



**Catholic
Theological
Union**

Preparing effective leaders for the Church



the Lay Centre
at Foyer Unitas

CTU Media Contact:

Elizabeth White
773.371.5415/ Cell: 617.548.7794
ewhite@ctu.edu
www.ctu.edu

The Lay Centre Contact:

Dr. Donna Orsuto
info@laycentre.org
www.laycentre.org

**Catholic Theological Union at Chicago and The Lay Centre in Rome
Forming Alliance**

Chicago, IL, June 6, 2011... The Boards of Trustees of Catholic Theological Union at Chicago, the largest Roman Catholic Graduate School of Theology and Ministry in the United States, and the Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas, a highly respected international residential and educational organization for lay men and women studying at Pontifical Universities in Rome, announce that they are forming an alliance that will bring together the resources of the two institutions.

The two Catholic institutions share a common mission and spirit, including a commitment to quality education for laity in the service of the Church and extensive involvement in ecumenical and interreligious dialogue.

This alliance will enable more graduate students to experience the heart and center of the worldwide Catholic Church in Rome and will offer both Catholic Theological Union and the Lay Centre new opportunities for continuing education and interreligious programming, as well as an expansion of their travel study programs and faculty development.

“To be able to join with such a respected and vital institution in the heart of Rome is a great blessing for CTU,” Fr. Donald Senior, C.P., President of Catholic Theological Union noted. “We are thrilled at the prospect of new educational opportunities for our graduate students and the chance to expand the reach of our involvement in ecumenism and interreligious dialogue.” Dr. Donna Orsuto, Director of the Lay Centre added, “We consider this new alliance with CTU as a wonderful way to mark our twenty-fifth anniversary because together, especially through joint programs, we will be able to broaden our horizons and reach out to even more graduate students from every part of the world.”

The formal inauguration of the newly-forged alliance will take place in Rome this autumn to culminate the twenty-fifth anniversary year of the Lay Centre, with a gathering of members of the Boards of Trustees of both institutions at a special event to be announced.

###