

## Acadia University

### NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release:  
September 4 , 2005

#### Acadia University Offers Students Affected by Katrina Chance to Continue Studies in Canada

(Wolfville, NS) “Acadia University has opened its doors to students who have been affected by Hurricane Katrina.

The University, one of Canada’s leading undergraduate institutions, will provide full tuition and free residence accommodation to five students. In addition, Acadia will make 100 seats available to American students at a discounted cost. The University is developing a strategy to assist with travel costs including air fare and will work with the Canadian government to promote the expeditious processing of student visas.

“Acadia is a truly global university with twenty per cent of its students coming from 70 countries,” said Dr. Gail Dinter-Gottlieb, President and Vice-Chancellor of Acadia. “A significant number of our students in addition to a number of faculty and staff come from the United States and we all feel tremendous compassion for everyone affected by Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. We feel the best way for Acadia to respond is to help affected students continue their studies while gaining valuable international experience.”

Undergraduate students who have been affected by this tragic event in the Gulf Coast Region and are interested in attending Acadia should contact the Dean of Students Office at Acadia University at [hurricane.relief@acadiau.ca](mailto:hurricane.relief@acadiau.ca)

Acadia University, in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, has long been recognized as one of Canada’s premier undergraduate institutions. With its nationally and internationally recognized research initiatives, small class sizes and technology-rich teaching and learning environment, Acadia offers students an experience that includes academic achievement combined with personal growth and development. For more information about Acadia, visit our website at [www.acadiau.ca](http://www.acadiau.ca).

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## Cape Breton University

For Immediate Release:  
September 9, 2005

### Cape Breton University Looking At Longer Term Options to Support Hurricane Rebuilding Efforts

(Sydney, NS) – While Cape Breton University will welcome and assist any displaced students who may wish to study in Cape Breton, the institution’s primary focus will centre on offering academic capabilities and partnerships as the US Gulf States look ahead to rebuilding.

“It is important that we offer appropriate and meaningful assistance from Cape Breton University. Our academic and research expertise in areas that can directly impact and support the needs of people in the affected areas is one focus,” said President John Harker. “Providing avenues of specialized knowledge ranging from solar water disinfection to specialized crime prevention courses for hard pressed law enforcement officers can help benefit those communities in the short and long term.”

At CBU, there is a growing cluster of knowledge around marine and water ecological systems. University faculty in the School of Education, Health and Wellness, along with others in the public health field, have conducted research on using solar energy to treat microbiologically contaminated water.

“Our faculty have conducted invaluable research on water-borne pathogens and solutions and we have shared this information with the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors and sister academic institutions in the Gulf States,” said Harker.

Historically, water has been an important cause and focus for prevention of some of the most dangerous human diseases. The application of basic hygiene principles to water is very well understood, yet for a great number of the world’s population, water brings disease, and for far too many people, especially children, death. The majority of water related disease and death is due to diarrhea caused by a variety of microbial pathogens, including bacteria, parasites and viruses. Currently, preventing water borne diseases and providing drinkable water are both posing significant challenges in the affected states.

One area CBU researchers have looked at is a simple, inexpensive solar water treatment system. Solar water pasteurization uses the heat of the sun to raise the temperature of water to a point where microbial pathogens are destroyed. This method, which works best in warmer climates, is incredibly inexpensive and very easy to use. It could prove invaluable to relief workers and health officials in the troubled States.

Additional concerns in New Orleans surround the potential effects on marine ecosystems from the contaminated water currently being pumped out of the affected areas. University researchers in CBU’s School of Science and Technology are currently conducting research on ocean currents

and organism survival in contaminated waters that may provide valuable information to officials in the affected areas.

Another realm of assistance that could lead to long-term benefits is to provide law enforcement officers with the tools to study crime prevention through social development. Cape Breton University offers a certificate in this area which has the potential to assist in the recovery process. The online delivery program has been developed at CBU with significant input from law enforcement professionals, including the Past President of the Canadian Chiefs of Police Association and the Deputy Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department who is currently the Commanding Officer, Operations-Valley Bureau.

Cape Breton University's Crime Prevention through Social Development (CPSD) Certificate program offers professionals the opportunity to interact with an innovative and effective method of dealing with crime before it happens. This 'proactive' Certificate program teaches professionals how to recognize individuals at risk of committing crimes long before they ever offend. As well, professionals are exposed to the latest methodologies for creating healthy communities, thereby reducing an 'at risk' individual's likelihood to offend.

Given the impact Katrina will continue to have on the economic, social, and personal lives of the Gulf's residents and rebuilders, such a program could prove invaluable in helping hard pressed professionals deal with the all too human side of crime that this devastation may precipitate. In providing professionals the opportunity to deal with at risk individuals in this positive, healthy manner, they can work towards lessening Katrina's ongoing impact by reducing the inclination towards engaging in crime.

"We realize assistance and resources will be required for many months to come. When the rebuilding phase begins, we will continue to look at ways to align our expertise and resources and those of Cape Breton's innovative business sector," notes Harker, who is looking forward to a round table discussion with the Cape Breton Partnership, to this end.

Co-ordination of the university's multi-faceted response will be handled by the CBU President's Office through Special Projects Manager, Mike Kelloway (902) 563-1801, [mike\\_kelloway@capebretonu.ca](mailto:mike_kelloway@capebretonu.ca) working in collaboration with the International Centre for Emergency Management Studies (Acting Director, Mr. Ed Grimm and Mr. David Griffiths, Research Fellow.)

Presently there are no Cape Breton University students from the affected areas and a check has revealed that none of its oil and gas trainees assigned to Gulf operations have been hurt or displaced. The University is considering (planning to extend) extending an invitation to host a faculty researcher or graduate student. The University, aware of the importance of oil and gas to the economy of the Gulf States, has already contacted key academic institutions in the field.

If students from the US Gulf States would like to study at CBU, University officials will work directly and supportively with them in terms of course selection and accommodations.

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**For more information:**

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**Dalhousie University**

Dalhousie University offers a full range of undergraduate, graduate and professional programs. The university, a noted centre of research activity in a variety of fields, is located in the heart of Halifax, Nova Scotia, the largest centre on the Canadian east coast.

Dalhousie is prepared and able to welcome students displaced by the tragic hurricane damage across Gulf Coast states. Student interested in this option should contact Dalhousie admissions office, at (902) 494-1062. In terms of financial need, Dalhousie will assess each case on an individual basis, but at the least and in these circumstances we will waive international student differential fees, and provide discounted room and board.

Dalhousie offers undergraduate and graduate programs through the faculties of science; arts and social sciences; management (business); engineering, architecture and planning; computer science; law, medicine, dentistry and health professions. Given the need, Dalhousie can create capacity for students in most areas of study, although we are unable to accommodate medical, dentistry or law students.

**Memorial University of Newfoundland**

**Students displaced by Katrina welcome at Memorial**

Memorial University President Axel Meisen says the university welcomes inquiries from students whose plans to attend university this fall were disrupted by the tragic consequences of Hurricane Katrina. The Association of American Universities has reported that up to 100,000 students have been displaced from 30 or more Louisiana and Mississippi universities and colleges, many of which have been closed indefinitely because of flood damage.

“The devastation in the southern U.S. states is tragic and in times of tragedy we instinctively want to respond. So here at Memorial University of Newfoundland we are considering ways in which we can help,” Dr. Meisen said. “One such way that we see is to invite displaced students, especially those from Canada or outside the U.S. whose intended university is closed, to come to

Newfoundland and Labrador to study. At our various campuses we have capacity to accept students into many programs and we will be as flexible and accommodating as possible in trying to assist students to enrol here as visiting students.”

Sheila Devine, director of Student Recruitment, says the recruitment office empathizes with the students who find their academic careers interrupted by this horrific event. Because individuals' situations and needs will be varied, she encourages students to contact Memorial University directly, adding that the university is ready to handle any inquiries from those affected by Katrina in a timely and flexible fashion.

Recognizing the catastrophic damage in the Louisiana and Mississippi areas, University Registrar Glenn Collins indicated that while Wednesday, Sept. 7, marked the official start of classes, Memorial University will do everything it can to accommodate students interested in attending this fall. Mr. Collins emphasized that all applications will be reviewed individually and promptly by admissions staff in collaboration with the appropriate faculties and schools. Memorial's International Student Advising Office says they're standing by to help with immigration advice, health insurance coverage, and settling into the campus community.

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada is working with the Government of Canada to coordinate Canadian universities' response to Katrina and is determining how many of its 92 member institutions are in a position to extend support to students or institutions, either for academic support, accommodation, other support, or in-kind assistance. The U.S. government is reported to be making arrangements to make it easier for students with federal student aid to move to other institutions for a short period, and the Canadian government is planning to take steps to facilitate the process of entering Canada for such students. Typically, in order to study in Canada, U.S. and other international students must obtain the appropriate study permits from Canadian immigration authorities (visit Citizen and Immigration Canada at [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca) for more details).

Inquiries should be directed to Memorial University's assistant registrar - admissions manager, Maria Murray at 709-737-3705 or [mmurray@mun.ca](mailto:mmurray@mun.ca). For general information about Memorial, visit [www.mun.ca](http://www.mun.ca).

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For further information, please contact Ivan Muzychka, manager, Memorial University News Service, 737-8665, cell 687-9433 or [ivanm@mun.ca](mailto:ivanm@mun.ca).

## **Mount Allison University**

Mount Allison University is pleased to be able to offer assistance in the form of admission to 50-100 visiting students. They can also offer residence rooms to all of these students. Additionally, Mount Allison University would be willing to offer these students Canadian tuition rates for this year.

## **University of New Brunswick**

### **UNB TO ASSIST DISPLACED UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FROM THE GULF COAST**

In the wake of the unprecedented damage caused by Hurricane Katrina along the southern coast of the United States, the University of New Brunswick is providing assistance to displaced students.

"I am encouraging everyone at UNB to assist in whatever way they can and to support the Red Cross relief efforts," said John McLaughlin, President of UNB. "Where possible, UNB will open its programs to students who have been displaced by Katrina, so that they can begin or continue their post-secondary studies,"

Although the fall term has begun, interested undergraduate and graduate students will have until the university's course add or drop deadline on Sept. 20 to be admitted to either the Saint John or Fredericton campus of UNB. Displaced students may also apply to begin classes in the winter term.

UNB will work with qualified students in an effort to expedite documentation required by those who are not citizens or permanent residents of Canada, and will also assist them in finding appropriate accommodations. It is anticipated that most inquiries will come from Canadian students who planned to attend university in the Gulf Coast area.

Displaced students seeking admission to UNB Fredericton should contact the associate registrar (admissions) at 506-458-7727, [scarroll@unb.ca](mailto:scarroll@unb.ca), or the international admissions officer at 506-458-7386, [vhovey@unb.ca](mailto:vhovey@unb.ca).

Those seeking admission to UNB Saint John should contact the Registrar's Office at 506-648-5670, [sjreg@unbsj.ca](mailto:sjreg@unbsj.ca).

Students may also study online through UNB's College of Extended Learning. More information on this option is available at <http://extend.unb.ca>, 506-453-4646, [extend@unb.ca](mailto:extend@unb.ca).

In addition, members of the university community on both campuses are looking into fundraising initiatives to support those affected by Hurricane Katrina. The university has also sanctioned the leave of a staff member who is an experienced disaster response volunteer with the Red Cross.

More information on the University of New Brunswick is available online at <http://www.unb.ca>.

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### **Nova Scotia Agricultural College**

#### **NSAC Offers Assistance to Students Affected by Katrina**

Agriculture and Fisheries  
September 13, 2005

Five students displaced by Hurricane Katrina will get a break on their residence and tuition fees at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) this year.

"We felt it was important to share our expertise and our facilities in an effort to help these students continue their studies and minimize the disruption to their academic lives," said Philip Hicks, president of NSAC. "We have the capacity to help students studying in the field of life sciences and will work with them to make the transition as smooth as possible."

The college will provide five students with free residence accommodations and will waive the international student tuition differential.

"The strong historic and cultural ties between the Acadian community in Nova Scotia and the southern United States means we have a desire to help out during these difficult times, however we can," said Chris d'Entremont, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and Minister of Acadian Affairs. "I am pleased that the NSAC has the capacity to join with other Nova Scotia universities in making this offer to our neighbours to the south."

Although classes have already begun at NSAC, school officials say students from the area still have time to register and complete the semester if they arrive in the next few weeks. Students interested in applying for one of the five positions can visit the NSAC website at <http://nsac.ca> to see what programs are offered and can contact Judy Smith, dean of student services, at 902-893-7915 or by e-mail at [jsmith@nsac.ns.ca](mailto:jsmith@nsac.ns.ca), for information and details.

## **NSCAD University**

### **NSCAD University offers help**

NSCAD University joins other educational institutions in offering assistance to students from the Gulf Coast region of the United States whose studies were interrupted as a consequence of Hurricane Katrina.

As space permits and on a case-by-case basis, NSCAD University will accept displaced visual arts students from graduate and undergraduate programs in the affected area. International student fee differentials will be waived, and other discounts to fees will be considered on an individual basis, according to need. We will seek to make suitable accommodation arrangements with our existing housing partners.

Students seeking assistance are asked to contact the Director of Admissions, NSCAD University.

Email: [admissions@nscad.ca](mailto:admissions@nscad.ca)  
Telephone: (902) 494-8129  
Fax: (902) 425-2987

For more information about NSCAD University, please visit [www.nscad.ca](http://www.nscad.ca).

## **University of Prince Edward Island**

### **PEI Opens Its Doors to Students Displaced by Hurricane**

The University of Prince Edward Island is rolling out the welcome mat for students who have been displaced by the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. "At this time of need we all have to help out in whatever ways we can," says UPEI President Wade MacLauchlan. "These students have had their lives disrupted enough in the past week; we want to ensure that they don't lose their academic year too."

UPEI has made available an unlimited number of openings in its undergraduate and graduate programs for students who may wish to transfer. And while international student fees will still apply, the University is providing the Katrina- displaced students with access to a special bursary which can offset the cost of tuition. Students would also be eligible to apply for any of UPEI's existing scholarships and bursaries.

In order to accommodate students from the storm area, UPEI is holding open its late registration option to ensure that they are able to get into the classes they need. The University is also opening up its residences to students and families who have been displaced by the storm.

"We can re-configure our residence halls to accommodate additional students, and we also have access to several of townhouses at Brown's Court which would be suitable for families," says Director of Residence Services, Marc Braithwaite.

"We would be very pleased to have students from the New Orleans area join us here at UPEI," President MacLauchlan says. "It would be an excellent opportunity for us to show our legendary Island hospitality and to welcome students who would make a valuable contribution to the intellectual and cultural life of our campus."

President MacLauchlan added that UPEI would be pleased to consider partnering with interested community organizations who wish to assist hurricane-affected students to attend UPEI.

At UPEI's Atlantic Veterinary College fundraising efforts are under way. Donations are being channelled through the Red Cross and through Louisiana State University's animal welfare program.

Anyone interested in more information on UPEI's efforts to assist students from the New Orleans area, or any organization interested in working in cooperation with UPEI, should contact the university communications office at 902-566-0760.

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### **Université Saint-Anne**

Université Sainte-Anne would be more than happy to welcome up to 50 students in the student residences on their Church Point campus in Nova Scotia. The program of choice would most likely be their French Immersion Program. Students can either join for a six week session (starting in early September, mid-October, early January or mid-March), a full academic term or for the entire academic year. Université Sainte-Anne would waive the tuition Foreign-fee differential.

### **Saint Mary's University**

For Immediate Release:  
September 6, 2005

#### **Saint Mary's University Willing to Help**

Dr. J. Colin Dodds, President of Saint Mary's University, says that the University will play whatever role it can in helping students who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

One student from New England, who was originally enrolled at Tulane University in New Orleans, has been accepted at Saint Mary's.

While the Saint Mary's residences – Loyola, Vanier, and Rice – are fully occupied with a waiting list, the University will do what is feasible in order to accommodate American students. The University and its Off-Campus Housing Office will assist them on a case-by-case-basis in order to assist them in living arrangements and any other related needs that might be needed. With over 80 countries represented on our campus and many institutional linkages with universities around the world, we have the student services' infrastructure to provide a warm welcome.

Saint Mary's alumni around the world are also asked to help those who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Shawn Cleary, the Saint Mary's Alumni Director, is encouraging the University's 34,000 graduates to help by donating to the Red Cross or the United Way.

“Accessibility to university education is a key part of our mission so following the aftermath of this destructive hurricane, all of us at Saint Mary's certainly feel that it is essential that we open our doors and help our American neighbours in any way possible,” says Dr. Dodds. “Our main priority at Saint Mary's is to ensure that no one remains disadvantaged and that we provide access to higher education.”

*Saint Mary's University is known for its community outreach projects, both in Canada and around the world. Saint Mary's, founded in 1802, is home to one of Canada's leading business schools, a Science Faculty widely known for its cutting-edge research, a comprehensive and innovative Arts Faculty and a new Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.*

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### **St. Thomas University**

St. Thomas University, a liberal arts university, is welcoming inquiries from students whose studies have been disrupted by the hurricane. Special assistance for tuition and the potential for residence accommodations as well as immigration advising will be offered. Each applying student will be considered on an individual basis. Inquiries should be directed to [admissions@stu.ca](mailto:admissions@stu.ca).