



## This Week @ Saint Mary's

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**Week ending March 7, 2010**

**[Photo of the week - click here](#)**



**CAMPUS KUDOS  
MEDIA MENTIONS  
EVENTS**



### KUDOS

**FORMER MOOSEHEAD** Colby Pridham had a hat trick and Mike Danton scored twice as the Huskies hammered the X-Men in the first game of the AUS Hockey playoffs Sunday. More than 3,500 fans were on hand at the Forum for the game. The series resumes Tuesday night in Antigonish with the third game in the best of five series returning to Halifax on March 15.

In women's volleyball, the fourth-seeded Regina Cougars beat the No. 8 Saint Mary's Huskies in straight sets, 25-18, 25-15, 25-9 in consolation play at the CIS women's volleyball championship in Edmonton on Saturday.

**DR. ROBERT SINGER** is back in the news this week as part of a national team that is trying to convert forestry waste into biodiesel and light weight sustainable materials of the future. The team, more formally called the Biomaterials and Chemicals Strategic Network, has received \$5.3 million to develop technologies to better utilize lignin, a gooey natural binding agent that is a component of wood.

The funding is being offered through the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC). Wood waste is the focus because the forest industry, once the economic mainstay of many communities, is changing. Competition from low cost sources of wood and declining demand for some of its products means the industry is at a crossroads and must change. [More](#)



**Sustainability Week** (March 15-19) is approaching fast and at Saint Mary's we've got a week packed with events.

Here's just a couple of the events you can take in:

**Good News on the Environment:** Seven professors discuss their work that is helping the environment. Topics include tidal power research, carbon capture initiatives, biofuel and chemistry that turns forest waste into plastics.  
When: March 17 4PM  
Where: The Saint Mary's Art Gallery

**Tidal Power and NSP Transition:** James Taylor, Nova Scotia Power's General Manager of Carbon Management, updates the community on the utility's sustainable energy agenda.  
When: March 18 7 PM  
Where: Atrium 101

**Jay Ingram:** The Discovery Channel "Science Guy" offers a 90 minute presentation to students. A book signing follows.  
When: Friday March 19 7 PM  
Where: McNally Theatre Auditorium



Other events include: local foods in the cafeteria, movies, talks by farmers and Ecology Action Centre representatives, Green Map displays, scavenger hunts and various displays. For a complete list of activities click [here](#)

**FOUR TEAMS** of Engineering students fared well at the recent Atlantic Engineering Competition held in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Two teams placed high enough to qualify for the Canadian Engineering Competition slated for Toronto on March 18. Senior Design team winners: Kenzie Phillips, Robert Paterson, Kai Seltner and Andrew Valencik. Junior Design team (Second Place): Whitney Hurlbut, Andrew Rockwell, Kyle MacDonald and Bryce Clothier.

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION** Advisor Bridget Brownlow will be the guest speaker at the Charitable Irish Dinner held at Marriott Harbourfront on March 17. She will talk about the Conflict Resolution Society's latest trip to Belfast. Sixteen Saint Mary's students worked with schools in Northern Ireland, teaching the children there coping skills and ways to deal with conflict.



**AN EXECUTIVE DELEGATION** from Beijing Normal University (BNU) Zhuhai Campus will be in Halifax later this week to meet with Saint Mary's University administrators. Founded in 1902, Beijing Normal University is a comprehensive university of 19 schools with 26,000 full-time and part-time students. In 2002, it set up a new campus in the city of Zhuhai, located a one hour ferry ride from Hong Kong.

There has been a traditional relationship between the two institutions since 1982 when Saint Mary's first administered a CIDA-sponsored Canada-China Language and Culture Program. In 2003 Saint Mary's and BNU Zhuhai signed a cooperative agreement and both sides have formed a 2+2 education model, which allows students to spend the first 2 years at BNU Zhuhai and last 2 years at Saint Mary's to complete a full undergraduate program. Over the past four years more than 100 BNU Zhuhai students have come to study at Saint Mary's. The delegation includes Dr. Guangju Chen, President; Dr. Ailan Fu, Vice-President; Dr. Yue Wang, Director Office of International Exchange and Cooperation; and Dr. Wei Dai, Director, Office of University Development. During their visit the group is expected to attend the founding ceremony of the BNU-Saint Mary's Alumni Association.

**CONGRATULATIONS** Marcelle Allen (PhD Entry, 2008) whose paper has been accepted for presentation at the annual Sprott PhD Symposium.

## MEDIA MENTIONS

**WHAT'S IN A HARLEQUIN ROMANCE TITLE?** A lot according to Saint Mary's evolutionary psychologist Dr. Maryanne Fisher. Her recent study on the subject, published in the Journal of Social, Evolutionary and Cultural Psychology, had journalists from across the country and around the globe calling her for comment. Her colleague, Dr. Michelle Byers, was sought out for comments on the ill-fated plan by the federal government to create a gender neutral version of O Canada.

A detailed listing of media mentions we were able to track last week is listed below. We want to celebrate staff and faculty success. If you know of an accomplishment or publication note that should be mentioned in Saint Mary's This Week, [please email it to us](#).

<p><b>March 1, 2010</b>  <i>The Toronto Star</i>                  Are Liberals and Atheists Smarter?                  Psychology Professor Dr. Maryanne Fisher questioned research that suggested people with high IQs are deemed more likely to be liberal monogamous non-believers than those who are less intelligent.</p> <p><b>March 2, 2010</b>  <i>Miller McClune Magazine, The Toronto Star, The Vancouver Sun, The Guardian (UK)</i>                  Romance Titles Reflect Women's Mating Instinct                  Dr. Mayanne Fisher's analysis of Harlequin Romance titles for the Journal of Social, Evolutionary and Cultural Psychology caught the attention of journalists around the globe.</p> <p><b>March 3, 2010</b>  <i>CBC News</i>                  Computer Science Professor Dr. Pawan Lingras talked about computer security and hackers.</p> <p><b>March 3, 2010</b>  <i>CBC Radio Information Morning</i>                  Mark Butler from the Ecology Action Centre talked about a Sable Island meeting held recently on campus.</p> <p><b>March 3, 2010</b>  <i>ATV (Breakfast Television)</i>                  Dr. Adam Sarty appeared in several spots throughout the morning demonstrating physics in a hands-on fashion.</p>	<p><b>March 4, 2010</b>  <i>CBC Radio (Information Morning)</i>                  Biology professor Dr. Brenna McLeod spoke about her DNA work with right whale bones and how it is changing our understanding of the mammal's development.</p> <p><b>March 4, 2010</b>  <i>CBC Evening News</i>                  Criminology Professor Michele Byers weighed in on the flap around the creation of a gender neutral national anthem.</p> <p><b>March 5, 2010</b>  <i>The Telegraph-Journal (Saint John)</i>                  In his regular column University President Dr. Colin Dodds suggested the financial support offered to athletes preparing for the Olympics needs to be mirrored in education if Canada hopes to maintain its global competitiveness.</p> <p><b>March 5, 2010</b>  <i>The Canadian Press</i>                  Economics Professor Armand Pinard suggested the province's deal to manufacture wind turbines at the former Trenton Works plant could prove to be profitable.</p> <p><b>March 7, 2010.</b>  <i>The Chronicle Herald (Books)</i>                  An Evening with Alistair                  An advance story on this week's Cyril Byrne Memorial Lecture offered by noted author Alistair MacLeod.</p>
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## EVENTS

<p><b>March 9 - 11</b>                  Nobel Prize Lecture Series <b>Sobey Theatre Auditorium 7 PM</b>                  A series of lectures explaining who won the 2009 Nobel Prizes and why. <a href="#">Details</a></p> <p>Medicine and Physics: March 9                  Economics and Peace: March 11</p> <p><b>March 12</b>                  Cyril Byrne Lecture <b>McNally Theatre Auditorium 7:30 PM</b>                  Award winning author Alistair MacLeod will read his 1976 masterpiece <i>The Closing Down of Summer</i>. He will then discuss the story. All are welcome. <a href="#">Poster</a></p> <p><b>March 13-14</b>                  Atlantic Inorganic Chemistry Discussion Weekend <b>Sobey Theatre Auditorium</b></p> <p><b>March 15-19</b>                  Sustainability Week <b>campus wide</b>                  Activities will include a Green Map exhibit, a Sustainability Fair, movie nights and presentations about the latest green research carried on at the university. <a href="#">Schedule</a></p> <p><b>March 17</b>                  IMPACT International Competition <b>New York</b>                  A four person team from the Sobey School of Business travels stateside to test their investment skills against universities across the continent. Read the <a href="#">story</a>.</p> <p><b>March 18</b>                  A Public Policy Discussion of Archeological Legislation <b>Sobey 160 7 PM</b>                  The 2010 Gorsebrook Symposium will discuss the future of heritage policy in Nova Scotia. <a href="#">Details</a></p>	<p><b>March 18</b>                  Transforming NSPI <b>Atrium 101 7 PM</b>                  James Taylor, NSPI General Manager Carbon Management, will provide an overview on the company's interest in tidal power and other kinds of sustainable energy.</p> <p><b>March 19</b>                  Jay Ingram <b>McNally Theatre Auditorium 7 PM</b>                  The science guy from Discovery Channel appears for a 90 minute talk.</p> <p><b>March 19</b>                  D'Arcy McGee Lecture in Irish Studies 2010 <b>Art Gallery 7:30 PM</b>                  Thomas Bartlett, the Boston College Burns Library Visiting Scholar in Irish Studies, presents a talk on Early Historians of the Wild Geese in the French Service 1840-1950. <a href="#">Poster</a></p> <p><b>March 19</b>                  Interested in Studying In Ireland? <b>Loyola 177 11 AM</b>                  University College Dublin Professor Maire Ni Annachain will be highlighting the opportunities and challenges facing non-Irish students who might be considering studying at an Irish university.</p> <p><b>March 26-27</b>                  Shaping an Agenda for Atlantic Canada  <a href="#">Details</a></p> <p><b>March 26</b>                  Engineering Design Fair <b>McNally Auditorium 8 AM - Noon</b></p> <p><b>March 27</b>                  Deep Submergence Archeology <b>Martime Museum of the Atlantic 7:30 PM</b> <a href="#">Details</a></p> <p><a href="#">Link to university calendar of events:</a>  <b>EVENTS</b></p>
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Today is Tuesday, March 16, 2010