

David Mensink Receives CAUT Dedicated Service Award

Congratulations to David Mensink (Counselling & Psychology Services) recipient of the Dedicated Service Award of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT). Providing tremendous service and leadership to DFA, David has served three terms as DFA President (2008-09, 2012-13, 2015-16). In this role, he provided a strong vision for our Association and worked to ensure all voices were heard. This similar collaborative approach was evident in the terms he served on the University Employee Benefits Committee and the DFA Grievance Committee. It was also the approach he brought to collective bargaining serving on both our DFA collective bargaining team and the DFA staff negotiation team. David brings a calm and thoughtful leadership style to each of his roles in our Association. Thank you, David, for your continued service to our members.



David Mensink

Member Only Section of DFA Website Now Live

We have worked out the kinks and the Member Only section of DFA's website is now live and updated. Here you can find confidential information such as budget documents, salary graphs and DFA Executive Committee meeting minutes. Please visit <https://dfa.ns.ca/member-login/> and once there, click *Forgot Your Password*. Enter the email address that we use for DFA communications and you will be prompted to reset your password. If you have any issues, please contact Catherine.Wall@dal.ca or call the DFA office at 902-494-3722.

Collective Bargaining Update

DFA's collective bargaining team continues to prepare for our upcoming round of collective bargaining. DFA's bargaining team members are: Ray Larkin (Chief Negotiator), Tim Jukes, Julia Wright, Shelley McKibbin, Debbie Mellish, Barbara MacLennan and Lynn Purves. Dalhousie has selected its bargaining team and those members are: Jasmine Walsh (Assistant Vice-President Human Resources), Laura Neals (Human Resources), Marlo Shinyei (Human Resources), Susan Robertson (Financial Services), Dean Alice Aiken (Health Professions), and Dean Chris Moore (Science). The first meeting with the Board is scheduled for May 18, 2017. DFA will be issuing regular updates once collective bargaining begins.

Alberta's Bill 7 Gives Academic Staff Right to Strike

Last month, the Alberta government introduced Bill 7: An Act to Enhance Postsecondary Academic Bargaining. This gives academic staff - including post-secondary faculty, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows - the right to strike. Prior to Bill 7, contract disputes for professors and graduate students were settled through mandatory binding arbitration, while post-doctoral fellows were not recognized. "The new legislation gives academic staff in Alberta labour rights equivalent to those of academic staff everywhere else in Canada," said Carolyn Sale, president of the Association of Academic Staff of the University of Alberta (AASUA). "Our members' work in the public interest requires that Alberta's universities are run according to strong practices of shared governance and the core principle of academic freedom – practices that will be better protected under the new legislation."

Faculty of Agriculture Researchers receive \$1.7 million

Faculty of Agriculture researchers recently received \$1.7 million in federal funding to help the Canadian farming sector become a world leader in the development and use of clean and sustainable agricultural technologies and practices. The investment will be used to develop technologies, practices and processes that can be adopted by farmers to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Faculty members David Burton and Derek Lynch at the Faculty of Agriculture are working directly with the agricultural community to assess soil health, carbon storage capacity and soil nitrogen supply as a basis for GHG mitigation planning. This research will go a long way to increase the resiliency of Atlantic Canadian soils to climate change and extreme weather events which will be of broad benefit to the agriculture sector across Canada. For more info, [click here](#).

Doolittle Receives Killam Prize in Natural Sciences from Canada Council for the Arts

Biologist W. Ford Doolittle has been awarded the 2017 Killam Prize in the Natural Sciences from the Canada Council for the Arts. Dr. Doolittle, who has a 45-year career at Dalhousie, is one of the world's top molecular biologists with more than 300 publications and 25,000 citations. The \$100,000 award, considered among the top research honours in the country, recognizes individuals who have dedicated their careers to pushing the boundaries of knowledge in the social sciences, humanities, health sciences, engineering, and natural sciences.

Dr. Doolittle's Killam win comes just a few years after becoming Dal's first-ever recipient of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's \$1-million Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering. For more info, [click here](#).



Dr. W. Ford Doolittle

Dr. Joan Sargeant receives 2017 Ian Hart Award



Dr. Joan Sargeant

The Canadian Association for Medical Education (CAME) has recognized Dr. Joan Sargeant's work by awarding her the 2017 Ian Hart Award. Established in 1992, this CAME award celebrates distinguished career contributions to medical education. Since starting with Dalhousie Medical School in 1995, Dr. Sargeant has led, co-led or mentored others to lead more than 60 research projects with total funding of more than \$4.5 million. She has authored more than 100 scientific publications and delivered more than 300 presentations to peers. This work has led to innovations in content and delivery of medical education programs in undergraduate and postgraduate training, to continuing professional and faculty development. Among her many achievements, Dr. Sargeant brought interprofessional education into the mainstream, which she began in the mid-2000s in collaboration with Cancer Care Nova Scotia. For more info, [click here](#).

2017 Arthur B. MacDonald Chairs Named

In early May, Dalhousie researchers Dr. Randall Martin and Dr. Jean Marshall were named as the first holders of the Arthur B. MacDonald Chair. Drs. Martin and Marshall will receive \$50,000 a year for up to seven years to build upon their research.

Dr. Martin, Department of Physics and Atmospheric Science, has dedicated his career to understanding atmospheric composition and its implications for human health and climate. Dr. Marshall, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, has been internationally recognized for studies on the role of mast cells in defence against infection and cancer and in chronic inflammatory diseases. For more info, [click here](#).

Dal Workplace Wellness - May Events

As part of Dalhousie's Workplace Wellness Strategy, the following events are planned for May.

- Gratitude at Work: A practice for getting results – May 16
- Putting Fun into Planning for Vacation – May 17
- Pain Support Group: Art Therapy – May 18
- Promotion of the Health and Productivity of Caregivers – May 24
- Managing Mental Health Issues in the Workplace - May 26
- Mental Health First Aid (Truro) – May 29

To register or for more info, email healthy@dal.ca. The Workplace Wellness Strategy is designed to support faculty and staff members' physical, mental, spiritual and financial health and well-being.

Books You Can Use:

Top 20 Most Influential Academic Books of All Times

listed on www.openculture.com

"After a list of the top 20 academic books was pulled together by expert academic booksellers, librarians and publishers to mark the inaugural Academic Book Week," writes The Guardian's Alison Flood, "the public was asked to vote on what they believed to be the most influential." The shortlist of these most important academic books is listed here. You can access many of them for free by going to www.openculture.com:

- *A Brief History of Time* by Stephen Hawking
- *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* by Mary Wollstonecraft
- *Critique of Pure Reason* by Immanuel Kant
- *Nineteen Eighty-Four* by George Orwell
- *On the Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin
- *Orientalism* by Edward Said
- *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson
- *The Communist Manifesto* by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels
- *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare*
- *The Female Eunuch* by Germaine Greer
- *The Making of the English Working Class* by EP Thompson
- *The Meaning of Relativity* by Albert Einstein
- *The Naked Ape* by Desmond Morris
- *The Prince* by Niccolò Machiavelli

