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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

King's hosts Dennis Edney, lawyer for Omar Khadr during its Interdisciplinary Studies Conference

Edmonton – King's University College is proud to host four distinguished speakers at its upcoming Interdisciplinary Studies Conference September 17 and 18. The conference theme is *The Invisible Dignity Project: A Celebration of Human Dignity*.

Dennis Edney, well known lawyer for Omar Khadr, will address how his client, a young Muslim man, has been branded a terrorist without trial. Khadr is the only citizen of a US ally who is being held at the prison at Guantanamo Bay. His case has been in the headlines for several years yet the Canadian government so far has done little to intervene on Khadr's behalf.

Dr. Richard Middleton, theologian and prolific author, will speak on the meaning of human rights in light of the Christian belief that all of humanity is created in the image of God. Middleton is known for his thought provoking and fresh approach to Scripture and his outstanding ability to make the most complex issues understandable. He will also address how human suffering, violence, and broken relationships, render the dignity of the human being invisible.

Gerald Folkerts, one of the artists behind *The Invisible Dignity Project*, will talk about the power of artistic imagination in the pursuit of justice and reconciliation. Folkerts is an award winning artist who taught for eighteen years before devoting his life full time to painting. He has led workshops, been a juror for various exhibitions, and has been a featured presenter at art conferences and schools in both Canada and the US. Gerald's artwork will be on display during the Interdisciplinary Studies Conference.

Art historian, Dr. Calvin Seerveld, will be giving his perspective on the function of artistic imagination in addressing issues of human dignity. Seerveld, who received his Ph.D. in philosophy and comparative literature, is known for his lectures and writing on theoretical aesthetics and the methodology of art historiography. Recently a collection of Seerveld's many lectures and shorter writings were compiled in the Seerveld Reader and are entitled *In the Fields of the Lord* (2001).

All events are free of charge and will take place on the King's campus located at 9125 – 50 street, Edmonton. A full schedule of events can be found on the King's website at www.kingsu.ca.

The King's University College offers fully accredited Bachelor degrees in the arts, humanities, music, social sciences, natural sciences and commerce/management, as well as an education after degree. King's currently serves over 600 students from across Canada and abroad, representing more than 16 nations. Faculty are highly qualified, dedicated Christians committed to academic excellence and communicating a Christian perspective in their teaching. Students are challenged both inside and outside the classroom to apply what they learn to their life and their future career.

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