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Chapman Appoints Two Assistant Vice Presidents in Fund-raising Division

Susan Knopick of Laguna Hills is promoted to lead major gifts efforts.

Linda Dixon of Costa Mesa accepts position to oversee scholarship giving and special events.

ORANGE, Calif., Feb. 4, 2005 Two Orange County residents have been selected to serve Chapman University as assistant vice presidents in the university's advancement division, which raises funds and manages external relations.

Susan Knopick, a resident of Laguna Hills, was promoted to her new position, assistant vice president for major gifts. She has been at Chapman since 1995, and this is her second promotion. She joined the university's planned giving department as a coordinator, then was promoted to director in 2002. Since joining Chapman she designed, managed and implemented a comprehensive program that has generated millions of dollars for endowments, capital projects and scholarships.



Susan Knopick

In her new role, Knopick leads the major gifts effort, which includes planned giving as well as school-based fund-raising efforts. The major gifts focus includes endowment giving and support for building projects and campaigns. The current campaign is designed to raise more than \$31 million to build Knott Studios, which will be the new, state-of-the-art facility for Chapman's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts.

Her department's business plan also calls for additional fund-raising for the new Leatherby Libraries and for Chapman's Holocaust education programs. Knopick manages a team of six development directors and their support staff.

Knopick, originally from Connecticut, and her husband, Paul, have two grown children. They have lived in Laguna Hills since moving to California in 1992.



Linda Dixon

Linda Dixon, a Costa Mesa resident and member of the city council, accepted the position of assistant vice president for annual giving and special events. Dixon has been involved with Chapman intermittently for seven years as a consultant, filling a variety of fund-raising and special event management and support roles.

In her new role, Dixon is responsible for focusing efforts on Chapman's annual fund, which raises student scholarships. In part, her area works with the university's support groups Town & Gown and The Fashionable Women of Chapman. These volunteer organizations raise funds for building projects and scholarships and maintain active roles in the life of the university. Also, her area focuses on outreach to corporations, seeking sponsorships and partnerships that support

research, provide scholarship support and create linkages for employment opportunities for students.

In addition to her role as city council member and former Costa Mesa mayor, Dixon is well-known off-campus for her various roles in advising such non-profit organizations as the Ocean Institute, Pacific Symphony Orchestra, Orange County Performing Arts Center, Music Center of Los Angeles County and Desert Health Care Foundation.

Originally from the Chicago area, Dixon and her husband, Mike, have lived in Costa Mesa for 30 years. They have three children.

The momentum of Chapman's fund-raising effort is contagious, and the addition of these two professionals will increase it even more, said Sheryl Bourgeois, vice president for university advancement. Both Susan and Linda reflect the Chapman brand of distinction and excellence. They bring extraordinary organizational and people skills to their true role, which is to help philanthropists meet their goals."