Br. Dietrich Elected to Third Term as SJU President

Br. Dietrich Reinhart, SJU president since 1991, has been named by the University’s Board of Regents to a third six-year term as president after nomination by the Chancellor of the University, Abbot John Klassen. The re-appointment, effective July 1, was approved at the board’s regular spring meeting on March 7.

“We are delighted that Br. Dietrich will be continuing his leadership of Saint John’s University,” said Greg Palen, chair of the University’s Board of Regents. “His extraordinary vision and his ability to inspire those around him are hallmarks of his presidency at this remarkable institution.

“The Board of Regents is especially grateful for the role Br. Dietrich played in shaping the future of the University, particularly the efforts that resulted in the aspiring goal to provide the finest Catholic liberal arts education in the country. His enduring commitment to provide our students with an exceptional educational experience and his diligent care for the whole of Saint John’s are foundational qualities of his leadership. The University is in great hands,” Palen concluded, “and the future of this institution will be stronger because of Br. Dietrich’s continuing service as president.”

“Br. Dietrich’s energy, enthusiasm, and efforts on behalf of Saint John’s are unparalleled and I was very pleased to place his name in nomination for a third term,” said Abbot John Klassen. “Under Br. Dietrich’s leadership the University has come to a deeper awareness of the Benedictine heritage upon which it was founded and a renewed understanding of the distinct nature of Catholic liberal arts education. He has done an extraordinary job during the last 12 years and his service has enriched Saint John’s beyond measure. We are very fortunate to have his continued leadership.”

Among the highlights of Reinhart’s second term, to date, are the construction of a new science center; completed expansion and renovation of SJU’s athletic facilities; completion of apartment housing for upper-class students in Saint Vincent Court, and Saints Placid and Maur Houses; the commissioning of calligrapher Donald Jackson to undertake the completion of The Saint John’s Bible; the designation of Saint John’s land as an Arboretum; the continued implementation of a strategic plan jointly with CSB; and the successful completion of several capital fundraising campaigns.

“Saint John’s is a first-rate Catholic liberal arts college, with world-class programs in theological education and stewardship of knowledge, culture and the environment,” said Reinhart. “This educational community, with its remarkable faculty and staff, exists solely for the sake of our students and larger human family. It is a great honor to join so many others in preserving and strengthening this precious place of mind and heart.”

Reinhart, 53, the 11th president of the University, graduated from SJU in 1971 with a degree in history. He professed as a monk of Saint John’s Abbey in 1972. He holds master’s and doctorate degrees in history from Brown University. Prior to becoming president, Reinhart served as dean of the college at Saint John’s and, before that, taught European history.
CSB/SJU Employee’s ‘Dream Job’ Involves Service

prepared by Glenda Isaacs Burgeson
Community editor
Communication and Marketing Services

Dianne Johnstone has the best job at CSB/SJU. If you don’t believe it, just ask her. “This is my dream job,” she said of her split duties providing clerical support half time to the Office of Service Learning and another half time to the department of social work. In either instance, she works to promote social justice, a value dear to her heart.

Both offices support social justice by providing services and dealing with issues that directly affect peoples’ lives, she explained. Even more gratifying, she said, is the opportunity to work with the type of students these offices attract. “These are students who are interested in serving people. They are just amazing,” she said.

That description could just as easily apply to Johnstone. She and her husband Tom are active volunteers with Habitat for Humanity. The couple recently sponsored a Habitat family through the complete process of home construction.

She also is active with the Great River Interfaith Partnership (GRIP), working to make affordable housing a reality in Central Minnesota. “Affordable housing is a pet project of mine,” she said, pointing out simply that “everyone deserves to have a home.”

Johnstone is active as well with the Local Education Association Foundation (LEAF), which works to endow funding for extracurricular activities in the schools.

For the past seven years, Johnstone also has served the local community as a board member for the Red Cross of Central Minnesota.

“Most people think of blood drives when they think of the Red Cross, but we do so much more,” she said. The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers, is a disaster relief agency that focuses on disaster preparedness by empowering individuals, families and communities to protect themselves. In addition, the organization promotes health and community care and seeks to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the organization’s preparedness efforts have taken on a new sense of urgency, Johnstone said. “We are gearing up for a new concept in disaster preparation and relief,” she said. The agency collaborates closely with other agencies such as local fire departments to map out strategies to address the threat of bio-chemical disasters, for example.

Nationally, such collaborations involve wide-scale preparations to respond to terrorist attack. In a presidential proclamation naming March 2003 American Red Cross Month, President George Bush said that emergency planning by the Red Cross, as well as the training and services it provides, will improve our nation’s readiness and resolve to meet unexpected disasters.

Last year, more than 1.2 million volunteers helped their neighbors through service at their local Red Cross chapter, and almost 12 million more took the time to learn lifesaving skills such as first aid, CPR, and defibrillator use. More than four million volunteer donors made 7.2 million blood donations through the American Red Cross. In addition, Red Cross volunteers provide direct assistance to U.S. military families, keeping them connected in times of emergencies, personal sorrow or joy.

Johnstone said she always is happy to see the bloodmobile on campus during blood drives, not only because of the great need for blood donations. She said the bloodmobile reminds her that students are getting involved with an agency that offers opportunities for life-long service.

“We have dedicated volunteers who have been active for 45 and 50 years,” she said.

In September, Johnstone plans to step down from her duties as board member at the conclusion of her term, not to enjoy a well-earned rest. Rather, she looks forward to having some extra time to devote to specific projects of interest, such as providing assistance to military families.

CSB Announces 2003 Renaissance Award

CSB President Mary Lyons recently announced the recipient of the 2003 Renaissance Award, which honors leaders in the business community for their actions dedicated to the transformation of society. James R. Campbell, the former chairman and chief executive officer of Norwest Bank Minnesota and Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota, is an ethical leader who gives his best to the...
community and the state, Lyons said.

Campbell oversaw the $30-bilion merger of the two banking systems and the transfer of Wells Fargo & Co. headquarters to San Francisco, managing at the same time to increase the number of employees and customers for the bank in Minnesota. He is the director for Minnesota Center for Ethical Business Cultures and has served as director and/or trustee for numerous other organizations, including Courage Center, Junior Achievement, Minneapolis Foundation, and Children’s Home Society. Campbell also directed the most successful fund drive ever for the Minneapolis United Way.

The campus community will honor Campbell at a public event at 9:40 (class period 2) on April 10 in the Haehn Campus Center. The CSB/SJU Jazz Band will perform. Student groups will offer orange juice toasts and Campbell will speak. The Renaissance Award will be presented on the same day at a reception at the Minneapolis Club in Minneapolis, with the CSB/SJU Campus Singers performing.

Past recipients of the award include Marilyn Carlson Nelson, chairman and chief executive officer of Carlson Companies, Inc.; William W. George, chairman and chief executive officer of Medtronic, Inc.; Michael Bonsignore of Honeywell, Inc.; and James Colville, the chief executive officer of the Greater Twin Cities United Way.

Summer Institute for Vocational Reflection Announced for Faculty/Staff

submitted by Dianne Millis
director, “Companions on a Journey”

CSB Theological Exploration of Vocation

CSB/SJU faculty and staff will be offered an opportunity for both personal enrichment and professional development in the first Summer Institute for Vocational Reflection May 19-21 at Rutgers’s Bay Lake Lodge, Deerwood, Minn., sponsored by the “Companions on a Journey” initiative for Theological Exploration of Vocation.

In designing this institute, we believe one of the primary ways we learn about the process of vocational discernment is through careful and committed listening to self and others. In order to deepen vocational awareness, participants will be invited to apply processes for vocational reflection and discernment in their own lives. We will engage in vocational reflection privately, in small groups, and within the entire community of participants. This experiential approach emphasizes that our vocations are dynamic and warrant ongoing reflection. Moreover, a commitment to engage in personal reflection, sharing and listening will cultivate participants’ abilities to assist their students in vocational discernment.

As a result, participants will: increase their understanding of the meaning of vocation and a vocational perspective for making life choices; become acquainted with vocational reflection and discernment processes; explore ways in which such processes can be incorporated into their work with students.

Each day will address one of the following questions:

Monday — What does it mean to reflect on our lives from a vocational perspective?

Tuesday — How do we discern our vocation?

Wednesday — How can these tools and processes be incorporated into our work with students?

Enrollment is limited to 20 participants with preference to faculty applicants from various disciplines and staff from various departments who have significant interface with students. We will strive to have comparable numbers of faculty, support and administrative staff attending each year. Participants who are not selected to attend the first year will be given priority in subsequent years.

To apply: In relationship to your current work and vocational aspirations, please explain why you would like to attend the Institute.

If a supervisor’s approval is necessary, please submit your supporting documentation. Note that HR has approved this retreat as an excused absence.

 Lodging, meals and mileage costs will be covered. You may submit your application electronically to journey@csbsju.edu or send a hard copy to the CSB Theological Exploration of Vocation office, Main 446. For further information, contact Diane Millis at 5935.

The Summer Institute is a staff and faculty development program offered by the “Companions on a Journey” initiative for Theological Exploration of Vocation at CSB and is funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc.

Faculty/staff news

Ron Bosrock, professor of management and holder of the Myers Chair, was recently invited to be a visiting professor at the University of Miami. He was the guest of Prof. Stuart Corbridge, who holds a dual position at the London School of Economics and the University of Miami.

They discussed world economic development, the strengths and perils of post-developmentism.

Bosrock has extended an invitation to Prof. Corbridge to be a speaker at the Myer’s Chair Speakers Forum next semester.
COMMUNITY

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Deadline for the April issue is March 28.
To share your information and story ideas, simply e-mail them directly to Community at: community@csbsju.edu.

Body and Soul Month: An Invitation to Spirituality

By Eunice Antony, OSB, CSB associate campus minister and Benedictine values resource consultant

Editor's note: Each month, the Healthy Learning Community and the Partners for Healthy Learning promote a health theme to the CSB and SJU campuses. These groups are involved in the promotion of physical, intellectual, emotional, social, occupational and spiritual health. To learn more about the Healthy Learning Community and the Partners for Healthy Learning, please visit the Web site at http://www.csbsju.edu/extending/projects.htm

On Jan. 20, I paid my $5 to sign up for the Health At Work (HAW) physical fitness program. If I follow the regime, I become eligible for a prize-drawing at the end of each four-week period. This is a great program of workout, wellness and winning.

I’d like to complement that program with a spiritual wellness program. There are no sign-up sheets, no entry fee, no assigned points, not even a drawing for a tangible prize. But the benefits are real!

I was introduced to the following invitation during a month’s renewal program last July at Mercy Center, Burlingame, Calif. It challenged me then, and continues to challenge me. I hope it challenges you also.

The Invitation

by Oriah Mountain Dreamer

It doesn’t interest me what you do for a living. I want to know what you ache for, and if you dare to dream of meeting your heart’s longing.

It doesn’t interest me how old you are. I want to know if you will risk looking like a fool for love, for your dream, for the adventure of being alive.

It doesn’t interest me what planets are squaring your moon. I want to know if you have touched the center of your own sorrow, if you have been opened by life’s betrayals or have become shriveled and closed from fear of further pain. I want to know if you can sit with pain, mine or your own, without moving to hide it or fade it or fix it.

I want to know if you can dance with wildness and let the ecstasy fill you to the tips of your fingers and toes without cautioning us to be careful, to be realistic, to remember the limitations of being human.

It doesn’t interest me if the story you are telling me is true. I want to know if you can disappoint another to be true to yourself; if you can bear the accusation of betrayal and not betray your own soul; if you can be faithless and therefore trustworthy.

I want to know if you can be alone with yourself and if you truly like the company you keep in the empty moments.