

**News Release**

For immediate release

## Professor Martin Blais receives the 2016 Capital Educators' Award for Saint Paul University

OTTAWA, May 19, 2016 – Saint Paul University (SPU) congratulates Professor Martin Blais, recipient of a 2016 Capital Educators' Award. "Martin Blais' dedication, dynamism and commitment truly embody the vision of Saint Paul University, which is *to be the face of change*," said SPU Rector Chantal Beauvais at last night's awards gala at Algonquin College.

Martin Blais is a Professor of Social Communication in SPU's Faculty of Human Sciences. He holds a PhD in sociology from the Université de Paris IV. His main research interest is knowledge transfer in social practice and psychology in the mechanistic analysis of social phenomena. In his teaching practice, Dr. Blais firmly believes in the importance of establishing strong relationships with students, both as a group and as unique individuals. By demonstrating confidence in their ability to achieve high standards, he encourages students to develop their capacity for thought and discourse and to engage in relatively complex cognitive activities.

The Capital Educators' Awards recognize the achievements of outstanding educators and celebrate public education in our community. A panel of judges representing various community organizations reviewed all nominations and selected 63 finalists for 2016. The awards are open to educators employed by the National Capital Region's four public school boards, two colleges and four universities.

*Saint Paul University (1848) is the founding college of the University of Ottawa, with which it has been federated since 1965. Bilingual and on a human scale, it offers programs in social communication, counselling and psychotherapy, canon law, public ethics, conflict studies, philosophy, human relations, and theology.*

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