Fall Convocation 2026





O CANADA

O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all of us command.
Car ton bras sait porter l'épée,
Il sait porter la croix!
Ton histoire est une épopée
Des plus brillants exploits.
God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

Convocation

This joyous yet solemn event is bound by traditions that have evolved over centuries. It is a continuum with a formal beginning and end. By being present here today, you have indicated your interest in being part of this academic tradition. Graduating students and their guests are therefore expected to remain in their seats until this formal ceremony has been completed in its entirety—until the Chancellor of the University has officially closed Convocation and the stage party and graduates have recessed.

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Message
from the ***President***



To our graduates: Congratulations! We are delighted to celebrate graduates from Fall 2026.

The entire university community – myself included – has been inspired by the resilience, leadership and compassion you have shown throughout your degree, diploma and certificate programs.

Your experience at Saint Mary's has prepared you well for this moment. You have met people from all over the world, broadening your perspectives and intercultural understanding. Your professors have helped you study the past to change the future and solve problems using innovation and creativity. You have grown, personally and intellectually, and developed the skills to help you succeed, no matter what path you choose to pursue in the future. You have explored the complexities of a *World without limits* – and engaged in the opportunities and possibilities to overcome limits, whether they are social, cultural, economic, environmental, scientific, technical or driven by the business or political structures around us.

This convocation program will be a reminder for years to come that the Class of Fall 2026 did not stumble in the face of adversity but instead stepped forward with courage and determination.

As you begin this new chapter in your lives, with lessons learned and eyes to the future as graduates of Saint Mary's, please know that you are, and always will be, a part of the Santamarian community. Together, we will continue to build a World without limits!

Congratulations on your achievements!

Age quod agis.

Dr. Michael Khan
President and Vice-Chancellor

Message *from the* ***Chancellor***



This Convocation is a particularly meaningful occasion for me. It is my first as Chancellor of Saint Mary's University and coincides with my formal installation in this distinguished role. I am deeply honoured to serve the University and especially proud to be the first woman to hold the office of Chancellor.

Saint Mary's has been woven into my family's history for generations. I have seen the transformative power of a Saint Mary's education and the lasting impact that its distinctive supports and opportunities have on students and their futures. Having the privilege of hearing students share their experiences and aspirations has been both humbling and inspiring.

As Chancellor, I look forward to celebrating your accomplishments, learning from your journeys, and championing the continued success of Saint Mary's University.

On behalf of the University, I extend my warmest congratulations. Your dedication and perseverance have brought you to this proud moment, and I am honoured to celebrate it with you.

Janis Sobey-Hames

Chancellor



Order of Academic Procession

Marshal of Convocation

Alumni Honour Guard

Graduates

Faculty

Board of Governors

Deans of Faculties

Vice-Presidents

President and Vice-Chancellor

Chancellor

The audience is requested to stand when the Academic Procession arrives and at the close of Convocation, to remain standing until all of the Academic Procession has recessed.

Please note that names of graduates listed in this program are subject to revision.

Order of Proceedings

Processional *(Audience stands)*

Welcome Remarks:
Sam Veres, BEng, PhD, Interim Provost and VPAR

Indigenous Honour Song *(Audience stands)*

Installation of the Chancellor:
Friday, November 13 | 10 a.m.
Janis Sobey-Hames

Presidential Remarks:
Michael Khan, BSc, MA, PhD

Presentation of Awards

Conferring of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates:

Faculty of Arts
Carrie Dawson, PhD, Dean of Arts

Faculty of Science
Laura Weir, BSc, MSc, PhD, Interim Dean of Science

Sobey School of Business
Michel Delorme, PhD, Dean of the Sobey School of Business

Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research
Adam J. Sarty, BSc (Engineering), PhD, Associate Vice-President Research, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research

Valedictory Addresses:

10 a.m. D'Andre Asym Farrell, BA (Hons.)
2 p.m. Christopher Gilles Martin, BComm

Conferral of Honorary Degrees:

10 a.m. To be Doctor of Science (honoris causa):
Dr. Michael Zaworotko

2 p.m. To be Doctor of Commerce (honoris causa):
Dr. Michael Medline

To be Doctor of Civil Law (honoris causa):
Dr. Chuck Bridges, ***in absentia***

Closing of Convocation:
Janis Sobey-Hames, Chancellor

O Canada *(Audience stands)*

Recessional *(Audience remains standing)*

Chancellor of Saint Mary's University:
Janis Sobey-Hames, Chancellor

Chairperson of Convocation:
Sam Veres, BEng, PhD, Interim Provost and VPAR

Marshals of Convocation:
Jason Grek-Martin, PhD, Associate Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies, Bachelor of Environmental Studies Program Coordinator, Chairperson of the Academic Senate

Tatjana Takševa, BA (Hons.), MA, PhD, Chair and Professor of English Language and Literature, Vice-Chairperson of the Academic Senate

Student Marshals:
Tom Brophy, BA, MEd, Associate Vice-President of Student Affairs and Services

Miyuki Arai, MA, Director, Global Learning and Intercultural Support

The Ceremonial Mace

The ceremonial mace, carried by the Marshal of Convocation, was presented to Saint Mary's University in 1980. It symbolizes the University's authority to grant degrees and is a gift from Maritime Command in honour of alumni killed in both world wars. The mace also recognizes serving members of the Canadian Armed Forces who have been students at Saint Mary's.

The mace is made of oak with a cast brass crown and brass plates carrying traditional ceremonial engravings; the plates represent the contributions to Saint Mary's by the Jesuit Fathers, the Christian Brothers of Ireland, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth, the LaSalle Christian Brothers, the Lay Teachers and the Armed Forces.



University Motto

AGE QUOD AGIS

means to ‘do what you do.’ This phrase exhorts us to focus on our work, to be in the moment and devote our fullest attention to the task at hand. It is a call for dedication, a focus on duty and perseverance, a statement of process. It is a proclamation of the importance of disciplining ourselves to our studies, to our scientific, artistic, cultural, commercial and athletic pursuits. It is a call to action to act in the world, to shoulder responsibility, to champion social justice, environmental justice and ethical values.

Flags on the Stage



The flags which you see displayed on the stage for Convocation are from the countries representing our graduating students. The globalization of the Saint Mary's University community is a feature of justifiable pride which contributes markedly to the growth and understanding of both Canadian and non-Canadian students.

Included in the University's permanent collection of flags is one from the International Year of the Disabled signifying the University's commitment to people with disabilities. The Mi'kmaq flag is an important part of this collection in recognition of their First Nation's Status. The University's Bicentennial flag was made a part of our permanent collection in 2002.

Academic Hoods

Graduates and members of the academic procession are attired in the basic elements of formal academic dress, which follow general guidelines established at England's Oxford and Cambridge Universities. It consists of the academic robe, hood and mortar board (at Saint Mary's, the latter is limited to Master's graduates).

The academic hood symbolizes the degree into which each graduate has been admitted, its outer edge trimmed with a colour to indicate a particular Faculty and degree: white symbolizes Arts; gold, Science; grey, Commerce, and green for Environmental Studies. Bachelor–level hoods are lined with satin in the colours of the institution granting the degree. Hence at Saint Mary's, they are maroon satin with a white chevron. The Master's hood is lined with maroon satin only, giving it added distinction.

Degrees and Diplomas

Awarded with Distinctions

At Saint Mary's University in the general undergraduate degree and diploma programs, academic distinctions are awarded to successful candidates on the basis of the following cumulative grade point averages of all courses taken at Saint Mary's University. There are no distinctions awarded in graduate and certificate programs.

BA, BES, BComm, & BSc	Grade Point Av.	Diploma in Engineering
summa cum laude	4.00 - 4.30	with greatest distinction
magna cum laude	3.85 - 3.99	with great distinction
cum laude	3.70 - 3.84	with distinction

The President's Hall of Academic Excellence, located in the main hallway of the McNally Building, directly outside the President's Office, displays the names of all students who earned one of these distinctions. The Hall also includes the names of students who won academic medals at graduation.



Medals & Awards

Faculty Medals - Graduate

Master of Finance Gold Medal

Recipient: **Ruiqi Wang**

Donors: Dr. Colin Dodds (President Emeritus) & Family

Master of Management , Co-operatives and Credit Unions: Pobihushchy Medal

Recipient: **Natasha Ignacia Verwey**

Prizes & Awards for Graduates

Durland Family Doctoral Convocation Award

Recipients: **Mathieu Cavenaile**
Seyedehsan Etezad
Rachel R. Hor
Gamra Oueslati
Nolan Marcus Dickson
MacAulay James Harvey
Frank Zachary Bryson Konings
Divyang Rainkamal Prajapati

Donor: Durland Learning Foundation

The John and Heather Fitzpatrick Valedictorian Award*

Recipients: **D'Andre Asym Farrell**
Christopher Gilles Martin

Donors: John BA'81 DCL'17 and Heather Fitzpatrick

Saint Mary's University is grateful for the continued support to scholarships, bursaries, awards and services provided to our students. These awards are given to qualifying students during convocation ceremonies and are made possible by our friends and valued supporters. With this support, our graduates are prepared to take their place in the world of tomorrow.

In addition to awards presented during Fall 2026 Convocation, please note awards presented at other Convocation ceremonies.

Governor General Medals

Governor General's Silver Medal – Undergraduate

Governor General's Gold Medal – Graduate

Gold Medals – Undergraduate

Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Commerce

Bachelor of Science

Diploma in Engineering

Faculty Medals – Graduate

Executive Master of Business Administration

James Morrison International Development Studies Medal

Master of Business Administration:
Dr. Harold G. Beazley Medal*

Master of Science (Applied Psychology)

Master of Science (Applied Science):
The Georgia Pe-Piper Medal for Excellence in Applied Science

Prizes & Awards for Graduates

CAG Undergraduate Award in Geography

CMC Atlantic Student Award

Edna and Velma Thomas Kane Writers Award

Edwin C. Harris Tax Prize*

Environmental Science Prize

Environmental Studies Prize

Eric & Ingeborg Enns Family IMTE Convocation Award

French Prize

Hermann F. Schwind Award for Excellence in Human Resource Management*

History Honours Thesis Award

J. Kevin Vessey Award for the PhD in Applied Science*

Linguistics Book Prize

Mary Ann and Edward J. McBride Law Prize*

O'Brien Award in Irish Studies*

The Dr. Brij M. Kapoor Memorial Award

The McMullan & Rege Honours in Criminology Convocation Award

The Mining Society of Nova Scotia Centennial Award

Faculty Awards

Dr. Geraldine Thomas Educational Leadership Award

Father William A. Stewart, SJ, Medal for Excellence in Teaching

President's Award for Excellence in Research

Represents endowed awards

Endowments are the most enduring investment you can make to Saint Mary's as they provide stable, dependable support for programs and students–now and in the future.
Visit **smu.ca/graduation** to learn more about our donated convocation awards and to make a gift today!

Fall Graduates 2026



Bachelor of Arts

Abidemi Lawal Adesoye-Martins
Ijebu Ode, Nigeria

Yasmine Ounas Ali
Halifax, NS

Rafin Bin Amin
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Paul Christopher Arab-Smith
Halifax, NS

Daelin Allen Beardsworth
Riverview, NB

Samuel Daniel Bohemier
Melvern Square, NS

Meredith Frances Boucher
Timberlea, NS

Megan Rosamunde Brenan
cum laude
Honours Criminology
Sussex, NB

Lachlan Elliot Brown
summa cum laude
Honours Anthropology
Dartmouth, NS

Jillian Frances Brun-Keogan
Dartmouth, NS

Tayli Carpio
summa cum laude
Honours Psychology
Higuey, Dominican Republic

Hannah Erica Jean Corporon
Yarmouth, NS

Nathan Thomas Dey
cum laude
Windsor Junction, NS

Vamakshi Dhammy
Jalandhar, India

Lauren Mari Evans
Kentville, NS

D'Andre Asym Farrell
cum laude
Honours Political Science
St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda

Kyle James Foster
summa cum laude
Honours Philosophy
Sydney, NS

Eric Alexander Gallant
Lake Echo, NS

Tyler Daniel Gibb
Halifax, NS

Ella Grace Gillett
Honours Psychology
Halifax, NS

Liam Dennis Gerald Hardiman
Dartmouth, NS

Melissa Hartery
Halifax, NS

Ahrun Renee Douglass Havercroft
Old Harbour, Jamaica

Shaylie Hayes
Windsor, ON

Michael Hogue
summa cum laude
Middle Sackville, NS

Bradley Grant Howatt
Halifax, NS

Sara Hunt
magna cum laude
Honours Psychology
Halifax, NS

Laverna Angel Hutchins
magna cum laude
Nassau, Bahamas

Raj Jaiswal
Halifax, NS

Farika Lenorie Kendra Knowles
St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda

Skotia Raquel LeBlanc
Halifax, NS

Brian Robert Leslie
Stratford, PE

Christopher Antanas Lucas
Timberlea, NS

Brittany Johan MacDonald
Cole Harbour, NS

Angus Tennyson Raymond Mancini-Miller
Honours Philosophy
Halifax, NS

Elizabeth Candace McDiarmid
Honours Psychology
Winnipeg, MB

Maria Ellena Melhem
Halifax, NS

Rae Sophia Millis
magna cum laude
Honours Global Development Studies
El Portal, FL, USA

Alexandra Deborah Mitchell
Halifax, NS

Gillian Rose Morand
Dartmouth, NS

Maureen Anne Murphy
Timberlea, NS

Jade Geneva Anne Newell
Honours Philosophy
Canso, NS

Brittany Nickerson
Halifax, NS

Taylor Elizabeth Norwood
Bedford, NS

Anna Brigid Irene O'Brien
Dartmouth, NS



Catolina May O'Toole
Halifax, NS

Alexandra Jacqueline Poole
cum laude
Grand Falls-Windsor, NL

Ava Dawn Rankin
cum laude
Mabou Harbour, NS

Braydon Joseph Anthony Schryer
Thorold, ON

Mikalah Ann Sewart
Herring Cove, NS

Sainabou Dea Sowe
Banjul, Gambia

Elizabeth Mackenzie St Germain
Picton, ON

Grace Alexandra St.Amand
Halifax, NS

Charles Hubert Stevenson
Windermere, FL, USA

Mitchell Adrien Szwed
Coldbrook, NS

Evan Michael Thompson
Little Harbour, NS

Michael Gregory Trider
Windsor, NS

Tyler Anthony Wade Upshaw
Hammonds Plains, NS

Avinash Visal
Kerala, India

LaTanya Lee Whitty
Louisdale, NS

Kailyn Hope Whynot
Halifax, NS

Itali Samaya Young
Clarendon, Jamaica

Joseph Courtney Young
Belmont, NS

Bachelor of Environmental Studies

Emma Kathleen Palmer
Tyne Valley, PE

Bachelor of Science

Abhishek Abhishek
magna cum laude
Co-operative Education
Halifax, NS

Nabeeha Aftab
Hyderabad, India

Shrey Ahuja
New Delhi, India

Malak Bassem Al Hariri
Middle Sackville, NS

Remy Arsenault
magna cum laude
Halifax, NS

Tongol Malual Banguot
Halifax, NS

Jason Alexander Bento
Toronto, ON

Quentin Bergeron
Cole Harbour, NS

Ethan Black
Sydney Mines, NS

Jean-Cédéric Blais
Halifax, NS

Hannah Lily Boswell
Kentville, NS

Newton Josiah Charles
St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda

Olivia Day
Upper Sackville, NS

Charles Aaron Christian Demond
Hammonds Plains, NS

McKenna Kaelin Dunn
Hollis, NH, USA

Walter Alejandro Forero
Dartmouth, NS

Aaron Gonsalves
Halifax, NS

Devisri Bhanu Prakash Guntur
Halifax, NS

Saeed Mahmoud Haweeleh
Ottawa, ON

Muhammad Asfand Yar Khan
Co-operative Education
Lahore, Pakistan

Elyse Leah Krysel Louis
Castries, Saint Lucia

Brailey Ashton Mabry
Georgia, USA

Chad Stephen Miller
Nassau, Bahamas

Jovannah Annie Moxey
Nassau, Bahamas

Chloë Michelle Diane Oxner
summa cum laude
Honours Geology
Co-operative Education
Dartmouth, NS

Navreet Kaur Pannu
cum laude
Amritsar, India

Sonya Lynn Purcell-MacIntyre
magna cum laude
Lunenburg, NS

Sophie Grace Scully
summa cum laude
Ottawa, ON

Aidan Shand
Halifax, NS

Jodie Mae Theresa Stephens
Millbrook First Nation, NS

Divine Umuhire Twubahimana
Kigali, Rwanda

Elizabeth Xian Wallace
Halifax, NS

Diploma in Engineering

Emmanuel Owofu Ali
Halifax, NS

Shahil Bista
Halifax, NS

Brayden Cole Currie
Lawrencetown, NS

Moses V George Koshy
Halifax, NS

Carter James Robert MacPherson
with great distinction
Middle Sackville, NS

Jordan Mannette
Dartmouth, NS

Khoi Nguyen
with greatest distinction
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Noah Jacob Salgueiro
Lakeview, NS

Elricko Emileo Watson
Halifax, NS

Certificate of Honours-Science

Yanbo Wang
Honours Psychology
Halifax, NS

Certificate in Forensic Psychology

Megan Rosamunde Brenan
Sussex, NB

Ella Grace Gillett
Halifax, NS

Mitchell Adrien Szwed
Coldbrook, NS



Master of Applied Health Services Research

Agnes Anyele
Accra, Ghana

Katia Beales-Salovitch
Flemington, NJ, USA

Natasha Grace Beuree-Edwards
Dartmouth, NS

Brittany Alexis Cormier
Charlottetown, PE

Janice De Souza Guimaraes
Maceio, Brazil

Sarah Chase Eden
Ottawa, ON

Kristopher Anthony Lebert
Halifax, NS

Katie Lynn McDonald
St. John's, NL

Cassandra Ellen McLean
St. Lawrence, NL

Ashley Dawn Penney
Lawrencetown, NS

Jack Douglas Thistle
Paradise, NL

Master of Arts
(Geography)

Megan Elizabeth Scarlett O'Brien
Toronto, ON

Master of Arts
(Women and Gender Studies)

Oluchi Isabella Ihedoro
Akpo, Nigeria

Hannah Tibiriblia Muat
Accra, Ghana

Claire Janice Robb
Kelowna, BC

Master of Science
(Applied Psychology)

Pars Atasoy
Halifax, NS

Franco DiBonaventura
Halifax, NS

Catherine MacLean Gordon
Halifax, NS

Matthew Ennis Hall
Enfield, NS

Lar Liu
Beijing, China

Brooke Lee MacFadyen
Riverview, NB

Julie MacQueen
Halifax, NS

Reegan Kennedy Prete
Meadow Lake, SK

Emma Louise Summersby
Halifax, NS

Lily Margaret Mae Turnbull
Ottawa, ON

Claire Frances Wasel
Athabasca, AB

Master of Science
(Applied Science)

Alyssa Darien Babb
Asheville, NC, USA

Kendrin Dwight Louis Butler
Fairview, NS

Hannah Louise MacDonald
Shediac Bridge, NB

Jessica Christine Poirier
West Arichat, NS

Wimanshika Ravishani Ranathunga
Matara, Sri Lanka

Naeem Shirmohammady
Dareshahr, Iran

Master of Science
(Astronomy)

Jordan Allan Michael Adamski
Dartmouth, NS

Thomas Owain Hodd
Dartmouth, NS

Cameron Elizabeth Semenchuck
Regina, SK

Doctor of Philosophy
(Applied Science)

Mathieu Cavenaile
Brussels, Belgium

Seyedehsan Etezad
Vancouver, BC

MacAulay James Harvey
Eastern Passage, NS

Gamra Oueslati
Beja, Tunisia

Divyang Rainkamal Prajapati
Ahmedabad, India

Doctor of Philosophy
(Astronomy)

Nolan Marcus Dickson
Tide Head, NB

Bachelor of Commerce

Raiyan Rahman Afrid
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Aryan Aggarwal
Sirsa, India

Ali Alkenane
Halifax, NS

Deanu Clayton Anthony
St. Georges, Antigua and Barbuda

Shehzad Ayman
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Baseera Bayzeed
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Lucas John Allan Beange
Georgetown, ON

Samarth Behl
summa cum laude
Co-operative Education
New Delhi, India

Omar Beitar
Halifax, NS

Mathieu Bernier
Dartmouth, NS

Ryalee Grace Borgal
Halifax, NS

Philip Bou Khalil
Montreal, QC

Simone Renée Boudreau
summa cum laude
Enfield, NS

James William Bungay Jr.
Halifax, NS

Jude Lovat Cameron
cum laude
Halifax, NS

Alexandre Charles Carpentier
St-Basile-le-Grand, QC

Kimberly Rebecca Cinyi Chuck
Kingston, Jamaica

Mustafa Ciftci
Sakarya, Turkey

Emily Taylor Dikdan
Simcoe, ON

Matheas John Costa Elles
Halifax, NS

Sheak Mohammad Fardin Rahmatullah
Dhaka, Bangladesh



Rifa Sanjida Ferdaus
Co-operative Education
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Lauren Michelle Fergusson
Oakfield, NS

Peyton Allison Marie Fougere
Hammonds Plains, NS

Sadie Fox
Toronto, ON

Yuki Fujita
cum laude
Co-operative Education
Tokyo, Japan

Lauren Kierlyn Catherine Grant
Hampton, NB

Brian Harley Griffin
Sydney, NS

Sabina Gurung
Lamjung, Nepal

Chaeeun Han
Halifax, NS

Campbell Grant Henderson
magna cum laude
Bridgetown, NS

Claire Marie Hughes
Moncton, NB

Abdulrahman Iqbal
Pakistan

Pavak Khurana
India

Robynn Colby Larade
Cheticamp, NS

Jiyun Lee
Halifax, NS

Carson Kenzie MacDonald
River Bourgeois, NS

Ethan Donald MacVicar
Wellington, NS

Christopher Gilles Martin
summa cum laude
Greenwood, NS

Gavin Gachuiri Mbugua
Nairobi, Kenya

Cameron Thomas Mitchell
Orillia, ON

Bedika Nepal
Co-operative Education
Lalitpur, Nepal

Adryan Demetri Nicholas
St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda

Omega Ruvimbo Nyamushanya
Marondera, Zimbabwe

DeAndre Kimani Mikal O'Garro
All Saints, Antigua and Barbuda

Sabrina Oyshi
Halifax, NS

Simran Pareek
Dibrugarh, India

Raianna Cheryl Pye
Whites Lake, NS

Luyan Qiu
Suzhou, China

Lauren Marie Richard
Saint John, NB

Mackenzie Paulette Roach
Chéticamp, NS

Joseph Matthew Rogers
Halifax, NS

Molly Jordyn Sangster
McLellans Brook, NS

Kosaar Sardar
Halifax, NS

Aniket Sharma
summa cum laude
Gurgaon, India

Melissa Kelly Shaw
Eastern Passage, NS

Tanner Thomas Siddall Doucet
Moncton, NB

Kayden Anthony Smith
Halifax, NS

Xavier Matthew Spencer
St. Georges, Antigua and Barbuda

Peiyan Sun
Luoyang City, China

Saikou Suso
Halifax, NS

Mossammat Safa Tabassum
Chittagong, Bangladesh

Jinel Girishbhai Talati
Moncton, NB

Augustina Tucker
magna cum laude
Freetown, Sierra Leone

Michael Tapiwa Vava
cum laude
Co-operative Education
Harare, Zimbabwe

Kebe Tesa Walker
St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda

Nicholas Ryan Walker
Porters Lake, NS

Yikai Wang
Halifax, NS

Malik Williams
Ajax, ON

Damaine Kirk Wright
Prospect, Jamaica

Allan John Manning Young
Halifax, NS

Anthony Ziade
summa cum laude
Dartmouth, NS

Certificate of Human Resource Management

Raiyan Rahman Afrid
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Amanda Daniels
Halifax, NS

Joshua Kendall Dunks
St. John's, NL

Rifa Sanjida Ferdaus
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Emily Grace Lane
Enfield, NS

Jennie Marie Linzmeyer
Halifax, NS

Raianna Cheryl Pye
Whites Lake, NS

Lauren Marie Richard
Saint John, NB

Mackenzie Paulette Roach
Chéticamp, NS

Certificate in Sports Business

Simone Renée Boudreau
Enfield, NS

Master of Applied Economics

Ruixin Mo
Zhongshan, China

Hanfei Ren
Xuzhou, China

Kavya Sudarsan
Valapad, India

Xiaoling Zhang
Zhongshan, China

Daniil Zhelezniak
Odessa, Ukraine



Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Applied Economics

Jiandong Ma
Taian, China

Kavya Sudarsan
Valapad, India

Master of Business Administration

Harpreet Singh
Amritsar, India

Master of Finance

Shualihat Abdulai
Accra, Ghana

Akosua Ampomaa Asare
Accra, Ghana

Amenan Marie Orane Beugre
Abidjan, Ivory Coast

Yuyang Bian
Tianjin, China

Deepak Singh Bisht
New Delhi, India

Nicholas Andrew Dennahower
Murray Siding, NS

Sara Priscila Gomez Garcia
Ciudad Del Carmen, Mexico

Naima Badu Hodge
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

Joram Agwata Ototo
Mombasa, Kenya

Habiba Tahmina Khan
Dhaka, Bangladesh

John Jeffrey King
St. John's, NL

Senal Thenura Samaranayaka Munasinghe
Agalawatta, Sri Lanka

Devanshi Vipulkumar Patel
Surat, India

Shyamol Roy
Middle Sackville, NS

Xiren Shen
Shenzhen, China

Nosratullah Vera
Halifax, NS

Ruiqi Wang
Beijing, China

Yulian Zhang
Huainan, China

Zhijie Zou
Chongqing, China

Master of Management, Co-operatives and Credit Unions

Joanna Irene Croissant
Assiniboia, SK

Kirsten Forsch
Summerland, BC

Ashley Marie Matthews
Mitchell, ON

Natasha Ignacia Verwey
Cambridge, ON

Graduate Diploma

(Management Co-operatives and Credit Unions)

Angela Louise L'Abbe
Middle Sackville, NS

Doctor of Philosophy

(Business Administration)

Frank Zachary Bryson Konings
Fort Erie, ON

Executive Doctor of Business Administration

Rachel R. Hor
Whitby, ON



Honorary Degrees

Dr. Michael Zaworotko

Doctor of Science, honoris causa



An internationally renowned chemist and former Saint Mary's professor, **Dr. Michael Zaworotko** ("Dr. Z") has spent more than four decades advancing the field of crystal engineering and developing materials with the potential to address some of the world's most pressing challenges.

Born in Wales, Dr. Zaworotko earned his B.Sc. from Imperial College London and his Ph.D. from the University of Alabama. He joined the faculty at Saint Mary's University in 1985, where he spent 13 years before appointments at the University of Winnipeg and the University of South Florida. In 2013, he joined the University of Limerick in Ireland, where he serves as Bernal Chair of Crystal Engineering.

His research explores the design and properties of crystalline materials, with a particular focus on ultramicroporous and flexible materials, and pharmaceutical cocrystals. This work has applications ranging from carbon capture and water purification to the development of improved medicines.

Dr. Zaworotko has published more than 580 peer-reviewed papers, book chapters and patents, and his work has been cited more than 70,000 times. He has been recognized internationally for the influence of his research, including being named among the world's most highly cited researchers across chemistry, pharmacology and toxicology, and cross-disciplinary research. He is also a member of the Royal Irish Academy.

Dr. Zaworotko will receive a Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*.

Michael Medline

Doctor of Commerce, honoris causa



Michael Medline is one of Canada's most accomplished business leaders, with a career spanning retail, grocery, investment, law and corporate strategy.

He is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Woodbridge Company Limited, the primary investment vehicle for the Thomson family of Canada and majority shareholder of Thomson Reuters. He previously served as President and CEO of Empire Company Limited and Sobeys Inc. from 2017 until his retirement from the company in 2025.

During his tenure at Empire, Mr. Medline led a significant transformation of the business, strengthening its financial performance, expanding its portfolio through the acquisitions of Farm Boy and Longo's, and overseeing the launch of a new national loyalty program. Earlier in his career, he held senior leadership roles at Canadian Tire Corporation, including President and CEO.

Mr. Medline serves on the boards of Thomson Reuters Corporation, The Globe and Mail and Scotiabank, where he chairs the Corporate Governance Committee. He is also Vice-Chair of SickKids and Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors of Huron University College, among other roles.

His contributions to Canadian business and industry have earned numerous honours, including The Globe and Mail's CEO of the Year, Canada's Most Admired CEO, the Retail Council of Canada's Trailblazer Award, the Raymond A. Mason School of Business Principled Achievement Award and the Food Industry Association of Canada's Golden Pencil Award.

Mr. Medline holds an MBA from the Raymond A. Mason School of Business at William & Mary, an LL.B. from the University of Toronto and a BA from Huron University College at Western University.

Mr. Medline will receive a Doctor of Commerce, *honoris causa*.

Charles (Chuck) R. Bridges

Doctor of Civil Law, honoris causa



Charles (Chuck) R. Bridges EMBA'92 is a respected business leader, communications strategist, and long-term contributor to Saint Mary's University and the broader Nova Scotia community.

With a career span of more than four decades, Bridges has held senior leadership roles across major organizations, including the Discovery Center and Atlantic Lottery Corporation, where he led corporate affairs, stakeholder engagement, and strategic communications initiatives. Known for his ability to build partnerships across sectors, his work has had a lasting impact on organizational development and community collaboration.

Bridges dedicated more than 20 years to Saint Mary's University, serving in progressively senior roles, including Director of Public Affairs, Director of External Affairs, and Vice-President (Associate), External Affairs. During his tenure, he played a central role in advancing the university's profile, leading a comprehensive branding initiative that strengthened its position as an internationally recognized institution and supporting major fundraising efforts that generated significant philanthropic investment.

His commitment to community service is equally notable. Bridges has contributed to numerous initiatives at the municipal, provincial, and national levels, including leadership roles with the 2011 Canada Winter Games Host Society, the Halifax Commonwealth Games bid, and United Way Halifax. His contributions have helped strengthen cultural, civic, and economic development across the region.

Recognized for his integrity, collaborative leadership, and enduring commitment to community, Bridges continues to exemplify the values of service and excellence that define Saint Mary's University.

Dr. Bridges received the degree of Doctor of Civil Law, *honoris causa*, at a special ceremony held on August 28, 2026.

Valedictorians



D'Andre Asym Farrell

Faculty of Arts



Originally from St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda, D'Andre Farrell arrived in Canada alone at 17 to pursue his university education. A first-generation university student, he graduates *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Arts with honours in Political Science and a minor in Business from Saint Mary's University, distinguishing himself through academic excellence, leadership and public service.

A Dean's List scholar and U SPORTS Academic All-Canadian, D'Andre balanced his studies with varsity athletics, professional responsibilities and student leadership. His contributions were recognized with the Bryan J. Rice Award.

At Saint Mary's, he served as Chair and Chief Governance Officer of the Students' Association Board of Directors and represented students on the University's Board of Governors and Academic Senate, contributing to institutional oversight and policy development.

His academic interests culminated in his honours thesis, Selective Humanitarianism: The Discursive Construction and Constraint of the Protection of Civilians Norm in the UN Security Council, which earned an A+. He also represented Saint Mary's at the 2026 Canadian Undergraduate Security Conference at the Royal Military College Saint-Jean.

Beyond the university, D'Andre spent three summers with the Workers' Compensation Board of Nova Scotia, developing experience in administrative decision-making, legislative interpretation and appeals. He plans to pursue a Juris Doctor and graduate studies in public administration, with long-term aspirations in law, academia and public service.

D'Andre considers his selection as Valedictorian an honour that extends beyond his own achievements. He credits his mother, whose sacrifices and unwavering belief in his potential made his journey possible, as well as Valenee Edwards, Jameisa Charles, Francine Barthley, Nelecia Yeates, Jeanelle Andre, Joanne Callias, Denisha Farrell, and many others who supported him along the way.

Guided by the belief that opportunity should never be determined by circumstance, D'Andre hopes to dedicate his career to advancing justice, expanding educational access and empowering young people from disadvantaged communities. For him, success is measured not by the doors he enters, but by those he helps open for others.

Christopher Gilles Martin

Sobey School of Business



Though he was born in Halifax, Christopher considers Tremont, Nova Scotia, to be his true hometown. Today, he graduates from the Sobey School of Business with a Bachelor of Commerce, *summa cum laude*, majoring in General Business Studies.

After graduating from West Kings District High School in 2009, Christopher enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy as a Marine Engineering Mechanic. He attended training at Memorial University's Marine Institute and at CFB Esquimalt. In 2012, he was posted to CFB Halifax, where he sailed on HMCS Halifax, HMCS Charlottetown and HMCS Montréal. There, he was responsible for maintaining, monitoring and repairing vital propulsion, power generation and auxiliary systems. In 2017, he deployed on HMCS Charlottetown as part of Operation Reassurance, and in 2021, he was posted to CFB Comox as the sole Marine Technician of the 19 OSS Marine Section. In 2024, he was selected for the military's University Training Plan for Non-Commissioned Members and chose to complete his degree at Saint Mary's University. Since completing his degree, he has begun training for his new role as a Logistics Officer and is excited for the new challenges that await.

During his time at Saint Mary's, Christopher enjoyed attending Huskies football games with friends, participating in the Saint Mary's University Shotokan Karate Club and attending events with SMU's Formula 1 Society.

When he isn't working, Chris can be found at various racetracks and motorsports events throughout Eastern Canada. He enjoys reading, playing with his dogs, riding his motorcycle and planning adventures with his wife, Rosemary. He also enjoys some quiet time in a hammock, sharing a bonfire with friends and wrenching on various projects out in the garage. He is grateful for all the opportunities he has had and looks forward to what the future brings.



Alumni

The Saint Mary's University Alumni Association welcomes more than 300 students into its global family this fall.

The Alumni Honour Guard, which includes members of our diverse alumni community, proudly leads students to and from their convocation ceremony in the academic procession, signifying their transition from student to alumni.

During the ceremony, each graduate will receive an alumni pin from the Saint Mary's University Alumni Association, a tradition dating back more than 30 years. Graduates are encouraged to wear their pins with pride.

Alumni are ambassadors and champions for the university within their community and around the world. We share pride in your success. As part of a powerful network of more than 60,000 alumni worldwide, your impact is felt in your community and beyond. Philanthropic investments from our alumni, whether it be your time, talent or treasure, will pave the way for the next generation of Santamarians to succeed.

Stay connected through events, webinars and services. Connect with us online at **smu.ca/alumni**, on social media **@SMUAlumniHFX** or email **alumni@smu.ca** for more information.





About Saint Mary's University

Saint Mary's University is one of Canada's top primarily undergraduate universities known for international collaborations, leadership in entrepreneurship and research that benefits local and global communities. Programs in Arts, Science, Graduate Studies and the Sobey School of Business are among Canada's best and feature professors who are committed to the success of their students.

Saint Mary's provides approximately 5,200 students with a place that fosters possibility, excellent research opportunities and distinguished graduate and professional programs combined with a caring community. Saint Mary's is community-focused with strong values, operating the way the world should. We embrace diversity, are committed to sustainability and bravely tackle the issues that matter to society.

Graduates of Saint Mary's—who hail from more than 100 countries—share a special pride. Known as Santamarians, 60,000 alumni are contributing to communities and economies around the globe. Nestled in the heart of Halifax, Nova Scotia, on Canada's East Coast, Saint Mary's University is marked by iconic buildings, green spaces and fresh ocean air.

Saint Mary's University is committed to a prosperous future for the world—a *World without limits*. So, too, are our graduates.

Saint Mary's University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq.

Photography

Calnen Photography is available in Loyola Academic Building room L271 following each ceremony for graduation photos. To arrange an individual sitting at their studio, please book an appointment on their website, **calnenphotography.com**.





Framing of Parchments

Simply bring your diploma(s) to the parchment framing room in **SMUshop - Loyola Colonnade – Across from Tim Hortons**. In seconds, it will be professionally framed in a high quality, Canadian-made frame complete with a mat emblazoned with the official crest of Saint Mary's University.

Recording

A recording of the ceremony live-stream can be found on our website, **smu.ca/graduation**.



Flowers

Flowers are available for purchase in the lobby of the McNally building before and after each ceremony.

University Leadership

Board of Governors

Janis Sobey-Hames, Chancellor
Dr. Michael Khan, President and Vice-Chancellor
Mark Gosine BA'95, KC, Chair
The Most Reverend Brian Dunn, Visitor

Dr. Erin Adlakha
Christine Bonnell-Eisnor MBA'07
Jillian D'Alessio BA'09
Dr. Rylan Higgins
Dr. Gugu Hlongwane
Bruce F. Holland
Moksh Jain, SMUSA
Floyd Kane BA'92
Anna Marenick MBA'07
Bafana Mashingaidze BSc'14, MBA'16
Tyler MacLean, SMUSA
Sarah McLean BComm'06
Mike Mercer BA'10 MA'16
Kavya Shah, SMUSA
Dr. Bill Sewell
Vivek Sood MBA'98
Louie Velocci
Sian Wren BA'94
Liza Zahid, SMUSA

University Leadership

Academic Senate

Dr. Jason Grek-Martin, Geography, Chairperson
Dr. Tatjana Takševa, English, Vice-Chairperson

Dr. Alison Barclay, Languages & Cultures
Tom Brophy, Associate Vice-President, Student Affairs and Services
Dr. Carrie Dawson, Dean of Arts
Dr. Robert Dawson, Mathematics
Dr. Michel Delorme, Dean, Sobey School of Business
Nokutenda Gumbie, Vice-President Academic Affairs, SMUSA
Dr. Mary Hale, Religion
Dr. Karen Harper, Biology
Dr. Phyo Hlaing, Accounting
Hanna Johnston, SMUSA Board of Directors
Dr. Michael Khan, President and Vice-Chancellor
Dr. Rahman Khokhar, Finance
Dr. Natalia Kochetova, Accounting
Tyler MacLean, SMUSA Board of Directors
Shannon Morrison, Secretary to Senate
Dr. Bui Petersen, Management
Dr. Heather Sanderson, Library
Dr. Adam Sarty, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research
Dan Seneker, AVP Enrolment & Registrar
Prof. Raymond Sewell, English
Kavya Shah, SMUSA Board of Directors
Dr. Marcus Sibley, Criminology
Dr. Veronica Stinson, Psychology
Dr. Stephanie Thomas, Economics
Suzanne van den Hoogen, Dean of University Library and Archives
Dr. Sam Veres, Interim Provost and Vice-President, Academic & Research
Dr. Laura Weir, Interim Dean of Science
Liza Zahid, President & CEO, SMUSA

Acknowledgements

Saint Mary's University extends sincere gratitude to the many individuals and groups whose dedication, encouragement and support have helped our graduates achieve this important milestone.

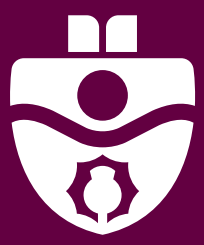
We recognize and thank the families, friends, mentors, guardians, caregivers and supporters whose guidance and encouragement have contributed to our graduates' success.

We also acknowledge the faculty and staff whose commitment to teaching, learning, research, advising, student support and campus operations enriches the Saint Mary's experience and helps students reach their academic goals.

Special appreciation is extended to the many campus and community groups who contribute to a safe, welcoming and vibrant university environment, including student leaders, volunteers, student societies, accessibility and wellness supports, residence and student affairs teams, and emergency response and safety personnel.

We further thank the student emergency group, musicians, ceremonial participants, interpreters, technical teams, facilities staff, event personnel and all others whose efforts have made today's Convocation celebration possible.

To all who have supported our graduates and the Saint Mary's community, thank you for helping make this achievement and celebration a reality.



Saint Mary's University

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