



Shaping the World
Lives of Service Begin Here



BURMAN UNIVERSITY
STEPS INTO THE FUTURE.

Burman Overview

Our Mission

Burman University will educate students to think with discernment, to believe with insight and commitment, and to act with confidence, compassion, and competence.

Facts about Burman

- 454** Enrolment, Fall 2018. *Small classes make students feel connected to professors and fellow students.*
- 11:1** Student-to-professor ratio. *Small class sizes keep the attention personal and the quality high.*
- 41** Professors. *83 percent of our teaching faculty have earned PhDs.*
- 35** Majors. *From biology to music, from International Studies to Wellness Management, students can pursue their passions and brighten their future.*
- 37** Approximate number of countries represented. *We rejoice in our diverse student population.*
- 30+** Registered student clubs. *We foster different cultures, hobbies, interests, and avocations.*
- 327+** Choir members attended the 40th Anniversary Choir Reunion, April, 2018. *The basses generated so much power that the risers shook!*
- 1050+** Students involved in Acronaires during its 45-year history. *There have been too many handstands to count.*



Burman students smile as they anticipate a new academic year.



Leduc, 1907



Renovated chicken house serving as the men's dormitory. Farm near Leduc, 1908



North Hall, Lacombe, 1909



Assembly Hall, 1920

The Shape of Things to Come

The University's founders, Charles and Leona Burman, lived lives of faith and service—and had a vision of shaping the lives of young people in Alberta. These students would, in turn, shape the world.

In 1907, to offer a practical Christian education, the Burmans rented a building in Leduc, planned a curriculum, and headed up the faculty. A few months later, when an academic institution was planned, the shape of their lives—and of the school itself—changed: students were taught in a gabled farmhouse; the men's dormitory was a renovated chicken house.

But new shapes were on the horizon. When the school moved to Lacombe, most of the activities took place under the gambrel roof of North Hall, a renovated barn. Some women were housed in a small laundry building; the "plump girls" slept in tents that first winter. Later the Assembly Hall pointed its spire to the sky.

Today, the institution that bears the name of Charles and Leona Burman has a different appearance, but, like the Burmans, it continues to shape the lives of young people and to prepare them for a wide range of careers, with an ever-present emphasis on service values.

Charles and Leona Burman entrusted us with an inspiring heritage. Won't you help us share it with future generations, students who will shape the world?



The "Hilltop." Located in picturesque Lacombe, Alberta—a city that MoneySense.ca says is among the five best places to live in Canada—Burman University is surrounded by parkland.

A Legacy of Shaping Lives

A Message from the President

For more than 100 years, Burman, the only Seventh-day Adventist university in Canada, has shaped the lives of thousands of students. Along the way, there have been challenges—a fire, debt, and a decades-long quest for provincial accreditation. But the sacrifices and investments made by our predecessors have been invaluable: alumni, with their discernment, commitment, and compassion, are doing great things in Alberta, in Canada, and around the world.

Today we face new challenges and opportunities. We have a responsibility to students of the future who deserve the best learning environment, transformative education, and experiences that will motivate and enable them to serve others. To provide these, we've begun the SHAPING THE WORLD campaign.

We are committed to three goals:

- **Library Transformation.** With your help, we can provide students with enhanced opportunities to learn, connect, and belong.
- **Student Success Initiatives.** Together, we can ensure that no student is left behind because of financial struggles or challenges to accessibility. Together we can provide opportunities for involvement in professional communities and service.
- **Focus on Faculty and Programs.** Supported by your generosity, we can foster student learning by enhancing academic programs, strengthening faculty research, and enriching teaching skills.

The ultimate goal of the SHAPING THE WORLD campaign is to provide members of the Burman community with the resources necessary to achieve their academic and spiritual goals.

Please join us as we step into the future with—and for—the students of Burman University.



Loren Agrey, PhD
President

The \$10 million campaign introduced in the following pages is much more than an opportunity to support buildings, scholarships, faculty development, and programs. It's an investment in young people who have the capacity and motivation to shape the world!

Experiencing the rewards of community service begins at Burman in the first year. Here the president and a group of faculty, staff, and student volunteers gather before participating in Serve Lacombe Day.



At Burman University, we teach minds to think, hearts to care, and hands to serve.

Burman Prepares Students for Lives of Service

I had a dream of education," states Azalea Lehndorff, " but because my family was unsupportive, I had to find the money, look for opportunities, and leave home in order to get an education."

After graduation from high school, Azalea entered Burman University. "As I earned my degree, I imagined helping other women access education. While I was still an undergrad, I began my journey to build 100 classrooms in Afghanistan, especially to help the girls who had been forbidden by the Taliban to get an education. Schooling will help individual girls, but it is also the single greatest factor in improving a country's standard of living. I connected with A Better World, an international development organization that gave me direction, contacts, and mentorship."

In 2010, Azalea graduated from Burman with a BSc in Biology. Since then she has earned degrees in public health and medicine. She's now a general surgery resident at the University of British Columbia.

"Part of the education I received at Burman was the opportunity to think critically, to mature in my beliefs, and to act in a way that contributes to the local and global community," she says. "I'm grateful that Burman ensures that its students have opportunities for growth and service."

Girls in Afghanistan are also grateful. Azalea has raised more than \$1.3 million and has seen 100 classrooms completed.

It's anticipated that each year 17,000 Afghan students will benefit from the education they receive as a result of Azalea's efforts.



Khatoon Qala, one of the schools that benefitted from Azalea's care and concern.

In war-ravaged Afghanistan, Azalea Lehndorff is helping to create new educational opportunities, especially for girls.



A Burman Value: Service Isn't an Event—It's a Way of Life.

Two health professionals who received part of their undergraduate education on the Hilltop embody the Burman's legacy of service.

Ellsworth Wareham: Making a Contribution

"I feel like I have to make a contribution," states Ellsworth Wareham (JrCollege Science 1936), and so he did while he was a student on the Hilltop. He served as a chorister, class officer, and officer of the Promotion Association (now the Student Association).

Wareham continued his education, became a physician, and taught at the School of Medicine at Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA.

He also made critical contributions as a thoracic surgeon and a member of the Loma Linda Overseas Heart Surgery team. For more than 50 years, the Team established and enhanced heart surgery programs in 16 countries on four continents. Part of their work included training other physicians to continue their work. "Training people is the most rewarding experience," states Wareham.

At age 95, Wareham officially retired. He continued to speak about preventative medicine until his passing in 2018.

Lalitha Taylor: Improving the Quality of Lives

Lalitha Ramalingam Taylor, who attended Parkview Adventist Academy (PAA) and Burman University prior to transferring to the University of Alberta, was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis at age 19. This led to her decision to provide individuals with a greater quality of life.

As the Senior Dietitian for the Edmonton Southside Primary Care Network, Lalitha has a vision to strengthen community health by making healthy eating fun, understandable, and simple. She contributes to radio and media events, presents nutritional programs, and offers private nutrition services. She's won awards for her work and donates much of her time to her local community.

She states, "Burman and PAA instilled a passion in me for service. Collecting clothes for Bolivia, singing with 'Joyful Voices,' or serving food at soup kitchens, I learned that the world becomes warmer and more compassionate when you connect with individuals and improve the quality of their lives."



Ellsworth Wareham, through his focus on thoracic surgery and preventative medicine, contributed to the health of thousands.



Lalitha Taylor shares her knowledge of nutrition at clinics, schools, and community events.

Alumni are Empowered to Serve

Many alumni believe that their education and experiences on the Hilltop were transformational.

Bruce Bell: Volunteering

"There was a lot of 'book-learning' when I was in school," states Bruce Bell (HS 1975), a farmer in Sylvan Lake, AB, "but my education went far beyond academics. Teachers modeled excellence and service and inspired me to follow in their footsteps."

In the past, Bell volunteered in Nicaragua and Kenya. Today he supports his local church and church school, and he regularly serves at the Sylvan Lake Food Bank and the Red Deer Soup Kitchen. "I've found such a satisfaction in service," he says. "I pray that all Burman students have a similar opportunity to bless others."

Bruce Bell was inspired by mentors. ▶



Loney and Ronda Ziakris: Empowering Associate Campaign Chairs

Loney Ziakris (BEd 1993) and Ronda Wombold Ziakris (BEd 1993) took some important first steps at Burman University. "That's where we met," says Ronda. "And where we embraced the idea of service," adds Loney. Wanting to help people understand their rights, Loney became a lawyer. Interested in shaping the lives of children, Ronda became an educator.

Burman helped them reach their goals. In their professional lives and in their role as associate chairs of the Shaping the World campaign team, they encourage and empower others to stride confidently towards the future.

◀ *The Ziakris model service.*

Library Transformation

Enhanced Opportunities to Learn, Connect, and Belong

A vibrant library is the cornerstone of educational institutions and communities, a key gathering and learning space. It's an intellectual centre, a place where learning, scholarship, and technology meet. It's a place where people learn to find, evaluate, and use real world information.

The existing library was originally built in 1950 to serve as a cafeteria and college store. In 1964, with the quintessential can-do Canadian spirit, the building was repurposed for a library. The serving area became the library stacks and the cold room was transformed into the special collections room.

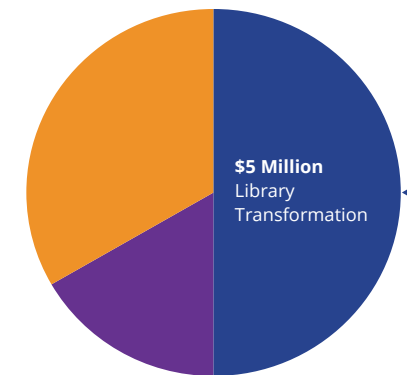
Today, with a carefully selected print collection and electronic access to the resources of a multitude of academic libraries, students can access a wealth of information. However, the building itself has never been ideally updated as a place for academic growth.

Yesterday's facilities won't adequately serve students for tomorrow. In today's increasingly accessible and digital world, renovations are needed to transform the campus library into an even more relevant place to work, live, and learn.

Of course, proposed upgrades will result in great energy efficiency, better air quality, more natural light, and greater comfort...but that's not all.

A modernized facility will offer our students the best academic print and digital resources. It will not only feature quiet places for study and reflection, but it will also provide collaborative learning spaces and meeting rooms for student clubs, lectures, and community events. It will be a place where students and the community meet to interact intellectually and socially.

The transformed library will be a place where people can learn, connect, and belong.



Imagine how a transformed library will help students and faculty to shape their lives.

Libraries are places to interact.

Proposed renovated library and learning commons, southwest view.



Student Success

Scholarships, Physical Accessibility, Internships, and Service

Education is a gift; however, not everyone is able to access higher education in order to move forward to greater understanding, faith, and service.

No Student Left Behind

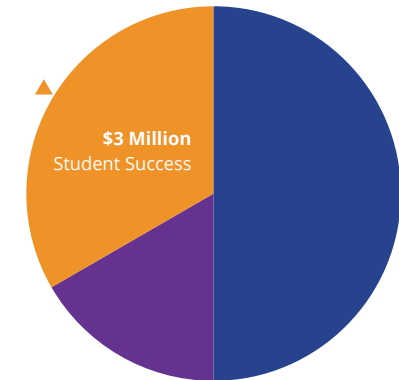
Scholarships can be the deciding factor for enrolment for some students. We currently make available \$1.4 million in entrance scholarships. This amount plays a vital role for many, but we are called to do even more for academically gifted students and for those who face economic hardships.

Burman University welcomes students, but the campus, with its multi-storied buildings located on a hilltop, proves challenging for people with disabilities and mobility issues. Additional ramps are needed, as are elevators and barrier-free washrooms.

Learning Today—Leading Tomorrow

Students come to Burman to prepare themselves for careers. While some students participate in practica—student teaching for example—others do not have the benefit of work experience. An active internship program would equip students to act with more confidence and would enable them to make connections for future employment.

Service is a core value at Burman University. We encourage students to be keenly involved in service and mission, not only while they attend the University, but also in their careers. The majority of the student body is involved in volunteer projects, but we want to ensure that students are even better prepared to act with compassion and commitment. Funds will provide a small subsidy for students involved in service programs and make it possible to hire a service and internship coordinator.



Imagine how students can shape their lives when barriers are removed. Imagine how students who have learned skills and attitudes of commitment, compassion, and human dignity will shape the world.

Supported by your generosity, Burman University will become a fully accessible place where students can learn to think, believe, and act.

Burman students serving in a Red Deer soup kitchen know that service isn't an event—it's a way of life.



Focus on Faculty and Programs

Increased Opportunities to Research and Share

At Burman, faculty are passionate about education and are committed to excellence in the classroom.

Faculty Training and Recruitment

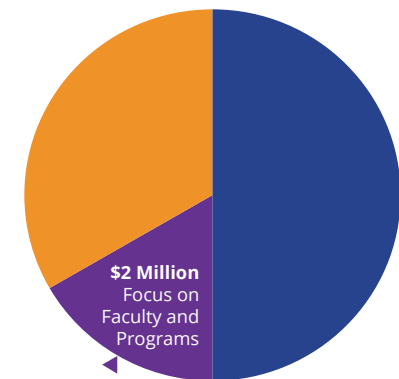
Professors know that participating in workshops and classes will hone their skills, allowing them to foster student learning even more effectively.

Hiring new faculty is an on-going process. As programs expand or as faculty retire, it's important to bring candidates to campus to interview, to meet students, and to connect with potential colleagues. Incentives for exceptional candidates will attract additional qualified applicants.

Program Enhancements and Research

Because their goal is student success, professors strive to access emerging opportunities and program enhancements. They also wish to increase research productivity to fulfill provincial requirements and to benefit students, the community, and the world. Such goals may require research personnel, specialized equipment, and summer travel.

Currently some professors are exploring the possibility of community-based research, using their expertise and student assistants, to support a local community with a project that needs to be addressed, perhaps related to health or the environment. This can enhance a professor's knowledge and fulfill provincial requirements and will also provide practical mentorship for students and service to the community.



Capital gifts and endowments will make it possible to provide on-going support to faculty training, recruitment, and research, and to make program enhancements a reality.

Imagine how increased opportunities will help faculty shape the world.

Growing in Knowledge and Wisdom

The influence of Burman professors helped Jake Trepanier (BBA International Business Track, 2011) reach his goals. Jake, the owner of Vitrierie Claude in Granby, QC, heads up a team of building and renovation specialists. He states, "At Burman, I learned finance, marketing, and organizational behaviour, but more importantly, I rediscovered *la confiance*—trust. And I grew in *ma foi*—my faith. Burman, my family, and God are responsible for my success."

As Burman professors teach and research, they foster learning and student success.



Burman is Serving...

The Community

- 160** Participants in Serve Lacombe Day 2018. *We serve.*
- 90** Percent of faculty and staff involved in service annually. *We model service.*
- 166** Graduates teaching in SDA primary and secondary schools in Canada. *That's 47 percent of the work force.*
- 1000+** Burman alumni volunteering with food banks, literacy initiatives, women's shelters, home and school associations. *And the list goes on—as does the light that shines from their lives.*

The Church

- 112** Graduates working as SDA pastors in Canada.
- 36** Alumni serving in Church administration or as support staff in Canada.

The World

- 415+** Alumni who worked as full-time missionaries. *They have served in 86 countries, including Bangladesh, Botswana, Lebanon, Laos, Fiji, and France.*
- 307** Student missionaries. *They have served in 69 countries—from Australia to Venezuela and places between. The list is a long one but their influence continues even longer.*



Peter Rick (attended 1907-11) was the first member of the Hilltop student community to walk the path of international service. In 1911, Peter sailed for India to work as a literature evangelist. Later, he served in Australia.



Jonathon Thorpe (BSc Biology, 2007) is one of the many Burman alumni who are currently serving internationally. An attending physician in internal medicine and the Chief Operating Officer at Scheer Memorial Adventist Hospital, Nepal, Jonathon states that Burman provided him with an environment to hone his character and helped him develop into a professional.

Alumni from the Hilltop have served as full-time workers in 109 countries.



Alumni find satisfaction and meaning as they help shape the world.

Our Donors Model Commitment and Service

By their gifts, donors have shaped the campus of Burman University and the lives of the students who study here.

Since 1994, students have conducted experiments and learned in the Chan Shun Science Centre; they have studied and socialized in the Lindgren Atrium. Major donors Clarence and Rubie Lindgren, Howard and Judy Gimbel, and the Chan Shun Foundation inspired 1,400 other donors to make the centre a reality.

Elmar Sakala and his wife, Darilee, funded the renovation of the Success Centre that now bears their name. "I was given a second chance when I was a student on the Hilltop," states Elmar. "Because of this, I want current students to be able to experience that same grace and empowerment."



Elmar and Darilee Sakala rejoice that their donation helps students on their path to success.



Investing in the future, Howard and Judy Gimbel help students at Burman University.

The Chan Shun Science Centre: its construction was made possible by the generosity of donors.



Our Deep Responsibility

A Message from the Chair of the Campaign Advisory Team

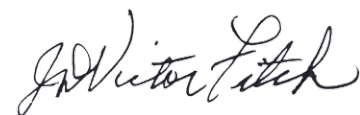
I stand firmly beside Burman University...and it's a good place to plant my feet. I'm honoured to spread the good news of the exciting possibilities that are present on the Hilltop, to encourage all of us to foster learning, belief, and action.

I know that Burman University is a catalyst for greater faith and service. My roots are on the Hilltop. I was a student there, gave my life to the Lord, prepared for my life of service, and met my wife, Gem.

I've also spent more than half my professional life on campus. As a dean, I sought to guide dorm residents to make the right decisions. Oh, we rough-housed and laughed, but we also prayed and worked. As a professor, I saw my students learn to balance equations and to balance their lives. I was president when the institution was given degree-granting status and was thankful for the perseverance of leaders who had brought us to this milestone.

Each of us is called to the deep responsibility of helping students shape their futures, of encouraging them to become the people they were created and called to be. With a transformed library and learning commons, with enhanced opportunities for student success, and with a renewed focus on faculty and programs, more young men and women will be able to study for the gospel ministry, to become caring and committed teachers, farmers, physicians, writers, trades people, accountants, and social workers—people who will use their heads, hearts, and hands for service.

I personally urge you to join me to invest in the students of Burman University—and to invest generously.



J.D. Victor Fitch
President Emeritus



Victor Fitch (right) visits with prospective donors ▶

Every Gift is Valued. Every Gift Shapes Lives.

Please reflect on how you might help shape the world through a gift to Burman University.

If you choose to give now, there are several ways you can help shape the world:

- *Gifts of Cash*—You can make a one-time gift; an annual, multi-year pledge; or a monthly donation.
- *Gifts of Stock and Securities*—Donating publicly traded securities is an easy and effective way to support Burman. You may donate stocks, bonds, futures, options, and shares in mutual funds without paying tax on the capital gain.
- *Gifts-in-Kind*—You may wish to give a gift-in-kind, e.g. building materials or saleable assets such as property. Every item will be reviewed individually.

If you choose to give in the future:

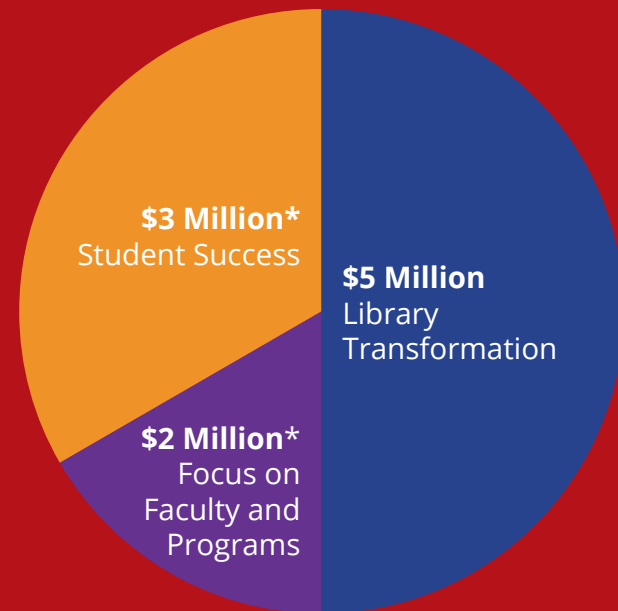
You can shape the world by remembering the University when you plan your estate. We would be happy to discuss options with you and your financial advisor. Consider some of the benefits of a gift in your will:

- There is no immediate cost to you. The gift will not reduce what you have to live on.
- You can make a larger gift than you could during your lifetime.
- Gifts made in the will can reduce or even eliminate final income tax.

You may wish to commemorate a special person or occasion:

- *Homecoming or Class Gifts*—Bonds with Hilltop classmates run deep. You may want to recognize your graduating cohort as you assist future graduates.
- *Gifts to Remember a Loved One*—You may wish to honour a family member, a member of the Burman community, or someone else who shaped your world. We can discuss ways, including a variety of naming opportunities, to reflect that special relationship.

Know that however you choose to support Burman, your gift will help shape the world!



**A portion of these projects may be endowed. If funds are endowed, this investment keeps on giving. The interest from \$1 million provides about \$50,000 each year.*

To discuss how you can support the **SHAPING THE WORLD** campaign, please contact

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The Sower

Located in the lobby of the Administration Building, this sculpture embodies several ideas: the agricultural heritage of Central Alberta, the commission to go into all the world and proclaim the gospel, and the concept that seeds sown on the Hilltop can bear an abundant harvest.



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