The Value of Business

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Pictured from left to right: Tyler Friesen, Randy Poon, Barbara Leist, David Iremadze, Caitlin Hoffmann and Aries Sutantoputra
Business and the Mission of God

The Ambrose mission rests on a staggering assumption: that God is calling women and men into every sphere and sector of society — as agents of the reign of Christ, to bring God’s kingdom to bear through their words and deeds. And one of the most vital ways in which this happens — absolutely vital — is through business, and the production of goods and services. Good business is not merely an outcome of evangelism and mission. Further, it does not only accompany or support evangelism and mission. While it is certainly an outcome and an essential support to mission, it is also integral to the purposes of God in a society, a culture and a community.

The reign of Christ will not ultimately come until and unless it happens in business — until it permeates the nitty gritty of our buying and selling. Thus we celebrate those who are called into business and see ways to foster that calling through an excellent program in business administration, and the whole range of courses and elective options that equip women and men to be quality contributors to the world of business and commerce. It is through this work that they are full participants in the kingdom work of God.

At Ambrose we have a particular vision for social enterprise, innovation and entrepreneurship, leadership and international business. The faculty have a profound commitment to their Christian faith which informs the content of their courses and how their courses are taught. They recognize the unique opportunity they have with our business students — as part of a Christian university — to affirm how the church and the Christian faith foster our commitment to good business, justice and the well-being of societies, communities and families.

Through this integration of faith with learning, Ambrose students and graduates are better prepared to be ambassadors of Christ in their lives and vocational calling.

Dr. Gordon T. Smith
Ambrose University College
President

Through this integration of faith with learning, Ambrose students and graduates are better prepared to be ambassadors of Christ in their lives and vocational calling.
Serving Society Through Social Enterprise

Twenty one students attended the Social Enterprise World Forum in October 2013, a gathering of entrepreneurs who seek to address social problems through innovative, replicable and responsible business ventures.

According to the Trico Foundation, who sponsored the Ambrose students in attendance, “Social enterprise is defined as a business operation run by a charity or non-profit organization. Revenue raised by the business operation is reinvested into the charity or non-profit to support their programs and operations.” Chair of the Ambrose Business program Randy Poon sees social enterprise as an ideal expression of the values that Ambrose seeks to foster in its students. “We want to provide students with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to use their business degrees for economic, social and environmental good,” says Dr. Poon.

Students attending the Social Enterprise World Forum, were able to experience social enterprise from within the business community. “I was very impressed with the Forum,” says student Kyle Payne. “It was great to see the magnitude of effort and creative energy being directed toward social innovation in both the non-profit and corporate sectors. I was able to connect with educated and experienced social leaders from across the globe, and I am very appreciative of Ambrose for enabling students to take advantage of this opportunity.”

The conference served as a training ground for students, and it also got them excited about the relationship between their faith and their future careers. “Attending this conference revealed opportunities in the world of business where I could incorporate my faith and ministry aspirations,” says student Ethan White.

For Dr. Poon, that link between faith and entrepreneurship is worth underscoring. “Social enterprise is a very real and practical way to reflect our faith in helping to meet society’s needs,” he says.

Legacy: Lives Filled with the Favour of God

Ambrose students explored the theme of legacy with guest speaker Josie Vance during the Fall 2013 Spiritual Emphasis Days. As a pastor who thrives in the roles of teaching and equipping, Vance contributes to the legacy of her church community by investing in leaders and laypeople. “I’m excited about people: seeing them discover who God has created them to be, and how He joins us together — different parts of His body — to reveal Himself in us and through us collectively,” says Vance, who has been pastoring at Spruce Grove Alliance Church since 2006.

Vance shared a specific encouragement with those at Ambrose who are preparing to pastor: “Godly leadership is a gift to the church. Remember that leaders need not have all of the answers nor all of the vision. Anchor yourself in the calling described in Ephesians 4:11-13 and equip His people, build into the body of Christ. Build into her unity, her knowledge, and her maturity.”

Vance continued on by saying “let us not lose our first love in all of our well-doing. May we draw near to Him, love Him, love His ways. Whatever good comes of us, individually and as a wider church, it is the result of the transforming work of God in us as we yield to His activity in our lives. I cannot transform myself; I need His presence, and out of this transforming relationship, true ministry flows and the world is changed.”

“Legacy speaks of something that will last, something that makes a difference,” Vance remarked. “We all want our lives to matter. And I don’t want any of us to miss out on what God has to say to us. So let’s echo the prayer of Moses in Psalm 90, when he reflects on his life and desires that something lasting will have been accomplished: ‘May the favour of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us — yes, establish the work of our hands’ (Ps 90:17).”
CAMPUS clips

Social Justice Advocacy

“At Ambrose we work to advocate for justice in the world because justice is central to God’s heart,” says Laura Trabadello, Student Council Vice President of Social Justice. “We serve a just God, and this just God has invited us to participate in His plan of redeeming the world. Advocacy for justice is an essential part of our calling as Christians. For students, this can take the form of service projects, where we go out and tangibly do something to affect change, or awareness events, where we learn about the injustices that happen worldwide, educating ourselves so that we can act.”

The Social Justice team recognizes the connection between awareness and action, and events on and off campus focus on making and strengthening this connection. During the Fall semester the team hosted a blood drive, collected food donations on Halloween, established a week of random acts of kindness and promoted the Operation Christmas Child shoebox challenge.

The team also seeks to express the positive role of Ambrose in the city of Calgary by creating opportunities for students to reach out to the wider community through expressions of simple encouragement and acts of kindness. As Marielle Saayman so beautifully puts it, “we just want to bless our city.”

As awareness and passion for social justice grows on campus, the student council is inviting students to engage in a monthly prayer and awareness gathering called Awake. This multi-faceted event serves to educate students on a particular social justice issue and then inspire them to do something about it.

Coming Events at Ambrose

Ambrose Research Conference, Monday March 31, 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. The public is invited to come hear Ambrose students, faculty and alumni share new knowledge uncovered across the disciplines and how that knowledge integrates with the Christian faith and life.

Friday April 4, 7:30 pm. The Ambrose Chamber Orchestra is performing at First Church of the Nazarene in Calgary. Tickets are $10 and available by calling 403-410-2000.

Sunday April 6, 6:00 pm. Gala is presented by the Ambrose Music Department. A free will offering will be taken.

Celebrate with the class of 2014!
Convocation Ceremony Saturday April 26, 10:00 am.

Better Together

55+ Retreat, May 13–15, featuring keynote speakers Rev. Dr. Terry Young and Rev. Mark Buchanan. Visit www.ambrose.edu/bettertogether or phone 403-410-2931 for more information and to register.

Water Projects Fundraiser

Ambrose University College student council is partnering with Samaritan’s Purse! Our project is called The Water Works project, and the goal is to buy 300 BioSands Water Filters for families in undeveloped countries who have no access to clean water. At a cost of $150 for each filter this is a huge goal, but we believe that by working together as a community we will reach our goal.

We are having a number of fundraisers between now and the end of the semester, and are encouraging students to fundraise on their own as well.

Visit www.ambrose.edu/waterworks to donate online and help us reach our goal.

For more information, email Donna Vecino (dvecino@my.ambrose.edu), Kirstin Shanks (kshanks@my.ambrose.edu) or Laura Trabadello (ltrabadello@my.ambrose.edu).
Ambrose Authors...
New Releases

Called to be Saints
Gordon T. Smith (InterVarsity Press, 2014)

Evangelicals are known for their emphasis on conversion, but what about life after conversion and beyond justification? Gordon Smith reflects on the Christian life of holiness and our participation in the life of Christ, discussing how and why Christians are called to become wise people, do good work, love others and enjoy rightly ordered affections.

Four Essential Loves: Heart Readiness for Leadership and Ministry
William R. McAlpine (WIPF & Stock, 2013)

While embracing knowledge and skill as essential to effective leadership and ministry, McAlpine demonstrates how heart-readiness cannot be ignored. Explore how cultivating love for God’s Word, for Christ’s church, for one’s neighbour and for oneself produces the heart-readiness needed for leadership and ministry effectiveness.

The Soul of the Music: Gifts from the Golden Age of Piano
Edwin Gnandt (Third Place Press, 2013)

Uncover insightful observations concerning the development of piano performance and teaching since the Golden Age of Romanticism. With stylistic clarity, Gnandt identifies transitional points and changes that have shaped the world of piano performance and teaching that exists today.

These new releases plus many more titles by Ambrose authors including Mark Buchanan, Kyle Jantzen, Charles Nienkirchen, Paul Spilsbury and Bernie Van De Walle are available from the Ambrose Bookstore www.ambrose.edu/bookstore.

Alumni Authors...

My French Connection
Donald Dirks (WCB, ’56) (LULU Book Publishers, 2013)

Don and Elma Dirks’ autobiography is a fascinating account of God’s faithfulness throughout their lives and missionary career. From Don’s humble beginnings in Dalmeny, Saskatchewan to the far off warm climates of Gabon, Africa and then finally to Boulogne, France, “My French Connection” reads like it came right out of the pages of the Book of Acts. Get ready to hear of revivals, healings, miracles, freedom from evil spirits as well as many other astounding works of the Holy Spirit. Your heart will be challenged and encouraged as you see anew that God is still alive and at work in the world today.

A gigantic statue of the Apostle Thomas at Palayur in Kerala
The ‘Thomas Christians’ of South India applaud the Apostle as their spiritual patriarch. They embrace the historical accuracy of the Syrian document, the Acts of Thomas (3rd century CE) which seems to have originated in Edessa, a centre of semitic Christianity northeast of Antioch in present day eastern Turkey. Of all the apocryphal literature, this lengthy work consisting of 171 chapters seems to provide the strongest evidence for Thomas’ journey to India. It names the historically known kings, Gundaphar and Midais, which enhances the document’s credibility. The story has some similarity to the biblical account of the expansion of early Christianity.

Thomas is miraculously guided by dreams and visions and is part of an apostolic culture advanced through ‘signs and wonders’. He is considered by the text to be on par with those Apostles who dominate the stage in the canonical Book of Acts. The reader of this romanticized narrative is encouraged to see the resemblance in the Apostles who dominate the stage by the text to be on par with those apostles and holy heroes. The most treasured of its artifacts is a gold-plated reliquary containing a small piece of one of Thomas’ wrist bones, taken from the very arm that poked a finger into Christ’s side.

What might possibly have brought Thomas to India? A large portrait on the wall of an Indo-Persian styled mansion at Kodungallur shows him standing beside the Sea of Galilee where a visionary light launched his mission to distant India. The Papacy supports the Indian Christians’ claim that Thomas landed at this rundown port when he arrived in India, converted numerous Hindus and Jews and went on to found seven churches in Kerala. The faithful who come to Kodungallur-Azhicode by land or water to begin their Thomas pilgrimage do not find any historical uncertainty here. The Shrine visually tells the first chapter in the Thomas saga on South Indian soil so as to awaken the mind and heart of the pilgrim who embarks on the Way of Thomas.

Evidence of Thomas’ influence covers the tropical landscape of South India from the Malabar Coast on the Arabian Sea to the Coromandel shore on the Bay of Bengal. The State of Kerala (aka Malabar till 1956), home to the ‘Thomas Christians’ who constitute one-third of India’s Christian population, claims seven churches (now stops on the Thomas pilgrimage trail with competing Thomas theme parks). They were allegedly established by the Apostle in locations which had both proximity to Jewish colonies and a prior history of habitation stretching back to ancient times. A mystifying ‘half church’ of Thomas exists across the border in neighbouring Tamil Nadu, making the final count 7 1/2 churches of Thomas. Early Hindu converts to Christianity were called ‘Nazarinis’ (Nazarenes) in the local language because they adhered to the teachings of Jesus the Nazarene. The ‘Miracle Mountain of Thomas’ at Malayattoor recalls Thomas’ ascent of the mount to escape hostile natives. Pilgrims seeking spiritual renewal and physical healing climb the mountain and pause to pray at each of the 14 Stations of the Cross enroute to the Bleeding Cross displayed in the ancient church on the summit. Overtaken by exhaustion on the steep, stone strewn path they call for Thomas’ assistance, ‘O! Saint of Holy Cross, help us to ascend the mountain.’

The Thomas saga climaxes on the Coromandel Coast at Mylapore (a small modern subdivision of Chennai). According to tradition, the Apostle travelled across the subcontinent from Malabar to Mylapore with increased numbers of converts but met martyrdom at the hands of Brahmins in 72 CE. His body was interred in a church which he had constructed. A lesser accepted,
ancient tradition adds that the Apostle’s remains were later transported to Edessa where he is also honoured. On The Little Mount, a small hill located a short distance southwest of Mylapore on the banks of the Adyar River, is a wilderness cave to which Thomas supposedly fled to escape his persecutors before being murdered. Two kilometres away is the higher St. Thomas Mount, where he was lanced to death.

Do these ‘facts’ that are supposedly anchored in Christian tradition and promoted among contemporary pilgrims make for a persuasive case that the Apostle Thomas evangelized India in the first century CE? Historical and geographical issues swirl around the question. Since the third century CE numerous Fathers of the Church (e.g. Gregory Nazianzen, Ephrem, Ambrose, Jerome, John Chrysostom, Gregory of Tours) have maintained that Thomas went to India. However, it must also be noted that many ancient writers often confused India with Ethiopia. On the other hand, modern scholars united in their conviction that Thomas did indeed go to what is now India, are prone to regional rivalry. They disagree on whether Thomas evangelized North India, South India or both. At the grassroots level, the oral tradition regarding Thomas’ coming to India has been passed on generationally by the South Indian, Thomas faith communities. Indigenous folk songs reinforce the collective memory. They are often colourfully staged for large audiences on festive occasions to recount the arrival, mission and martyrdom of Thomas. Some trace these songs back to the initial Brahmin converts of the Apostle.

The undeniable, documentary proof sought by western scholars for Thomas having gone to India in the first century CE is apparently lacking; however, the probability that he did is arguably high. Evidence of first century contact between the Mediterranean world and the Malabar Coast is substantial. It includes Roman literary sources and knowledge of the monsoon winds, large numbers of Roman coins discovered in South India and possible confirmation of first-century Christian presence in India. The rescripting of Thomas as ‘the Valiant’ not ‘the Doubter’ which lauds his evangelization of India merits serious consideration. The holy tradition of Thomas’ apostolate across South India is represented in many churches and faith-based institutions dedicated to his memory. Moreover, the widely held account of the Apostle’s accomplishments has a strong ally in historical believability. Significantly, among all the nations of the world, only India traces its Christian lineage to Thomas. That said, one cannot ignore the distorting embellishments of a post-apostolic narrative written by curious, perhaps heretical, Christians. Not content with the silence of Scripture as to Thomas’ fate, their overly active imaginations created a lens through which to view the Apostle and in so doing they bewitched all subsequent scholarly efforts to distinguish convincingly between fact and fiction in the Thomas story.

Charles Nienkirchen is professor of Christian History and Spirituality and creator/director of the government award winning Down Ancient Paths travel study program at Ambrose University College. He was also visiting professor in residence at Tamil Nadu Theological Seminary in Madurai, South India in 2007.
Over 20 week-long module classes are available this spring
Leadership and Culture • Terry Young, April 28-May 2
Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon • Tremper Longman III, May 12-16
The Ministry of the Chaplain • Peter Ralph, May 26-30

Learn more about how to achieve societal change and be inspired by the success stories of others.
October 3-4, 2014 • A conference on social entrepreneurship and good development.
Hosted by Ambrose University College in partnership with The Fig Tree Foundation and Calgary Microcredit Conference Limited.

www.ambrose.edu/prayforambrose

Three Ambrose alumni have teamed up to present an inspiring evening of arts and faith
For event bookings, contact info@keithkitchenmusic.com or visit www.keithkitchenmusic.com.

Global Impact Week • March 2015
Keynote Speaker: Jeff Van Duzer, Provost, Seattle Pacific University
Author of Why Business Matters to God (And What Still Needs to Be Fixed).
Hosted by Ambrose University College

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Include Ambrose University College in your educational background to join our network.

Please tag your post #ambrosealumni to make it easier for others to follow the conversation.
Behavioural Science (BHS) is an interdisciplinary program that includes the fields of psychology and sociology, with practicum also forming an integral part of the program. This mandatory service-learning course gives students the opportunity to gain hands-on, meaningful experience in their field. When combined with the strong academic rigour of the BHS program, practicum gives students an advantage upon graduation, whether they choose to work in the social service sector or pursue graduate studies. Most often, students find practicum placements (and jobs after practicum or graduation) working with at-risk youth in residential or community settings, immigrants families, the homeless, crisis intervention, children or adults with disabilities, those with addictions, educational settings and corrections/justice.

Practicum students learn about community needs and develop a stronger sense of their civic and societal responsibilities. These outcomes are achieved as students integrate classroom knowledge with the practical knowledge they learn in the field about a specific population, with the support and instruction of their agency supervisor. Students will learn about the norms and professional expectations of their agency, and will increase their capacity for self-care and reducing burnout. There is also a strong ethical focus for practicum students. They learn how to identify ethical concerns and grapple with the complexities that may be involved, in addition to learning about how specific ethical areas (i.e. confidentiality, dual relationships, boundaries, etc.) apply within their agency and population. The following stories show how the practicum experience impacts students and the people they serve.

*Kim McLachlan is the Behavioural Science practicum coordinator at Ambrose.*
Teaching Abstinence as a Choice

I was attracted to the Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre and Take Charge because of their vision to go into the world and share a message of choice (abstinence) and dignity in a world that often seems to provide teens with only one side of the story, which is a message of sex and recklessness. Take Charge encourages teens to slow down their decision-making and think ahead of time so that they don’t find themselves in situations in which they simply aren’t prepared to make a wise decision.

With Take Charge, I go into schools and sometimes youth groups around Calgary and talk about relationships and healthy decision-making, particularly regarding teen sexuality. We present abstinence as an alternative choice to a variety of issues teens face and encourage them to think about the activities in which they engage and to own the choices they make. We present a counter-cultural perspective that challenges students to consider their values in all areas of life.

Through my practicum experience, I have learned valuable lessons regarding sexuality and Christianity. I think that for so long the topic of sexuality has simply been regarded as taboo and something no one really wanted to talk about. This isn’t enough anymore to simply give them the do’s and don’ts. They want to know why. They need positive influences in their lives that will help them think about sexuality and our hyper-sexualized society in terms of their faith and values. I have learned a lot about how much of a grey area sexuality can be and how many youth aren’t getting the information they need. With that, I’ve learned how to come alongside others and share our struggles in trying to live out God’s calling on our lives.

I think one of the important roles of Take Charge is presenting an alternative message that stands apart from other influences in the lives of students without being judgmental or condescending. We could go into classrooms and share a message of condemnation and fear, but instead we give students the information they need and encourage them to consider all the consequences when making lifestyle choices. Though we often can’t speak explicitly about Jesus and the Gospel, I think that if we encourage youth to seek truth and they earnestly seek that truth, they will eventually encounter Jesus’ truth and have their lives changed.

I want to work with youth in the future, and the issue of sexuality can no longer be ignored. Every day I’m at the centre, I am learning some new aspect of teen sexuality that I can carry forward into my future work. Sexual issues often influence other aspects of a teen’s life as well, and I’m beginning to see how these effects manifest in the lives of young people. It’s a constantly changing field, but I know that the things I’m learning now are providing a solid foundation for wherever I end up in the future.

Kirsten Evans is a fourth-year student in the Bachelor of Arts (Behavioural Science major) program.

continued on next page >
I have learned so many things and grown immensely as a person since I started with the VAU. I think the biggest lesson I have learned is what humanity is capable of without God. I have worked with victims of very atrocious crimes. I cannot comprehend how the offenders even thought of committing those acts, let alone following through with the thoughts. While the world can be a very evil place, it doesn’t have to be a negative lesson. Being exposed to the darkness of the world makes me want to fight back, to make a difference, to put some light back into the world.

The greatest highlight and most fulfilling part of my practicum is seeing the difference I make in people’s lives. Being able to help victims of crime in such a meaningful way and connect with them has been phenomenal.

I am a very compassionate person and I care about people very much. It’s sometimes hard for me to leave work at work, but it’s something that I have to do so that I can stay mentally healthy.

Although I initially planned to join the Canadian Forces, my current plan after graduation is to apply for a position with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Doing my practicum with the Calgary Police Service has given me many insights into the law enforcement realm.

My work in the Victim Assistance Unit allows me to see and understand better the victimization of crime. Overall this practicum experience has been greatly beneficial to my future career path.

Luke Dargatz is a third-year student in the Bachelor of Arts (Behavioural Science major) program.
The Sound of Success

The Ambrose Music Department carries on a tradition of many decades of music education. The department has never seen the growth and development that it has in the past few years, as a new generation of students discover the benefits of music education. Students are interested in performing and learning about music. From classical guitar, to piano, to voice, to percussion and other instruments, students want to develop their gifts and abilities in music.

Students also want to make music part of their career direction. Whether that means teaching privately or in a school, continuing on into graduate school, preparing for worship and music ministry or keeping music as an adjunct to another career, a music education offers students a great deal of flexibility for future life and career choices.

The strength of our degree programs has attracted proficient, serious musicians who can choose one of the Bachelor of Arts programs for a wider selection of non-music courses or focus on music more intensely in the Bachelor of Music program. New options in jazz are also attracting students who want to grow as jazz musicians. We are proud of our music students and are thrilled to be able to invest in their lives and musical growth.

Don Quantz, professor and chair of the Music program

Congratulations!

David Guillemaud (BMus 2014) CLASSICAL GUITAR has been a Royal Conservatory of Music Gold Medalist recipient for top examination marks for Grades, 6, 8, 9, and 10. He was also the 1st place senior guitar scholarship recipient at Calgary’s Kiwanis Music Festival for both 2012 and 2013 as well as the 1st place senior guitar scholarship recipient at the 2013 Alberta Provincial Music Festival. He also place as a Provincial round finalist and scholarship recipient at the 2013 Canada Music Competition.

Katie McCullough (BA Music 2013) VOICE was a recipient of the 2013-2014 Western Canada Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions for Western Canada as well as the NW Metropolitan Regional $1000 Encouragement Award (Seattle).
Sharpening our Vision

The creation several years ago of a four-year Business Administration degree program at Ambrose was a major achievement for a young school. It was a decision that came from a desire to have long-term influence over the decision-making in this fast-paced centre of commerce in Western Canada. As Ambrose business faculty sat down last December to chart the next steps for our business program, we recognized we want to equip compassionate, visionary change-makers who will make a difference in their communities. There is no need to replicate what is being done by other universities in the region; rather, we want to focus our program in a few key areas: social entrepreneurship, leadership, corporate social responsibility, international economic development, national poverty alleviation and not-for-profit management. At the heart of this program emphasis is our commitment to reflect Christ in very real and practical ways. In addition to serving and equipping students, over the next few years we also want to reach out to community organizations and businesses to provide them with values-based knowledge that will lead to improved decision-making, sustainable solutions and positive social impact.

The following stories highlight some of the faculty and students who are making a difference as our business program moves forward.
Corporate social responsibility is a commitment to doing business in a way that integrates economic, social and environmental considerations while creating value for the company, its customers and the local community.

Aries Sutantoputra

In April 2013, the world witnessed the devastations of garment factory workers and their families in Bangladesh as the buildings where these garment factories were located collapsed. The death toll reached more than 1000 people and many more suffered in this preventable tragedy. The buildings that collapsed were constructed using substandard materials and did not comply with the building codes and safety requirements. These factories were contracted by several well-known multinational companies to produce clothing that was to be sold in North America and European countries.

As soon as the news broke, the world started pointing fingers at those presumably responsible for this tragedy — from the owner of the buildings, garment factory owners, local government and politicians, clients of these garment factories (i.e. multinational companies with recognizable brands) to the customers who demanded the products. Clothing labels such as Loblaw’s Joe Fresh, Primark (UK) and the Benetton Group (Italy) were found in the rubble of these manufacturing complexes. The world condemned these companies for their lack of action even though the garment factory workers were the employees of their suppliers. Many people felt that these companies were still expected to know the conditions under which their products were manufactured and should have insisted on contracting out jobs only to suppliers who uphold the safety standards.

Cases like the one above show that we have been missing a critical part of doing business. We have lost touch with the idea of duty of care even though the concept of having a business manager originated out of a desire for stewardship. The importance of caring for people and surroundings diminished over the years as emphasis was placed on efficiency, quality and competitiveness. Milton Friedman, the Nobel laureate in economics, famously proposed in the early 1970’s that the only and sole responsibility of business was to be accountable to the shareholders who provided the funds for the existence and operation of the business. This was the mindset of most capitalists, where the argument was that doing business responsibly would cost businesses more and lower the profits for shareholders. In the quest to maximize profits, businesses often overlooked the impact that they were having on society and the environment.

As disasters and tragedies involving businesses continued to unfold, such as Bhopal’s gas tragedy that killed thousands in India in the mid 1980’s, major sporting apparel companies’ use of child labourers and sweatshops in developing countries in the early 1990’s, and the Gulf of Mexico oil spill in 2010, more emphasis was placed on how businesses should conduct themselves. Edward Freeman in 1984 identified stakeholders as groups or individuals that are affected by or can affect an organization’s pursuit of its goals. Businesses are expected to include wider stakeholders’ interests, not just shareholders’, in designing their operations so that they cause no harm or minimum harm to people and surroundings.

A global shift in society’s values is now underway, where businesses are expected to operate in ways that sustain people and the planet — otherwise known as the triple bottom line (profit, people, planet). Businesses are held accountable for their operations, starting from how they obtain the inputs, process them, distribute and sell their products. In today’s globalized business environment, accountability can take place in all continents and involve several countries. The boundaries of responsibility are not limited to certain geographical locations but are dependent on the location of operations of the particular company.

Today’s youth are the future leaders in business and they expect businesses to be part of the solution to social problems rather than just a means of wealth creation. Corporations understand the need to respond to changes in societal values and to the call to be more responsible in business operations. Today’s company must move from a simple philanthropic approach to a more holistic approach of being socially responsible. Business is not only about getting a licence to operate but about truly being a good corporate citizen that cares for society, the local community and environment.

The global cultural shift toward corporate social responsibility is an opportunity for us as believers to live out a biblical understanding of stewardship — in other words, sustainability. We are called to be the light wherever we go and this includes in the marketplace. Believers have the opportunity to act as agents of change.
Educating for SOCIAL Entrepreneurship

Social entrepreneurship is the blended value that results when an organization uses business management tools to create both economic wealth and sustainable social change.

David Iremadze

by leading the way in conducting business responsibly while creating economic and social value. This includes caring for employees, the local community and environment, and upholding ethical standards in our business dealings.

Ambrose is developing the next generation of business leaders by equipping them with the relevant skills and knowledge needed to thrive in the age of corporate social responsibility (CSR). For example, a new course on CSR next year will help students learn to identify the tensions between business and societal goals, and will address the major social responsibilities of profit-seeking businesses operating in a global context. In pursuing CSR and other faith-inspired learning experiences that reflect current business realities, Ambrose graduates are well positioned to add value wherever their careers take them.

Aries Sutantoputra is a professor in the Business Administration program at Ambrose. His research interests include sustainability reporting and corporate social responsibility.

A t the core of social entrepreneurship is the idea of blended value creation — defined as when an organization adopts traditional entrepreneurship and management tools in order to create both economic value (wealth) and social value (sustainable social change). Therefore, genuine social enterprises go even further than corporate social responsibility practices by intentionally designing hybrid business models that combine two essential components: means of generating earned revenue streams that would sustain the venture financially beyond donations and philanthropic support, and a well-articulated road map of how social change will be achieved.

“Business serves people and not the other way around. It is value and virtue that make business life rewarding and meaningful.”
(Solomon xiii)

Value creation in the business world has traditionally been defined as increasing the wealth of shareholders — solely an economic focus. However, the emergence of social entrepreneurship has broadened our understanding of what capitalism and business are all about to include social and environmental objectives as part of the value spectrum, that is, the pursuit of blended value creation. In the wake of the 2008 worldwide financial crisis, interest in exploring organizational forms that pursue this blended value has risen dramatically. Examples of social enterprises or blended value organizations range from the profit-driven company that does business in responsible and sustainable ways while giving some of its profits to community initiatives, to the not-for-profit organization that directs all revenues toward social causes.

Ambrose is educating the next generation of leaders by focusing on the four C’s of social entrepreneurship: compassion, creativity, courage and competence.

Compassion is at the heart of social enterprise. The wind-up radio business in South Africa was not triggered by a profit-seeking motive (although breaking even is necessary for a social enterprise to be sustainable), but with the compassion Trevor Baylis felt after viewing a documentary on

In 1985, British athlete and entrepreneur Trevor Baylis, corporate finance expert Christopher Stainer, and South African entrepreneur Rory Stear teamed up to launch BayGen Product PTY — a low-tech, low-cost wind-up radio product created and produced by a company in Cape Town, South Africa. The social goal behind this enterprise was as follows: Deliver an affordable and dependable communication device — a wind-up radio not reliant on electricity or expensive batteries — to millions of people living in rural and remote areas of the developing world to address the problem of information isolation. The radios will raise the standard of living for these people by making information accessible on issues such as the causes and prevention of diseases, sanitation, agricultural best practices, weather warnings and disaster relief.

The results were incredible. In the first five years the company sold eight million wind-up radios for $40 each. The company has since diversified into alternative energy solutions and hardware/software solutions for rural radio services. Most importantly, the company’s products and programs have had a marked impact on the lives of many people – neighbours, friends and families in some of the world’s most rural and remote communities.
Compassion is not the same as empathy — a mirroring of another person’s emotions, whether sorrow or joy. Nor is it the same as sympathy — a feeling of sorrow associated with the suffering or need of another. While compassion does require the ability to empathize and to sympathize, it also includes the need or desire to relieve suffering. This is why compassion is an essential requirement for any pro-social action, including blended value creation, and why Ambrose views compassion as a basic and enduring human value to be nurtured among our business students — the future leaders in the marketplace.

Entrepreneurial success in general, and success in social entrepreneurship in particular, depends greatly on the ability to create and innovate. Although appearing basic and low-tech, there was a surprising amount of innovation that went into developing and deploying Baylis’ wind-up radio product in the marketplace. A creative attitude supports innovation, (social) entrepreneurship and everything else - imagination, originality, invention, discovery, adaptability and flexibility. This creative mindset cannot be learned in one day or even in a weekend training session. It is, instead, cultivated over time as individuals continuously reflect upon and assess their own originality, inventiveness and imagination, much like artists. Creativity emerges as learners develop a curiosity and appreciation for a variety of topics and experiences, many of which are outside the business context. Learning to explore a wide range of ideas, make connections across events that are sometimes unrelated, understand unexpected results and re-frame issues helps to shape a person’s creative abilities.

The courage to take risks is another key ingredient for social entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurs are driven by a passion for change and frequently take leaps of faith by jumping into action before the necessary resources are secured. Before the risks paid off, Baylis courageously spent several years of his life and personal fortune developing a working prototype of his wind-up radio and presenting the product to prospective funders. Yet the risks associated with making social change through social entrepreneurship can often stir up feelings of anxiousness, fear and confusion. The greedy excesses revealed by the 2008 financial meltdown have made many people reluctant to take risks today. However, as The Economist magazine (64) recently noted, unless we educate students in a way that encourages them to take the sorts of risks, for the right reasons, that will “help propel the economy for decades to come, [we]... may soon be worrying about the lack of risk-takers, not fretting about their excesses.”

Finally, aspiring social entrepreneurs develop competence as their awareness of and belief in what they are capable of doing expands. We need to develop a competence in our students that includes knowledge and expertise, as well as the skills to consistently turn knowledge into actions. An entrepreneur’s ability to judge and make decisions in the midst of uncertainty is one of the soft (non-technical) skills or competencies that make up entrepreneurial action. Competence is best achieved through learning opportunities that allow students to learn through observation, trial and error and feedback. This is why Ambrose emphasizes a service-learning, project-based approach to learning that will include experience gained in a forthcoming business incubator course, as well as an international entrepreneurship travel study.

Social entrepreneurship has much in common with the Christian world-view. As Christians, we have the example of Christ’s compassion to guide us as we seek to bring His love to a lost and wounded world. We serve a creative God who has imparted aspects of His
creativity into His people. We must also remember that whenever Christ saw His followers feeling anxious, fearful or confused He reminded them of His promise that He will not abandon us — He gives the courage we need to walk by faith when He calls us to take risks. And, we can competently serve Him as we use the talents and gifts He has given us to bring glory to His name. We look forward to seeing Ambrose business graduates — compassionate, creative, courageous, and competent business leaders — making a positive social impact through social entrepreneurship. 

David Iremadze is a professor in the Business Administration program at Ambrose. His research interests include entrepreneurship and history of management thought.

See page 28 for a list of works cited.

Join the Conversation
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For more information about the Ambrose Business Administration program, contact our Enrolment Team at enrolment@ambrose.edu or 800-461-1222.
In May 2013, a team of eight Ambrose students traveled to El Salvador and Guatemala to visit microfinance organizations as well as other organizations and churches involved in economic and community development at a broader level. The team saw many different realities of poverty in Latin America, and were introduced to the different organizations and strategies involved in finding solutions.

All aboard! Ambrose students along with instructor Angie Redecopp and her son travel through rural areas of El Salvador and Guatemala, meeting with locals who are benefiting from microfinance and community development projects.
Creating a BETTER FUTURE

I cannot believe how much I learned in the ten days I was in Latin America. My interest in microfinance erupted as I became very intrigued by the many forms of development that we saw, including microenterprises, Safe Passages, International Justice Mission (IJM) and Samaritan’s Purse. We visibly saw the impact these organizations made. There were dramatic home improvements, and people being fed and educated. We saw people pulled out of poverty, starting businesses and creating better lives for their families. We were also given things to contemplate.

One of the most powerful experiences I had was visiting Safe Passages. We travelled through the cemetery, saw graves the size of my house, and also heard stories of bodies being thrown over the cliff into the dump when rent could no longer be paid. As for the garbage dump, words cannot do justice to the reality that exists. Thousands of people were rummaging through the garbage looking for trinkets or even food, in absolutely terrible, life-threatening conditions. In all of this, Safe Passages is training and equipping children and parents to develop skills and provide opportunities outside of the dump.

A highlight of the trip was playing with the niños (children) in the schools and at the Compassion sponsor site. The Compassion site was actually very cool. Located in one of the most dangerous communities in the world was this safe haven. The children could come into the gated facility for safety, food, friendship, as well as opportunities to learn about God and develop practical skills like sewing, soap-making and computer literacy. It was mind blowing to see how much honour and love these children showed us when we visited.

What I learned and encountered on this travel study could not have been done in the classroom. The experience was phenomenal. New passions were stirred inside of me and I can absolutely say my life was radically changed.

Amanda Pallone is a third-year student in the Business Administration program.

“Creating a BETTER FUTURE”

The people that we met were very proud to share their accomplishments with us (i.e. the small businesses they developed with the microloans or through their savings groups), and the representatives of the different organizations that we learned about were very passionate and excited to talk about their work and ministries. Our perspective of microfinance and microbusiness and economic development generally changed a bit for all of us.

Angie Redecopp, group leader and Ambrose instructor

“The biggest impact I saw in the community is the power of hope. Having a job through microfinance creates hope not only for one’s current situation but also for one’s children. Once people have hope they are completely changed as they learn that they have the power to dramatically improve their lives.”

Kyle Letnes, fourth-year Business Administration student

Amanda Pallone is a third-year student in the Business Administration program.
Highlights from the Travel Blog

WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

MAY 2, 2013

Today we went to Santa Ana in the western region of El Salvador and observed a loan distribution meeting where six ladies from the community receive their very first loan from Funsalde, the El Salvador branch of World Vision’s microfinance arm, VisionFund. The types of businesses these women were starting ranged from selling frozen bananas to owning small street stores. We were able to meet the women and hear the stories behind their businesses and their lives. The women were very excited about their new loans which ranged from $100-$300. They all had businesses prior to the meeting but they didn’t have the means and the funds to expand their microenterprises.

We asked the loan officers and the women some questions about the overall practice of Funsalde as well as some general questions about the women’s businesses.

From there we visited three of Funsalde’s clients. The three women’s businesses included a clothing and cologne shop, a school supplies store and a general snack food store. These women were in the later stages of the program. They started with small loans and were able to grow their businesses into successful enterprises. It was amazing to hear how such a small loan could change each one of these people’s lives. From the profits that they made with their loan they were able to send their kids to school, go to university themselves, build better homes, and also provide jobs and education to other people in their communities. The pride and sense of empowerment that the clients gained from their businesses truly showed the power of financial provision to clients. It was inspiring to see how microfinance worked in the field rather than just in a textbook.

Rory Jipp is a fourth-year student in the Business Administration program.

AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MAY 6, 2013

It was an early 6:30 am start to the morning as we drove an hour and a half out to Zapota. We can all now say that we have been off-roading in a 15 passenger van while crossing four steep rivers through rural Guatemala. In Zapota we visited a project and a school started by the Iglesia Galilea church.  The project we saw is an extremely creative and innovative way of growing vegetables in a region where the soil is not fertile and the weather is not good for growing. Coconuts are used as the soil and water from the fish tank acts as the fertilizer. It takes three days for the seeds to germinate in this growing system. The community will have fish and vegetables to eat once the plants grow and the fish mature. In the short term the food will be used to feed the 160 kids at the school as well as 50 families who struggle with nutrition and have six to seven children each. In the long term the community hopes to sell the vegetables, grow some fruit and train others in the community to start their own mini system at home.

We also had the opportunity to visit the school that the church started in the community. Kids in the public school system do not have many opportunities to learn because it is hard to find teachers who will come to the remote town. The children that attend the church school have regular classes and many more opportunities as they are learning English. We met the principal and she said one of the main priorities along with educating the children is to share the gospel! Most churches in Guatemala are not involved in their local community. However, Iglesia Galilea church believes that as Christians we are called to help the poor and that is exactly what they are doing.

Genevieve Jipp is a third-year student in the Business Administration program.
FAITH INSPIRED LEARNING

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Minako Polischuk (Amb ’09) is working to end extreme poverty and oppression in the developing world. Together with her husband Darren, the couple launched Work of Your Hand in 2009 and are seeing the lives of Bing and dozens of other women in the Philippines, Cambodia, Indonesia and Laos change for the better. “God loves people,” says Minako. “Poor people need to know that their significance is not defined by what they do but by who God is and who they are in Him.”

Working with local churches, pastors and other partners on the ground, Work of Your Hand helps the overseas poor and marginalized gain dignity and self-worth by providing them with work that pays a fair wage and that empowers them to support their own families. The home-based fair trade company the Polischuk’s have established creates sustainable employment by purchasing and importing beautiful products made by impoverished people in the developing world, selling the products to customers in the developed world, telling the stories of the artisans and using the proceeds to purchase more products to sell. The business operates as a 100% volunteer ministry.

Minako explains that “Although the quality of the product is important and must be good, Work of Your Hand is about giving people hope and providing them an opportunity to lift themselves out of poverty. Giving people work rather than handouts is seen as a sustainable, empowering approach.” Minako shares the following story of how the seed for Work of Your Hand was planted:

I was in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on a short-term missions trip in 2008, meeting with a Vietnamese missionary named Kim Bui when she began to share her heart for the Vietnamese children who were trafficked into prostitution. At the time, she was running a school where she discovered the plight of her students as they got older. Her graphic stories of what the children went through as they were rented out to brothels by their own parents filled me with ‘holy indignation’, as Bill Hybels likes to call it. Right then, I felt God tugging on my heart and filling me with resolve to do something to give these stateless, marginalized people a chance. Unfortunately, these people had no skills or opportunities other than picking garbage or selling their children to brothels. My first thought was to open a business or somehow create work in Cambodia, hire the parents of these children, hold business meetings that educated them on the facts of sex trafficking, and encourage them not to send their children to brothels.
The desire to do something with impact would later be confirmed in the final year of Minako’s Master of Arts in Leadership and Ministry program at Ambrose Seminary, where she developed a proposal for Work of Your Hand as part of a class assignment. “I presented our new ministry to the class and had very strong positive feedback. It was a very affirming moment and I felt the call of God’s tug on my heart towards working with ministries in impoverished nations even while in Canada,” says Minako. After graduation, Minako and Darren traveled to the Philippines where they encountered women living in graveyard sites and garbage dumps. After seeing the juice pack bags they were sewing, a decision was made to begin purchasing products to be shipped back to Canada for resale in local markets including schools, festivals, specialty shops, home parties and women’s church events.

Establishing relationships with the artisans who produce goods for Work of Your Hand is an important part of the ministry, as it becomes the avenue by which the gospel message is shared with the artisan and the artisan’s story of hope is shared with the purchasing consumer. Educating consumers about the story behind the product is central to the mission of Work of Your Hand. “If consumers purchase with awareness, including an understanding of who made the product and their life situation, then poverty can be alleviated one purchase at a time,” shares Minako. “How we purchase makes a difference.”

Minako brings an eternal perspective to what she hopes to see Work of Your Hand achieve. In addition to finding more opportunities to sell the products in first world countries so that more work can be given to the poor and they can hear the name of Jesus, Minako’s desire is “that God will use Work of Your Hand to help people in third world countries enslaved by poverty and corruption recognize that they are made in His image, and that they will find dignity and be restored from their depravity into the persons of worth God created them to be.” Creating jobs for these marginalized people enables them to provide for their children by using the talents and gifts God has given them, and helps to form a vibrant and loving community. In hearing the message of Jesus, they are redeemed.

“Money is not the answer,” says Minako. “Jesus is the answer who gives us hope when we want to give up. I felt (and still feel) honoured and privileged to be part of God’s plan for helping the poor come to know that God values them and loves them.”

Laos artisan with reverse applique hot pads

Get Involved! There are many ways that you can help end poverty and human trafficking in the developing world.


Learn Read about effective ministry to the poor in When Helping Hurts, by Steve Corbett & Brian Fikkert.

Learn Understand more about the oppression of women and girls in the developing world in Half the Sky, available in book (Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn) and DVD format.

Pray That those around the world who are struggling to escape a life of poverty and human trafficking would see Jesus as the hope for their future.

Volunteer Connect with an organization and use your gifts and talents to support those working to end poverty — help maintain websites, assist with marketing, participate in a trip, etc.

Give Participate in Christian based microfinance ventures, such as Opportunity International.

Purchase Help impoverished artisans find hope by purchasing their products. Visit www.workofyourhand.com for more information on how and where to purchase, including stores, trade shows and home parties.

Talk Ask questions or share your comments on this story at our conversation corner. www.ambrose.edu/conversation
Volunteer Spotlight: Joyce Froehler

When Canadian Bible College (CBC) moved to Calgary in the summer of 2003, Joyce Froehler helped to unpack what today has grown into the Ambrose Library collection. She has volunteered regularly ever since, usually twice a week. “For me, Joyce has been an example of contentment and peace, trusting in the Lord no matter what her circumstances may be,” remarks Library Cataloguer Colleen Charter. “I often mention with pride that we have a faithful volunteer who is in her eighties.”

Joyce began volunteering in the library through her connection with The Christian and Missionary Alliance. She has always had a passion for missions, but health concerns kept her from any long-term commitments to international work. Undeterred by this limitation, she has participated in ten overseas projects, serving in Mexico, Japan, Israel, Mali, and Germany, in addition to her unswerving service to the Ambrose library.

Today, Joyce plays an integral role in the life of the library, filling in gaps for the staff and happily doing mundane tasks like putting security strips in thousands of books in the Ambrose collection. More recently, she has worked on several projects for the archives, and she also helps to process the current periodicals as they arrive.

“Joyce’s work indexing photographs in the archives involves a lot of plodding,” says Director of Library Services Sandy Ayer, “but for her it’s also a labour of love: ‘I know these people,’ she often says as she’s working away. And she’s not simply transcribing information: many of the photos have no names or dates on them, and Joyce is able to identify a good number of the unidentified subjects (she knew and worked with many of them, after all) and to assign approximate dates.”

“Photographs are the most-requested medium from our archives,” Ayer adds, “and so Joyce’s work is an essential part of making them available to churches, scholars, and people who are simply interested in Canadian religious history.”

Her presence also has an impact on the people who use the library daily — students. “I see the students smile when they see Joyce,” another co-worker reports. “It’s good for them, while they’re among so many of their peers and away from family, to be reminded of grandmothers in our midst. She’s certainly an inspiration.” For her part, Joyce has found the experience of volunteering to be an encouragement in her walk with God. “My volunteering experience has given me a sense of peace and a way to continue to be engaged,” she says.

Outside of the library, Joyce has led a rich life. She has had two happy marriages, first to Alfred Radant, and then, after his death, to Walter Froehler. Her son Dr. Kenneth Radant is the Principal and Dean of ACTS Seminaries in B.C. In addition to her missions work Joyce also enjoys music and has spent many years singing in choirs and playing piano.

Her service to the library is just a small part of the legacy of her life, but one for which the Ambrose community is deeply grateful. Congratulations to Joyce on ten years of outstanding service!

By Celine Ibsen (Amb ‘13)

Serving the Lord for Over 40 Years

Rev. Milford Simonds (CNC ’66)

We are keeping busy working for the Lord. I am a Chaplain for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) here in New Richmond, WI and my wife Mary is President of VFW Ladies Auxiliary. We get to work together often. Our involvement includes helping veterans and their families that are returning from war zones find assistance for post-traumatic stress disorder and suicide prevention issues. We are also charter members of the Suicide Prevention Task Force of St. Croix County and have helped train citizens and students how to assist their families and friends. Our VFW Post has been awarded All American Post status for the past two years as one of the top ten posts in America, and achieved Number One Post in Wisconsin for the same two years.

I’ve also done some pulpit supply at various churches and spent 10 years as a volunteer Bible Teacher at our county jail. During that time we prayed with over 1500 inmates to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. That was a rewarding area of service.

Ross Johnston
(CNC ’74) — 40 years.

Wow! I received my Doctor of Ministry in 2010 from California Graduate School of Theology, and am in my 4th year as Generational Ministries & Connections Pastor at Cedar Grove Baptist Church in Surrey, BC. I will be married 43 years in July to Beverley (CNC ’67) who teaches on-call at Regent Christian Academy. We are grandparents to Lexi, Kaylin and Maci.
Births

Aaron Larson (NUC ’00) and Kate (Hudel) Larson (NUC ’00) welcomed their third child last April. Danika Adelle Larson joins Kyla (11) and Jacob (8). Aaron continues to serve as youth pastor in Ontario, OR. They will be celebrating 10 years of service in Ontario this summer.

Eric Milner (NUC ’02) and Lindsay Milner welcomed their fourth child, Etheldreda Astrid Benedicta Milner on January 2, 2014, joining Cordelia, Ambrose and Magdalen.

Weddings

Paul Harvey (Amb ’14) and Kara (Boda) Harvey (Amb ’12)
I (Kara) graduated from Ambrose’s history program in 2012, and have since attempted three careers: the first, as a baker; the second, a customer service representative; the third, a writer. Needless to say, baking lasted shorter than the time required to bake a loaf of bread, and customer service too closely resembled a boxing ring for my liking. I’ve enjoyed writing for the last year, however, with Samaritan’s Purse and the Billy Graham Association.

Far more exciting than my job, though, is my recent marriage to Paul Harvey. Although this version of Mr. Harvey chose the Ambrose business program in lieu of radio broadcasts, he has proven to be “the rest of [my] story”. We look forward to our first year of marriage and the adventures that will mark this new phase of our lives.

Tanya (Steeves) Landry (CNC ’99) married Denis Landry on July 6th, 2013 at Lutes Mountain Church of the Nazarene in Moncton, NB. Denis is the proud father of Justin (7) and Mylene (6), and together they have Oakley (1).

In Memoriam

Colin Benner (CTS ’85) finished his race on January 18, 2014 in Preston, England, where he had traveled to seek medical attention while serving as senior pastor of Changwattena Community Church in Bangkok, Thailand. Colin is survived by his wife of over 40 years, Denise Benner (CBC ’85); son Jonathan Benner; and daughter Shirah Bamber, currently living in England. Colin pastored with the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Saint John, N.B.; Sarnia, Ontario; Mississauga, Ontario; Perth, Australia; and Kingston, Ontario. He went on to pastor with Vineyard in Fredericton, New Brunswick; San Jose, Costa Rica; Preston, England; Raleigh, North Carolina; and Ottawa, Ontario. He then travelled to Baku, Azerbaijan; Leichendam, Holland; and finished in Bangkok, Thailand as senior pastor of international churches. We lived in 9 countries and more than 22 cities.

Other News and Notes

Trevor Dunham (CBC ’03) and Carissa (Hoffman) Dunham (CBC ’03)
We are in our fifth year at Rosewood Park Alliance Church. I (Trevor) am the associate pastor. Our three kids continue to grow quickly as our clothing and food budget clearly indicates. Rebecca is 8 and in Grade 2, Caitlin is 6 and in Kindergarten, and Jacob is 3 and having a great time in preschool. Carissa is working at Faith Baptist Church here in Regina as a substitute in their preschool program and as the director of their program for camps for kids on teacher professional development days.

Greg Dermody (Amb ’07) was appointed RCMP Chaplain for the Assiniboia Detachment in December 2013. Also pictured are F Division Chaplain Tom McCullagh (CBC ’95) and Sgt. Gary Hodges.

Connecting with Former CBC Classmates

Sylvan Lake was the venue for a great get-together for some Ambrose alumni from the CBC (Canadian Bible College) era. We met on Saturday, August 24, 2013. The group enjoyed the water, barbequing, finding out who’s been keeping up with whom as well as sharing about our lives. We learned that we are Ph.D’s, pilots, salespeople, train conductors, and so on. We even launched into a few theological debates. There was a married couple in attendance where both the husband and wife attended CBC. Thank you CBC for that!

We then moved from the lake to Sylvan Lake Alliance Church where John Haazen, who has been serving as youth pastor for over a decade, gave us a tour. We remembered his first sermon in Bill McAlpine’s preaching class, where he was trembling and so were we. We brought out the yearbooks and some pictures — pre-digital age so these were actual photographs. We recounted tales of warring floors and infamous pranks. We made plans to attend Ambrose weekend/evening lectures in the future as we miss the teaching.

Thank you to the 15-20 who attended and I hope we can plan more events like this within our friendship groups in the future.

Ilya Dourmanov (’03) and James Edel (’02)

anthem magazine • spring 2014
Fall Season Highlights
Ambrose Athletics enjoyed another successful Fall season. Both the men’s and women’s volleyball teams won Alberta Colleges Athletic League championships at home, marking back to back championship victories for both teams. The undefeated men’s team later went on to win the Western Canadian Championships in Saskatoon, a first in Ambrose’s history. The women’s team finished third at this same event. Both teams begin play in the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference next fall and look forward to a new level of competition.

Character and Community
Athletics is a training ground that prepares athletes for life. The lessons learned and skills acquired help to equip students for situations they will face in life, including teamwork, dealing with pressure, responding effectively in an emotionally charged setting, as well as reaching for and attaining goals. Students are provided with wonderful leadership opportunities, as well as the opportunity to compete with athletes at the highest level. The Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference is one of the best college leagues in Canada. Athletics also enrich the campus community by bringing students together to celebrate Ambrose. We invite new students to become part of our tradition of success.

Ryan Willison, Director of Athletics and Campus Recreation

Works Cited
Ways to Get Involved:

Mentor a student
Provide an internship opportunity
Share your expertise as a guest speaker
Attend the Soul of the Next Economy Forum
Sponsor a scholarship
Sponsor a research chair

Over the next several months and years, we will have a tremendous opportunity to connect with, encourage, and equip current and future change-makers. These are the individuals who will be faced with making wise decisions that will lead to sustainable solutions and positive social change. Our vision and emphasis in areas such as social entrepreneurship, corporate social responsibility and international development, as outlined earlier, is very much a shared one. It belongs to more than the faculty and students here at Ambrose University College; it belongs to each of you.

In his book *Walking with the Poor*, Bryant Myers offers that “loving God and loving neighbour are a seamless whole” (70). Correspondingly, he notes that the stories of the prophets inform us of God’s intent for His creation and, in turn, what He expects from us. For example, the prophet Isaiah called for Jerusalem to “stop doing wrong. Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.” (Isaiah 1:16-17). What does this mean for us? As Micah 6:8 notes, we are called “to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with [our] God.” In this same vein, a key goal of our business program is to equip students, organizations and the community to do just that: to love God, to love one’s neighbour, to act justly, and to love mercy…all in service to our King.

For some, these goals may seem to go against what would be expected in a traditional business program. As has been noted earlier, Milton Friedman first suggested that the role of business is to maximize shareholder wealth (profits). But as my colleagues have eloquently argued, is this really the case?

Perhaps this uncertainty leads to the uneasiness that those in the church feel toward the calling to pursue business. While we may appreciate the economic contribution of business people to God’s work, is there value to business in and of itself? Gordon T. Smith notes in his book, *Courage and Calling*, that “First…business, the production of goods and services, is indispensable for human life…Second…when business is done well, it is worthy of our praise, it is a thing of beauty and wonder…” (150-151).

What does this all mean? We have an opportunity to equip students, entrepreneurs and organizations to do business well by producing goods and services that enrich others’ lives. In addition to this noble purpose, we can envision businesses and entrepreneurs who lead by fulfilling and meeting social purposes as they act justly and love mercy.

This is the vision of the business program at Ambrose University College. We would love for you to join us as we move forward with this vision over the months and years ahead.

Randy Poon is a professor and chair of the Business Administration program at Ambrose. His research interests include leadership and organizational behaviour.

See page 28 for a list of works cited.

Contact Randy Poon at rpoon@ambrose.edu to learn more about the above opportunities for involvement.
Connect with us & your classmates

Join the new Alumni Network today to stay up to date on Ambrose news and alumni events in your region as well as opportunities to engage with the Ambrose community.

www.ambrose.edu/alumni

As a special thank you for joining the new Alumni Network, you will receive a discount coupon for Ambrose clothing.