Remarks at Holy Cross Hospital's 50th Anniversary Reception January 9, 2013

Edward Bersoff Chair, Board of Trustees, Holy Cross Health

Good evening. On behalf of the Holy Cross Health Board of Trustees, I'd like to welcome you here this evening to our 50th anniversary celebration.

Just before the reception tonight, the board of trustees held its first meeting of 2013 -- it also was the first meeting as the governing body of a newly re-organized health system that awaits construction of our second hospital -- Holy Cross Germantown Hospital -- the first new hospital in Montgomery County in 35 years.

How fitting it is that we held our board meeting on this very day.

At that meeting, we listened to reflections on our Mission and History by two Sisters of the Holy Cross -- Sister Rachel Callahan and Sister Ruth Nickerson. I know I speak for all the current board members when I say how inspiring the Sisters are, and how proud we are to be a part of their long, impressive 50-year faith-based history of taking risks and meeting the needs of the community.

I am one of the trustees who sits on the Holy Cross Health Board of Trustees. At this time in our history, we also have another board for our philanthropic organization -- Holy Cross Health Foundation.

I'd like to recognize Jack McShea, who is the past chair of Holy Cross Hospital and who currently serves as the Chair of the Holy Cross Health Foundation. Jack, would you please stand and be recognized? (*pause for moment of applause*)

I'd like to ask all the current members of both boards to please stand now and be recognized (*pause for moment of applause*).

As current trustees, we sit in board seats today, but we recognize that so many members of our community volunteered to serve as trustees for 50 years to be part of this great hospital. I'd like to recognize all former trustees, and ask those who are present here tonight to please stand and be recognized (*pause for moment of applause*).

It is my privilege to play a role in the governance of an organization that is so committed to its mission and to its sustainability. Few hospitals anywhere can claim such an impact on community benefit while achieving top financial performance and the highest quality of care.

Over the course of 50 years, there are ups and downs and a variety of challenges, but it is the unwavering mission commitment that this organization holds that inspires community members to contribute to the life of Holy Cross as trustees. That was true 50 years ago, and it is true today.

Thank you.