

# DISCOVER

Q&A WITH President Terrence Downey

If You Build It

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An Endowed Chair in Catholic Studies Celebrating Founders' Weekend Award Winners

## rom the STM President's <u>Office</u>

Dear Alumni and Friends,

The twilight of the 75th anniversary year of St. Thomas More College provides a distinctive perspective from which to appreciate the past and envision the future. We stand in awe of the remarkable legacy of the many dedicated Basilian Fathers whose deep commitment to Catholic post-secondary education created this remarkable college at the University of Saskatchewan. We are inspired by generations of distinguished STM graduates who, transformed by a Basilian education, have in turn devoted their expertise and energies to transforming the organizations, professions and communities in which they work and live -- a noble legacy indeed.

There is a saying that "nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in a lifetime" and this is certainly evident in the evolution of a college. There is still so much to be prioritized, initiated and accomplished as we move to the next generation in the storied history of St. Thomas More College. This is exactly as it should be. Successive generations have an unequivocal obligation to consistently enhance the achievements of their predecessors while confronting the unique challenges and opportunities presented by

Growing our already solid reputation as a leading Catholic college in Canada will be accomplished the future. through a number of exciting initiatives, such as an ambitious program of faculty renewal and the construction of a new building to house additional classrooms and student study space. I'm also particularly excited to commit to the establishment of an Endowed Chair in Catholic Studies, a new position in our College that will build on our Minor in Catholic Studies and ultimately create a Centre for Catholic Studies at STM.

Of course, we will also continue to facilitate the ongoing development and growth of a vibrant and engaged STM-Newman Alumni Association. So much of our success depends upon the support and encouragement of our nearly 8,500 alumni and friends living around the world.

We greet this future together with great confidence. All of us at STM recognize that we have been called to a unique and privileged opportunity to support and enable a pre-eminent Catholic college focused on providing students an appreciation of their own abilities, an understanding of their calling in life, and a desire to seek meaning and purpose. This is an educational vision that demands good teaching and small classes that are focused on preparing students to speak and write effectively, where all matters, including faith and belief, can be discussed, debated and contemplated in a respectful setting, a place that consistently invites and enables students to develop the disciplined habits of mind, body and spirit that define the well-educated individual.



This is what STM provides and it is both priceless and lasting. Priceless because we are in a position to transform lives; lasting because such transformations resonate through future generations.

Yours Truly,

President Terrence Downey

## NEW FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

**Paulette Hunter** (Department of Psychology) is a specialist in developmental psychology. She completed her Honours BA and MA in Psychology from the University of Regina, where she was a student at Campion College. She is nearing completion of her PhD in clinical psychology at the University of Regina. Her doctoral research, which is funded by a grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), deals with beliefs of health professionals about personhood in dementia and the resulting influence on patient care.

**Christopher Hrynkow** (Department of Religion and Culture) is a specialist in Christianity and ecology with advanced training in theology, as well as peace and conflict



Paulette Hunter



Christopher Hrynkow

studies. He has a wide and varied educational background, with degrees from the University of Manitoba (BA, BEd, and MEd), the London School of Economics (Hon BSc), the University of London (MA), University of Winnipeg (STM) and St. Michael's College, Toronto (MTS). He is completing a PhD at the University of Manitoba. He is also currently enrolled in a PhD program at the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto.

# NEWMAN PLAYERS' PRINCESS AND THE PEA



From October 21-23, Newman Players staged Michele L. Vacca's retelling of The Princess and the Pea. Directed by Richard Medernach, this entertaining version of Hans Christian Andersen's very short story was well received by full houses at each of its performances in the Fr. O'Donnell Auditorium.

Newman Players is the theatre group at St. Thomas More College offering students, faculty, staff and alumni opportunities to be part of high-calibre theatrical productions.

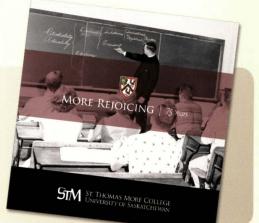
Visit www.stmcollege.ca/newmanplayers.

L - R: Simon Garez (Prince Valiant), Mike de Jong (King Max), Clarissa Kostiuk (Princess Olivia), Bethany Gaertner (Queen Maude), and Ian Elliott (Donald Dunce).

## More Rejoicing | 75 Years

Explore STM's history through the pages of the **75th Anniversary timeline booklet.** For your free copy call or email Dianne Anton at 966.8918 or danton@stmcollege.ca.

The booklet is also available to view online at www.stmcollege.ca/75.





Annual Academic Mass held in the STM Chapel.

## Celebrating Founders' Weekend

STM began its 75th academic year in September with a number of special events designed to reflect upon and celebrate the College's rich and vibrant history. The events took place over what was called Founders' Weekend, which spanned September 23-25.



Students at the Casino Royale Fundraiser.



Alumni and friends enjoying roulette and raising money for student awards at STM.

The Casino Royale Fundraiser took place on Friday night in the STM cafeteria and featured everything from roulette to blackjack to the crowd favourite, crown and anchor. While the gambling was done with 'funny money', the spirit of the event was as real as it gets. All proceeds generated from the evening were directed toward supporting student awards in the College. The Open House and Gallery Opening on Saturday afternoon featured an opportunity to learn more about STM's long history through historical storyboards on display in the gallery wing. An exhibition of alumni artwork was also on display.



Alumni and friends fill the Gallery Wing during STM's Open House and Gallery Opening.

Saturday Night at Ulcers was a special pub night held in Choices at STM, which was formerly the student-run food cooperative known as Ulcers. The evening included live music and comedy from STM alumni, including Sarah Farthing and STM's own Campus Minister, Michael MacLean, and Student Services Coordinator, Richard Medernach.

The beginning of the academic year was marked by the annual Academic Mass, which was held in the STM Chapel and celebrated by Bishop Donald Bolen and Bishop Bryan Bayda.

Congratulations, STM, on 75 years of distinguished service to Catholic post-secondary education!





STM alumna Sarah Farthing performs at the Saturday Night at Ulcers event held in Choices at STM.



Bishop Donald Bolen of the Saskatoon Diocese presides over the annual Academic Mass.



Dean Carl Still leads the Academic Procession into the STM Chapel.

## Visit www.stmcollege.ca/75 for information on STM's 75th anniversary celebrations, including photos and historical information.

## MORE REJOICING GALA

The 2011 More Rejoicing Gala, featuring world-renowned vocalist Anna Maria Kaufmann, was held on November 5 in the Adam Ballroom of the Delta Bessborough Hotel.

More than 240 STM alumni and friends gathered to celebrate St. Thomas More College's 75th Anniversary, with all the proceeds directed toward supporting student scholarships.

Thank you to all of our STM gala supporters – guests, sponsors, and volunteers – for making the 2011 More Rejoicing Gala a remarkable success.



Anna Maria Kaufmann performs to a packed house in the Adam Ballroom.

For more photos of the event, visit www.stmcollege.ca/75.



The Honourable Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart, S.O.M., Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, mingles with STM alumni and friends prior to the Gala.

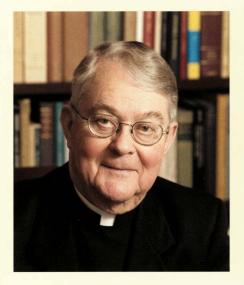


STM President Terrence Downey and his wife Margaret (far left) with Kaufmann and her mother, Ruth.

## Thank You to our Generous Sponsors



## The 23rd Keenan Memorial Lecture



Fr. James McConica, C.S.B., O.C.

On October 27, Fr. James McConica, C.S.B., O.C., delivered the 23rd Keenan Memorial Lecture in the Father O'Donnell Auditorium at St. Thomas More College. More than 80 people attended the lecture, which was followed by a wine and cheese reception.

Fr. McConica's lecture, entitled, "Is There a Catholic Humanism?", focused on the notion of humanism as it relates to religion, clarifying its history and aims, and emphasizing its constitutive role in the creation of a civil society. Dr. Terrence Downey, President of St. Thomas More College, offered a response to the lecture.

A Rhodes Scholar and President and Vice-chancellor Emeritus of the University of St. Michael's College, Toronto, Fr. McConica has held many academic positions, has lectured worldwide, and has received numerous honours, including the Order of Canada in 2000.

The Keenan Lecture honours the memory and achievements of STM's first Dean, Dr. Michael Keenan. The lecture is free of charge and open to the public.

## AWARD WINNERS



The Honourable Justice Peter Dielschneider (BA'54) receives the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Alumni Association president, Adam Day.



Mary Jo Leddy (BA'68) receives the Distinguised Alumna Award from Alumni Association president, Adam Day.

The STM Distinguished Alumni Awards are awarded annually to a female and male graduate of St. Thomas More College whose lifetime accomplishments and achievements have been outstanding, who have made a significant contribution to their community, and who have continued to celebrate their relationship with St. Thomas More College since their graduation. Distinguished Alumni are selected by the President of the College in consultation with the Committee of Distinguished Alumni of the STM-Newman Alumni Association. For complete biographies of the award winners, visit www.stmcollege.ca.

The Margaret Dutli Professional and Community Service Award recognizes sustained involvement in the scholarship of community service, defined as engagement of faculty with their larger communities for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources by faculty at STM.



*Mr.* Nicholas Jesson accepts the Margaret Dutli Professional and Community Service Award from STM Dean, Dr. Carl Still.



## **Q&A WITH PRESIDENT TERRENCE** DOWNEY

After serving as President of St. Mary's University College in Calgary for the past 12 years, Dr. Terrence Downey arrived in Saskatoon this past fall to assume the top job at STM College. We sat down with STM's 11th President to discuss family, the future, and what he likes best on the menu at Choices at STM.

#### Where were you born?

I was born and raised on a farm near Parker, Ontario. My parents were both born in rural southern Ontario. They were descendants of Irish settlers who came to Canada as a consequence of the great potato famine of the 1840's.

I had one older brother who is deceased and I have an older sister and a younger sister. My wife Margaret and I have four sons, seven daughters and six grandchildren.

#### Had you always planned to attend university?

None of my family had ever attended university, but I always had it in my mind to be at university. In this, I was greatly encouraged by my parents – neither had attended high school.

#### How important was your faith during your time as a student?

During my undergrad years, it was common for most Catholic students to practice their faith. I attended a Catholic college and was involved in all aspects of activities, including liturgy, Newman Club, and social justice initiatives. My faith has always been a central part of my life.

## STM has been celebrating its 75th anniversary throughout 2011. As you look forward, what are some of the primary challenges and opportunities for the college during the next 75 years?

No one can predict the future, of course, but there are some certainties, including the fact that STM, like all colleges and universities, is a living organism. As such, it must be constantly renewed and transformed. Among the challenges: the ongoing necessity to attract and retain high-quality faculty and staff; the need to constantly enhance the learning process through course and program development, thereby providing students with a vigorous learning environment that will inspire disciplined habits of mind, body and spirit.

The great opportunity for STM is that we know that the good liberal arts education we provide for our students stands the test of time in that it enables its graduates to function well in a rapidly changing society. When we inspire students to think and think seriously, we prepare them for anything they might face now or in an uncertain future.

## Post-secondary education has become increasingly competitive. What distinguishes STM from other Catholic liberal arts colleges in Canada?

One of the most obvious characteristics is the remarkable loyalty of those who have passed through the doors at STM. I have never met anyone who has been here that has not found the STM experience to be transformative. This suggests that STM's teaching and learning atmosphere instills students with the intellectual substance and confidence requisite to confront the challenges that society presents in their professional and their personal lives.

#### Over the course of your term as president, what do you see as the priorities for STM?

One of the immediate priorities is the establishment of the Chair of Catholic Studies that will enhance opportunities for our students to experience a more profound understanding and appreciation of their own faith, but also to seek an appreciation and understanding of other faiths and the other great faith traditions.

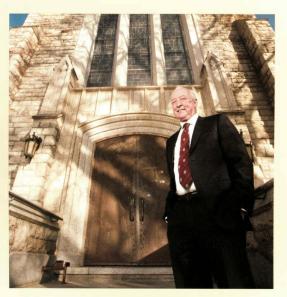
Part of this of course builds on and enhances the STM Catholic Studies Minor and the Social Justice Minor (both already in place), and the Community Service Learning program that enables our students to be engaged in society and have an appreciation of those whose lives, experiences and beliefs are significantly different from their own.

The second immediate priority relates to our facilities. STM is currently bursting at the seams: there is a pressing need for more classroom space, more study areas for students and more office space for faculty members where they can do their research and meet with students. It has been several decades since the last expansion to our physical plant and during that time, the number of students has increased significantly, as has the number of faculty and staff.

Another priority is to establish an effective fundraising program that will enable STM to continue to offer initiatives that enhance the student experience by ensuring that those who come to study here are given every opportunity to reach the full measure of their potential.

#### STM alumni have played a critical role in shaping the College's history. In your view, how can our alumni continue to contribute to the College's success in the years ahead?

I invite the alumni to stay connected with STM and to support and attend as many of our events whenever possible. Our graduates are superb role models and mentors for our students and can also assist us



"I HAVE NEVER MET ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN HERE THAT HAS NOT FOUND THE STM EXPERIENCE TO BE TRANSFORMATIVE."

with student recruitment by telling their friends and their communities about the excellent experience they had when they were enrolled at STM.

We also look to alumni for ongoing financial support for those new initiatives required to ensure that our current generation of students are well served by excellent faculty, committed staff support, and adequate facilities that together promote a vibrant STM community.

## Choices at STM is well known as the best place to eat on campus. What's your favourite item on the menu so far?

This is an extremely difficult question because every single item that is served at Choices at STM is superb. I could select the soup or the pasta specials. But perhaps best of all is the welcoming, fun atmosphere and Amy and her congenial staff. STM has the unique distinction of being a post-secondary institution where food is a major attraction. Unique indeed!

# IF YOU BUILD IT

For Derrin Raffey, CFO and Director of Administration at STM, there's no question that space is at a premium at St. Thomas More College.

"The last meaningful expansion to STM took place in 1967," he says. "Since then, our community's growth has outpaced our available building space. There's simply no question that we have to expand."

After an extensive needs assessment and consultation process, STM is proposing a physical expansion that will meet the needs of enrolment growth, anticipated increases to faculty complement, and accessibility requirements.

The proposed addition will be made to the existing building, alongside College Drive. It will add approximately 1,000 square feet of additional student study and lounge space and close to 4,000 square feet of new classroom space, which will allow STM to house more of its classes in the current building as opposed to elsewhere on campus. The new building will also increase the amount of office space and improve the way that students interact with faculty.

A new, modern, five-floor elevator will also be installed to improve accessibility throughout the college.

"It's no longer a question of if we need the space," says Raffey. "We need the additional space so that we can continue to be leaders in Catholic post-secondary education."

Through the support of an anticipated fundraising campaign beginning in the new year, it is expected that the expansion project will be completed in 2013.



Make a difference at STM today.

It's now easier than ever to support STM. Visit www.stmcollege.ca and click on the 'Donate now' button to make your tax-deductible gift.

## AN ENDOWED CHAIR IN CATHOLIC STUDIES

With its 75th anniversary celebrations coming to a close, STM's commitment to Catholic education has never been stronger.

"Time moves on and things change," says Dr. Terrence Downey, president of STM. "One thing that won't change is our very deep commitment to Catholic post-secondary education." "ONE THING THAT WON'T CHANGE IS OUR VERY DEEP COMMITMENT TO CATHOLIC POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION."

In order to foster and strengthen its Catholic identity, STM has included the establishment of an Endowed Chair in Catholic Studies in its long-range academic plan. The Endowed Chair in Catholic Studies will be a pre-eminent scholar in the area of Catholic Studies who will serve both the College and the wider community.

The creation of an Endowed Chair is also an important step in the evolution of the College in its post-Basilian era; it will not only anchor STM's Catholic Studies program, but also strengthen the College's Catholic identity and demonstrate its deep commitment to Catholic education.

"This is a tangible expression of our Catholic identity," says Downey. "We are committed to moving forward not only in ways that reflect our historical traditions, but that are also consistent with where we are today and our vision of where we see ourselves moving as a Catholic college federated with the University of Saskatchewan."

The Endowed Chair in Catholic Studies will also play a key role in the formation and professional development of teachers in the Catholic school system in Saskatchewan.

## PRIVATE BID ART AUCTION FUNDRAISER

As part of its 75th anniversary celebrations, St. Thomas More College is holding a Private Bid Art Auction in support of scholarships and bursaries



for STM students. Included in the auction are framed works by Canadian artists Greg Hardy, Robert N. Hurley, Joe Talirunili & Annie Amamatuak, Saul Field & Jean Townsend, and Bill Laing.

You are invited to a wine and cheese reception to view the works of art on Thursday, January 12, 2012, 4p.m. to 6p.m. St. Thomas More College – Chelsea Commons ( Room 231).

If you would like to view the art at an alternative time, contact Dianne Anton at 966.8918 or danton@stmcollege.ca.

#### To place your bid on these works, please visit www.stmcollege.ca/75.

Bids may be submitted at the January 12 reception or online until midnight, January 14, 2012. Successful bidders will be notified on Saturday, January 16, 2012.

Thank you to Henry and Cheryl Kloppenburg for their gracious donation of these works of art in support of St. Thomas More College.

CAN YOU THE A FULL WINDSOR?

Practice on your very own STM alumni silk tie Now available for only \$25!

Place your order by calling 306.966.8918 or 1.800.667.2019 or email danton@stmcollege.ca.

## IN MEMORIAM

"In death the relationship we have with the world is not abolished, but is rather for the first time completed." - Karl Rahner, SJ, theologian

Hilda Zunti Lyle Wright Jean Rozema Fr. Leo Hinz, O.S.B. Emma Helgert Joseph Kammermayer, BA '67 Joyce Dielschneider

OUR MISSION

As the Catholic liberal arts college federated with the University of Saskatchewan, St. Thomas More College courageously explores the "riches of Revelation and of nature so that the united endeavour of intelligence and faith will enable people to come to the full measure of their humanity" (Ex corde ecclesiae, 5). We are an inclusive community open to all persons. Through our teaching we are devoted to a partnership of learning and growth with our students which addresses the synthesis of faith and reason in all aspects of the human condition. The creative discovery of truth and its open dissemination nourishes our life as teachers and members of the wider academic and Catholic intellectual community. As a Catholic college we are called to share in Christ's service to the people of God. Thus, the work of our college is not an end in itself, but must find application for the good of humanity.

Dr. Patricia Witzel Dr. Eugene Tate Fr. Paul Donlevy Fr. Don McCarthy, C.S.B. Clemence April

If you know of any members of the STM community who, in the past year, have departed this world to enter into the Lord's presence, please let us know. Contact the St. Thomas More Main Office at (306) 966.8900.

### **Contact Our Office**

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www.stmcollege.ca

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