

## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Premier Presentation of Cecil R. Paul Award**

August 1, 1992, Dr. Cecil R. Paul passed away suddenly from a brain aneurysm. His family lost a devoted, loving husband and father, Eastern Nazarene College lost its president, and Towel & Basin lost one of its three cofounders.

Last year on the 10th anniversary of Cecil's death, Towel & Basin announced the creation of an award in his honor. The Cecil R. Paul Award will be presented to an individual with scholastic excellence in his/her chosen academic discipline that has integrated this commitment to scholarship with equally significant service to the community.

Dr. Paul was a respected and published scholar, director of a graduate program, and college president who also consistently and generously offered himself and his intellectual abilities in service to church and community. Fellow cofounder and Executive Director David Best explains, "The award will honor Cecil's life-long integration of scholarship and service with the intention to nurture and encourage other scholars' service beyond the academy's library, laboratory or classroom."

In a 1997 article, Towel & Basin cofounder Michael R. Estep called Cecil a " 'man of vision' and 'legendary.' Not of self-enamorment. No, the legend he left behind was of places and programs still making a difference in thousands of lives: community centers, college campuses, graduate programs, adult learning programs, textbooks, publishing programs, servant organizations – the things legends are made of."

"Towel & Basin Ministries is part of Cecil's legendary legacy. It is our intent to remain faithful to Cecil's vision for Towel & Basin to challenge and help persons develop excellence in service across their entire life spans." stated David Best. Best continued, "This award in his name recognizes and encourages persons who are, as Cecil was, servant-scholars with 'educated hearts'."

The inaugural presentation of the Cecil R. Paul Award was made to its first recipient on October 17, 2003 in ceremonies during Eastern Nazarene College's Homecoming. Dr. Jan Lanham, long-time associate and friend of Dr Paul was chosen appropriately as the first receiptent.

Towel & Basin, based in Nashville, Tennessee, was established to help people and

organizations discover their God-given visions, develop to their full potential and achieve excellence in service to God's world.

For more information on Towel & Basin Ministries and its current projects go to [www.towelandbasin.org](http://www.towelandbasin.org).

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