





A number of musket balls were found at the site, which may give evidence that a New England military unit was based in the village during the 1755 deportation.

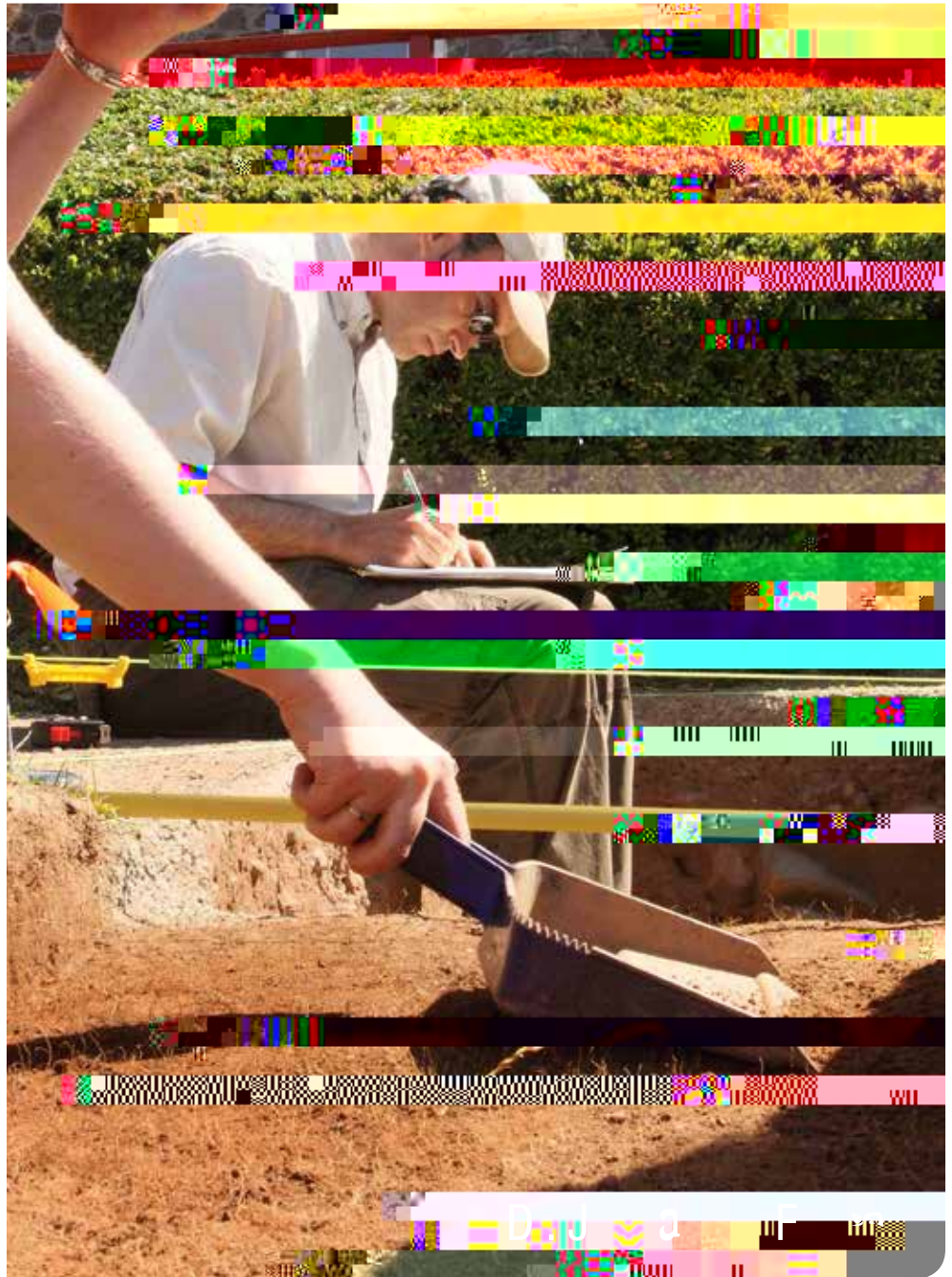
“We’re making the story more captivating and realistic,” says Dr. Fowler, himself a former Saint Mary’s Arts student who earned his undergraduate degree in anthropology.

Dr. Fowler and his colleagues are also doing other work to help enrich our understanding of the Acadians. He and colleague Dr. Tanya Peckmann worked on a 3D facial reconstruction of an Acadian child whose skull was unearthed at a construction site in the 1990s.

Dr. Fowler is also co-authoring a book about the Grand-Pré dig, which is just one of many projects Dr. Fowler has worked on during his career. Recently, he co-edited

with colleague

and senior Saint Mary’s anthropology professor, Dr. Paul Erickson. The book covers details of the work being done at Grand Pré and other archaeological work happening in the province, including the Fortress of Louisbourg in Cape Breton and a Black Loyalist settlement in Birchtown.



“Our province has a lot to offer in terms of archaeology,” says Dr. Fowler. “You don’t have to go far away to see it – we have a 10,000 year long archaeological record here.”

AmasaaC, BAI a a D m S

Sunyata Choyce has a vivid childhood memory that led her to pursue International Development Studies. She remembers seeing an infomercial on television describing the plight of young children in third-world countries. Shocked by what she saw, she asked her parents if the infomercial was about something that happened in the past. Her parents told her the truth – it was the present day. “That made no sense to me,” recalls Choyce. “I said, ‘How come no one has jobs helping them?’ My parents said that people do have jobs helping them and I could do it too if I wanted to someday.”

South Africa, with extension projects that take place elsewhere. The group works at helping disadvantaged communities through hands-on initiatives, including building preschools and foster homes, as well as providing

Choyce majored in International Development Studies (IDS) at Saint Mary’s University and graduated in 2002. She credits her education with giving her the credibility and training needed to work in the international

Choyce founded COLORS in 2004 when she was 23. At the time, she was working in South Africa on a wildlife rehab project for prigs4 her ed8 (wasalsos workingn I-fo0s wore r i0 -1& thro



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Today, she’s doing just that. Choyce is the founding director of Project COLORS International Society, a small, grassroots humanitarian aid organization based in Wilderness,



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Rupesh Dhungana has travelled a long way in a short time to become a student at Saint Mary's University. Less than two years ago, he was living with his family in a refugee camp in the eastern part of Nepal.

“Development Studies (IDS) student. “We had to source for food, shelter, and education. There was lots of crime, and it was a struggle for existence.”

Dhungana was born in Bhutan, but moved to the refugee camp in Nepal with his family at a young age. He moved to Canada in June 2010, along with his parents, three sisters, three brothers, and other relatives. In total, 21 members of his family came to Canada. The decision to immigrate was based on a recommendation from a family friend who lives in the city.

With an interest in working abroad, perhaps as a social worker, Dhungana asked people what university in the area had the best IDS program. Saint Mary's was the answer that kept coming up. Enrolling at Saint Mary's is a decision that he's very pleased with.

“It's so beautiful and there are so many immigrants,” he says of Saint Mary's.

Dhungana's favourite classes are sociology, philosophy, and math. When not studying, he's very active in the community. He participates in a group called Druk Atlantic Youths (DAY), which celebrates Nepalese culture through art classes, language classes for children, and other programs. There is no charge for those wanting to take part and everyone is welcome. He also has a part-time job at McDonald's.

As for the future, Dhungana would like to work with the Red Cross or United Nations in an effort to give back. “I want to be a good man within my community,” he says, adding that he would like to go back to Nepal and his home country, Bhutan.

In the meantime, Dhungana is thrilled with his life in Halifax. “I get freedom here,” he says. “My family is happy. People are so friendly and helpful. There is better education, health and transportation. Everything is better.”

Ja a A a Y G G a A a S

Japan and Atlantic Canada may be two worlds apart, but one can step right into Japanese life at Saint Mary's.

While there are many examples of such opportunities, one is a speech competition co-organized by Saint Mary's and the Consulate of Japan in Montreal, which helps students immerse themselves in Japanese language and culture.

At the Atlantic Canada Japanese Language Speech Contest, the speeches can be on any topic and are judged on content, grammar and performance.

"We try to see language in the context of culture," says Dr. Alexandre Avdulov, a professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Classics. "For us, it's not just a language competition. We like to see the speeches as part of the more complex cultural fabric. I want to give students a chance to be there and learn from the experience and from each other and to be creative."

This year marked the 13th year of the event, and it was hosted at Saint Mary's this time. (Hosting duties rotate amongst other local universities where Japanese is taught.) Of the 14 awards up for grabs, Saint Mary's students won nine of them.



Other ways that students experience Japanese language and culture at Saint Mary's include that from day one, students in Dr. Avdulov's classes are taught how to bow to each other. He also organizes groups for tea

and Japanese court dance, as well as other cultural presentations.

this immersion is Asian Studies student Alexandria Dugal. "The professors are friendly, helpful, dedicated and knowledgeable," she says. "Dr. Avdulov is a talented, passionate and dedicated Japanese language professor who wants students to succeed. He has been instrumental in my Japanese learning."

Dugal studied in Japan for two years. While there, she participated in two Japanese speech contests, winning second place both times. Her goal is to get an education degree and teach Japanese in the future.

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Alexandre Avdulov feels Saint Mary's is an ideal place for studying Asian Studies. "Japan has an amazingly rich, incredibly elegant culture," he says. "If the students are interested in it, this is a great program because we care about them. We have a great department that is inter-cultural and extremely interesting. We're living what we are teaching."



ASCAH, BAIDS

One day, during a discussion on sustainable development and environmental issues in the Religion and International Development class they were taking, students Katie Hunt and Lori Corkum both expressed frustration with the negativity and harsh critiques the subjects were fraught with. Missing from the discussion was the role of hope.

We all decided there needed to be space in the program for a discussion about hope,” says Corkum. “This is



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Religious Studies professor Dr. Anne Marie Dalton created the framework for the course, titled “Special Topics in Religious Studies,” while Hunt and Corkum contributed to the content.

From there, a partnership was born, as the two decided to research and write a paper about hope. It was titled

. The paper looks at creating and sustaining hope.

“We both found that with the tendency to focus on negativity and critique – in both academia and a



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a society – that it was easy to feel overcome by despair when discussing and learning about such issues,” says Corkum.

“Essentially, we discuss the current social imaginary of the West, how it has materialized, and the fundamental role of hope – as an action – in creating change at the individual and societal level,” adds Hunt.

Earlier this year, the pair presented the paper to the 16th Annual Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference at Concordia University in Montreal, where the presentation was well-received. Looking back on the experience, the students are thankful for the support and encouragement they received from Dr. Dalton.

“She encouraged us to pursue our interest in the topic of hope and volunteered to lead us in a special topics study,” says Corkum. “She introduced us to the ‘call for papers,’ supported us throughout the



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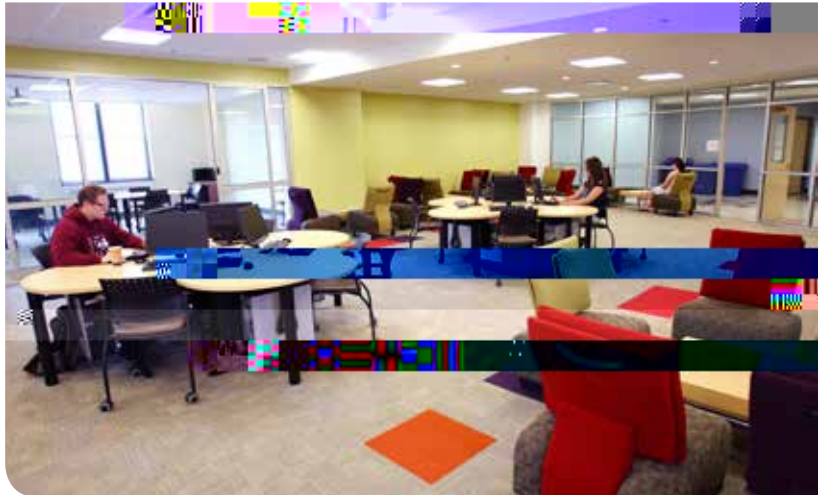
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Faculty of Arts
Saint Mary's University
Halifax, Nova Scotia

B.A. Advising Centre
Faculty of Arts, Saint Mary's University
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3C3
(902) 420-5437
smarts@smu.ca
www.facebook.com/SMUArts
Twitter: @SMArts_SMU

is published by

Writer: Richard Woodbury

