



2020 UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AWARDS

1. **The R. Wesley Affleck Graduate Award**

Given to a member of the graduating class who has taken a minimum of 60 credit hours at Providence University College and in the judgment of the faculty, because of his or her well-balanced Christian character, scholarship, and spiritual leadership, best exemplifies the purposes and ideals of the institution.

Charisma Ginter

Charisma Ginter is a student with many strengths. Her leadership skills are demonstrated in her roles as student ambassador and STUCO president. Her academic skills are demonstrated by her 4.0 GPA as a biology student. Her Christian character is demonstrated by her commitment and participation in chapels and campus events. It has been a joy to interact with Charisma- she will be missed! - Dr. Rebecca Dielschneider

2. **The Stewart and Elizabeth Battram Scholarship Award**

Given annually to a member of the graduating class who has taken a minimum of 60 credit hours at Providence University College and who has maintained the highest overall scholastic record in the regular program of study.

Charisma Ginter

Charisma Ginter is a student with many strengths. Her leadership skills are demonstrated in her roles as student ambassador and STUCO president. Her academic skills are demonstrated by her 4.0 GPA as a biology student. Her Christian character is demonstrated by her commitment and participation in chapels and campus events. It has been a joy to interact with Charisma- she will be missed! - Dr. Rebecca Dielschneider

3. **Valedictorian**

Awarded to a member of the graduating class who is selected jointly by the college faculty and the graduating class to speak on behalf of the graduates at the annual Graduation Exercises.

Clark Nachtigall

The valedictorian is a member of the graduating class who is selected jointly by the college faculty and the graduating class to speak on behalf of the graduates at the annual Graduation Exercises. This year, the graduating class has selected Clark Nachtigall to represent them.

Typically, the valedictory address is considered a final farewell delivered to classmates at the graduation ceremony, before they disperse to pursue their individual paths after graduating. As for all of us, this year has certainly turned out different than we expected, but we still want to have our grads be honoured for their great achievements.

I have the privilege of introducing Clark Nachtigall. Clark first arrived at Providence in the fall of 2016, as an eager student majoring in business, and playing on the Men's basketball team. While Clark has a love for doing well in his classes, and on the court, it is obvious that he also has a heart for others—it's not just all about him. Part way through his tenure at Providence, Clark shifted from basketball into student leadership, and took on the role of a Resident Assistant. As professors, we don't always observe student life beyond the classroom. But, as one of Clark's references stated, "Clark is passionate about his faith, is outgoing, and studious." Those qualities are very appropriate for his time at Providence, and I believe his classmates experienced that in their time together.

We often observe students in our program who have a definite passion for one particular area of business over another—those that enjoy accounting and finance, but don't really enjoy management discussions, or those who are very skilled in aspects of sales and marketing, but loathe the idea of having to analyze and explain a financial statement. I think Clark preferred the latter. He displayed a much keener interest in relating to people and understanding what prompted a particular business behaviour over another.

In his confident manner, he has been a consistent student and is a level-headed ambassador for Providence and for the Buller School of Business. He continues to live out his solid faith through his growing understanding of all things business, and to mature into someone recognized as a leader, a sound business thinker, concerned about the social conscience, and a person who goes out of his way to help others.

I believe that Clark embodies what it means to be a successful student at Providence, as he is encouraging, godly, hard working, and just a generally great student. He is a fantastic representative to speak on behalf of the Class of 2020.

4. The 2nd/3rd Year Class Award

Given annually to a student in the upper quarter of the Second and Third Year Classes who has shown promise and leadership ability, has exemplified the objectives of the university college, and is continuing in a degree program at Providence University College.

William Dueck

I first met Will in the Fall of 2018, as a student in Introduction to Psychology class. He was one of 3 or 4 students in that class that had come into UC from Mile Two. It did not take long for me to notice just how a brilliant student Will was. In all the courses Will has taken from me, he has always demonstrated a high level of seriousness, diligence and dedication to his studies and with very strong work ethics. His examinations and written assignments have always been in the superior range. I have been particularly impressed with how thoughtful and thorough he is with his written papers. What has impressed me most is the fact that he continues to perform at this high level while at the same time being actively involved in Prov athletics.

I have also observed that he is a very friendly and sincere person, well-liked by his peers. A sense of humour, is certainly not one of his most prominent traits. He has however, surprised me from time to time. One example of this was during one of the Intro Psych class as I was trying to introduce the history of psychology. I had just finished talking about William James as one of the founders of the school of thought known as "Functionalism", when Will said, yeah, that's me, I

am the famous William James. I later found out that, James is his middle name. This is one example of the type of humour Will has that pleasantly shows up from time to time. Congratulations Will, you deserve this award.” – Morgan Mulenga

5. The 1st Year Class Award

Given annually to a student in the upper quarter of the First Year Class who has shown promise and leadership ability, has exemplified the objectives of the university college, and is continuing in a program at Providence University College

Emily Wiebe

In the classroom, Emily has demonstrated excellence in her studies, depth of insight in literary analysis, and convivial leadership in small group discussions. She also conveys a positive attitude and generous spirit beyond the classroom. At the Grand Opening of the Murial Taylor Hall and ribbon cutting ceremony, Emily’s speech exemplified her clarity of thought, proficiency in writing, effectual skills in communication, and her sense of humour. With a sparkle in her eye, she confessed to the audience, “I warn you all about the contagious quality that compassion has on a community. I believe that some of the students have caught the case of caring-for-others too.” She is one of these students. Emily embodies the mission of Providence University College in her desire “to grow in knowledge and character for leadership and service.” As Emily prepares to become a school teacher, I have no doubt that she will bring the light and compassion of Christ to her future students. Congratulations Emily! This award is well deserved. - Luann Hiebert

6. The Social Science Award

Given to a Social Science major who demonstrates outstanding scholarship and the potential to communicate and contribute to the Social Sciences, and who has an AGPA of 3.50 or higher.

Donna Meikle

Donna is a model student in every way: intelligent, motivated, disciplined, engaged, friendly, and frequently going the extra mile to look up material supplementary to course requirements. That she has done it as a mature commuter student makes her accomplishments more remarkable, and provides further evidence that mid-life students can be among the best. What is perhaps even more remarkable is how well she nevertheless fits in with her younger classmates. She is in many ways comfortably one of them, simply adding her greater life experience to the mix, but then occasionally serving as their informal tutor as well. Donna is pursuing clear career goals, and will take her polished but still growing social scientific acumen with her. – Dennis Hiebert

7. The Communications Award

Given to the student who has displayed ability, leadership, and promise in at least one of the fields of speech, homiletics, or journalism.

Keegan Braun

Keegan Braun is the recipient of the Communications Award for this year. Keegan is what I would describe as an enthusiastic student, always performing further enquiry in order to get to

the bottom of an issue. Something that I have found particularly rewarding in Keegan's work is his ability to think imaginatively when exploring media texts. He shows concern for marginalized communities that are not always represented in the media, and clearly loves the Church, and is concerned with its social media reach. Well-done, Keegan, and all of God's blessing as you continue into the future. - Dr. Nicholas Greco

8. The Theatre Award

Given to the student who has displayed ability, leadership, and promise in the area of theatre performance and/or production.

Julia Goertzen

Julia Goertzen is an exemplary student and a gifted actress. She has great poise and versatility on stage and the innate ability to morph into her roles. Her work this year as Goneril in "King Lear", and Gwendolyn in "The importance of being Earnest" — sadly unseen due to Covid-19 — were excellent. It is exciting to see a student with such steady growth and potential. - Marc Moir

9. The Sheil's Memorial Award for Missions

Given to a student who has evidenced special interest and leadership in missions and who represents acceptable academic standing.

Jenna Enns

Jenna is an extremely thoughtful student and a highly competent teacher who has a special interest in missions. She has already served cross-culturally and knows what it takes to build bridges in challenging situations. She will be leading English classes for school-age children in Central Asia and using her Providence education to make a difference in young lives. - Cathy Rust-Akinbolaji

10. The Music Performance Awards

Two awards are given annually to two music majors by a guest adjudicator on the basis of a recital competition. Jeongah Park has been awarded both prizes.

Jeongah Park

Over the course of the last three years, Jeongah Park has shown a determined musical spirit. She has shown herself to be one of the most hard-working and talented students in the music program. Her accomplishments this year have included winning the Grade 10 piano medal at the South East Manitoba Music Festival, and earning herself a recommendation for this year's provincial music festival in Brandon, MB. Her concern for the place of music in our worship and the inquisitiveness with which she pursues her courses makes her a very welcome presence in the music program. It is with my absolute pleasure to award this year's Music Performance Award to Jeongah Park. - David Sawatzky

11. The H.H. Janson Memorial Award

Given to a student who has exhibited stability, spirituality, acceptable academic attainment, and especially a potential as an expository preacher. This award is made possible by the bequest of

Dr. H.H. Janson, who served on the faculty of Vancouver Bible College for 14 years and as President of Providence University College from 1947 to 1949.

Ryan McMahon

This year I have selected Ryan McMahon for the H.H. Janson Memorial Reward given to a student who has exhibited stability, spirituality, acceptable academic attainment, and especially a potential as an expository preacher. This award is made possible by the bequest of Dr. H.H. Janson, who served on the faculty of Vancouver Bible College for 14 years and as President of Providence University College from 1947 to 1949.

Over the four years, Ryan has been a student at Providence I have had the privilege of having him in many different classes. And it has been a privilege. At first glance Ryan is quirky, thoughtful, and has an eye always to see the good in people. He is one of those students that on occasion come along and you see your own younger self mirrored in many ways. With me, he has completed both Homiletics 1 and 2 and this year was involved in Friday chapel.

Ryan has the making of a fine preacher because his greatest asset is his vulnerability. This might come as a surprise to Ryan inasmuch as he has confessed to me that his lack of vulnerability is his greatest weakness. Truth be told Ryan is like one of those loveable characters in the Wizard of Oz who were troubled by their insufficiencies. The Cowardly lion was in search of courage, the scarecrow wanted a brain and the tin man a heart. In the end what they desired they already had. As for Ryan he might not fully appreciate it yet but his vulnerability is one of the greatest values any preacher can hope for. Congratulations on this award. - Randall Holm

12. Biblical Studies Award

Given to a graduating student who has shown excellence and promise in the field of Biblical Studies. The student must have an AGPA of 3.50 or higher.

Isaac Ginter

Isaac is an exemplary student who has modelled excellence in academics and leadership throughout his time at Providence. He is the type of student you want to have in your classes because you know that he is eager to engage in classroom discussions, add interesting insights and produce thoughtful and well-researched papers. It has been a pleasure to work with Isaac and it is exciting to see him continue in Biblical Studies at the graduate level next year! The entire BTS department congratulates Isaac on this deserved award! – Dr. Christopher Lortie

13. The Clyde Krant Memorial Business Award

Given annually to a student who is enrolled in the Bachelor of Business Administration of Bachelor of Arts, Business Administration major, who has shown academic and leadership ability, and who has exemplified the objectives of the university college. This award can be given either to a graduating student or one who is returning for further study in the area of Business Administration.

Zachary Friesen

It is an honour to present the Clyde Krant Memorial Business Award to Zach Friesen. This award is given every year to an outstanding graduate in the business program at Providence University

College, and Zach is certainly an outstanding student. His marks are consistently at or very near the top of his class, and his work is always done to a high, professional standard.

I would go beyond that, however, in describing his contribution to the business program and to Providence. In my experience, Zach has brought a unique combination of qualities to our school, which makes him particularly deserving of this award: He combines diligence with patience in a way that exemplifies the best type of leader we want to graduate and have us represent us as an alumni.

His dedication is extraordinary. Everything he is asked to read, he has read and thought about before class. Every assignment is done meticulously and to a standard that any business would be proud to have their employees produce. He comes to every discussion prepared and thoughtful. But his patience is even more noteworthy. I have heard his tutor other students, watched him explain difficult concepts to other students, help coach and mentor classmates who are struggling. And he does it all without even a trace of frustration or impatience.

He is the kind of person we can point to and say "This is the kind of graduate Providence seeks to send into the world." - Bruce Duggan

14. The Chris Derksen Memorial Award

Awarded annually to a student who demonstrates a special enthusiasm and aptitude for choral music and its integration with spirituality and worship, and so provides leadership to the choral program by example.

Jeongah Park

Choral music is one of the few artistic endeavors we provide that allows our students to share in the music of our faith at Providence. It can lift spirits, affords added meaning to thoughts and ideas, provides a means of artistic expression, and brings our own communities together in uniquely moving ways. It also offers opportunities for added student leadership and friendship. The recipient of the Chris Derksen Memorial Award for choral music has taken advantages of all these benefits. She has been a responsible, reliable leader in the ensemble, and a very steady alto. This year's award has been admirably earned by Jeongah Park. Congratulations. - David Sawatzky

15. The Charles and Irene Christian Memorial Award

Given to a returning student who will be spending at least two months of his or her summer in home or cross-cultural Christian ministry, who presents acceptable academic standards, and who has demonstrated special interest in and aptitude for full-time Christian ministry at home or abroad.

Jenna Enns

Jenna is an extremely thoughtful student and a highly competent teacher who has a special interest in missions. She has already served cross-culturally and knows what it takes to build bridges in challenging situations. She will be leading English classes for school-age children in Central Asia and using her Providence education to make a difference in young lives. - Cathy Rust-Akinbolaji

16. The Youth Leadership Award

This award is sponsored by Red Rock Bible Camp and is given to a senior Youth Leadership major who has demonstrated exemplary Christian character, proven academic excellence, meaningful youth ministry involvement during the academic program, and exceptional potential for future ministry impact. The recipient of the award is selected jointly by the Youth Leadership majors and the head of the Youth Leadership department.

Leighton Krogstad

I am so pleased Leighton Krogstad is this year's recipient of the Youth Leadership Award. Since arriving at Providence, Leighton has been singular in his long-term plans of serving the church by serving youth. His commitment is evident in his efforts off campus. He spends his summers working with different ministries, including Youth for Christ, thus supplementing his academic formation with valuable experience, and he does so with enthusiasm. Such a clear sense of calling is rare in one so young, but this is clearly the case with Leighton. I and the faculty and staff of Providence wish him well as he continues to prepare for the work to which God has called him. - Michael Gilmour

17. The C.W. Hiebert Memorial Award For Graduate Studies

This award is given to a graduating University College student who has shown outstanding promise for further university studies and whom the faculty especially encourages to pursue graduate education. The award will be available for educational expenses in any one of the three years immediately following graduation.

Isaac Ginter

I am pleased to present the Graduate Studies Award to Isaac Ginter. This past year I have worked closely with Isaac as he has researched and written his thesis on The Satan of the Old Testament. Isaac shows great promise in his enthusiasm for asking hard questions and his perseverance in finding those answers in scholarship and scripture. In particular, I have been very impressed with Isaac's humility and openness to criticism in the course of writing his thesis, a hard skill to learn but one that defines the academic life of scholarship. Next year Isaac will be pursuing a Master of Arts in Christian Studies at McMaster Divinity College in Hamilton. We wish you all the best in your future studies! – Dr. Heather Macumber

18. The Mary Hiebert Memorial Award for Humanitarian Service

This award is given to a student who has displayed outstanding humanitarian service.

Keegan Braun

Keegan is a diligently steady student majoring in Communications and Media with a special love of theory and a vibrant sense of spirituality. In the classroom he is an insightful, creative, and collaborative learner who raises the bar of class discussions. And he cares about people. This is clear from the sorts of work that draws him, whether it be experiences with missions within Canada's urban centres, such as his inter-cultural learning practicum in Montreal where he gained insight into the various nuances of Quebec Christianity, or working with local Pentecostal churches to cultivate social media reach. He recognizes both the worth and the needs in those around him, and it is a privilege to present him this award in honour of my mother. – Dennis Hiebert

19. A.B.H.E. Honor Society Delta Epsilon Chi

The qualifications for scholastic membership are a scholastic average of 3.30 AGPA, Christian character, and leadership ability. Not more than 7% of the graduating class may be nominated.

Charisma Ginter
Morgan Krogstad
Julia Goertzen

In Romans 16:10, Paul references Apelles with this distinguished designation: Tested and approved in Christ. The three Greek words translated *approved in Christ*, (dokimos en Xhristos) begin with the three Greek letters, delta epsilon chi, and thus the name and meaning of the ABHE Honor Society. These three outstanding students are already gifted leaders of strong Christian character and they will go on to be difference makers in Science, Aviation and the Humanities in Canadian and global contexts. They exemplify the Providence mission.
– Cathy Rust-Akinbolaji

20. Student Life Leadership Award

Two Student Life Leadership awards are given each year to students who have displayed a positive influence on campus and who have exemplified strong Christian character and leadership. Each student should be involved in campus activities and support the mission statement of the institution.

Ethan Hoekstra

Ethan has already given two years of service to the Student Council here at Providence as the Vice President of Communications, and in that role he has worked incredibly hard and with clear-sighted focus to improve how our Student Council and our school communicates with our student body. Examples of this include his rebranding of the MNNO to The Providence Weekly, as well as his brand-new one-on-one interview show, The Takeoff. His obvious commitment and passion for improving and engaging our community through his God-given talents and skills is inspiring and encouraging, not only to his peers, but also to the staff and faculty. Ethan is also engaged and involved on campus in a variety of events and is heavily invested in student life from athletics to Coffee Houses. He serves as a strong role model to our students and even our other student leaders, and his example shows that true leadership is more than just words. Ethan's commitment to student leadership is so strong that he is planning on returning to serve as our Vice President of Communications for a third consecutive year while he is a senior. Congratulations Ethan, and thank you for all that you do at Prov!" - Justin Harvey

Laura Friesen

I have had the pleasure of working with Laura as my Senior Resident Assistant last year. Prior to taking on the responsibility of SRA, she served as VP of Spiritual Life on STUCO. Her devotion to our Providence community has been evident throughout her years here and that is why we recognize her as one of this year's Student Life Leadership Award recipients. I am sure many of you can attest to Laura's incredible ability to make those around her feel loved and cared for. She has this "chill vibe" that draws people into organic community, expertly weaving our University's values of living and learning together.

There is something refreshing when meeting a person whose strength is sitting with other in their vulnerability. Laura does this naturally, lending a listening ear, being the shoulder to cry on, and having a heart big enough to care about the injustices of the world. From the lightest and silliest conversations, to the kind of discussions that require tissue boxes, I have seen Laura embrace them all. I have come to appreciate Laura's holistic approach and her selfless ways of pouring herself into community.

We are excited for your graduation and look forward to hearing of the many ways you will go forth to lead and serve others. You will be missed! - Teah Goossen

21. Jesse F. Lynn Memorial Award

Awarded annually to a missionary who plans to return to the field.

Mee Hee Park

Many acts of heroism motivated by Christian faith fall under the radar of the public eye. The life and work of Mee Hee Park is an example of such heroism. When Mee Hee began her MA TESOL, her reticent manner betrayed little of the highly skilled and passionate missionary she was. Before Mee Hee and her family arrived on campus, she had spent two decades in the backwaters of Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka, teaching English and other employability skills to disenfranchised women. She and her family served in areas hostile to Christian faith and were often in danger of their lives.

In the TESOL program, we emphasize the value of all languages learned – besides her native Korean, Mee Hee speaks five or six others which she has learned for the purposes of missions. Over the course of her studies, Mee Hee's confidence, and her gifts as an educator and leader emerged swiftly, not unlike that of an emerging butterfly. Additionally, Mee Hee's research in the field of language anxiety and motivation in Korean speakers of English promises to contribute to the growing field of psychology of language learning and teaching.

The Jesse F. Lynn Memorial Award is awarded annually to a missionary who plans to return to the field. Mee Hee and her family's next stop is Lebanon where she will be engaged in English Language Teacher Education. - Elfrieda Lepp-Kaethler

22. The History Award

Given to a student who has shown excellence in scholarship in the area of History. Students who receive this award must have an AGPA of 3.50 or higher after completing a minimum of 30 credit hours at Providence University College.

Sean Wake

I have very much appreciated Sean's hard work and constant curiosity in his historical studies. He is famous for having his course work done weeks in advance of the due date and asking whether he can hand it in early. In class he is a dedicated and engaged presence which I can reliably count on. Beyond a great work ethic, his interest in the past, and his cheerful disposition, what I appreciate most about Sean is his integration of faith and learning. For Sean the study of the past is a deeply theological endeavour. This is equally true of those periods of history which help to illuminate the Biblical texts and also of much later periods. In all things

Sean is one whose faith seeks understanding—and that is a gift in any classroom. – Patricia Janzen-Loewen

23. International Student Achievement Award

Two awards are available for undergraduate international students graduating from Providence (one graduating from a degree program, and one from a certificate program) whose mother tongue is not English. Eligible students are those that demonstrate an improvement of GPA and positive impact on campus. GPA improvement is measured by comparing their GPA of the first semester with that of their last. Positive impacts on campus include participation in athletics, campus employment, music, spiritual life, student leadership, or other extracurricular activities.

Sohyun Kim

What you notice first about Sohyun is her smile. When you get to know her, you realize that she is much more than just friendly; she is a thoughtful and compassionate person who is eager to learn. Sohyun invests her energy both in and out of the classroom. She has been involved in the international student community and was an RA this past year making a difference in the Providence community. - Cathy Rust-Akinbolaji