



BOOTH UC

CONNECT



2+2 = FAITH

Faith Uminga is the face of an innovative educational program offered by Booth UC and Red River College

FALL 2018

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Booth UC Connect Magazine is published three times yearly. We want to share the good news of what has been happening at Booth University College.

As the name of the publication suggests, Booth UC thrives on our connections between instructors and students and between theory and practice. Equally valued are the linkages between this institution and learning partners across Canada and around the world. And then there are the connections with people like you. Together, we are shaping the future.

William and Catherine Booth University College, rooted in The Salvation Army's Wesleyan theological tradition, brings together Christian faith, rigorous scholarship and a passion for service. The University College educates students to understand the complexities of our world, to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to be active contributors to society, and to know how Christian faith compels them to bring hope, social justice and mercy into our world.

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BOOTH
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE

EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our Fall edition of *Booth UC Connect*!

Fall is a time of new beginnings at Booth UC, as students embark on their respective educational journeys.

In this edition of *Booth UC Connect*, we give homage to the retiring *President's Update* publication. *Booth UC Connect* will take up the mantle and continue to tell the story of our present and lead us into the future; future growth, future endeavours and future partnerships. Stay tuned for three editions per year, which will keep you updated, inspired and motivated, to walk with us as we grow.

The groundwork for this has been laid by those who came before us. Recently, we have achieved significant milestones including but not limited to the establishment of an Indigenous Advisory Council, a new marketing strategy, the restructure of campus academic programs, a first student member of both the Senate and the Board of Trustees, and peer tutors.

We are now in the process of developing our next institutional strategic plan. We ask that you pray for us as we look ahead with fresh vision, dreams and goals for Booth UC. We are excited to identify how Booth UC will continue to provide Christian higher education that equips students with the knowledge, skills and faith to bring hope, social justice and mercy to our world.

Within the pages of this magazine, we trust that you will find evidence of this and proof that we indeed are providing "Education for a Better World." Have a wonderful fall season, and may God bless you.

Dr. Marjory Kerr, President



*We ask that you
pray for us as
we look ahead
with fresh vision,
dreams and
goals for Booth UC*

ALL PATHS POINT TO BOOTH UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

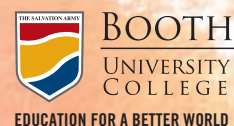
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#BOOTHBOUND



BEING PRESIDENTIAL

In 1999, Booth UC launched *President's Update* as a way of keeping faculty, staff and students connected. Now that it has been incorporated into *Booth UC Connect*, three Booth UC presidents reflect on Booth UC's past, examine the present and look forward to the future

DR. JONATHAN RAYMOND
(1999–2006)



Q: How did you come to Booth UC?

In the winter of 1999, I received a call from the search committee charged with finding the next president of Booth UC. Following some discussion about the nature of the college and what the committee was looking for, and after answering some questions about my background and experience, the committee invited me to interview for the position. I did and they offered me the job, and on my birthday, too! In reality, it was a birthday gift from God!

Q: What do you feel were your most important contributions to Booth UC during your tenure?

The future of the college was uncertain at the time. In fact, its very existence was controversial. Getting the college on more stable financial ground and starting a growth trajectory in its enrolment called for increasing its profile not only within The Salvation Army in Canada but also locally in Winnipeg. I truly loved how The Salvation Army territorial and international leadership increasingly embraced the mission of the college, understood its value, and expressed increasing pride and support for Booth UC. Starting up online courses was significant also, especially for offering courses to Salvation Army officers in developing countries who were barred from higher education there. But talking Dr. Don Burke into being the Vice President of Academic Affairs was likely my most important contribution!

Q: What have you been doing since?

In June 2006, I completed seven great years at Booth UC to serve the following seven as President of Trinity Western University (TWU) in Langley, B.C. As I ended my time there in June 2013, TWU honoured me by conferring the title President Emeritus. My wife, Irene, and I are now living in Wilmore, Kentucky.

DR. DONALD BURKE
(2006–2016)



Q: How did you come to Booth UC?

As I was finishing up my doctoral program, The Salvation Army's intention to open a Bible college in Winnipeg in 1982 was announced. Immediately, I was interested. Eventually, I met with Major Earl Robinson, who was setting up the college, and by December 1981, I was offered a job. In the early years, I supervised the establishment of the library at Booth in addition to my teaching responsibilities. I arrived in Winnipeg a few weeks before the official opening of Catherine Booth Bible College in June 1982. I had no idea that this would be a life sentence!

Q: What do you feel were your most important contributions to Booth UC during your tenure?

Probably my most important contribution has been remaining here for the entire history of the institution! In The Salvation Army, with our system of appointments for officers, not many people have the opportunity to develop within one ministry unit over a period of decades. But I think that, sometimes, building something worthwhile and enduring takes more than a few years—even more than a few decades, if the truth be told. So while I might be able to point to some particular contributions to make an argument about the most important contribution, I really do think that it is the perseverance to remain here that has been most enduring.

Q: What do you feel were your biggest challenges facing you and Booth UC and how did you surmount them?

Perhaps the greatest challenge has been to demonstrate that Booth UC has a significant contribution to make to the mission of The Salvation Army. Feeding the hungry and housing the homeless obviously serve the mission, but demonstrating that education is critical to our mission is a more difficult case to make. But if we take what the Apostle Paul said in Romans 12 seriously, we will recognize that the “renewal of our minds” is central to our being and doing as the Army. In this light, education is not peripheral to our mission; in fact, it is critical! This is a message that needs to be communicated continually.

Q: What do you love most about Booth UC?

For me, what I love most is my time in the classroom with students. I always find that students are interesting and engaging. My hope is that I will have many more years to experience the joy of learning with them.

**DR. MARJORY KERR
(2016–PRESENT)**



Q: How did you come to Booth UC?

My introduction to Booth was as a Board member from 2000—2007. In early 2013, I was contacted by Dr. Don Burke, then President, to put my name forward for consideration as VP Academic and Dean and in April 2013, I relocated to Winnipeg to take on that role. In 2015, Dr. Burke informed the Board he would conclude his service as President the following year. The Board struck a search committee, I participated in an extensive selection process and, effective July 1, 2016, became the fifth President of Booth UC. It is an honour to steward this institution at this exciting time in Booth UC's journey.

Q: What do you see as Booth UC's greatest strengths?

At the core of it all, people are our greatest strength because they are the ones who bring our mission to life. We are blessed to have a combined faculty, staff, administration and Board of Trustees who continually challenge themselves, me and the institution to do things better, to challenge the status quo, to seek innovative solutions, and to respond to emerging needs and opportunities. Our faculty are respected scholars in their disciplines and committed to teaching, research, and the mission of Booth UC as an institution of Christian higher education. Without exception, they invest significant time and energy in our students through courses, programs, relationships and service. Our staff members are equally committed to the mission, and passionate for our students and their experience at Booth UC. Our students have chosen to come to Booth UC—whatever their background, they contribute to making Booth UC a thriving learning environment. We are also very fortunate to have the clear and ongoing denominational support of The Salvation Army and the Board of Trustees. Taken together, this is the foundation on which we build our future.

*At the core of it all,
people are our greatest
strength because they
are the ones who bring
our mission to life.*
Dr. Marjory Kerr

Q: What has been your greatest accomplishment thus far?

First of all, none of the accomplishments are mine—they are the accomplishments of the faculty, staff and leadership team at Booth UC, supported by an engaged and committed Board of Trustees and The Salvation Army as our home denomination. These relationships are integral to what we do. Examples of recent accomplishments include:

- Signing on as a partner with the City of Winnipeg Indigenous Accord in June 2017. We established an Indigenous Advisory Council including faculty, staff, Indigenous students and an external Indigenous member to develop a cohesive plan in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. We are now implementing that plan, building on what we had been doing, expanding our awareness and understanding of the legacy of residential schools, and committed to being part of the response. It is exciting that our community—Board, staff, faculty and students—have engaged with this process and are committed to it.
- We've made significant progress against our institutional strategic plan. This includes establishing new academic programs, doubling the number of students on our Winnipeg campus since 2010, maintaining and enhancing our facilities, and engaging students in the governance of Booth UC—we now have an elected student council and student members of Senate and the Board of Trustees.
- Our student body continues to become more representative of the diversity within Winnipeg and Canada—we are a Christian university college and within that, anyone who wants to study here is welcome.
- Part of our mission is to support the education and development of Salvation Army cadets, officers and employees in this territory and internationally. We are providing certificate, degree and leadership development programs in response to specific educational and development needs.

I could go on, but we'll leave a few things for future editions of this magazine!

Q: Where do you see Booth UC in ten years?

Our current strategic plan is titled *Vision 2020: The Road to Booth University*. That title put a pretty clear stake in the ground on our future aspirations to become a full university. We are currently developing our next strategic plan, to launch in 2019. In 10 years' time, my vision for Booth UC is as a thriving Christian university, a key educational and learning partner within the City of Winnipeg, with continued contributions to the Territory and international Salvation Army. As our Mission Statement reads in part, we will be educating students "to understand the complexities of our world, to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to be active contributors to society, and to know how Christian faith compels them to bring hope, social justice and mercy into our world." That is education for a better world! 🇨🇦

TARGET:

CYBERCRIME

This fall, two courses offered by Booth UC and Cybint Solutions take on a growing threat

“Our launch with Booth UC is the first time we’ve partnered with a post-secondary institution in Canada! We’ve never worked with any Canadian institutions until now.”

Roy Zur

Who can imagine life without the Internet? Every aspect of our lives—at work, home or school—has been radically altered by cellphones, PCs and smart devices, and the pace of change shows no sign of slowing down. But just as cyberspace is constantly evolving, so too are the threats posed to our safety and security by cybercrime.

To address this growing concern, Booth UC, with the collaboration of Cybint Solutions, has decided to tackle this head-on with two new courses debuting this fall.

ANOTHER BOOTH UC FIRST

Associate Professor Angela Davis, Director, School of Business, was attending a conference on financial crime in Boston about a year ago when she was introduced to one of the featured speakers, Roy Zur, the CEO and President of Cybint Solutions, an international cyber security and education leader with offices in Israel, the United States, the United Kingdom, Italy and around the world.

“We talked about cybercrime, basic prevention methods and basic analysis, and Roy mentioned that Cybint had a new set of cyber courses coming out. They seemed like a really great fit with Booth UC’s Financial Crimes program, as we didn’t have a significant section on cybercrime. So this seemed like a great opportunity for Booth, and a great opportunity for Cybint as well.”

Working with their renowned team of professionals, Roy and Cybint tailor-made two online courses specifically with Booth UC in mind.

“Our launch with Booth UC is the first time we’ve partnered with a post-secondary institution in Canada! We’ve never worked with any Canadian institutions until now,” says Roy.

MICRO-LEARNING

Both courses use a system called micro-learning. With micro-learning, a subject is broken down into short five-to-eight-minute-long modules.

“They’re manageable little chunks,” says Professor Davis. “I had the chance to take the courses back in January. (I passed!) It was a great opportunity to see how it actually worked and what taking them will be like as a student.

“It made for a fantastic learning experience,” she continues. “I could watch them on the bus on my way into work or while I was, say, waiting for an appointment. It’s all done over the Internet, so you can take them on your phone or your laptop.”

Another thing that attracted Professor Davis and Booth UC is that these introductory courses are geared for those with non-technical backgrounds. “So if you use a home computer, if you can use your cellphone for the basic things,” she explains, “it starts from that point going forward.”

CYBERSECURITY AND CYBER INTELLIGENCE

The first online course, BUS 175/MIS 175 Cybersecurity, focuses on the challenges and risks around using the Internet, cellphones, Wi-Fi and so on. The course focuses on essential theories, elements, analysis and the evaluation of threats and opportunities. Topics include mobile security, hardware exploitation and privacy essentials.

“The cybersecurity course is particularly suited to a general audience interested in reducing cellphone or computer risk.”

Professor Angela Davis

“As I had the chance to take the course myself,” says Professor Davis, “I acquired a great toolkit afterward that I could use, different software that I downloaded, different tools and techniques that I shared with colleagues, co-workers, friends, family and students.”

The second course, BUS 176/MIS 176 Cyber Intelligence, deals with analysis and the evaluation of threats and opportunities, and delves into the research side of the equation. Topics include how to collect online data and analyze it, hidden/deleted data, efficient information extraction, reputational analysis, the darknet, online research methodology and metadata.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES

Professor Davis is very pleased that Booth UC is offering these online courses and hastens to note that these cybersecurity courses are open to business professionals and the public as well as students.

“I recommend them to anyone who owns a cellphone or computer—basically everyone!” she says. “The cybersecurity course is particularly suited to a general audience interested in reducing cellphone or computer risk.”

And while the cyber intelligence course would especially appeal to those students looking to go into more specific fields such as geolocation, both introductory first-year-level courses are readily accessible to all.

From a wider standpoint, these courses fill a need in today’s fast-changing world. “Cyber literacy has become a core necessity within the workplace, and the demand for expertise in the cybersecurity and cyber intelligence fields continues to grow,” says Cybint’s Roy Zur. “Cybint Solutions’ approach is that cyber is much more than just a technical challenge. We need to integrate cybersecurity education in business, in criminal justice, in law, and in other fields or professions that are more traditional. In today’s world, to be cyber literate is critical.”

“Booth UC is providing unique opportunities for the community-at-large to improve literacy in cybersecurity,” concludes Professor Davis. 🇨🇦

Roy Zur, CEO, Cybint Solutions



Associate Professor Angela Davis, Director, School of Business



BOOTH TO BOOTH

Over the last six years, a unique collaboration has occurred between two schools an ocean apart. The results have benefitted both

In 2013, a study award was set up by William Booth Secondary School (WBSS) in Hong Kong to recognize outstanding academic performance. Three deserving students were selected to journey to Winnipeg and Booth UC. It was the start of a journey for both schools that continues to this day.

At that time, Karen Ng was working at The Salvation Army's command headquarters in Hong Kong. As she had been to Winnipeg before, she was asked to accompany the students. When she became Booth UC's Dean of Students in 2014, she was asked to co-ordinate subsequent visits from the Booth UC end, and continued to do so for four more years.

WORK AND PLAY

The feedback from the first visit was so positive that in 2014, WBSS started sending eight students a year to Winnipeg to visit Booth UC, accompanied by two teachers. The students were and are selected based on their academic performance and an interview with their school panel.

Normally, the students arrive in Winnipeg on Friday and are quartered with host families or in residence at Booth UC. Their weekend is spent with Booth UC volunteers taking in all the sites the city has to offer, including a visit to a Salvation Army church.

"The word is spreading that people at Booth UC care"
Karen Ng

On Monday, the group gets down to work. The students attend Heartland International English School, conveniently located close to Booth UC. There, they spend the mornings improving their English-language proficiency while their teacher escorts also attend their own language training courses.

The highlight of the visit is the tour of Booth UC itself. By being quartered in residence, the students get an idea of what university life is about. As well, Booth UC President Dr. Marjory Kerr and Denise Young, Booth UC's Vice President of Administration, sit down and chat with them, answering any questions they may have and telling them all about Booth UC.



The photos on these pages give a glimpse of the most recent visit.

NEW WORLD

“Through being exposed to and immersed in ‘foreign’ culture, these Hong Kong students are expected to have enriched life experiences, develop global perspectives and enhance their English proficiency in an authentic language context,” states Dr. Carl Cheng, The Salvation Army’s educational services director at command headquarters in Hong Kong.

Upon their return home, the students share their experiences in school assemblies, promote ESL courses at WBSS as English Ambassadors, introduce the study tour award at PTA meetings and, through articles published in the Hong Kong *War Cry*, describe their experiences in Winnipeg—and Booth UC—to Salvationists and other readers.

The response from the students has been overwhelmingly positive.

“We studied in a language school but what we learnt was more than language,” says Chan Yi Hung. “We realized how important a language English was, and we learned more about different cultures around the world. After the study tour, everything seems so different, and the program has broadened my horizon.”

“What a wonderful trip!” says Chen Xiao Juan. “Lots of things are memorable that I can never forget. I know more about Winnipeg’s history now, and we also joined a holiness meeting at a Salvation Army’s church. I love the activities in the afternoon, but horseback riding impressed me a lot. That’s the first time I rode a horse. I treasure this chance very much in Canada. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for me.”

“Most of the students who attend WBSS are new migrant families from Mainland China and do not come from wealthy families, and consider post-secondary education to be a dream,” explains Karen. “Through this study tour and the scholarship opportunities they are told about, they realize that this might be more than a dream, and their journey to Winnipeg, as a result, is as much inspirational and motivational as it is educational.”

“We are pleased and excited that Booth UC supports this learning experience for the students and teachers of William Booth Secondary,” says Lieutenant-Colonel Ian Swan, Officer Commanding for The Salvation Army Hong Kong, Macao and Mainland China. “While rewarding their hard work and acknowledging their accomplishments, more importantly, it opens a new world to them as they explore the possibilities of what the future might hold.”

REUNION

And thanks to these learning experiences, the people of Hong Kong have become aware that The Salvation Army has a first-class university in Canada that anyone can apply to, not just members of The Salvation Army. The word is spreading that people at Booth UC care.

This September, Karen is returning to Hong Kong for a short holiday.

“I’m hoping to organize a reunion of those students who have been to Booth UC these past six years,” she says. “I’m curious to see how they are faring and I am looking forward to seeing how the school impacted their lives and their studies. It will be wonderful to see how they have all turned out!”



2+2.=

Faith

Faith Uminga is the face of an innovative educational program offered by Booth UC and Red River College

Anyone passing Faith Uminga on campus at Booth UC this past spring might be forgiven for doing a double take. If she looks familiar, it's probably because her face graced a billboard campaign promoting Booth UC's 2+2 partnership with Red River College.

In conjunction with Red River College of Applied Arts and Technology (two year program), Booth UC recently established a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree completion program (two year program), and Faith is the first graduate of the joint venture.

LEADING THE (BUSINESS) WORLD

While Faith was studying at Red River College, friends attending an information session mentioned the Red River College and Booth UC's 2+2 Program to her.

"I'd thought about the University of Winnipeg or the University of Manitoba, but this seemed like the best of both worlds," she says.

The advantages seemed obvious to Faith. Completing a Bachelor of Business Administration through this two-year degree completion program offers the same opportunities as a full four years at Booth UC. In this partnership between Red River College and Booth UC, students attend Red River College for two years and then complete their business administration degree at Booth UC.



Students establish competence in five major areas of business ranging from accounting, finance, human-resource management, marketing and organizational behaviour. A degree achieved through the 2+2 Program lays the foundation for a successful profit or non-profit career, such as business analyst, market researcher, fundraiser, loan officer or financial advisor.

Not only did Faith apply but she earned a scholarship as well.

“I loved Red River College, but I really enjoy how Booth UC challenges you—in a good way—which I find is really important,” Faith says. “Booth UC is a great school. I have wonderful interactions with my professors, but one of the best things Booth UC has going for it are the small class sizes. The professors push you to stay accountable to your studies and your fellow students, which is something that I appreciate.”

Faith especially loved Booth UC’s fraud examination courses taught by Professor Angela Davis. “They were courses I wouldn’t have thought of taking before, but they were eye-opening and hugely instructive.”

Faith completed her studies at Red River College and moved over to Booth UC to complete the two-year BBA program. Through Booth UC, she got the chance to apply and was accepted to attend the European Innovation Academy Conference in Turin, Italy, this past summer to learn from global entrepreneurs what it’s like to be one. One of the many opportunities of being in the program!

“I absolutely enjoyed it!” she says. “I had the privilege of working with people from all around the globe as well as listen to inspiring keynote speakers who talked about what it takes to become a global entrepreneur.

While there, out of more than 100 participating teams, Faith and her team won the Nixon Peabody Patent Innovation Award, as well as the Top Team Award. “It was a fun way to cap off my degree,” she says.

Faith will be graduating this coming April and will be receiving her Bachelor of Business Administration.

“By agreeing to be part of this campaign, I wanted to let everyone know that Booth UC is a fantastic school.”
Faith Uminga


Overall, she was more than satisfied with her 2+2 time.

“It was wonderful that I was able to experience two terrific institutions,” she says. “Booth UC has given me many opportunities to expand my business knowledge and visit new places, and the process has inspired me. With luck and hard work, I will become a better leader in the business world as a result.”

COME SEE

Back to the billboards.

Faith was asked if she would take part in a promotional campaign touting the 2+2 Program, and her smiling face appeared on five billboards throughout the city of Winnipeg.

“It was really cool to see me around town!” she laughs. “Even more important to me was the fact that, to me, I became a sort of Booth ambassador because of that. By agreeing to be part of this campaign, I wanted to let everyone know that Booth UC is a fantastic school. Check it out! Come see and explore. You won’t be disappointed!” 



Welcome Week

A whirlwind of activity to get everyone energized for the year ahead

Welcome Week celebrated the return of students to the Booth UC campus with a host of informative and fun activities courtesy of Student Services and the new Booth UC Student Council.

International Student Orientation started the week on August 31 with important arrival and adjustment information for newcomers to Canada, followed by a photo scavenger hunt to the Forks. Student Services assisted students with Residence Move-In Day on Saturday, September 1, providing “need-to-know” items plus board games and pizza. The fun continued through the long weekend for residents as they picnicked at the Forks on September 2 and beached at Birds Hill the next day.

New Student Orientation welcomed more than 90 new students on September 4, equipping them with knowledge about Booth UC programs, services and supports so they start the new academic year well, surrounded by a community of new friends. The Welcome Week Block Party on September 5, continued our community celebration with new and returning students, staff and faculty, along with many of our downtown neighbours all enjoying food, live music, games and more!

Opening Convocation on Friday brought the Booth UC community together in academic ceremony and worship, marking the commencement of another school year. The Booth Bistro followed up with a scrumptious reception for the many Booth UC supporters who joined the morning celebration.

Friday evening, the new students were treated to a fun and delicious Progressive Dinner, courtesy of the Student Council and a number of Booth UC staff volunteers. Students sampled various appetizers, entrees and desserts as they ventured from house to house across the city. It was a great way for new students to get to know fellow students, staff and faculty. 🇨🇦



2018 OPENING CONVOCATION

The word "convocation" comes from the root words *con* and *vocare* meaning "to call together." Friday, September 7, the Booth UC community was called together for our Opening Convocation celebrating the beginning of the academic year.

Students, staff, faculty and guests walked into Hetherington Chapel to the sound of music filling the room. The air was filled with energy and excitement, and as the fall approaches, we were reminded of our Mission of Christian faith, rigorous scholarship and passion for service.

Guest speaker Major (Dr.) Mark Wagner shared three commitments in higher education:

1. Be diligent in your studies
2. Be courageous in your commitment
3. Be clear on your mission

As we left the service with these words, we were rejuvenated and ready to take on what lies ahead.

A light lunch awaited us in the Booth Bistro where we were once again called together in conversation, reflection and new beginnings. 🍴



"Is the route to progress truly through such a merciless abandonment of older perspectives and ideals? Is the only way to thrive to abandon your roots? I do not subscribe to this perspective."

Evan T. Curtis



The late 1950s planted the seeds of the Cognitive Revolution. The limitations of behaviourism were becoming clear; there were far too many behaviours that simply could not be explained by reinforcement and punishment alone. Cognitive Psychology (my area of research) replaced Behaviourism, bringing the mind back into the lens of psychological thought and paving the way for modern psychology. And so the story goes.


ROOTS OF SUCCESS

Decades later, psychology is a thriving field with thousands of experimental results published every month. However, if we step back and ask what kinds of lessons a young school such as Booth UC can learn from a young science such as psychology, the picture might seem bleak. Is the route to progress truly through such a merciless abandonment of older perspectives and ideals? Is the only way to thrive to abandon your roots?

I do not subscribe to this perspective. The story of psychology outlined in textbooks, as I have just told it, is wildly oversimplified. The Cognitive Revolution, as dramatic as it sounds, was hardly some intellectual casting aside of the oppressive Behaviourist chains. The criticism of operant conditioning was not that its principles are incorrect—and they are undoubtedly correct—but that they are incomplete. Although most psychologists agree that Freud's theories are generally flawed, he was the first to propose that the human mind develops in distinct stages, a claim that forms the basis of all modern developmental theories. Even introspection has been spared; it has simply changed form, now appearing as the ubiquitous questionnaire. We have not abandoned our roots; we have changed them for the better.

A surface view might suggest that the Booth UC of today bears little resemblance to the Bible College that opened 36 years ago. However, I see Booth UC's story paralleling the story of psychology.

Booth UC has transformed substantially. This transformation has been, and continues to be, essential. Nonetheless, our core ideals, although reshaped and adapted, remain as a foundation from which to continue growing.

We no longer train students solely for ministry, but we educate students to approach the world with compassion and use their knowledge to do good in the world. We continue to develop new programs and courses, but we are ultimately rooted in a liberal-arts tradition that gives students a broad worldview and a critical mind. These are important roots that we ought to protect, and although they might—and must—look different in the years to come, they will continue to shape us as we grow—and Booth UC will continue to be the better for it. 

Not Without my Sister

Thanks to *Salvationist* magazine, identical twins experienced Booth Bound

Alexis Hewines was perusing the pages of *Salvationist*, the official magazine of The Salvation Army, Canada and Bermuda Territory, when she happened upon an ad for Booth Bound.

“Though I’m a Salvationist and I knew people who had gone to Booth UC, I didn’t know that much about the institution,” she admits now, “but I wanted to go into youth ministry and their social work program seemed to fit with what I wanted in a career.”

When Alexis told her mother that she was interested in attending Booth Bound, she thought that was a great idea but added, “Take your sister with you, too.”

Alexis duly told her identical twin, Sheila, about Booth Bound.

Booth UC was not Sheila’s first choice. “To be honest,” she says, “I had the vague idea that I might go into nursing somewhere in Ontario. However, my sister wanted to check out the college and my mom didn’t want her to go by herself, so—because we are sisters—I went with her.”

But that wasn’t the only reason she went. “I guess I was as curious about Booth UC as Alexis was,” Sheila says.

And she wasn’t disappointed.

“The moment I arrived at Booth, I felt a calmness come over me,” Sheila continues. “Within minutes, I met a lot of amazing people who would become fellow classmates and friends.”

Like her sister, Alexis also had some other colleges in mind that were closer to home. “However, being a member of The Salvation Army, it was comforting to know that Booth UC has the same values I have. That was one reason why I chose Booth UC instead of going to another Christian college. But Booth Bound was pivotal in my decision to attend Booth UC.”

Both sisters will be starting their third year at Booth UC this fall. Alexis is pursuing a Bachelor of Social Work and Sheila is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Religion.



“Booth Bound was pivotal in my decision to attend Booth UC.”
Alexis Hewines

“I’ve loved learning about different religions as well as gaining more knowledge about the Bible,” says Sheila. “And I’ve matured as a person because of the amazing teachers I have had.”

“The friendships, the teachers, the caring environment, the small class sizes: they’re just some of the reasons I love Booth UC—that and my sister. Having Alexis with me has been one of my greatest blessings. We lean on each other for support and we celebrate our successes together.”

“Booth UC was exactly where I needed to go,” says Alexis. “Though it was far from home, I knew that I would not only get the education I needed but I would also grow in my faith with other believers as well.”

“Booth Bound promised a lot, but Booth UC more than delivered the goods,” concludes Sheila. 🇨🇦



STEPPING

Stone

The Winnipeg Adult Education Centre played a pivotal part in Justin Russell's road to Booth UC

"Back in high school, if you had asked the staff and teachers, they probably never would have imagined that I would be in university one day," says Justin Russell. "Truth to tell, I probably would have agreed with them! But I'm here, at Booth UC, proving them all wrong."

REAL POSSIBILITY

As a lifelong member of The Salvation Army from Fredericton, Justin had always been aware of Booth UC.

"Booth UC was featured on our posters at the church, it was advertised on the pages of *Salvationist* magazine," he says, "but I never really saw it as a realistic opportunity because school just wasn't my strong suit."

"If I was at any other institution, I don't think I'd have as much success." Justin Russell

After Justin graduated from high school in 2012, he decided to take a couple of years off.

When he finally decided that the time was right to go back to school in 2014, he ran up against a problem. He tried to apply, but his high-school transcripts didn't meet Booth UC's entrance requirements.

"That was when I ended up communicating with Chantel Burt, Booth UC's Director of Admissions," says Justin. "And it was at that point that Booth actually became a real possibility for me."

ADULT EDUCATION

Chantel told Justin about the Winnipeg Adult Education Centre (AEC), located across the street from Booth UC.

If he was going to go to Booth UC, he needed to upgrade his math and English marks, and Chantel told him he could do that there while living in residence at Booth UC.

"I'd be able to experience a bit of university life while improving my grades at the same time," says Justin. He worked hard to achieve the certification required.

"Without the grounding I got at AEC, I would never have been able to cut it," admits Justin. "It was a great stepping stone to attending Booth UC as a full-time student."

"I AM GOING TO GRADUATE"

Justin is majoring in Religion with the aim of attending The Salvation Army's College for Officer Training with the aim of becoming a pastor.

"I see my time at Booth UC as an opportunity to not only get a great education but to gain some more life experience," Justin says. "I've held different positions in student leadership and I've been tasked with different responsibilities here at the school, such as Residence Assistant and On-Call Attendant."

"I've been very fortunate with the opportunities I've been given."

In the middle of his second year over the Christmas break, Justin was diagnosed with dyslexia, dysgraphia and dyscalculia.

"I'd always had trouble reading and difficulties with schedules and planning, things like that," he says. "It explains a lot. Since I've been diagnosed, life has been easier to manage."

And Booth UC has been there for Justin.

"The faculty and staff have been incredibly supportive at accommodating my requirements and have helped me with everything I need to succeed," says Justin. "I really feel that if I was at any other institution, I don't think I'd have as much success."

Justin is in his third year but is not taking a full course load, so he estimates that it will take him another two years to get his degree.

"It does make my time here a little bit longer," he says. "But that's just fine with me. The way I see it, whether it takes me two more years or three years or whatever, I am going to graduate with a degree. And that's just terrific!" 🏆



Asking for Help

Sometimes, you can't do it alone

Sydney Park was struggling.

The Booth UC student had been on academic probation for two years, and if things continued as they were, the possibility of leaving the institution was becoming a distinct reality.

"I needed to take a good, hard look at myself in the mirror," she says now. "Maybe I wouldn't like what I'd see, but I had to face the facts."

"A PASSION FOR PEOPLE"

Sydney was born in Dauphin, Manitoba, but grew up in Waterhen, a small community just outside Dauphin. Her parents were both teachers for the Frontier School Division.

"I'd known about Booth UC since I was young," she recalls, "because my mom would take her students for work education experience, and we'd stay at Booth UC, which had a partnership with Frontier."

Growing up, Sydney enjoyed school and threw herself into extracurricular activities such as volleyball, badminton and basketball.

"I even participated in Ukrainian dancing for almost ten years," she says.

Sydney also played the violin, the piano and the guitar.

"I had a very busy childhood," she smiles.

Summers were spent travelling with her parents to Newfoundland and Labrador, where her father was born, and around her mother's home province of Manitoba.

In high school, Sydney realized that social work might be in her future.

"I've always had a passion for people," she says. "As a student, I was inclusive, never cliquy. I didn't have one set of friends. I would float from jocks to straight A students to people who enjoyed smoking cigarettes—even though I didn't smoke myself! I wanted to get to know everyone. I wanted to know all about them, no matter their age, sex or social status. I just treated them all as equals. I guess you could say that that was my first real social work experience, and I knew that that was what I wanted to do with my life."

"I NEEDED HELP"

Sydney's mother encouraged her to go to Booth UC.

"She knew Booth UC had a strong social work department," Sydney explains, "and the fact that I was familiar with the place since I was young made the decision seem both perfect and comforting."

Sydney applied and was accepted, but she struggled for the first two years.

"I'd come from a small northern Manitoba community, and I found the move to a large city rather overwhelming," she reflects. "When I moved to Winnipeg, I lost my way a little, and I found the adjustment difficult."

Her marks suffered as a result, and Sydney realized heading into her third year that something needed to be done. "I knew that whatever I'd been doing was not working, and I couldn't do it alone," she says. "I needed help."

TURNING POINT

Sydney approached Professor Bonnie Bryant, at that time the head of the social work program.

"I'm willing to do anything and everything to get into the social work program," Sydney told her.

"We can do it," Professor Bryant replied. "But this is what you need to do."

"So I worked my butt off!" Sydney laughs now. "I was that person who knocked at every prof's door. If they didn't before, every professor knew who I was now because I actually asked questions during class. I used their office hours and I asked for help from them when I needed it."

Sydney also took advantage of peer support and friends who helped her study.

"Also, I really utilized the Academic Learning Centre," she says. "I didn't submit a paper without someone looking it over in regards to grammar, editing and revision. They got to know me really well there!"

"In short, I used the facilities that were there to get me where I needed to be."

The irony, of course, was that support had always been there at Booth UC, from the staff, the faculty and fellow students. But Sydney had found it difficult to reach out.

"I thought I could do it by myself," she reflects now. "Part of it was pride: I'm on my own, I don't need any help. I was wrong."

THERE TO HELP

Sydney graduated with a Bachelor of Social Work in 2018 and, after five years as a student, is taking a well-earned break as she looks into other aspects of the social work field as a career.

"I learnt a lot about myself at Booth UC, both as a person and as a professional in regards to what I am looking for in a social work position. What a great learning experience it was, and I am so thankful for that!"

"I wouldn't be who I am now had I not gone to Booth UC," she continues. "They prepared me well, and I'll apply all that I learned there to my work in the field."

Does she have any advice for new students?

"No one can do it all by themselves," she believes. "No one is perfect. We all need a little help sometimes, whether it's encouragement from a study buddy, advice from someone as inspirational as Professor Bryant or the expertise afforded by the Academic Learning Centre. Just don't be afraid to ask for it. And Booth UC is there to help." 🇨🇦

*"I wouldn't be where I am now had I not gone to Booth UC."
Sydney Park*



STAFF AND FACULTY NEWS



Dr. David Cwir completed his Ph.D. in Social Psychology at the University of Waterloo. He attended a Christian school of ministry as well as accepting a tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Tyndale University College in Toronto. Before joining the faculty at Booth University College, Dr. Cwir planted a church with his wife in Ottawa, where he served as a pastor for more than two years. We are happy to have him join the faculty.



Karleen Mason joined the Admissions team as an Admissions Counsellor. Karleen is very familiar with The Salvation Army and its mission and values as her parents are officers in the Caribbean Territory. Karleen obtained her Bachelor of Arts from Brescia University College where she also gained experience as Student Ambassador, International Program Student Assistant and Registrar's Office Assistant. She's a welcome addition to the Admissions team.



Kimberly McIntyre has joined the Advancement team as the new Development Co-ordinator, having moved from the Admissions team after two years. In addition to her experience with Booth UC, Kimberly also brings her knowledge and skills from previous marketing jobs and her Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Media. She may have moved departments, but she is still part of the Booth UC fabric.



Brianne Rivard has a Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences from Providence University College, a Certificate in Christian Studies and is working on her Master of Counselling Psychology. She has experience as Enrollment Assistant at Providence and is excited to call Booth UC her new home. Thank you for joining the Booth UC team as an Admissions Counsellor!



Darla Thiessen joined our Student Services team as the Academic Learning Centre Co-ordinator. Her background includes a Certificate in Biblical Studies, Bachelor of Education, a Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Education as well as various other studies and professional development workshops. Darla arrives from the Training Centre at Red River College, where her work included teaching a blended-learning class. Welcome, Darla!



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CLOSES ITS EYES,

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