

September 15, 2017

News Release: Dr. Ryan Topping appointed Vice-President and Academic Dean

Newman Theological College is proud to announce the appointment of Dr. Ryan Topping as Vice-President, Academic Dean and Full Professor of Theology and Religious Education effective 1 January, 2018.

Dr. Topping is currently a Fellow (Associate Professor) of Theology at St. Thomas More College in Merrimack, NH. A native of Saskatoon, Dr. Topping completed an MA in Philosophy from the University of Manitoba as well as an M.Phil. and a Doctorate in Theology from the University of Oxford with a thesis on St. Augustine's theology of education. He has held the Pope John XXIII Chair of Studies in Catholic Theology at St. Thomas University in Fredericton, NB and taught at St. Thomas More College in Saskatoon.

A prolific author and public intellectual, Dr. Topping's books include: *The Elements of Rhetoric*, *The Case for Catholic Education*, *Renewing the Mind: A Reader in the Catholic Philosophy of Education*, *Rebuilding Catholic Culture*, *St. Augustine, Happiness and Wisdom: Augustine's Early Theology of Education*. He has also written for academic and popular periodicals on a wide range of topics. A popular speaker, he has made a number appearances on Catholic radio and TV shows.



We are excited to be welcoming Dr. Topping and his family to the Newman community in this vital leadership role.

Sister Zoe Bernatsky SSMI has generously agreed to extend her term as VP and Academic Dean until Dec. 31, 2017, at which time she will return to teaching full time at the College. I would like to thank her for her generous service in this important capacity through the critical time of our accreditation process with the Association of Theological Schools.

Jason West, Ph.D.
President and Vice-Chancellor

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