

# CUA professors demand commitment to freedom

By Cindy Wooden  
NC News

WASHINGTON — Full professors in the School of Arts and Sciences at The Catholic University of America are teaching "under protest until the board of trustees reaffirms the university's commitment to full academic freedom."

In a resolution passed by almost 80 percent of the professors attending an April 7 meeting, they said that university actions surrounding theology professor Father Charles E. Curran have "jeopardized" their academic freedom.

Father Curran, who taught moral theology at the university for more than 20 years, lost a breach of contract suit against the university in February. He was suspended from teaching after the Vatican declared that he was no longer eligible to teach Catholic theology because of dissenting positions he held on certain church teachings.

University officials testifying at Father Curran's trial were "unclear" in their definition of and commitment to academic freedom, Antanas Suziedelis, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, told National Catholic News Service April 12. "It is one thing to say we have it, and another to say

what it means," Suziedelis said.

Academic freedom is supposed to protect scholars from being penalized for viewpoints reached through competent scholarship. In the tradition of U.S. educational institutions, "and this institution in particular," Suziedelis said, "the competence of an individual is judged by his or her peers."

Catholic University's board of trustees must make clear "under what circumstances are external judgments" — such as the Vatican's evaluation of Father Curran — "to be automatically applied," the dean said.

The School of Arts and Sciences, which does not include Father Curran's theology department, has 185 faculty members, 50 of whom are full professors. The April 7 resolution was passed 16-4, with one abstention. Suziedelis believes the vote reflects the feeling of the entire faculty. "I would not minimize the significance of this vote," he said.

University spokeswoman Anne Smith said she could not comment on the resolution. The next meeting of the trustees is scheduled for June and an agenda has not been finalized, she said.



AP/Wide World Photos

Authorities say a cauldron found Tuesday on a ranch about 20 miles west of Matamoros, Mexico, contained bones, a turtle shell and possible human blood. A satanic cult of drug smugglers is believed to have buried at least 13 human sacrifices.

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Gallagher said she thought Harris erred on several points in his original decision to order the tube disconnected.

For one thing, she said, the patients were dying in four of the five cases cited in court to show Coons had previously expressed agreement with decisions of friends or relatives to halt or not begin treatment. But "Mrs. Coons is not dying," Gallagher added.

She also questioned what the judge meant in his original opinion when he said

that removal of the feeding tube would allow Coons to die "from her underlying pathology."

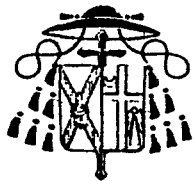
Since Coons has no terminal illness, "I don't know what that is," Gallagher said. The expectation, she said, has been that if the tube were removed Coons would die of starvation and dehydration.

### Bishop's Message For World Day of Prayer for Vocations

DIocese OF ROCHESTER

1150 Buffalo Road · Rochester, NY 14624

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Bishop's Office



April 16, 1989

My Dear People,

As our Diocese observes the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, I invite you to join me in praying for an increase in Church Vocations especially to religious life and priesthood. This Diocese is being blessed with many vocations to lay ministry for which we are very grateful. Today we announce a special prayer effort, however, for vocations to the Diocesan priesthood.

In my travels around the Diocese I am frequently asked, "What are we doing to promote vocations to the priesthood?" At this time I am happy to introduce a new initiative in this regard: an intense prayer and recruitment effort seeking candidates for the priesthood.

Let me briefly outline the first steps of this effort. Shortly following the prayer campaign which will begin on Trinity Sunday, May 21st, I will ask parishioners throughout the Diocese to submit names of men whom they believe I should invite to consider the call to the ordained priesthood. I will in turn ask these men to join me for a day of prayer, reflection, and information on the vocation to the priesthood. Together with Father Tom Valenti, the Assistant to the Bishop for Vocations, I will meet with these people, as well as engage in other activities promoting vocations.

I encourage you to continue your prayers for vocations to ministry in the Church, especially asking God each day to bless our diocese with many candidates for ordained priesthood.

With every good wish, I remain,

Your brother in Christ,

*Matthew H. Clark*

Matthew H. Clark  
Bishop of Rochester

*His Love Endures Forever*

See This Week's Catholic Courier Article on page 6.

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