

What is your greatest achievement?

Wow. There are several ways I can answer that question; which means I have more than one greatest achievement. (Laughs). On one hand, I could say my greatest achievement personally and academically was earning my doctorate.

On the other hand, my greatest achievement is that from 2003 to 2007 I served as the first African American president of an ecclesiastical faculty of Catholic theology in the United States. Then again, I think the success of my students is my greatest achievement. It is a real thrill to run into people I taught, my alumni. I have a former student who is a federal judge, others who are in state politics; many are partners in major law firms and others who are simply not just making a living but making contributions to their communities. They're my greatest achievement. Happy, healthy lawyers.

Do you have any regrets?

Nah.

Is there anything people would be surprised to know about you?

I'm a great fan of Guy Ritchie movies. Like *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*. I think *Snatch* is brilliant.

What about *South Park*?

Oh, yes. I don't have time to watch it on TV so I buy the DVDs. (Later he sneaks in a Cartman impression).

What are your plans for the future?

Right now I am working on article to determine the impact of *Ex corde Ecclesiae*, which provides canon law for Catholic colleges and universities. It went into effect here in the USA in 2001, and a ten-year assessment is about to come up. I'm trying to anticipate the assessment, to determine the impact *Ex corde* has had and what changes it has made or not made in the cultures and practices of Catholic colleges and universities in the United States. After that, who knows?

Luann Hudson: Supervision Required



LuAnn Hudson is involved in many things at the School of Law and has been instrumental in the Public Service Board, the Mission Awards, and in the St. Thomas More Chapel Choir picture above.

by Sarah Ellsworth

This month's featured staff member is LuAnn Hudson. LuAnn is Administrative Assistant to the Deans. Prior to coming to work at St. Thomas, LuAnn worked in Iowa for the Department of Transportation as an archaeologist, doing survey for various projects around the state. She loved her job and has fond memories of that part of her professional life. Eventually, however, bad knees forced her out of the field and allowed her to go down a new career path, which took her to Missouri, where she worked in a university's microbiology graduate department.

It was during her time in Missouri that LuAnn discovered her love for working with students. When the opportunity arose to come to St. Thomas and help to start up the law school, she jumped at the chance to continue her work with students. Just after receiving her undergraduate degree at Hamline in the late 70s, LuAnn was able to be a part of the startup of the law school there. She has been able to apply much of what she learned at Hamline about the challenges and obstacles brand new law schools face to her position here at UST. Since coming to work at St. Thomas, LuAnn was integral in founding the law school choir, which is made up of students, faculty, and staff from both the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses. The choir performs once a month at daily mass, at graduation, and other special occasions where their presence is requested. LuAnn admits that the UST choir has consistently had the best tenor section of any choir she has ever sung in. When asked to discuss whether there was any truth to the rumor that when the deans are gone, it's LuAnn that actually runs the law school, she smiled and said, "I go crazy. It's all up to me. That's why one of them is always around. I need supervision."

