LAHEY ERA DRAWS TO A CLOSE

There were some tears and lots of smiles as the Quinnipiac community bid John L. Lahey a fond farewell during the annual Employee Recognition ceremony and reception in late May, when retirees and faculty and staff celebrating milestones are saluted.

Lahey retired June 30 after 31 years at the helm of Quinnipiac, handing the wheel to Judy D. Olian, former dean of the UCLA Anderson School of Management.

At the employee event, a video titled “The History of Quinnipiac” was shown, and an oil painting depicting Lahey in his Commencement regalia was unveiled. The painting hangs in the Arnold Bernhard Library.

This month, he traveled to Ireland to accept the Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad, presented annually by the president of Ireland to recognize service given to that country or to Irish communities abroad by those who live outside Ireland.

He plans to return to Quinnipiac in Fall 2019 to teach philosophy. Until then, he is enjoying retirement in Florida with his wife, Judy.

During his time here, enrollment grew from 1,900 students to more than 10,000, and the endowment grew from $3 million to $530 million. His legacy includes the development of three campuses as well as a law school, a medical school, an engineering school, a museum dedicated to the history of Ireland’s Great Hunger, Division I athletics, and a nationally recognized poll.