

NEWS RELEASE

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University of Saint Mary Hires Le Beau as New Vice President of Academic Affairs

19 Years of Experience in Catholic Higher Education

(Leavenworth, Kan.)— The University of Saint Mary has hired Bryan F. Le Beau, Ph.D., as its new vice president of academic affairs. He begins his new post at the main campus in Leavenworth, Kan. on July 1, 2008. Le Beau replaces Sandra Van Hoose, Ph.D., who retires on June 30 after 28 years at USM.

Le Beau is currently the dean of institutional services at Kansas City Kansas Community College, where he has served since 2006. Before that, he was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Missouri at Kansas City and was also a professor of history for four years.

He spent 19 years at Creighton University progressing from an assistant professor of history to professor and chair of the department of history. At CU, he held the John C. Kenefick Endowed Chair in the Humanities, and he won six awards in categories for teaching excellence, service, research, and academic collaboration. Le Beau finished his tenure at Creighton as the associate dean of the graduate school before leaving in 2002 to move to UMKC.

Le Beau received his Ph.D. in American Civilization from New York University, his Master of Arts in United States History from Pennsylvania State University, and his Bachelor of Arts in History from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (formerly North Adams State College).

A Saint Mary academic vice president search committee brought in six candidates earlier in the year to interview for the position. The two-day interview process included town-hall meetings with the entire faculty and staff in addition to meetings with students.

“We think Bryan is an excellent fit for Saint Mary,” said University President Sister Diane Steele. “Given his 19 years of experience in Catholic higher education and his passion for the liberal arts education tradition, we are confident that he is the right person to build upon the strong academic foundation for which Saint Mary is so well known.”

“I am impressed by the University of Saint Mary,” said Le Beau. “It has an impressive history and a bright future with an excellent faculty, staff, and administration. I look forward to becoming part of a team that is working to move USM forward.”

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