

Center for Faith and Culture - New Director

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To: Faculty <Faculty@stthom.edu>; Part-Time Faculty <PTFaculty@stthom.edu>; Staff <Staff@stthom.edu>; Students <Students@stthom.edu>



Dear Colleagues,

Greetings on this Feast Day of Saint Lawrence!

It is my great pleasure to announce **Dr. Kevin Stuart as the new Director for the Donald S. Nesti, CSSp Center for Faith and Culture**. Since its founding in 1994, the CFC has brought a faithfully Catholic voice to the ongoing dialogue between faith and culture. For both UST and the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, the Center has been a true joy and shining light.

Dr. Stuart joined UST in 2021 as Director of the newly relaunched Catholic Studies program and shortly thereafter, he stepped into the role of Director of the Master of Public Policy & Administration program where he serves as an Assistant Professor of Political Science in Social and Behavioral Sciences and Global Studies as well. Before coming to UST, he served as president of the Austin Institute for the Study of Family & Culture, a social science research institute in Austin, Texas. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin where he studied public law and political philosophy. He was also a visiting scholar at the University of Cambridge. He earned a Master of Sciences from the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is the chair of the Diocesan School Advisory Board for the Diocese of Austin, editor of the *Catholicism & Society* book series for the Society for Catholic Social Scientist (Franciscan University Press), a former headmaster at St. Mary's Catholic High School (Taylor, TX), and the owner of an award-winning political consulting and media firm.

I want to thank Marion Fernandez-Cueto, Assistant Director of Educational Programs, for her service as Interim Director while the Center sought the next Director. She demonstrated remarkable leadership skills during that time.

I also want to thank the Search Committee for their work in assessing and recommending the next Director. The members were Marion Fernandez-Cueto, Dr. Ben Nguyen, Sr. Theresa Chau Nguyen, Dr. Brian Carl, and Deacon Randy Graham. The committee was remarkable in its commitment to seeking qualified candidates who embody the Catholic mission, identity, and legacy of the Center and UST.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Opening Day!

In pace Christi,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris P. Evans'.

Chris P. Evans, Ph.D.
Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs