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Chapman Appoints Dr. Daniele Struppa As Provost

*Dr. Daniele Struppa, Dean of George Mason Universitys
College of Arts and Sciences, Will Become Chapmans
Second-in-Command on July 1*

*Dr. Struppas wife, Dr. Lisa Sparks, Will Also Join Chapman
as Communication Professor*

ORANGE, Calif., Jan. 4, 2006 Chapman University President James L. Doti today announced the appointment of Dr. Daniele Struppa as the universitys new provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. Dr. Struppa, 50, will assume the post effective July 1, 2006. The internationally respected mathematician and administrator is currently the dean of George Mason Universitys College of Arts and Sciences.

The Chapman community is very excited about working closely with Dr. Struppa, said President Doti. The search committee and I believe that he will clearly articulate an academic vision and promote academic excellence at Chapman. His leadership of George Masons College of Arts and Sciences a college that is larger than some universities has commanded great respect. He is an eloquent advocate for the liberal arts, and I know that he will contribute both energy and ideas that will help lead Chapman to higher levels of national prominence.

Dr. Struppas wife, Dr. Lisa Sparks, will also join Chapman as a professor in the School of Communication Arts.

Lisa and I are very much looking forward to joining the Chapman community, said Dr. Struppa. I was very impressed with the university when I visited during my interviews, and as provost I will work hard to continue along the path of excellence that Chapman has embraced. I believe that we can build on Chapmans existing strengths and create a university nationally known for its unparalleled commitment to personalized education, its innovative approach to undergraduate studies, its excellence in professional programs, its understanding of adult education, and its ability to develop relevant research and connect it to its educational mission.

Born in Italy, Dr. Struppa holds the degree of Laurea in Matematica from the University of Milano (Italy), and completed his Ph.D. at the University of Maryland in 1981. After teaching in Italy for several years, Dr. Struppa joined the faculty of George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia in 1987. He served there as professor and department chair in mathematics and as associate dean for graduate studies in the College of Arts and Sciences, and was appointed dean of that college in 1997. He brought about a major academic restructuring there, as well as the development of new undergraduate, master's and doctoral programs. He increased student enrollment and recruited high-caliber faculty one of whom became a Nobel Prize recipient and he increased research funding for the college nearly fivefold.

As an academician, Dr. Struppas credentials include authorship of more than 100 mathematical publications, including two books. He also served as editor of several volumes. He has collaborated extensively with scholars at Russian and Japanese institutions; has lectured widely in Europe, Japan, Mexico, China, India and the United States; and has been the organizer of more than 20 conferences held around the world.

Dr. Lisa Sparks received her Ph.D. in communication from the University of Oklahoma and has been on the faculty at George Mason University since 1999. She is a highly regarded teacher-scholar whose published work spans more than 100 articles. She is currently editor of *Communication Research Reports* and serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Applied Communication Research* and *Communication Quarterly*.

At Chapman, the provost is the second highest-ranking officer in the administration and is responsible for the core operations of the university, including all academic matters. Deans of all Chapman colleges and schools, as well as other academic officers of the university, report to the provost. The previous provost, Dr. Hamid Shirvani, left Chapman in 2005 to become president of California State University, Stanislaus. Dr. Harry Hamilton, who served as Chapman's provost from 1990 to 2000, has been acting as interim provost and executive vice president since Dr. Shirvani's departure.

Dr. Struppas appointment follows a nationwide search conducted by a committee of Chapman University faculty chaired by Dr. Janeen Hill, with input from selected members of the Board of Trustees and Board of Governors.