## ASSOCIATION OF ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING 2000 DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

## **TERRY WAGAR**

Terry Wagar is a gifted teacher who is recognized regionally, nationally, and internationally as an academic in all senses of the word. The recipient of the Saint Mary's University MBA and EMBA Professor of the Year awards, he combines excellence in teaching, research and service and in 1996, received the President's Award for Excellence in Research. Most recently, the National Post recognized him as a leader in Management Education for Atlantic Canada.

Terry Wagar is consistently rated among the top instructors in the Faculty of Commerce at Saint Mary's and is also the leading researcher in terms of publications and research grants received. He employs year round a number of undergraduate and graduate students as research assistants, thereby providing them with valuable experiences as researchers. He also contributes in other ways to the improvement of teaching at Saint Mary's, by developing new courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels and by conducting seminars and workshops on teaching effectiveness and the use of simulated labour negotiations in Industrial Relations courses. Terry Wagar has made a name for himself for his negotiation simulation, as students marvel about this very realistic experience, and is the co-author of a very successful textbook in this field.

Students remark how everything discussed in the class is so current and relevant. According to one of his students, "I learned much from all my professors at Saint Mary's but I can say with absolute confidence that Dr. Wagar taught me the most current, most practical information." His lectures very much reflect his active research projects and he is always willing to mentor and supervise students in their research. "I have classmates who, much like myself, are where they are today in their careers because they were encouraged and guided by Dr. Wagar," said one student. "What amazes me and I find most remarkable is the amount of time and thought he has given me when I think of all the students he teaches." Students are encouraged to participate by his friendly open nature and by his use of active learning techniques. One student commented on an arbitration case which lasted for days: "No one wanted to miss a class, the excitement of the case was too much to resist."

Terry Wagar is passionate not only about what he is teaching but also about the teaching itself. According to one of his colleagues, "Terry is the beacon that students of today look for in their studies." Another said, "Terry Wagar has surpassed all the expectations we had of him."

Terry Wagar is a great ambassador for academia. A positive role model for management education learners as evidenced in his commitment to teaching excellence, his valuable expertise, his approachability and support, and his infectious enthusiasm for his subject area, he is a most deserving recipient of the 2000 Association of Atlantic Universities Distinguished Teacher Award.