

*Association of Graduate Schools  
In Catholic Colleges and Universities*

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

8 December 2005

Vicky's of Santa Fe Restaurant  
Indian Wells, CA

**Attendance:** Michael Smyer and Candace Hetzner, Boston College; Chake Kouyoumijian, Loyola Marymount University; Gerald Long, Villanova University; Michael O'Neill, Gannon University; Nancy Busch, Fordham University; Don Pope-Davis, Peter Diffley, and Terry Akai, University of Notre Dame; Robin Bowen, Rockhurst University; Mary Beadle, John Carroll University, William Wiener, Marquette University; Thomas Eggemeier, University of Dayton; George Garvey, Catholic University; Ron Rebore, St. Louis University.

An AGSCCU-sponsored reception began at 6 pm for all graduate staffs from Catholic Graduate Schools. No guests from non-member schools attended this year.

Peter Diffley, Secretary-Treasurer of the executive committee called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and explained why Peter Cimboic could not chair the meeting this year.

1. Attendees introduced themselves around the table. New members included Robin Bowen of Rockhurst, Tom Eggemeier at the University of Dayton, Ron Rebore of St Louis University and Bill Wiener of Marquette.
2. Peter Diffley introduced an amendment to the constitution at last year's meeting that involved the election and constitution of the executive committee. The amendment passed unanimously. From now on, one member will be nominated and elected every year to the Chair-Elect seat. Responsibilities include increasing membership and assisting the Chair in developing a program for the meeting. After the one-year term, the Chair-elect becomes the Chair. The Chair's primary responsibility is to plan and implement the program and preside over the annual meeting. The Chair's secondary responsibility is to nominate a person to be Chair Elect. After a one-year term, the Chair becomes the Past-Chair who audits the treasurer's report and assists the chair in developing the program. The fourth member of the executive committee is the Secretary-Treasurer who is elected to a three-year term.

Peter Diffley made a motion to place the current executive committee members into the new positions. The motion passed and Don Pope-Davis became the Chair-elect, Nancy Busch became the Chair, Peter Cimboic became the Past-Chair, and Peter Diffley remained as Secretary-Treasurer. At this point, Dean Busch chaired the meeting.

3. The central point of discussion for this meeting concerned the Catholic identity of our graduate schools as indicated in our mission statements. Most of the member schools began as undergraduate institutions and the Catholic-character of their graduate schools is embodied in their university mission statements. In other words, both undergraduate and graduate programs offer programs that are inclusive, action-oriented, based on social-justice, and/or involved with the community. In addition to its role as a source of professors and professionals, the graduate school also serves on many campuses as a stimulator of research, an opportunity for growth, and a source of diversity. Much of this is encapsulated in the Boston College mission statement that was provided by Mick Smyer (appendix 1). None of this is uniquely Catholic as pointed out by George Garvey (appendix 3), who also provided the mission statement of Catholic University (appendix 2), founded as a graduate school with the goal of fostering a Catholic intellectual tradition.

4. Peter Diffley gave an abbreviated annual treasurer's report for 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005. The full report appears below. Basically, annual dues bring in about \$1000 and annual meetings cost about \$1000. (Usually, it is less expensive to hold the reception, meeting, and dinner at a restaurant that is not in the CGS-meeting hotel.) The treasury holds a surplus of \$4000, accrued over the years when meeting expenses were less than dues income. This surplus was put into 3 CD's (\$1000/each) that mature at 1, 2 and 3 years and a savings account. All other funds remain in the checking account. All accounts are located at the Notre Dame Federal Credit Union.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm and the members and their spouses had dinner at the meeting site. Wine was ordered and covered by AGSCCU. Members and guests ordered off the menu and paid for their own meals.

<b>Association of Graduate Schools in Catholic Colleges and Universities</b>					
Treasurer's Annual Report for the 2005 Fiscal Year		<b>(7/1/04-6/30/05)</b>			
Account location:	Notre Dame Federal Credit Union				
	PO Box 7878				
	Notre Dame, IN 46556				
			Credit	Debit	Total
<b>Checking account</b>					
	<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>1 July 04</b>			<b>\$4,597.94</b>
	wire transfer cost	27-Aug		18.00	\$4,579.94
	dues deposit	15-Oct	570.00		\$5,149.94
	deposit into savings	26-Oct		3000.00	\$2,149.94
	dinner deposit	29-Oct		459.25	\$1,690.69
	dividends fm ch acct		4.53		\$1,695.22
	dues deposit	2-Nov	240.00		\$1,935.22
	dues deposit	16-Nov	120.00		\$2,055.22
	dues deposit	2-Dec	40.00		\$2,095.22
	dinner cost	9-Dec		517.63	\$1,577.59
	501 dinner reimbursement	9-Dec	750.00		\$2,327.59
	dues deposit	23-Dec	40		\$2,367.59
	dues deposit	4-Jan	40		\$2,407.59
	502 meeting room/receipt.	17-Jan		834.24	\$1,573.35
	dues deposit	27-Jan	40.00		\$1,613.35
	deposit into savings	1-Feb		1000.00	\$ 613.35
	503.504 Nikolai gift			70.73	\$ 542.62
	<b>End of Year Balance</b>				<b>\$ 542.62</b>
<b>Savings Account (0.5%)</b>		10/26/04			\$1,000.00
	annual earnings				\$ 3.67
<b>Certificate of Deposits</b>					
	12-17 mo. (2.3%)	10/26/04			\$1,000.00
	annual earnings				\$ 15.26
	24-29 mo. (2.96%)	10/26/04			\$1,000.00
	annual earnings				\$ 20.29
	27 mo. (3.93%)	2/1/04			\$1,000.00
	annual earnings				\$ 16.04
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>End of year balance</b>	<b>30 Jun 05</b>			<b>\$4,597.88</b>

## **Appendices**

### **1. Boston College Mission Statement**

DRAFT 12/06/05

The Mission of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Boston College

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is committed to providing the resources for our faculty and students to excel at two integrated activities: the preparation of future professionals in teaching and research; and the development of new knowledge through research and scholarship.

To accomplish these goals, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences collaborates with colleagues across campus to provide leadership in several areas including recruitment and admissions; curricular design, implementation, and evaluation; student services and student life activities; career placement; and ongoing program assessment. The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences also serves as an advocate for graduate student concerns on campus.

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is dedicated to bringing the best practices of the national graduate school community to Boston College. Through regional and national collaborations, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences assures innovation in program offerings and professional development for our students.

The success of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is reflected in the success of our graduate students, faculty, and departments. The quality of our students, the accomplishments of our students and faculty, the accolades of our departments indicate our continuing success and in the ongoing pursuit of academic excellence.

## **2. Mission Statement of the Catholic University of America**

### **AIMS OF THE UNIVERSITY**

The Catholic University of America is a community of scholars, both faculty and students, set apart to discover, preserve and impart the truth in all its forms, with particular reference to the needs and opportunities of the nation. As a university, it is essentially a free and autonomous center of study and an agency serving the needs of human society. It welcomes the collaboration of all scholars of good will who, through the process of study and reflection, contribute to these aims in an atmosphere of academic competence where freedom is fostered and where the only constraint upon truth is truth itself.

As a Catholic university, it desires to cultivate and impart an understanding of the Christian faith within the context of all forms of human inquiry and values. It seeks to ensure, in an institutional manner, the proper intellectual and academic witness to Christian inspiration in individuals and in the community, and to provide a place for continuing reflection, in the light of Christian faith, upon the growing treasure of human knowledge.

As a member of the American academic community, it accepts the standards and procedures of American institutions and seeks to achieve distinction within the academic world.

Faithful to the Christian message as it comes through the Church and faithful to its own national traditions, The Catholic University of America has unique responsibilities to be of service to Christian thought and education in the Catholic community as well as to serve the nation and the world.

### **GOALS OF THE UNIVERSITY**

The Catholic University of America was founded in the name of the Catholic Church in the United States by Pope Leo XIII and the bishops of this country as a national institution of learning. Given its origins and the historic role of its ecclesiastical faculties, this university has a responsibility to the Church in the United States that is special to it: It is called to be an intellectual center of highest quality, where the relation between revealed truth and human truth can be examined in depth and with authority. It seeks, moreover, to do this in the light of the American experience. It is for this reason that, from its inception, the university has enjoyed a unique relationship with the Holy See and the entire Catholic community.

Established as a center for graduate study, The Catholic University of America has evolved into a modern American university, committed not only to graduate but also to undergraduate and professional education and to the cultivation of the arts. At every level, the university is dedicated to the advancement of learning and particularly to the development of knowledge in the light of Christian revelation, convinced that faith is consistent with reason and that theology and other religious studies themselves profit from the broader context of critical inquiry, experimentation and reflection.

The university aims at achieving and maintaining in higher education a leading place among Catholic and other privately endowed, research-oriented institutions of comparable size, purpose and tradition. In particular, it seeks to maintain a position of special excellence in the fields of theology, philosophy and canon law.

The Catholic University of America gives primacy to scholarship and scientific research and to the training of future scholars through its graduate programs, not only in order to advance scientific work but also because it recognizes that undergraduate and professional education of high quality also demands the presence of a faculty that combines teaching and professional activity with fundamental scholarship.

The university seeks the advancement of knowledge within a context of liberal studies, a context which reflects both its concern for the whole person and the distinctive wisdom to which it is heir as a Catholic institution. This dimension of learning is reflected particularly in its undergraduate programs where religious studies and

philosophy are regarded as integral to curricula that include requirements in the arts and humanities, language and literature, and the natural and social sciences. Through its professional programs, the university seeks to educate men and women who can represent their respective professions with distinction and who are formed by the learning and values inherent in its academic and Catholic traditions.

In selecting disciplines or fields of specialization to be supported at an advanced level of study and research, the university accords priority to religious and philosophical studies and to those programs which advance the Catholic tradition of humanistic learning and which serve the contemporary and future needs of society and the Church. In supporting particular programs the university takes into account the present and potential quality of programs, making an effort to maintain present academic strengths, especially when these are not represented elsewhere.

The university recognizes that its distinctive character ultimately depends on the intellectual and moral quality of its members. To create an environment that is intellectually stimulating and characterized by the generosity and mutual support required for collegial life and personal growth, the university seeks men and women who are not only professionally competent but who also can contribute to its Catholic, moral and cultural milieu. The university seeks to preserve its tradition of collegial governance, fostering a climate within which all members of the university community have sufficient opportunities to influence deliberation and choice.

Though a research and teaching institution, the university recognizes that it is part of a larger community to which it has certain obligations consistent with its character. Its presence in the nation's capital and its unique relationship with the Catholic Church in America provide it with opportunities for influencing the resolution of the crucial issues of our time. In providing information and criteria by which public policy is shaped and measured, the university seeks to be of special service to the nation. Similarly, it seeks to be of service to the Church, not only through the preparation of clergy and other leaders for specific roles in the Church, but also through factual investigations and discussions of principles which influence policy. Thus, in dialogue and cooperation with contemporary society, The Catholic University of America sees itself as faithful to the challenge proposed by the Second Vatican Council for institutions of higher learning, namely, to put forth every effort so that "the Christian mind may achieve ... a public, persistent, and universal presence in the whole enterprise of advancing higher culture" (Gravissimum educationis, n. 10).

### 3. Text of Email Message from George E. Garvey

Dear Nancy and Peter:

I am attaching a copy of CUA's Mission and Goals from our Graduate Announcements. As I said at the meeting in Palm Springs, I know that CUA is unique and the specifically religious emphasis of its mission statement may not be appropriate elsewhere. To be honest, however, I was a little surprised by the limited appreciation for the Catholic intellectual heritage in the discussions. General statements about service, the option for the poor, dignity of the person and inclusiveness all capture important aspects of the Catholic identity. I would, however, expect service and inclusiveness to be part of any university's mission. The option for the poor and dignity of the person have a particularly Catholic ring to them, but I think every university would identify with the goals, even if in purely secular garb.

I believe that there is a deep humanism in the Catholic intellectual tradition and in the Church's social teachings that can properly enrich graduate studies in many disciplines. For that matter, I have no doubt that Protestantism, Judaism, Islam and other religious and secular ethical traditions also bring something of value to the research table. The natural sciences may require a bright line between what is reasonably subject to empirical observation (the material) and things that are transcendent or spiritual, although even in this realm the normative world of ethics must intrude. The humanities and social sciences, however, do not have to be divorced from the religious traditions that both nurtured and resisted them. A stridently secular approach to understanding humans, individually and collectively, is likely in my judgment to be pretty sterile. Catholicism, for all of its historical faults and institutional limitations, has the benefit among religious traditions of being non-fundamentalist and committed to reason as well as faith

Let me just add a word about the Jesuit tradition. I joke about the Jesuits, which is pretty standard fare in Catholic circles. Seriously, their commitment to service is truly remarkable. I also identify the Jesuits, however, with rigorous intellectual inquiry. Neo-Scholasticism may be passé, but I would hate to think that the Jesuits have walked away from their own heritage of contributing to the intellectual life of the Church. John Courtney Murray, for example, was not simply a theologian. He was able to accomplish something that strikes me as an American synthesis of theology, philosophy, politics and social theory. That perhaps exemplifies what a Catholic university can achieve, but not if it isolates Catholic thought from its research agenda, or limits it to theological endeavors.

I apologize for the rambling (perhaps ranting). I would never pretend to know how other universities should deal with their identities. Many Catholic colleges and universities have decided to walk away from the institutional Church - I believe a few have been ordered by their bishops to stop identifying themselves as Catholic - and I honestly respect that decision. Secularizing for some places may have been essential to survive. At the opposite extreme, a couple of Catholic universities have opted for a virtual pre-Vatican II Catholic triumphalism. That is not where I want my University to be, but I certainly do not want to walk away from the tradition. Some Catholic universities must keep the Catholic intellectual heritage as a part of what makes them unique. The challenge, I think we all understand, is capturing what that means at our own institutions.

Thanks for putting together a great dinner and meeting (if there is such a thing as a great meeting). It was good to see you and to discuss these issues so openly.

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Years.

George  
*Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies*  
*The Catholic University of America*  
*116 McMahon Hall*