

Stead's plan of action



Photo courtesy of Emily Kirk

By Kinsley Lively

Fail to the Chief” was playing on Monday morning as Dr. Stead was saluted by his political studies class. The professor has been a part of TMU for 49 years, serving both in the past as the academic provost and currently as TMU’s board of directors. He grew up in California, where he attended John MacArthur’s father’s church and studied at USC for his Ph.D.

I’ve primarily been in academics my whole time here, mainly in the classroom, which I enjoy still the most,” Stead said. “I’ve also been in administration to some degree, off and on, since ’78. The difference is when I was a provost here, which is the highest academic position in the university, it was primarily concerned with academics, not encompassing the entire school.”

But now, Stead finds himself stepping into a new role: interim president for The Master’s University.

“So far, it’s been very gratifying. I’m very at peace with dealing with faculty, academic issues, those kinds of things,” Stead said. “I’ve done it so long, but now I have to think about myself in terms of being responsible for everything on this campus. That’s a lot.”

His current goal as interim president for the year is to make sure the next president will have an easy transition into the role.

“Challenge number one is to get off probation. That’s way up front,” Stead said. “A second one would be to continue to work on our campus culture, in terms of administrative relationships to faculty, staff, and students. We’ve been doing a lot

of work on that in the last year. A third one would basically be continuing to gather support from our board of directors as well.”

Our campus is currently on probation by WASC, and by next year we hope to know if our accreditation will continue.

“Our March letter was not what we expected, but we are in a review process right now. I don’t know how successful it will be, but our job is simply to keep trying to work on what we need to. All we can do

tremendous theological perspective on the war,” Stead said.

Dr. Stead is still running the Community Connection for the rest of the year and isn’t sure about continuing it next year.

“I think it’s really important; it’s a way for the students just to kind of have a feel for what we’re kind of thinking about up here, you know? You know we always do some interviews with staff and faculty so students can kind of get a better idea of what’s going on in different departments.”

Joshua Allen is a senior, political studies major from Honduras and has studied under Dr. Stead during his time at TMU.

“I certainly look forward to going to a school under his leadership,” Allen said. “While it’s a bummer Dr. MacArthur had to step down, there’s not a doubt in my mind that Dr. Stead is going to use his own gifts of leadership to continue

driving the university in a God-honoring direction.”

Overall, Stead’s impact has been felt on this campus for the past 49 years, and he is adamant to try and continue that presence on campus as the president.

“You’ll probably see me in the cafeteria, but rather than just sitting with my buddies, I’ll probably stroll around and sit with some students and just chat. Plus, you know, I’m very concerned about the staff—that they see my presence in the dining center or a building and grounds, that they can have confidence that I’m here all the time. Students can’t always walk in, but they can always come to see Alison and get an appointment with me.”

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is just keep working on those things. We’re in a timeframe now, and we don’t really control the timeframe,” Stead said.

Speaking of presidents, Stead’s three favorites are Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, and Ronald Reagan. He admires their humor, strength in decision making, and many other things. His passion for history is closely followed by his passion for the Lord and his family. He recommends reading “Lincoln’s Greatest Speech” by Ronald C. White, Jr., which is about the Gettysburg Address.

“To me, I think (it is) the greatest piece of oratory in American history. It’s only about 713 words. It gives you the whole side of Abraham Lincoln, including a

We here at The Mane would like to dedicate this edition to Professor Jennifer B. O’Shea. She has served as the course advisor for our student publication since its inception in 2018, and has helped guide each and every staff member of The Mane into the journalists we are today. Without her, The Mane would not exist as it does today.

Professor O’Shea has always pushed us to get out of our comfort zones, and to find the extraordinary in the ordinary. From

early-morning breakfast meetings to late-night deadlines, her steadfast commitment to our education and our well-being has kept many of us going during difficult times.

As she moves on to bigger and better things, we wish her all the best and pray that the Lord would continue to use her for His glory. We love you, and will miss you Prof. O’Shea

-The Mane Staff

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