Honorary Degree Nominations

Board of Trustees
Loyola University New Orleans
December 1-2, 2011

CONFIDENTIAL
To: Loyola University New Orleans Board of Trustees

From: Edward J. Kvet  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: November 10, 2011

Subject: Honorary Degree Nominations

On behalf of the Loyola University New Orleans Honorary Degrees Committee, I am forwarding to you six nominations recommended for consideration by the Board of Trustees. These nominations will be discussed and acted upon by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee on Thursday, December 1, 2011 and by the full Board on Friday, December 2, 2011.

The enclosed materials include the university’s criteria for awarding an honorary degree and copies of the nominations. Honorary degree nominations are considered confidential and for discussion only in meeting sessions in order to protect the privacy of the nominees.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this matter. Thank you.

Enclosures
cc: President Kevin Wm. Wildes, Ph.D., S.J.
The Loyola University Honorary Degrees Committee and the Board of Trustees have established the following general guideline for honorary degrees:

An Honorary Degree may be bestowed upon any person who has made outstanding achievements, particularly in those fields of endeavor which are at the heart of Loyola’s mission as a university (such as religion, scholarship, the arts, business, philanthropy, and public service). Above all, the recipient’s life and achievements should exemplify those goals and principles spelled out in Loyola’s Character and Commitment Statement: specifically, academic excellence, the pursuit of faith and justice, and service to others.

BOT approved: May 18, 1995
FALL 2011 HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATIONS
Loyola University New Orleans

NOMINATIONS

ARCHBISHOP GREGORY AYMOND

MR. OWEN BRENNAN, JR.

DR. MICHAEL CZERNY, S.J.

MR. CONNIE JONES

MR. PAUL PASTOREK

MR. MARTIN SHEEN
ARCHBISHOP GREGORY AYMOND
To: The Honorary Degrees Committee  
From: Deborah Poole, Interim Dean, J. Edgar & Louise S. Monroe Library  
Date: October, 11, 2011  
Subject: 2012 commencement speaker/honorary degree recommendation

Several members of the library faculty and staff would like to recommend Archbishop Gregory Aymond to be awarded an honorary degree at Loyola University’s 2012 “commencement. Archbishop Aymond would be an ideal speaker for this special Centennial commencement.

I have enclosed a few articles about the Archbishop. Thank you for your consideration.
Archbishop Gregory Michael Aymond

Archbishop Gregory Michael Aymond is the 14th Archbishop of New Orleans. Archbishop Gregory Michael Aymond holds the unique distinction of being the first New Orleans native to serve as Archbishop of New Orleans in the 216-year history of the local church.

Archbishop Aymond has served since 2000 as Bishop of Austin, Texas.

He was born in Gentilly on November 12, 1949. After attending St. James Major Elementary School and Cor Jesu High School, he went to St. Joseph Seminary College in St. Benedict, La., where he graduated in 1971. He earned a master's degree in divinity from Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans in 1975 and was ordained as a priest of the New Orleans Archdiocese the same year.

From 1973 to 1981, he was a professor, business administrator and then rector of St. John Vianney Preparatory Seminary in New Orleans. From 1981 to 1986, he was professor of pastoral theology and homiletics and director of education at Notre Dame Seminary.

The bishop served as president-rector of Notre Dame Seminary from 1986 until the end of the 1999-2000 academic year, longer than any rector in the seminary's history. He also was a member of the seminary faculty for 18 years. During his tenure, Notre Dame Seminary grew to become the third-largest seminary in the country.

Bishop Aymond also served as the executive director of the archdiocesan Department of Christian Formation, with responsibility for Catholic schools and religious education, and as the archdiocesan director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

He made mission work a strong emphasis of his ministry. In the 1980s, Bishop Aymond and groups of Notre Dame seminarians began to visit Sotuto, Mexico, where they built housing and offered religious training.

In 1994, he began a medical mission program in Nicaragua called 'Christ the Healer,' taking volunteer teams of health care professionals to the town of Granada to offer medical help at San Juan de Dios Hospital.

Archbishop Aymond was ordained an auxiliary bishop of New Orleans in 1997 and became coadjutor bishop of Austin in 2000, succeeding to head the diocese. Archbishop Aymond has served as chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People. He also was chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Catholic Educational Association from 2000-04.
He currently serves as a member of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth and the Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations.

Under his tenure, the Diocese of Austin experienced unprecedented expansion, including a threefold increase in the number of seminarians. He established the Institute for Spiritual Direction, opened San Juan Diego Catholic High School for students from low-income families, opened St. Dominic Savio Catholic High School and initiated a distance learning program with St. Mary's University in San Antonio that allows lay people in the Austin Diocese to obtain master's degrees in theology.

Archbishop Aymond succeeds Archbishop Alfred Clifton Hughes, 76, who has served as archbishop of New Orleans since 2002 and has led local Catholics through the challenging aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The Archdiocese of New Orleans now has three retired archbishops: Archbishop Hughes; Archbishop Francis Bible Schulte, 83, who served 1989-2002; and Archbishop Philip Matthew Hannan, 96, who served 1965-88. The Archdiocese of New Orleans has a population of .08 million people, with about 387,000, or 36 percent, of them Catholic.
Archbishop Aymond asks Lenten prayers for end to violence in New Orleans area

Published: Wednesday, March 09, 2011, 1:20 PM
Updated: Wednesday, March 09, 2011, 9:40 PM

By Bruce Nolan, The Times-Picayune

As a hung-over New Orleans trudged through a rainy morning into Lent, Archbishop Gregory Aymond said Wednesday he has asked the region’s Catholic churches to incorporate into every Mass a prayer to end murder in the region.

He likened the city’s plague of murder and street violence to a new Battle of New Orleans.

Flanked by Mayor Mitch Landrieu and Police Superintendent Ronal Serpas, Aymond read aloud weekend headlines announcing the most recent violent deaths. The city has recorded about 44 homicides in a little more than nine weeks.

“Violence fractures hearts; it wounds spirits. It causes physical pain and physical injury. Racism is a sin. It divides the community. It teaches us hate. It separates us as a family.”

Aymond said he has ordered Catholic Charities, the archdiocese’s social service arm, to find fresh ways to inject youth mentoring and aid to families into the agency’s wide-ranging programs.

He asked people of different faiths to join the Catholic community to pray for an end to violence, especially during the Lenten season, which began today and ends on Easter, April 24.

The archbishop said a specific prayer for relief from violence has been distributed to all of the regional church’s approximately 108 parishes. It will be prayed by the priest and
congregation at the close of every Mass
during Lent, and at the close of every Sunday
Mass indefinitely, he said.

Bruce Nolan can be reached at 504.826.3344
or bnolan@timespicayune.com

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New Orleans Archbishop Apologizes For Slavery, Posts Records Online

First Posted: 02/2/11 10:54 PM ET Updated: 04/11 05:12 AM ET

By Bruce Nolan
Religion News Service
NEW ORLEANS -- The Archdiocese of New Orleans on Tuesday (Feb. 1) unveiled a new online database containing records of baptisms, marriages and deaths in colonial New Orleans, including those of African slaves.

The first batch of five registers to go online contains baptismal records of slaves and free persons of color, most of them bereft of family names. Until now, the records were largely beyond the reach of most genealogical researchers.

Archbishop Gregory Aymond acknowledged the records will also draw renewed attention to the uncomfortable fact that in colonial New Orleans the church and its religious orders were often slave-holders.

The publication of the records is offered with an apology, he said.

"I apologize in the name of the church because we allowed some of these things to continue," Aymond said. "This is sinful. Racism is sinful."

Emilie Leumas, the church's chief archivist, said the indexed records online now mostly contain only people who, because of their enslavement or low social status as free persons of color, were known only by first names.

Aymond suggested the database affords a measure of public dignity for lives lived in crushing anonymity. Bringing the name of a long lost person into public view "is a way of getting in touch with that person's spirit," he said.

PHOTO GALLERIES

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- Sukkot 2011: Dates, Customs, Prayers Explained
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Parishioners across the archdiocese have donated more than $1.1 million in the last six months to help earthquake victims in Haiti and the families affected by the oil disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. How does that make you feel, especially in light of a slow economy and the economic pressures on people still rebuilding from Katrina?

People have been extremely generous in their prayerful and financial support of our sisters and brothers in Haiti and on the Gulf Coast. We’re very indebted to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New Orleans for being on the scene and for representing us by providing counseling and pastoral care. Second Harvest Food Bank, which is an entity of Catholic Charities, is providing food. Our pastors in the affected areas have been very supportive in offering pastoral care to those who approach them to pray or just to talk about the tension and anxiety they are experiencing. This is a very challenging time. In many cases, the people affected by the oil spill are the same people who after Katrina said they wanted to be part of the rebuilding. They were determined to persevere and not lose hope. Now, five years later, they have to face this oil tragedy – and from now on I’m not calling it the oil “spill” or the oil “leak” because it truly is a tragedy. We have to respond to these people because they are our brothers and sisters in Christ. Their way of life and their future definitely have been impaired, and we don’t know how long this will go on.

How has the situation changed as we enter the third month of the disaster?

I was in Florida last week for a bishops’ meeting, and it seems as though in many parts of the country people have grown accustomed to seeing it on TV and they’ve lost a sense of how tragic it is. For our people locally it becomes more tragic and creates more questions every day. Those kinds of questions and anxieties become faith questions: Where is God in the midst of this? What will God do for us? None of us have the exact answers, but we are a people of hope and perseverance. We believe that in our suffering – in our dying to self – God always provides for us and suffers with us. Somewhere in all of this there has to be a silver lining, and it’s God’s way to lead us toward that even if we do not see it at the present time. This is a
time of more questions than answers, and it calls us to faith.

**BP gave the archdiocese $1 million to provide financial assistance, food and counseling to oil spill victims. Is that fund nearly exhausted and have you had additional discussions with BP?**

Yes, that money is being used up. We realize that if this tragedy continues, we will need more money, and we have gone to BP to ask for further financial assistance to help the people of God.

**I understand you will be celebrating some special Masses in the next few weeks.**

Beginning this Sunday, I will begin visiting each parish on the Gulf Coast to celebrate Mass with the people and to pray for their protection and for stability in their lives. Also, we’re going to have a special Mass on July 11 at 2 p.m. at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Prompt Succor on State Street, inviting anyone from the archdiocese to prayer specifically for those who have been affected by the oil tragedy but also for our protection during the hurricane season. Then, on Aug. 29, the fifth anniversary of Katrina, I have asked all the parishes of the archdiocese to celebrate the Mass of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, thanking her for her guidance, hope and perseverance during this time of rebuilding and also asking for a quick end to the oil tragedy and for her continued protection as we get into the height of the hurricane season.

**Do you have other events planned for Aug. 29?**

Yes, we will host an interfaith prayer service at St. Louis Cathedral at 1:30 p.m. And then after that, I will host an open house at my residence, which is adjacent to Notre Dame Seminary on South Carrollton Avenue. Everyone is invited to come for the open house, which will also serve as a location for two important book signings. Archbishop Hannan will be there to sign copies of his autobiography, and Father Bill Maestri will sign copies of the book he did on the archdiocese’s response to Hurricane Katrina. I wanted to have the open house at my residence because it is the house of the archdiocese. I have the privilege to live there at the present time, but it is a place of gathering for the people of God in the archdiocese. We also felt it was a practical place to gather because we have ample parking and a lovely backyard, where we can gather together and people can come and go as they wish.
New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond Joins Board of Directors of William H. Sadlier, Inc.

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Frank Sadlier Dinger, Chairman of William H. Sadlier, Inc., and William Sadlier Dinger, President, announced on January 21, 2011 that Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond, Archbishop of New Orleans, will become a member of Sadlier’s Board of Directors effective immediately.

Frank Dinger in making the announcement stated “We are honored that Archbishop Aymond has agreed to join Sadlier’s Board of Directors. My brother, Bill, and I worked closely with Archbishop Aymond when he served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Catholic Educational Association.” Bill Dinger added, “Archbishop Aymond’s pastoral, catechetical, and educational wisdom and experience will be a tremendous benefit as the company plans for the future.”

Archbishop Aymond was ordained to the priesthood on May 10, 1975. He served as a parish priest and high school teacher before being appointed to the faculty of Notre Dame Seminary in 1981. In 1986 he was appointed president/rector of Notre Dame Seminary and served in that capacity for 14 years. He also served as the executive director of the New Orleans archdiocesan Department of Christian Formation, with responsibility for Catholic schools and religious education. He was ordained auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of New Orleans on January 10, 1997.

On June 2, 2000 he was appointed coadjutor bishop of the Diocese of Austin and became the fourth bishop of the Diocese of Austin on January 2, 2001. Under his tenure, the Diocese of Austin experienced unprecedented expansion, including a threefold increase in the number of seminarians. He established the Institute for Spiritual Direction, opened two high schools, and initiated a distance learning program with St. Mary’s University. He also served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Catholic Educational Association from 2000-04.

Pope Benedict XVI named him Archbishop of New Orleans on June 12, 2009. As the 14th Archbishop of New Orleans, Archbishop Aymond holds the unique distinction of being the first New Orleans native to serve as Archbishop of New Orleans in the 216-year history of the local church. Since being ordained bishop he has served on numerous committees for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

About Sadlier

William H. Sadlier, Inc. is a recognized and respected publisher of print, digital, and online educational materials for PreK–12 public and nonpublic schools, and catechetical materials for Catholic schools, parishes, and families. Since 1832, Sadlier’s tradition of quality and excellence in publishing has been nurtured by the vision, integrity and dedication of the same family. Sadlier Religion programs offer quality catechesis and sacramental preparation materials that faithfully present the teachings of the Catholic Church. Sadlier’s We Believe with Project Disciple catechetical series for K–8 and other programs address the needs of Catholic schools, parishes, and families, all with English and bilingual editions. Sadlier School programs offer strong instructional support, well-related to standards, so that educators can help students reach their full potential — in school and throughout life. Products include Sadlier Phonics and Reading Program and such proven programs as Vocabulary Workshop, Grammar Workshop, Grammar for Writing, and Progress in Mathematics.

Contacts
New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond Joins Board of Director...  http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20110201007594/en/Orlea...

William H. Sadlier, Inc.
Deborah Matulewicz, 212-312-6141
Dmatulewicz@sadlier.com
MR. OWEN BRENNAN
October 11, 2011

The Honorary Degrees Committee
Loyola University New Orleans
Office of Academic Affairs, Box 7
6363 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

Dear Committee Members:

We are nominating, as one who is eminently qualified to receive an honorary doctorate from Loyola University New Orleans, Mr. Owen Brennan, Jr., a businessman and citizen who has worked tirelessly to promote the good of city of New Orleans and the state of Louisiana. A graduate of Spring Hill College, with a major in philosophy, Owen “Pip” Brennan, Jr., has made immense contributions to the overall tourism industry in this city and is a exemplar of one who lives out Ignatian values in his public life and business.

In the 1960s, when the Cabildo of Louisiana in Jackson Square was utterly in disrepair, Owen Brennan, Jr., led an effort to restore the museum to a place of pride. He was subsequently appointed the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Louisiana State Museum and oversaw the completion of the restoration project. He was a major supporter of the effort to build a “superdome” for sports events in New Orleans as another way to enhance tourism in the city. In 1972, he was appointed as the Governor’s Proxy Commissioner of the Louisiana Superdome Stadium Authority and helped to oversee the completion of the Louisiana Superdome. When New Orleans was falling behind other cities, such as New York and Atlanta, in attracting major conventions to the city, Owen “Pip” Brennan was at the forefront of advocating for a state-of-the-art convention center that would generate not only business for the city of New Orleans but also additional revenues for the state. When the funds were appropriated for the building of the New Orleans convention center, Owen Brennan, Jr., was appointed First President of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority and oversaw its construction. Vowing to avoid any semblance of corruption in the awarding of contracts, Brennan ensured that the project follow strict guidelines in contracting procedures. The project was completed under-budget and on-time.

In 1968, Pip Brennan sought to expand the tourist attraction associated with Mardi Gras by creating a major event for the weekend immediately preceding “Fat Tuesday.” He launched the Sunday evening Bacchus Parade and entertainment extravaganza and garnered the support of many other New Orleans business people in creating the Krewe. He continues to serve as the krewe’s captain, and the Bacchus parade and entertainment event now draw thousands of additional tourists to the city of New Orleans.

Brennan’s Restaurant is known world-wide as a premier establishment in the city of New Orleans. Pip, as partner with his two brothers, managed the restaurant for several decades until
his recent retirement. In the early 1980s, when Pip was approached by Fr. Harry Thompson, S.J., with the idea of founding a project called “Boy’s Hope” (a residence for at-risk youth), Pip and his wife Barbara organized and sponsored a fund-raiser at the restaurant, giving 100% of all proceeds to the project and raising several hundred thousand dollars to launch the new residence. Several years later, they sponsored a second fund-raiser at the restaurant, again providing all food, service and entertainment and giving all proceeds, to launch “Girl’s Hope.” These are but two of the many fund-raisers sponsored by Pip and his family for projects in the city.

Owen Brennan, Jr., is a successful businessman, a leader and a citizen committed to the common good. His Catholic faith and Jesuit education have ignited his life-long passion for improving the well-being of the city of New Orleans. He would therefore also be an excellent candidate for an honorary doctorate.

The Addendum on the next page lists some of Owen Brennan’s major service positions and honors.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Fleischer, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Pastoral Studies

Gerald M. Fagin, S.J., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Theology

Brett P. Matherne, Ph.D.
Chase Distinguished Professor of Minority Entrepreneurship
OWEN “PIP” BRENNAN, JR.

Addendum

Over the last fifty years Mr. Brennan has been instrumental in many facets of the City of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana

Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Louisiana State Museum
Board of Directors of the Greater New Orleans Chamber of Commerce
Member of the Vieux Carre Commission
Regional Director of the United States Small Business Administration
Commissioner of the Sugar Bowl Board of Directors
President of the Greater New Orleans Tourist and Convention Commission
President of the Greater New Orleans Restaurant Association
New Orleans Restaurant Association Hall of Fame
President of the Louisiana Restaurant Association
Louisiana Restaurant Association Hall of Fame
Captain of the Krewe of Bacchus
Board of Directors of Liberty Bank
Vice President of Louisiana Public Facilities Authority
Commissioner of the Louisiana Superdome Stadium Authority
Founding President of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority
Regional Member Chevaliers du Tastevin
President Sam Barthe School Board of Directors
Manresa Retreat House Captain
Archdiocese of New Orleans Order of St. Louis Medallion
President of Jesuit High School Advisory Board
Jesuit "Boys Hope" and "Girls Hope" Projects
Jesuit High School Alumnus of the Year
First Bank & Trust Board of Directors
World of Hope Foundation Board of Directors
Legatus Member
Equestrian Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulcher
Young Leadership Council "Role Model" Recipient
Hilton Hotel Walk of Fame
St. Joseph's Abbey Christian Life Center Board President
Christian Life Center Couples Retreat Captain
DR. MICHAEL CZERNY, S.J.
The Honorary Degrees Committee
Loyola University New Orleans
Office of Academic Affairs, Box 7
6363 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

October 13, 2011

Dear Members of the Honorary Degrees Committee,

I have the great honor of nominating Dr. Michael Czerny, S.J., for an honorary degree and recommending him as the commencement speaker for our 2012 graduating class. Fr. Czerny’s life exemplifies the contemporary Jesuit commitment to a faith that does justice and that permeates all areas of human endeavor. Dr. Czerny has taught at Jesuit colleges and universities on three continents, but his most effective teaching instrument has been his own life of courageous service both for and among the poor. Fr. Czerny served as the director of the Jesuit Centre for Social Faith and Justice from its founding in 1979 until the assassination of six Jesuits at the Central American University (UCA) in 1989. He then moved to the UCA, where he served as vice-rector of the university and the director of its Human Rights Institute.

Fr. Czerny has long been an important voice for the Catholic Church and its social teaching through his active participation in numerous United Nations task forces, initiatives, and conferences. In 2002, he became the founding director of the African Jesuit AIDS Network (AJAN), which coordinates the Jesuit response to those suffering from the HIV epidemic in Africa. Under Fr. Czerny’s leadership, AJAN has helped to save and improve the lives of hundreds of thousands of people infected with HIV in Africa.

Fr. Czerny served as the head of the Jesuit Curia’s Secretariat for Social Justice for over a decade. He has now returned to Rome, where he works closely with Cardinal Peter Turkson, the president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace.

Fr. Czerny is a man of faith, a man of action, a man of his word, and a humble but dynamic speaker. I can think of no person who better exemplifies what your committee is seeking in a commencement speaker. He would model for our students what it means to be women and men for others: to give one’s life in humble service of truth, justice, and love.

Sincerely yours,

Sylvester G. Tan, S.J.
Visiting Assistant Professor,
Languages and Cultures / English
Michael F. Czerny, S.J.

Fr. Michael F. Czerny, S.J., was born in Czechoslovakia in 1946 and raised in Montreal. In 1963 he entered the Society of Jesus in the English Canada Province and was ordained in 1973. He pursued graduate studies at the University of Chicago in an interdisciplinary programme in humanities, social thought and theology, earning the doctorate in 1978.

Fr. Czerny was the founding director of the Jesuit Centre for Social Faith and Justice, Toronto (1979-1989) which sought to apply Catholic Social Teaching to a variety of domestic and international issues. After the 1989 assassination of the Jesuits at the Central American University (UCA) in San Salvador, he became Director of its Human Rights Institute (1990-1991) and Vice-Rector of the UCA (1991). He participated in the U.N.-mediated negotiations which brought an end to the country's civil war in 1991.

For eleven years Fr. Czerny served as Secretary for Social Justice at the Jesuit General Curia, Rome (1992-2002). He served on a three-man United Nations fact-finding mission to Haiti, and has been involved with the United Nations on several other occasions, including helping to coordinate the activities of the Holy See delegation at the General Assembly in 2010.

Since 2002 he has been the founding Director of the African Jesuit AIDS Network (AJAN) which assists Jesuits, in some 30 countries of the continent, to respond to the HIV/AIDS pandemic in an effective, evangelical and coordinated manner. He participated in the International AIDS Conferences of Barcelona (2002), Bangkok (2004) and Toronto (2006) and has worked with SECAM, AMECEA and the Kenya Episcopal Conference. Since 2010, he has served as the assistant (socius) to the president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, Cardinal Peter Turkson.

Michael Czerny has taught at the Pontifical Gregorian University, Hekima College (Nairobi), and the University of Toronto (Regis College). He continues to speak to groups around the world about Catholic Social Teaching and issues of faith and justice.

Educational Experience:

High school Loyola High School (Montreal), 1959-1963 on full scholarship

Classics Entered the Society of Jesus (Jesuits)
1963-1966 Classical studies at Ignatius College (Guelph) and the University of Guelph
Liberal Arts  
1966-1968  
Bachelor of Arts (Classics) *summa cum laude*  
Gonzaga University (Spokane, Wash., U.S.A.)

High school teaching  
1968-1969  
Taught Literature, French, Religion and  
Science at Gonzaga High School (St. John's, Canada)

Graduate studies  
1969-1976  
Committee for Analysis of Ideas & Study of Methods,  
Humanities & Divinity School, University of Chicago

1978  
Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies

Theological studies  
1971-1975  
Jesuit School of Theology (Chicago) and Regis College (Toronto)  
Ordained priest, June 1973

Internship  
Three-month intern at the Thomas More Institute (Montreal), summer  
1973

Field study  
Three-month study trip to South America:  
1974  
Peru, Chile, Uruguay, Venezuela

**Teaching:**  
1980s  
Occasional classes at Regis College, University of Toronto

1985-  
Board of Directors, Thomas More Institute, Montreal

1991-1992  
Professor of Philosophy, University of Central America (UCA), San Salvador

1998-2001  
Occasional classes in the Department of Social Sciences, Gregorian University

2005-2008  
Elective courses, Hekima College, Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Nairobi

2007-2009  
Professor, Institute of Peace Studies & International Relations,  
Hekima College
MR. CONNIE JONES
October 14th, 2011

Father Kevin Wildes, President
Loyola University New Orleans
6363 St. Charles
New Orleans, LA 70118

RE: Recommendation for Honorary Doctorate

Dear Father Wildes:

I nominate Connie Jones for an honorary doctorate from Loyola University New Orleans. Among musicians, Mr. Jones is virtually unquestioned as the most talented coronet player to emerge from New Orleans, which is very strong statement to make, given the long history of great horn players. Although worthy of recognition as a successful performing artist, I am nominating Mr. Jones for his contributions to the field of Traditional Jazz and for the untold hours he has spent developing young New Orleans artists’ careers, selflessly without self-interest. In the following paragraphs I will attempt to portray his worthiness for recognition by highlighting a few key points for which is known as a musician’s musician.

First, Connie Jones was the coronet player who accompanied Pete Fountain, the most acclaimed clarinet player from New Orleans. Only insider musicians know that Mr. Jones, although equally if not more talented, stayed out of the limelight, while his life-long friend and fellow player, Pete Fountain, prospered. Unlike most pairing of such talented artists, the two have remained colleagues and continue to work together. Mr. Jones was fixated on the perfection of the performance of the supporting musicians and the arrangements than on the glory of fame—a pattern throughout his life.

Second, Connie Jones has selflessly trained and supported the careers of the vast majority of New Orleans’ horn elite. While known as the consummate traditional or “trad” jazz cornet player, his fundamental techniques are considered among the best in the field, and he has personally trained those critical fundamental skills into players known for other jazz genres. Top flight musicians, such as Tom McDermott and Tim Laughlin, openly proclaim Mr. Jones to be the best cornet and trumpet player with whom they have worked.

Third, Connie Jones was a founder and an advocate and board member of the French Quarter Festival. As local artists and music styles were displaced in Jazz Fest with more commercially viable and non-New Orleans music, Mr. Jones sought to found a non-profit alternative to showcase New Orleans real music and musicians. From its humble
begins, French Quarter Fest is now considered the “real Jazz Fest” to many locals, who partake in its atmosphere and authenticity, not only of music but also of food and culture.

Fourth, and certainly not least, Connie Jones has greatly influenced the genre of Trad Jazz music. He showcased music at the legendary Blue Angel nightclub in the French Quarter for many, many years and later on the Delta Queen. When musicians would travel to New Orleans, many would extend their trips to visit or sit-in at the Blue Angel, because of Mr. Jones’ reputation of protecting and purifying the traditional New Orleans jazz sound. His charts and arrangements are considered by purists to be the real New Orleans jazz music and his music serves as a stop on the journey of every great jazz musician in learning the history of jazz. These preservation activities, alone, are worth recognition of an honorary doctorate.

While such a list of accomplishments certainly makes his life and career noteworthy, it is his selfless dedication to others and his willingness to forego personal fame and wealth to see the careers of other artists prosper that makes his nomination most meaningful. Connie Jones is a humble man, whose has influenced the lives of many people, and those people have, in turn, enriched the lives of millions. He is truly a man who has served others and enriched the world as few others.

Father Wildes, I am honored to stand in nominating Mr. Connie Jones for an honorary doctorate from Loyola University New Orleans.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jerry R. Goolsby
Hilton/Baldrige Eminent Scholar in Music Industry Studies
And Professor of Marketing

PS I know, Father Wildes, that I have stretched the benevolence of the university in recent years by nominating these lesser known artists who have served the musicians and the music industry in the background. I especially appreciate the patience of the university in facilitating these recognitions, even to those in frail health. Wardell Quezergue and Clyde Kerr, Jr. both passed since their recognition, and I must say that the recognition the university bestowed on them was most meaningful to their families and was touted as the crowning recognitions of their lives. I thank you for your patience and in considering Connie Jones.
MR. PAUL PASTOREK
The Honorary Degrees Committee  
Loyola University New Orleans  
Office of Academic Affairs, Box 7

Dear Committee Members,

I write to nominate Mr. Paul G. Pastorek for an honorary doctorate of human letters. Mr. Pastorek is one of Loyola’s most distinguished alums having received both his undergraduate and Juris Doctor degrees from Loyola University New Orleans. With a career spanning over 30 years in the legal community, government agencies, and public service, most notably as Louisiana State Superintendent of Education, he has demonstrated his commitment to Loyola’s mission of education and service to society.

As an attorney in private practice, Mr. Pastorek was a partner with the law firm of Adams and Reese for over 27 years. His legal background lead to his appointment as General Counsel of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) where he directed the activities of a 150-attorney legal team and served as the agency’s Chief Ethics Officer. Also, while at NASA, he was instrumental in the agency’s return to human space flight following the loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia in 2003.

In 1996, Mr. Pastorek continued his public service as a member of the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. He served on the board until 2004 and was elected to three consecutive terms as Board President. From 2007 -2011, he served as Louisiana Superintendent of Education. As superintendent, Mr. Pastorek led a public agency of more than 700 employees and a $134 million annual budget, with oversight responsibility for an additional $5.5 billion in state and federal funding.

At the helm of the state education system, his advocacy for better accountability and his success in implementing meaningful reforms within Louisiana’s public schools and the Recovery School District positively affected about 668,000 public school students. Governor Bobby Jindal describes Pastorek as a bold reformer who never wavered in his support for doing what is best for Louisiana’s kids.

Key accomplishments under Pastorek’s tenure include: historic gains in academic achievement, increasing the graduation rate and reducing the dropout rate; linking annual teacher evaluations in part with the growth in student achievement; removing the cap on the number of charter schools; and enacting a state law, for the first time, which assigns traditional letter grades to public schools.
Many business and political leaders in Louisiana praise Mr. Pastorek’s work in reforming a school system that has historically ranked among the bottom tier in the nation. Moreover, he is recognized nationally among proponents of education reform for directing the state’s efforts to turn around more than 100 of Louisiana’s most challenged schools, including rebuilding of elementary and secondary schools in New Orleans devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Pastorek’s dedicated service to Louisiana’s public education system exemplifies the Ignatian values of academic excellence and service. His initiatives have made a profound impact on the lives of many of our state’s citizens especially those children who have been trapped in a failing school because of the neighborhood in which they live. As a proponent of parents’ choice and charter schools, he has essentially given families more control over where their children attend school. It is this legacy along with his contributions to reforming Louisiana’s public education that have given future generations of our state’s citizens an opportunity to receive a better education.

With prayers and best wishes,

Kevin Wm. Wildes, S.J.  
President 

25 October 2011
MR. MARTIN SHEEN
TO: Honorary Degree Committee
FROM: Melanie McKay, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs
DATE: October 21, 2011
RE: Nomination of Martin Sheen for Honorary Degree

I wish to nominate actor and Catholic activist Martin Sheen for an honorary degree and recommend that he be invited to give the commencement address. His deep commitment to Catholic causes and social justice is well known and has been honored by institutions worldwide.

Sheen has worked tirelessly as a Catholic social activist throughout his life. Although he did not attend college, Sheen credits the Marianists at University of Dayton as a major influence on his public activism, still maintains close ties with that University. He is now an honorary trustee of the Dayton International Peace Museum.

In his early twenties, he met Dorothy Day and joined her in the Catholic Worker Movement. He worked in the 1960s with Daniel Berrigan and his brother Philip in activism against the Vietnam war. He is a proponent of the Consistent life ethic, which advocates against abortion, capital punishment and war. He also supports the Democrats for Life of America's Pregnant Women Support Act. He has been actively involved in civil rights, immigration rights, and environmental movements.

Sheen is currently starring in “The Way,” a film about a spiritual pilgrimage and discovery of faith written and directed by his son Emilio Estevez and edited by Loyola alumnus, Raul Davalos. Sheen plays a father, Tom Avery, who has recently learned that his estranged son has died while hiking over the Pyrenees on the Camino de Santiago - the Way of St. James. Tom goes to France to recover his son’s body but instead himself embarks the thousand-year-old pilgrimage across northern Spain. Instead of bringing his son home, he spreads his ashes along the Camino. An interview with Sheen about the film appears in a recent issue of the National Catholic Reporter. http://ncronline.org/news/spirituality/way-martin-sheen

In 2003, Sheen received the Degree of Doctor of Letters, honoris causa, for his work on social and Catholic issues from Marquette University. In 2008 he was honored by the University of Notre Dame with the Laetare Medal, the highest honor bestowed on American Catholics, at the university commencement.

We would be extremely fortunate should Mr. Sheen accept our invitation to participate in our first Centennial commencement as speaker and degree recipient. Institutional Advancement has been in contact with Mr. Davalos, who may be able to pave the way for a letter from Fr. Wildes.