



CONCORDIA
University College of Alberta

Keeping Concordia's Alumni & Friends Connected & Informed

Award Nominations

Nominations are being accepted for the following special awards to be conferred by Concordia:

Christo et Ecclesiae Award: Recognizes commitment to Christ and the Church.

Distinguished Service Award: Recognizes exceptional service to the Church, to Concordia, or to society in general.

Distinguished Alumni Award

Particularly recognizes alumni who, by their record of accomplishment, have distinguished themselves and Concordia.

1. Nominees will be former students of Concordia who have made a significant contribution to their profession, to the community, to Concordia, and to the Church.
2. A nominee will have been an alumnus/a for at least twenty years.
3. Nominations must be submitted by another alumnus/a who has also secured support for the nomination from at least two other persons (pastor, faculty member, employer, etc.).
4. Nominees will have exemplified high moral qualities in their lives.

If you or someone you know meet the eligibility requirements I invite you to submit your nominations today! Please direct all nominations and award inquiries to: The President's Office
Concordia University College of Alberta
7128 Ada Blvd.

Edmonton, AB. T5B 4E4

Fax: 1-780-477-2930

E-mail: president@concordia.ab.ca

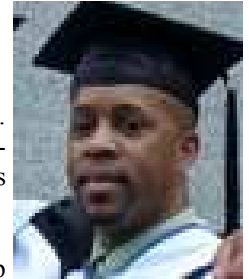
Nomination Deadline is February 18/08

Find-a-Friend by Adding Your Name
to the Alumni E-Mail Directory @
<http://www.concordia.ab.ca/alumni/>

For more information please contact
Kate O'Gorman, Development & Alumni Relations Officer @
(780)-479-9232 or email kate.ogorman@concordia.ab.ca

Alumni Profile: Richard Payne

Concordia is proud to have such a plethora of accomplished alumni. Our alma mater boasts and toasts its thriving community of graduates and this month's alumni profile features one of Concordia's finest — Richard Payne.



Richard received his B.A. in Sociology in 1999 and followed it up with a B.Ed. in 2001. When he wasn't hitting the books, Richard could be found on the soccer field or on the basketball court giving Concordia's Thunder his all. Sports and coaching in particular would continue to become a significant aspect of Richard's success.

Richard began his university career at Concordia in 1989. "I wasn't the model student in the beginning," he admits. Those first formative years may have been uncertain but an important relationship began to develop between Richard and then university basketball coach Keith Kruse which would become a guiding force in Richard's life and ultimately contribute to his many accomplishments. Keith not only became Richard's coach but he became a counselor and a mentor and that meant everything according to the alumnus. On and off the court, the student and the coach kept in touch and the not-so-model student began to flourish under the mentorship he received at Concordia.

Someone else who had a strong influence in Richard's academic pursuits was Bernie Potvin, former Director of Education. "Bernie was instrumental in my decision to enter the Education program at Concordia," claims Richard. "He did a lot for me." Today, Richard teaches the eighth grade at Central Middle School in Dawson Creek, B.C. where he has been expanding young minds for the past seven years. He is also a high school coach! The legacy of mentorship that Richard received during his time at Concordia is undoubtedly being paid forward.

This notable alumnus credits Concordia's small class sizes and sense of community for his success as a teacher and coach. "Instead of just being a number, the instructors knew your name and that was important." He also notes that Concordia's Education After-Degree program has a reputation amongst his colleagues as being one of the top programs in the field. As a testament to this, Richard has no other university in mind for his teenage daughter who is also an aspiring teacher.

Richard and Keith have continued to keep in touch over the years and when Richard was considering graduate studies, Keith was again a strong mentor and advisor. "Richard has faced some challenges but he has persevered through it all," said Keith, "and I know that he is very well respected by his students and colleagues." With the support and dedication of his wife Susan, Richard graduated with a Masters in Leadership and Administration from Gonzaga University in 2007.

Who's Who? Richard's story is one of many from amongst our alumni. If you would like to share a little bit about where life has led you since your time as a student at Concordia, please give me a call. Your fellow alumni would love to hear from you!

Concordia Student Calling Program: Don't be surprised if you receive a phone call from us this winter! Our student-led Call Centre was established as a way to re-connect with our alumni. If you get the chance to talk to Tawnie, Sam, Amanda, Rachelle or Astrid, share your news with them about career or family. We want to know what's new with you!