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The Troubadour, Issue 19 (September 7, 2004)

Cardinal Stritch University

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THE TROUBADOUR

September 7, 2004

Issue 19

Message from the President

Dear Colleagues,

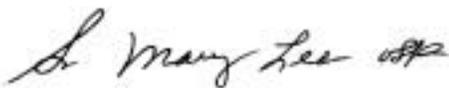
I'd like to give you a brief update on the progress of our Visioning endeavor. To date, we have had meetings with each of the four colleges, and everything has gone very well. We are getting positive responses to the vision statement as well as open and honest feedback on the entire process and the guiding principles behind it. People seem to be pleased with the background information they have received plus a clear explanation of the statement and its goals. Similar meetings will continue with various staff groups around campus over the next two weeks.

I want to remind you that the sessions bringing faculty and staff together have been rescheduled for **Friday, Sept. 17**, from the previously announced Friday, Sept. 24. We will provide more information as we get closer to that date on the rooms where we will gather as well as how we will determine the groupings.

Results from all these meetings will be given to the Visioning Committee, which will review the feedback and bring forward the final vision statement to the Board of Trustees at their Oct. 26 meeting. The statement will then be presented on Nov. 12, at our all-University assembly, at which you also will get information on the next steps leading to strategic planning based on the vision.

I also want to remind you of the strategic planning day, which is Saturday Nov. 20. I encourage you to make attendance a priority, so that together we can bring our expertise, our energy and our experience to work to shape what our future could and should be.

With God's blessing,



Lifetime Learners adding new site

Cardinal Stritch University's Lifetime Learner's program, which aims to help economically disadvantaged city residents achieve the dream of higher education, is opening a new site where students can earn an associate of science in business degree.

Recruiting is going on now for classes that will start in March of 2005 at the Greentree and Teutonia Community Learning Center, 3744 W. Green Tree Rd. Students will attend classes two nights a week and can receive free child care. The program is collaboration with the Housing Ministries of American Baptists in Wisconsin, which runs the center.

Lifetime Learners is also at the Next Door Foundation, 2545 N. 29th St., in collaboration with the Foundation.

The Greentree center is part of a 44-year-old housing community funded by HUD. Stritch's participation with Lifetime Learners will bring higher education into a continuum of services offered there, from early childhood to after-school programs, meal services and senior activities.

"The environment there promotes interest, learning and inquisitiveness," said Enrollment Management VP Pete Holbrook, who was instrumental in setting up the new partnership. "Here people learn how to put those qualities to use in employment."

Editor's Note: More information on the center will appear in the cover story of the upcoming winter Stritch magazine.

Sister Benedicta Ritchie dies; taught for years in Reading Clinic

Services will be held this evening (Sept. 7), in St. Francis Chapel of the Motherhouse for Sister Benedicta Ritchie, a former teacher in Stritch's Reading Clinic, who died Aug. 31, at age 93.

Sister Benedicta spent 49 years teaching in elementary schools and also taught on Saturdays and in summers at OSF Reading Clinics in Boston as well as at Stritch. When she left classroom teaching, she taught full-time in Stritch's Reading Clinic, for 10 years. After she moved to the Sisters' Clare Hall in 1989, in her retirement, she tutored small children in nearby schools.

"She was, so sweet, and much beloved by all who knew her, for her gentle ways and for the little flower garden she tended in the courtyard beside Roger Bacon Hall," said Vice President Pete Holbrook, who knew her when he was a Stritch student in the 1980s. "She was always compassionate, understanding, warm and friendly, and she always remembered your name. She thoroughly lived the Franciscan values of hospitality and sharing, building community. Through her welcoming persona, she always made people feel loved."



Sister Benedicta was born in Kentucky and grew up in Illinois. She recounts in "My Stories," a compendium of remembrances of OSFs, that as a 5-year-old, she was called to the front of a classroom by a teacher who berated her for not being able to read and told her she would never be able to do so.

"I was crushed! I would never forget those words, but they were to have a positive impact in giving me the great sensitivity for those I taught. ... I often recalled this experience, which furthered my resolve that no child I taught would suffer as I had. ... I am often amazed and always grateful that I have been able to open the doors of reading to hundreds of children in my classroom and in the clinic."

Visitation will be today from 2 to 6:40 p.m. at the Motherhouse. A time of remembering will be at 6:40 p.m., with Mass at 7 p.m. Burial will be tomorrow in Holy Sepulcher Cemetery Chapel at 9 a.m..



VOCATION DEVELOPMENT
MANY CALLINGS. MANY GIFTS. MANY WORKS.

Lilly Vocation Fellows program off to a good start

The Lilly Vocation Fellows program established by the Office of Vocation Development at Stritch is off to a successful start, according to the Rev. Dr. Trinette McCray, OVD executive director. The program gives traditional undergraduate students and graduate students in traditional programs an opportunity to receive financial support for the continuation of their theological exploration of vocation while completing their degree in any field of study.

Four students have joined the program already, and many others have expressed interest, she said. "This is showing us that there are a number of students who are interested in a more focused approach to developing their own vocation or calling, and that fact has really broadened our capacity to help other students, both undergraduate and graduate."

The program is designed to assist students who major in areas other than Religious Studies to receive a renewable grant per semester or annually. This grant allows them to participate in activities that will play a significant role in the clarification of their calling, meaning and purpose in a life of service to others.

Grants are also available to conduct special studies and experiences in other locations in the United States and internationally. These grants may be applied toward tuition, resources and materials, program participation expenses and travel costs, and more.

Faculty and staff are strongly encouraged to help identify students who have expressed interest in a life of faith-based service.

Applicants should contact the Office of Vocation Development at (414) 410-4750 or via email at ovd@stritch.edu to inquire what information needs to be included in the letter of interest.

**Mark
your calendar**

