



SJC

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Annual Report of the President 2022-2023



SJC

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Mission Statement

St. Joseph's College is a university community established by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton and affiliated with the University of Alberta. The College is committed to discover, integrate, and disseminate truth, as revealed by God, discerned by reason, experienced in community. In this learning and living environment, St. Joseph's College strives to engage everyone in the experience of those human values that encourage a respect for all persons, promote social justice, service, and friendship, and foster a desire for truth that includes the sacred.





SJC

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

St. Joseph's College is an affiliate Catholic college located at the heart of the University of Alberta, the province's premier research institution. We support students in their development as whole people by offering university credit courses that explore the unity of faith and reason, and by providing a safe, inclusive community through our residences and campus ministry. At St. Joseph's College, students are empowered to ask big questions, build lifelong relationships, and develop a faith that is authentic and their own, and they go out into the world with the tools and vision to help bring about the common good.

- ▶ Over 70 courses that explore faith and reason as part of your University of Alberta degrees.
- ▶ Small class sizes and dedicated faculty help students feel connected and at home on a large University campus.
- ▶ Men's and Women's residences provide housing and meals for over 300 students.
- ▶ Daily and weekend mass offers regular opportunities to participate in the sacraments.



Letter from the President

Dear Members of the SJC Community,

Each day serving SJC is a gift. SJC creates sacred moments when a professor helps a student think differently, deeply, and well, forming their critical perspective and allowing faith to thrive within it. These sacred moments also appear when a staff member helps guide a student, or a Campus Minister or our Basilian priests offer the face of Christ, yes, in the holiest things. They also occur in the normal things. In our normal, everyday work, students are invited to thrive in every aspect of their lives, and I am privileged to have a front row seat.

This is a remarkable community that I am proud to serve. The last few years have been an astounding challenge, but SJC has weathered all the challenges while being fiscally responsible, transparent, and while fulfilling every aspect of our mission. As you will see in this report, students are thriving thanks to the support of our community.

► Dr. Shawn W. Flynn



Contents

Study	8
Faculty	9
Spirituality	10-11
Residence Community	12
Advancement	14
Celebrating William Hsu	15
Enhancing our Home	16
Fiscal Management	17
Celebrating our Own	18
Our Basilian Priests	19
Commencement	20
Student Awards	21
President's Scholarship	22
Solidarity for Ukraine	23
A Path for Reconciliation	24
Board of Governors	25





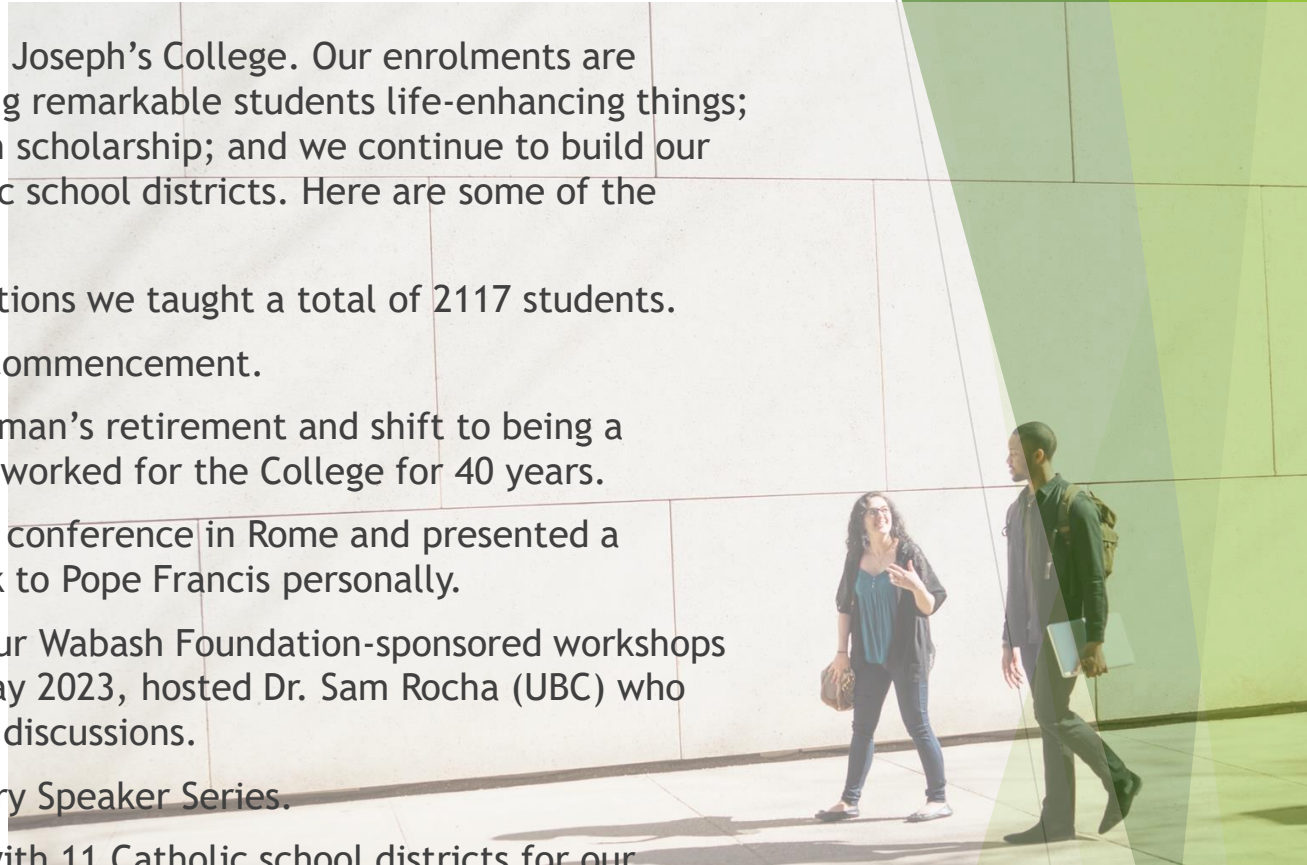


Study

It has been an exciting year in St. Joseph's College. Our enrolments are strong; our professors are teaching remarkable students life-enhancing things; we have had tangible successes in scholarship; and we continue to build our relationships with Alberta Catholic school districts. Here are some of the highlights of SJC this year:

- Across roughly 70 course sections we taught a total of 2117 students.
- We held our second annual Commencement.
- We celebrated Prof. Paul Flaman's retirement and shift to being a Professor Emeritus, who has worked for the College for 40 years.
- Prof. Matt Hoven attended a conference in Rome and presented a copy of his co-authored book to Pope Francis personally.
- We wrapped up the last of our Wabash Foundation-sponsored workshops with a day-long retreat in May 2023, hosted Dr. Sam Rocha (UBC) who guided us through curricular discussions.
- We hosted an interdisciplinary Speaker Series.
- We continue to have MOUs with 11 Catholic school districts for our Certificate in Catholic Education and are actively building relationships with these and other Catholic districts.
- SJC signed an MOU to support the Edmonton chapter of the Society of Catholic Scientists and hosted a Gold Mass, presided by Archbishop Smith on November 15th (the Feast of St. Albert the Great, patron saint to the sciences).

► **Dr. Matthew Kostelecky, Vice-President (Academic) and Dean**



Faculty Highlights

This year has seen wonderful successes among our SJC faculty. In addition to teaching approximately 2000 UofA students, we have seen marked successes in research. For example:



- Dr. Lorne Zelyck travelled extensively across North America and Europe to research a book on “The British Papyrus Syndicate,” sponsored by a substantial SSHRC grant.
- Dr. Doris Kieser chaired a roundtable discussion at the Canadian Theological Society on the topic of “From Rome to Canada: Reflections on Pope Francis’ Apology to Residential School Survivors” with theologians from across North America. The proceedings will be published as a book edited by Dr. Kieser.
- Fr. Warren Schmidt, a new professor at SJC, successfully defended his PhD dissertation at the Institut Catholique de Paris.
- Dr. Denis Lamoureux published *Struggling with God & Origins: A Personal Story to acclaim* (it reached #1 in Amazon’s “Old Testament Criticism” category).
- Dr. Indre Cuplinskas has enjoyed a sabbatical in France, working on her monograph, *Harbingers of a Modern Catholicism: Catholic Student Movements from the Baltic to the St. Lawrence*.
- Dr. Matt Hoven, Peter and Doris Kule Chair in Catholic Religious Education, co-authored a book on the interplay of Sport and Religion, *On the Eighth Day: A Catholic Theology of Sport*. He attended a Sport and Religion conference sponsored by the Vatican and had the opportunity to present his book personally to Pope Francis.

Spirituality (Campus Ministry)

Campus Ministry and Chaplaincy continue to provide support for the spiritual lives of worshipping community members, students, and residents. This year, we witnessed strong student leaders and their initiatives, with students planning both a Western Canada Regional conference and a wonderful Lenten retreat in which worshipping community members, residents and CSA members were in attendance. Crunch on Curiosity is a topics-based talk run by Campus Ministry. Their 43 registrations last year jumped to 60 this year. Campus Ministry also partnered with the Interfaith Chaplains Association to run another successful Festival of Nine Lessons at the Winspear Centre, and partnered with the Pentecostal Chaplaincy on campus to co-run the Alpha course.

The College also hosted a fundraising spaghetti dinner for our SJC students going to World Youth Day in Lisbon, many from the Catholic Students Association.

- ▶ **Mona-Lee Feehan and Theresa Robinson, Campus Ministers**



Spirituality (Chapel)

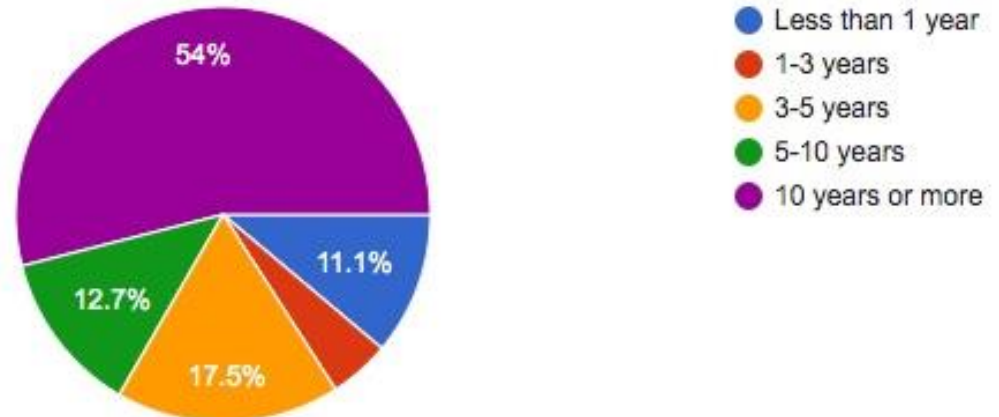
The SJC worshipping community is thriving. Coming out of COVID restrictions, the College formed a Chapel Committee headed by Fr. Jim Stenberg, CSB. Its primary task was welcoming back and building up the worshipping community.

During that time a survey was conducted to explore needs. We asked about the quality of music, quality of preaching, mass attendance, parking, and how parishioners receive information. This data helped the committee form goals to implement in the coming years. We also learned a lot. For example, in that survey we clearly heard more pews were needed. We learned that while we have many students who are with us for only a few years, many keep coming back to the worshipping community; 54% of our members surveyed have been there 10 years or more! The Chapel has added six new pews to increase capacity, and secured a new baptismal font (as the original had broken). We also added stations of the cross to the Kateri Chapel in the Women's residence (where daily mass is celebrated). We have also added a regular e-bulletin for those on our lists. One great success story is that the 7:00pm Sunday night student mass saw consistently high numbers, with 70-75 students coming weekly and gathering for a social afterwards.

Did You Know?

The SJC chapel is served by two Basilian priests, Fr. Jim Stenberg, CSB as Chaplain, and Fr. Warren Schmidt, CSB as Assistant Chaplain. In addition to their pastoral duties, both teach at the College. Fr. Jim regularly teaches PHIL 209 The Human Person, and Fr. Warren teaches The Bible: An Introduction; Catholicism: An Introduction; and The Theological Education of the Catholic Teacher.

When did you first become acquainted with the SJC Faith Community?

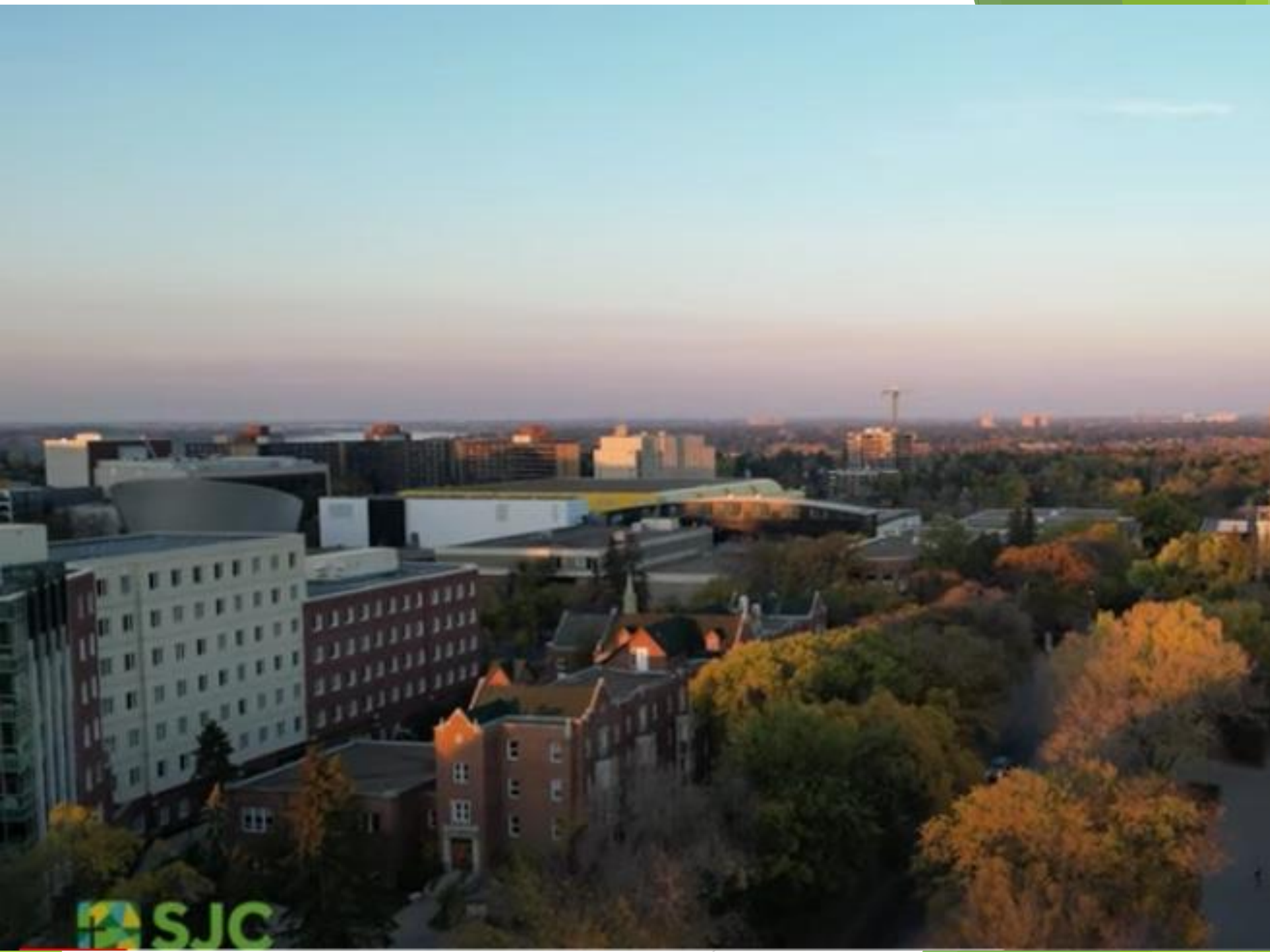


Residence Community

This year, students continued to connect. Those who had begun their university journeys during COVID are now looking towards graduation. Thus we have a community continuing to form, with deep appreciation for being connected. This connection began with our opening of the school year BBQ. Later that week, SJC students had a massive capture the flag game in the Arts quad. The College also hosted a late night study breakfast during fall finals, served by our faculty and staff. Near the end of the year was our first Spring Formal, at the Royal Glenora. Both the men's and women's residences joined for a night of celebration. A student band played, and the students handed out awards. Our Prefects and Community Caretakers continued to serve our community in positive ways.

- ▶ **Stephanie Lehr, Director of Residence**





Advancement

At St. Joseph's College we are focused on building relationships, thanking our donor community, and engaging alumni.

This year we launched our inaugural fundraising breakfast. Our community gathered to raise \$60,000. We also hosted an event with Edmonton Oiler Derek Ryan, an alum of SJC. Likewise, the VP of Advancement and the President enjoyed meeting with many donors 1-1 throughout the year. We also launched two new videos highlighting the College, including drone footage to capture SJC's place at the heart of campus.

This has been rewarding work, as we know our donors choose to participate in our mission with their gifts.

We have also invited new friends to the College, as we share the SJC story and invite them to join us in our mission.

- ▶ **Mark Ferne, Vice-President (Advancement)**



Celebrating William Hsu's Legacy

This year, we gathered with former board members and friends of William Hsu, to unveil a plaque in his memory. The William Hsu Memorial Award began in 2015 by William's wife, Susan Hsu, after William's passing. William served on the SJC board from 2001-2012 and was a loyal supporter of the College. The community gathered to unveil the plaque and share stories of William. Susan's two daughters also joined from Vancouver and New York.

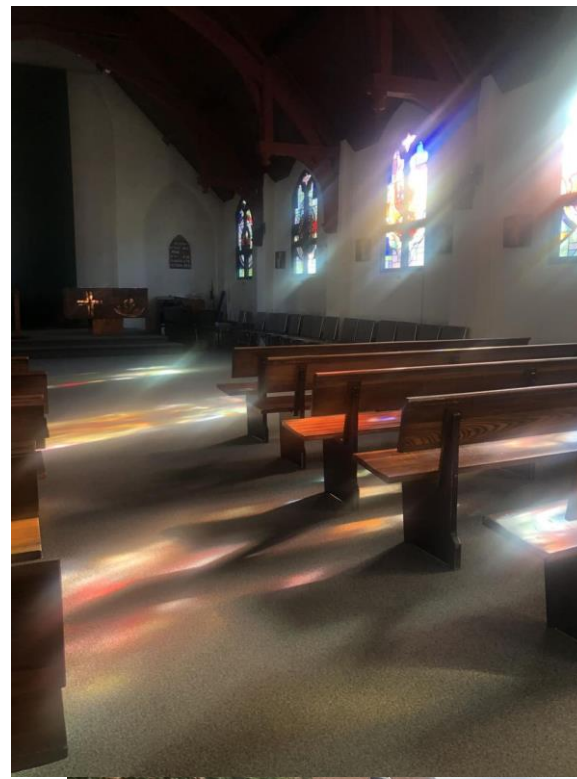


This award began in 2015 and has supported 24 students since its inception. The William Hsu Memorial Award is awarded to full-time students who have shown outstanding participation and volunteer efforts that enhanced the SJC community in addition to academic merit.

Enhancing our Home

This year we undertook a full engineering assessment of both buildings. This will provide important data to inform our prioritization of projects in the future, especially for how we enrich and care for our 100 year old building. We also added six new pews to the historic chapel to accommodate increases in mass attendance. Plans are also in place to engage a complete technology redesign and update of our classrooms in the coming year, in response to increased enrolments.

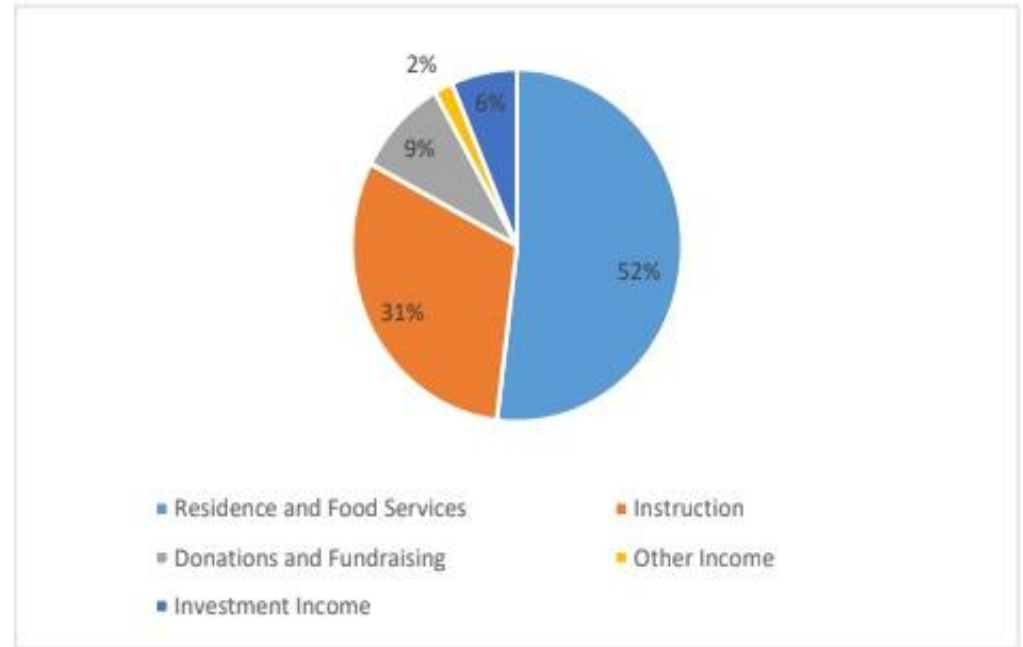
These are all things to celebrate as we continue welcoming and supporting students at the heart of campus.



Fiscal Management

- ▶ While fulfilling every aspect of its mission, SJC has worked hard to reduce and manage expenses despite rising costs!
- ▶ No material increases of the department expense budgets, except in the case of utilities and insurance costs.
- ▶ SJC has managed to come within 1-2% variance in the last two budget years.
 - ▶ Expenses here do not include capital lease obligations and amortization of capital assets.

Figure 1
2022-23 Revenue by Source \$6,208,807



- ▶ **Amanda Villetard, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)**

Celebrating our Own

► Chef Ben

Chef Ben Ramos celebrated 30 years of working at SJC, and was presented with a Rangers jersey by the SJC men's residence.



► Dr. Paul Flaman's Retirement

Long standing professor Dr. Paul Flaman celebrated retirement after 40 years of full time service. He was presented with a Board Recognition and Professor Emeritus status.



► Celebrating Extraordinary Service

Long standing Professor Dr. Denis Lamoureux was awarded the Queen's Platinum Jubilee medal for his work in Science and Religion. It was presented by the MLA for Edmonton-Riverview, the Hon. Lori Sigurdson.



► Board Recognition

The Vice-Chair of the SJC Board of Governors, Marion Haggarty-France, received the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice ("For Church and Pope") Papal Award at a ceremony at the Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica in Ottawa. Marion was awarded this honour for her exemplary work as the Alberta Sites Coordinator for the 2022 papal Visit.



Our Basilian Priests

- ▶ St. Joseph's College celebrated the Basilians' 200th bicentennial at our packed 7:00pm student mass. It was an honour to thank them for their incredible service to SJC. The Basilians have served SJC since 1963, from their roles as professors, presidents, and priests of our 300-person worshipping community. SJC continues to be blessed by Basilians as priests and professors at the College.



Commencement

On April 15th, SJC gathered to celebrate students at our second annual Commencement. Students receiving the Certificate in Catholic Education, the Minor in Christian Theology, and awards and bursary winners gathered with faculty, family, and friends to celebrate their achievements. In the morning, award winners gathered with award donors to celebrate. This now second yearly celebration of students includes an academic procession with bagpipes, the national anthem, opening prayers and hymns, a presidential address, a student commencement address, and a social event afterwards.

This year SJC celebrates 10 years of awarding our Certificate in Catholic Education, with nearly 400 awarded in that time!



Student Awards

- ▶ **Catholic Students Education Award (Cassandra Baska and Amanda Collins):** For students originating from select Catholic school divisions who are pursuing degrees in education and have taken at least two SJC courses.
- ▶ **St. Kateri Campus Ministry Award (Maria Thiel):** Awarded to a student for outstanding participation in and contribution to Campus Ministry at St. Joseph's College.
- ▶ **Barb and Phil Payne Scholarship (Isabella Sheptak):** Awarded annually to students who commit to taking at least two courses at St. Joseph's College and who have graduated (or will be graduating) from a Catholic High School in Alberta.
- ▶ **William Hsu Memorial Award (Ann Isaac and Vanessa Evancic):** Awarded annually to full-time students who have shown outstanding participation and volunteer efforts that enhance the St. Joseph's College Community.
- ▶ **Justice Kevin Feehan Award (Sarah Kraushaar):** Awarded annually to a full-time student at the University of Alberta who shows a commitment to promoting and living Catholic Education values.
- ▶ **Campus Ministry Award (Andres Restrepo):** recognizes current students who have made exceptional contributions to student life at St. Joseph's College through their interactions with Campus Ministry programming and have demonstrated a potential to become faith-filled leaders in our society.



President's Scholarship

- ▶ To celebrate every dimension of the College, the President's Scholarship supports students who wish to embody all aspects of the St. Joseph's College experience through academic formation at SJC, living in our community, and serving others through volunteer service during their award period. The SJC President's Scholarship is open to current and prospective UofA students. The student selected for this scholarship will receive up to a \$7,500 reduction on their SJC residence fees.
- ▶ 2023 will be the first year of the President's Scholarship.
- ▶ This year's inaugural recipient is Thomas Colyn. From Langley, British Columbia, and entering his first year at the UofA, Thomas will live in the SJC residences while pursuing biochemistry as preparation for medicine. When not studying or playing soccer, Thomas enjoys reading a good deal of philosophy and theology. This summer he even attended the Saint Thomas Aquinas College Great Books Summer Program to deepen his understanding and widen his literary horizons. Thomas has been accepted into UofA's honours biochemistry program, and has been patiently waiting to start his education here.



Solidarity for Ukraine

In partnership with the Ukrainian Eparchy, SJC and community gathered for a day of reflection to mark the one year start of the war in Ukraine.

Attendees listened to perspectives and stories, while Ukrainian supper was being prepared, with testimonials from Ukrainian students and displays of unclaimed student diplomas on the walls because of the war. In the chapel, an icon had been set up for the vigil, painted on an ammunition box from Ukraine, with Mary's cloak wrapping and protecting victims of the war, and blessed by Bishop David Motiuk.

(Photos by Matthew Bodnarek, CAEDM)



A Path for Reconciliation

Leading into the Papal visit for reconciliation, the College displayed Indigenous art of the Easter story by Cree artist Ovide Bighetty. President Flynn served on the Alberta Site Committee for the Papal visit, primarily working with post-secondaries in Edmonton. As a result, over 2000 affordable or free residences were secured in post secondaries, to make the path of reconciliation easier for those needing to travel.

Dr. Flynn also attended the papal mass, as well as an emotional day in Maskwacis for the apology, served as the host for ACCUC Vice-chair, Dr. Carl Still (President of St Thomas Moore College), and offered some media perspectives. But his most memorable gift was a beaded medallion from Chief Bull of the Louis Bull Tribe, proudly displayed in his office.



Board of Governors

2022-2023 MEMBERS OF THE ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

► *Ex Officio Members*

Archbishop Richard Smith, *Archbishop of Edmonton, Board of Governors Chair, Governance Committee*

Dr. Shawn Flynn, *President of St. Joseph's College, Governance Committee, Mission, Fidelity and Services Committee, Financial Sustainability Committee, Audit Sub-Committee (Non-voting)*

Dr. Jason West, *President of Newman Theological College*

Ms. Emily Ball, *University of Alberta Representative, Mission, Fidelity and Services Committee*

► *Members*

Ms. Marion Haggarty-France, *Board of Governors Vice Chair, Governance Committee, Mission Fidelity and Services Committee Chair*

Mr. Ron Coulombe, *Financial Sustainability Committee*

Mr. Casey Giovanetto, *Financial Sustainability Committee*

Dr. Indre Cuplinskas, *Faculty Representative, Mission, Fidelity and Services Committee (served by Dr. Nathan Kowalsky for 2022-23)*

Dr. Jack Zupko, *Governance Committee*

Dr. Zinia Pritchard, *Mission, Fidelity and Services Committee*

Mr. Ryan Antonello, *Vice-Chair Financial Sustainability Committee*

Ms. Carole Michalyszyn

Ms. Kimberley Hutton-Franchuk, *Chair Financial Sustainability Committee*

Ms. Maria Thiel, *Student Representative, Mission, Fidelity and Services Committee*

Dr. Doris Kieser, *Faculty Representative, Financial Sustainability Committee*

Mrs. Monica Kryska, *Mission, Fidelity and Services Committee*

Mr. Patrick Lema, *Mission, Fidelity and Services Committee*

Mr. Philip Stack, *Governance Committee Chair, Audit Sub-Committee Chair, Financial Sustainability Committee*

Mr. Patrick Stratton, *Governance Committee Vice-Chair, Financial Sustainability Committee*

Mr. Allan Willis, *Financial Sustainability Committee, Audit Sub-Committee Vice-Chair*



Get Social!



KEEP IN TOUCH

@SJCUofA



SJC

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA