

UGFA

September 2009

**UGFA is pleased to announce the winner of the 2009
JAY NEWMAN AWARD
FOR ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

PROFESSOR WILLIAM E. SCHRANK

The University of Guelph Faculty Association is pleased to announce that Professor William E. Schrank is the inaugural winner of the Jay Newman Award for Academic Integrity. Our late colleague from Philosophy, Jay Newman, established this award for the purpose of recognizing a university scholar and teacher who either at a particular time or in the course of an academic career has demonstrated combined meritorious academic achievement with noteworthy courage or compassion in the defense of academic ideals.

Professor Schrank taught Economics at Memorial University of Newfoundland from 1970 until his retirement in 2004. As a highly regarded fisheries economist with an international reputation, his research on the management of fish stocks often placed him in opposition to both government and commercial vested interests. This made clear to him at an early stage in his academic career the need for protections of academic freedom. As a member of Memorial University of Newfoundland Faculty Association (MUNFA), Professor Schrank championed the rights of the professoriat to freedom of speech and expression, not only in theory but in practice. As a member of a joint MUNFA/CAUT committee, he helped to negotiate the settlement in a high-profile case of a professor dismissed for what were eventually determined to be political reasons. He also worked tirelessly to eliminate discriminatory practices at the University and to entrench democratic procedures in MUNFA. As Professor Schrank approached retirement, he was increasingly engaged in advancing the vision of the University as a humane institution and resisting the increasing encroachments of a consumerist ideology into higher education. For all of these reasons, Bill Schrank was chosen as the winner of the Jay Newman Award for Academic Integrity.

Professor Schrank will accept his award in person, and will deliver a short address, at the UGFA Wine and Cheese reception on Thursday, October 22, from 4:00-7:00pm at the University Club. We hope you can come to hear this dauntless defender of Academic Freedom and Integrity.