



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

CONNECTICUT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USJ WELCOMES NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (August 7, 2017) – The University of Saint Joseph’s Board of Trustees’ legacy of smart growth and financial stewardship continues with the addition of two new members. “Dr. John Rodis and James Wakim will add seasoned expertise in their respective fields to the USJ Board of Trustees,” said Chairman E. Clayton “Skip” Gengras Jr. “We look forward to working with them to further the Mercy mission at this pivotal moment in the institution’s history.”

John Rodis, M.D., M.B.A., the first physician to serve as president of Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center since its founding, is board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology and maternal-fetal medicine. Serving as a professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UConn School of Medicine and the Frank H. Netter School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University, his familiarity with higher education and his expertise in and connections to the health care field will contribute positively to the Board of Trustees. In addition to his role at USJ, Dr. Rodis is also a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, a member of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, and a member of the American College of Physician Executives.

James Wakim, JD, Chief Operating Officer for the Simon Konover Company, is a returning member of the USJ Board of Trustees. Previously serving from 2012-2015, Mr. Wakim once again will bring his law background and expertise in real estate to his duties at USJ. In addition to his work at the University, Mr. Wakim has served on the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) New York Deal Making Planning Committee – including a three-year term as the Connecticut State Director for ICSC – as well as a member of the Executive Committee of the Real Estate Section of the Connecticut Bar Association.

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The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of coeducational undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Undergraduate programs for both traditional and adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 26 majors and seven pre-professional programs, taught by expert faculty in an engaging environment. Graduate master’s and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University’s two campuses in West

Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at www.usj.edu.

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