Survey Shows Strong Support for Coordinate and Separate Missions at CSB and SJU

Prepared by Glenda Isaacs Burgeon,
Community editor
CSB/SJU Communication and Marketing

CSB and SJU students, faculty, administrators, staff and board members reported a high level of understanding and support for the coordinate and separate missions of the institutions, in a survey administered in the spring of 2007.

The mission and integrity survey was conducted as part of the ongoing self study for accreditation and evaluated the coordinate mission, the separate missions, governing structures, and integrity of CSB and SJU.

CSB and SJU are externally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. In accordance with a 10-year review cycle the schools will present a completed self-study in the fall of 2008. The accreditation site visit is scheduled for Oct. 13-15, 2008.

In the survey, 30 Likert-scale questions/responses ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree sought to measure the degree of understanding of and support for the mission, coordinate relationship and the integrity of these institutions.

Five open-ended essay questions explored perceptions of issues that need to be addressed within the self study, as well as changes needed in the mission, vision or values statements. The coordinate relationship was also addressed in terms of clarity, support and future directions.

An overwhelming majority of 93.6 percent either strongly agreed or somewhat agreed with the statement, “I am committed to upholding and protecting the integrity of the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University,” with 72.4 percent asserting they strongly agreed.

Responses indicated that areas needing improvement are structure and governance.

Almost half of the 777 survey respondents were students. However, that total of 368 students represented the smallest percentage, 9.4, of all the responding groups. Other respondents included 153 faculty (20 percent of respondents and 44 percent of faculty), 74 administrators (10 percent of respondents and 17 percent of the administrative group), 119 staff (16 percent of respondents and 25 percent of staff group), and 33 board members (4 percent of respondents and 41 percent of board members).

Survey results, as well as other information about the self study, are posted at the CSB/SJU accreditation Web site. A comprehensive survey analysis will be available for review in the upcoming draft of the self-study on Dec. 17, 2007. Carie Braun, CSB/SJU associate professor of nursing, is coordinator of the self study.

(http://www.csbsju.edu/2008accreditation/).
New Members Named to CSB Board of Trustees

Four women have been named to the CSB Board of Trustees.

All four are graduates of the college. They are Joyce Statz ’69, Annette Bouta Hendrick ’71, Barbara Torborg Melsen ’78 and Shelly Bauerly Kopel ’90.

In addition, Kathleen Cooney has been named chair of the board, and Delthia McKinney, a CSB junior from Yamacraw Shores, Nassau, the Bahamas, is the new student representative on the board.

Statz received a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from CSB, and master’s and doctorate degrees in systems and information science from Syracuse University. Most recently, Statz has served as an independent consultant working with corporations to improve their capabilities in project management, software development, measurement, outsourcing and related areas of focus. She has served as a technology executive at such companies as Borland Software Corporation (Austin, Texas); Teraquest Metrics, Inc. (Austin, Texas) and Texas Instruments (Austin, Texas). She also taught computer science at Bowling Green State University, Ohio. She lives in Austin.

Bouta Hendrick graduated from CSB with a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics, and a master’s degree from the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis. She spent 25 years in management in the telecommunications sector in network and technology planning, and new technology and markets assessment, with responsibilities across 14 states. Bouta Hendrick has served as vice president and member of the board of the Las Cruces (N.M.) Symphony Association; president of the Butterfield I Neighborhood Council; and co-chair of Jardin de los Ninos, an annual fund-raiser. A native of Benson, Minn., she lives in Las Cruces.

Melsen graduated from CSB with a Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting. Most recently, she was self-employed in the accounting area. She volunteers regularly as a board member and fund-raiser for such organizations as CommonBond Communities (Minnesota’s largest nonprofit provider of affordable housing), Benilde-St. Margaret’s School, United Way, Junior League of Minneapolis, Hennepin Vocational and Technical Institute’s Advisory Board, CARE (Children’s Cancer Research) and the Minneapolis League of Catholic Women. Melsen has served as CSB’s Alumnae Council president and chaired several fund-raising committees for the college. Her oldest daughter, Kristin, graduated from CSB in 2005, and her younger daughter, Michelle, is a senior at CSB. She lives in Bloomington, Minn.

Bauerly Kopel majored in math and computer science at CSB. She also received a master’s degree in business administration from the Carlson School at the University of Minnesota; a master’s degree in education from the Harvard Graduate School of Education; and a doctorate degree in educational administration from the University of Minnesota. She currently is managing partner of Venture Allies, LLC, St. Cloud. From 1992-2000, she held various positions at the Carlson School of Management, including program director. She taught math at Elk River (Minn.) High School from 1990-92. She lives in Sauk Rapids, Minn.

Each began serving a three-year term on the board July 1. Their terms are renewable every three years, and board members can serve up to three terms. There are now 43 members of the Board of Trustees.

Cooney has served on the CSB Board of Trustees since 2000. She is the executive vice president, chief administrative officer and chief financial officer at HealthPartners, Bloomington, Minn. Prior to her work at HealthPartners, she served as a management consultant specializing in health care strategies at Ernst and Whinney (now known as Ernst and Young). She was named an “Industry Leader” by Minneapolis-St. Paul Business Journal in its special “Women in Business” section July 27. Cooney is also one of four finalists in the nonprofit/health care category in the inaugural CFO of the Year Awards sponsored by the Business Journal, which will be presented Oct. 31 in Minneapolis.

Board chairs are elected and serve three-year terms. Cooney replaces Edward Kocourtek, who completed his term as chair but remains on the board.

SJU Names New Board of Regents Members

SJU recently named Bernard Dan, David K. Rehr and Greg Soukup to three-year terms on its Board of Regents. All three are graduates of the university.

In addition, Jim Frey has been named chair of the board, and the new faculty representative is Katie Johnson, associate professor of communication.

Dan is president and CEO of the Chicago Board of Trade. Dan earned his bachelor’s in accounting from Saint John’s in 1983. Prior to working for the Chicago Board of Trade, he worked for 16 years in various operation positions at Cargill Investor Services, Inc. In 1998, he was named president and CEO of CIS. Currently, he serves on the boards of Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, National Futures Association and One Chicago. He also is a member of the Executives Club of Chicago, the Commercial Club of Chicago, and Operation Hope Incorporated. Dan and his wife, Jody, reside in Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Rehr is president and CEO of the National Association of Broadcasters. Rehr earned his bachelor’s in business administration from Saint John’s in 1981 and a master’s and doctorate in economics from George Mason University. He worked as president of the National Beer Wholesalers Association and served as the director for federal governmental relations, U.S. House of Representatives for the National Federation of Independent Business. He has been featured in a number of U.S. media outlets, including the Boston Globe, Wall Street Journal, NewYork Times and ABC World News Tonight. He has been ranked by Beachum’s Guide to Key Lobbyists as one of the 125 most
influential lobbyists in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Ashley, reside in Arlington, Va. They have three children, Andrew, David and Emily.

Soukup is the West zone leader of the Transaction Advisory Services and partner-in-charge of the Pacific Southwest M and A Tax Group. Soukup is a certified public accountant and is a member of American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Minnesota and California Societies of CPAs and the Minnesota Bar. He earned his bachelor's (summa cum laude) from Saint John's in 1972 and law degree (cum laude) from the University of Minnesota. Soukup also holds an L.L.M (magna cum laude) from Georgetown University. He began his career at Ernst and Young, working in both the Minneapolis office and the National Tax Department in Washington, D.C. He is currently serving on the board of directors of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and is a member of the SJU Alumni Association Board of Directors. He and his wife, Mary Jo Carr, reside in Topanga, Calif.

Each began serving a three-year term on the board July 1. Their terms are renewable every three years, and board members can serve up to three terms. There are now 41 members of the Board of Regents.

Frey has served on the Board of Regents since 2001. He is president of Wabash Management, Inc., since 1997. Frey received his bachelor's degree from Saint John's in 1978 and his law degree from William Mitchell College of Law. He served in a variety of human resource positions with several corporations from 1978 to 1990 and then joined the team of attorneys at Leonard, Street & Deinard, PA until 1997. Frey serves as vice-chair and capital campaign co-chair on the Courage Center Board. He also serves on the Saint Paul Foundation and Leaven Center Boards. He and his wife, Mary, reside in Edina, Minn., and have two children, Peter and Sarah.

Board chairs are elected and serve three-year terms. Frey replaces Dan Whalen, who completed his term.

**LAI Faculty Director Appointed**

Cindy Malone, CSB/SJU professor of English, has been named faculty director of the Literary Arts Institute of the College of Saint Benedict.

In making the announcement, CSB/SJU Provost Rita Knuesel said the appointment formalizes Malone's ongoing leadership role in the success of LAI and ensures a continuing and consistent faculty presence with the program.

“We are delighted to recognize Cindy’s continuing work with the Literary Arts Institute. She has played a key role throughout the life of LAI and we are happy to be able to honor her contribution with this appointment,” Knuesel said.

The Literary Arts Institute has built a growing reputation regionally and nationally and is especially known among literary circles for its commitment to creative writing, as well as its unique partnership with Graywolf Press, she said.

Malone, in her enthusiastic embrace of the LAI mission from its beginning, has played a key role in planning LAI activities to ensure that they complement the educational mission, said Joe DesJardins, associate provost and academic dean.

“As faculty director, she will help keep LAI offerings connected to the curriculum and serving as an enriching resource for our students and faculty,” he said.

Founded in 1997, the LAI fosters creative writing, publishing and interaction between students and writers. With its local and national partners, such as Graywolf Press, the LAI is able to bring writers and their work together with readers on campus, in Minnesota and beyond. Pulitzer Prize-winner Marilynne Robinson, who spoke at Heritage Day, was the most recent literary guest co-sponsored by LAI.

Mark Conway, as executive director, will oversee the growth of the LAI, particularly as it relates to external audiences.

**CSB and SJU Set Undergraduate Enrollment Records**

Prepared by CSB/SJU
Communication and Marketing

CSB and SJU enrolled a record 3,966 undergraduate students for the 2007-2008 academic year, which marked the second straight year total combined undergraduate enrollment has exceeded 3,900 students.

CSB’s enrollment is 2,049, its highest ever, while SJU has an enrollment of 1,917, its highest ever. With their combined enrollment, CSB and SJU have the largest enrollment of any national liberal arts college.

New-student enrollment totaled 537 at CSB and 515 at SJU for a combined class of 1,052, which is the third-highest new-student total ever.

The academic profile of the new class improved from last year’s entering class and is more racially and ethnically diverse. In total, American students of color and international students make up nearly 10 percent of the new entering class this fall.

“The class of 2011 is an exceptionally bright group of women and men who bring commitment, talent and passion to this community they will call home for the next four years. They will further develop their knowledge and skills for the good of the state and the world,” said Michael Thorp, CSB/SJU associate vice president and dean of admission and financial aid.

Overall retention of returning students from spring 2007 to fall 2007 was stable. In total, overall spring-to-fall retention (which measures the percentage of students who were eligible to return from spring 2007 to fall 2007) totaled 94 percent at CSB and SJU. Retention of students from the first year to the second year totaled 90 percent. Year-to-year retention rates at CSB and SJU are among the highest in the country.
Dick Nigon, a 1970 graduate of SJU, received the Fr. Walter Reger Distinguished Alumnus Award at the Alumni Association Homecoming Banquet Oct. 5, in Collegeville.

The award is the highest honor presented by the Alumni Association, and Nigon is the 38th alumnus to receive the award.

In the almost four decades following his graduation, Nigon has continually given back to his alma mater as a volunteer, advocate and donor.

He has also been a key figure in Saint John’s development efforts. Nigon has been involved with annual fund and class reunion giving; helped launch the Tom Murray Accounting Department Endowment; chaired Twin Cities’ capital campaign committees; and helped found and served on the SJU Private Investment Fund Board. Nigon was a member of the University Board of Regents from 1997-2006, and received the SJU Alumni Achievement Award in 2000.

Nigon connects the SJU institutional advancement staff with potential donors. He and his wife, Mary (Zimmerley CSB ’70), who met as first-year students, have established the Nigon-Zimmerley Family Endowed Scholarship Fund.

The Fr. Walter Reger Award is named after the long-time secretary of the Saint John’s Alumni Association. Known as “Mr. Saint John’s,” Reger, OSB, was a dean, history professor, prefect, member of the university orchestra and purveyor of Johnnie Bread. He befriended hundreds of Saint John’s students and kept up personal correspondence with many of them after they graduated. Reger died in 1971, and the Alumni Association Board of Directors launched the award program later that year.

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Eleven students from CSB and SJU participated in the September Campus Ministry Flood Relief Trip to southeastern Minnesota.

Students worked with CSB/SJU alumni/i Paul and Sarah Freid to help build an environmentally sustainable straw bale house. They also helped to clear other houses in the area that had recently been damaged by heavy rains.

Senior Elizabeth Sturlaugson co-authored and co-presented research findings at two prestigious summer conferences held in Athens, Greece, and Vienna, Austria.

Sturlaugson worked closely with Dr. Stanford Moskowitz, assistant professor of management, and was awarded CSB/SJU’s Honor Thesis Summer Fellowship to support her research, writing and travel expenses to the conferences.

The papers presented included “The Geographic Distribution of Economic Growth: Gatekeepers, Multi-Environmental Clusters, and National and Regional Competitive Advantage: The US vs. the EU,” which explored the relationship between global technology, industrial clustering and economic activity within two of the most important regions in the world today.

The other, “Outsourcing, Wealth Creation & SMEs: The Internationalization of Services within the Global Textiles and Apparel Industry — The Baltic vs. The Balkans,” used a comparative analysis technique to explore the critical factors that accelerate (or hinder) the internationalization process of small and medium sized firms (SMEs) within Eastern Europe and how this process leads to (or prevents) wealth creation within the region.

Sturlaugson plans to apply her experiences to further her goals of pursuing a career in international business. “Participating in these conferences was a great opportunity to learn extensively about business on the global level,” she said. “My passion and interest in international business was heightened during this unique experience because I was able to take what I learned in the classroom and apply it to a larger global context.”

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including S. Nancy’s friends and family, members of her order from Saint Benedict’s Monastery, and CSB/SJU faculty, staff and students.

“The event was a great way to celebrate S. Nancy’s life accomplishments and her contribution to our campuses,” said Alexa Gallet ’08, the center’s student director. “She is a bold and courageous woman, and we are proud to honor her by dedicating the Center for Women in her name.”

S. Nancy’s courses on gender issues for both men and women focused on how both genders are affected in the ongoing struggle for equal human rights.

The Center for Women was created in 2003, with the mission to empower women to engage in inclusive dialogue, reflective thinking and ethical action that celebrates and recognizes women as shapers of our world.

Rick Ufford-Chase Receives Dignitas Humana Award

SJU’s School of Theology-Seminary presented Rick Ufford-Chase with its ninth Dignitas Humana Award on Oct. 17, in Saint John’s Abbey Church at SJU.

Following the presentation of the award, Ufford-Chase gave a lecture, “Holy Terror? Faithfulness in a Time of Fear,” in the Abbey Church.

Ufford-Chase, executive director of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, has been a tireless advocate for peace and the alleviation of human exploitation and suffering. For nearly 20 years, he has been a mission worker on the United States-Mexico border; in 1987, Ufford-Chase helped found BorderLinks, the ecumenical, bi-national organization he now directs.

In addition to his work on the border, Ufford-Chase served as moderator of the 216th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) from 2004-06. Since 2003, he and his wife, Kitty, have been Christian Peacemaker Teams reservists.

The annual Dignitas Humana Award recognizes and encourages the efforts of individuals who do exceptional work on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised. It honors those who exemplify the Judeo-Christian values of service, respect, kindness and compassion in their work to advance the dignity of human persons. Recipients of this award support, advocate for, nurture and protect people on the margins of society in the United States and around the world and inspire others to work for human dignity and justice.

SJU Receives State-Wide Honor

SJU Dining and Events received a state-wide honor from the Minnesota Rehabilitation Association, Job Placement Division, for its work with persons of disabilities, at a banquet in St. Cloud on Oct. 18.

As part of the honor, SJU was praised for demonstrating active recruitment of persons with disabilities, commitment to making necessary accommodations, open communication and feedback, and proactive and creative approaches to job retention.

Film Premiers at SJU

A documentary film, “If A Road Runs Through It,” made its premiere screening on Oct. 25 at Pellegrene Auditorium, at SJU.

The 30-minute documentary, a production of The Project for Under-Told Stories at SJU, tells the story of the challenges rapid change and development have brought to the Avon Hills area of Stearns County.

The film also made its broadcast premiere on Oct. 28 on TPT Channel 17, Twin Cities.

FACULTY/STAFF NEWS

Kathleen Ohman, CSB/SJU professor of nursing, presented at The Critical Care Times 2007, an international conference held in Sun City, Pilanesberg, South Africa in August.

Lisa Lindgren, CSB/SJU associate professor of management, was invited to join the Business Editorial Board for MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching) for her contributions to the peer review of instructional technology.


James Read, CSB/SJU professor of political science, gave the Constitution Day address at Louisiana State University, Shreveport on Sept. 17. His address was titled “What James Madison can teach us about our Constitution — and what we have to learn for ourselves.” The event was sponsored by the Abraham Lincoln Center for American Studies and was attended by LSU college students as well as high school and junior high students from the area.

Annette Atkins, CSB/SJU professor of history, recently published a book, Creating Minnesota: A history from the inside out. The book was published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press, and was recently reviewed by Vice President Walter Mondale.
Events Calendar
FALL 2007

Nov. 6, Women’s Lives Series — Barbara Martinez Jitner will be speaking on the dire situation of the women in Juarez, Mexico. (Campus contact: Alexa Gallet, student director of the S. Nancy Hynes Center for Women, or Ozzie Mayers) 7 p.m., CSB/Gorecki 203.

Nov. 8, Koch Chair in Catholic Thought and Culture: Dr. Sandra Keating assistant professor of theology, Providence College (Campus contact: S. Ephrem Hollermann, OSB), co-sponsored by the Jay Phillips and Renaissance Series, 7:30 p.m., CSB/Gorecki Center 204AB.

Nov. 29, Dr. Chris Chiappari of the College of St. Olaf, “Religions and Social Change in Guatemala.” Sponsored by the Latin/Lain American Studies program (Campus contact: Bruce Campbell), 7 p.m., Pellegrene Auditorium.

SPRING 2008

March 27, Koch Chair in Catholic Thought and Culture: Dr. Anne Patrick, William H. Laird Professor of Religion and Liberal Arts, Carlton College, Northfield, MN (Campus contact: S. Ephrem Hollermann).

April 19, Changing Faces: Intercultural Ministry and Hospitality: Dr. Shawn Copeland, Boston College (Campus contact: Marian Diaz) Gorecki Dining and Conference Center.

April 23, Academic Day – Natalie Angier, Pulitzer Prize winner and best-selling author (Campus contact: Joe DesJardins).