RESOLUTION

OF

CONDOLENCE

DR. M. PATON RYAN, R.S.M.
PRESIDENT, SAINT JOSEPH COLLEGE

February 1, 1991

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for Connecticut State University extends their deepest sympathy to the family and colleagues of President M. Paton Ryan, who was an outstanding contributor to the progress of both private and public higher education in Connecticut until her untimely passing.

A Certified True Copy:

L. J. Davidson, Chairperson

Dallas K. Beal, President
January 17, 1991

Martin D. Snyder
Acting President
Saint Joseph College
West Hartford, CT 06117

Dear President Snyder:

On behalf of the Connecticut State University Board of Trustees and the members of our University family, I extend our deep sympathy to friends and colleagues of Saint Joseph College on the loss of President M. Paton Ryan.

On a more personal note, I shall miss our association very much. Paton was a good friend and able associate in the collective endeavor to enhance higher education in Connecticut. Her enthusiasm, energy and understanding of the enterprise we all serve set a high standard which enabled us all to see beyond individual concerns for our separate institutions.

Paton's leadership and friendship will be missed greatly as we go forward in the absence of her strength of character. I deeply regret that I shall be away during the Mass held on January 23.

Sincerely,

Dallas K. Beal
President
January 3, 1991

Dear Alumnae/i, Parents and Friends,

I am saddened to write that President M. Paton Ryan, R.S.M. died Wednesday night after a long battle with cancer. She worked tirelessly for Saint Joseph College and despite a painful illness maintained a grueling schedule until her death. Her love for the College and a strong desire to have others understand and appreciate the excellence of its mission, programs and faculty gave her the energy to carry a workload during her illness beyond all human expectation.

Dr. Ryan left us an important legacy and a powerful challenge. Saint Joseph College's national reputation grew significantly under her leadership. Over the past six years SJC has three times been named one of the nation's top colleges in U.S. News and World Report, and it received the Small College award for Excellence from the Brunswick Foundation. She launched our successful weekend college, The McAuley Program, so that adult men and women could have the quality of education that in the past has been available primarily to 18 to 21-year-old students. She was a strong advocate for increasing the diversity of the College's student body, almost doubling, during her tenure at the College, the percentage of minority students on campus. She planned well for SJC; at a time when most colleges are facing a declining enrollment, Saint Joseph College has been able to attract more students (1,870) than ever before—a 14.8% increase over last year.

In her recent President's Report, Dr. Ryan spoke of the underlying philosophy of her life, a philosophy which became the standard and major theme of her presidency at Saint Joseph College: "Service is the seed for the future we all desire, for the meaningful life so aptly described by Ralph Waldo Emerson,...'to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to succeed.'"
Taking this philosophy as her own personal standard, Dr. Ryan became a highly visible spokesperson for Saint Joseph College and supported its interests and those of higher education on numerous fronts. She was serving as the President of the Hartford Chapter of the American Leadership Forum, Treasurer of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and Treasurer of the Coordinating Council for Foundations. She was the immediate Past Chair and a member of the Executive Committee of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, was a commissioner of the Education Commission of the States, and was a board member of the Greater Hartford Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education. She was also a corporator of Saint Francis Hospital, Hartford Public Library, Newington Children's Hospital and the Watkinson School. Dr. Ryan was a member of the Board of Visitors of the Maurice Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Hartford, and was head of the Loaned Executive Recruitment of the 1990 United Way Campaign.

Shortly before her death, Dr. Ryan announced that she would step down as President of Saint Joseph College in order to accept in July 1991 the role of Chancellor. This position would have allowed her to complete the plans and implement Saint Joseph College's first capital campaign. It will be in her honor and memory that we shall fulfill her vision for the future, complete the planning and launch The Campaign for Saint Joseph College.

There will be a Mass for Dr. Ryan on Wednesday, January 23, 1991 at 11:00 a.m. in the Connor Chapel on campus. I hope that you will be able to join us in celebrating her memory and her many good works.

Sincerely,

Martin D. Snyder
Acting President