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### **Notre Dame Official Elected Chair of Private College 529 Plan**

**St. Louis, September 1, 2015** – The Tuition Plan Consortium, a group of 280 U.S. private colleges and universities that own and operate [Private College 529 Plan](#), today announced the election of John A. Sejdinaj to chairman of its Board of Directors. Sejdinaj has served as a board member for The Plan since June 2013. He is vice president of Finance at the University of Notre Dame.

Private College 529 Plan is the only tax-advantaged 529 plan not operated by a state. It is a prepaid tuition plan that allows families to save on the cost of future tuition by paying today's prices for tomorrow's education.

The announcement coincides with the first day of "[College Savings Month](#)," dedicated to promoting the importance of saving for college, especially in federally authorized 529 plans. Private College 529 Plan provides families with a wealth of [Web-based](#) college savings information.

In this new position, Sejdinaj will lead the board in efforts and initiatives to drive awareness of the Private College 529 Plan and to serve the member colleges and universities. Sejdinaj is committed to growing the number of participating institutions, as well as increasing efforts by member schools to help families plan and save for college. Growing the number of Private College 529 Plan accounts and assets under management are top priorities for Sejdinaj and the board.

"We are so fortunate to have a leader like John take the helm of our board of directors. Helping families plan and save for college is a passion for John and the "Saving for College" initiative at Notre Dame sets a high standard. All of us at Private College 529/Tuition Plan Consortium are excited about the future with John as the chair," said Nancy Farmer, president of the Tuition Plan Consortium.

In his position at Notre Dame, Sejdinaj oversees the University budgets, capital planning, treasury management, procurement, real estate acquisitions and development, financial reporting and analysis, accounting and financial services, tax department, research and sponsored programs accounting, payroll and accounts payable.

He joined the Notre Dame staff in 1994 as director of Fixed Income and Cash Management in the Investment Office. From 1996-1999 he served as director of Finance and Budgeting. Under his leadership, the office modernized budget models and processes and evolved into a service team that assists academic and administrative units on budgeting and other financial planning issues. Sejdinaj was promoted to assistant vice president for Finance in 1999, and three years later he became the vice president for Finance.



"I look forward to working with the members of the Tuition Plan Consortium who are committed to promoting saving for college through this unique 529 plan," Sejdinaj said. "Saving for college is important as not only does it ease the financial burden for those who attend college, but studies have also shown that saving for college increases academic commitment and thus the likelihood that students will both attend and graduate from college. College affordability continues to be an issue for many, but with proper planning and saving we can help many realize their dream."

Sejdinaj serves on the Alliance for Catholic Education Advisory Board, the Center for the Homeless Board of Directors, Fischhoff National Chamber Music Association Board of Directors, Ecumenical Institute Advisory Board, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center Integrated Finance Committee, and on the Investment Committee for the Sisters of Saint Francis.

Sejdinaj earned a bachelor's degree from Notre Dame in 1981 and a master of business administration degree from DePaul University in 1984.

Prior to returning to Notre Dame, Sejdinaj had a successful career in the banking industry at First Chicago Corporation.

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### **About Private College 529 Plan<sup>SM</sup>**

Owned and operated by the Tuition Plan Consortium, a group of 280 leading private colleges and universities, Private College 529 Plan was created by authorization of the U.S. Congress for colleges and their consortia to help families save for college and increase the affordability and accessibility of higher education. Private College 529 Plan enables families to invest in their children's future by prepaying tuition at member institutions, protecting their savings from annual tuition inflation.

The educational mix of private institutions participating in Private College 529 Plan provides families with a wide range of college choices. As opposed to other state specific congressionally authorized plans, Private College 529 Plan has a national scope, with participating private colleges across the United States. It also differs in that its administrative management is by the institutions themselves as opposed to government.

Today, Private College 529 Plan is working for over 6,000 families with more than \$315 million under management. For more information, visit <https://www.privatecollege529.com/>.