

NEWS RELEASE

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University of Saint Mary Welcomes Four New Members to Board of Trustees

New Leadership Includes Leavenworth Native, 2 USM Alums

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—The University of Saint Mary begins the new year with four prestigious new members on the institution’s Board of Trustees.

The new additions—officially added to USM’s board at its fall quarterly meeting—are **Sister Nancy Bauman**, a member of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Council since 2004; **Gideon “Gabe” Brown**, a Leavenworth native and Johnson County homebuilder; **Sister Jean Anne Panisko**, treasurer for the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth; and **Dr. Peter Wong**, vice president for quality and safety for the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System.

USM President Sister Diane Steele said the four new board members “are wonderful additions to our governing body. Each brings his or her own unique experience, intellect, and skill set to our board, and the university will greatly benefit from their leadership.”

The four new board members have impressive individual resumes:

- **Sister Bauman**, a 1970 Saint Mary Grad, has a long career in education, including stops as principal at Blessed Sacrament School in Kansas City, Kan., and Xavier School in Leavenworth, and as an elementary school teacher at St. Peter’s School in Kansas City, Kan., and Immaculate Heart of Mary in Kansas City, Mo. She has also taught in Colorado and Wyoming. Sr. Bauman earned her master’s in administration at Loyola University, and has a bachelor’s in elementary education.
- **Gideon Brown** has been a homebuilder and developer with Brown Midwest in Johnson County, Kansas, for the past 28 years, and has developed housing subdivisions in Olathe, Shawnee, and Lenexa, Kan. He’s also a member of the Economic Development Corporation for the city of Gardner, Kan.
- **Sister Panisko** is a 1969 Saint Mary alum and was principal at Annunciation School in Denver for nearly three decades. She has held several leadership and teaching posts in five states during her education career, including teaching first grade at Blessed Sacrament School in Kansas City, Mo. Sr. Panisko earned her master’s in administration at the University of Dayton, and has a bachelor’s in elementary education.
- **Dr. Wong** has previously served in vice presidential roles for Mercy Health Partners in Cincinnati and Good Samaritan Hospital in Dayton, Ohio, and on the faculty of Wright State University’s Boonshoft School of Medicine. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati’s College of Pharmacy, his master’s in hospital pharmacy and MBA from the University of Toledo, and his bachelor’s from Ohio Northern University.

The new membership join USM's existing Board of Trustees, which also includes Chairman Joseph Snyder of Lecompton, Kan.; Joseph Contrucci of Pleasanton, Calif; Andres Dominguez of Parkville, Mo.; Stanley Evans of Oklahoma City; Thomas Gregory of Denver; Sister Maureen Hall of Leavenworth; Greg Kaaz of Leavenworth; Ken Karr of Parkville; Susanna Laundry of Englewood, Colo.; Michelle Piranio of Kansas City, Mo.; Sister Steele of Leavenworth; Bill Trenkle of Leawood; and Mark Wilkinson of Overland Park. The board also has two Trustees Emeritus: Charles Berkel of Shawnee Mission, Kan., and Mary Alice Bramming of Denver.

The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park and Kansas City, Kan. Visit www.stmary.edu for more information.

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