

IMPACT

Working together at Royal Roads University

SUMMER 2016 IN THIS ISSUE

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LIFE.CHANGING

At Royal Roads, we do things differently.

Each journey is unique. Each story is personal. Every day, our advancement team crosses paths with inspiring people – students, researchers, alumni and donors – who are changing the world we live in.

Impact came about because we want to introduce you to these remarkable people and share a few of the many ways they are using their Royal Roads experience to make a difference in the world.

It's that synergy we want to celebrate. Whether told from the perspective of a student, donor or researcher you'll find many lives are touched by every single story.

Changing lives through education, learning and leadership is what you, together with our many other donors and partners, help us to make happen.

Learning that changes lives.

Your contribution to Royal Roads can have a lasting impact in so many ways.

To explore your goals for giving, please contact our advancement team:

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Perspective . . .

What's on our cover this issue?



Our cover photo of a Mongolian yurt was inspired by a generosity of spirit, a gift of time and a talent that's no great secret at Royal Roads: the culinary skills of Prof. Charles Krusekopf. Through *Impact* we hope to introduce you to inspiring people like Charles and his wife Frances, and to share some of the many ways people at Royal Roads are making a difference in communities across the world.

In this issue (and on our website) you can learn how Charles' enthusiasm and experiences in Mongolia have translated to supporting student awards at Royal Roads. We take a rare glimpse into the private world of David Flaherty and we hear from student Nicole Fulcher at the half-way point of her studies. We also feature the work of Carla Funk, a recent Doctor of Social Sciences graduate whose research explores the impact of private philanthropy on developing countries.

Impact travels far and wide and so do we. **Check out the schedule and locations for Straight Talk with Dr. Terry Power.** We hope you can join us.

Meet: Nicole Fulcher

MSc Environment and Management student (class of 2017)



"We really use the campus as our classroom. You've got everything here: the woodland stream, the lagoon, the forest. It's amazing to just walk outside and have a living lab. The teachers are all very passionate – they still do what they teach."

Nicole recently learned she was selected for Royal Roads' **McLean Foundation Award in Environmental Management** "**To know that someone I've never met believes that my education and what I do with it will make a difference is tremendous,**" she says. "I'm also so grateful for the financial support, as I'm putting myself through school. It means a lot."

"I've always had an outdoorsy mind and been drawn to exploring how the world works," says student Nicole Fulcher, reflecting on what brought her to Royal Roads. After science courses in college, Nicole began working in the field – literally. "I started doing field work in soil and groundwater contamination. I never completed my degree, but I did get a good grounding in methodology – it was what I did everyday," says Nicole. "I'd been working in the field for almost 10 years and when I started looking for a way to go back to school, Royal Roads really stood out for me."

Nicole is quick to give credit to her cohort as well as the instructors. "It's definitely been a challenge, but I've learned so much from the people in my cohort as well as the classes. Right now, one of the biggest challenges is narrowing down a topic for my thesis. My thesis coordinator is really helpful and the teachers have given me great advice. As a result, I know I'm going to focus on water quality and that's exciting."

"This program has really opened up my life. It's important to keep learning, not just in school, but in life."

One year into her two-year program, Nicole still feels Royal Roads is different.

Photo by Nicole Fulcher



DAVID FLAHERTY

FERTILE GROUND FOR LIFE-LONG PASSIONS

SEPTEMBER

Calgary | Sept. 21

OCTOBER

Toronto | Oct. 18

Ottawa | Oct. 19

Vancouver | Oct. 27

NOVEMBER

Victoria | Nov. 8

STRAIGHT TALK WITH DR. TERRY POWER

Terry Power is a professor of strategic and advanced international studies at Royal Roads University and if you're a business alumni chances are you remember his teaching well.

Terry joins the advancement and recruitment teams this fall to connect with the next generation of students and to reconnect with alumni he has come to know so well during his 20 year career at Royal Roads.

**To register, email:
advancement@royalroads.ca**



David Flaherty kindled his interest in the arts as his graduate research took him across Europe and North America. Queuing for fifty-cent tickets to the Old Metropolitan Opera House in New York and experiencing for the first time Mozart's *The Magic Flute* from the cheap seats set Flaherty on a lifetime of art appreciation.

British Columbia's first information and privacy commissioner, David now invests his time and resources in support of the arts, culture and education.

"You have to learn to be a philanthropist," says David. "We have to make an ongoing effort to teach people about local giving. I have certainly been taught by other people. It really started when I asked Pacific Opera Victoria CEO Patrick Corrigan what it would cost to support a production of *The Magic Flute*."

David has been an annual sponsor of Pacific Opera Victoria ever since. A strong believer in giving by example, David is willing to lend his name to his charitable gifts for greater impact.

"I used to give anonymously because of my background in privacy. On one occasion at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, I was with one of my buddies who said, 'So you're the anonymous donor. Don't you think you could have more impact if you actually identified yourself?' So I did," he says.

"I have a bit of an old-fashioned view that you shouldn't talk about these things," David says. "But we all need money to run our operations. Whether it's Pacific Opera Victoria or Royal Roads University, we all need support."

David understands first-hand the impact of charitable giving on the experience of individual students.

"I remember getting a scholarship when I was 20 years of age and I was so surprised to get something. It was a \$250 Hudson's Bay Scholarship at the University of Alberta which would have paid my tuition for an entire year," he says.

Now, David supports academic excellence in Royal Roads' Doctor of Social Sciences program through the **David Harris Flaherty Scholarship**. Established last year, the endowment will support impactful scholarship in doctoral students' first year of study.

"Involvement in philanthropy has been an immensely rewarding experience for me," he says. "I recommend it."

Dr. David Flaherty is a specialist in the management of privacy and information policy and a committed supporter of the arts and education. He received the Royal Roads University Chancellor's Community Recognition Award in 2015.

WHAT'S FOR DINNER, CHARLES KRUSEKOPF?



A feast inspired by the land of Genghis Khan

Royal Roads Prof. Charles Krusekopf and his wife Frances recently donned traditional costume and entertained guests with a Mongolian feast at their Metchosin home.

Guests of Bob and Judy Skene were the lucky recipients of a sought-after President's Gala silent auction item in support of the **75 Years of Changing Lives Bursary** at Royal Roads. Established last year with donations celebrating Royal Roads' 75 years of changing lives through education and leadership, the bursary supports outstanding prospective students to fulfill an educational goal that would not otherwise be possible for them.

Charles has worked in China and Mongolia for more than 25 years and his current research includes cross-border collaborations in Asia. Charles and Frances kindly offered to

share their legendary passion for Mongolian food and culture with us as a silent auction prize and everyone was thrilled with the result. The evening included special guests from Seattle, Otgon Yondon and her son Amarlin, who helped organize the tea ceremony and dinner. Guests were entertained with music, stories and slides of Mongolia. They also had the chance to examine a beautiful Morin Khur horse head fiddle and to partake in a special vodka toast.

Thank you, Charles and Frances for sharing your enthusiasm, generosity of spirit and considerable skills on behalf of Royal Roads.



Thank you!

**PERFECT WEATHER,
EXQUISITE COMPANY,
FIERCE COMPETITION!**

There are many ways to support Royal Roads and even more ways for us to say "thank you."

In June, the President hosted a small garden party to celebrate the relationships we've developed with donors, sponsors, community partners and colleagues, including many of our Honourary Degree holders and Chancellor's Community Recognition Award recipients.

Guests enjoyed a rollicking game of croquet on the lawn of Hatley Castle. The feedback from this enjoyable afternoon was so positive that we will look to expand the event for next year. **We hope to see you then!**

In a country known for big game safaris and mountaineering, many charities are working to make life better for the people of Tanzania.

Doctor of Social Sciences alumna Carla Funk wanted to understand the role private funding has played in shaping international aid.

Carla Funk PhD 2016

Government-funded projects still account for the lion's share of development assistance – around \$138 billion annually – but private aid is increasing and it is influential. Through her research, Carla was able to glean valuable conclusions about the strengths and weaknesses of private foreign aid and she was pleased to find her own biases challenged. As a young university graduate in the mid-1980s, Carla worked in development in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe. She spent a decade working for overseas NGOs and more recently worked in the Canadian philanthropic sector.

Carla says Royal Roads' interdisciplinary approach has been essential to her research. "There's a gritty problem – global poverty – which people have been struggling to address," she says. "There's not a single discipline that can help me research it in the way I need to."



Carla and research colleagues in Tanzania

Carla's work was recognized early on by three donor-supported student awards: the **Irving K. Barber Pacific Horizons Scholarship**, the **Cassandra and Carla Sims Scholarship** and the **Royal Roads University Staff-Sponsored Award** for community achievement. Her work has since gone on to earn further recognition, receiving a Mitacs-Accelerate Fellowship and being named a finalist in the Social Science and Humanities Research Council's (SSHRC) Top 25 Storytellers challenge for how her SSHRC-funded research is making a difference to Canadians.