

NEWS OF THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE

OCTOBER

1973

NEW ACADEMIC YEAR OPENS

The new academic year at Thomas Aquinas College opened on September 17th with the Mass of the Holy Spirit. Mass was sung in the Main Chapel and attended by students and faculty.

Returning sophomores and juniors were joined by a full complement of 34 freshmen. Students now number 81 and come from 19 states and one foreign country.

With the implementation of the junior year of the curriculum, a variety of new courses are being conducted. These include the junior theology tutorial, based largely on the *Summa Theologica* of St. Thomas Aquinas; the junior philosophy tutorial, using the *Ethics* and *Politics* of Aristotle and the *Commentary* of St. Thomas Aquinas as basic texts; and the third year of the mathematics tutorial, which begins with the geometry of Descartes and proceeds through the basic works of Galileo and Newton. The junior science program consists of optics and mechanics. A special laboratory is being equipped to conduct the class. The junior seminar will deal with works of late Medieval and Renaissance philosophy and literature.

TUITION INCREASE SET

The Board of Governors of Thomas Aquinas College held its annual meeting on the campus on June 18, 1973. One result of this meeting was a decision to increase charges for tuition, board and room by approximately 6%.

As part of his annual report, published during the summer, Dr. McArthur outlined certain basic financial facts about the College. In this outline, he mentioned that tuition, board and room charges cover slightly more than half of the actual operating costs of the College. The remainder must be met through voluntary contributions. Added to this is a substantial amount needed for student financial aid and capital expenditures. This means that the College must obtain at least \$300,000 each year in contributions. In the light of this situation, the College cannot allow its operating income to be eroded by inflation.



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The increase, effective in September, 1974, will add \$75.00 per year to the cost of tuition, and \$100.00 to the charge for board and room. This brings the tuition rate to \$1,825.00 per year, and board and room to \$1,250.00, making a total of \$3,075.00 per year.

CONTRIBUTIONS NECESSARY

While the new tuition rate will provide a small increase in the operating income of the College during the fiscal year 1974-75, the need for contribution income during the current year is undiminished. Such contributions are absolutely essential if the work of Thomas Aquinas College is to continue. This newsletter is being sent to nearly 3,000 people who have expressed an interest in the College. An average contribution of even \$100.00 per year from this group would meet the need for supplemental funds.

ADMISSIONS DIRECTOR BEGINS EXTENSIVE TRAVELS

Mr. Dennis Koller, Director of Admissions at Thomas Aquinas College, has already begun to visit high schools throughout California and the Western states. During the course of these trips, he will also be available to speak to groups of interested parents and students in the homes of friends of the College. Anyone wishing to arrange for Mr. Koller to address such a meeting should call or write to him at the Admissions Office of the College.

Mr. Koller also plans an extended trip to the East Coast and the Midwest in February. The itinerary for this trip is still flexible and Mr. Koller will be happy to receive invitations to address interested students and parents in the course of his travels.

NEW BULLETIN PUBLISHED

As a part of the College's intensified campaign to bring word of the College to as many students as possible, a new edition of the College Bulletin is being published and should be available by November 1st. Anyone wishing copies of the new Bulletin or of the statement of principles of the College, *A Proposal for the Fulfillment of Catholic Liberal Education*, may obtain them singly or in quantity by writing to the Admissions Office.

SUCCESSFUL CAMPUS VISIT PROGRAM TO BE CONTINUED

During the last two years, many students have taken advantage of the College's "Campus Visit Program" to find out more about life at Thomas Aquinas College. This program offers students an opportunity to visit the campus for several days, attend classes, and live in the dormitories without charge. By doing this, they are in a better position to make a judgment as to whether they wish to enter this intense and demanding academic community. This program is available once again to interested students during the current year. Arrangements can be made by contacting Mr. Koller at the Admissions Office.

NEW TUTOR JOINS FACULTY

Mr. Edward H. Porcella has been appointed to the teaching faculty of Thomas Aquinas College. He received his post-graduate degree from the University of California at San Diego in 1967. Thereafter, he spent two years as lecturer in literature and theology at St. Mary's College in Moraga, California, and three years as a tutor at St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Mr. Porcella's initial assignment is as tutor in the freshman mathematics tutorial and leader of one section of the sophomore seminar. He will also teach both sections of the junior science laboratory.

Mr. Porcella, his wife Karen, and his two children, Julie and Michael, have taken up residence in Thousand Oaks.

SISTER RAYMOND MARY JOINS STAFF

Sister Verda Clare, Administrative Assistant for Women, has been joined on the campus of Thomas Aquinas College by Sister Raymond Mary, C.S.C. While completing work on her Master's Degree in Family Counseling at Loyola University, Sister Raymond Mary will assist Sister Verda Clare and will act as Prefect of the freshman girls' dormitory.

Sister is a graduate of San Diego College for Women, where she studied English and philosophy. She has done graduate work at the University of San Francisco, the University of Arizona, and Loyola University. The College community is delighted to welcome a second member of the Sisters of the Holy Cross to the campus.