

# **President's Listening Tour 2010**

A Report to the Canisius Community

John J. Hurley, President

December 2, 2010



# “I’ve Been Everywhere, Man”

- Academic Departments
- Academic Support Departments
- Student Support and Student Affairs
- Administrative and Operating Departments
- All Facilities and Operating Systems
- **STUDENTS!**

**Best in Show Awards**

**Best Food During a Meeting**

# Best in Show Awards

Graduate Education  
& Leadership

Dr. Rosemary Murray  
Chair



# Best in Show Awards

Best Suggestion That Can Be  
Easily Done

# Best in Show Awards

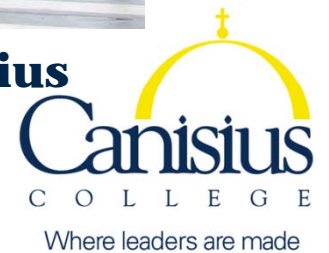
Dr. Harvey Pines  
Psychology



# Best in Show Awards

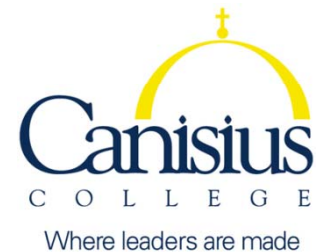


**Paint gold stripe on parking ramp to brand it as Canisius**



# Best in Show Awards

# Most Surprising Meeting





# Best in Show Awards

**Facilities Management Staff  
(skilled trades, BMRs, general  
laborers, supervisors)**

# Best in Show Awards

## Smartest Guys on Campus



**Jim Janisch, Tom Pilarz, Mike Marino and (not pictured)  
Mike Boyd**

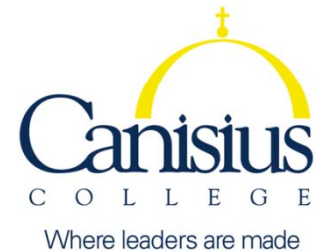
# General Observations and Impressions

- Morale is generally good
- There is a sense of enthusiasm and anticipation
- Commitment to the mission of the college is very strong
- People appreciated the opportunity to speak with the president directly
- There is a willingness to work together for the good of the college

# Key Findings

- Programs
  - Academic
  - Support
  - Co-curricular/extra curricular
- Marketing
- People
- Facilities/Resources

# Programs: Academic



# The Core Curriculum

1. Ongoing debate/lack of closure on core curriculum revision
  - Process
  - Departments/Courses not adequately represented
  - College-wide commitment to the liberal arts
2. Demands of the new core
3. Celebrating, promoting and marketing the core
4. Pressures on departments who serve the core

# New Programs

- Providing new programs with adequate resources to grow
  - Programs run by a single faculty member
  - Online programs
- Balance between investments in new programs and existing programs
- Doctoral Programs
  - Faculty lines
  - Library resources
- Approval process through the APB



# Professional Studies

- What is the plan for Professional Studies at Canisius?
- How big will this be?

# Assessment

- Lots of data being collected
- How will all the data be used?
- What are the real outcomes?

# Accreditation

- AACSB for Wehle School of Business
- NCATE for School of Education & Human Services
- Faculty: Accreditations are valuable assets and worth the time spent

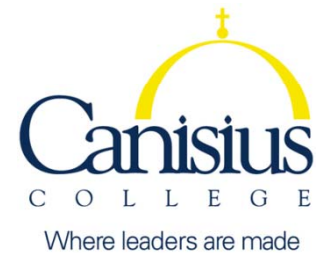
# CSPA Program

- Valuable program in terms of what graduate assistants do in Student Affairs and Residence Life

# Service Learning

- As many as 25% of full time faculty are offering courses
- As many as 60-70 courses per semester have a service learning component
- 70 community partners; 40-50 used per semester

# Programs: Support



# Student Academic Support Services

- Tutoring
- Study Center
- Academic Mentor Program
- Supplemental Instruction
- Disability Support Services

# Student Academic Support Services

- Successful merger of several offices/services
- A clear idea of who they serve and what they do
- Space needs/staffing (tutors) needs
- Library Learning Commons project is needed to take this to the next level



# Student Retention

- We are on the right track here
- People recognize this as a high priority
- No evidence of disconnects
- Student advisement is a concern
- Concerns about the number of adjuncts in foundational courses

# Library

- Tim Horton's has increased library traffic and circulation
- Faculty have increasing need for library instruction
- Students are engaged in new and more sophisticated research
- Concerns about the state of our collection
- Many endowment needs for the library

# Library

- The Library Learning Commons project would accommodate:
  - Students' need for general gathering places
  - SASS
  - ITS
  - Library instruction
  - General study spaces

# Information Technology Services

- Concerns about:
  - Our investment in technology assets
  - Level of student services
  - Support of online program
  - Support of general instructional needs

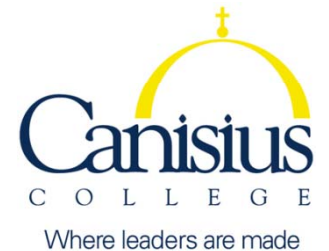
# Student Health Issues

- Sleep
- Health/Wellness
- Nutrition/Obesity
- Drugs/Alcohol
- Sexual Health

# Student Mental Health Issues

- In a recent survey, Canisius students reported that in the last 12 months:
  - 51% felt things were hopeless
  - 89% felt overwhelmed with all they had to do
  - 62% felt very lonely
  - 85% felt exhausted (from other than physical activity)
  - 66% felt very sad
  - 57% felt overwhelming anxiety
  - 37% felt so depressed it was difficult to function

# Programs: Co-Curricular and Extra Curricular



# Intercollegiate Athletics

- KAC/Demske Sports Complex are significantly over-programmed
- Coordinating practice schedules with academic schedules is a major challenge
- Additional facilities issues loom on the horizon



# Campus Ministry

- Drawing the students into a personal experience with the Catholic faith
- Growth of the retreat program
- The Spiritual Exercises
- International service/immersion trips
  - Availability of academic credit would help
- Community service programs

# Marketing the College

- Academic departments want to be more involved
- Those who are involved want to be supported
- Marketing needs to reach all academic programs
- Tuition price point is a concern across the college
- What new programs do we need?

# Marketing the College

- A wide array of majors, minors and concentrations are valuable
- We are seen as the high quality provider in the local market
- There is potential to increase enrollment in markets outside WNY

# International Students

- Potential growth area for us, but investments are needed
- Development of a full immersion ESL program
  - People and space issues
- Jesuit identity helps in international markets
- University status is a necessity
- Need to address health issues (immunizations, physicals, infectious diseases, insurance)

# Veterans

- We need a more holistic approach to recruitment and servicing of veterans
- So far, processing of financial aid has not been a major problem

# People: Faculty Concerns

# New Faculty Lines Requested

- Philosophy
- Classics
- Online Physical Education
- Art History
- Studio Art
- Psychology
- Counselor Education
- Modern Languages
- Journalism
- Criminal Justice
- Religious Studies & Theology
- Organic Chemistry Instructor

# Faculty Compensation

- Salary inversion in the WSB
- Salary Compression
- Gap between compensation in different disciplines
- Is there an overall plan to address faculty compensation?



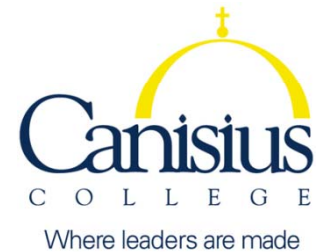
# Faculty Handbook Issues

- Stipends for supervising internships
- Student Advisement
- Merit Pay process

# Faculty Handbook Issues

- Need to develop a consensus on:
  - Goals - what we want to accomplish
  - Activities needed to accomplish those goals
  - How to evaluate an individual's contribution to the college

# Facilities and Resources Issues



# Science Hall

- Horan-O'Donnell and HSC are inadequate
  - H-O is overtaxed; insufficient research lab space
  - HSC is poorly designed, has aging infrastructure, and contains asbestos
- Development of Science Hall is a top priority

# Science Equipment and Supplies

- Need a plan (with dedicated resources) for new science equipment
- Budget for maintenance contracts and increased cost of supplies

# The Library

- Proceed with the Library Learning Commons project on a phased development plan
- Better utilize the space within the library

# Koessler Athletic Center

- **KAC serves:**
  - 300 student athletes
  - 1400 students in intramurals
  - Physical education and athletic training students
  - General student recreation use
  - Outside events
- **380 events per year**
- **Weight and aerobic facilities for general student use**

# Other Events on Campus

- Events Management
  - 7,264 events in 2009-10
  - Coordination of Facilities Management, Chartwells, Media Center and Public Safety for all events
  - Staffing: 3 positions plus an army of work study students
  - Web calendar remains an issue



# Events on Campus

- Are we committed to building an outside conference business?
  - Facilities
  - Maintenance
  - Marketing
  - Staffing

# Other Facilities Issues/Needs

- More high technology classrooms (like OM 414)
- Student Center with student gathering places and additional retail outlets
- Stand alone building for the Wehle School of Business
  - Address Financial Markets Lab in the interim
- Home for the School of Education & Human Services

# Other Facilities Issues/Needs

- Main Street reconstruction and median project
- Sports Arena
  - For hockey, basketball or both
- Athletic Practice Facility
- Conference Center
- Ongoing updates to buildings like Lyons Hall

**Questions/Discussion?**

