

For Immediate Release

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ST. THOMAS PROMOTES MIKE MCMANUS TO DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC SERVICES & STUDENT RETENTION



(SPARKILL, NY – April 25, 2008) -- St. Thomas Aquinas College recently promoted Michael McManus to the Director of Academic Services and Student Retention, announced Dr. L. John Durney, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

McManus (Pearl River, NY) has served the college for a total of 23 years. Most recently, he served as Assistant Athletic Director at the College. In 1986, he was appointed Director of the St. Thomas Academic Skills Center. He instituted a program where graduate assistants were used as tutors and obtained national certification for the tutoring center. He has also worked as an adjunct professor in the Social Science Division, teaching Sports Psychology, Coaching Principles and Organization and Administration of Parks and Recreational Services.

"Mike McManus is a veteran educator who always has the best interests of our students at heart, and is committed to helping them succeed" said Dr. Durney. "His previous work with our academic support team will enable him to make contributions immediately, and I look forward to his enthusiastic leadership as we explore new initiatives in helping students achieve their academic goals."

McManus earned his B.S. in Psychology from Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry with New York State certification in Elementary, Special and Math Education. He also earned a M.S. in Sports Management from St. Thomas of Villanova University in Miami. He began his career at St. Thomas in 1985, as the part-time coach of the Lady Spartans basketball team.

As the Assistant Athletic Director for the College since 2002, he adopted new programs for the athletic department and designed a new and improved athletic website, www.stacathletics.com. McManus also served as the College's sports information director.

In his new role, McManus will oversee the Office of Academic Services and Student Retention taking responsibility for academic programs such as the Center for Academic Excellence, the Aquinas Success Program, the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP), and the coordination of the College's first-year seminar program, among others. He is also responsible for new initiatives toward enhancing student retention.

McManus holds professional memberships in the Women's Basketball Coaches Association, the New York State Basketball Coaches Association, as well as the Rockland County Coaches Association. He has served on the ECAC Championship Selection Committee, the Kodak All-American Selection Committee, and the Hudson Valley Empire State Team Selection Committee.

MORE ABOUT ST. THOMAS

The College's 2,700 full and part time students can choose from over 60 different majors, minors, specializations, and dual degree programs across five divisions: The Humanities; Business Administration; Social Sciences; Natural Sciences & Mathematics; and Teacher Education or are enrolled in one of our graduate programs. St. Thomas has expanded its offerings to include: a Master of Science in Education with specializations in Literacy, Special Education, and Educational Leadership, a Post Masters Certificate program in Education, a Master of Science in Teaching, a Master of Business Administration program, a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Science in Education, and an Associate of Arts and an Associate of Science degree, the latter two offered at the West Point Military Academy. For more information on the College visit www.stac.edu.