



Welcome to the Faculty of Theology of St Michael's College
2017

It is my honour, on behalf of the Faculty and Staff of the Faculty of Theology, University of St Michael's College, to warmly welcome you to the 2017-2018 academic year. As always, we are delighted to see both new and returning students join us for another year of study. I hope you have had time for rest and relaxation in the summer months and will be ready to embrace the work that begins in September.

In the summer months, faculty members have been researching and writing as well as preparing for their upcoming classes. Staff members have been putting finishing touches on the necessary documents and processes that will assist you in your work as students. We all now look forward to seeing our community expand to include each and every one of you. We want to discover you in our classes, converse with you outside the classroom and pray with you at our liturgies.

Returning students already know that USMC is an excellent place to pursue a theology degree and I trust that new students will quickly discover that also. Good theologians never practice their craft in isolation and so we all have the privilege of the ecumenical context of the *Toronto School of Theology*. I encourage you to take advantage of this larger community as well as the general university community. And, there is so much to discover and learn in this multi-faith and multicultural city of Toronto.

Registration begins through *ROSI/ACORN* on July 25, 2017 for all courses in 2017-2018. Procedures and details for registration are included in this package.

Our Welcome Day will once again begin with the AGM for the Student Life Committee. Last year's committee will present a summary report of events and expenditures and then there will be nominations for positions on the Committee and all students can vote on those nominations. This is one reason why all students, both returning and new, must be in attendance. The SLC is the committee which enhances our community life. Your involvement—even just as a voting member—is crucial to building a strong community of scholarship and prayer in the Faculty.

In addition to new students, we will be also welcoming this year new faculty members who make up the Metropolitan Andriy Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies. This Institute migrated from Ottawa to Toronto this summer and we are very pleased to welcome them to their new home in the Faculty of Theology. Their presence will expand the learning and research opportunities in the Faculty.

Again, welcome to the Faculty of Theology.

With kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James R. Ginther".

James R. Ginther, PhD
Dean, Faculty of Theology