Weeks leaves mark on MC

By: Lucas J. Pauley
Editor-in-Chief

The Rev. Stafford Weeks, considered by many to be of the most influential figures of Monmouth College in the past fifty years, passed away on Jan. 25, 2009, at the age of 88. Weeks was an emeritus professor of religious studies and former dean of the College.

Weeks came to Monmouth in 1959 to serve as chaplain and then continued full-time work through 1986, eventually teaching part-time until 1990. Before coming to serve as the chaplain for the College, Weeks graduated from Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pa. and Bonebrake Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. Weeks then earned his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and taught at Huron College in Huron, S.D. for six years before coming to Monmouth College.

"Stafford was instrumental in getting me hired and was a big supporter of me when I first came to campus" explained professor of philosophy and religious studies David Suda. "He was always supportive, complementary and kind to everyone he came in contact with," added Suda. These same sentiments were echoed by associate professor of philosophy and religious studies Hannah Schell, who also added that, "Stafford was still very plugged into what was going on in the College."

Rev. Stafford Weeks recently passed
Many faculty remember Weeks as an extremely influential and generous colleague.
Photograph courtesy of MC Office of Communications

Schell went on to explain how accepting Weeks was of her when she first came to Monmouth College. "Stafford was retired when I got here, but still helped me out with many issues in my first few years here." The chaplain of Monmouth College, the Rev. Dr. B. Kathleen Fannin, expressed some of the same feelings as she explained her first encounter with Weeks. "When I was brand new here, figuring out what it was like to be the chaplain here, Stafford came into my office and simply introduced himself and said 'I am in town if you need any help,' without ever explaining his past at the College," said Fannin. "Stafford was such a gift to me, a chaplain still wet behind the ears, and I didn't

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