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Cardinal Stritch University

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THE TROUBADOUR

MARCH 21, 2007

ISSUE 73

TRUSTEES APPROVE '07-'08 BUDGET THAT INCLUDES 4% RAISES, INCREASE IN MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE TO 42¢

The Board of Trustees on Tuesday approved the University's 2007-08 budget, which includes 4% salary increases for permanent faculty, staff and adjuncts and an increase in the mileage reimbursement from 32 to 42 cents.



As reported in a series of budget information meetings held on campus last month, the budget balanced relatively easily this year, and the University is back to a regular budget cycle.

Individual departments and units should have their budgets by the end of July.

"I'm really pleased that we were able to include salary increases for everyone this year, including our adjuncts," said President Sister Mary Lea Schneider. "Our faculty are at the heart of what we are all about – educating our students in a transformative way. And we need our dedicated staff to accomplish our goals and live out our vision. The raises are well deserved as they recognize the hard work that everyone is contributing."

Karen Walrath, vice president of Business and Finance, said that revenue projections in the budget are conservative, based on the current number of students. After including a contingency fund, Stritch had money available to cover a number of operational needs that address several critical challenges. These needs include adding much-needed technology staff, funding some additional faculty and staff lines, and continuously improving facilities and grounds, to avoid deferred maintenance.

The budget also will fund initiatives outlined in the University's strategic and financial plan. These include money to create professional development programs, mentor adjunct faculty, help to increase the number of faculty with terminal degrees and to conduct a human resources audit. More specifics will be included in an upcoming Troubadour.

"The budget process went relatively smoothly this year, and I am very happy that we will be able to fund initiatives in the strategic plan," said Pete Holbrook, the University's executive vice president and chief operating officer. "The plan was created with a lot of input from all segments of the University, and it needs to remain our guidepost."

STUDENT HEALTH CENTER GETS NEW DIRECTOR

Sallie Horrigan, who was a student health nurse at Marquette University for the last eight months, is the new director of Stritch's Student Health Center. She began Feb. 19.

Before Marquette, Horrigan served as an RN in emergency medical triage at St. Mary's Hospital. She spent 20 years working at St. Joseph's Hospital in obstetrics and pediatric care. She also worked in national health outreach for United Health Care.

"I found myself looking for a career with more challenges," she said. "This position blends my managerial experience with my passion for providing excellent care for students. (Traditional-age) college students are a great age to work with and provide an ever-changing environment. The positive health habits that they acquire now will last them a lifetime."



which is not often the case with student health insurance. The plan was started because of the difficulty many students had in accessing affordable care when they were away from school, or when they required more extensive treatment.

Stritch has a registered nurse practitioner, Sally LaRosa, on site for about four hours a day, Monday through Thursday. Horrigan hopes to expand these hours. The University also has a dedicated doctor off site who serves as the health center's medical director.

Horrigan said she plans to build stronger ties between the Student Health Center and other providers of student services.

"We want everyone to be able to make informed referrals to ensure our students are getting the best care possible," she said.

The Student Health Center is open to all students. It offers services such as physical examinations, basic blood tests and other lab work, and care for ill or injured students. Many services are free. The center also helps students with physical disabilities to ensure that they have full access to the educational environment.

The Student Health Center also administers the student health insurance program. Full-time students in traditional programs, international students, and associate's degree nursing students in clinicals are automatically enrolled in the program, which also is open to other students, including those who are part time.

Stritch's program offers benefits for preventive care,

A North Shore native, Horrigan has a B.S. in nursing from UW-Milwaukee. She and her husband, Dan, live in Brookfield and have three college-aged children. Their eldest daughter lives in Minneapolis and is a probation officer who is starting law school. A second daughter is a freshman at St. Cloud State in Minnesota, and their son plays semi-professional hockey in Boston.

She said being a mother helps drive her in her professional life.

"Having children in college gives me a unique perspective," she said. "I try to give the students at Stritch the kind of care I hope my children are getting where they are."

THE TROUBADOUR

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