



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**University of St. Thomas Center for Faith & Culture
Names Dr. Adam Martinez as Associate Director**

HOUSTON (June 8, 2009) – University of St. Thomas announces the appointment of alumnus Dr. Adam G. Martinez as Associate Director of the Center for Faith and Culture. This marks Martinez’s second appointment with University of St. Thomas. In 2001, he worked in the University’s Institutional Advancement Office as Director of Major Gifts.

Martinez holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership – Higher Education Administration from Texas A&M University in Corpus Christi, an M.A. in theology from the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, Ohio, and an M.A. in Spanish from Rice University. In 1986, he earned his bachelor’s degree in Spanish with a minor in theology from UST.

Martinez’s doctoral research focused on diversity, inclusiveness and Hispanics in higher education. He was recently recognized as an Exemplary Diversity Scholar by the University of Michigan National Center for Institution Diversity (NCIED).

“We are delighted to welcome Dr. Adam Martinez back to the University of St. Thomas in his new capacity as Associate Director of the Center for Faith and Culture,” said the Center’s Director Fr. Donald Nesti, CSSp. “Dr. Martinez brings with him a deep love and commitment for the University. His academic credentials and gifts will enable him to play an important part in the development and implementation of academic programs envisioned by the Center. His experience in Institutional Advancement will also benefit the Center in this period of growth,” Nesti said.

The Center for Faith and Culture identifies University’s interest and dialogue with a variety of cultures. It began in 1994 to study how the gospel can be a cultural leaven. Through conferences, symposia and courses, the Center studies the relationship between the worldview of Roman Catholic faith and a mixture of cultures. It studies the relationship of the Gospel’s vision, values, ethical and moral norms, symbols, relationships and roles within cultures. It primarily relates the Gospel to American subcultures – Hispanic, African-American and Asian.

“My family and I have felt warmly welcomed back to the University and to Houston, and for that we are grateful,” Martinez said. His wife, Jane Pinell Martinez ’86 is also an alumna. They have three daughters Hannah, Caroline and Sarah.

University of St. Thomas, dedicated to educating leaders of faith and character, is a private institution committed to the liberal arts and to the religious, ethical and intellectual tradition of Catholic higher education.