



Jesuit Conference
Washington, D.C.

WESTON JESUIT AUTHORIZED TO TAKE NEXT STEPS TOWARD RE-AFFILIATION WITH BOSTON COLLEGE

The Provincials of the Society of Jesus in the United States, acting in their capacity as the Board of Members of Weston Jesuit School of Theology, by unanimous vote have authorized the School to sign a formal letter of intent regarding re-affiliation with Boston College.

Boston College and Weston Jesuit entered into discussions regarding a possible re-affiliation in 2004. Re-affiliation would result in the relocation of Weston Jesuit from Cambridge to BC's Brighton campus, becoming part of a new School of Theology and Ministry. Such a move could occur by the fall of 2008. The schools were affiliated for several decades until 1972 when Weston Jesuit received its charter as an independent institution from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

"The re-affiliation of Weston Jesuit and Boston College will enhance each school's ability to fulfill its unique mission of serving the Church and the Catholic intellectual tradition," said Rev. Bradley Schaeffer, S.J., president of the Jesuit Conference, USA.

"This new relationship promises new opportunities for the Society of Jesus and the Church," said Robert E. Manning, S.J., president of the Weston Jesuit School of Theology. "Weston Jesuit and BC share a similar heritage and mission, as well as a clear commitment to theological education of the highest quality."

Father William Leahy, S.J., president of Boston College, said "I am confident re-affiliation will strengthen both schools and enhance their efforts not only to prepare future priests and lay people for ministry in the Church but also to engage critical issues of our day."