre.</p> <p>Benchmark – this past academic year, the Atlantic Centre reached an enrollment of <u>300</u> students with disabilities.</p>
<p>2009</p>	<p>Staff of the Atlantic Centre authored a major paper; “Human Rights Legislation, the Duty to Accommodate and Post-Secondary Education Institutions in Nova Scotia”. This research was made possible by the Nova Scotia Department of Education.</p>

<p>2009 (cont.)</p>	<p>This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the Liberated Learning Project at Saint Mary's University. The LL Project began with funding from the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation and continues today with the support of a consortium of 19 Universities and Colleges and also IBM who have been with the project from the start.</p> <p>A record high number of students with disabilities (35) graduated from Saint Mary's University in 2009, with degrees in Arts, Science and Commerce.</p>
<p>2010</p>	<p>Two new projects were approved for funding. A Mentoring Project was established to ease the transition to university for new students by matching them with senior accomplished students who would serve as mentors.</p> <p>Liberated Learning also received substantial government funding for the Liberated Learning Youth Initiative Project. This project will offer 200 students with disabilities across Canada the opportunity to determine how speech recognition technology might improve their access to lecture material. This project will also work with four national disability organizations to explore how speech recognition technology can enhance their respective services.</p>

Services



Today, approximately 300 students rely on the Centre for a wide variety of services. Although the majority of these students attend Saint Mary's University, the Atlantic Centre helps clients throughout the province of Nova Scotia. The Centre has developed an international reputation as a leader in providing support services for students with disabilities at the post-secondary level.

The Atlantic Centre offers several unique programs and individualized support services to our clients including:

- Research
- Resource centre
- Academic support
- Employment counselling in conjunction with Saint Mary's University Employment Office
- ASL / English Interpreting
- Alternate format preparation
- Individual academic counselling
- Adaptive technology and training
- Note taking via a volunteer program
- Mentorship program
- Advocacy and self-advocacy training
- Alternative exam accommodations and invigilation
- University orientation and High School transition sessions
- faculty presentations / teacher in-services / student workshops
- Facilitate access to grants, goods, and services for students with disabilities

Our mandate also includes increasing the awareness of university opportunities for prospective students. We offer visits and consultations to high schools in the province of Nova Scotia, and frequently correspond with provincial school boards about transition issues and technology supports. We also act as a resource base for other regional universities, providing consultation regarding students and programs.

Atlantic Centre Counsellors each have different areas of expertise and students who apply to receive services are assigned a counsellor based on the nature of their disability. The initial meetings between counsellor and student form the basis of our support program.

In 2009-2010, 302 clients of the Atlantic Centre received extensive support services including: pre-admission advice, note taking, interpreting, alternative exam procedures, counselling and computer training as well as help accessing grants, goods, and services provided by federal and provincial governments. Although most of these students attended Saint Mary's University, the Centre provided direct support for some students at other Nova Scotia universities. More specifically, listed below are the core supports offered by the Atlantic Centre:

Interpreting: The Centre's interpreting service provided 568 hours of classroom interpreting. The Centre employs a full-time ASL/English interpreter who provides direct service and co-ordinates the services of part-time interpreters.

Students with Learning Disabilities: This year, direct support was provided to 203 students with learning disabilities. This service has been available since 1990. Counsellors conduct informal assessments, liaise with faculty, arrange for note taking and alternate exam accommodations, provide counselling, and explore technological assistance for students with learning disabilities.

Employment Connection: The Atlantic Centre, since 1988, has operated a service called the "Employment Connection". The service is designed to help students assisted by the Centre prepare for the work place and to find employment. Steve Noel, working through the Saint Mary's Employment Centre, helps students with their resumes, prepare for job interviews and apply for positions. Steve also actively seeks out employers and works with them to encourage hiring persons with disabilities.

Exam Accommodation: The exam coordinator arranged 1,718 alternate exams to be written at the Atlantic Centre, requiring a total of 4,217 hours for students with disabilities that are not able to write exams in a regular exam setting, who may require the use of adaptive equipment, and/or require additional time allowance to complete their tests/exams.

High School Visits: Atlantic Centre Staff communicate annually with as many high schools as possible. Staff ensures that students, teachers, and guidance counsellors understand that university is a viable option for persons with disabilities and that support services are available.

Counselling: Counsellors of the Centre have a wide range of specialization including areas of hearing impairments, visual impairments, mobility impairments and learning disabilities. Each year, there are hundreds of counselling sessions with clients of the Centre, and counsellors are often called upon to assist with a wide range of academic and disability related issues.

Technical Aids: Since its inception, the Centre has been dedicated to finding technological solutions to problems faced by students with disabilities in educational settings. The Atlantic Centre continues to add new hardware and software to its Computer Lab. Recent upgrades include the Kurzweil 3000 reader, two new FM systems and the addition of six new digital recorders to the Equipment Loan Bank.

Note Taking: Staff of the Centre arrange for dozens of volunteer note takers to assist students who, due to the nature of their disabilities, are not able to take their own notes in the classroom.

Financial Support: The Atlantic Centre's Disability Resource Facilitator works closely with Post Secondary Disability Services and other student aid offices across the country to help students obtain goods and/or services directly related to their disability which assists in reducing barriers in the educational environment. She also facilitates access to various grants offered by federal and provincial student aid programs.

Scholarships and Bursaries: Saint Mary's and the Atlantic Centre allocate and reward over one dozen financial awards every year to students with disabilities.



Liberated Learning Consortium

Hosted by the Atlantic Centre, Liberated Learning is an international consortium of organizations, working together to advance speech recognition (SR) technology and techniques to create barrier-free learning environments where learners have equal access to information. Liberated Learning is based on two interrelated applications:

- Using SR to automatically transcribe spoken language and display it as text in real time.
- Using SR to produce accessible, multimedia transcripts.

The Consortium is dedicated to achieving the following core objectives:

- Collaboratively researching/testing SR in various educational environments
- Evaluating and reporting the impact of SR on students with disabilities, non-disabled students, faculty/instructors, and other stakeholders
- Generating empirically derived knowledge that improves the universal efficiency and effectiveness of SR technologies and techniques
- Successfully transferring Liberated Learning knowledge/technology

Liberated Learning undergoes continuous development and the team based at the Atlantic Centre manages the Consortium's core infrastructure, provides support to other members, and leads several research and development projects:

Technology - Testing a Hosted Transcription Service (HTS – an experimental SR system that automatically transcribes audio or video into accessible multimedia). In addition to using an IBM prototype, various consortium members implemented custom HTS implementations at their respective campuses and also integrated HTS components with other classroom learning systems.

International Development - SMU continued to work with partners at the University of Bologna, University of Southampton, and Ulm University on the Net4Voice project (www.net4voice.eu). Experimentation of SR in the context of European educational systems explored learning methodology differences between different countries, levels of education and languages. The Net4Voice final conference was held in Bologna Italy in May, 2010 and attracted an audience of almost 100 people from across the European Union. Keith Bain provided a keynote speech and moderated a panel comprised of companies from the EU working in the area of SR.

Canadian Youth Initiative - Through the Social Development Partnerships Program - Promoting Accessibility and Youth with Disabilities themes, SMU, Trent University, IBM Research, Cambrian College, Learning Disabilities Association of Canada, Canadian Hard of Hearing Association, the Neil Squire Society, and Easter Seals Canada are collaboratively developing emerging SR technologies that increase access to information for Canadians with disabilities. During this project which began in early 2010, the project team continued integrating and standardizing SR usage in National Disability Organization programs and services. To further expand SR usage and empower youth with disabilities, students with disabilities attending post secondary education will be given special user accounts for HTS. Students will be able to upload previously inaccessible, recorded media (i.e. recorded lectures) and receive a SR generated multimedia transcripts. Visit www.transcribeyourclass.ca for more project information.

Partnership and Collaboration - SMU organized an interactive annual general meeting of consortium membership, presented the IBM Speech Recognition in Education Symposium, in November at the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center in NY, USA and launched a new interactive WIKI that allows members to contribute to the knowledge that enables all partners to successfully leverage developments and expertise. www.liberatedlearningtechnology.com/mediawiki/index

Events & Resource Activities: 2009 - 2010

Six students from the NSCC's ASL/English Interpretation Program came to Saint Mary's to conduct observations in several different classes over the span of approximately three months during the fall and winter semesters of 2009-2010.

Kris Seibert provided supervision and mentoring for one student from the NSCC's ASL/English Interpretation Program who chose Saint Mary's University for a three week practicum work placement in March of the winter semester 2010.

The Atlantic Centre was represented by Kris Seibert at two separate panel discussion meetings at the NSCC Waterfront Campus in April 2010 and he presented to both the second and first year students (respectively) of the ASL/English Interpretation Program about the interpreting profession generally and post-secondary interpreting specifically.

Saint Mary's and the Atlantic Centre continued to be represented on the Nova Scotia Department of Education Post-Secondary Disability Services Project Steering Committee responsible for the Nova Scotia Longitudinal Follow-up survey of Post-Secondary Leavers with Disabilities.

The Atlantic Centre prepared a literature review on the subject of access to post-secondary education for Nova Scotian students with disabilities as part of a larger ongoing study between Saint Mary's Gorsebrook Institute and the Nova Scotia Department of Education.

Kim Penny and Barry Abbott provided group sessions to Occupational Therapy students at Dalhousie University in January 2010 on Post-Secondary Disability Services, funding available to students with disabilities, and Kurzweil 3000.

The Atlantic Centre was an exhibitor at Halifax Regional Municipality's Transition Fair (Barry Abbot & Sarah Roberts).

The Atlantic Centre was an exhibitor at Landmark College's Transition Fair (Sarah Roberts).

David Leitch was the keynote speaker at the PAANS (Partnership for Access Awareness Nova Scotia) yearly conference.

The Atlantic Centre received a Saint Mary's University SEEP Grant for the creation of a Mentoring Program.

David Leitch presented to the staff of Saint Mary's TESL Centre on how best to accommodate students with learning disabilities.

A meeting was held at York University to discuss the possible development of a consortium between Landmark College, Saint Mary's University, and York University for conducting research and developing programs for persons with ADD/ADHD.

The inaugural meeting of SDPP IV Youth Initiative Project was held at the Atlantic Centre with representatives from Trent, the Neil Squire Foundation, LDAC, CHHA and Easter Seals.

Hosted by the Atlantic Centre, University of Toronto's Associate Professor of Psychiatry Dr. Umesh Jain gave a lecture on the current views and understandings of ADD/ADHD along with strategies for support in higher education.

The Atlantic Centre continued its involvement with the Board of Directors for the Team Works Cooperative. (Barry Abbott)

The Atlantic Centre continued its participation on the Canadian Association of Disability Service Providers in Post-Secondary Education (CADSPPE) National Committee on Alternative Formats (CAF). (Barry Abbott)

The Atlantic Centre continued its participation on the Saint Mary's University Conflict Resolution Committee. (Barry Abbott)

Barry Abbott conducted a fall workshop at the Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority regarding 'off-the-shelf' devices which can be used by persons who are blind.

The Atlantic Centre staff joined the celebration held at Saint Mary's University marking Canada's ratification of the United Nations signing of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Appendices

Number of Atlantic Centre Clients p. 17

Atlantic Centre Clients – Types of Disabilities p. 18

Classroom Interpreting Hours p. 19

Learning Disabilities Program p. 20

Employment Connection p. 21

Examination Statistics: Number of Exams Written p. 22

Total Number of Examination Hours p. 23

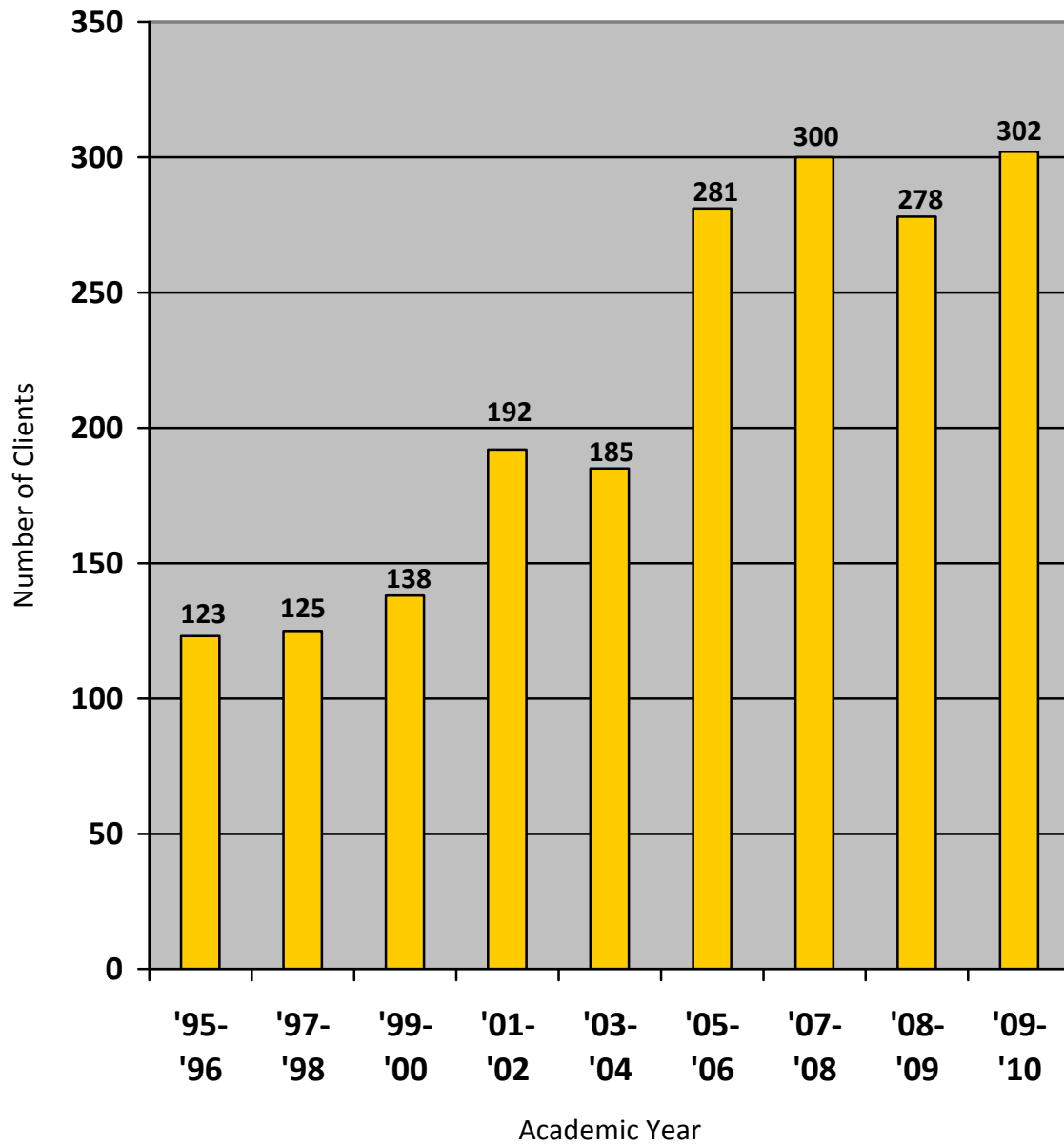
Atlantic Centre Sponsors p. 24

Scholarships p. 25

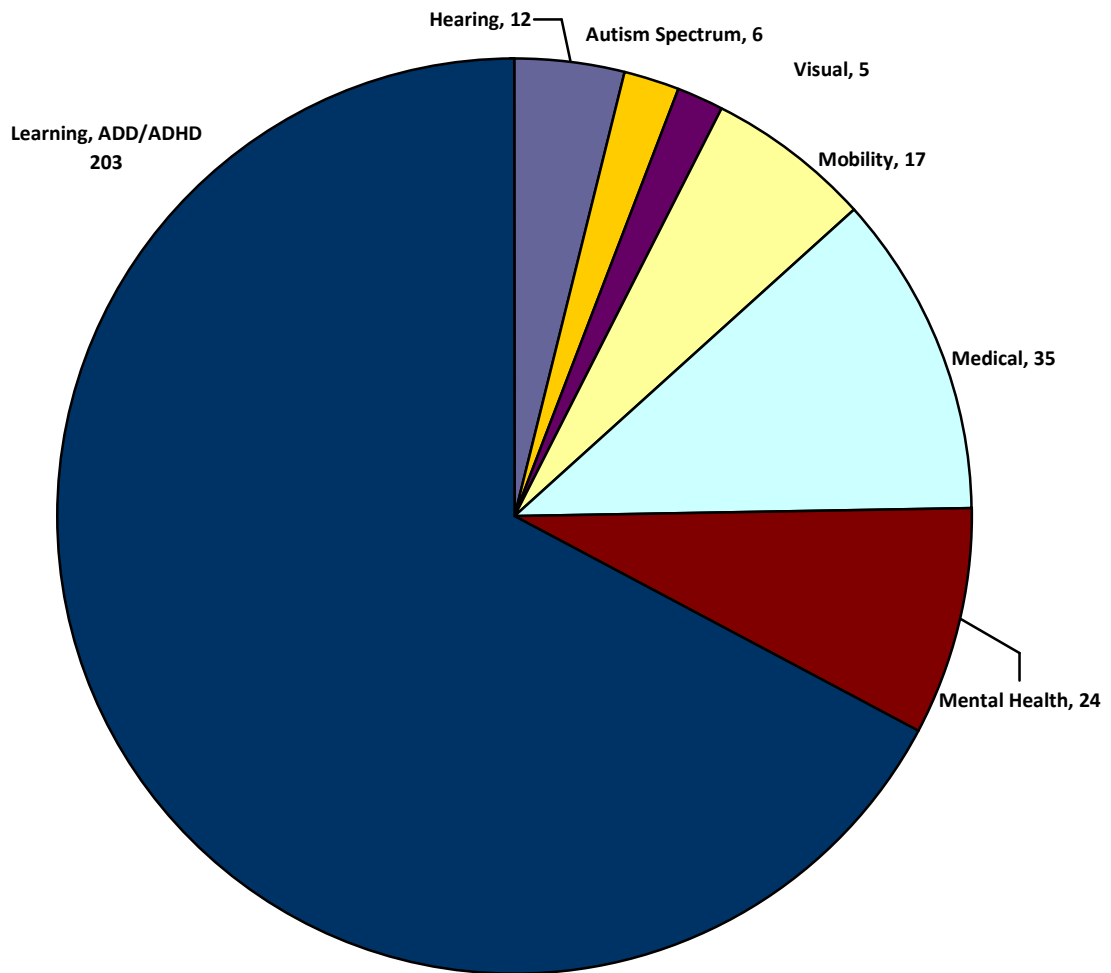
Memorandum of Understanding Statistics pp. 26-28

Saint Mary's University Campus Accessibility Improvements pp. 29-30

Total Number of Atlantic Centre Clients

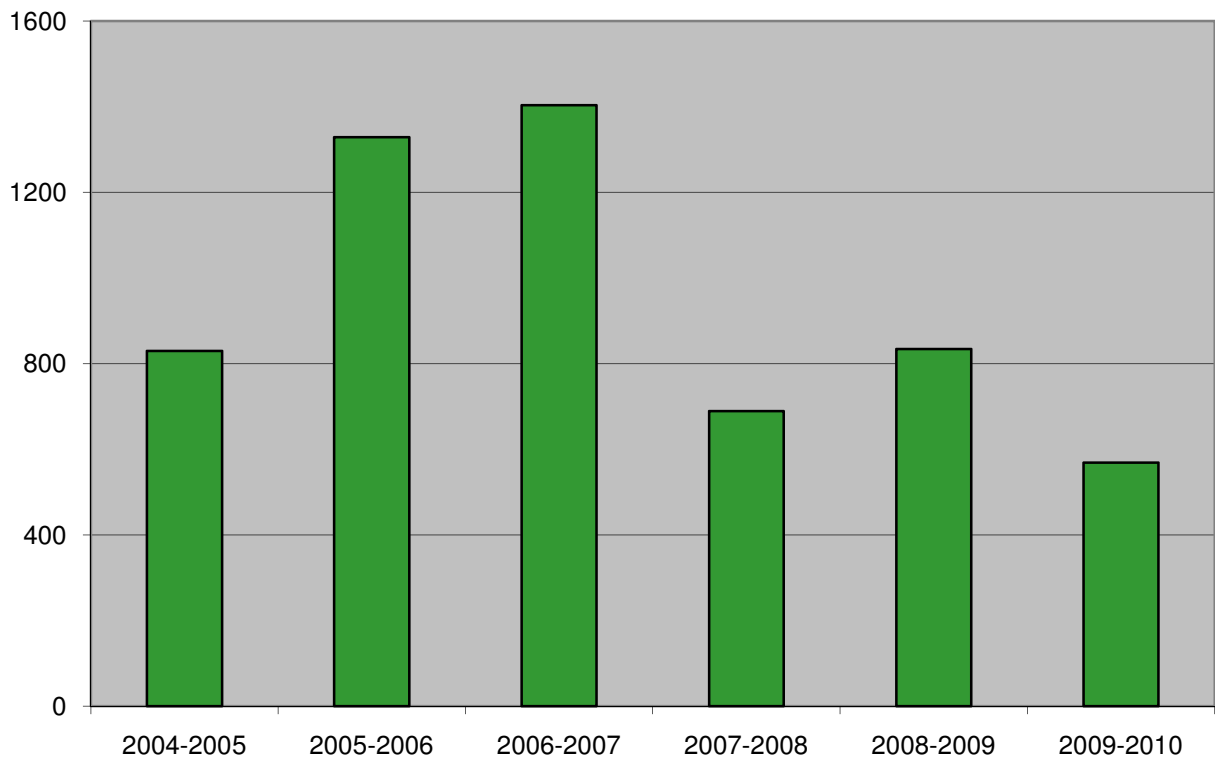


Disability By Type 2009-2010

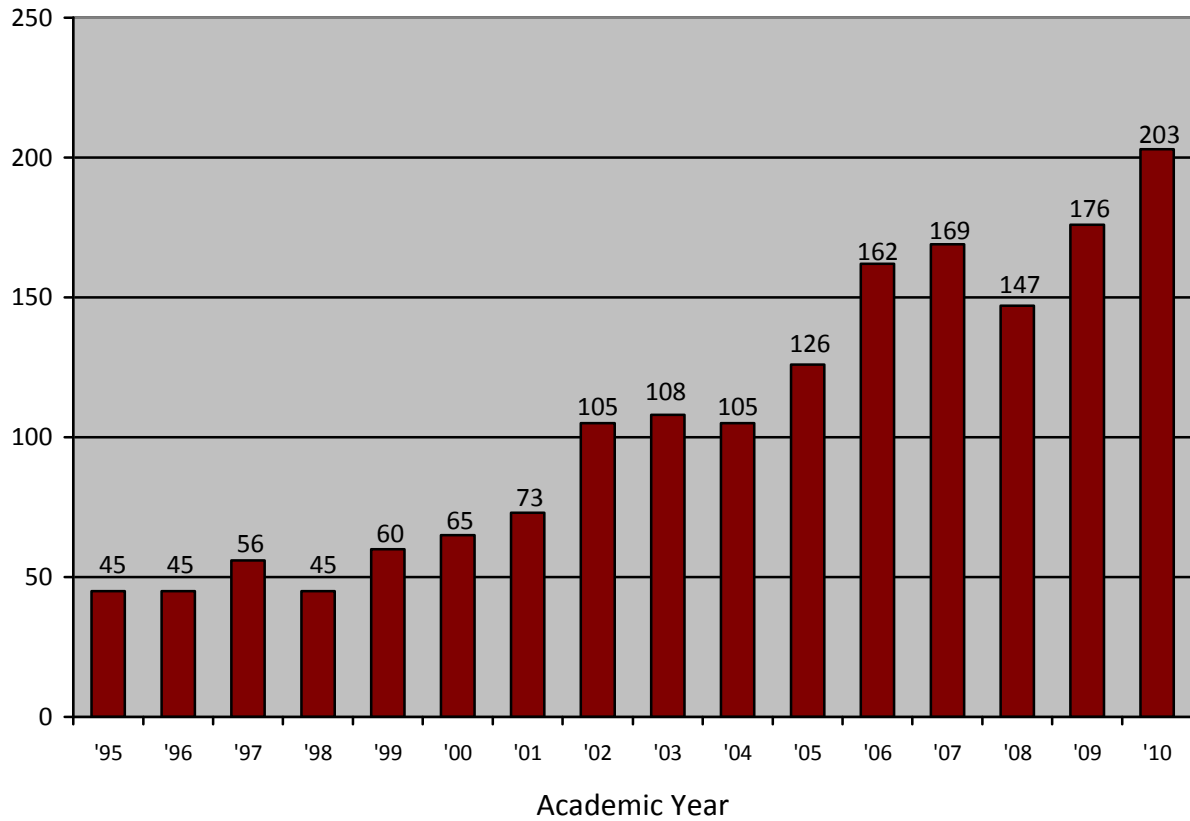


■ Hearing ■ Autism Spectrum ■ Visual ■ Mobility ■ Medical ■ Mental Health ■ Learning/ADD/ADHD

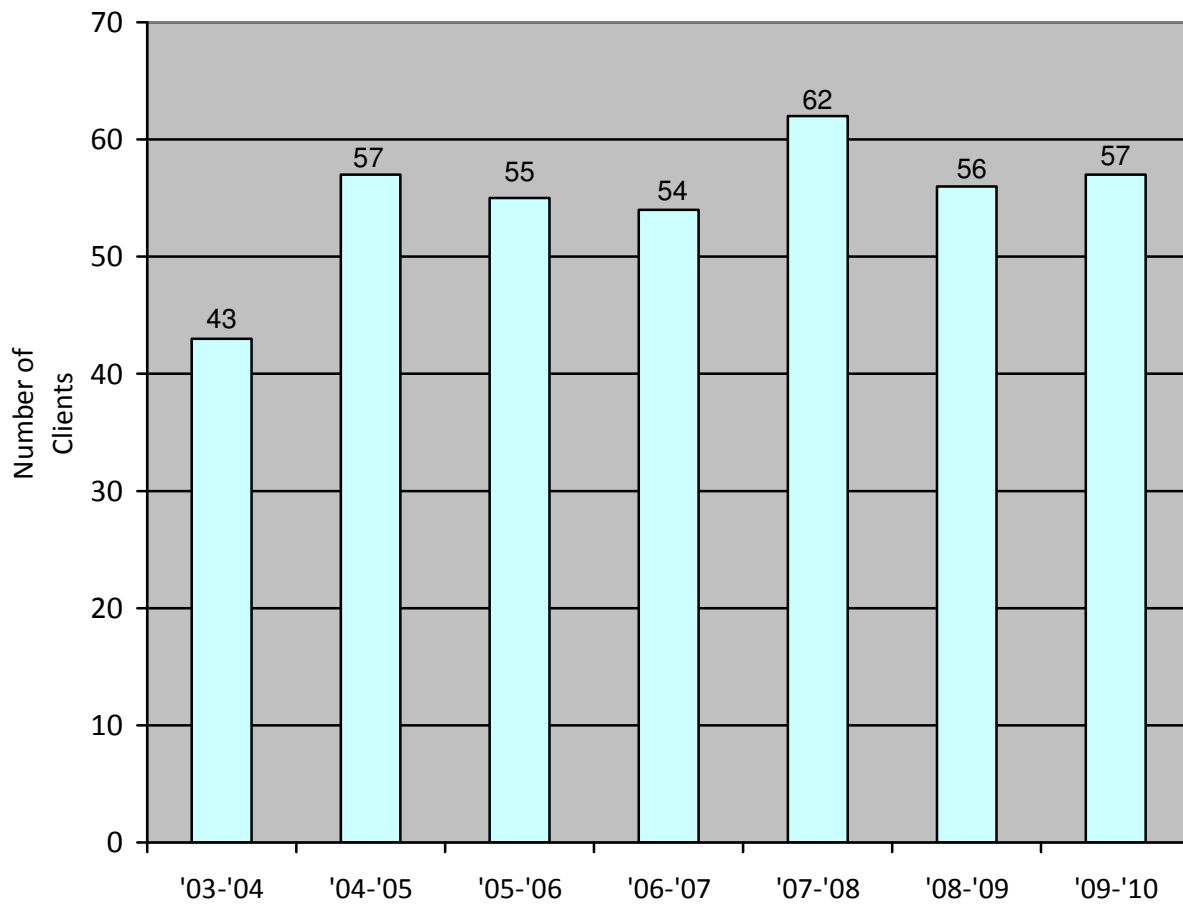
Classroom Interpreting Hours 2004 - 2010



Learning Disabilities Program Student Enrollments 1995 - 2010



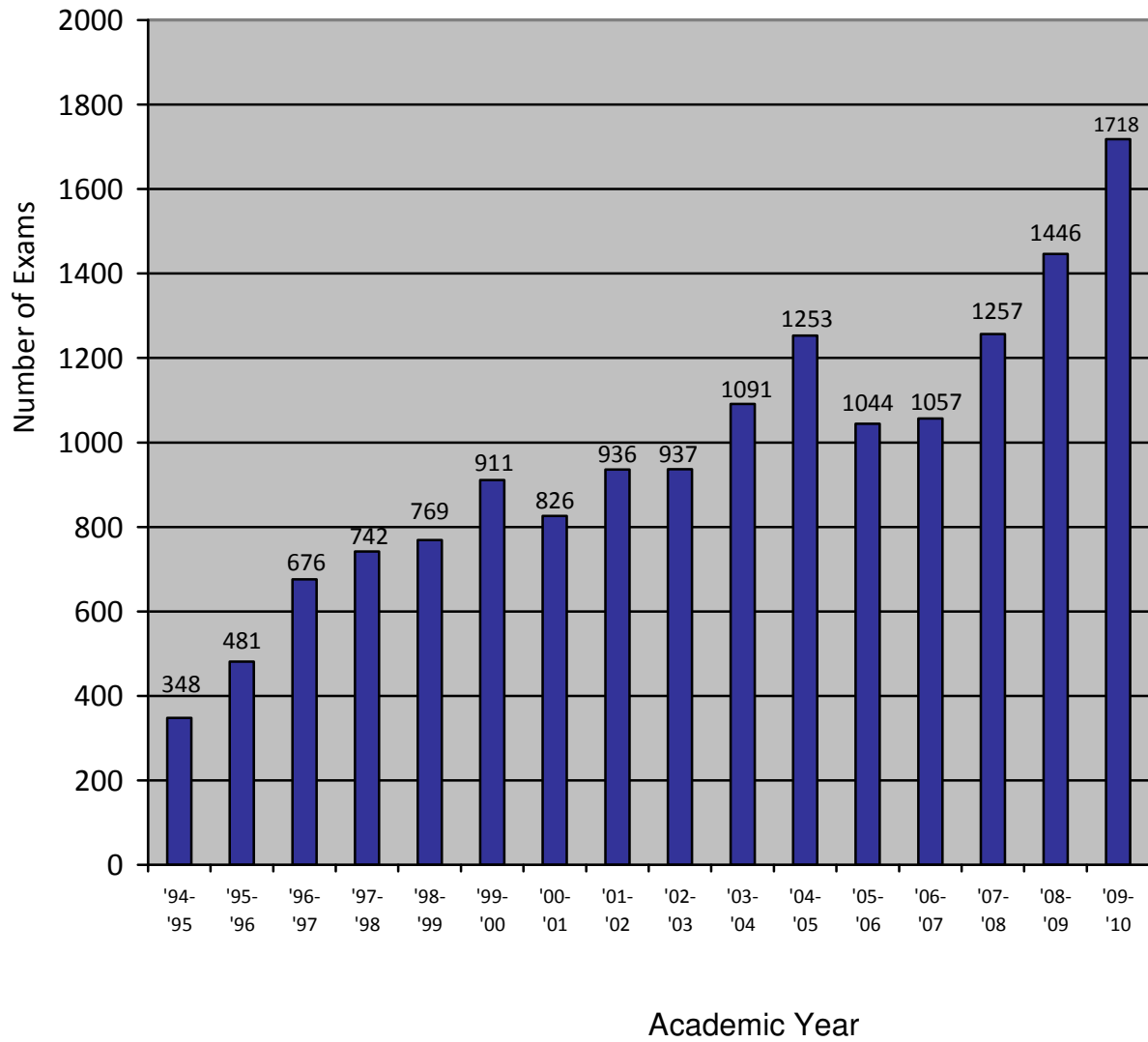
Employment Connection 2003-2010



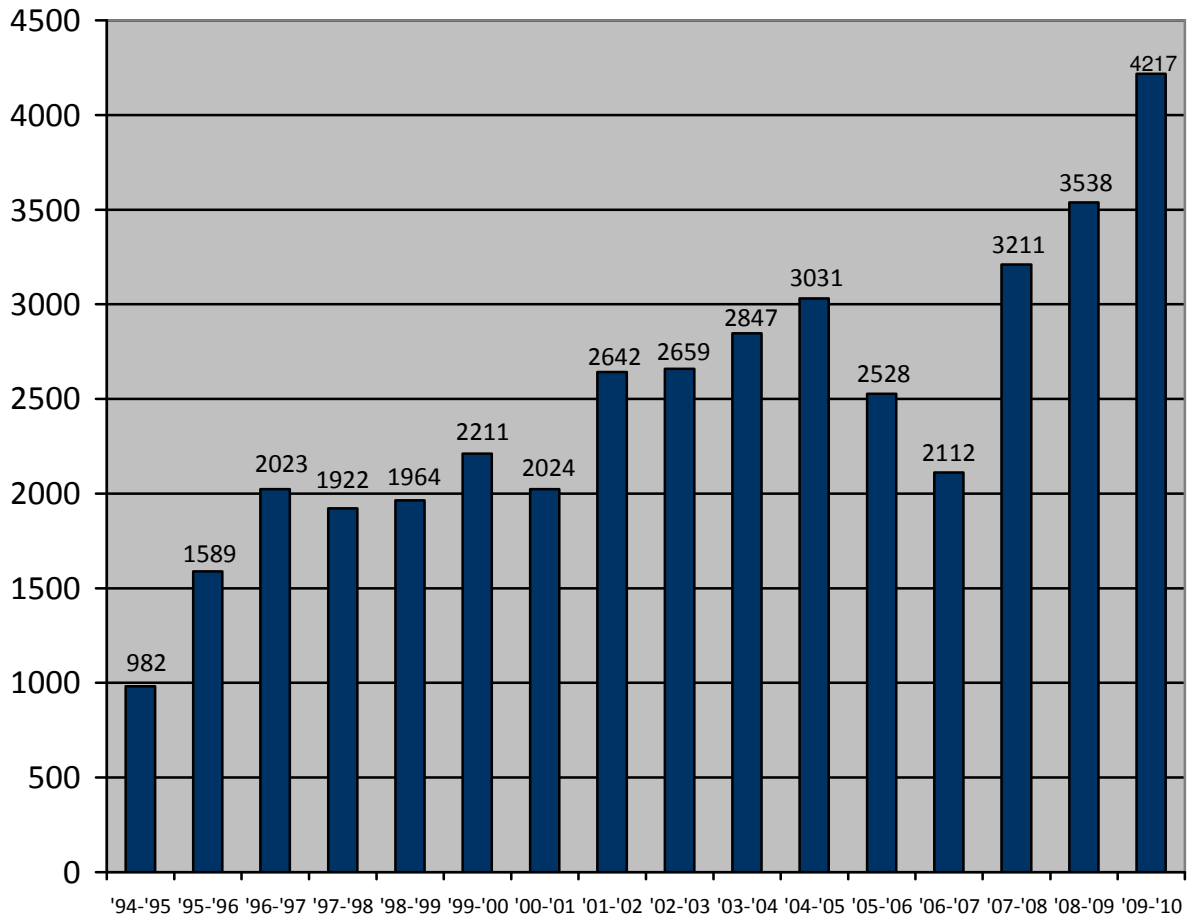
Employment Connection 2009/2010 notes:

- Full time jobs = 13
- Part time jobs = 12
- Summer jobs = 7

Examination Statistics 1994-2010



Total Number of Examination Hours 1994 - 2010



*Number of Hours includes: Scanning, Braille, Enlarging, Scribing, ASL Interpreting and Oral Testing

Sponsors of the Atlantic Centre

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the following:

RBC Financial Group

Aliant

IBM Canada

Nestlé Canada

Xerox Canada Inc.

GIFT Atlantic

Scott Maritimes Ltd

The Eaton Foundation

Dow Chemical Canada Inc.

Minas Basin Pulp & Paper

The Coca Cola Foundation

R. W. Ferguson Investments

The Birks Family Foundation

The Edward Dunlop Foundation

The Bronfman Family Foundation

The Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation

The J. W. McConnell Family Foundation

Great-West Life, London Life & Canadian Life

Dr. Gary Mooney, President and CEO, Fidelity National Financial

Dr. Nancy and Mr. Fred Smithers, OC

Dr. Alberta Pew Baker Community Service Society The Private Family Office

Nova Scotia Department of Education, Post-Secondary Disability Services

And

**The Hundreds of Individual Donors who have contributed to the Atlantic Centre over
the years**

The Atlantic Centre is proud to have had many generous benefactors establish Scholarships & Bursaries for Saint Mary's Students with disabilities.

VII Pan American Wheelchair Games Bursary	\$220
Lions Club of PEI Entrance Scholarship	\$680
1988 Campaign Scholarship for Disabled Students	\$750
Andrea Peer Memorial Scholarship	\$540
Frank & Louise Donahue Family Scholarship	\$700
Kimberly-Clark Scholarship	\$750
Marguerite, Joseph & Charles Hinman Memorial Award	\$1,020
Nicola Schwind Memorial Entrance Scholarship	\$5,000
The Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation Accessibility Scholarship	\$1,340
Dr. John Campbell Scholarship	\$1,860
Kathleen Shaw Bursary for Hearing Impaired Students	\$2,530
The Jim Pineo Entrance Scholarship	\$2,400
The Great-West Life, London Life & Canada Life Bursary	\$2,500
The Birks Family Foundation	\$1,000

Memorandum of Understanding Statistics

Statistics – Enrolled and Graduated

Academic Year	2009/2010
Number of students with disabilities enrolled in programs	302
Number of students with disabilities graduated	22

MOU Statistics - Students Enrolled

Program	Learning Disability ADD/ADHD	Mobility Impairments	Visual Impairments	Hearing Impairments	Mental Health	Medical	Autism Spectrum	Total
BA	136	11	4	9	11	17	2	190
BCOM	48	3	1	2	7	15	1	77
BSC	12	3	0	1	4	2	3	25
Master's	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	3
Visiting	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
TOTALS	203	17	5	12	24	35	6	302

MOU Statistics – Students Graduated

Program	Learning Disability ADD/ADHD	Mobility Impairments	Visual Impairments	Hearing Impairments	Mental Health	Medical	Autism Spectrum	Total
BA	3	3	2	0	1	0	0	9
BCOM	5	1	0	0	3	1	0	10
BSC	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Master's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Visiting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
TOTALS	11	4	2	0	3	1	0	22

Breakdown of statistics per support service	2009/2010
Invigilation Services (# of client Exams)	1,718
Oral Testing (# of client tests)	151
Scribing (# of incidents)	151
Note taking services (# of client sessions) ¹	230
Tutoring Services (# of Client Sessions) ²	n/a
Counselling for Retention Purposes (# of incidents) ³	5424
Advisements on what courses to take (# of incidents) ⁴	n/a
Scanning of hard copy text into an electronic format (# of texts)	71
Creation of books on tape (# of books on tape)	0
Number of Disability Resource Facilitator contacts	1812
Other goods/services the institute would choose to report on: ⁵	1685

FOOTNOTE 3:

Individual Planning / Responsive Services (Direct Student Contacts, in-person meetings, e-mails, telephone calls or letter)

- Planning support services & follow up for students.
- Contacting professors about volunteer note takers.
- Assistance with selecting tutors, student attendants, etc.
- Academic assistance and advisement, such as registration assistance.
- Administration of scholarships/applications, such as letters of reference for same.
- Advocacy
- Academic and disability related counselling to students.
- Referral of job opportunities to students and letters of reference.
- Providing assistive technology training to students.
- Educational assistance (study/organizational skills, writing skills, proofreading)
- Job search training/employment counselling
- Psycho-educational group work.
- Consultation (counselling team, referring agencies/schools, university faculty, other university professionals, NS Department of Education professionals)
- Focus groups and needs assessments with students.

¹ Note taking services provided by counsellors at the Atlantic Centre consist of letters/contacts with faculty on behalf of students to arrange for the provision of notes for students of the Atlantic Centre.

² Saint Mary's University provides a university-wide tutoring service.

³ Every counseling contact with our clients has an underlying motive of retention. The Atlantic Centre's guiding principles have always been to encourage more students with disabilities to come to university, to support those students while they are in university and to help the students secure jobs upon completion of their degrees. Please see above description of counselling activities.

⁴ Course advisement is the purview of the Faculty.

⁵ Please see below description of other goods/services/activities related to support students with disabilities.

- Referrals to other resources/professionals, both internal to SMU and external (e.g., SMU Writing Centre)
- Case notes, record keeping, and reviewing of new applications.
- Fair share tasks, such as test/examination invigilation, accommodation, etc.

FOOTNOTE 5:

Other Goods/Services/Activities Related to Support Students with Disabilities:

- Professional development (conferences, peer supervision, researching disability issues)
- Organizing faculty workshops and staff training opportunities.
- Outreach and public awareness activities, including having booths at conferences, presentations to other related organizations (i.e.: Phoenix Employment and Learning Centre)
- Open house and orientation meetings for potential and new students.
- Atlantic Centre purchases/upgrades computers and adaptive technology for our computer lab. Digital recorders are purchased for students for lecture note taking. Course text books purchased for prep use of interpreters. NCR note taking paper purchased for students.
- Acting as a resource for other universities, NSCC, etc.
- Preparation of handbooks for students and faculty use.
- Arranging for Liberated Learning technology in five classrooms at SMU.

Saint Mary's University

Capital Projects with Accessibility Improvements

Complete and Ongoing Accessibility Projects 2008-2009

Project No.	Building	Project	Comments	Starting Budget
2008-10091	Atrium	New Atrium	Barrier free passage from McNally, Library, Burke, & Science through the new Atrium bldg. New elevator replaces existing in Burke	\$400,000
2008-11498	Science Building	Addition/ Renovation	Barrier free washrooms and new elevator	\$400,000
2007-09224	5960 Inglis St.	New Addition	Barrier Free ramp & washroom	\$35,000
2007-01634	5920 Gorsebrook	Exterior Lighting	Improved driveway illumination levels to code	\$20,000
2006-02592	883 Robie St.	Barrier Free Ramp	Outside ramp and threshold to code	\$10,000
Total				\$865,000

Proposed Accessibility Projects 2009-2010

Project No.	Building	Project	Comments	Starting Budget
2009-00643	Burke	Washroom Upgrade	Renovate and improve accessibility in washrooms	\$500,000
2009-00614	McNally	Renovation	Create barrier free washrooms	\$500,000
2009-00607	McNally	McNally North Elevator Upgrade	Improve mechanics and interior of elevator cab	\$250,000
2009-00651	Library	Elevator replacement	Improve mechanics and interior of elevator cab	\$350,000
2009-00654	Library	Washroom Upgrade	Renovate and improve accessibility in washrooms	\$500,000
Total				\$2,100,000

Completed Accessibility Projects 2009-2010

Project No.	Building	Project	Comments	Starting Budget
2008-12516	Science	Upgrade interior signage	Interior signage with Braille and to barrier free guidelines	\$40,000
2009-00607	McNally	McNally North Elevator Upgrade	Improve mechanics and interior of elevator cab	\$250,000
2009-00180	Campus Wide	Accessibility Upgrades	Added barrier free entrance to 883 Robie St.	\$30,000

Ongoing and Planned Accessibility Projects 2010-2011

Project No.	Building	Project	Comments	Starting Budget
2009-00643	Burke	Washroom Upgrade	Renovate and improve accessibility in washrooms	\$200,000
2009-00614	McNally	Building Renovation	Create barrier free washrooms	\$200,000
2009-00651	Library	Elevator Replacement	Improve mechanics and interior of elevator cab	\$350,000
2009-00654	Library	Washroom Upgrade	Renovate and improve accessibility in washrooms	\$200,000
2009-00600	Campus Wide	McNally North Campus Infrastructure Project	Interior signage with Braille and to barrier free guidelines	\$100,000
2010-00050	Burke	New Seats Theatre 'B'	Create area for wheelchairs	\$10,000
2010-00130	Student Centre	Refurbish 1 st Floor Washrooms	Will create accessible washrooms	\$45,000
2010-00210	867 Robie St.	Replace front Entrance	Create accessible ramp to front door	\$20,000
2010-00220	Campus Wide	Accessibility Upgrades	Adding 'hold open' devices to cross corridor doors in Loyola	\$10,000
2010-00250	Campus Wide	Water Fountains	Accessible water fountains	\$17,000
2010-00410	Residence General	IT Wireless System	Improves computer accessibility	\$220,000