

## Brescia's Engagement with Women 2016-2018

### Scholarship:

**Dr. Helene Cummins** (2016): OCUFA Status of Women Award of Distinction (2016) that builds on feminist teaching, research, and service work, Helene Cummins is a role model and mentor to all women through this prestigious identification. While working to improve the work lives of female academics and librarians in Ontario universities Cummins is assisting in raising the profile of all women's work and their value in society. While also identifying the work that needs to be undertaken to assist women in their professions relative to work equity, pay equity, the value of their work, racial, ethnic, and Indigenous inequalities and overcoming the systemic structural hurdles that keep all diverse women workers subordinated and undervalued. In assisting academic women, she is also assisting communities in building better workplaces, policies, political structures, and families.

**Dr. Helene Cummins** wrote a book with co-authors Judith Wouk and Julie Rogers entitled: *The Truth about (M)Otherhood: Choosing to be Childfree* (forthcoming) relates to all women who actively choose not to have children and allows women to make these informed and empowering choices in their lives.

A new area of research that **Dr. Helene Cummins** is undertaking focuses on the Canadian family meal and relates to all women who lead the household on cooking and healthy eating processes. When implemented, households stand to benefit from this activity that is essential for families to take time to eat together and socialize. In the absence of such patterns, families are cut off from each other in communication, health challenges leading to unhealthy food choices, fast food meals, high rates of obesity, diabetes, and more deviant behaviors are outcomes for children who have less parental contact as a result of the lower incidence of eating together as a family.

**Dr. Wei Wei Da's** current research is on Muslim women (44 interviews with Muslim women) and coming to Canada as refugees.

Current: **Dr. Leslie Janes** is engaged in research study with a thesis student on the impact of students' perceptions of intelligence on academic performance and self-handicapping.

Current: **Dr. Leslie Janes** is engaged in research study with a thesis student on perfectionism and perceptions of intelligence.

**Dr. Steve Kleinknecht** served as a research consultant for My Sisters' Place on their 2017 MSP Snapshot Survey. Dr. Kleinknecht worked with a second year Brescia Sociology student, Christy Bailey, on data entry, analysis, and brief report for My Sisters' Place. The survey considers the experiences of 178 homeless, or at risk of being homeless, women. Here is a link to their website:

<https://cmhamiddlesex.ca/about-cmha/msp/>.

Devnew, L. E., **Le Ber, M. J.**, & Torcia, M., & Burke, R. J. (Eds.). (2018). *Women on boards of directors: An international perspective*. Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.

This edited volume was published in October 2018. We as editors (all academics) were intentional in recruiting authors currently practicing and not just academics. The audience is intended for women who aspire to be board members, boards of directors, and politicians in addition to academics.

- Cohen, B., Salter, K., Kothari, A., **Le Ber, M. J.**, Lemieux, S., Moran, K., Wai, C., & Antonello, D. (2018). Indicators to guide health equity work in local public health agencies: A locally driven collaborative project in Ontario. *Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention in Canada: Research, Policy and Practice*, 38(7/8), 277-285. <https://doi.org/10.24095/hpcdp.38.7/8.02>
- Salter, K., Salvaterra, R. P., Antonello, D., Cohen, B. E., Kothari, A., **Le Ber, M. J.**, Lemieux, S., Moran, K., Rizzi, K., Robson, J., Wai, C. (2017). Organizational level indicators to address health equity work in local public health agencies: A scoping review. *Canadian Journal of Public Health*, 108(3), e306-e313.
- Antonello, D., Cohen, B., **Le Ber, M. J.**, Kothari, A., Lemieux, S., Moran, K., Salvaterra, R. P., Robson, J., Wai, C., Salter, K., & Lambert, T. (2016). *Health equity indicators for Ontario local public health agencies: User guide*. Limited hard copy, electronic distribution, originating in Canada, funded by Public Health Ontario.
- Antonello, D., Cohen, B., **Le Ber, M. J.**, Kothari, A., Lemieux, S., Moran, K., Salvaterra, R. P., Robson, J., Wai, C., Salter, K., & Lambert, T. (2016). *Develop and test indicators of Ontario local public health agency work to address the social determinants of health to reduce health inequities: Phase 2 report: A case study approach to pilot test indicators*. Limited hard copy, electronic distribution, originating in Canada, funded by Public Health Ontario.
- Pellizzari, R., Lemieux, S., Moran, K., Antonello, D., Robson, J., Wai, C., Kothari, A., Cohen, B., **Le Ber, M. J.**, Faulkner, A., Salter, K., Rizzi, K., & Lambert, T. (2015). *Develop and test indicators of Ontario local public health agency work to address the social determinants of health to reduce health inequities: Phase 1 report: Review of the literature*. Limited hard copy, electronic distribution, originating in Canada, funded by Public Health Ontario.

The Circle Women's Collective (<https://thecircle.ca/>) of London requested that **Dr. Le Ber** work with them to research their approach to collective leadership. This project began July 1, 2015 and was funded by the Brescia Internal Research Grant (#06-2015) and titled "Organizational Culture and Leadership: Exploring the Practice of Leadership in a Women's Circle." Tracy Robinson was a graduate student and on the executive of The Circle when it began. The design of the project is a Collaborative Autoethnography (CAE) using an insider/outsider approach with Dr. Le Ber being the outsider. The research itself is completed. The CAE was done by 12 women from The Circle with my guidance. This is capacity building within our community. Tracy and Dr. Le Ber have presented the work at a number of academic conferences and they are preparing a manuscript for The Leadership Quarterly. However, knowledge mobilization within the practitioner community is still to come through infographics and social media.

**Dr. Le Ber** is a founding member of the Centre for Research on Health Equity and Social Inclusion (<http://crhesi.uwo.ca/>) located in London and continues to serve on its Steering Committee. It is a community-university partnership and so it was fitting that we apply to the SSHRC Partnership Development Grant. Dr. Le Ber is the Principal Investigator of a successful submission titled, "*Mobilizing Narratives for Policy & Social Change*." This \$200K grant over three years (2017-2020) is using a cross case comparison of cases in Poverty & Inequality; Discrimination, Marginalization, & Violence; Meaningful and Sustainable Work; and Legacies of Colonialization. (The website is being developed <http://narratives.ca/>). There are six community co-applicants/co-leads (four of whom are women) on this project as well as six academic co-applicants/co-leads all of whom are women with one exception. This is the second year of the project with continued high level of engagement. There have been eight

workshops in the first year (September 28, 2017; October 26, 2017; November 30, 2017; January 11, 2018; February 8, 2018; April 5, 2018; and June 26, 2018) including such narrative methods as live theatre (examining power dynamics between academia and community), harvesting poetry (as a reflexive practice), and visual art installation (of the murdered and missing indigenous women). The second workshop will be on November 30, 2018 (first one was September 20, 2018) using an arts-based approach to uncover the impact on our community of the current shift in the political landscape at the provincial and municipal levels. In addition, the community members on the team are fully embracing learning about the research methods, the type of literature review (Critical Interpretive Synthesis) and even data analysis using NVivo.

Pillar Nonprofit Network of London requested **Dr. Le Ber's** assistance with a submission to the Ontario Trillium Grant "*Mobilizing Stories for Community Impact & Systems Change (MoSt>Impact)*" Dr. Le Ber's role is as part of a three person core team leading and supporting the project. The request was for over \$500K but it was not funded. Submitted summer 2018.

**Dr. Le Ber** is a co-applicant on a Locally Driven Collaborative Project through Public Health Ontario titled, "Health Equity Indicator Evaluation."

(<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/ServicesAndTools/LDCP/Pages/default.aspx>) The projects are conceived and led by health units who invite academics to work with them. Co-applicants on this project are from Peterborough Public Health, Sudbury District Public Health, Toronto Public Health with an academic from University of Manitoba, one from Western University and myself. Dr. Le Ber's role as Co-applicant is to provide theoretical expertise to inform development of research design; guide data collection and participate in analysis, contribute to interpretation of findings. Dr. Le Ber's PhD student is conducting the work under collective supervision for this one year project with a completion date of February 28, 2019. All members of the team are women and the focus is evaluation of an earlier project by the same team in developing health equity indicators to ensure that all programs delivered by a local public health agency are equitable. A framework of social determinants of health was used.

**Dr. Le Ber** "GlobalMINDS @ Western" Dr. Le Ber's role on this Interdisciplinary Initiative at Western University is as a researcher, educator, and innovator and includes evaluation of the CREATE Kenya project; teaching in the Grad course "Global Mental Health System Innovation" GHS9014B, faculty for the Summer Institutes, mentor one of the student project teams (Team MAJOR). The project is in Machakos County, Kenya and has set up two social enterprises for individuals living with serious mental illness; a Print shop and a partnership with Eggpreneurs, a home based business raising chickens. Dr. Le Ber traveled to Kenya in the summer of 2017 to support and mentor the students in their work in the community. These projects are ongoing. CREATE stands for "**C**ommunity **RE**covery **A**chieved **T**hrough **E**ntrepreneurism." The current project (July 2016 – June 2019) builds on an earlier grant from Grand Challenges Canada (completed June 2016).

Campbell EE, Gilliland J, Dworatzek PD, De Vrijer B, Penava D, **Seabrook JA**. Socioeconomic status and adverse birth outcomes: A population-based Canadian sample. *Journal of biosocial science*. 2018 Jan;50(1):102-13.

A key finding from this study was that cannabis use during pregnancy was associated with an almost 3-fold increase in low birth weight, even after adjusting for variables like tobacco use, alcohol use, socioeconomic status, and past medical history. This was named one of the top 10

medical discoveries of 2017 among Lawson Health Research Institute (LHRI) scientists, and Dr. Seabrook was also interviewed about the study on CTV News:

<https://www.lawsonresearch.ca/news/year-review-lawson-research-highlights-2017>

**Seabrook JA**, Woods N, Clark A, de Vrijer B, Penava D, Gilliland J. The association between alcohol outlet accessibility and adverse birth outcomes: A retrospective cohort study. *Journal of neonatal-perinatal medicine*. 2018 Jan 1;11(1):71-7.

This study showed that greater proximity and density of alcohol outlets in neighbourhoods across Southwestern Ontario increased alcohol consumption among pregnant women, and that these alcohol outlets were more clustered in socioeconomically disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Dr. Seabrook was also interviewed on CTV News about this study:

<https://london.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=1328571>

**Seabrook J**, Biden C, Campbell E. Does the risk of exposure to marijuana outweigh the benefits of breastfeeding? A systematic review. *Canadian Journal of Midwifery Research and Practice*. 2017;16(2):8-16.

Based on findings in our systematic review, Dr. Seabrook and his co-authors recommend that medicinal marijuana not be recommended to mothers who breastfeed, because of the risk of poor neurobehavioural outcomes in neonates.

**Sharen, C. M.**, & McGowan, R. A. (2018). Invisible or Clichéd: How Are Women Represented in Business Cases? *Journal of Management Education*. Advance Online Publication.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/1052562918812154>

Receiving requests for journalism interviews.

Potential to have impact on writing and teaching of cases in business schools worldwide.

Young-Marcellin, J., & **Sharen, C.** (in press, 2018). Rise Asset Development: Scaling a social innovation. *Case Research Journal* (38)4.

Case featuring female protagonist in nonprofit sector.

As noted in the first entry, women are significantly underrepresented in business cases.

Neilson, L., Carroll, W. R., McGowan, R.G., & **Sharen, C.** *Women and Entrepreneurship: The Role of Postsecondary Pedagogy in Shaping Identity, Values, and Aspirations*. Data collection underway.

Ongoing research into the pedagogy of entrepreneurship and women's identity.

Curtis E. Tate Jr. Award for best case published in the *Case Research Journal* Volume 36. Received October 21, 2017 for **Sharen, C. (2016)**. The balancing act: Making tough decisions. [Special Issue on Women and Leadership]. *Case Research Journal* 36(4). Award value: \$1,500.

A teaching case that helps instructors illustrate gender bias by having students rate male and female versions of a CEO. Published in an international journal.

**Dr. Lisa Sunseri's** research has been about Oneida women in Canada, and how their roles and social conditions have been impacted historically by colonialism. Dr. Sunseri published a solo authored book on it in 2011 and the book has been reviewed by other scholars and adopted in few universities. She has also co-edited two books on issues connected to racism and Indigeneity, with an intersectional analysis of gender. The latest edition was released in 2017. In addition, Dr. Sunseri attended many scholarly conferences that discuss gender, and has been invited to speak about gender issues pertaining to Indigenous nations (and their relationship with Canadian State) at a few scholar engagement as well as community events. For example, last year the Women's Event Committee of London organized a panel discussion to commemorate Women's International Day, which focused on the specificities of Indigenous Women's lives, and she was one of the invited participants.

**Dr. Jasna Twynstra's** research which focuses on pregnancy related nutrition knowledge, education, and recommendation by health professionals is contributing to the lives of women in the community. For this project, she is concentrating on midwives and the types of nutrition topics they have experience with and what their recommendations are for these topics. Dr. Twynstra is in the process of launching a national survey to get an understanding of what midwives see in their practice, and the goal is to help increase their knowledge of the most common as well as some unique nutrition topics that are relevant to a healthy pregnancy.

**Dr. Sharareh Hekmat's** project entitled: "Situational Assessment of Pregnant Young Women in the Mukuru Slum, Nairobi, Kenya for Future Implementation of a Probiotic Yogurt Program", included a dietary and situational assessment for the development of a probiotic yogurt kitchen. This work was in collaboration with family health teams/centres and Western Heads East project. The goal was to decrease infant and maternal morbidity and mortality, and to increase overall health. This study focused on the needs of young pregnant women in the Mukuru slum, as this illustrates the urban poor population in Kenya. A dietary assessment was conducted to discover if nutritional inadequacies are faced by this population group. They were also interested to assess the feasibility of creating a yogurt kitchen in this area, through focus group discussions with both Health Care Professionals and patients.

## **Teaching:**

**Dr. Paul Barker's** POL 3320E benefits women in the community. For example, one student enrolled in 3320E (Women in Civic Leadership) assisted the head of the advisory committee for the London transit authority in gauging the beliefs of students.

**Dr. Wei Wei Da's** course is FS3340, a course on Family Resilience and particularly relevant for women and their role within families.

**Dr. Lara Descartes**, through the Family Studies practicum, places students in settings where they directly aid people in the community, the majority of whom are often women (Childreach clients, for example).

**Dr. Lara Descartes**, through Family Studies, constantly underscores the value of women and the need for sensitive and unbiased service provision.

**Dr. Lara Descartes**, as part of Family Studies, mentors alumnae in their post-graduate paths, working closely with ones who face more challenges than most, due mainly to different aspects of diversity including gender and also as first generation university students.

**Dr. Dominick Grace** teaches the Blazing Worlds course in Utopia/Dystopia and addresses how women are empowered and disempowered in the world.

**Dr. Lisa Jakubowski** mentors Sara Dungavell and nominated Sara for the Young Alumnae of Distinction Award and she won. She has now been nominated for the 2018 Saskatchewan Future 40 Award.

**Dr. Lisa Jakubowski** mentors Elise Maiolino. She is a CD/Women's Studies and working as a Special Assistant to the Prime Minister at present.

**Dr. June Matthews** employs gender sensitive pedagogy and asked students in three Professional Perspectives (HE2222F/G) classes to create artifacts based on a course topic of their choosing. These artifacts had to be hand-made, original works that depicted students' interpretation of any aspect of family life. Students could use any medium and any process to create this '*objet d'art*'. Students also had to submit a 350-word abstract describing their artifact, as well as a discussion paper on the theories/concepts represented. These '*objets d'art*' (e.g., quilts, wall hangings, paintings, dioramas, and other unique creations) were displayed during the Canadian Symposium held at the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre, Feb. 24-26, 2017. Participants from North America and overseas marveled at the students' creations and their conceptualizations of multiple aspects of the Home Economics profession. Many took photographs of the artifacts to share with their own students.

**Dr. Sara Morrison** mentored a high school student for her independent study on Women's Suffrage in Britain.

**Dr. Sara Morrison** engages in the informal encouragement of mature women (many retired professionals) to take history courses at Brescia adding breadth to the classroom experience for younger students.

**Dr. Sara Morrison and Dr. George Warecki** integrate women's histories into a total history of Canada, Britain, and Europe.

Sara Morrison's examples:

HISTORY 2403E Early Modern Europe and England in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries (essay version for History students) TAUGHT with

HISTORY 2103 Life and Death in Renaissance and Reformation Europe (non-essay electives)

***The role of women and gender is infused throughout this core history courses on Britain and Europe, c. 1450 to the present. The more recent stress on social and cultural history, rather than military and political history, provides more room for women's experiences.***

HISTORY 3440E The Virgin Queen (Elizabeth I and her Leadership style)

HISTORY 3432 F/G Victorian Britain

***By choosing the reigns of two female rulers, Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria, students explore the significance of "Queenship."***

HISTORY 2459G (essay)/HISTORY 2159B (non-essay elective) Midwives, Madonnas, Witches and Whores: Perceptions of Women in Early Modern Europe

***The title alone says it all for this course, which is popular with students of all ages, including mature students. Early modern male perceptions of women's roles are compared with those of contemporary women in sixteenth and seventeenth century Europe. The expanding research frontier in this subject provides new and exciting studies of women for comparison within a number of European countries.***

**Dr. Lisa Sunseri's** teaching includes gender as a major component of the content of her courses, if not the course itself is about gender relations. For, example, Lisa Sunseri has been the instructor of Sociology 3341F/G Social Construction Gender at Brescia for a number of years. In this course students examine gender relations, gendered norms, gender roles, and the contribution of women in our society, and abroad. They do so through readings, lectures, discussions, writing a research paper and working collaboratively as a team for a group presentation.

## **Public Presentations**

**Dr. Paul Barker** has given talks on leadership to women in high school.

**Dr. Andrew Chater** organized a talk by a prominent Canadian female political scientist, Elizabeth Riddell-Dixon. One talk took place at London's Central branch public library while the other talk was on Western campus.

**Dr. Helene Cummins** (2018) was interviewed by CBC Radio London on the wage realities of women's work outside of the home. The subject of gender and wage inequities of women's work intersects with her specialization in gender and equity, as well as my research in these same areas.

**Dr. Helene Cummins** (2018) was requested to give the keynote address at Cambridge City Hall for International Women's Day. The address was entitled, "Resilient and Strong Women: Pushing beyond Systemic and Structural Barriers". The lecture was attended by local residents' girls and boys, female and male adults, politicians, MP's, the Mayor of Cambridge, and the Soroptimist Club. Dr. Cummins' lecture examined current Canadian advances for girls and women, and what remains to be achieved in accessing equal and open corridors of opportunity for women in Canadian society.

**Dr. Helene Cummins** (2017) was an invited Keynote Speaker for Western's Teaching Support Centre for Navigating the Challenges of Graduate School for Women. The lecture, "Connecting for Success in the Academy and Beyond" was the opening talk that led the full day conference. This work noted how female students learn in the halls of academe and what patterns, processes, and policies need to be put in place for their achievement of success as graduate students.

**Dr. Wei Wei Da** (2019) will give a talk on Muslim immigrant women living in London.

**Dr. Wei Wei Da** (2018) has given a talk to a Chinese senior immigrant club about research on older Chinese immigrants.

**Dr. Nadine de Moras**, "Teaching gender of inanimate nouns in French as a Second Language." Fourth Forum in Innovative Approaches to Second Language Teaching (IASLT).. Language Learning Centre, Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Western University. April 13, 2018.

**Dr. Nadine de Moras**, "Teaching gender of inanimate nouns in French as a Second Language." Third Forum in Innovative Approaches to Second Language Teaching (IASLT).. Language Learning Centre, Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Western University. April 29, 2017.

**Dr. Nadine de Moras**, "International Students Learning French. Going Global." Brescia University College. April 6, 2018. "Teaching Grammatical Gender in French." Board of Trustees. Brescia University College. Feb. 07, 2018.

**Dr. Brian Diemert** will give a talk on Jennifer Egan's novel, *A Visit from the Good Squad*.

**Dr. Brian Diemert** gave a talk at Metropolitan United as part of their Time Out programme, on Kate Atkinson's novel, *Life After Life*.

**Jennifer Foley** (2017) gave a presentation on feminist pedagogy at the Southeastern Library Assessment Conference. The presentation was titled “Using Feminist Pedagogy to Create Meaningful Assessment for Learning in One-Shot Library Sessions”

**Dr. Dominick Grace** gave the keynote address at the Academic Conference on Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy (2017), “What I Do, and Why (I Think) It Matters” and included particular attention to *The Handmaid’s Tale*.

**Le Ber, M. J.** (2018, June). Empowering the Bold Women Leaders of Tomorrow. *Inspire & Inform*, sponsored by RBC. London, Ontario.

**Le Ber, M. J.** (2017, May). Leadership Development. *Business and Professional Women London*. London, Ontario.

**Le Ber, M. J.** (2018, February). Mobilizing Narratives for Policy and Social Change. *Graduate School of Business, University of Cape Town*, South Africa. The audience included the community members of the Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship (<https://www.gsb.uct.ac.za/berthacentre>).

**Dr. June Matthews** was invited to deliver The Canadian Home Economics Foundation’s **Gwen E. Leslie Memorial Lecture** at the opening of the Canadian Symposium XIV for Home Economics/Family Studies/Human Ecology/ Family and Consumer Science Education held at the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre, Feb. 24-26, 2017.

Co-organized, **Dr. June Matthews** with Anne Zok (Nutritional Manager of Hospitality Services) and FRESH Peer Educators, a Breakfast Fair in March 2017 at Western’s Wellness Education Centre. Interactive FRESH activities provide opportunities for our Food and Nutrition students to teach their peers about easy meal options and healthy ingredients and/or substitutions. It also gives visibility to our Food and Nutrition programs, and some young women have transferred from programs at Western to FN at Brescia.

From mid-July 2018 to October 16, 2018, **Dr. June Matthews** co-organized with Anne Zok (Nutrition Manager of Hospitality Services) the Western Food Symposium, held on Oct. 16, 2017. Dr. Matthews invited the keynote speaker and arranged a number of exhibitors for this day-long event. Over 100 students participated in our FRESH interactive cooking demo, and well over 300 students engaged with exhibitors to learn more about food systems from people and organizations who share a passion for sustainability.

As President of the Ontario Home Economics Association, **Dr. June Matthews** submitted a proposal to the Canadian Home Economics Foundation for the Doris Badir Leadership Award and was successful in receiving \$1000 to support a full-day Leadership Workshop at Brescia. She encourages current and future OHEA members to step forward and contribute to the advancement of their profession through unique leadership roles on Boards of Directors. The workshop was held on Nov. 17 with 57 registered participants. Five guest speakers provided inspiring advice.

**Dr. John Mitchell** participated in a speaker series at Riverside United Church and gave two talks on Stress, Health, and Coping and then Happiness and life Satisfaction (2016). Although men and women were invited, the majority of attendees were women.

**Dr. J. Seabrook** A key finding from one of J. Seabrook et al.'s study was that cannabis use during pregnancy was associated with an almost 3-fold increase in low birth weight, even after adjusting for variables like tobacco use, alcohol use, socioeconomic status, and past medical history. This was named one of the top 10 medical discoveries of 2017 among Lawson Health Research Institute (LHRI) scientists, and he was also interviewed about the study on CTV News:

<https://www.lawsonresearch.ca/news/year-review-lawson-research-highlights-2017>

[https://london.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=1111062&binId=1.1137796&playlistPageNum=1#\\_gus&\\_gucid=&\\_gup=twitter&\\_gsc=laJCfg](https://london.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=1111062&binId=1.1137796&playlistPageNum=1#_gus&_gucid=&_gup=twitter&_gsc=laJCfg)

Another of **Dr. Seabrook** et al.'s studies showed that greater proximity and density of alcohol outlets in neighbourhoods across Southwestern Ontario increased alcohol consumption among pregnant women, and that these alcohol outlets were more clustered in socioeconomically disadvantaged neighbourhoods. He was also interviewed on CTV News about this study:

<https://london.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=1328571>

Based on findings in a systematic review, the scholars recommend that medicinal marijuana not be recommended to mothers who breastfeed, because of the risk of poor neurobehavioural outcomes in neonates.

Based on **Dr. Seabrook** et al.'s study on medicinal marijuana use he was recently interviewed for Today's Parent Magazine which received considerable media attention:

<https://www.todayparent.com/baby/breastfeeding/is-it-safe-to-use-weed-while-breastfeeding/>

**Colleen Sharen** in Rae, S. (2018, January). Fundamentals of networking. *Business London Magazine*, 37. <http://postmediakiosk.milibris.com/reader/5c0babbb-09a7-4eef-83e6-27d7ee50c5c7?origin=/catalog/business-london-magazine/business-london-magazine/2018-01-05>

**Colleen Sharen** in Fish, S. (2017, September 27). Attention Students: Get ready for a rewarding career in the nonprofit sector. Retrieved October 3, 2017, from [https://charityvillage.com/content.aspx?topic=Attention\\_Students\\_Get\\_ready\\_for\\_a\\_rewarding\\_career\\_in\\_the\\_nonprofit\\_sector](https://charityvillage.com/content.aspx?topic=Attention_Students_Get_ready_for_a_rewarding_career_in_the_nonprofit_sector)

**Colleen Sharen** in Lewington, J., Business School News, Young women learn you don't have to be mean and bald to be an entrepreneur. *The Globe and Mail*. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/careers/business-education/young-women-learn-you-dont-have-to-be-mean-and-bald-to-be-an-entrepreneur/article31053826/>. Interview 22 July 2016.

**Colleen Sharen** in Lewington, J., Business School News in *the Globe and Mail*. Mention regarding the Just Own It! Entrepreneurship Boot Camp for High School Girls.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/careers/business-education/business-schools-get-a-road-map-for-change/article29635951/>. Publication 14 April 2016.

**Dr. Christine Tenk** delivered an invited talk "Like a Girl". (see video at <http://www.bringitgirls.ca/> - balloons, shapes, colours - all my talk)

**Dr. Christine Tenk** delivered an invited research talk, Inspiring Young Women in STEM 2016, Western University, London, ON, "*Rising past gender stereotypes*", March 6, 2016

**Dr. Christine Tenk** delivered the keynote address at the annual conference of the The Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health (OSNPPH) to speak about the psychology of eating. Invited keynote address, OSNPPH Nutrition Exchange 2016, Toronto, ON, "*Mindless Eating in our Toxic Food Environment*", May 13, 2016

**Caroline Whippey** (2019) is scheduled to give a talk about Brescia's history & our archives at the Metropolitan United Church speaker series.

Katie Holmes & **Caroline Whippey** (2018) participated in the London Heritage Fair with a display on Brescia's history & archives. The event theme was "Celebrating Women in London"

**Caroline Whippey** (2017) gave a presentation at the London Public Library's "Terrific Tales of London" series titled "Brescia @100" about our history as a women's university & archival collection.

**George Warecki** (2018) hosted a visit to Brescia by Ms. Eugenia Kwok, Outreach Manager for the Wildlands League, a chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society.

## **Activities**

**Dr. Danielle Battram** advises Nutrition Ignition! And they have welcomed 1-2 Girl Guide groups into the food lab for a cooking night. Their outreach extends to schools and the Boys and Girls Club of London.

### **Brescia:**

**International Day of the Girl:** Grade 11 girls from local School Boards (TVCSB and LDCSB) Interactive full day session focused on women, empowerment and leadership.

**Just Own It:** Grade 10-12 girls, London Area  
Led by MOS Nonprofit Management program and opens possibilities for women to engage in leadership in their communities through entrepreneurship.

**MTS Girls Days:** Mother Teresa Secondary School  
LDCSB has a curriculum with guest speakers including rotating Brescia faculty.

**Hillfield Strathallan College Leadership day:** Hillfield Strathallan College students focused on our Leadership module with a guest lecture from a faculty member.

**LDCSB Student Leadership Conference:** LDCSB

Brescia will host and provide program integration through Campus Ministry – “living leadership”

**LDCSB Sept Leadership Day:** LDCSB

Invited to sponsor and provide guest faculty speaker on leadership topic, “ethics in leadership and decision-making” in 2018

**Teaching Leadership:** LDCSB Secondary School Teachers; Professional Development

Teachers who direct high school students’ council or instruct leadership at LDCSB. Professional Development session led by Dean and faculty member.

**Guidance Counsellor Breakfast:** Local area guidance counsellors

Local guidance counsellors invited to campus to engage with one of our faculty on a program or research area.

**Spark- women in leadership & politics:** Enriched students from TVDSB

Half-day session on Women in Leadership & Politics; mini lectures presented by faculty.

**Leadership Lectures by Invitation:** Local high school

On a regular basis we present and support classes within area schools. For example, at St. Thomas Aquinas “How to lead in business through a personal inventory”

**Girls LEAD:** Students entering 3/4 and 5/6/7

Summer day camp focused on leadership development and engagement with young girls.

**Girls LEAD St. Paul’s:** Students in 10/11 from St. Paul Convent School Hong Kong

Summer day camp focused on leadership development and engagement with young girls.

**Girls LEAD Hong Kong:** Students in 10/11 from schools in Hong Kong

Summer day camp focused on leadership development and engagement with young girls.

**Dr. Andrew Chater** was the faculty adviser for Brescia’s Free The Children Club. The club took up a collection for Anova, London’s women’s shelter and support service. Dr. Chater delivered the goods to Anova and supported the collection.

**Dr. Andrew Chater** supported Brescia’s Free The Children Club with a care package for an initiative calling Helping Our Norther Neighbours. Free the Children sent a care package to a mother in Nunavut for her family. The care package was to help a family in need, as food prices in Nunavut are often exceedingly high and out-of-reach for many, and the effort may be conveyed as part of a protest movement.

**Dr. Andrew Chater** teaches guitar at Iqaluit Music Camp, providing free music lessons to children in Nunavut, including many young women.

In being elected the Chair of the Status of Women Committee for OCUFA (2010-2016) **Dr. Helene Cummins** role was to respond, build, and work for diversity and equity change and opportunities for women academics and librarians in the Ontario university system. Upon finishing her term, Dr. Cummins requested to the Executive of OCUFA, and its Director, Dr Mark Rosenfeld, through a Committee, to

change its name to the Status of Women and Equity Committee (SWEC) to keep the name and focus current and evolving as it relates to equity seeking groups and experiences.

**Dr. Helene Cummins** continues to represent our university on SWEC for OCUFA to broaden the diversity and equity horizons for colleagues and other women through this connection.

The French Club was created in the summer with the support of **Dr. Nadine de Moras**. After attending meetings, advertising the club, making a poster, and gathering a list of interested students in September, sending and answering e-mails in October, the French Club started in November (60 members). Students meet regularly during the year to practice their French, listen to Francophone music, watch Francophone movies, meet with native speakers, and meet with other French students.

**Dr. Sharareh Hekmat** is a member of the steering committee in Western Heads East program (WHE-Western University) and trained more than 60 interns on how to prepare probiotic yogurt, establish safety standards, and avoid bacterial contamination of the mother cultures before their departure to Tanzania and Kenya. These interns were responsible for educating African communities about the health benefits and manufacture of probiotic yogurt, while establishing a health program based on cow's milk and yogurt production. She has also been involved with the African Institute at Western University. This institute is an interdisciplinary research group dedicated to collaborative research throughout the African continent. Dr. Hekmat's experience with Western Heads East (WHE) has helped her explore new research opportunities within the Institute and with other African institutions.

**Melissa Jean** is a Volunteer Site Assessor for WBE Canada (<https://wbecanada.ca/>) sharing her knowledge with women outside of the Brescia community. WBE Canada certified Canadian B2B businesses that are at least 51% owned, managed and controlled by women to support access to government and corporate supply chains. In addition to providing a third-party certification, the organization provides mentoring, training, and networking opportunities for certified members in order to help women-led businesses achieve higher growth.

**Dr. Marlene Janzen Le Ber** was the Co-Chair for BresciaLEAD Awards Gala in 2016 and a Member of the organizing committee in 2018. The choice of the keynote speaker was intentionally for educational purposes. She wrote the request for Geena Davis to speak on unconscious bias for the 2016 event. The design of the evening to have the recipients of the awards to speak was to inform and to inspire the audience.

While **Dr. Le Ber** regularly speaks at academic conferences, she is intentional about speaking at practitioner/academic conferences, i.e. International Leadership Association, Women and Leadership Affinity Group, and the biennial International Symposium on Cross Sector Social Interactions.

**Dr. Le Ber** was the only Canadian woman invited to the 1st Women and Leadership Transatlantic Dialogue that occurred in Brussels, Belgium October 11, 2017. Nineteen American women and 20 European women participated in identifying the top seven global trends for women in leadership. At most, only half of the women were academics. The anticipated follow-up work on these issues has not yet been organized.

Students and faculty from Western University have contacted **Dr. Le Ber** to speak about women and leadership informally. Law, Engineering, and Medicine are the Faculties most concerned about the lack

of women in leadership in their professions. Most recently, she has a meeting set in December with a women physician from Schulich regarding the lack of women in leadership roles in medicine.

**Dr. Monika Lee** mentors young women poets, promoting and honouring them at events as well as reading and editing their work. In this area, she assists at the London Arts and Eco Festival, the London Literary Arts Festival, Wordfest, the Arts Project, Harmonia Press, and the Aeolian Hall.

**Dr. Monika Lee** volunteered at a Shelter for pregnant teens (Bethesda House).

**Dr. Monika Lee** is an activist for breastfeeding rights as part of an organization called Community Breastfeeding Awareness Committee.

As OHEA President, **Dr. June Matthews** wants to ensure that Ontario post-secondary students in Home Economics-related programs have the opportunity to learn about the profession of Home Economics, the professional designation (P.H.Ec.) conferred by belonging to OHEA, and the career paths that are open to them with this designation. Dr. Matthews currently mentors two students through OHEA's online program, *An Introduction to Professional Practice in Home Economics*. (They are graduates from the University of Guelph, who did not have the opportunity to obtain the P.H.Ec. designation through their program.) These young women value the chance to obtain this professional designation and to further their careers through the networking and professional development opportunities afforded by OHEA membership.

**Dr. June Matthews** assisted Lesley Macaskill (VP Professional Development on our Ontario Home Economics Association [OHEA] Executive, and chief organizer of the OHEA conferences), other P.H.Ec. colleagues, and several Brescia students in organizing the provincial OHEA conference at Brescia on March 24, 2018. Out of a total of 159 conference attendees, 69 students were in attendance, 64 of whom were Brescia students! The widespread sentiment expressed by conference attendees was that this was one of the best conferences ever held by OHEA. Many Association members want it to be held at Brescia again next year (forthcoming on Saturday, March 23, 2019).

**Dr. Colleen O'Connor** currently works with a 'Fermented Foods Hub' in London consisting of researchers, entrepreneurs, London Economic Development Corporation and the City of London. Two of the local companies are led by women and Colleen's role is to identify nutritional benefits of their products to help market them through evidence-based claims.

**Colleen Sharen.** Women Entrepreneurship Strategy Ecosystem Fund Proposal.

In partnership with the London Economic Development Commission and Innovation Works, Melissa Jean and I helped to develop a five-year grant proposal (\$300K per year) to the Government of Canada's Women Entrepreneurship Strategy Ecosystem Fund. Brescia will coordinate activity to promote and support postsecondary women (from across London and area) in entrepreneurship. November 2018.

**Colleen Sharen.** Co-chair, Curriculum and Program Development, Just Own It! High school girls' entrepreneurship and social enterprise conference. April 10, 2019.

**Colleen Sharen.** Workshop leader, Exploring Leadership in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, SPARK High school outreach conference. April 24, 2018.

- Colleen Sharen.** Co-chair, Curriculum and Program Development, Just Own It! High school girls' entrepreneurship and social enterprise conference. April 12, 2018.
- Colleen Sharen.** Judge, Take the Lead public speaking competition. Brescia University College, 1 April 2017.
- Colleen Sharen.** Faculty Director, "Just Own It" High School Girls Entrepreneurship Conference. Hosted 220 high school girls and their teachers in an experiential learning conference on entrepreneurship, London, ON, 19 February 2016.
- Colleen Sharen.** Faculty Director, "Just Own It" High School Girls Entrepreneurship Conference. Hosted 220 high school girls and their teachers in an experiential learning conference on entrepreneurship, London, ON, 20 February 2015.
- Colleen Sharen.** Faculty Director, "Just Own It" Summer Entrepreneurship Boot Camp for High School Girls. Hosted 50 girls over two weeks. Created entrepreneurship curriculum to expose girls to an authentic entrepreneurial experience, London, ON, 25-29 June 2015 and 6-10 July 2015.
- Colleen Sharen.** Guest Speaker, International Women's Day, Women in Communication and Technology, London, ON, 8 March 2016.
- Colleen Sharen.** Member Community Funding Panel, Verge Social Capital, London, ON, 30 September 2015 & 25 January 2016.
- Colleen Sharen.** Co-organized and hosted Women's Angel Investor Event with the Southwestern Ontario Angel's Group (SWOAG) to attract more women to be investors in new ventures, London, ON, 4 June 2015.
- Colleen Sharen.** Marketing Committee Member, Pillar Nonprofit Network, Social Innovation Shared Space-Innovation Works. Developed branding strategy and new brand identity, London, ON, August 2014-June 2015.
- Colleen Sharen.** IBK-Ivey International Business Plan Competition. Preliminary Round Judge, London, ON, 20 January 2014; 21 January 2015; 23 January 2016.
- Colleen Sharen.** Member, Board of Directors, Family Service Thames Valley, London, ON, June 2014-June 2016.
- Colleen Sharen.** *Claiming and trading your expertise—A vital networking skill* presented at McKenzie Lake Lawyers, LLP Women in Leadership event, 7 June 2018.
- Colleen Sharen.** *Rethinking Networking: Forget the Ladies Who Lunch* presented at the regular meeting of Women in Communications and Technology, 6 April 2017; and, to MacKenzie Lake Lawyers, LLP, 24 May 2017.
- Colleen Sharen.** *The Red Rubber Boot Club: How Breaking the Rules Helped Me Get Unstuck.* Mondays Inspirational Speakers Series. London, ON, 13 June 2016.

**Colleen Sharen.** *Developing Leaders @ Brescia: Experiential and Community Based Learning.* Business Connections Networking Group. London, ON, 20 April 2016.

**Colleen Sharen.** *Collaborative Partnerships: Strategies for Difficult Times.* Workshop Pillar Nonprofit Network. London, ON, 23 March 2016.

**Dr. Lisa Sunseri** has been a member of the regional branch of the Ontario Native Women's Association of Canada for a number of years. Dr. Sunseri was also a Board of Director of Atlohsa Native Family Services in London for five years, until 2015. Dr. Sunseri has strong connection to the Oneida community, and the larger urban Indigenous community.

**Dr. Jennifer Sutton** is a Girl Guide leader (Guiders) with the 1<sup>st</sup> Lambeth Brownies.

**Dr. Jennifer Sutton's** NSERC allows her to hire research assistants (HQP- contributions to Highly Qualified Personnel) each year to gain research experience, including attending conferences when possible.

**Dr. Christine Tenk** was co-organizer of the Bring It girls conference, May 7, 2016. Attended by 250 girls in grades 6 – 8, this conference aimed to empower these girls and help them build their self-confidence and self-worth. This conference also provided experiential leadership opportunities for 28 Brescia students. 53% of youth leaders positions were filled by Brescia students compared to 4% in first year. Also delivered invited talk "Like a Girl". (see video at <http://www.bringitgirls.ca/> - balloons, shapes, colours)

**Dr. Christine Tenk** was developing a professional network of women who strive for the empowerment and equality of women & girls. She made connections with leading professional women such as Lorraine Lafrenière (CEO – Coaching Association of Canada), Isabelle Cayer (Senior Consultant – Coaching Association of Canada), Karin Lofstrom (Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport and Physical Activity). She has also connected with the professional athletes, Tessa Virtue & Scott Moir, as well as other academics such as Anabel Quan-Hasse at Western University. This network allowed her to have a video introduction by Tessa Virtue for the Bring It Girls conference in May 2016.

**Dr. Christine Tenk** has been the faculty advisor for the student group, Brescia Psychology Association since 2010. Every year Christine Tenk coached the women in this club and help them run a fund raiser to collect funds for the London Abused Women's Centre (LAWC). Moreover, the group holds scarf-knitting events where handmade scarves are "arm knit" and then also donated to LAWC.