

From: Alumni

Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2005 11:54 AM

Subject: @Ibertus - Special Edition March 2005

@Ibertus

Volume 3, Number 6

March 3, 2005

This newsletter is distributed monthly as a service to alumni of Albertus Magnus College

SPECIAL EDITION

SISTER MARIE LOUISE HUBERT, O.P., FORMER PRESIDENT, DIES AT 91

Sister Marie Louise Hubert, O.P., tenth president of Albertus Magnus College, died last night at the Mohun Health Care Center of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs in Columbus, Ohio. She was 91.

"Sister Marie Louise was, in many ways, the heart and soul of Albertus Magnus College, a leader extraordinaire during nearly two decades of change, growth and challenge," said Dr. Julia M. McNamara, president of the College. "She loved Albertus and left us a lasting legacy of service and commitment."

Teacher, scholar and administrator, Sister Marie Louise served as president from 1956 to 1971. She continued her service to the College as a professor of French and the director of institutional research until her retirement in 2001. In 2002 she celebrated her 60th Jubilee year as a member of the Dominican Congregation of St. Mary of the Springs.

A self-described "dyed-in-the-wool New Yorker" with a passion for Broadway theater, she began her Albertus career in 1942 when she joined the College's French Department as a faculty member. She received a bachelor's degree in French from St. Joseph's College for Women, Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1936 and a master's degree in French from Columbia University in 1939. In 1950 she earned a doctorate in French from Yale University.

In 1972 Albertus Magnus College awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree to Sr. Marie Louise. The citation noted in part: "...your influence on the College has been deep and abiding, and the present campus is testimony to your imaginative yet practical leadership, often under trying circumstances."

During the early '70s, Sr. Marie Louise developed "Begin Again," one of the first college programs in the state to welcome adults who wanted to complete or begin work toward an academic degree. This small program laid the foundation for the College's later Accelerated Degree and New Dimensions programs, which have served the adult learner for more than 20 years.

Sister Marie Louise presided over a period of great change in every aspect of the College, from the role of the undergraduate to growth of the physical plant. During her tenure as president, the College's enrollment grew from slightly over 200 students to 600. New buildings rose next to venerable mansions: Dominican Hall, a dormitory, in 1960; Aquinas Hall, an academic center, in 1966; and the Campus Center in 1970. Lay trustees joined the College's Board for the first time in her administration.

Today, Albertus Magnus College is a co-educational institution offering undergraduate and graduate degrees; it has a total enrollment of 2,400 students.

In 1968, the College, along with Fairfield University, Sacred Heart University and Annhurst College (now closed) was a defendant in *Tilton vs. Richardson*, a landmark case eventually decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. The four colleges had received federal education grants, and a group of Connecticut taxpayers, through the American Civil Liberties Union, sued, claiming the grants violated the First and Fourteenth Amendments, concerning separation of church and state. Attorney Edward Bennet Williams successfully represented the colleges before the Supreme Court, and on June 28, 1971, the Supreme Court ruled favorably on the case.

Looking back, Sister Marie Louise said, "We felt that the case was important not only for us, but for colleges associated with any denomination."