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## THE UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY FOUNDATION 35TH ANNUAL CITIZEN LAUREATE AWARDS

honoring

*Academic Laureate*

**Fr. Kevin J. Mullen, O.F.M., Ph.D.**

*Community Laureates*

**Phoebe Powell Bender**

**Daniel P. Nolan '74**

*Event Co-Chairs:*

**Robert M. Curley & R. Mark Sullivan**

**November 6, 2014**

SEFCU Arena

University at Albany Uptown Campus

The **Citizen Laureate Awards** are sponsored by The University at Albany Foundation. The *Community Laureate Award* honors individuals for their outstanding contributions to the Capital Region and beyond.

The *Academic Laureate Award* recognizes individuals for their notable achievements in academia and research.





## *Program*

### WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

George R. Hearst III  
*President*

*The University at Albany Foundation*

### MESSAGE ON BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

Robert J. Jones, Ph.D.  
*President*  
*University at Albany*

### DINNER & DESSERT

### PRESENTATION OF THE LAUREATE AWARDS

George R. Hearst III

## *Academic Laureate*

### Fr. Kevin J. Mullen, O.F.M., Ph.D.



An inspiration to all, Fr. Kevin Mullen continues to hear and to heed the words of his saintly mentor, Francis of Assisi: "Brothers and sisters, let us begin again, for up to now we have done little or nothing." This is no surprise, as Fr. Kevin's dedication to duty and openness to the future has served him and his constituencies well.

Proof of this is his recent election as 16th Provincial Minister of Holy Name Province, a prestigious position of leadership within the largest Franciscan community in the United States. In this role, Fr. Kevin is responsible for the care of the Province's 300+ members, orchestration of the many ministries, and the maintenance of relationships with numerous dioceses as well as with the headquarters of the worldwide Order of Friars Minor in Rome.

Most recently, Fr. Kevin served as Siena College's tenth president, and in that role guided Siena's successful efforts to craft a new strategic plan, presided over the college's 75th anniversary, launched a \$50 million comprehensive campaign, and oversaw major campus expansion and renovation. He successfully balanced improvements to Siena's academic, athletic and residential programs and facilities with prudent financial stewardship.

Throughout his career, Fr. Kevin has served as a teacher, pastor, guardian and director, with many of these being administrative and leadership positions.

After pursuing his education at Franciscan schools and colleges, he was received into the Franciscan Order in 1975, and was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1980. From 1987 to 1990, he taught full-time at Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora, New York, while serving on the Ethics Committee of Sisters' Hospital in Buffalo. In subsequent years, he taught at Catholic institutions in Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Maryland.

From there, Fr. Kevin moved on to administrative and leadership positions, serving as guardian and rector of St. Anthony Shrine in Boston, chairing the board of directors of Boston's St. Francis House, and serving on the board of directors of Franciscan Children's Hospital. After then serving as pastor and guardian of St. Leo's Church in New Jersey, he returned to Siena to become guardian of the Franciscan friary and director of the college's Franciscan Center for Service and Advocacy. Two years later, he rose to the college's presidency.

A native of Paterson, New Jersey, Fr. Kevin received his bachelor's degree in history from Siena College, his master's of divinity degree from the Washington Theological Union, and a doctorate in moral theology from the Catholic University of America. A selfless leader, he now resides in New York City, and is sorely missed in the Capital Region.