



THE
KING'S
UNIVERSITY

Impact Report **2022**



Dr. Adrian Beling (centre) with the Transitions to Sustainability research team (from left): Julia Gessche, Sierra Johannsen, David Cebryk, Kristina Thiessen, Oscar Izquierdo, and Jada Lea. (Not pictured: Paulina Belbey)

Q & A with Canada Research Chair, Dr. Adrian Beling

What is your academic background?

I have spent years doing research on the cultural and political struggles around meaning-making with regard to the global social-ecological crisis.

What will your research focus be at King's?

Prevailing common sense sees climate change and its effects as something that can be “managed” without confronting cultural and economic drivers. If these root problems are to be tackled, we need to look at other types of interventions that address the spiritual and practical dimensions of everyday life. We need to unleash creativity and increase acceptance of the need for deep and far-reaching social change. This is what drove King's to develop the Canada Research Chair in *Transitions to Sustainability*. We will look at the role of religion and the church in creating favourable conditions for society-wide transformation through shifts in values, beliefs, and cultural and socio-economic practices.

Can you describe your team and their role?

The team has seven members, six of whom are students or alumni of King's. They will be involved in research work—data collection, analysis, discussion, and report-

ing—as well as other support functions such as communication and event coordination. These tasks help students develop important career skills and grow professional networks in the field of sustainability.

What does your team bring to the project?

The team members are high-performing and strongly motivated individuals who care deeply about sustainability. Their career plans tend toward work in academics or research. Each member also brings a unique set of interests and abilities: language, technology, leadership, organization, or knowledge and skills gained through the course of their studies. In some cases they bring previous research experience from work with other professors.

What will this research will accomplish?

We expect to generate real-world impact in church-mediated sustainability governance processes, particularly in biomes that are key to our future—like the Amazon rainforest. We want to grow momentum for inter-faculty collaborations and exchanges with other universities. Additionally, generations of students who participate in the project over time will gain valuable knowledge and research experience that they can take into their careers.



Deep love, acceptance, and a profound sense of belonging are hallmarks of an education at King's. It's a place where every student has opportunities to pursue passions, cultivate interests, and thrive in every way.

Life-long friendships and enduring connections are made here; relationships that inspire a pursuit of excellence and a striving for justice.

New initiatives and renewed spaces

Everything Series

This fall, King's launched the Everything Series, a slate of lectures that explores all things—everything—in God's creation and invites conversation about today's most pressing issues. For the inaugural year of the series, the theme is "Collective Moral Conversations." How do our collective goods relate to personal interests? What do we do with multiple, and sometimes competing, moral priorities? Lectures are hosted on campus with refreshments and conversation following each event. Videos of each lecture are posted to King's YouTube channel. Visit kingsu.ca/everything-series for details.

Pakitināsowin Fund

King's and the Micah Centre, in partnership with the Northern Alberta Diaconal Conference, have created the Pakitināsowin Fund for Reciprocity and Reparations. Started with an initial seed investment of \$75,000, the fund is an opportunity for churches in Edmonton and across Alberta to contribute to an endowment that will support grass-roots Indigenous-led non-profits and community initiatives. Information on the fund can be found at kingsu.ca/reciprocity.

Community Trail

This summer saw the addition of a walking trail winding through the south side of campus. Part of a donor-supported effort to create more beautiful spaces, the trail is lined by new trees and naturalized areas and provides opportunities for students, and the surrounding community, to use the campus grounds for rest and recreation.



The Harvest Banquet and Silent Auction is an annual celebration of King's mission. This year, the event saw over \$50,000 raised in support of student scholarships.



Melanie Humphreys, Ph.D.
President

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."
– Romans 15:13

There has never been a more important time to restore our capacity to hope, to engage students, communities, and society in building a more resilient future. I see that hope every day in the students who choose to attend and the community that invests deeply at King's!

King's mission is to inspire and equip learners—all learners from all walks of life. We're living into this calling by investing in opportunities for lifelong learning, renewed relationships, knowing each other more deeply, and growing together.

"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." Together, may we boldly and joyfully explore this world!

Statement of Financial Position: 2021-22

Assets	Current assets	12,014,166
	Investments	10,438,034
	Property and equipment	18,045,279
	Total	40,497,479
Liabilities & net assets	Current liabilities	14,833,711
	Long-term debt	12,310,234
	Deferred capital contributions	4,910,311
	Net assets	8,443,223
Total	40,497,479	
Revenue	Tuition	10,973,875
	Government grants	5,075,736
	Sales and other	3,865,656
	Donations	2,061,039
	Total	21,976,306
Expenses	Instruction, research, library	7,913,830
	Student services	5,002,073
	Administration and advancement	3,472,232
	Facilities and computing	3,870,285
	Interest on debt	410,269
	Total	20,668,689
Surplus	Total	1,307,617

For a complete, detailed report on King's finances, please visit: kingsu.ca/finances

Connect Groups provide a foundation for new students

In Fall 2022, King's launched First-Year Connect Groups, an initiative that provides a solid foundation of relationships, university navigation, and supports for incoming students to build on.

Upon registration, each incoming student is assigned to a cohort that includes a faculty mentor and two student navigators. In addition to doing Orientation together, Connect Groups meet once a month to check in with each other.

"The goal is to weave new students into the fabric of King's community," says Dr. Kris Ooms, Vice President Academic and Research. "Establishing early connections helps students thrive socially, academically, and spiritually."

The pilot year has been very successful.

"Moving to the city from a small town and starting out with a full course load has come with challenges. I am really grateful for how King's has supported me," says first-year Interdisciplinary Science major, Madi Tovell. "I have found some amazing friends through Connect Groups."

Incorporated into First-Year Connect Groups is the annual fall retreat at Camp Nakamun; another opportunity for students to get to know each other through activities like swimming, rope swings, bonfires, and group games.

"Seeing first-year students striking up new friendships is a wonderful thing," says Dr. Ooms. "You just know that many of the relationships formed in these early days will continue throughout university and even into life after graduation."





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