Archbishop Joseph N. MacNeil Outstanding Achievement Award

2014

The Archbishop Joseph N. MacNeil Outstanding Achievement Award is given out annually to a graduate of NTC who has demonstrated academic excellence, contributed to the building up of the College and Seminary community, demonstrated outstanding commitment to their faith in service to the wider community. This year’s recipient received full marks in all three areas.

First, our recipient has demonstrated academic excellence and will be graduating with distinction because of a high GPA. Professor of Biblical Studies Dr. Stephen Saulnier noted that “the recipient’s strong dedication to learning has been noted by the Faculty throughout her program and across the various disciplines of theology. The recipient’s commendable work ethic has no doubt contributed to her excellent overall academic achievement in her program of study, empowering in the process other students to do likewise. ‘Collaborative’ and ‘thoughtful’ are adjectives that capture well the recipient’s approach to ministry and classroom work.”

Secondly, the recipient has contributed an extraordinary amount of time and energy to building up the College and Seminary community. This year’s recipient was a member of student council throughout her four years of studies...
and served on council in a variety of positions including graduate student representative, secretary, elections officer, liturgical coordinator and president of student council. She also attended and volunteered at almost every College social event hosted throughout her four years of studies, often with her family in tow. Her commitment to the College and Seminary community extended beyond the campus walls as she frequently had seminarians over for dinner and graciously hosted at least four end of the semester potluck meals for the Lay Formation students at her home. In 2012 she was recognized by her fellow students for all that she had done to foster a sense of community at the College and was awarded the *Sr. Anne Honig Student Service Award*.

The third criteria that our recipient has demonstrated is a commitment to faith and to Christian values. Our recipient came to NTC in the fall of 2010 as a young mom with a new baby. She came because she believed that God was calling her to be a prison chaplain and she worked hard to accomplish that goal.

While studying our recipient was also involved in various ministries in her parish and at NTC serving as a cup minister, lector, acolyte and extraordinary minister of the Eucharist at a long term care facility where she brought the residents communion and visited with them regularly a couple of times each month for well over a year.
During one year of her studies she spent a couple of days each week working with the Campus Ministry Department at St. Joseph’s College providing a pastoral presence to the students and helping to organize a campus retreat and other events for the students.

In 2012 our recipient was selected as one of two NTC delegates to attend the *Canadian Theological Students Conference* in Ottawa and she represented us well. Wanting other NTC students to have a positive experience of ecumenism she helped to bring the following years conference to Edmonton so that Edmonton theology students could join students from across Canada for an experience of ecumenical engagement.

Our recipient has a heart for the poor and marginalized members of society. In her final year of studies she undertook a challenging field education placement as a chaplain-in-training at the Edmonton Institution, a maximum security prison for men. There she worked to bring the Christ’s presence to men incarcerated there. This experience prepared her to take on new and challenging learning and work experiences upon graduation. She is currently participating in a 10 month chaplaincy training program called Clinical Pastoral Education where she serves as a chaplain to the sick in an Edmonton Hospital two days a week and one
weekend a month. And she has answered the call that drew her to NTC in the first place by working as a part-time chaplain at the Edmonton Remand Center.

One final note, it must be noted that our recipient accomplished all of these things during her four years of studying at NTC while having a second baby and experiencing the loss of her father.

For exhibiting qualities of excellence, faith and service to the NTC and St. Joseph’s Seminary communities, the Church, the ecumenical community, and the world it is with great pleasure that we announce this year’s recipient of the Archbishop Joseph N. MacNeil Outstanding Achievement Award, Angela Veters.