SDIP Grant Announced

by Anne Kozela

Rev. Edmund G. Ryan, Canisius executive vice president for academic affairs, announced that the SDIP grant proposal was officially funded for $380,000. The announcement came at an October faculty meeting held in the Fireside Lounge.

An information sheet supplied by Ryan's office showed that the Strengthening Department Institution Program funds have already been divided and allocated for various projects at Canisius.

The projects being financed are: chemistry and industry; writing across the curriculum; occupational dimensions of the liberal arts curriculum; academic and career advisement; student retention; Data Base: expansion, integration, utilization and SDIP administration.

Along with the SDIP announcement, the topics of "Enrollment at Canisius College", "Composition of Canisius College's Master Plan for 1980", and Canisius' 1979-1980 financial outlook were discussed at the meeting in the Fireside Lounge.

Ryan shared the statistics concerning enrollment projections for Canisius that were supplied by Albany in "The Bulletin of the Regents 1980 Statewide Plan for the Development of Postsecondary Education" with the full room of faculty members.

He termed the state's figures as being "the worst possible scenario", however, because they project that the amount of students in higher learning institutions in New York State will be the same in 1992 as they are in 1979.

Ryan found these projections to be poor since "They were made on the basis of institutions making no greater efforts than presently regarding recruitment of students."

Two factors Ryan felt will be important in the future of enrollment at Canisius are securing the accreditation of the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business for the college's graduate program and making Dr. James Valone the full-time Associate Dean of Business effective the first day of the second semester.

Ryan also stressed the importance of faculty members taking an active role in the recruitment and retention of students. He singled out the Chemistry Department as one group that has already done a commendable recruiting job. He urged all other departments to follow its example.

Several reasons were then cited by Ryan concerning why people at Canisius should be optimistic. Increased Bundy funding, more federal student aid, a larger number of resident students, the establishment of Canisius' Institute of Social Justice, and the goal "in plain sight" of $1,000,000 being raised by the annual fund drive, were among Ryan's reasons.

After finishing his message on enrollment, Ryan proceeded to talk about Canisius' Master Plan. This document, which must be submitted to the N.Y. State Regents Board by February 15, 1980, "charts the path of Canisius College for the years 1980-1984."

Ryan outlined the procedures that faculty members will have to follow to help devise the plan. He also announced that Dr. Phyllis Sholty, director of planning and research, is responsible for the drafts of the document.

Mission and Goals of Institution, Recommendations to the Regents, Public Service, Programs of Study, Students and Curricula, Off-campus Instruction, Enrollments, Faculty, Research, Libraries, Finance, and Facilities are the categories that the Master Plan will include.

Dr. Laurence Franz, vice president of business and finance, addressed the faculty on Canisius' financial condition for this school year.

Franz announced that there was a $114,000 surplus from last year's budget. He noted, however, that a number of projects will soon be implemented at the college.

According to Franz, an estimated $400,000 will be necessary for energy conservation measures. New windows in the Old Main building and a computerized energy system are the projects being considered. Franz stated, "We are waiting for the Federal Energy Act before we start these renovations."

Franz continued to outline the tentative financial plan for this year, but emphasized that a more accurate outlook will be available once SDIP funds are incorporated into the budget.

Thus far, however, "Total Expenses & Transfers" has been estimated at $12,696,978 and "Excess of Revenue Over Expenses" has been estimated at $12,266.