

President's Corner



Here we are back in the deep freeze of a Canadian winter. Some of you may be lucky enough to head south for sand and sun. Others enjoy the snow on skis or snowshoes, but to my mind, nothing beats staying cozy indoors with a good book.

It was a great pleasure to see so many of you at the annual Christmas lunch in December. Almost 200 MURA members and friends gathered on campus for good food and good company. We owe a big thank-you to Pam Penny and the Christmas Lunch Committee for making the event a success and to President Patrick Deane for subsidizing the cost of the lunch.

The next large MURA gathering will be the Annual General Meeting on June 3rd. The AGM will include election of the MURA president, vice-president and three council members. In addition to the executive, you have nine elected representatives in total on the MURA Council, with each Councillor serving a three-year term. The terms are staggered so that three vacancies are filled every June. Council manages the affairs and projects of the retirees' association; acts as the official voice of the retirees of the University; and sets MURA's budget. In addition to attending Council meetings once a month from September to June, Council members sit on one or more MURA committees. You can find out more about these on our web site at <http://www.mcmaster-retirees.ca/council.html>. If you would like to get

involved or know someone who would be a good candidate for Council, please see the information under *Call for Nominations* on this page.

And finally, 2015 got off to a good start for MURA members with the announcement of a substantial increase in our pensions for the first time in several years. Please read the articles by Bob West and Cliff Andrews on page 3 for details.

Talk to you in the spring..

Mary Johnston
johnston@mcmaster.ca

Call for Nominations

The duly constituted MURA Nominating Committee is now receiving input for the nomination of Council Members for 2015-2016.

The Committee comprises:
Marianne Walters (Chair)
Helen Barton
Eleanor Frank
David Hitchcock
Kathy Overholt



Please forward expressions of personal interest and/or suggestions for nominees to the Committee Chair, Marianne Walters at: waltersm@cogeco.ca or 905-648-2309 or to any Nominating Committee member, not later than February 10, 2015.

Submitted by Kathy Overholt,
MURA Secretary

Getting old is like climbing a mountain; you get a little out-of-breath, but the view is much better.

~ Ingrid Bergman

McMaster's Challenges Over the Next Decade

On November 6, President Patrick Deane addressed the McMaster Community on his perception of McMaster's challenges and likely development over the next decade. Deane foresees no dramatic change for McMaster. About these challenges Deane noted the following.

- Higher education is transforming rapidly, although for McMaster probably no more rapidly than when George P. Gilmour was President from 1950 to 1961.
- Due to technological change, universities no longer control the flow of knowledge and need creativity to adapt to this rapidly evolving technology.
- The 150% increase in university students in Ontario in the last 12 years has not been matched by increased government funding. This will ultimately affect the quality of the student education.
- Canada is the most highly-educated nation on the planet with approximately 50% of the eligible population possessing or working on an advanced degree. A degree has become a major factor in employment and employability.
- Turning universities into trainers for the job market is occurring incrementally and continuously and post-secondary institutions are losing their autonomy and becoming dominated by an economic-business model. This leads to a very narrow social agenda, with pressure on students to pursue areas that fit them to a defined career. Curiosity-driven research, which is directly linked to applied research and proven to result in most of the beneficial leaps in knowledge and benefits to mankind, is not amenable to this economic-business model. Deane quotes John Dewey, the great American educational reformer: "the goal of education is to allow for further education".

Deane thinks that the University's *Forward with Integrity* initiative is well designed to deal with these challenges. It emphasizes the following roles for McMaster: retaining and building on its research intensive activities; playing an expanding role in engaging the community; and increasing its international involvement and outreach.

[McMaster's recent Strategic Mandate Agreement with the provincial government](#) builds on the themes of

Forward with Integrity and reflects the University's leading position in the province. Deane noted that McMaster is highly valued for its total vision of what a university should be, and should continue building on the momentum gained over the past several years.

Red Wilson Makes a Major Reinvestment in the Study of Canadian History

Lynton R. (Red) Wilson, Chancellor of McMaster in the years 2007-2013, has been a major benefactor. Anyone who has visited campus in the last year will have noted the emergence of a large structure at the southwest corner of Forsyth Avenue and Sterling Street. This is to be named The L. R. Wilson Hall and will house the Humanities and Social Sciences Faculties.

Wilson's largesse predates this new structure as his generous donation helped found the Wilson Institute for Canadian History. The Wilson Institute has as its mission the rethinking of Canadian history within a globalization framework. This perspective involves studying the ways in which Canadians have contributed to and been influenced by transnational or supranational phenomena. A few examples of these are international migration, changing conceptions of human rights, religious movements, epidemics, wars, and global finance and trade. Wilson recently announced a \$2.5 million reinvestment in this institute. The institute will be housed in Wilson Hall, which is appropriate.

MURA Survey on Volunteering

MURA is working on developing volunteer opportunities that offer satisfying activities for our members, keep them connected to McMaster, and contribute to the university.

You can help by sharing your ideas about how best to use the talents of retirees to the mutual benefit of MURA members and McMaster, and by identifying your own volunteer interests.

Please respond to the on-line survey at <http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/jellybean/mura-engagement/> by February 7, 2015.

Retirees without internet access are welcome to request a copy of the survey by leaving a message in MURA's voice mailbox at 905-525-9140, ext. 23171.

Salaried Pension Plan

It was certainly a “Merry Christmas” for retirees of the Salaried Pension Plan when the Board of Governors approved an increase of 6.39% in pension payments starting in January 2015. The full increase applies to those who retired on or before June 30, 2010, with lower increases for those retiring July 2010 and later. The total is made up of a 1.41% regular increase equivalent to the 2013/14 average increase in CPI plus a 4.98% supplementary “catch-up” increase for CPI not paid in the previous 3 years. The rate of return on pension assets for the year ended June 30, 2014 was 18.40% and, when added to the rates of return for the previous 4 years, gives a 5-year average rate of return of 10.89%. The pension plan provides that the average rate of return above 4.5% can be paid to retirees as a pension increase.

The rates of return on pension assets for the years 2011 to 2014 are 14.95%, 3.85%, 10.79% and 18.40% (average 12.00%). While it is not possible to predict the rate of return for 2015, it is likely that the 5-year average rate of return will be sufficient for a January 2016 pension increase equivalent to the increase in CPI. The current year’s investment return has gotten off to a modest start with a gross (before investment management fees and administrative expenses) rate of return of 0.8% for the first 3 months of 2014/15. Investment markets continue to be volatile and month-to-month variations in investment returns can be expected.

The audited fund financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2014 and other information related to the Salaried Pension Plan can be found at www.workingatmcmaster.ca/pensions/annual-report.

We are still awaiting a decision by the Ontario government on the creation of a “Super Fund” to manage the pension fund investments of Ontario Universities. Some direction is expected in the Spring 2015 Provincial Budget. In the meantime, the Pension Trust Committee continues to monitor investment performance and makes recommendations for changes when appropriate.

The June 30, 2014 Actuarial Valuation of the Salaried Pension Plan will be completed soon, which will set the University contribution requirements for the next 3 years. The valuation will reflect any changes to the Pension Plan since the last valuation, including changes in employee contributions and benefits, projected salary increases and retirement dates and projected investment returns. The mortality rates will also be adjusted to reflect the longer lives (and thus longer period of pension payments) enjoyed by McMaster retirees. While other employers have moved to defined contribution or other forms of retirement plan, we should be grateful that McMaster has maintained a defined benefit pension plan for the majority of its salaried employees.

R. A. West
MURA representative, Pension Trust Committee

Hourly Pension Plan

To members of the Hourly Pension Plan of McMaster University, this is just a meat and potatoes summary of our Pension Plan. For most of you, this will probably be all you are interested in, but if further information is required, you may contact me via MURA or the benefits department of Human Resources.

The essence of this brief report is that following a fairly good year of investments (to June 30, 2014) of 16.79%, our 5-year average rate of return reached 9.79%. This being 3.79% above our 6% assumption, allowed for all retirees within the Plan to receive the maximum CPI increase of 1.41%. There is also a

supplemental increase of 2.347% totaling 3.79%. This amount of supplemental increase is for all who retired prior to July 1, 2010. For those who retired after this date up until June 1, 2013, there is a calibrated scale which reduces the supplement down to 0.081%. This is due to the 3-year average calculation of this benefit.

This is the first increase since 2008 and we must continue to hope for a continued improvement in the stock markets going forward.

From your pension reporter, Cliff Andrews, I take this opportunity to wish all a wonderful 2015.

Robert McNutt Awarded Honorary Degree: Talks about Climate Change



Dr. Bob McNutt was awarded the Honorary Degree Doctor of Science at the McMaster Fall Convocation for Health Sciences and Science. University President Patrick Deane, in citing Bob's accomplishments, noted his extensive and distinguished research career in Geochemistry, and his equally extensive and distinguished administration career that included Dean of Science at McMaster, President of the University of Toronto at Mississauga and a number of post-retirement senior administrative posts at McMaster.

McNutt, an associate member of MURA, chose "Global Warming" as his theme for the convocation address. He sees the amelioration of global warming as the big problem facing the graduating students. World authorities, he noted, have shown that warming of the climate system since the 1950s is unprecedented in human history and that we are well into the danger zone. The resulting effects include more extreme heat waves; droughts and damaging fires; energized storms with heavier rains and greater floods; spreading of warm-climate pests to traditionally cooler regions; an increasing extermination of species; the thawing of the permafrost; and the global melting of glaciers and ice sheets, with rising seas impacting every coast.

McNutt discussed contemporary climate warming in the context of geological time during which climate change has been a natural part of the rhythms of the earth. However, humans have played a profound role in the *rapid* increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. To avoid passing the tipping point to a much warmer and very uncomfortable earth, we must prevent global temperature from increasing more than 2°C above its present-day value. This can only be accomplished by phasing out, ASAP, the burning of fossil fuels. Dr. McNutt notes that Canada, on a per capita basis, is

one of the top fossil fuel consumers in the world. He concluded with the following message:

Climate change is THE issue facing society today and time is not on our side. It is daunting but it is also exciting. And it comes down to you. You cannot ignore it, or wish it away, or deny it is happening. It is a problem unique in human history and it is yours. Unfortunately, we cannot stop the world and get off! Canada, per capita, is a major polluter. Therefore, Canada has the obligation, at the very least, to be a per capita player in solving global warming. I prefer that we become a world leader in this area, punching well above our weight. Let's do just that.

Let Us Know If We Can Stop Mailing *MURAnews* to YOU

We thank the 240 members who have helped make up for the recent postal rate increase by opting out of the postal mailing of *MURAnews*.

Please phone Linda Grocott at 905-689-7520 or email her at grocott@mcmaster.ca if **you** would like to join this group of budget rescuers.

We make it easy to print your own *MURAnews* by attaching a PDF copy to the email that's sent when a new *MURAnews* is ready to read. Or you can just click the link in the email and read online.

Contacting MURA

Mail Gilmour Hall B108, McMaster University
1280 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON L8S 4L8

Phone: 905-525-9140, extension 23171
(voicemail is checked twice a week)

Email mura@mcmaster.ca

Web Site <http://mcmaster-retirees.ca/>

Volunteer Opportunities



McMaster Convocation Assistants required:
Health Sciences Convocation: May 22, 2015
Spring Convocations: June 8 to 12, 2015

The Office of the Registrar welcomes retirees to become involved in the most exciting days of McMaster students' academic lives — convocations.

Volunteers are needed to assist at the front desk at convocations, where your role would be to meet, greet and direct guests, as well as check tickets. You will work alongside a full time employee who can offer assistance and training.

Please contact Rachel Huang in the Office of the Registrar, e-mail convo@mcmaster.ca, or by phone at 905-525-9140 ext. 24386.



Bay Area Science & Engineering Fair (BASEF) March 25 – 28, 2015 at Mohawk College

BASEF is an exhibition and competition of science, technology, engineering and mathematics projects for grades 7 to 12 students in Hamilton, Halton, Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk and Six Nations. **Mac retirees from all backgrounds can help make this event a success.**

- Volunteer Judges – Judging day is Thursday, March 26th. Volunteer at basef.ca/judging or e-mail judging@basef.ca

- General Volunteers – Help with set-up, registration, supervising student activities, and welcoming and guiding participants and visitors. Volunteer at basef.ca/volunteer, e-mail volunteers@basef.ca, or call Helen Barton at 905-528-8951.



Exam Hospitality 2015. The Chaplaincy Centre is in search of host volunteers for our April 2015 Exam Drop In event in the McMaster Student Centre room 230. Everything you need is supplied by the Chaplaincy Centre and OPIRG. We need your help to replenish cookies and hot beverages, and to welcome students. McMaster students love to get a chance to speak to the volunteer hosts and to eat delicious homemade cookies. Through student feedback, we have learned that the students are thankful in knowing that the community cares about their well-being during a stressful time. We welcome your help! Shifts are two hours — either 5:30-7:30 pm or 7:30-9:30 pm. Our first day is on Thursday, April 9, 2015, and we continue through until Wednesday, April 22nd. We do not hold Exam Drop In on Saturdays, April 11th, April 18th, and April 19th. If you would like, you can also contribute in

another way — by donating cookies (no peanuts please). Please contact Amanda Lemus ext 24207 or via E-mail: chaplain@mcmaster.ca



The **Victorian Order of Nurses** (VON) Hamilton has a role for YOU...

VON Hamilton values and appreciates the caring volunteers who are the heart of our organization. We care that our volunteers have a positive and rewarding volunteer experience. VON has the expertise to orientate, provide training and offer ongoing support to our volunteers. You will become part of our vital team of volunteers who are helping people in need.

- Meals On Wheels: Deliver hot or frozen meals at noon to home-bound individuals in Hamilton and Stoney Creek. Both drivers and servers needed one day or more per week, Monday to Friday. Mileage paid.

- Volunteer Visiting: Provide friendship to lonely seniors or adults with disabilities and caregiver relief. Visits can be on a flexible basis. Training and ongoing support is provided.

- Hospice Volunteer Service: Offer emotional and practical support to individuals of all ages who have a life-threatening or terminal illness. All volunteers are provided with 30-hours palliative care education.

- Bereavement support: Offers support for clients that have recently lost a loved one. Education provided, commitment of one hour per week for one year.

- Tele-Touch: Provide a phone call to a lonely senior to offer reassurance and decrease loneliness. One to seven times per week, education provided.

- Shopping By Bus: Assist tenants from selected seniors' apartment buildings with their grocery shopping. Includes free bus service to and from store. A partnership of VON Hamilton, No Frills, Fortinos and HSR.

- Volunteer-Assisted Transportation: Provide a drive to a medical appointment and friendly support while waiting. As needed, you decide what days you have available.

Join our team today, become a VON volunteer! Call 905-522-0053 or email voncsshamilton@von.ca

Computer Tips & Tricks

(from [McMaster Daily News](#))



Want a better **PASSWORD**? Follow these eight tips:

Create long passwords

A longer password is always harder to crack. For example, a six-character password can take as little as 11 hours for a computer to guess, while a nine-character password could take up to 10 years for a computer to hack. Try to use a password that is 8-12 characters long.

Create strong passwords

Use all the character types that are supported by the system.

Increasing the password complexity is another great way to lengthen the time it would take a computer to guess your combination. Also, never use common letter or number combinations, words or phrases — for example, do not use your birthday or username in your password.

Never share your passwords

Seriously, do we even have to explain this one? Your passwords allow you to access private, sensitive information. Nobody should ever know your passwords.

Never reuse your passwords

If you inadvertently share the password to access your email, would that put your banking information at risk? Be safe, and don't reuse your passwords. Choose a new password for every account you create, and use a password manager to keep track of them. Which brings us to the next point ...

Use a password manager

You have a lot of passwords to remember — from email to banking to your MacID, and other sites in between. Password managers are applications that keep track of your passwords for you, making it easier to keep your information protected by long, strong and unique passwords. McMaster IT suggests [LastPass](#) as a great example of a password manager.

Use two-factor authentication

Two-factor authentication (also known as 2FA) requires users to provide more than just a password to access their information. An individual's identity can be authenticated using any of these factors:

- Something they know (i.e., a password)
- Something they have (i.e., a phone)
- Something they are (i.e., a fingerprint)

Two-factor authentication requires the individual to provide two of these unique identifiers in order to access their information.

Manage your password recovery process

Most internet services offer a self-service password recovery process. This usually involves some combination of an email, an Short Message Service or a secret question. Make sure you understand and properly configure the password recovery process for the web sites that are important to you. We recommend using the recovery option that sends a reset code to your phone, if it is available. Avoid using the secret questions if other options are available.

Change your password if you suspect it has been compromised

Whether someone peered over your shoulder or your favourite online forum was hacked, it's a good idea to change a password if you think it has been compromised. You can change your MacID password anytime using the self-service portal, <https://apps.mcmaster.ca/macid-self-management/password-change/index.htm>.

Honours Bestowed

Alba DiCenso Named to Order of Canada

Alba DiCenso, who is a professor emerita of McMaster's School of Nursing and the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, is being honoured for her research in evidence-based nursing and for her contributions to the development of nurse practitioners.

Her appointment to Canada's highest civilian award was announced by Governor General David Johnston on Boxing Day.

Carolyn Byrne, associate dean, health sciences and director of the School of Nursing, said: "Throughout her career, Alba DiCenso has provided exemplary leadership. She is known around the world for her promotion of evidence-based nursing, and her ground breaking work on nurse practitioners has led to their full integration in Canada and beyond. During her career, she has been focused on improving the health care of Canadians."

The awards ceremony will be held at Rideau Hall in Ottawa in 2015. [From the December 27, 2014 [Daily News](#)]

Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship Awarded to Mel Hawkrigg

Congratulations to honorary MURA member and former McMaster Chancellor Mel Hawkrigg, who recently received the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship. This award is presented to individuals who have made exceptional, long-term contributions to the well-being of their communities.

A dedicated volunteer and passionate member of the McMaster community, Hawkrigg feels that good citizenship simply means answering the call — no matter how large or small the task. "You have to be prepared to contribute to your community, when you can and where you can. That's a rule that our family has lived by for a long time, and our children have followed through in that tradition as well." [Source: [Daily News](#)]

Attention U.S. Citizens, Accidental Americans, Unrenounced Green-Card Holders & Their Families *[The following notice was submitted by MURA member Stuart Mestelman.]*

Public lecture: 2015 - *Solving US Citizenship Problems: have you received a FATCA Letter or been warned of the consequences of being a US Person?* March 26, 2015, 6:30 - 8:30 PM at McMaster Innovation Park, 175 Longwood Rd S., Hamilton ON

Speaker: John Richardson, nationally known Toronto citizenship lawyer who has advised both Parliament and the US Congress about the problems with FATCA.

Admission: \$20 cash/individual or \$40 for a family (up to 4 people).

Learn about the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FACTA), US law that our government agreed to enforce in Canada; it now supersedes parts of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and impairs your rights to financial privacy. Specifically, as of spring 2015 your personal info and all financial account details (and that of any non-US citizen joint-account holder) are to be sent to the US Internal Revenue Service. You have no opportunity to challenge this action or where else this data is forwarded once in the US. Current US tax filing and citizenship renunciation issues also will be discussed.

If you have questions, call Laura Mestelman at 905-627-1849.

Please note that this event is not organized or sponsored by MURA.

Book Review:

**Canadians at War, Vol. 2:
A Guide to the Battlefields
and Memorials of World War
II**, by Susan Evans Shaw



“France, Italy, Hong Kong, Northwest Europe: Canadian soldiers fought on several fronts during World War II.

Costly battles and campaigns like those at Dieppe, in Sicily, at Ortona, on the beaches of Normandy, and during the liberation of the Netherlands proved the mettle of soldiers, airmen, and their commanders.”

This newly written volume (a follow-up to Evans Shaw's popular *Canadians at War: Vol. 1, A Guide to the Battlefields and Memorials of World War I*) begins with the preparation for war and then tracks the route of the Canadian battle groups and regiments as they fought across Europe and in the Pacific. Supplemented with contemporary and historical maps and photographs, this book features detailed information for visitors to the battlefields, memorials, and cemeteries that commemorate the sacrifices of Canadian men and women in World War II.

A former research technician at McMaster, Susan Evans Shaw now applies her skills to writing and history. In addition to two volumes of *Canadians at War*, she has co-authored *West Hamilton Remembers*, a publication celebrating the twenty-nine soldiers named on the West Hamilton cenotaph, and *Heritage Treasures*, a guide to the historic homes of Hamilton and the surrounding area.

Canadians at War Vol. 2: A Guide to the Battlefields and Memorials of World War II. By Susan Evans Shaw. Canada: Goose Lane Editions. 2014 318 pp. (paperback) ISBN: 9780864924445



Question: How many days in a week?

Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?

Answer: Two hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?

Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Recent Passings

Miss Bernice Anderson , Building & Grounds, Nov. 27/14
Dr. Carl P.A. Ballstadt, English & Cultural Studies,
Oct. 14/14

Mr. Paul Michtics, Physical Plant, Jan. 1/14
Mr. James Miyasaka, Faculty of Engineering, Aug. 10/14
Dr. Bruno Mueller, Mathematics & Statistics, Oct. 27/14
Mrs. Marie Ridge, Facility Services, Nov. 22/14
Dr. James Stewart, Mathematics & Statistics, Dec. 2/14
Mrs. Eleanor Vance, Faculty of Science, Oct. 21/14
Mrs. Irene Unkerskov, Office of the Registrar, Nov. 15/14
Dr. Gerd Westermann, Geology, Nov. 5/14
Mrs. Barbara Wilde, Family Medicine, Nov. 2/14

Welcome New Members

Mr. Robert Eismont, Nuclear Reactor
Mrs. Lynn Falkiner, Chemical Engineering
Mrs. Joan Hickey, Pathology
Mrs. Deanna Maerz, Pediatrics
Mr. John S. Moroz, Kinesiology
Dr. William A. Morris, Geography & Earth Sciences
Mr. Michael Palme, Faculty of Science Glass Blowing Shop
Mr. Miguel Perez, Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics
Ms. Elizabeth Seymour, Student Financial Aid & Scholarships
Mrs. Jane Ann Smith, Pathology & Molecular Medicine

Coming in our Spring issue, an article regarding the Hamilton Plan for an Age Friendly City. You can get a head start by checking out:

[The Hamilton Council on Aging website](#)

MURA Scholarship & Prize Fund

McMaster University Retirees Association

MEET THE 2014/15 RECIPIENTS



Jillian Goltz 2014/15 MURA Prize Recipient—\$350

"This recognition gave me further motivation to work hard at my studies as I entered my final year. Thank you!"



I'm in my fourth year at McMaster, majoring in Gerontology. I also have a certificate in Human Resource Management, which I received from McMaster's Centre for Continuing Education in 2014.

As someone who enjoys reading the news, I've seen many articles about young adults who graduate from university with large amounts of debt and limited job opportunities. This prevents them from pursuing other important opportunities in life, such as travelling. The financial support I've received from MURA has helped pay for my tuition, allowing me to consider further education and travel opportunities to better myself.

I'd like to once again thank MURA for your financial support, as well as your hospitality at the Christmas luncheon. I believe donations are important not only for the financial support they provide, but also for the tangible recognition of students who have worked very hard. Speaking from personal experience, when I received the email congratulating me on winning the MURA prize this summer, it was further affirmation that I had done a good job after all the hard work I had put into my studies. This recognition gave me further motivation to work hard at my studies as I entered my final year. Thank you!

Victoria Adshade 2014/15 MURA Scholarship Recipient—\$1250

"MURA made my third year one to remember. Thank you for your incredible generosity."



I'm currently in my third year at McMaster in Honours Health Studies and Gerontology. I'm so happy to have chosen this program, because the students and faculty in Health Studies and Gerontology are amazing.

I am incredibly honoured and grateful to have received the MURA scholarship this year. I'd like to thank everyone involved with MURA for these donations in support of students. The MURA scholarship has played a significant part in helping me with my education, as I put the scholarship directly towards my tuition payment. Not only did MURA help me pay for my education, but you have also relieved my personal stress regarding finances. For this, I will be forever grateful.

I'm very proud to have received the MURA scholarship and I'm also so happy to have met MURA members. It is because of MURA that students are able to fund their education. Therefore, MURA is directly investing in the future of students and their aspirations. The donations from MURA are incredibly beneficial and I would again like to thank everyone involved for their incredible generosity. It is because of your generosity and thoughtfulness that students like me are able to go to university and maintain our confidence throughout our studies. MURA made my third year one to remember.

Thanks to the support of our donors, we were able to surpass the most recent goal of increasing the fund to \$64,000 and have now raised \$68,000! This amount will allow further increases in support for students like Jillian and Victoria.

Support the Fund at MURAscholarship.ca or by mail to Meggie MacDougall, Alumni House, McMaster University, 1280 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4K1.

“Literary Legends” — A memorable adventure—

“The most magnificent ocean liner ever built”. A trans-Atlantic voyage on “Queen Mary 2”, says Cunard, with its wealth of facilities and entertainment, its sumptuous décor and superb cuisine offers “a holiday like no other.”

In May 2014 our small group of 15 embarked at Brooklyn for the first leg of our two-week adventure, “Literary Legends by Sea and by Land”, provided with the readings, literary and historical, to discuss at our leisure. I could not have wished for more interesting and convivial companions with whom to share favourite texts. Seafaring themes from *Beowulf* and other Anglo-Saxon poetry, the Atlantic storm scene from *Brideshead*, Yeats’s great internal, spiritual voyage “Sailing to Byzantium”, were a few of the highlights.

We got in the mood for the land excursion with the *Henry IV* plays that we were to see expertly performed at Stratford-upon-Avon, and Philip Larkin’s “Church Going”, accompanied by images of art and architecture from England’s golden age. The pleasure of our lively, relaxed meetings in the excellent space Cunard provided, remains vivid.

Other great moments included a private visit to Broughton Castle in the Cotswolds—what a setting, with morning mist for atmosphere—and lunch following at the Falkland Arms in Great Tew. We had read Clarendon’s magnificent portrait of Lord Falkland, killed in battle in 1643. The poignancy and beauty of this place is unforgettable. Then to London and its treasures.

Antony and Cleopatra at the Globe, with torrential rain almost drowning the opening scenes, causing actors to strut and fret their hour, or so, upon stage with heroic vigour, made a wonderful conclusion to our trip. Shakespeare would have been proud.

A holiday like no other indeed! Our next excursions is “Paris and Normandy: The English Connection”, October 25-November 8, 2015.

*Graham Roebuck, '66, Emeritus,
host of “Literary Legends”*

Paris and Normandy: The English Connection

October 25 - November 8, 2015



Join Dr. Graham Roebuck, Professor Emeritus, McMaster University, on a fascinating journey from Paris through Normandy. An eight-day river cruise from Paris to Rouen and return on board Viking River Cruises’ Viking Pride, will be followed by a seven-day land trip through Normandy. Two nights will be spent in St. Malo followed by four nights in Bayeux before returning to Paris. During the trip, Dr. Roebuck will introduce discussions of history, literature, art, architecture and gastronomy inspired by this remarkable region.

Highlights include: Giverny, Versailles, Chartres, Mont St Michel, Canadian, US and British war sites, Cherbourg, Deauville, Honfleur

Fares*

Cruise: From \$2,830.50 USD to \$3,430.50 USD
Land: \$2,490.00 CAD

**Pricing is per person based on double occupancy. Cruise and land excursion may be booked separately.*

Book soon as space on the ship is extremely limited. Book the entire package or just the land portion by February 15 and save \$100 CAD per person!

For More Information Contact:

Web: elizabethmccallum.cruiseshipcenters.ca

Email: emccallum@cruiseshipcenters.com

Telephone: 905-540-8747



TICO #5000074