

Incandela to Assume Endowed Chair

Joseph Incandela, professor of religious studies and associate dean of faculty, has been appointed the Joyce McMahon Hank Aquinas Chair in Catholic Theology. He succeeds Keith Egan, professor emeritus, who held the Chair from its inception in 1998 through his retirement from the College last year.

A 13th-century Italian philosopher and theologian in the scholastic tradition, St. Thomas Aquinas is considered by many Catholics to be the Church's greatest theologian. Incandela's responsibilities as holder of the Chair will include teaching an upper-level course on Aquinas and conducting the College's annual Thomas Aquinas Symposium.

"It's a very humbling recognition," said Incandela of his appointment. "To have the opportunity to hold an endowed chair named for Thomas Aquinas, a theologian and philosopher whose ideas greatly influenced my own course of study and continue to influence my teaching, is a tremendous honor."

Incandela's scholarship on Aquinas is extensive and respected. Scholars widely cite his dissertation, "Aquinas's Lost Legacy: God's Practical Knowledge and Situated Human Freedom," and other writings. Incandela's main areas of study are medieval theology, contemporary philosophy of religion, and contemporary Christian ethics.

Recognized for his masterful teaching, Incandela won the Maria Pieta award for teaching excellence in 1995. His "Catholic Social Thought" course has challenged and influenced countless Saint Mary's students. Over the years, he has worked to help students live the principles

of the Church's social teaching by encouraging internships at the South Bend Center for the Homeless and by volunteering himself.

A *summa cum laude* graduate in philosophy and theology from the University of Notre Dame, Incandela received his master's and doctoral degrees in religion from

Princeton University. He joined the Saint Mary's faculty in 1987. In 2002, Bishop John M. D'Arcy appointed him to the lay review board for the Diocese of Fort Wayne–South Bend in response to The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. Incandela was also an ethics consultant on two local hospital boards.

The Aquinas Chair in Catholic Theology is the gift of Joyce McMahon Hank '52, a longtime member of the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees and Trustee Emerita.



Joseph Incandela

Eileen Dimino

Groundbreaking for State-of-the-Art Academic Building



Eileen Dimino

Saint Mary's College broke ground for its new academic building on October 5.

The facility will incorporate updated technology, more laboratory space, and environmentally sustainable practices and materials.

The building is part of the College's master plan, a renovation and construction effort designed to better serve students, faculty, and staff. Saint Mary's has already completed construction of a new dining hall, student center, welcome center, apartment-style housing, and a clubhouse.

Ballinger Architects, headquartered in Philadelphia, and Architecture Design Group of South Bend collaborated to design the 65,000-square-foot facility. Read more in Development News on page 8.

Dignitaries breaking ground for the new academic building included (from left) Trustee Colleen Ryan, President Carol Ann Mooney '72, Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Board of Trustees Chair Deborah Johnson Schweibert '74, Vice President and Dean of Faculty Jill Vihtelic, Mission Commissioner Sara Sabie '08, Student Body President Susan McIllduff '07, Student Body Vice President Maggie Siefert '08, and Vice President for College Relations Shari Rodriguez.