Father Marty departs University after 9 years

University’s priest receives national promotion to executive director of Catholic Campus Ministry Association

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Contributing Writer

Father Martin Moran III, Catholic chaplain, has been named executive director of the Catholic Campus Ministry Association (CCMA), where he will begin on June 1. In his new role, based in Cincinnati, Ohio, Moran will oversee more than 1,800 Catholic Campus ministries all over the United States.

In the first 10 hours after a campus-wide announcement of his departure, Moran received over 230 e-mails from people in the community, wishing him well and thanking him for everything he has done for this community.

Moran admits that while he is excited about his new position, he will miss many things about the University.

“Bucknell is my number one love. I will miss the students, the professionalism of Bucknell, and the community, both Bucknell’s community and the greater Lewisburg community,” he said.

Moran began his tenure at the University in 1998, and was appointed by the Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg. When Moran came to the University, he recalls there being only 30 to 40 students in the Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM).

Moran credits University Chaplain Ian Oliver for helping him increase involvement in religious life on campus. CCM now has over 1,000 members.

“The first thing is to realize that some students will just want to go to mass. The second is that some students want to be more involved, so they can be a part of the Ministry team. The third is the Thursday night dinners and the fourth is being able to guide those students who may question their religious faith,” Moran said.

This philosophy helped him create the motto of “Faith, Food,
Moran ascends to top national position

Moran ascends to top national position

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and Fun” for CCM.

Oliver feels very fortunate to have worked with him for nine years.

“Father Moran is incredibly gifted for working with all kinds of people,” Oliver said. “I think he has been a priest to everyone, whether they are Catholic or not.”

Michael Rakszawski ’08, CCM director of administration, said, “Father Marty has been a very influential person in my life. With his help I have become an experienced leader. I will miss Father Marty, but I am happy for his new role.”

Fortunately for anyone who may be worried about Moran’s replacement, Oliver said, “Given a national shortage of priests, we are very pleased that the Diocese has assured us that another full-time priest will be assigned to Bucknell.” Moran will also help the new priest transition to Bucknell.

Moran would like to thank the many dedicated people who have been with him over the years.

“I would like to say thanks to my colleagues and good friends, Ian Oliver and Serena Fujita; to my staff Suzanne Domzalski and Kim Custer; to an extraordinary group of the CCM student ministry team. I would also like to thank President and Mrs. Mitchell, Provost DeCredico and Charlie Pollock for their enthusiasm and outstanding mentoring.”

Moran concluded with plans to maintain his ties to the University.

“I’m so proud of where Bucknell is going with the strategic plan and I hope to still be connected to Bucknell.”