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The University of Dayton

News Release

LIBRARY EXPANDS HOLDINGS, BUYS FRANCISCAN COLLECTION

DAYTON, Ohio, April 6, 1983 -- The University of Dayton Roesch Library has expanded its holdings by nearly 42,000 volumes through purchasing the major part of the holdings of the library of the former St. Leonard's Seminary in Centerville. The purchase was announced recently by Brother Joseph W. Stander, S.M., UD vice president for academic affairs and provost.

The collection from the Franciscan Friars includes 1,600 rare books, 2,500 reference books, more than 5,000 volumes of journals, and over 32,000 other books. The most substantial holdings are in canon law, liturgy, church history, history, and theology. Of notable value in the collection are the documents of Vatican II, the French National Biography, and Migne's *Patrologia*, a reference work consisting of 389 volumes of early Greek and Latin Church fathers. Migne's *Patrologia* sells in reprint today for \$27,000.

The purchase price for the St. Leonard's collection was \$50,000, a major portion of which was provided by the Marianist Intercommunity Council.

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LIBRARY EXPANDS HOLDINGS
PAGE 2

"Through CHERS (Consortium for Higher Education Religious Studies)," according to Rocco Donatelli, UD assistant vice president for academic affairs, "the resources of area institutions had been planned on a complementary basis. So our holdings had been developed taking the St. Leonard's holdings into account. The Franciscans' decision to sell their collection to the University reflects their unwillingness to dismantle 20 years of cooperative planning. That attitude is a real tribute to them."

The University will continue to provide access to the collection to those in the local community who previously enjoyed use of the works. Until the collection is integrated into the University's cataloging and shelving, it will be housed on the sixth floor of the UD Roesch Library.

For more information, call Thomas Columbus at 229-3241.