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The Troubadour, Issue 26 (December 14, 2004)

Cardinal Stritch University

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THE TROUBADOUR

December 14, 2004

Issue 26

Dear Colleagues,



I want to thank the more than 100 people who attended our University planning day on Nov. 20. The energy that day was palpable and the ideas free-flowing. The results of the various group sessions have been compiled and are available on StritchNet, our internal Web site. Go to www.stritch.net and click on "find out more" under the vision statement. I know those of you who participated are eager to see these, and I hope they will inspire those of you who did not attend but remain interested in our visioning and planning processes. Also available is a lively PowerPoint presentation that was used to energize participants on Nov. 20.

Anyone who did not attend Nov. 20 and still has ideas to share should contact Kathy Freuler. She also has additional hard copies of information handed out that day and detailed results of the individual sessions that were used by the facilitators to compile the overall reports posted on StritchNet.

Again, I want to thank the many members of the Stritch community who gave up a Saturday to share with us in this important endeavor. From the information we received, we will move on to strategic planning. Separate committees are being formed to take that process forward, and all planning will be based on shared input. More information will be forthcoming.

I am honored to work with such a dedicated group of individuals, and I wish you all God's blessings over the upcoming holiday season.

Sister Mary Lea

Father Jim leaving Stritch for St. Francis Seminary

After spending almost half of his time as an ordained priest at Stritch, Father Jim Lobacz will be leaving the University June 30 to head the Office of Vocations at the St. Francis Seminary.

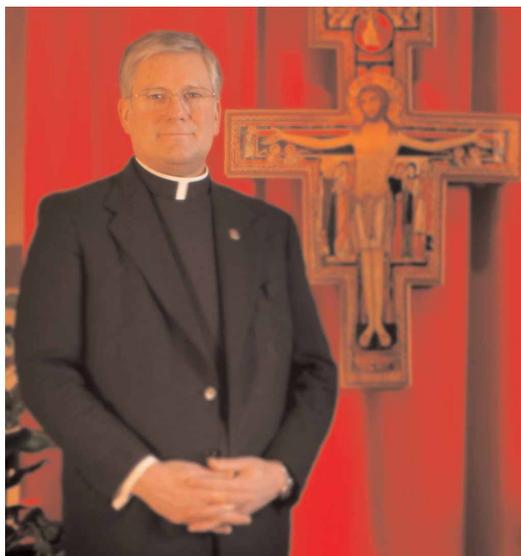
"I was surprised to pick up my phone at 10 after 8 one morning to find the Archbishop (Timothy Dolan) on the other end initiating a conversation about the possibility that I'd become the vocation director!" Father Jim said. After considering the position, he decided it was a good fit for him, because it combines his administrative experience with his skills in helping people who are in the process of deciding what to do with their lives.

In the new position, Father Jim will develop and maintain contacts with men who have expressed an interest in the priesthood, from juniors in high school to individuals in their 40s. He also will be responsible for creating relationships with people who have contacts with potential priests, such as high school teachers in Catholic schools, campus ministers and catechists. And he will preach at parishes to create interest in the priesthood.

Father Jim has been at Stritch since 1993, first in Campus Ministry and later as the

director of the Franciscan Mission Office. He helped create that office four years ago, when Stritch received a grant from the Teagle Foundation. The office will continue

after Father Jim leaves. Archbishop Dolan also has promised that he will work to ensure Stritch gets a full-time replacement priest, Father Jim said.



Leaving is bittersweet for Father Jim, who noted that his Stritch tenure is the longest time he ever spent in a position since his ordination 25 years ago. Before Stritch he taught high school, was a parish priest and served as vice rector of the Cathedral of St. John.

His greatest joy at the University, he said was observing the transformation of people and the institution over the last 12 years. Establishing the Franciscan Mission Office also was a huge milestone for him, he said.

"It has been one long, terrific ride," Sister Mary Lea said about Father Jim's work at Stritch. "I'm happy we were able to have him for as many years as we did. We are grateful for his many contributions, and we wish him the very best in his new position. He certainly will be missed."

Executive director selected for new Office of Sponsored Programs

On Dec. 1, the Office for University Advancement welcomed James Casey to Stritch as executive director of the Office of Sponsored Programs, a newly created office and position within Advancement designed to expand Stritch's grant and sponsored program efforts.

Casey's appointment will help establish a centralized and aggressive grant office through which Stritch can increase proposal submissions and awards.

"Stritch, like many institutions, is primarily tuition driven," Casey said. "Our two main goals are to get this office established and to bring in more grant money consistently. An alternative revenue stream will help us become less dependent on tuition."

With more than 11 years in the field of sponsored programs, Casey brings an array of skills and experiences to Stritch. Before his arrival, he was managing director of sponsored programs at Bradley University in Peoria, Ill., and held similar positions at Northwestern University and here in Milwaukee at Marquette University. In addition to his experience in higher education, Casey was a grant administrator for the City of Huber Heights, Ohio, where he also served as interim parks and recreation manager. He also has taught courses in political science, law, public administration, and health care at Bradley, Marquette, UW-Madison, Concordia, and Upper Iowa University. He anticipates doing some teaching at Stritch in the future as well. Casey also has a law degree, and he previ-

ously practiced in Wisconsin and remains licensed in the state.

Originally from New Berlin, Casey graduated from Catholic Memorial High School in Waukesha. He received a B.A. *cum laude* in political science from UW-



Whitewater, an M.A. in international affairs from Marquette, an M.P.A. in urban affairs and strategic planning from the University of Dayton, and his J.D. from the University of Dayton.

In addition to his education, Casey has some national prominence, which he hopes will help expand Stritch's sponsored program capabilities. He is editor of *Research Management Review*, the scholarly journal of the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA). He also is one of only 10 University delegates to the 30-member University/Industry

Partnership, a Washington, D.C.-based alliance among NCURA, The National Academies and the Industrial Research Institute. This project seeks to foster collaborative partnerships between academia and industry and reduce friction in these partnerships. Casey acknowledges the potential fundraising value in putting Stritch at the table with some of the nation's largest and most prestigious research institutions.

Casey stresses that, although he does have grant writing experience, his duties at Stritch do not include writing grants, nor will he be involved with the daily financial administration of grants. "I'm here to serve faculty and staff who seek grant money, and to be a liaison between Stritch and granting agencies. I'll also review and approve grant proposals before their submission to sponsors."

As he settles into his new home in Shorewood, Casey hopes to find time to get back to his hobbies of playing the piano and electric guitar, and to vacation to Ireland, a favorite destination.

Casey's first impressions of Stritch echo those of many other new staff and faculty. "Everyone I've met has been friendly and helpful. Stritch is a welcoming place," he said. He encourages faculty and staff who have funding needs to contact him.

"I'll do my best to help them in any way I can."

Pancakes all around!

Monday night, Dec. 13, marked the annual Student Development Pancake Feast in Serra Hall, at 10 p.m. Pancakes, sausage, and waffles were served as a study-break snack to hungry students studying for finals. Student Development staff put on their aprons and served a full house. Sean Lybeck-Smoak of the Office of Vocation Development said, "we almost ran out of food! We served the last pancakes there were to the last student who came in."





Christmas lights up the Great Hall

Dec. 3 marked the arrival of the annual Tree Lighting ceremony at 4 p.m. in the Great Hall. Several events were rolled into one, including the Assisi Pilgrim's Chronicle, the tree lighting itself, and the President's reception, which took place in the Student Union.

This year's Assisi pilgrims, John Pfaffl, Paula Friedman, Tom Kipp, and Sr. Barbara Reynolds, shared their reflections on Assisi and presented Sr. Mary Lea with a bas relief wall hanging that depicts the annunciation, where the angel Gabriel tells Mary that she is to be the mother of God.

After Sr. Mary's Lea's annual Christmas address and before the lighting of the tree, students Mark Quistorf and Matthew May performed "O Holy Night," and Father Jim Lobacz said a short prayer.

After the tree lighting, faculty and staff enjoyed refreshments and socialized with colleagues in the Student Union.

New Stritch Staff



Sr. Mary Jeanne Michels
Curator
Franciscan Center Library



Madelyn McReynolds
Secretary
Office of Vocation Development

THE TROUBADOUR

The Troubadour supports the overall mission, goals, and objectives of Cardinal Stritch University, and is meant to serve as a communications tool for the campus community.

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If you have feedback or story ideas, please contact Public Relations at prdept@stritch.edu.

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