

Hittinger to Shed Light on VPAA Goals

Customarily the new vice president of academic affairs uses the first study day for the VPAA and faculty to become acquainted with each other. Dr. John P. Hittinger, who recently joined the university as VPAA, will take the opportunity to do just that. He will discuss his understanding of UST's strategic vision, which calls for the University to become one of the great Catholic universities in the United States within the next 25 years. Dr. Hittinger will discuss his understanding of what such a vision means for UST today, as well as what his expectations are for the office of the VPAA.

In his presentation, "The University as a Venture of Faith," Dr. Hittinger will outline the elements of a Catholic university, and will examine the tensions within the whole. He will then describe projects he hopes to initiate with the faculty. He anticipates a constructive exchange with questions and comments from faculty, and he will use the afternoon to solicit input from them for developing his agenda for the year.

Hittinger comes to UST as a recog-

nized scholar on the thought of Thomas Aquinas, an acclaimed teacher of philosophy and an academic leader. He recently served as the assessment officer at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit.

Before arriving at the seminary in 2004,



Hittinger served as provost and academic dean at St. Mary's College of Ava Maria University in Orchard Lake, Michigan, a position he assumed in 2001.

"As an academic leader, John Hittinger has demonstrated an ability to inspire, support and develop faculty in diverse environments," said UST President Robert Ivany. Dr. Hittinger's degrees include a B.A. in philosophy from the University of Notre Dame, and an M.A. and Ph.D. awarded with distinction in philosophy from The Catholic University of America.



New University Leadership Line-up Announced

In addition to the new faces at UST this fall, a number of familiar faces will be seen in new roles.

Bahman Mirshab

Dr. Bahman Mirshab has joined the University of St. Thomas as dean of the Cameron School of Business. Since 2002, he has served as dean of the College of Business Administration at the University of Detroit-Mercy. Dr. Mirshab earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Tehran University, a master's in economics from the University of Detroit and a doctorate in economics from Wayne State University.

Jon Taylor and John Palasota

For the past 10 years, the School of Arts and Sciences at UST has had neither an associate nor assistant dean while the number of new programs and faculty has increased. This fall, Dr. Jerry Kramer, dean of Arts and Sciences and associate vice president of Academic Affairs, will have both.

Dr. Jon Taylor, chair of Political Science and associate professor, will also serve as associate dean of Arts and

Sciences. Dr. John Palasota, associate professor of Chemistry, will serve as assistant dean.

"Having two experienced faculty members, both of them outstanding teachers and scholars, well known and respected for the service they provide to the campus and the community, will enable me and the school to maintain its high quality programs while planning and moving ahead with attractive new opportunities for UST students," Dr. Kramer said.

Patricia McKinley

Patricia McKinley, director of Career Services and Testing, has been appointed the new Dean of Students. As dean, she will assist students' needs, oversee some day-to-day operations of Student Affairs and assume supervisory responsibility for Residence Life and Volunteer Opportunities. She will also continue as director of Career Services and Testing.

"Being in the Career Services and Testing Center has provided me the opportunity to work with faculty, staff, students and alumni for the past 14 years," McKinley said. "To begin my 15th year at

the UST as Dean of Students is an honor."

"Patricia has demonstrated a commitment, interest and concern for our UST students," Dr. Steve Sutton, vice president of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, said. "She is also highly respected by colleagues both within and outside UST. I'm confident that she'll excel in this new role."

Ravi Srinivas

Dr. Ravi Srinivas is now director of the Master in Liberal Arts program. He joined the University in 1993 and chaired the Environmental Studies department from 1997-2004.

"Enthusiasm, optimism, careful management and organization, determination to finish projects, concern for others, and a love of the University have characterized all of his efforts," Dr. Jerry Kramer said.

Dr. Srinivas holds a doctorate in environmental science from SUNY, College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry; a master's degree in environmental science from Baylor University; and a bachelor's degree from St. Joseph's College, Bangalore University, India.

Give a Warm Welcome to....



Dr. Regina Boulware-Gooden, School of Education
Visiting Assistant Professor. She earned her doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from Texas A&M University. She received her M.Ed and B.A. from Oklahoma City University.

Dr. Gino Chelakis, Drama Department

Assistant Professor. He earned a doctorate from Louisiana State University. He received his M.F.A. from DePaul University and his B.A. from St. Edward's University.



Dr. Larry DiPaolo, School of Theology
Assistant Professor. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Chicago. He earned another master's degree and his doctorate from Loyola University in Chicago.

Dr. Grace England, School of Education

Lecturer. She earned her Ph.D. from the Texas Woman's University. She received her M.Ed. from the University of North Texas and a B.S. from Lamar University.



Dr. Rogelio Garcia-Contreras, International Studies
Assistant Professor. He earned his Ph.D. in International Studies and his M.A. from the University of Denver. He received a B.A. from Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico.

Dr. Virginia Lieker, School of Education

Lecturer. She earned her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Baylor University. She received her M.Ed from the University of Houston and her B.A. from Kansas State University.



Dr. Elizabeth Maynard, Psychology
Assistant Professor. She earned her M.A. from Fuller Theological Seminary. She also received her Ph.D. from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Dr. Jo A. Meier-Marquis, Psychology Department

Assistant Professor. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology from Southern Methodist University. She received her B.A. from the University of Texas at San Antonio.



Dr. Mark Nicholas, History Department
Assistant Professor. He earned his Ph.D. in United States History from Lehigh University. He received his M.A. from Lehigh University and his B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Rupak Rauniar, Cameron School of Business

Assistant Professor of Management. He earned his Ph.D. in Manufacturing Management and his M.B.A. from the University of Toledo. He received his B.E. from the Birla Institute of Technology.



Photo not available

Dr. Rita Richardson, School of Education
Lecturer. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of New Orleans, her M.Ed. from the University of Houston and her B.A. from the Dominican College.

Dr. Jack Simms, Cameron School of Business

Assistant Professor of Accounting. He earned his Ph.D. in Accounting from the University of Houston. He received his M.S. and his B.A. from the University of Houston.



Dr. Michelle Steiger, Chemistry Department
Visiting Assistant Professor. She earned her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Rochester. She received her B.S. from the Nazareth College of Rochester.

Ms. Melissa Torres, Doherty Library

Assistant Professor. She received her B.A. in history from Grinnell College and her M.A. in Information Studies from the University of Texas at Austin.



Faculty Members Recognized for Excellence

Three UST professors have received recognition as recipients of the 2005-2006 faculty awards for teaching, research and service. They will receive their awards at the Fall 2006 Faculty Study Day. Fellow faculty members nominated their selections, and the Faculty Awards Committee chose the winners.

Dr. Charlene Dykman, professor of management information systems, has received the Saint Thomas Aquinas Award for Excellence in Teaching. This award recognizes outstanding teaching, and the criteria for selection are current knowledge of the discipline; serious preparation for courses; skill in challenging students; special teaching assignments; contributions to curriculum development; and the ability to devise appropriate learning objectives along with the means by which students can achieve them.



The Saint Edith Stein Excellence in Research Award is presented to Dr. Don Frohlich, and recognizes outstanding faculty research. The criteria for selection include publication of a book or monograph through a publisher that uses reviewing procedures recognized by the academic profession, publication of an article in a referred academic journal, publication of creative works in magazines or other publications, successful funding from a grant request requiring in-depth research, and presentation of a workshop or scholarly paper to a professional organization.



Dr. Robin Williamson has received the Joseph McFadden Excellence Award in Service. This award recognizes outstanding faculty service. The criteria for selection are advising and counseling of students, promoting student organizations, participation on committees, representing the University at various programs, participation at student recruitment activities, participation in community projects related to the faculty member's discipline, and activities that foster the religious orientation of the University.



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