

**A scholar
of significant
reputation**

**The History of the Campaign for the
Chair for Catholic Studies**

In 2012, philanthropists Leslie and Irene Dubé donated \$1 million to establish the Chair. Their lifelong dedication to the cause of Catholic education and furthering Catholic scholarship in our community and at STM College is truly inspiring. The Chair is named in their honour.

While continuing to fundraise to hire a scholar to fill the position of Chair, some of the proceeds from the fund have been used to sponsor the Leslie and Irene Dubé Chair for Catholic Studies Lecture Series. This lecture series has brought the knowledge and insight of distinguished scholars to STM to explore the intersections of faith and the intellectual life, ecumenism and interfaith dialogue, and ethical and moral issues in today's world.

The lecture series brings the scholarship of the world to serve the Catholic community in Saskatchewan. It allows us to be a leaven in our community by engaging the key issues of the day and inserting the Catholic voice into the public realm. Yet, the lecture series represents only a fraction of the potential envisioned by the Leslie and Irene Dubé Chair for Catholic Studies.

**Leading
the Way
in Catholic
Scholarship**

**LESLIE AND IRENE
DUBÉ CHAIR
FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES**



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ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN



St. Thomas More College is committed to completing the goal to fully fund the Leslie and Irene Dubé Chair for Catholic Studies. The Chair will contribute to the College's Certificate in Catholic Studies, engage in innovative research, and serve as a public scholar highlighting the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.

In addition to serving students through high quality scholarship, the Chair will be an important and accessible resource for the broader Catholic community including Dioceses and Eparchies, Catholic schools and hospitals, Catholic and secular media, parishes, religious organizations, and individuals. The scholarly work and leadership of the Chair will help distinguish the College's Catholic identity and strengthen its reputation as a leader in Catholic higher education in Canada.

The vision for the Leslie and Irene Dubé Chair for Catholic Studies proposes that the Chair will:

- 1) Be a prestigious academic position held by a scholar of significant reputation;
- 2) Distinguish our College as a reliable and authentic source of Catholic education;
- 3) Represent a significant opportunity for the College to expand its academic offerings in the area of Catholic Studies;
- 4) Preserve and broaden understandings of Catholicism in historical, contemporary, and cultural contexts;
- 5) Develop close relationships beyond the College and act as a scholarly resource for the wider Catholic community.

Catholic Agency and Community Support

The Chair will encourage dialogue about faith both on and off campus through public lectures, workshops, and seminars that explore Catholic teaching and tradition, and promote ecumenical and inter-faith dialogue. In addition, the Chair will be an accessible resource for the entire Catholic community, offering expertise and educational opportunities for those involved in Catholic health agencies, social agencies, and those involved in pastoral ministry.

What is the purpose of Leslie and Irene Dubé Chair for Catholic Studies?

The Chair of Catholic Studies supports a scholar (or scholars) whose teaching and research in the area of Catholic Studies, broadly defined to include early, classical

and contemporary iterations of Catholic teaching and tradition. It enhances dialogue between faith and reason, promotes ecumenism, and promotes an appreciation of the great faith traditions that shape life in the 21st century.

What will the Chair for Catholic Studies be expected to do?

The Chair for Catholic Studies is to encourage and foster the advancement of Catholic knowledge and education at STM through exemplary teaching and reputable research. The Chair is to be a source of intellectual leadership for STM and for the broader Catholic and local communities through an annual public lecture, guest lectures, invited presentations, availability to the Diocese, Catholic school boards and the Catholic and secular media for commentary and expertise on Catholic issues, and publications to be distributed to the local and provincial and national Catholic community including Catholic schools as appropriate.

A fully funded Chair will enable STM to name a respected scholar to act as a beacon of the Catholic intellectual tradition within our community and beyond. The Chair will continue the legacy bequeathed us by the Basilian Fathers. It will ensure that the best of Catholic scholarship remains publicly accessible by speaking widely and engaging with media on issues of critical interest to Catholics. As such, the Catholic intellectual tradition will remain a living tradition on the prairies, one with which our students and the wider Catholic community can interact for years to come.

**Foster the advancement
of Catholic knowledge**



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