

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING ABOUT CMU

"My classes are amazing. I have amazing conversations with other students and professors – there are so many people I feel I can talk to. Best of all, I'm growing in my faith as I prepare for a career in counseling or social work."

*Jessica Rempel,
Squamish, BC*

"I'm here because I want to learn about how to help poor people around the world. I spent months looking for a university that combined international development and faith. The second I laid on eyes on the courses, I knew CMU was for me."

Nikole Poirer, Banff, AB

In God's Image: Canadian Mennonite University

"In God's Image" – that is the 2006-07 CMU chapel theme." It comes from the book of Genesis, and also from the In God's Image exhibit—a collection of art by Mennonite artists from around the world—which graces our walls at the university.

CMU provides students with a university education. But it's more than that. We ask students to imagine what a difference it would make if more people saw themselves, and others, as made in the image of God. Through classes, worship and community life we seek to know God, and to see how God is moving and working in the world around us.

Student Stats: The 2005-06 academic year ended with 64 students receiving degrees in arts, music and church ministries. A further 97 students graduated from Outtatown, our School of Discipleship, and 54 completed degrees in Conflict Resolution or International Development through Menno Simons College. The 2006-07 year began with a record 2009 students – 474 at the Main Campus, 97 in Outtatown; 39 in seminary studies, and 1,399 taking one course or more at Menno Simons College, our campus at the University of Winnipeg.

CMU students come from a wide variety of denominations, giving CMU a rich diversity of church traditions. Of our full-time students, 55 percent are from Mennonite churches, with 93 from Mennonite Brethren congregations in Canada.

A total of 55 students did practicum assignments this past year—a requirement to graduate from CMU. Since 2000, when CMU began, 385 students have done practicum assignments, 86 of them in congregational settings.

Student Survey: A survey of students found that family, friends and church are the most influential group for students when making a decision to come to CMU; that academics, quality of the faculty, a desire to grow in faith and the importance of community life (in that order) were the most important reasons for selecting CMU; and that students are quite satisfied with their education at CMU, giving the university excellent ratings for the quality of teaching, availability of professors, facilities and the value for money of their studies.

Serving the Congregations: The following are just some ways in which CMU supports the mission of Mennonite Church Manitoba congregations:

- Annual January Church in Ministry Seminar – a comment from last year: "It inspired me, gave me a boost to keep going."
- *Vision, A Journal for Church and Theology* sent free to every congregation.
- Portable CMU, providing short courses for congregations.
- Deputation in congregations with choirs and other groups.
- Inspiring students to consider pastoral ministry, and then providing tools to prepare them for it.

New Program Initiatives

- A Business and Organization Administration program is on the way!
- Communications is developing as a distinct program area.
- An honours program in International Development Studies will be initiated September, 2007.
- A School of Writing with acclaimed writer Rudy Wiebe and Manitoba poet Sarah Klassen will be launched May 14-18, 2007.

Concluding Comments: CMU is a venture in faith, with the commitment to serve the church and make a difference on behalf of the church in a hurting world. Some **36 students** from Saskatchewan are presently studying full-time at CMU. We trust these students will have a positive impact wherever they go. As we look to the future, we invite continued support, counsel and advocacy. May God bless the Mennonite Brethren Church of Saskatchewan in its ministry.



Gerald Gerbrandt, President