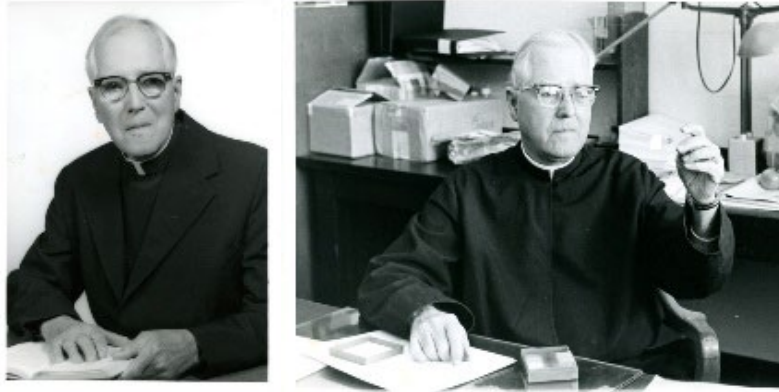


Holy Cross Physicians Association – Hall of Honor Award – 2024

Fr Joseph Busam, SJ 1898-1980

Chair, Department of Biology and Premed Advisor (1930-1970)



Fr Busam's tenure at Holy Cross overlapped with many meaningful events in medical education and as such, he advised and helped launch the careers of many (likely more than one thousand) physicians who would lead many of our nation's health care systems and schools.

His accomplishments include:

- establishment of O'Neil Hall,
- standardization of the premed program,
- participation in the Premed Honor Society,
- incorporating elements of anatomy, histology, and botany into the major,
- establishment of an AB degree which would allow Biology majors to have a broader education and world view,
- participation in the V12 health professions program during WW2 (and the subsequent Navy connection)
- the incorporation of national recommendations for premed education (in preparation for the MCAT in 1928).

Many of our Hall of Honor members were educated during that era.