



2010 DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARDS  
NOMINATION FORM: CREDIT FREE

RETURN to the Academic Development Centre, (T110) no later than **January 29, 2010**

I wish to nominate **Richard Lannon** of the *Continuing Education* Department, for a Distinguished Teaching Award.

Please indicate below the reasons for your nomination. Comment, if possible, on the following categories for assessment:

- Professional Ability and Performance
- Service to the Community
- Service to the University

*Please see comments and testimonials attached. Thank you.*

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<b>Nominator's Name: Patty Moore, Program Administrator (#5691)</b> (Please print)	<input type="radio"/> Faculty
	<input type="radio"/> Student
<b>Nominator's Signature:</b>	<input type="radio"/> Manager
	<input type="radio"/> Staff
<b>Seconder's Name: Rusty Martel, Program Assistant (#5069)</b> (Please print)	<input type="radio"/> Faculty
	<input type="radio"/> Student
<b>Seconder's Signature:</b>	<input type="radio"/> Manager
	<input type="radio"/> Staff



2010 DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARDS NOMINATION  
CREDIT FREE NOMINEE: Richard Lannon

On behalf of the Faculty of Continuing Education, we wish to nominate Richard Lannon for a 2010 Distinguished Teaching Award (Credit Free). Richard has been a part-time instructor with Mount Royal University (MRU) for over 5 years and has contributed to the development of two highly successful business education programs: the *Project Management Extension Certificate* (1998-2000) and the *Business Analysis Extension Certificate* (2005-present).

Richard is daily driven by his core mission: "...to invest in the success of others (people and organizations)." Richard's passion, enthusiasm and commitment to teaching is widely recognized and celebrated by his students. Evidence of students' enthusiastic regard for Richard's expertise and dedication to fostering their development and success is markedly present in *all* of Richard's course evaluations. His evaluations consistently overflow with words of praise and genuine thanks, characteristically commending his teaching performance as "amazing," "dynamic," "awesome," "fantastic," "great," "exciting," "passionate," "remarkable." As a senior instructor and leading subject matter expert of the *Business Analysis Extension Certificate*, Richard often goes well beyond the call of duty, providing coaching, mentorship and advice to students outside of class hours and remaining in touch with students after graduation. Richard takes immense pride in teaching and genuinely puts forth his best effort every year, throughout every course.

The following selection of comments, taken from various courses through 2009, represents typical student feedback in Richard's course evaluations:

"...Richard is an awesome teacher."

"...Richard was great, very knowledgeable. A dynamic and organized presenter."

"...Pace and method. Instructor includes the students and promotes discussion/conversation."

"...The instructor encourages people to share their experiences and expertise."

"...Excellent teaching skills made course very enjoyable. Thanks."

*“...Great enthusiastic instruction. Variety of students with different backgrounds – he tied it well with a diverse audience.”*

*“...The instructor used outside, relevant information and presented it in a way that was informative and allowed me to think outside the textbook and apply it to my workplace.”*

*“...The instructor Richard was amazing. I wish he would be teaching them all.”*

*“...One of the best instructors I’ve had in Adult learning/Continuing Education.”*

*“...Great instructor – good material – I like that everything is related thru the levels of the organization.”*

*“...Richard was very knowledgeable and passionate about his work and gathering & documenting. His use of videos and examples really helped me in understanding the course. It also made it enjoyable.”*

*“...The instructor. His energy and enthusiasm made the course. You can see the effort he puts into his work to give us the best possible experience. I liked his use of videos etc. to get ideas across and cement them in your mind.”*

*“...Richard should give himself a pat on the back for keeping a quiet class engaged in sometimes dry material. I enjoyed the course instruction Richard provided.”*

*“...The instructor was extremely clear & concise. He articulated the concepts from previous courses and brought the information together so that it made sense.”*

An impressive collection of student testimonials are also provided in the final pages of this nomination. As you will see, across the board, each testimonial speaks highly of Richard’s expertise, exceptional teaching skills, passion and professionalism.

Richard’s steady support and contributions to the success of Mount Royal is also evident in his regard for and commitment to our programming team. Richard is one of the most dedicated, dependable and tireless instructors that we’ve had the pleasure of working with. On numerous occasions, with limited notice or preparation (e.g., in response to a sudden instructor cancellation in the eleventh hour prior to delivery), Richard has stepped in to save the day. By way of juggling his own personal plans and rescheduling other professional engagements, Richard has helped us through “the crunch” time and again, and as always, returned reliably positive student feedback, for which I cannot not fully express my sincere gratitude and appreciation.

Outside of Mount Royal, Richard is a distinguished speaker, trainer, coach, mentor, facilitator and consultant to developing professionals, business leaders and entrepreneurs. Richard is the Founder and President of BraveWorld ([www.braveworld.ca/](http://www.braveworld.ca/)), a company dedicated to bridging business and technology and supporting organizations to achieve their goals. Richard is also a

member and the local Treasurer of the *Canadian Association of Professional Speakers (CAPS)* ([www.canadianspeakers.org/](http://www.canadianspeakers.org/)). As a corporate trainer, business mentor and leadership coach, Richard regularly helps other professionals develop their expertise and speaks through a variety of events and forums on success principles, the importance of seeding success in others and using business analysis principles (translated) to achieve individual or organizational goals.

Richard is devoted, both personally and professionally, to sharing his knowledge, experience and expertise with others. Richard has been featured in publications around the world including the *National Post*, the *Business Analyst Times* and the *Project Times*. Richard regularly hosts a small business development breakfast club and is currently developing a new *Seeding Success Program* to support community economic development. The *Succeeding Success Program* is founded upon best practices in Business Enterprise and Business Analysis with the purpose to help individuals, entrepreneurs, organizations and businesses take a candid look at what they are doing and how to be more strategic and increasingly successful in their efforts.

In his leisure time, Richard is the President of a local mountain biking group, *Mountain Biking Connections (MBC)*, a recreational outlet for men and women, 40 to 50 years of age, who want to share their joy for mountain biking, build relationships, live healthy and have fun. Richard is also a devoted family man who speaks most fondly of his wife and two sons, and being actively involved in their personal and extra-curricular lives (school, sports, clubs, entertainment, church, etc.).

As numerous students share below, to meet Richard is to remember Richard. Richard is a highly gifted, passionate educator and keen life-long learner who eagerly strives to give back to the community and help others reach their potential. Among so many wonderful instructors that I've had the honour of working with over the years, Richard is truly deserving of this nomination and would be deeply honoured should he be a chosen recipient of the award.

Sent to us in honour and support of Richard's nomination are several student testimonials, which appear on the following pages.

Thank you for your consideration.

## Student Testimonials in Support of Nominating Richard for a Distinguished Teaching Award

*"Richard's teaching style gave the Business Analysis classes a charge of energy and a rush of enthusiasm. I really enjoyed Richard's classes and found him to be most memorable amongst the instructors."*

**-Susan Padunsky - Business Analysis Class of 2009**

*"It is hard to forget Richard Lannon...he is the most enthusiastic, encouraging, and enlightening instructor I have encountered in my BA courses! When Richard saw that our morning coffee had not quite woken the class up, he stepped in to fully engage the class and make sure we were all awake and ready to learn, lol. I found Richard to be very dedicated to teaching the subjects of Business Analysis clearly and until he saw the lights of his students go on. He is a very attentive, alert, and thorough instructor."*

**-Carol Bouchard**

*"I have had the pleasure of taking a few classes with Richard over the past 3 years and agree that he is very deserving of this award for the following reasons;*

- *His ability to present the material in manner that it can be understood by a wide range of students from various backgrounds and with different levels of experience*
- *The respect he shows all students despite their level of understanding*
- *The balance of course discussion versus exercises and real life examples that make his classes very enjoyable*

*Thanks for the opportunity to provide this feedback."*

**-Lorna Osadczyk**

*"I've worked with Richard outside of Mount Royal and have attended courses that he has instructed. His dedication to his craft is apparent in both his teaching and his 'outside of teaching' work. His commitment to delivering a quality to his clients and to his students reflects his professionalism and his expertise in the business arena.*

*Thanks for asking for my input!"*

**-Susan Gardner**

*"Richard is a fantastic teacher; one could only be honoured to learn from one of the industry's best."*

**-Jennifer Walter**

*"Richard has been one the most remarkable instructors I've ever met. His enthusiasm and wittiness makes theoretical examples seem real and feasible. Thanks to his tips I've become a more vivacious, engaging presenter both at work and at school."*

**-Leonardo Tovar**

*"Richard Lannon is an expert in the field of business analysis with many years consulting experience. Beyond his solid grasp of the BABOK, Richard is defined as an exceptional instructor because of his enthusiasm and focus on engagement. His classes rely on an emphasis of sharing best practices and experiences of the people participating which adds a whole new dimension to the material covered in class and gets participants as excited as he is."*

**-Tyler Dunk**

*"I had the privilege of attending Richards's class Gathering Business Requirements. I have yet to attend a class that left me feeling my office projects can wait and it was ok to give up part of my weekend.*

*Richards approach was clear concise and very thorough. His ability to catch and keep your attention was outstanding. His ability to have all his students engaged and participating with passion and a desire to gain as much from his session was incredible."*

**-Anonymous**

*"Richard was very intimate with the course material and was able to deliver it with much passion. His knowledge of the business analyst role and values it provides industries encourages and excites someone starting off in their business analyst career path. Although, the Requirement Gathering course has many dull and dry moments, Richard was able to make the course interesting through various class activities, presentation, experiences from past work and from information he has researched online. I would not hesitate to take another class with Richard.*

*Thanks,"*

**-Ai-Lan**

*"I am more than happy to provide some personal testimonial about Richard. I had the pleasure of taking 3 of my Business Analysis courses with Richard and thoroughly enjoyed every minute. He is an incredible instructor with extensive knowledge and experience about what he is teaching - and it shows! He makes the class interesting and I always looked forward to attending a class that he was teaching. He presents himself and the information professionally and I valued everything that I learned from him very highly. I would gladly take any additional courses that were offered if he were the instructor!"*

**-Christine Neurauter**

*"My last class in the fall was with Richard, he was not only very engaging and high energy but he also demonstrated when teaching that it wasn't about him (Other's have demonstrated the opposite).*

*Richard did a good job of getting everyone involved and kept me interested in what he was teaching. I was pleasantly surprised with his teaching ability. It helps that he is a public speaker.*

*My two cents,"*

**-Brent Jopko**

*"Sure he is truly a great guy, he taught the courses very well really deserves an award. My memory of him was a good one. His class was never boring very serious and lively at the same time."*

**-Taiwo Agoro**

*"CONGRATULATIONS to Richard. Last winter I took the BA course and he was my instructor in two courses. He explains things nicely, very clearly and also from different angles, which helped me to understand the application of BA in my field."*

**-A A Zaidan Rabbi**