

Transcript Father Gerard Stockhausen

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Show: Paul W. Smith

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Paul W: Dr., nice to have you with us as always.

Stockhausen: Well it's great to be on the show Paul W.

Paul W: And uh, it is a very important time for the University. You've gone through so many changes over the past ten years with the consolidation of U of D and Mercy College of Detroit and then the sale of the Outer Drive Campus. Now, I think with the exception of dental and law schools all of your schools are now located on the McNichols Campus.

Stockhausen: That's right.

Paul W.: And there's been a lot going on there. Many renovations and such. And as you get ready for the biggest day, which is the actual installation tomorrow, tell us, if you would, a bit about your vision, your goal for the consolidated campus in the future years at the University of Detroit Mercy?

Stockhausen: Well, it's all about taking – you know, there's a book out recently called From Good to Great – and I think that's what we're after here. We've got a lot of very good programs, and uh, my goal is to make them great and to really improve constantly on what's already a strong academic program as well as continue to develop what we need for a strong and lively student experience.

Paul W.: Can you maybe, Father, share some of the improvements that have been made and what is still planned there on the campus?

Stockhausen: Sure. The business school, the old commerce and finance building has been completely redone. We gutted the whole building and built it over and everybody who walks in says "my goodness, I can't believe this is the same building". Uh, it's great. We're just finishing up an addition to Lansing Rally Hall, which is going to house the College of Health Professions and the McAuley School of Nursing. That's going to be ready for occupancy in another month and a half I think. And, uh, everybody's really excited about that. And then just across the campus, we've been renovating facilities, uh and, improving things. And of course uh, when you've got a campus of buildings that were built in 1926 there's always more to do.

Paul W.: Well certainly there is. And by the way, congratulations too,

UDM rated one of the top 25 Midwestern Masters Universities, US News and World Reports Americas best colleges in their 2005 edition and as the University of Detroit Mercy is Michigan's largest private Catholic University and you've got the Society of Jesus, The Jesuits as we know, the Sisters of Mercy in the Americas. You're doing a lot and this is a very big and important time with the culmination of your installation tomorrow morning and then the Presidential Inauguration Gala tomorrow night at the Detroit Opera House. But what people don't know about their new President, or should know more about, is the fact that he's quite a musician and has his own band called Taking Stock with it's world premiere on NewsTalk 760 WJR. Headed up by Father Gerard Stockhausen.

{Music playing}

Paul W.: Congratulations Father.

Stockhausen: Thank you very much.

Paul W.: Savor the moment.