



For Immediate Release

April 26, 2012

## ***FELICIAN COLLEGE ANNOUNCES NEW PRESIDENT***

### **Dr. Anne Prisco to be the Franciscan College's First Lay President**

Lodi, NJ -- Dr. Anne Prisco has been selected to serve as Felician College's fifth president.

She succeeds President Sister Theresa Mary Martin, whose innovative vision and steadfast guidance were the hallmarks of her unprecedented 28-year tenure.

"The depth and breadth of Dr. Prisco's academic and leadership experience together with a deep understanding of the Felician/Franciscan mission, make her uniquely qualified to lead the College to further prominence and distinction," said Sister M. Aquinas Szott, Chair, Presidential Search Committee Chair, Board of Trustees.

"Dr. Prisco brings to Felician more than 30 years of experience in higher education, where she has served in a number of roles including administrator, faculty member, consultant, and policy researcher," added Sister Aquinas.

"I am honored and humbled to be entrusted with the future of an institution with such a rich legacy of success," said Dr. Prisco. "As a first generation college attendee from Brooklyn, New York, I am passionate about the importance of higher education. My life has been committed to supporting educational access and opportunity. I understand and appreciate the zeal with which the Felician Sisters are dedicated to serving individuals of diverse means and backgrounds. It is with this inspiration, and commitment to the Felician Sisters and the entire Felician College community, that I will serve with passion and dedication to set the course for a vibrant and progressive future."

Dr. Prisco, who will have the distinction of becoming the College's first lay president, will take office on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

As Vice President for Enrollment Management at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, a role she assumed in 2006, Dr. Prisco was responsible for the coordination, policy development, and implementation of enrollment planning and management. Dr. Prisco also taught in the School of Education's doctoral program and the Department of Economics.

Before accepting the position at Loyola Marymount, Dr. Prisco was Vice Provost at Hunter College of the City University of New York, with responsibility for a myriad of areas that

supported student success and promoted the academic mission of that urban institution. She also worked with Lehman College, CUNY.

Dr. Prisco earned her bachelor's degree in family and consumer science at the University of Arizona, where she graduated summa cum laude and was named Outstanding Senior of the College of Agriculture. She earned an MBA in finance from Fordham University, and her M.Phil. and Ph.D. in an interdisciplinary program in economics and education from Columbia University.

Her research and scholarly interests are in the areas of education and human capital, including educational access, financing and leadership. She has presented at numerous conferences and held several faculty appointments, including St. John's University, New York, where she taught courses in economics and management. Her interest in international education is reflected in her research policy work with New York University's Alliance for International Higher Education Policy Studies and her dissertation, "Trends in Wage Inequality in Italy during the 1990s: Why a University Degree Now Matters," an empirical study that examined educational access and socioeconomic disparities.

"The competitive nature of higher education has multiplied exponentially in the last few years," said Dr. Charles F. Rooney, senior executive vice president of Felician. "Dr. Prisco's unique experience in the recruitment and retention of students through a variety of venues, along with her academic experience, portends to serve Felician College well as it moves to new levels as the Franciscan College of New Jersey."

The search for a new president began last fall, when Sister Theresa announced that she planned to step down at the end of the academic year. A presidential search committee, lead by Sister Aquinas, was convened. The committee, which was comprised of Trustees, Regents, administrators and faculty, worked with a search firm to identify qualified candidates for the position.

"This is an important step for Felician College," said Regina T. Coyle, President of the Alumni Association. "Sister Theresa led the College to a place of distinction. Now, Dr. Prisco will help us meet the challenges before us and catapult the College into an exciting future."

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

##### **About Sister Theresa Mary Martin**

Twenty-eight years ago, when Sister Theresa Mary Martin ascended to the presidency of Felician College, the Lodi-based school had only 450 students—all female. Under Sister's Theresa's innovative vision and steadfast guidance, Felician evolved into a four-year coed institution with more than 2,400 students, offering a wide range of traditional and online undergraduate and graduate programs, including a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DPN) degree. In

addition, Felician offers 10 varsity intercollegiate sports that compete at the NCAA Division II level.

The changes and advances under Sister Theresa's leadership have been numerous. Key among them was the purchase and renovation of a 10.5-acre campus in Rutherford, NJ. The new campus underwent extensive infrastructure upgrades as well as the modernization of the residence halls. In addition, under Sister Theresa's guidance, Felician undertook the painstaking restoration of historic Iviswold Castle, which is situated on a corner of the tree-lined campus. Scheduled to be dedicated in the spring of 2012, the Castle will serve as Felician's campus center as well as house administrative offices.

For more information, please contact Teri Gatto at [gattot@felician.edu](mailto:gattot@felician.edu)

### **About Felician College**

Felician College is a liberal arts, coeducational, Catholic, Franciscan college located on two campuses in Lodi and Rutherford, New Jersey. Founded in 1942 by the Felician Sisters, Felician College currently enrolls 2,400 students in more than 55 undergraduate and graduate programs in the arts and sciences, business and management sciences, health sciences and teacher education. This year, the Division of Nursing and Health Management added a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) to the roster of degrees offered by the College.

In addition, Felician offers 10 varsity intercollegiate sports that compete at the NCAA Division II level. The 2011 edition of America's Best Colleges published by U.S. News & World Report identified Felician as one of the Best Regional Colleges in the northern region of the country and among the top six colleges in the region for racial and ethnic diversity.

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