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The Troubadour, Issue 31 (March 24, 2005)

Cardinal Stritch University

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THE TROUBADOUR

March 24, 2005

SPECIAL EDITION

Issue 31

Budget passed; new executive vice president named

Cardinal Stritch University's Board of Trustees approved a budget Tuesday for fiscal year 2005-06 that includes a 4% increase in funds available for raises and restores faculty travel allowances to \$750 per person.

Also in the budget, the University will absorb a 19% increase in health care premiums through the WAICU consortium. Employees' premiums will not rise.

The budget also includes a reduction of approximately 5% in the budget lines for supplies and expenses, in order to create a \$200,000 contingency the board required of Stritch.

Specific cuts for departments and units will be determined via consultation among department chairs, deans, directors and vice presidents.

"We had to come up with the \$200,000, and the reduction in those areas met the trustees' directive," Vice President Karen Walrath said. "But we decided not to make cuts across the board, so they will be made after people discuss how best they can achieve the reductions within their own areas.

"As for the raises, since there were none last year, we felt very strongly that this had to be our No. 1 priority this year," she said.

Other than the increase for raises, the budget includes no new proposals. Changes within any areas of the University for the coming academic year are due to reallocation of existing funds.

Also announced at the Trustees' meeting, and partly as a result of Stritch's attempt to stay on target with future budgets, to grow non-tuition revenue streams and to further advancement efforts, was the promotion of Peter Holbrook to the new position of executive vice president and chief operating officer.



In this position, Holbrook will be responsible for daily operations and University planning. He will oversee the top University support functions, which include the areas of Business and Finance, Enrollment Management, Facilities, Public Relations and Communications, and Student Development. For the time being, Holbrook also will supervise Enrollment Management, but that area will be restructured.

Holbrook will work closely with the vice presidents for Academics and Advancement, and those three will report directly to the president.

"Pete has demonstrated strong leadership capacity, which has produced many tangible results," President Sister Mary Lea Schneider said.

Under his leadership, she noted, enrollments and tuition revenue have increased at the undergraduate and graduate level and the Office of Graduate Admissions was established. Holbrook led the process that resulted in Stritch moving from college to University status. He also developed a brand platform for Stritch that resulted in award-winning advertising and publications.

Holbrook joined Stritch as the director of Development in 1989, became executive director of Enrollment

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Management in 1993 and was named vice president of that area in 1996. While in Development, he was responsible for the Annual Fund and special gifts. He helped secure a major grant from the federal government for efforts to combat alcohol and drug abuse and one from the Lilly Foundation to enhance multicultural relations, recruitment and retention.

Before Stritch, Holbrook was the director of admissions at Carthage College, from 1986 to 1989, and a member of the admissions staff at the Milwaukee School of Engineering, from 1985 to 1986. His degrees are all from Stritch, including a BA in business in 1984 and a master's in management in 1995; he is now working on his doctorate in leadership.

"Pete has rich and varied experience, he pays attention to detail, and he sees the big picture," Sister Mary Lea said.

"It's a good move for us not only because it will allow us to operate more efficiently but also because it will free me to be out of the office more and to concentrate on fund raising.

"Stritch needs to reduce its reliance on tuition (which will increase by 7.3% in the new budget) to provide needed revenue. And my concentrated effort on fund raising arises from that need."

Also as part of that effort, the Advancement office will be reorganized to create five positions dedicated to raising money, versus the two –Vice President Mike Brauer and Chris Lange — who currently are in that role.

Brauer stressed that the reorganization will not require new money, but rather will be accomplished by shifting responsibilities and filling an open position. The position, which was for a researcher and which has been vacant for about a month, will become dedicated mainly to planned giving. Brauer hopes to fill it by May 1.

The director and assistant director of Alumni Relations, Ann Woolweber and Tanya Bissen respectively, will also be responsible for the Annual Fund.

"Both have fund raising backgrounds, and it makes sense to tap their expertise with alumni to create an increased appreciation of giving and to bring in more volunteers to our Annual Fund efforts," Brauer said.

"We need staff to be out there having conversations with people, dealing with people one on one, building and continuing relationships, and making contact with people who may want to do something for Stritch but do not know how," Brauer said. "I think this reorganization will help us in those efforts."

Holbrook said he was looking forward to the new position. "The vice presidents who will report to me are highly capable individuals with skilled, dedicated staffs," he said.

"The Enrolment Management team has made enormous strides in recent years and has become a true learning organization. It has recreated itself to focus on continuous improvement and excellence, all of which is aimed at serving our students more efficiently and effectively. These efforts really reflect our dedication to service and hospitality."

Holbrook said his primary goal was to ensure that the Franciscan culture is truly lived in all aspects of the University.

"I want to align our leadership capacity, behavior and character with our mission, vision and values, to ensure that they are truly lived in all aspects of the University.

"It's not about knowing what our core values are, it's about all of us learning to truly become Franciscans."

"I want to align our leadership capacity, behavior and character with our mission, vision and values, to ensure that they are truly lived in all aspects of the University."

- Peter Holbrook

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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Father Bob Lotz will be new campus priest

Father Robert Lotz, a graduate of Stritch's doctoral program and a member of the Leadership Center's advisory board, has been selected to succeed Father James Lobacz as Stritch's campus minister and director of the Franciscan Mission Office. He starts July 1.

Father Bob was a full time campus minister from June 1994 to October 1996 at Mount Mary College and from October 1996 to July of 2004 at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He is now a part-time campus minister at UWM and also is the director of continuing formation of clergy for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Since being ordained as a priest in 1973, Father Bob also has been a parish pastor, a parish associate and an administrator for the Archdiocese. In the latter role, he served as the director of adult and family ministry from July 1988 to October 1991 and as the coordinator of young adult ministry from July 1979 to July 1988.

"I've spent 24 years of my 32 years as a priest working with young adults and college people; plus I found my experience at Stritch in the doctoral program to be life changing, so this place is a good fit for me," he said.

Father Bob also worked with the Religious Studies department for a number of years, certifying students through the Archdiocese for adult and family ministry, and he knows all the members of the University's Campus Ministry team.

He noted that Stritch is not a traditional University that serves exclusively traditional-aged students, living in residence halls, on a September to June schedule. "Many students these days are non-traditional-

aged students. I came back here at 51 to be a college student ... so I do see my becoming more clearly a representative to and an agent for the non-traditional students who are here."

He noted that students of any age are stretched thin for time, so a goal would be to go to them, particularly those in regional offices or satellite sites. "The real challenge is time. You need to go out to where they are, to enrich their experiences."

Father Bob described himself as a product of the '60s, of the Second Vatican Council and of an inter-faith family. His father was Roman Catholic and his mother was B' Hai, although she converted to Catholicism when he was a child. "The inter-religious experience in our family helped us maintain a sense of openness to diversity and an appreciation for it." As a result, he stresses inclusivity: religious, racial, gender and with regard to accessibility to worship.

"I think that, although this is a Catholic institution and maintains a Catholic identity, it also needs to celebrate the diversity of its students and allow for some of the more public events to really be open to an expression beyond Catholicity."

Father Bob said he doesn't fancy himself much of a dramatic person and he is not really enamored with rituals, particularly if they do not celebrate beauty but rather are formal and stiff. But he noted that for those who do embrace tradition, "it's important to, in an honest and straightforward way, explain thing before we engage in them.

"Younger people are amazed by the traditions, so you build bridges and



come together on those sorts of things," he said.

Regarding practices such as blessings, he said he believes priests need not be the only ones who bless. "We all bless in different kinds of ways, and it's important to acknowledge and celebrate the godliness that's in every person."

He describes himself as a relational person who really enjoys multi-generational relationships. "I've found working with college people to be enriching, and working with students keeps me young."

He is very much looking forward to continuing the work that Father Jim started with the Franciscan Mission Office, particularly with the Franciscan pilgrimage program, and hopes he will be able to visit Assisi sometime soon.

"I will build on what's been done, but I'll bring my own personality to the process," he said with a smile.