

GROWTH FOR THE FUTURE

It is always wonderful to look back and remember all the ways in which God has led and blessed. But what about the future? We believe that MacDiv is strategically positioned to be one of the key players in educating and forming the next generation of Christian leaders for the Church. There are three key areas that currently need greater funding in our operating budget if we are going to continue to grow in excellence and impact.

- ◆ We need funding for three permanent faculty positions in the areas of New Testament, Systematic Theology and Practical Theology.
- ◆ We need funding for our administrative structure, especially in the areas of Academic Dean and support staff for our Development Office and Student Services.
- ◆ We need funding for student scholarships, especially as we grow in numbers and the cost of education increases.

LET'S KEEP GROWING

As a regular supporter of McMaster Divinity College, your donation to our annual fund goes straight toward the operating costs of the College. This helps us increase our teaching capacity, provide needed administrative support, and increase our financial aid to our students. Please know that we value your support and the partnership we have with you in this ministry. *Thank you!*

As we look together at the future, *will you continue to help us ensure that we grow effectively to meet the needs of the future?*

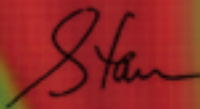
As a Friend of MacDiv, will you renew your commitment of \$1000 plus again?

This generous support makes a huge contribution to our ability to meet the growing costs of ministry preparation. We know you are as committed to the growth and development of the College as we are and look forward to your renewed support.

McMaster Divinity College - an evangelical, university-based seminary with a mission to develop effective, evangelical Christian leaders for the 21st century through university-level education, professional training and on-going support.

Your support makes this a reality!

For His Glory,



Stanley E. Porter, PhD
President and Dean

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now ..." Phil 1:3-5

Friends
of **macdiv**

BECOMING A FRIEND OF MACDIV IS NOW EVEN EASIER!

Becoming a Friend of MacDiv is easier and more convenient than ever before. Now you can make your \$1000 plus donation on our Pre-authorized Monthly Payment Plan. Check out the enclosed information and give us a call if we can be of further help.

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Embracing Growth
macdiv



Dear Friends,

Now that we are well into this new school year at the College, we want to pause to look back.

As we do that, it is abundantly clear that we have been blessed with a number of important developments this past year. And we are thankful! Thankful to God for giving us the strength and wisdom to do his work in this place. Thankful for our faculty and staff who have worked hard to ensure that our students have the best experience of theological education and ministry preparation possible. Thankful for our students who have committed, and sacrificed, so much to be here and to prepare for the work to which God is calling them.

Embracing Growth


And we are especially thankful for you – our supporters in this ministry of preparing men and women to be effective Christian leaders for the 21st century. Without your generous and faithful support, the growth and development that MacDiv has seen this past year would not have been possible. So thank you – be blessed in the knowledge that your gift has multiplied in its effectiveness through the work of the College.

Inside you will find a variety of news, features, and stories. We hope you will catch a glimpse of the many life-changing events that are taking place at the College. As you read, remember that this is your story too. Your gift has made it a reality.



Embracing Growth

macdiv

Last May 5th,

we celebrated with our Friends of MacDiv what God has done at the College in the last few years. The over-riding theme of the evening was Growth – growth in all areas from our students, to our faculty, and to our supporters. Let me share with you just some of the highlights of that evening...

I. GROWTH IN OUR STUDENTS

- ◆ Increasing number of new students:
 - ◆ 37 in 2001
 - ◆ 79 in 2005
- ◆ Continuing strong enrollment in our Master of Divinity program - our degree program with the largest number of students!
- ◆ Increasing number of students enrolling in our new MA and PhD programs

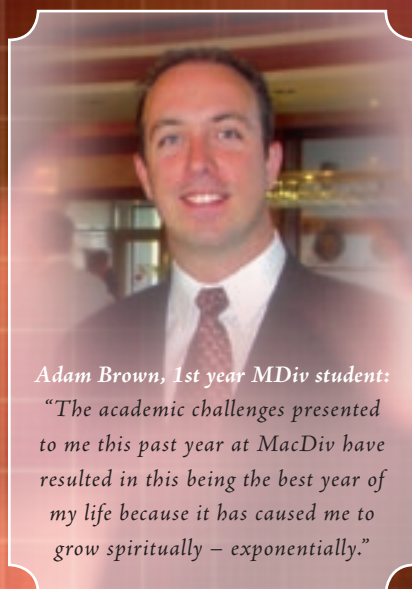
2. GROWTH IN GRADUATES

- ◆ 2004 and 2005 graduating classes were the largest in the history of the College:
 - ◆ 51 in 2004
 - ◆ 43 in 2005



Mark Boda, Professor, Old Testament:

“In my vocation and calling as a professor, I want to be a minister deeply committed to study, observance and teaching of the Old Testament and to faithfully mentoring a new generation of women and men, young and old, to study, observe and teach the word of God to a church and world craving for eternal truth.”



Adam Brown, 1st year MDiv student:

“The academic challenges presented to me this past year at MacDiv have resulted in this being the best year of my life because it has caused me to grow spiritually – exponentially.”

3. GROWTH IN FACULTY

- ◆ **Dr. James Peterson** – Professor in the Roy A. Hope Chair of Theology, Ethics and Christian Worldview (2003)
- ◆ **Dr. Mark Boda** – Professor of Old Testament (2003)
- ◆ **Dr. Gordon Heath** – Assistant Professor of Christian History (2004)
- ◆ **Dr. Cynthia Westfall** – Assistant Professor of New Testament (2005)
- ◆ **Jeffrey McPherson** – Lecturer in Theology (2005)



Leanne Friesen, MDiv 2005:

“So often we think that seminary needs to be a place where we learn all there is to know about how to do ministry. But MacDiv challenged me to also ask the ‘why’ questions. This is what has made my seminary experience so vital to my preparation for ministry.”

4. GROWTH IN SUPPORT

- ◆ Passed the \$100,000 mark in giving through our annual fund
- ◆ Pre-authorized Payment Plan now in place
- ◆ Friends of MacDiv Program increased to 45 from our original 18
- ◆ Additions to our endowments:
 - ◆ Roy A. Hope Chair of Theology, Ethics and Christian Worldview
 - ◆ Howard & Shirley Bentall Chair of Evangelical Thought
 - ◆ Elizabeth Pelot Memorial Bursary
 - ◆ Steady growth in our endowments and trust funds over the last five years, as we wisely manage the money entrusted to us

5. GROWTH IN IMPACT: GRADUATES IN MINISTRY

Our grads are moving into a variety of ministry positions in our churches and para-church settings. Here’s just a few examples from our May 2005 graduating class:

- ◆ Leanne Friesen, Mount Hamilton Baptist
- ◆ Ian MacLennan, Martin Grove Baptist, Etobicoke
- ◆ Peter Ott, Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship, McMaster University
- ◆ Wayne Sollows, McPhail Memorial Baptist, Ottawa
- ◆ David Williams, Priory Park Baptist, Guelph
- ◆ Luz Iglesias, Youth Mission and Education Manager, BCOQ Head Office
- ◆ Brenda Mann, Executive Director, BWOQ



OUR FACULTY IN THE PUBLIC ARENA

- ◆ **Gordon Heath** and **Jim Peterson** interviewed on the impact of the death of the Pope
 - ◆ **Jim Peterson** speaking on the Terry Schiavo case
 - ◆ **Stan Porter** speaking on *The Da Vinci Code* and preaching in several BCOQ churches
 - ◆ **Joyce Bellous** participating in an effective leadership consortium for the Free Methodist Church
 - ◆ **Mark Boda** speaking in churches across various denominations
 - ◆ **Michael Knowles** speaking on discipleship and preaching at Wycliffe College’s theology and discipleship conference
 - ◆ **Wendy Porter** leading many worship and music seminars in our local churches

As our student body increases, so does our **impact** as they minister in our extended MacDiv community – whether as students in their field education placements, or as graduates in our churches. Our faculty are increasingly sought after to provide resources for our churches. The impact that they have isn’t confined to the seminary classroom but is flowing out to our church communities. This is our vision – contributing to the growth of the church through the work of our faculty and students.

6. HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

At the end of our evening, we asked our guests to take home the little plants that were on their tables to remind them of the theme of growth. Several of you have stopped by the College to say that these little plants have grown and spread in their gardens. This symbolizes for me the growing and spreading impact of the College as it develops into the kind of seminary needed for serving the Church in the 21st century. And this growth can only take place as a result of the faithfulness of people like you. Your regular giving to the College has a multiplying effect on the ministry here because of its impact on our ability to grow. And for this we are truly grateful for God's goodness towards us.

It was a wonderful evening of praise and celebration, fun and fellowship.

*“Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen sound from his people again,
Gladly for aye we adore him!”*

Watch for
details of
our next
Celebration
Event in May
2006. You
won't want to
miss it!

