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## Announcing the Appointment of Sacred Heart University's Sixth President, John J. Petillo, Ph.D.

Sacred Heart University

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Announcing the Appointment  
of  
Sacred Heart University's  
Sixth President

**John J. Petillo, Ph.D.**



SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

# Dr. John J. Petillo *Named Sixth*

**J**ohn J. Petillo, Ph.D. was named the sixth president of Sacred Heart University on March 28, 2011. He served as dean of Sacred Heart University's John F. Welch College of Business from March 2009 until October 2010, when he was named interim president of the University. Among his many accomplishments at the Welch College of Business are his work to revise the master's program and to develop plans for new facilities.

Prior to his career at SHU, Dr. Petillo was chancellor and chief executive officer of Seton Hall University and Immaculate Conception Seminary and was president of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, where he implemented a series of reforms relating to transparency and accountability, including the adoption of Sarbanes-Oxley protocols for the university.

Dr. Petillo's other professional experience includes serving as president and chief executive officer of the Newark Alliance, a private-public partnership dedicated to enhancing Newark's quality of life; regional president of First Union Insurance Services; chief executive officer of The Tribus Companies; chairman, president and chief executive officer of CareAdvantage, Inc.; president and chief executive officer of Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey; chancellor for Administration for the Archdiocese of Newark and deputy director of Catholic Community Services.

# President of Sacred Heart University

In addition, Dr. Petillo has been a consultant on several health care-related initiatives, including the development of free-standing medical facilities and the creation of an insurance brokerage organization specializing in administrative services. For three years, he was a visiting professor at Rutgers University's Graduate School of Public Administration, teaching an executive program course on leadership.

Dr. Petillo holds a bachelor's degree in classical languages and a master's degree in counseling from Seton Hall University; a professional diploma in counselor education from Fordham University; a master's in public administration from Rutgers; a Master of Divinity degree in pastoral theology from the Darlington School of Theology; and a Ph.D. in counseling and personnel services from Fordham. He received honorary doctor of humane letters degrees from St. Peter's College in New Jersey, Universidad Apec in the Dominican Republic and South Korea's Kyong-Gi University.

He chairs the finance committee of the Wells Fargo Regional Foundation and is a member of the board of Christ the King Regional High School in Queens, New York. Dr. Petillo's previous board memberships include vice chairman of the St. Joseph's Healthcare System and chairman of the New Newark Foundation and the Essex County College Foundation.

Dr. Petillo and his wife, a board-certified internist, have one daughter.







## Welcoming **John J. Petillo, Ph.D.**

Dr. John J. Petillo served as interim president of the University for five months, and he was selected to fill the position permanently after an extensive national search.

The Board of Trustees appointed Dr. Petillo as the sixth president in the University's 48-year history on the unanimous recommendation of a 15-member search committee.

"It became apparent from our own efforts and the feedback we received from many sources that Dr. Petillo was the strongest candidate for the job," said James T. Morley, Jr., University trustee and chairman of the Search Committee. "No one could equal the expertise and vision of Dr. Petillo. We believe he will articulate, develop and implement a clear strategic plan and vision for Sacred Heart University and build on our tradition of excellence."

"I am delighted to accept this responsibility at a school I have known for so long and whose mission I admire so much," Dr. Petillo said. "Sacred Heart is blessed with a remarkable and hopeful energy. I look forward to working with the faculty in the spirit of collegiality

"Sacred Heart is blessed with a remarkable and hopeful energy. I look forward to working with the faculty in the spirit of collegiality and transparency as we move Sacred Heart University forward into the 21st century with a vision that is founded on our Catholic intellectual tradition." — PRESIDENT JOHN J. PETILLO

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and transparency as we move Sacred Heart University forward into the 21st century with a vision that is founded on our Catholic intellectual tradition,” he said. “I believe we must be student-centered, results-driven and firmly focused on the quality of education we provide. We must also continue to strengthen Sacred Heart as a Catholic university.”

Chairman of the Board, Bishop William E. Lori said, “I am very pleased that John has been appointed president of Sacred Heart University. He has a wide range of experience in both Catholic higher education and the corporate world, and I believe he will strengthen and enhance the Catholic mission and identity of Sacred Heart University as we move forward in the face of new challenges and opportunities.”

Dr. Petillo succeeds Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D., who was president of Sacred Heart University from 1988 to October 2010. Sacred Heart University has more than 6,000 undergraduate and graduate students.





## About Sacred Heart University

- SHU is the second-largest Catholic university in New England and was the first in America to be led and staffed by lay people.
- The *Princeton Review* includes SHU in its “Best 373 Colleges: 2011” and “Best 300 Business Schools: 2011” and *U.S. News & World Report* ranks SHU among the best regional universities in the North in its annual “America’s Best Colleges” publication.
- Over 6,000 students attend the University; the fall 2010 enrollment included 3,511 full-time undergraduates, 687 part-time undergraduates and 2,085 graduate students (Luxembourg campus included).
- Upon introducing the new undergraduate Core Curriculum in fall 2007, the University was invited to become a member of the Association of American Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) Core Commitments Leadership Consortium, comprised of just 23 institutions nationally. AAC&U has recognized SHU’s Core Curriculum as a national model of values education.
- Selected for membership in the Center for Student Opportunity’s “College Bound Coalition”—SHU is featured in the CSO’s *College Access & Opportunity Guide*, the first comprehensive college guidebook dedicated to highlighting institutions which provide access and opportunity for traditionally underserved student populations.
- SHU’s 210 full-time faculty members educate and advise students and are engaged in scholarly research.
- The student-to-faculty ratio is 13:1, with an average class size of under 22 students.
- The University offers 45 degree programs on the associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral levels.
- SHU’s Doctor of Physical Therapy program, launched in September 2004, is the first doctorate in the University’s history and the first such curriculum in the state of Connecticut. A Doctor of Nursing program was launched in September 2010.
- SHU’s Physical Therapy program is the best in Connecticut and among the top five in New England according to *U.S. News & World Report*.
- Sacred Heart University’s College of Arts & Sciences’ Freshman Academic Advising Program has been recognized as among the best in the nation according to the National Academic Advising Association.



- The *Princeton Review* and *GamePro Magazine* named Sacred Heart University's game design and development program as one of the "Top 50 Undergraduate Game Design Programs" in the United States and Canada.
- Nearly 800 students participate in the University's 31 Division I athletic teams.
- In the 2010-2011 season, Sacred Heart University won the Northeast Conference Commissioner's Cup for the fourth year in a row, awarded to the top-performing athletic program in the conference.
- More than 90% of all full-time undergraduates receive financial aid, representing a University commitment of nearly \$34 million annually.
- In spring 2008, the University announced that full-time undergraduate students with family income below \$50,000 who are admitted to SHU from Fairfield County high schools will be provided a tuition-free education.
- For the second consecutive year, Sacred Heart University was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service.
- SHU's Habitat for Humanity campus chapter has earned a place in the top five collegiate chapters among more than 500 in the nation.
- More than 1,200 students and members of the faculty and staff volunteer in excess of 45,000 hours each year largely within the City of Bridgeport, but also regionally, nationally and internationally.
- WSHU, a National Public Radio member station, is the principal NPR News & Talk and Classical Music public radio source for Fairfield and New Haven counties, CT and Suffolk County, NY and is the 34th most listened-to public radio station in the country.
- SHU has the only American-accredited MBA program in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and a residential study-abroad program in the Irish-speaking community of Dingle, County Kerry, Ireland.
- Sacred Heart University is set on 69.25 acres in Fairfield County, Connecticut. Its main campus is in Fairfield, which is 90 minutes from Manhattan and 150 minutes from Boston.



“Best in the North”

—U.S. News & World Report

“Best in the U.S.”

—The Princeton Review



SHU's core curriculum has been recognized nationally by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)

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COLLEGE OF BUSINESS



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