Melady installed as SHU president

On Saturday, December 11, 1976, more than 800 guests and 50 academic delegates from sister institutions of higher learning witnessed the formal installation of Dr. Thomas P. Melady as the Third President of Sacred Heart University.

Inaugural ceremonies consisted of a two-part program, rooted in the University’s traditions and with participants from all facets of the University community. A reception concluded the afternoon, giving guests the opportunity to greet the new president.

The program began with a Mass of the Holy Spirit, concelebrated by more than 30 priests, representing the diocese, the University, and Dr. Melady’s previous affiliations. The Most Reverend Walter W. Curtis, bishop of Bridgeport and president of the University board, delivered the homily. The University Chamber Singers and Community Chamber Orchestra performed as the choir.

During the installation proceedings greetings on behalf of the various constituencies were given by Robert Huebner, vice president of the board; Kay Arpaio Rizzo, secretary, Alumni Council; Lawrence Hutvagner, president, Student Government; Robert Wagner, chairperson, Evening School Council; and Dr. Anthony Pinciaro, professor of Chemistry.

Bishop Curtis performed the formal induction by bestowing on Dr. Melady the Medallion of Office with these words:

"Tom, I am delighted to install you formally, with happiness and pride as the third president of Sacred Heart University. With this installation, go our prayers and our support."
Dr. Armstrong returns as special advisor to the handicapped

As part of his plans to help facilitate the participation of the handicapped in University life, (see President's Corner), Dr. Melady has appointed Dr. April O. Armstrong, associate professor of religious studies, special advisor to the handicapped.

Dr. Armstrong has been on leave of absence since 1972, when she suffered a ruptured arterial aneurism in the left side of the brain. She returns to campus after four years of therapy to regain her motor coordination and language abilities which were lost when aphasia occurred after the operation performed to correct the aneurism.

Dr. Armstrong hopes to resume teaching this summer. Meanwhile, in her new auxiliary position as advisor to the handicapped, she will be someone for the handicapped to talk with about their concerns, their hopes and the possibility of returning to school at SHU.

The author of 11 books, including the Greatest Faith Ever Known, the completion of a work begun by her father the late Fulton Oursler, senior editor of Reader's Digest, Dr. Armstrong is rough-drafting a book about her recovery from aphasia. "Most material on aphasia has treated the subject very clinically; mine will be a personal account. I call it a translation of Babel, with emphasis on the frustration and fear, and the joy of being given a second chance to see things for the first time," she says.

State awards SHU $1.5 million grant; Three programs receive HEW funds

In November, SHU was awarded $1.5 million in federal funds for social services training. The grant, which is allocated by the Connecticut State Department of Social Services, represents the largest ever received by the University.

The funds will be distributed among three programs: the two-year legal assistant program; the baccalaureate program in Social Work; and a two-year program in Community Social Services. These programs were awarded the grant on the basis of their compatibility with the training needs of Title XX agencies in Connecticut.

Under the provisions of the agreement, for every class in which at least two employees of Title XX agencies are enrolled, the University will receive 75 percent reimbursement of its instructional and administrative expenses through December 31, 1978. Additional funds are allocated to provide a part-time development of curriculum director, research assistant, and project assistant who will continually develop and expand the curriculum. Onsite training at the agencies is planned as part of the University's outreach efforts.

Appointed to administer the Title XX grant were: Program Coordinator John Chesire, assistant professor and director of the Social Work program; Research Director Robert Plotnick, acting director of the legal assistant program; and Project Assistants Jill Fitzgerald and Paula June, Social Work students.

Dr. Melady, University president, noted that the grant is particularly significant in light of the University's mission of service to the community. He also announced that $30,000 in scholarships was being made available to employees of Title XX agencies.

Dr. Armstrong was appointed Director of the Social Work program in 1973 after serving as student development counselor at Fairfield University, where she also held positions as judicial officer, coordinator of volunteer programs, administrative assistant, and assistant director of summer conferences.

At SHU her major task is to identify the needs of continuing education students and to act as liaison between the students and administration. She is involved in personal and career counseling; program development in conjunction with the Women's Center; and aiding the continuing education council.

Luna and Strite join staff of Student Services

Two new positions on the student services staff were filled by Wilson Luna as student counselor, and Kathleen Strite as coordinator of continuing education services.

Mr. Luna received an MA degree in counselor education from the University of Bridgeport, and a BA degree from Southern Connecticut State College in sociology and Spanish. As a graduate fellow with the Higher Education Opportunities Program of the Higher Education Center for Urban Studies, he provided students with academic and financial aid counseling.

He is a member of SHU's black studies committee and is a volunteer advisor to the parents' board of Project Upward Bound at UB.

Mrs. Strite was awarded her BS degree from Purdue University in social studies education and English, and her MS degree in guidance and counseling from Southern Connecticut State College. She most recently served as student development counselor at Fairfield University, where she also held positions as judicial officer, coordinator of volunteer programs, administrative assistant, and assistant director of summer conferences.

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ITALIAN HERITAGE WEEK

In his Inagural Message delivered on December 11, 1976, Dr. Thomas Patrick Melady, Third President of Sacred Heart University, stressed the importance of contributions to American society and culture by the numerous ethnic groups which make up the American population. Here in the Greater Bridgeport area, the contributions of Italian-Americans have been numerous and lasting. To give formal recognition to the Italian-American culture, SHU is planning a week-long Italian Heritage celebration, March 20 through 26, 1977.

While plans are not as yet complete, the Italian Heritage Celebration Committee, chaired by Dr. Anthony Piniero and Dean John Croffy, has announced a preliminary schedule of events commencing with the opening of an art show on March 20. On the next day there will be a noontime Eclectic Italian celebration in Italian. Then, SHU students and faculty will be delighted to find, on Tuesday, the 22nd, that the cafeteria has become a trattoria, with Italian delicacies available for lunch. The remainder of the week will be devoted to film and lecture programs with the entire festival culminating in a gala event on Saturday, March 26, which President Melady cites a number of area Italian-Americans for their outstanding contributions to this community. The award ceremony will be followed by a reception and festa with food, music, and other entertainment, a delightful ending to a week of Italian-American celebration.

THE HOLLYWOOD COMEDY: HOW AMERICA LAUGHS

On alternate Tuesday evenings this Spring, Fr. John Giuliani will present a credit film course entitled: The Hollywood Comedy. Once again he is opening these film showings to the general public without charge. The six nights of film are scheduled in the Library Lecture Hall, and all screenings will take place promptly at 8pm.

On January 25, the series opens with four silents “The Gold Rush” (Chaplin), “Two Tars” (Laurel and Hardy), “Safety Last” (Harold Lloyd) and “The Railroader” (Buster Keaton).

MATHMATICS CLUB PROGRAMS

On Friday, March 25, 1977 Dr. Kumpati Narendra of the Department of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Yale University will give a talk on Systems Theory.

And on May 31, 1977, Professor Jean Dieudonne, the main speaker in Toronto's forthcoming Gauss Celebration, will give a major mathematics address at SHU. Professor Dieudonne, an honorary Doctor of Laws from SHU, will appear in honor of both the 200th anniversary of Carl Frederick Gauss, the "princeps mathematicorum," and the 10th anniversary of the SHU Mathematics Colloquium which Professor Dieudonne opened in 1967.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY ART SHOW

The first annual University community art exhibition will be open to the public from April 12 to May 14, 1977 at the Student Union Center, Room of Sacred Heart University. The exhibition is open to all members of the SHU community. The opening reception will be held on Sunday, April 17, 1977 at 2 p.m. and is sponsored by the Department of Fine Arts.

CROSS CURRENTS CELEBRATION

Twenty-five years ago, a magazine was founded with the twin goals of providing a forum for serious Catholic writers and fostering an interdisciplinary approach to intellectual and social concerns. That magazine, Cross Currents, unlike many such notable magazine experiments, has lasted and flourished, and this year is celebrating its silver anniversary.

Sacred Heart University is proud to honor Cross Currents and its editors and contributors with a week of programs on the theme of reexamination of the religious dimension. A committee chaired by Dr. Walter Brooks of SHU's Religious Studies Department is planning several major convocations within this general theme, all of which will be open to the public. The week will also include a dinner honoring Joseph and Sally Cunneen, editors of Cross Currents, as well as the many others who have been involved with the magazine.

Please watch for announcements of Cross Currents Week events, April 12-14, 1977 in The Catholic Transcript and The Bridgeport Post.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

Dr. Grant Walker of SHU's Sociology Department is planning a major symposium on criminal justice with the theme "What ever Happened to Law, Morality, and Ethics?" A series of six seminars will be offered, two on May 14 and one each on May 17, 19, 24 and 26. The seminars will cover such vital topics as criminal law in today's courts, incarceration and its alternatives, and the community and criminal justice. Speakers will be members of the SHU faculty, area agencies involved with criminal justice, and persons who have been convicted and imprisoned. Various social service organizations in the Bridgeport area will be co-sponsors of this important and timely symposium.

GUSTAVE WHITEHEAD - MEDIA PRESENTATION

Gustave Whitehead was a turn-of-the-century Bridgeport resident, a man of genius, an inventor, idealist, and a builder of airplanes before the Wright Brothers. His fascinating life story will be presented in an experimental multi-media format, weekends, April 22 through May 8, in the Round Room of Sacred Heart University. Don Cooley and Steve Ross of the SHU Media Studies Department are developing this production aided by their Media Studies students. The presentation will employ film, slides, experimental sound, and live acting, and it will offer a unique glimpse into a little known part of Bridgeport's past.

PAPAL MESSAGE OF PEACE

On Wednesday, January 26, 1977 at 8pm, Sacred Heart University and the Bridgeport Diocesan Commission on World Peace and Justice will co-sponsor a symposium entitled "You Want Peace, Defend Life!" - the theme of this year's New Year's message of Pope Paul VI.

MUSICAL EVENTS

Leland Roberts, SHU's Director of Music, has announced two concerts for Spring 1977. First, on Tuesday March 22, 1977 at 11am in the Chapel, the Early Music Ensemble will present a musical program entitled "Basically Baroque." Then, on Sunday, May 1, 1977, the Sacred Heart University-Community Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Singers will present a joint concert at 8pm in the Center Lounge.

BUSINESS ETHICS MEETING

On Thursday, April 21, 1977, Sacred Heart University will sponsor a one-day conference on several questions of current importance concerning Business Ethics. Planned by the SHU Department of Business and several cooperating academic departments, the conference will involve area business leaders in addition to the students and faculty of SHU.

CONFERENCE ON THE HANDICAPPED

In May, 1977 a major White House conference on the handicapped will take place in Washington. Sacred Heart University will host a preparatory conference on Tuesday, April 26, 1977. Organizing this Pre-Conference Day, which will include several papers and panel discussions, are Dr. Thomas Melady, President of SHU; Edward Kirchner, Director of the Bridgeport Diocesan Commission on Social Justice; and Dr. April Armstrong, SHU's Special Consultant to the Handicapped.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

A number of lectures and cultural programs are being planned for Spring 1977 as the University makes a major effort, under the leadership of President Melady, to expand its intellectual, cultural, and artistic horizons. For example, on the first Saturday of each month, a noted theologian or church figure will deliver the homily at the Saturday evening liturgy beginning with the February 5, 1977 mass at which the guest homilist will be Fr. Joseph O'Hare, S.J., editor of America magazine. Please watch for announcements of future events in your local newspaper.

Photograph: Gustave Whitehead holding the motor used to power his "airplane #21." Witnesses reported a flight by #21 on August 14, 1901, 28 months before the first flight of the Wright brothers. Whitehead reported two flights on January 17, 1902, one of two miles and one of seven miles.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Editor's Note: As a fitting first message from Sacred Heart University's new president, Dr. Thomas P. Melady, we have excerpted from his inaugural address the statement of commitment to five areas of study and academic service.

The Family — We commit ourselves to aid in the enrichment of the family. We do this now in offering academic programs for all members of the family: those just out of high school; mothers who come to us during the day; any who wish to come in the evening. But, we now resolve to do more than that, as the family concept nurtured by centuries of Judaic-Christian values is itself under attack.

Rising alcoholism, drug abuse, pornography, violence and depersonalization all strike at the family. On our own, and working with agencies of all faiths, we will support all efforts to reduce these disorientations that strike at the heart of our traditional family values.

The Diocese of Bridgeport — We are here in a convergence of interest with the Diocese of Bridgeport. Deeply appreciative of the help given to us by the diocese, we pledge ourselves to search out new ways where we can, as a University, serve the needs of the clergy and the people of this diocese. Simultaneously, the University will continue to maintain a strong ecumenical outreach to our Protestant, Orthodox and Jewish brothers and sisters.

Southwestern Connecticut — Situated in southwestern Connecticut, we share the joys and hardships of industry, commerce, labor, social service agencies, local, regional and state governments. We confirm our interest in expanding our services to these institutions. As an academic institution, we are ready to carry out educational programs that will meet particular needs of the institutions in southwestern Connecticut.

The Handicapped — Our own Judaic-Christian traditions require us to re-examine our responsibilities to serve the handicapped. Many of our brothers and sisters in this area are handicapped, unable to walk or see, or suffering from other restrictions on the personhood. We have remodeled many of our facilities in order to accommodate the handicapped as students. We shall continue to identify new ways to facilitate their presence with us. We want to participate in the rehabilitation process wherever we can. All of us need the support and encouragement that can be given to each other.

Ethnic Heritage — Our country is now beginning to recognize the treasure-house of our ethnic heritage. For too long the advocates of the “melting pot” discouraged a serious interest by Americans in the language, literature, and civilization of their ancestors. This fortunately is changing. We at Sacred Heart University have always valued the richness of our ethnic heritage because ethnic Americans have played such a key role in our student body.

We shall develop courses in the languages, literature and civilization of these ethnic Americans and offer them, not only to our regular matriculating students, but to those outside our ranks who wish to deepen their knowledge of their ethnic heritage. Furthermore, we look forward to cooperating with ethnic American organizations in the noble work of preserving and transmitting their cultural heritage.

The interlocking thesis of these five specific commitments that I have made is that of service to the community. We were founded with the clear mandate to serve the people and institutions of this area, and I wish to reinforce our commitment to this mandate in every possible way.

First master's programs planned for September

In January, SHU's Board of Trustees announced the establishment of a Master of Business Administration program to begin in September. They also authorized the Department of Religious Studies to prepare a master's program proposal to be completed in time for September registration.

Professor Charles Harper, chairperson of the Business Administration department, explained that the main objective of the 48 credit-hour MBA program is to prepare men and women for positions of administrative responsibility in business, as well as non-profit and government institutions, and to bring students to a full realization of the ethical and social responsibilities inherent in the managerial role. A fundamental philosophical context of the program is the consideration of ethics in the functioning of the business enterprise.

Individuals who hold a baccalaureate degree in any academic discipline will be considered for admission. Faculty participating in the program will not only possess excellent academic credentials, but will also have pragmatic administrative experience to bring to the classroom.

Campus Ministry plans special weekend liturgies

Another phase of the University's increased commitment to serve the handicapped is the scheduling of special Sunday morning masses beginning February 13. Students will be available for those who may need assistance, and the University will extend its hospitality with refreshments after the liturgy.

For future liturgies, the campus ministry intends to extend invitations to ministers of other denominations and to handicapped priests interested in concelebrating the masses.

Also scheduled to begin in February are University masses held on the first Saturday of the month with distinguished guest homilists.

February 5 the homilist will be Rev. Joseph A. O'Hare, S.J., Editor in-Chief of America, the Jesuit-edited weekly journal.
• Mrs. Margaret Badum Melady, President Melady's wife, delivered a paper on "Cultural Diversity and Development" at the International Colloquium on Culture and Development. The colloquium was held last October in Dakar, Senegal.

• 17 SHU students used the holidays for "pre-flight" reading on the customs, art and history of Spain, to enhance their January tour of Madrid, Cordoba, Seville, Granada, Malaga, Escorial and Toledo. Professors from various universities in Spain served as guides during the two-week visit which combined education and travel for a unique mid-semester vacation.

• Recipients of the annual Dr. John A. Rycenga Essay Award are: Jean Bumbera, Leonard Ouatrela, and Mary Geogette. The three winning essays were chosen from the hundreds written by students in freshman English classes.

• The Rev. William Fletcher, assistant professor of anthropology and sociology, designed the 1976 Gerald Ellard Award Medallion for the New England Liturgical Committee. The medallion depicts a sower, symbol of Christ and the Church, and bears the words Sacredness, Nobility, Universality — the three characteristics of all liturgy.

• Dr. Jean T. Sells joined the Math/Operations Research department last semester as an associate professor. Dr. Sells received her bachelor degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University, and her MA and PhD degrees from the University of Minnesota.

• In October Mrs. Diana Leslie, associate professor and director of the executive secretarial program, and assistant professor Camille Reale were invited to make a presentation about SHU's word processing major at Nassau Community College in Garden City, Long Island. The SHU program was selected after an investigation by Nassau College showed it to be one of the best equipped and most effectively structured sequences in the tri-state area.

• On December 26, the brothers of Sigma Tau Omega set out with four truckloads of food, clothing and toys for the needy of Appalachia. The trip to Vanceburg, Kentucky was the culmination of the Seventh Annual Appalachia Drive, the key project of Sigma Tau Omega since its founding in 1970.

• Dr. Donald W. Brodeur, chairperson of the Psychology department, was elected to a three year term on the Board of Directors of the Greater Bridgeport Regional Narcotics Program.

• "Women in a Violent Society" is the title of an all-day conference which has been planned for the spring semester. The conference will be co-sponsored by the Women's Center and the Rape Crisis Service of the Bridgeport YWCA. The two major areas to be discussed are rape and wife-beating, with a speak-out panel to explore the extent of the latter problem.

• Ms. Stephanie Federici, director of public information, has produced a slide presentation to introduce SHU to various interested groups. The program includes a brief history of SHU, highlights some of the academic innovations, and provides information about academic programs, facilities, and students. Mr. Sebastian Midolo, director of annual giving, offers a chart presentation of similar content to interested businesses.

• A monthly series of workshops to help students prepare for the task of job-hunting was offered by Thomas Calabrese, director of career counseling and placement. Topics included "How and Where to Look for a Job," "Resume Writing," and "Interview Do's and Don'ts."

• Mrs. Margaret Borders, a Religious Studies major, was appointed Director of Religious Education at St. Rose Parish in Newtown. She is responsible for coordinating the religious education program for children in kindergarten through 8th grade.

• 21 SHU seniors were awarded the honor of inclusion in the 1976-77 edition of 'Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.'

• Sister Loretta Gosen, chairperson of the Education department, spoke on "The Young Adolescent — A Challenge in the Classroom" before the faculty of St. Ambrose School, Bridgeport. Later this month, Sr. Gosen will be a member of the panel discussing "Philosophy of Education: Its Relation to a Lifetime of Learning" at a meeting of the American Association of University Women.

Undated SHU Pioneers ranked No. 1 in U.S.

Rolling up another winning season with a 15-win, no-loss record, the SHU cagers were named, at press time, the nation's top-ranked basketball team in the National Collegiate Athletic Conference Division II weekly poll. The impressive scoreboard includes three wins to take the championship of the 10th Annual Holiday Classic.

Coach Don Feeley marked his 200th coaching triumph when SHU topped St. Anselm's in the semi-final round of the tournament. The Pioneers went on to beat Bridgeport in a 85-84 cliff-hanger for the trophy. Most Valuable Player awards went to SHU's Carl Winfree and Andre Means.