Dominican University College (DUC) makes a unique contribution to the Nation’s Capital and to Canada thanks to its Faculties of Philosophy and Theology and, in Quebec, the Institut de Pastorale. Founded in 1900 as the studium for the Dominicans, DUC received a civil charter in 1967 from the Ontario government. In 1976, the Faculty of Theology was recognized as a canonical faculty by Rome. Since 2013, DUC has been affiliated with Carleton University. Our degree programs in philosophy (B.A., M.A., PhD) are accredited by the Government of Ontario.

Even today, the strength of DUC remains the quality of its professors and their desire to teach and help students pursue a journey of truth. The riches of our Dominican tradition and the quality of our programs accredited by the Government of Ontario support our mission and our daily work. But these two pillars are not sufficient to overcome current financial challenges. While greatly appreciated, public funding from the Government of Ontario is not enough for us to maintain quality programs.

Dominican University College is seeking donors who understand the need for and the benefits of long-term work in philosophy and theology, as much for the Church as for civil society.

The method of donating may vary: monthly donations, direct deposit, or specific larger contributions. This is especially true for the Chair in Biblical Studies, where it will be possible to make donations spread out over several years or an immediate, more substantial donation from which the interest would help cover the annual costs of the Chair.

For more information on the Chairs described below, or to offer your financial support to other programs and initiatives of the College, please contact Fr. Maxime Allard, O.P., President of Dominican University College: president@dominicanu.ca or (613) 233-5696 x319.

"EDUCATING THE MIND WITHOUT EDUCATING THE HEART IS NO EDUCATION AT ALL."

—ARISTOTLE
The library of the Dominican University College is currently situated in what used to be the “choir of the religious”, in the Saint-Jean-Baptiste church attached to the House of the Dominicans in Ottawa. It offers a peaceful environment to study and do research.

The library is a five-story space holding over 130,000 volumes and over 400 periodicals with an online catalogue. It has now reached its maximum capacity and, because of the age of the building, it requires major investments. The staff is composed of a head librarian, 2 full-time employees, 4 students part-time and two Dominicans volunteering. The budget, without counting salaries, is around $100,000/year.

More than half of this amount is used for buying books and periodicals, the rest is for maintenance of the electronic system, binding of books and periodicals, and more.

Our library specializes in philosophy and theology, primarily in the French, English and German languages with important holdings in Hebrew, Greek and Latin. It has books for beginners and the general public in these two disciplines. It also contains books and periodicals for students at the graduate level, academics and scholars. In our “Fra Angelico” room, we have a collection of books on Christian religious art. The library also houses a collection of rare books from the 16th and 17th centuries. We are currently busy restoring these books to make them more accessible to students and scholars. In the past few years, we have received different collections that are currently held in storage, due to lack of space. We would like to render these available to scholars and the public.

As more centres of higher learning in Catholic theology are closing in Canada, there remains a definite need for knowledge for Catholics and non-Catholics alike on the nature and role of religion in the lives of individuals and in society. We believe that maintaining a high-quality, well-equipped and welcoming library is a step in making this knowledge available to the general public.

As part of the “Library Project”, we are currently working with architectural students from Carleton University, with whom we are affiliated. This year and next, different groups of students are working towards proposing plans to enlarge the library, taking into account the needs of the library and those of its users. At the end of these two years of imaginative discussions and realistic planning of needs, construction will begin.
CHAIRS

The Faculty of Philosophy at DUC pursues an engaged form of philosophical study: our students and professors study the philosophical tradition in order to understand the origins of contemporary problems and point out possible avenues for solutions.

True to this form of philosophical engagement, DUC maintains a variety of activities that aim to provide clarity to contemporary problems. Our annual symposium on Just War and our Round Table on Tolerance provide space to reflect on the just pursuit of war and the conditions for healthy tolerance in democratic society. Several of our professors encourage graduate students to pursue research in areas related to economics and politics, helping bring philosophical reflection to areas that often involve difficult problems related to ethics, truth, and fairness.

DUC also maintains a strong commitment to studying the philosophy of Thomas Aquinas, whose philosophical and theological writings are the focus of a renewed interest for scholars both within and outside of the Catholic Church. The studies of Aquinas’ thought at DUC provides a language for approaching many common problems in ethics and politics today.

The variety of philosophical activities at DUC cannot be pursued without the continuing support of donors who see the importance of critical reflection for contemporary ethical and political life. With the help of generous funding, we hope to further develop initiatives that encourage lively debate on topical problems.

CHAIR FOR THE STUDIES OF WAR AND TOLERANCE

Since 2004, the Faculty of Philosophy of Dominican University College (DUC) has organized an annual symposium on the doctrine of ‘just war’. The decision to organise such a meeting was sparked by the United States’ invasion of Iraq and the arguments on the justice of war put forward as much by those who supported the invasion as by those who opposed it. The invasion began a renewal of interest in a doctrine systematized by the School of Salamanca and the philosophers and jurists of the 16th and 17th centuries.

Since 2011, the Faculty of Philosophy has also held an annual round table at DUC on the subject of tolerance in democratic society. The importance of this subject is as inescapable in Canada as it is in Europe, where debates between promoters of communitarian theories and those who defend the primacy of national identity have been more frequent in recent years. These debates take place against a backdrop of serious socio-political conflict which include a diverse range of religious and cultural extremism that is expressed either by armed violence or by the rejection or questioning of the legal order of democratic society.

The purpose behind sessions is to go beyond the limited framework of Canadian society to further reflect on the expressions of cultural and religious intolerance that occur beyond Canadian borders. It is important to reflect seriously on tolerance and war due to the stakes at play and also because of a tendency today to reduce the complexity of the problem to partisan interests or narrow prejudice. The success of the round tables and the increasing importance of these topics has brought us to consider the possibility of multiplying these discussions (of which the format has yet to be set in stone), seeking the participation of scholars and of members of civil society interested in reflecting on current events.

To this end, we are seeking contributions totalling $15,000 annually through the creation of a fund of $250,000 able to generate that revenue.

USE OF FUNDS

• to provide for the organization of the annual symposium on war, the round table on tolerance and other events related to these themes;
• to edit and publish the presentations made during the symposia and round tables; and,
• to increase the library’s collections on these subjects in order to support ongoing research in the fields of war, tolerance and ethics.

“We are seeking contributions totalling $15,000 annually through the creation of a fund of $250,000 able to generate the required revenue.”

—NICOLAS MALEBRANCHE

“JUST AS OUR EYES NEED LIGHT IN ORDER TO SEE, OUR MINDS NEED IDEAS IN ORDER TO CONCEIVE”
The philosophical and theological writings of Thomas Aquinas, a Dominican friar of the 13th century, have had a major and diverse impact on Western thought since the Middle Ages. For over a century now, a renewal in Thomistic scholarship and studies is taking place. New approaches and perspectives sustain the interest in his propositions and theories. Aquinas’ writings are no longer the exclusive “authority” of the Catholic Church but a common heritage for academics everywhere.

At Dominican University College, we enjoy an uninterrupted tradition of reading and thinking through Thomas Aquinas’ philosophical and theological works.

For almost thirty years at Dominican University College, Father Lawrence Dewan, O.P. lectured on Aquinas and held an annual graduate seminar on specific philosophical problems, with a special interest in metaphysics and ethics. Throughout these years, he also taught, gave lectures and conferences, and published in Canada, the United States, Taiwan, Hong Kong, the Philippines and Europe. He was in constant critical dialogue with other leading figures of Thomism. At his death in February 2015 he was generally considered to be one of the leading Thomist scholars in the world.

Dominican University College wishes to honour Fr. Dewan and to carry on his legacy. This is why the “Lawrence Dewan Chair in Philosophy and Saint Thomas Aquinas” has been created. A campaign to fund this new chair has begun. It would require $30,000 annually and we would like to gather a fund of $500,000, able to generate that annual revenue.

**USE OF FUNDS**

- maintain the annual graduate bilingual seminar on Aquinas and philosophy;
- regularly organize special conferences on Aquinas in English and French;
- buy books on Aquinas for the library;
- publish the works of Fr. Dewan and of those exploring philosophy in his wake;
- support graduate students wanting to work on Aquinas and Dewan.

“BECAUSE PHILOSOPHY ARISES FROM AWE, A PHILOSOPHER IS BOUND IN HIS WAY TO BE A LOVER OF MYTHS AND POETIC FABLES. POETS AND PHILOSOPHERS ARE ALIKE IN BEING BIG WITH WONDER”

—THOMAS AQUINAS
THE GEORGES-HENRI LÉVESQUE CHAIR IN PHILOSOPHY OF ECONOMICS, SOCIETY AND POLITICS

During the 20th century, Fr. Georges-Henri Lévesque, Dominican, was an important figure in Quebecois and Canadian life for his academic work in the social sciences, as well as for his concern to train younger generations to ethically support the development of society and its self-understanding.

Fr. Lévesque was trained and later taught at Dominican University College (DUC), where he learned an approach to social life and ethics that prepared him for the upheavals and intellectual challenges in Quebec that preceded the Quiet Revolution. He observed the displacement of social and cultural values, social innovations, the transformation of the economy and of mechanisms for social interaction, along with emerging theories and ideologies as well as the impact of urbanisation.

In recent years, DUC has been active in a number of domains opened up by Fr. Lévesque: courses in the philosophy of economics; support for research concerning forms of poverty and philosophical approaches for thinking through these ethical questions; organizing conferences and colloquia on these themes; and publishing the writings of Fr. Lévesque (2 volumes).

The creation of a “Georges-Henri Lévesque Chair in Philosophy of Economics, Society and Politics” is intended to consolidate and increase our work in an area where DUC is already quite active. We are seeking donations amounting to $30,000 annually while we work to raise a fund of $500,000 that would generate this annual amount.

THE LOUIS-MARIE RÉGIS CHAIR IN METAPHYSICS AND HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

The Dominican Louis-Marie Régis was an influential figure in philosophy and medieval studies in Canada during the 20th century. Rooted in his widely-recognized knowledge of the Aristotelian and Thomistic traditions, he was open to the philosophical challenges of modernity. His teaching, which he continued until the age of 84, witnessed his efforts to find the relation between metaphysics, epistemology, anthropology, and ethics—while remaining attentive to psychology, structuralism and psychoanalysis. He spoke of philosophy as the chance for a “round table of unified reasons.”

At Dominican University College, the history of philosophy and metaphysics remain the pillars of our philosophy programs—at a time when these subjects are being increasingly set aside in academic milieu. We see in this evolution in academic life the chance to offer our students a broad and critical perspective on current ideas and fashions which, often, are reiterations of past debates without knowing it.

In order to continue offering rigorous training in metaphysics and the history of philosophy, we are seeking donations amounting to $30,000 annually while we work to raise a fund of $500,000 that would generate this annual amount.

USE OF FUNDS

- an annual seminar on metaphysics and the history of philosophy: $15,000/year;
- an annual colloquium in one or both of these areas of study: $5,000/year;
- a scholarship to support graduate research in metaphysics or in the history of philosophy, as well as participation in conferences: $10,000/year.
Marie-Joseph Lagrange— a French Dominican and founder of the École biblique et archéologique française de Jérusalem in 1892—is an important figure for both Old and New Testament biblical studies. Up to date on the latest methods of his era, influenced by conflicts in biblical interpretation, and rooted in an ecclesial tradition of reading and interpretation, Fr. Lagrange was able to invent and defend a scientific reading of the Bible during the heart of the modernist crisis.

The link between Dominican University College (DUC), Fr. Lagrange and the École biblique began when the Canadian Dominican, Fr. Deschênes, was studying at the École in the first decade of the 20th century. He left with a preliminary version of an article by Fr. Lagrange on the biblical patriarchs. The article, having remained unpublished for many years, was published by DUC a few years ago.

Since the time of Fr. Deschênes, several Dominicans who taught at DUC have spent time at the École biblique, including A. Brunet, G.-D. Mailhiot, P.-E. Dion, D. Fraikin, G. Labonté, J.-P. Audet, M. Gourgues, and H. Tremblay. Several DUC students have also stayed at the École biblique and have benefitted from its unique environment. DUC professors have published hitherto-unpublished works of Fr. Lagrange.

In establishing a “Marie-Joseph Lagrange Chair in Biblical Studies”, Dominican University College intends to honour the memory of Fr. Lagrange, to encourage the study of the Bible (both Old and New Testaments), to strengthen the Bible’s rapport with theology and the other sciences (archaeology, literature, etc.), and to train the next generation of the Bible’s readers.

**MARIE-JOSEPH LAGRANGE CHAIR IN BIBLICAL STUDIES**

- cover the costs of an annual bilingual research seminar, costs which are related to welcoming visiting scholars;
- support purchasing book needs by the Chair;
- provide for organizing a symposium every second year;
- contribute to publishing the works of Fr. Lagrange (his “commentaire sur la Génèse”);
- offer scholarships to doctoral students to stay at the École biblique de Jérusalem during their studies.

The funds sought amount to $30,000/year through the creation of a fund of $500,000 able to generate the required revenue.

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**BIBLE PROJECTS**

Convinced that a proper understanding of the Christian message cannot be developed apart from an intelligent reading of the Bible, DUC has made the exploration of the Bible and its history the cornerstone of theological study. This commitment stretches back to the first years of theological study at DUC.

In 1906, Fr. Deschênes (a Canadian Dominican) travelled to the École biblique in Jerusalem in order to pursue advanced biblical study under the direction of the school’s founder, Fr. Marie-Joseph Lagrange. During his time at the École biblique, Fr. Deschênes learned the new methods of biblical exegesis, studying the Bible’s history and pondering its impact on Christian life. He later returned to DUC in order to train students in the art of biblical interpretation. DUC has since had an unbroken chain of biblical scholars trained at the École biblique as part of its Faculty. Graduate students have also taken advantage of our partnership with the École biblique in order to further their studies on the Bible.

Several projects are being carried out in order to maintain DUC’s commitment to biblical study and to further our mission of handing on an articulate, intelligent Christian message to the faithful. This mission cannot be achieved without help from donors to support the infrastructure needed to maintain our growing collection of Bibles and tools for biblical interpretation.

In a time when questions surrounding the relevance of the Bible’s message have arisen, rigorous biblical studies are just as important as ever in order to help Christians and non-Christians alike discover the meaning of these rich Biblical texts.

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**USE OF FUNDS:**

- cover the costs of an annual bilingual research seminar, costs which are related to welcoming visiting scholars;
- support purchasing book needs by the Chair;
- provide for organizing a symposium every second year;
- contribute to publishing the works of Fr. Lagrange (his “commentaire sur la Génèse”);
- offer scholarships to doctoral students to stay at the École biblique de Jérusalem during their studies.

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“In the Bible, God provided an unending work for the human mind and...he opened an unlimited terrain of progress in the truth.”

—MARIE-JOSEPH LAGRANGE O.P.
SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS AND HIS BIBLE

During the first half of the 20th century, professors and students at Dominican University College produced a five-volume edition of Thomas Aquinas’s Summa Theologiae. This is now known as the “Piana” edition. During their work, the editors created a repository of every biblical reference found in the Summa and in some other works by Aquinas. This repository is unique in the world, it demonstrates the importance and extent to which Aquinas referred to the Bible in his work and it furthermore reveals how the Bible was used in the Middle Ages.

Unfortunately, as time passes, the paper, ink, and pencil notes associated with this edition are deteriorating. In order to provide academics worldwide with access to this extraordinarily rich documentation, we intend to transfer the repository to an electronic format.

To this end, we are currently soliciting donations with the goal of collecting a total of $50,000.

BIBLES

The library of Dominican University College (DUC) has received an important donation of Bibles comprising different editions, centuries and languages. This constitutes a unique collection in Eastern Canada. Its former owner — Father Abran, who patiently put it together — displayed it in diverse venues and used it to foster an interest in the Bible as an artifact, as a source of ideas, and as a spiritual and religious guide.

DUC would like to offer the new collection a suitable and secure “home”. This will require the construction of a special section in the library. In order to be of benefit to the wider public, DUC intends to organize events and learned conferences on the Bible.

Considering the Bible’s importance over the centuries for philosophy, theology, politics, and ethics, this collection as well as the events surrounding it would help foster a better understanding of the Bible’s influence on our culture.

Donations are requested to help cover the cost of the infrastructure and the organization of events surrounding this collection. The goal is set at $50,000.

USE OF FUNDS

- the creation of a database in line with the material and research needs for the chair;
- costs associated with data entry;
- communication of this invaluable research instrument within the scholarly community.

| Required: $50,000 | REQUIRED: $50,000 |

- Cover the cost of infrastructure, including the building of the special section in the library;
- The organization of conferences and events surrounding this collection.

| Required: $50,000 | REQUIRED: $50,000 |