



**Jane Dammen McAuliffe** was appointed Dean of the College at Georgetown University in 1999. She is also a tenured Professor in the Department of History and the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies. Dr. McAuliffe held previous appointments at Emory University as professor and associate dean and at the University of Toronto as Chair of the Department for the Study of Religion and Professor of Islamic Studies in the Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations. She received her BA in Philosophy and Classics from Trinity College, Washington, D.C. and her MA in religious studies and PhD in Islamic studies from the University of Toronto.

### **Academic leadership**

As Dean of Georgetown College, Dr. McAuliffe has focused particular attention on faculty recruitment and development. She works closely with department chairs to enhance the diversity of the College faculty, to increase its sponsored research and to develop initiatives that foster more effective teaching. Her promotion of curricular renewal has benefited departments across the College and has generated the creation of new undergraduate majors and minors, as well as several new doctoral and masters' programs. Convinced that the initial undergraduate months are critically important, Dr. McAuliffe instituted an intensive advising system for all first-year students in the College and recently launched an innovative series of first-year seminars.

Leading the College's successful fundraising in the University's recently-completed campaign allowed Dr. McAuliffe to open a new performing arts center in 2005, to complete several facilities enhancement projects, to increase the number of endowed faculty positions in the College from 10 to 40 and to build the funding levels for numerous College programs. Her development work has also secured foundational gifts for a new Science Center which is now the College's top capital project.

In recent years, Dr. McAuliffe has collaborated with faculty and administrative colleagues on major university initiatives. These include the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs, the Archbishop of Canterbury's Building Bridges Seminar, several projects in support of the Afghan recovery and reconstruction and the creation of Georgetown's School of Foreign Service in Qatar. She is frequently invited to lecture, to both academic and non-academic audiences, on topics related to her research and her role as an educator, as well as on issues of religious diversity and pluralism.

### **Research and publication**

Dr. McAuliffe is an internationally known scholar of Islamic studies. Her numerous publications have focused primarily on the Qur'an and its interpretation, on early Islamic history and on the multiple relations between Islam and Christianity. Titles include *Qur'anic Christians: An Analysis of Classical and Modern Exegesis* (Cambridge, 1991), *Abbasid Authority Affirmed: The Early Years of al-Mansur* (SUNY, 1995), *With Reverence for the Word: Medieval Scriptural Exegesis in Judaism, Christianity and Islam* (Oxford, 2003), and *The Cambridge Companion to the Qur'an* (Cambridge 2006). She recently completed the six-volume *Encyclopaedia of the Qur'an* (Brill, 2001-2006), the first such reference work in Western languages. Dr. McAuliffe is co-editor of a book series published by Brill Publishers and a member of several editorial boards. In 2004, she served as president of the American Academy of Religion, the elected leadership position for this 10,000 member professional organization. Professor McAuliffe's work has been supported by prestigious fellowships, including those from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Mellon Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, and Guggenheim Foundation. In 2007 she was elected to the American Philosophical Society.

### **Professional and personal**

Long been active in various forms and forums of Muslim-Christian dialogue, on both the national and international levels, Dr. McAuliffe served for ten years on the Vatican's Commission for Religious Relations with Muslims. She has also been on the boards of the American Academy of Religion, the Association of Theological Schools, and the Center for Applied Research on the Apostolate. In 2005 she was appointed to the Board of Trustees of Trinity University in Washington, DC. Dr. McAuliffe is married to Dr. Dennis McAuliffe, a scholar of medieval Italian literature at Georgetown University. They are the parents of four children.