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## The Troubadour, Issue 104 (April 22, 2009)

Cardinal Stritch University

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# THE TROUBADOUR

APRIL 22, 2009

SPECIAL ALL-UNIVERSITY EDITION

ISSUE 104

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members of the Cardinal Stritch Community,

It has been a sad week for our university family. As you know, Julie Wachowiacz, a member of the student development staff, passed away this week, as did Michael Waite, the son of Ruth Waite, dean of the Ruth S. Coleman College of Nursing. Both were very untimely passings for such vibrant young people. Additionally, Patty Witte, an accounts payable clerk from our Business Office, sustained a severe head injury while on vacation and is recovering in the hospital.

It is during these times that we often ask ourselves, "Why do bad things happen to good people"?

While people like Father Jim Gannon can answer that question better than I can, I would like to share with you a small story of hope. A couple of days ago, I was walking into the building after returning from visitation for Ruth's son. While driving back, I also heard about Julie. Kris Herrick and Matt Damon of our Facilities staff were standing outside the building and motioned to me as I approached.

"Look at this!" they said. "This leaf has been floating up and down for over ten minutes."

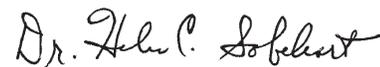
I saw a small brown leaf that seemed as if it was suspended in air. It floated about two to three feet above the ground, occasionally dipping down to barely touch the ground. Soon enough, however, it would soar back up again and even float in circles. It looked as if it was trying to find just the right gust of the wind to bring it to rest. After about two or three more minutes, it began to rain, so the small brown leaf wafted to the ground

and became nestled in the leaves of a bright green plant that had recently sprouted up from the soil. We all went inside, but I later walked out to find the little leaf still held in the arms of the new plant. It is pictured here.

When I first saw the leaf floating, it made me think of a beautiful free spirit floating on the air; sometimes up, sometimes down, sometimes just flying in circles before it finally found its resting place. As I looked at the leaf cradled in the arms of new life it occurred to me that though it had finally come to rest, it will also nurture the new flower and, in doing so, be born again.

As we pray for Julie and Michael and ask for God's help in Patty's recovery, we might envision that our spirits and theirs are all floating together, interacting in ways that we may not see, but that give each other life. It has been an honor to see the love that you have all shown to each other during this time of grief. May the breezes of other spirits carry you on your own journey and continue to provide life-giving energy to others.

Peace and all good,



Helen



## PRICE AND SIZE OPTIONS SET FOR OFFICIAL CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY RING



The first-ever official Cardinal Stritch University ring is now available for purchase in a variety of size and cost options, Jostens officials announced recently.

The ring will be available in three sizes – men’s, midsize, and women’s (large, medium, and small), and in varieties of 10-karat white gold, 14-karat white gold, 18-karat white gold, silver/platinum and lustrium.

The cost structure is as follows:

STYLE	Large	Medium	Small
10KW	656 <sup>.00</sup>	626 <sup>.00</sup>	523 <sup>.00</sup>
14KW	900 <sup>.00</sup>	861 <sup>.00</sup>	688 <sup>.00</sup>
18KW	1240 <sup>.00</sup>	1185 <sup>.00</sup>	938 <sup>.00</sup>
Silver/Platinum	636 <sup>.00</sup>	606 <sup>.00</sup>	503 <sup>.00</sup>
Lustrium	366 <sup>.00</sup>	366 <sup>.00</sup>	318 <sup>.00</sup>

Available for order now, the ring incorporates the most significant imagery of the University and its Franciscan tradition. It is designed to serve as a permanent memento for students, alumni, faculty and staff.

The ring was designed by Jane Backes, art director in the Public Relations office and a Stritch alumna, in conjunction with Jostens, the Minneapolis-based company that provides graduation materials to Stritch students. The Alumni Relations and Dean of Students offices were also involved in the ring design process.

Although students, alumni and employees have been able to order rings of various styles in years past, there has never been a single, definitive design for an official university ring, and Stritch President Dr. Helen Sobehart was eager to see the University create a distinct look which captures the elements that make Stritch unique.

To place an order, please call (800) 488-2173.

## FOLLOW CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY ON TWITTER



Stritch now has a presence on Twitter, the popular and fast-growing social networking tool.

Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people and organizations like Stritch through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to the question: “What are you doing?”

Please visit <http://twitter.com/stritchuniv>, or click on the link on the [www.stritch.edu](http://www.stritch.edu) home page. If you haven’t already, make sure you sign up for your own Twitter account while you are there.

## STUDENT SERVICE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT HONORS CONVOCATION

### Pace e Bene Award

Named after the Italian expression “Peace and all good,” this award goes to a person who by their everyday words and actions recognizes the goodness and dignity in everyone, incorporates Stritch’s mission into their personal spiritual and faith life, actively expresses their faith in daily life, and contributes to the spiritual or faith life of the campus.

*Recipient: Samantha Erschen*

### Multicultural Image Award

This award recognizes and encourage student commitment to multicultural issues and efforts toward building an inclusive society and/or campus community.

*Recipient: Amy Simmert*

### Dr. Robert Flahive Essay Award

In honor of Cardinal Stritch University’s former senior vice president, whose leadership embodied Franciscan values, this award is open to all Stritch students who submit an essay which is focused on a different Franciscan value each year.

*Recipient: Kimberly Meyer*

### Samuel Cardinal Stritch Award

In honor of Milwaukee’s former Archbishop who improved the lives of countless people of all races and religions and encouraged the Sisters of St. Francis to found the University, this award is for a graduating senior enrolled in the traditionally taught undergraduate programs.

*Recipient: Amanda Gonwa*

All Student Service Award recipients receive a monetary gift of \$100, which is matched by a \$100 donation to the student’s favorite charity in the student’s name.