SHU REPORTED FIRST IN STATE WITH BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
MESKILL, BISHOP CURTIS SERVE AS CO-CHAMIEN FOR INITIAL EVENT

UCONN PRESIDENT, OTHERS HONORED AT COMMENCEMENT

Dr. Glenn Ferguson, president of the University of Connecticut, was guest speaker and one of three honorary doctoral degree recipients at the University's Eighth Commencement on May 25 with 403 students receiving degrees.

Other awards were given to Mother M. Bernadette, O. Carm., director of planning and development at St. Joseph's Manor, Trumbull, and John Sullivan, Fairfield first selectman, who has served as president of the Connecticut Conference of Mayors.

Dr. William H. Conley, founding SHU president and chancellor who will retire July 1 to become chancellor emeritus, read the citations. President Kidera conferred the honorary degrees. Dr. Charles E. Ford, academic vice president and dean, presented the undergraduates for degrees, and the Most Rev. Walter W. Curtis, chairman of the University board of trustees, delivered the benediction.

John V. Friel delivered class valedictorian remarks. The Rev. John B. Giuliani gave the invocation. Kenneth J. Marzik offered the class president salute, and John A. Croffy, dean of students, served as mace bearer and marshall for Commencement.

Prior to assuming UConn's presidency, Dr. Ferguson was president of Clark University; chancellor of Long Island University; American Ambassador to Kenya; director-of Vista and associate director of the (Continued on page 2)

Governor Thomas J. Meskill, honorary co-chairman of the May 11 SHU musical Benefit performance of "1776", signs a proclamation designating that date as the opening one for the state's celebration of the National Bicentennial anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Also participating are the Rev. William J. Fletcher, new SHU director of cultural affairs and Whitney L. Brooks, chairman of the American Revolutionary Bicentennial Commission of Connecticut. The May 11 Benefit performance thus became an initial event to commemorate Connecticut's Bicentennial Celebration and initiates a two-year series of cultural activities at the University to focus on this theme.

Governor and Mrs. Thomas J. Meskill helped Sacred Heart University launch the State of Connecticut's celebration of the Bicentennial Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence by serving as co-chairmen of a special May 11 Benefit performance of the hit Broadway Musical "1776" by the University Drama group and related activities which launched a two-year series of ongoing events.

The ongoing series of cultural presentations highlighting Connecticut's role in the signing of the Declaration carries the theme "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness" and will feature prominent American artists, composers, poets, lecturers and drama productions. The Connecticut American Revolutionary Bicentennial Commission in Hartford designated SHU's celebration as the first such commemorative event in the State.

The Most Rev. Walter W. Curtis, SHU Board Chairman, also served as a (Continued on page 2)
CURRICULUM PAMPHLETS

STIMULATE INTEREST

A new series of "curriculum fliers" detailing specific advantages and opportunities within major sequences and programs have been designed to focus on the interests of prospective freshmen who have decided on their field of specialization and present an in-depth picture of specific departments for students still in doubt about the direction of their college studies.

Majors and programs covered by the fliers include: accounting, American studies, biology, business administration, chemistry, education, English, history and political science, legal studies, life/work experience, mathematics, media studies, operations research, psychology, religious studies, sociology, Spanish, philosophy and urban studies. A separate flier also has been prepared on financial aid available. Further information on the fliers may be obtained by contacting William J. Dean, University director of admissions.

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U.S. Peace Corps. He also has done extensive administration and teaching in the field of public affairs and served as chairman of the U.S. Senate Task Force on Private Higher Education in 1971.

Mother Bernadette, a nationally recognized expert in the field of geriatrics and care for the aged, has achieved national and international recognition in her profession. She has been chairman of the Connecticut State White House Conference on Aging, the Governor's Commission on Aging and has received several awards from federal and state bodies for her leadership in this field.

Mr. Sullivan has served 15 years as Fairfield first selectman, as a Presidential Elector from the State of Connecticut, a member of the Governor's Planning Commission on Criminal Administration, and a member of the Connecticut Municipal Police Training council as well as holding a large number of leadership posts in various advisory boards and commissions in the Fairfield and greater Bridgeport area.

Senior week activities included a senior awards night, dinner dance and a post-Commencement reception for graduates.

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION (Continued from page 1)

co-chairman. Serving on the Honorary SHU Committee for the Benefit were the entire State Congressional Delegation — U.S. Senators Abraham A. Ribicoff and Lowell P. Weicker, Jr.; U.S. Representatives William Cotter, Ella Grasso, Stewart B. McKinney, Robert Steele, Robert Giando and Ronald Sarasin. Others were Bridgeport Mayor and Gubernatorial candidate Nicholas A. Panuzio and First Selectman John Sullivan, of Fairfield, along with other area notables. The University's Regional Council and Alumni Association acted as co-sponsors for the Benefit designed to add contributions to the Presidential Scholarship fund. Joseph R. Burkart, SHU director of development and the Rev. William J. Fletcher, University director of cultural affairs, coordinated arrangements and the drama production of "1776" was supervised by Claude McNeal.

President Kidera indicated the initiative of the University in kicking off the state's Bicentennial Celebration had generated a great deal of statewide, regional and even national interest in its general plans and activities in addition to assisting outstanding area students possessing academic excellence through the Presidential Scholarship fund.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Robert A. Kidera

President, Sacred Heart University

Each year in the life of the University has a distinctive, unique character, reflecting the special influences and events of the society and times of which it is a part. This is especially true of Sacred Heart University, a "local" institution closely allied to a designated community.

The academic year 1973-74 was different in several ways. First, without prior warning, the Sacred Heart University campus felt the reverberations of two major crises in our national life: the crisis of morality in our federal government and the crisis in energy.

The crisis in political morality seriously challenged the attitudes and values held by our faculty and students, forcing them to rethink their own ideals and standards. The crisis in energy, caused in part by the Arab embargo, provoked a similar reevaluation of priorities, while creating serious financial and transportation problems for students and the University administration.

I am happy to report that students and the University responded effectively to both crises.

The coming year — 1974-75 — will, among other things, be the first year of the two-year national Bicentennial Celebration of the Declaration of American Independence. It is scheduled to be a period of national self-examination, re-appraisal, and re-dedication to the high ideals and principles upon which our nation was founded. The Bicentennial Celebration couldn't have arrived at a better time.

We at SHU, because of our special commitment to values and Christian humanism, expect to provide some of the leadership and input for this historic rededication.

On May 11, by Proclamation of Governor Meskill, Sacred Heart University staged the first Connecticut Bicentennial Celebration event with the production of the hit historical musical play "1776." This was accompanied by extensive exhibits of Colonial Art and revolutionary history, as well as a book exhibit of Eric Sloan's Americana art and writing.

For the next two years, a series of special events, built around the theme "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness" will dominate the campus. We invite all alumni, friends and benefactors to join with SHU in this spiritual and intellectual regeneration. It will be another important period in the life of our institution, reflecting Sacred Heart University's unique commitment and character.
Prospective area students meet with President Kidera and William J. Dean (fourth from left), director of admissions, at one of a number of “Open House” sessions during the past spring for those interested in exploring future opportunities at the University.

Cultural Affairs
Director Named

Named as new director of cultural affairs is the Rev. William J. Fletcher, assistant professor of sociology, who will continue to teach. His new duties coordinate the work of several University committees and departments sponsoring cultural events, art exhibits, films, special lectures and dramatic and musical performances.

He will seek to “schedule and stimulate a full, balanced calendar of cultural events for the year;” according to President Kidera and assist in the staging, promotion and attendance at such events.

A professional artist, Father Fletcher joined SHU in 1968. He received A.B., S.T.B. and S.T.L. degrees from St. Mary’s seminary in Baltimore, Md., and both a master of arts degree in history and a master of science degree in sociology from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. He also pursued doctoral studies at Johns Hopkins.

Summer Education Courses Rescheduled

Registration for courses offered during the second regular summer session may be completed during the day in the Office of the Registrar and during the evening in the Office of Continuing Education through July 10. Classes for the session begin July 15 and continue through August 15.

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Increased Appropriations for SHU Financial Aid

Governor Thomas J. Meskill signed a general Appropriations Bill granting a level of $3,056,000 for scholarship aid to students at the state’s independent colleges as part of Public Act 551, administered by the Commission for Higher Education. The funds represent the third in a four-year program on the part of the independent colleges which it is hoped will eventually produce approximately $4,500,000 in such aid by next year.

Sacred Heart University received slightly less than $200,000 in such aid last year and, depending on full-time enrollment and costs at four-year public colleges, could reach the $300,000 mark in 1974-75. However, such computations will not become evident until the exact formulae are completed for next year by the Commission, since funding allocations are based on variables in independent college enrollment and a formula of approximately one-half the cost of attending the public colleges which also changes each year.

The University is further hopeful that Federal Basic Opportunity Grant increases, reduced restrictive provisions in the administration of this program and recent abolition of need analysis tests on Federally guaranteed loans for families with less than $15,000 income will be helpful in developing further public financial aid to University students.

Campus Reports

Dr. Kathleen McGroary, professor of English at Western Connecticut State College, recently was guest lecturer for a Ryenga society convocation on “Cosmopolitan Irishman: The Graphic James Joyce.”

Seventeen women students in the university’s Executive Secretarial program are earning college credits and gaining on-the-job training through a work/experience program initiated this year.

A lecture demonstration on the “Origin of Flamenco” by the Boston Flamenco Ballet Inc. was sponsored this spring by the convocation committee and the department of modern languages.

Fifty-seven education students are student teaching in 42 different schools from Stamford to New Haven and as far north as Waterbury this semester.

Michael Harrington, author, lecturer and syndicated columnist, was the final speaker in the Greaters Brownson Lecture Series in March.

John W. Brooks, assistant professor of mathematics, delivered a paper at the winter meeting of the “Mathematical Modeling and Computing” seminar at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

The psychology department this year for the first time hosted an American Psychological Association Visiting Scientist for a day of discussion with faculty and students and a lecture, Dr. Otello Desiderato, professor of psychology at Connecticut College, New London, was the scientist.

The Alumni Association sponsored a career workshop to improve the techniques necessary for obtaining employment in all fields of specialization.

Walter E. Brooks, assistant professor and chairman of the department of religious studies, recently received his doctoral degree from Fordham University.

The name of Dr. Raoul A. DeVilliers, professor and chairman of the department of Mathematics and Operations Research, has been included in the 1974 edition of the Dictionary of International Biography.

Dr. Mariann Russell, associate professor of English, has been awarded a six-month fellowship in ethnic studies from the National Endowment for the Humanities to study the work of contemporary American black poet Melvin B. Tolson.

Charles Cyr, assistant professor of English, recently presented a paper at the 25th annual meeting of the Conference of College Composition and Communication, held in Anaheim, California.

Carol W. Ney, associate director of Continuing Education, was the subject recently of a feature article in the “Bridgeport Post.” The story highlighted the highly successful “Taste of College” program at the University for women contemplating a return to or initial attendance at college later in life.

Peter Lucia, a junior business major from Stamford, has been elected president of the student government for the ’74-’75 academic year. New vice president is Manuel Cardozo of Bridgeport.

This year for the first time SHU offered an intensive 3-week summer session in addition to the two regular sessions.
As part of the second session, the University has rescheduled a number of summer education courses for area teachers because of snow days and school cancellations last winter. Some of the courses to be offered include Reading Problems of School Children, Introduction to Bilingual-Bicultural Education, Teaching Art in Elementary Schools, and Developmental Psychology for Teachers.

Arthur Brissette, director of continuing education at SHU, from whose office further details may be obtained, said that since most area schools have extended their current terms to the end of June, teachers wanting courses leading to certification will probably find it easier to attend the July summer session.

The Postal Designation of the University has been changed to the following and all those having correspondence with the University may want to note the change:

Box 8460
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606

The University has been asked to include this designation on all new envelopes ordered and will do so as present supplies are exhausted. Campus Location is 5229 Park Avenue, Bridgeport.

LEGAL ASSISTANT PROGRAM APPROVED

An associate degree program in legal assistant study has been approved at Sacred Heart University and is being offered to help meet the shortage of trained legal assistants in Fairfield County. It will be established through the business department.

The course will utilize the resources of the Fairfield County Law Library and will include areas such as legal research, liberal arts electives, office procedures, accounting and business communication in addition to basic law study.

The University's admissions office may be contacted for further details and the program is scheduled to go into effect for the 1974-75 year.

NEW SHU BUSINESS ADMINISTRATORS NAMED

John P. Huck, of Monroe, former chief accountant with the Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation was named University business manager April 15 and Mrs. Muriel S. Menhart, University assistant comptroller, was advanced to the position of comptroller on the same date.

Mr. Huck, a graduate of the Wharton School of Finance of the University of Pennsylvania also had served at Sikorsky as both an accounting supervisor and section supervisor. He had previous experience with United Aircraft and various certified Public Accounting firms in the Greater Hartford area. Mrs. Menhart has been associated with the University since 1970. She reports to Mr. Huck with major responsibilities as custodian of all University funds and administration of the budget. She has a B.S. degree from the University of Bridgeport, is a candidate for a Master's degree there, and was previously associated in accounting roles with the Bassick Company, Warnaco and General Electric.

PROF. MORRISSEY RETIRES

Robert B. Morrisey, professor of physics and mathematics and president of the university senate who served with SHU since 1969, retired this year and was honored at a testimonial dinner in April given by the mathematics club and involving alumni, faculty and friends.

Before coming to Sacred Heart, he headed the physics department at Manhattanville College and has authored numerous articles both in his professional specialties and on the relationship between science and religion. Last spring, he was recognized in "Outstanding Educators of America."

NEWS DIRECTOR NAMED

Sarah S. Andersen has replaced Susan D. Holahan as news director for the university. Mrs. Andersen served as a part-time writer in the news office prior to the new appointment. Mrs. Holahan is relocating to Aspen, Colorado and has been with the university since November, 1972.