

# Steven Rosenfield receives Teaching Excellence Award

For many people, Math classes were a nightmare in school. But then most people didn't have a Math teacher like Steven Rosenfield, the recipient of the 2007-2008 Vanier College Teaching Excellence Award. The award recognizes a faculty member whose excellence in teaching and teaching methodology has contributed to the success of students and programs alike, and who has developed innovative curriculum and teaching methods. "I tried as a teacher," says Steve, "not to commit those sins teachers committed on me."

"Steve is an amazing teacher," says one of his students. "He fits in with students and actually understands things from the students' point of view." Steve himself states, "After 35 years of teaching I have encountered thousands of young people. Some have told me I was the best teacher they ever had. Where else can you have that kind of effect on people's lives?"

Among his innovations were the introduction of computers and online simulations to allow students to explore concepts of Calculus at their own pace. He also used group work and discussions as well as interactive exercises and projects to increase student understanding, retention and motivation in learning mathematics.

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Steven Rosenfield's reputation as an excellent teacher and researcher goes beyond Vanier. He has been a long-term member of the Centre for Study of Learning and Performance at Concordia University, has helped develop the high school curriculum in Quebec, and is often invited to give talks at the Ministry of Education.

Steven Rosenfield, photographed with Academic Dean, John McMahon, was honoured at a celebration in October.

"The real prize with this award," says Steve, "was being put up for it by my colleagues and students. That was the real treat!"

