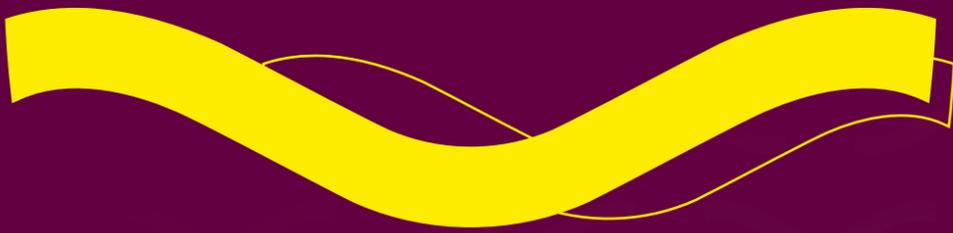


Faculty of Arts

2026 Student Conference

March 27, 2026 | Sobey 260



Saint Mary's
University

9:30-9:45

Welcoming Remarks

Dr. Sara Malton, Associate Dean of Arts,
Research and Faculty Support

10:00-10:45

Panel 1 – The Art of Propaganda

Lauren Hawes, Chair

Alexis Vickers, MA History

Propaganda and Purity: The Story of the 1937

Degenerate Art Exhibition

Grayson Kennedy, BA Honours English

Literature as an Interactive Site: An Argument Against

Plato's Republic

Alexander Brozek, BA Political Science, minor English

Imagination and Propaganda: Literature as the Path to

Revolution

11:00-11:45

Panel 2 – Identity Formation in the Maritimes

Alexis Vickers, Chair

Alex Stokes, MA Atlantic Canada Studies

A Bridge to the World: The Fixed Link, Educational

Reform, and the Reimagining of Place in Prince Edward

Island's Curriculum at the Turn of the Millenium

Lauren Hawes, MA History

'Forestering' Powerful Bonds: Forestry and Technology

on Nova Scotia's Eastern Shore, 1850-1985

Alexandra McCaw, MA Atlantic Canada Studies

Tartan's Role in the Tartanisation of Nova Scotia:

1920-1960

12:00 -1:00

LUNCH Panel – “Where Can an Arts Degree Take Me?”

Dr. Nicole Neatby, Chair

Brooke Chandler BA'20, Human Rights Officer, Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission

Andrew Jamieson BA'15,
Staff Lawyer, Nova Scotia Legal Aid

Julie Naugler BA'20 MBA'24, Senior Sales Leader, Halifax Tides FC, Atlantic Canada's first professional women's soccer team

Kirby Ross BA'17 MA'20, Curator of Marine History and Registrar, Nova Scotia Museum

(See alumni bios below)

1:15 -2:15

Panel 3 – Difficult Histories: Preservation, Representation and the Public

M. Puddu, Chair

Laura Brown, MA History
Lifecycle of Canadian Holocaust Museums

Emily Burke, BA Languages and Cultures
Legislation, Looting, and Lack of Support: An Analysis of Guatemalan Cultural Property Protection in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries

Beatrice Labe Lary, BSc Computer Science and Business Administration
Digitizing Africville: Preserving Community Memory Through Digital Archives

Emilie MacKenzie, BA English and History
Saving Historic Places

2:30 -3:15

Panel 4 – Digital media: Blurring the Lines

Alexandra McCaw, Chair

Alexandra Mary Campbell, BA Honours Anthropology

The Virtual Medium, an Analysis of the User-Avatar Relation Study through Identity and Agency

Angus Mancini Miller, BA Honours Philosophy, minor in English

Abstraction, Despair, and the Individual: A Kierkegaardian Framework for Understanding Social Media

Sarah Delorme, BA Honours Sociology

Hidden Exploitation in the Age of AI: Human Labour Supporting Digital Modes of Production

3:30 -4:15

Panel 5 – Speaking to the Dead: Journeys Through Metaphor and Identity

Laura Brown, Chair

Euan MacDonald, BA, English

Hermeneutics of Contempt: Prosaic Sins of Emptiness in James Joyce's The Dead

Jaiden Kariuki MacDonald, BA Honours Anthropology

Honouring the Past to Understand the Present: An Exploration of Burial and Funerary Practices in Membertou First Nations in the 20th-21st Century

Silas McLean, BA Sociology, minor in Philosophy

Deadnames: More than just a phrase

4:30 -5:15

Panel 6 – Multivocal Storytelling

Laura Brown, Chair

Amy Morton, BA Honours French (Languages and Cultures), minor in Sociology

Identity, Gender, and Resistance in French Rap: The Case of Casey

Paris Woodland, BA Honours French (Languages and Cultures), minor in Mathematics

The Redistribution of Power in Little Red Riding Hood

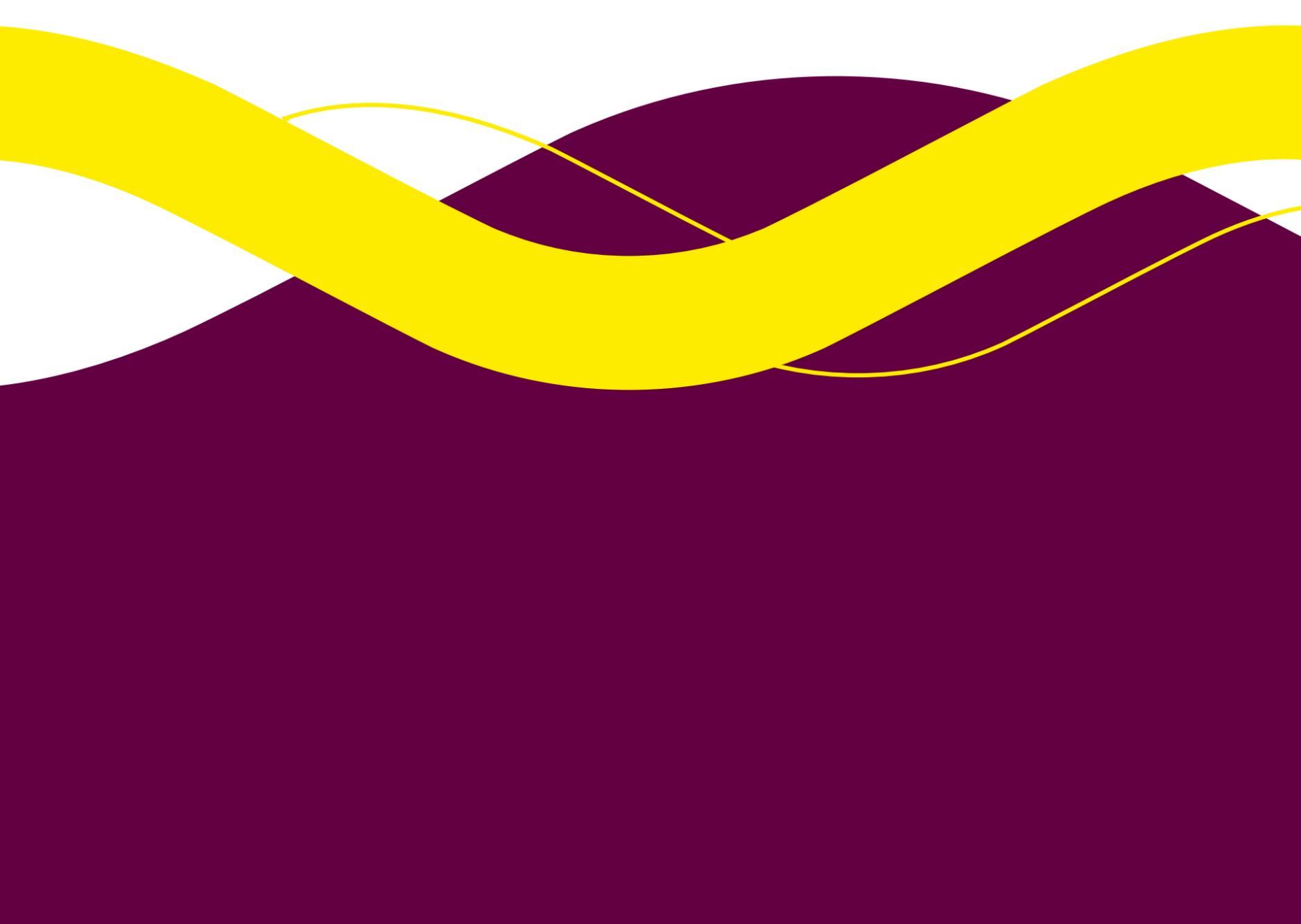
M. Puddu, MA Atlantic Studies

Forced Between Worlds: Double Consciousness and Etuaptmumk in The Berry Pickers, by Amanda Peter

5:15

CLOSING REMARKS

Laura Brown, MA History



ALUMNI Panel



Brooke Chandler BA'20

Human Rights Officer, Nova Scotia
Human Rights Commission

*Majors in Criminology and
Sociology, minor in Social Justice
& Community Studies*

After graduating from Saint Mary's, Brooke wanted to work in the public sector in a way that felt meaningful and people centered. She went on to earn a Bachelor of

Social Work degree from Dalhousie. Her early career involved supporting children and families as they navigated complex health, educational and social systems, which deepened her understanding of systemic barriers and the importance of advocacy.

In her current position as a Human Rights Officer, she mediates complaints and facilitates restorative circles and settlement conferences. Brooke credits Saint Mary's with helping to shape her critical thinking, sense of justice, self-awareness and understanding of positionality and intersectionality—tools she draws on every day to create meaningful impact in public service.



Andrew Jamieson BA'15

Staff Lawyer,
Nova Scotia Legal Aid
Honours Psychology

Andrew Jamieson is a criminal defence lawyer with Nova Scotia Legal Aid's Halifax Duty Counsel Office. After a decade working as a carpenter in Alberta, he returned to Nova Scotia as a mature student, graduating from

Saint Mary's as valedictorian in 2015. He went on to earn his Juris Doctor from Dalhousie's Schulich School of Law in 2019. Andrew draws on his diverse life and academic experience to effectively advocate for his clients.



Julie Naugler BA'20 MBA'24

Senior Sales Leader, Halifax Tides FC
Anthropology major and Certificate in Health, Wellness and Sport in Society

As the Senior Sales Leader at Halifax Tides FC, Julie leads revenue and sales for Atlantic Canada's first professional women's soccer team.

Through her role with the Tides, she led the league in merchandise and ticket sales in the 2025 inaugural season.

Julie is a proud graduate of Saint Mary's University, where she earned her BA and MBA. During her time at SMU, Julie was a member of the varsity women's rugby program, earning AUS Rookie of the Year, 3-time AUS All-Star, and Academic All-Canadian awards. She was also the university's first recipient of the Certificate in Health, Wellness and Sport, which she credits as her inspiration and belief in the sports business world.



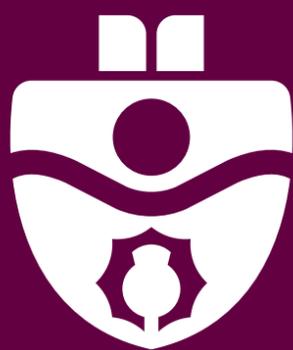
Kirby Ross BA'17 MA'20

Curator of Marine History and Registrar, Nova Scotia Museum
Honours and MA, History

Kirby Ross is the Curator of Marine History and Registrar for the Nova Scotia Museum. Her research focuses on women's roles in shipbuilding and entertainment during the Second World War on the Nova Scotia homefront.

Kirby is proud to hold over 10 years of experience working in a variety of roles at community, provincial and federal museums. She also served as chair of the Nova Scotia Women's History Society. What she enjoys most about working in heritage is hearing people's stories and their connections to Nova Scotia's fascinating history.

Our thanks to the Alumni Office for supporting this event. Thanks also to our student presenters and alumni guest speakers.



Saint Mary's University

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