SJU Receives $7.5 Million Gift to Support Library Learning Commons

By Duffy Ross

A recent $7.5 million gift from alumnus John R. Post ’60, and his wife, Maryanne, will dramatically reshape the academic hub of the Saint Joseph’s University campus.

The gift is the centerpiece of what ultimately will be known as the John R. Post ’60 Academic Center—which includes the construction of a new three-story building, to be named the John and Maryanne Post Learning Commons, and the renovation of the existing Francis A. Drexel Library.

Drexel Library will be structurally joined to the Post Learning Commons—offering Saint Joseph’s students a bright, welcoming and flexible space, responding to all learning styles and providing round-the-clock research and technology support as a true center for learning and discovery.

“I cannot express how grateful I am to John and Maryanne for this wonderful gift and how it will continue to impact our students,” said Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., president of Saint Joseph’s University. “We are all thankful for their ongoing leadership and unmatched commitment to Saint Joseph’s. The Post family personifies what we mean by Magis, always striving to do more for the greater glory of God.”

The 37,000-square-foot Learning Commons will include breakout rooms with large screens for students to work collaboratively on projects and presentations, instruction areas, expanded student seating, and special collections and archives, while the Crossroads Café—modeled after “lively” commercial coffee shops, will attract students looking beyond the traditional library setting. The estimated $21 million project is anticipated to break ground in 2013.

“I have always had the highest respect and affection for Saint Joseph’s University,” Post said. “It has prepared me well for both life and my career in industry. And I am confident this center will further the University’s mission as a place of inquiry, a place of dialog, and a place of academic rigor and engagement—becoming the academic hub of a vibrant campus.”

The John R. Post ’60 Academic Center is one of six priorities outlined in With Faith and Strength to Dare: The Campaign for Saint Joseph’s University—which has already raised more than $100 million toward its $150 million campaign goal.

Post, of Wyomissing, Pa., founder and president of Post Precision Castings, of Strausstown, Pa., one of America’s leading providers of commercial investment castings, has been a long-time benefactor of his alma mater.

continued on page 4

Students Get Hands-on with the Autism Puzzle

By Kelly Welsh ’05 (M.A.)

We’ve all seen the magnetic ribbons on the rear bumpers of cars — a brightly-colored jigsaw puzzle, the word “autism” in bold letters. Although the disorder has been recognized since the 1940s, its causes and treatments remain a mystery, and it is just recently that it began getting widespread attention.

This semester, students in Professor of Health Services Michelle Rowe, Ph.D.’s service learning course Autism Spectrum Disorders will begin connecting the pieces of the mysterious disorder and learning first-hand how it affects those touched by it.

The course, which was first offered last year, runs the gamut, according to Rowe. “Students will be given a background on the causes, frequency and diagnosis of autism, and how it’s handled in schools, at home and in society,” she says.

An integral part of the course is the two to three hours per week students spend observing and interacting with children with autism.

“The students who sign up for the course self-select it. Most are health services, education, psychology or sociology majors with an interest in how autism relates to their discipline,” she explains. “However, it’s the service element that either inspires a dedication to working with those affected by autism or forces them to recognize that it’s not for them.”

Along with encouraging tomorrow’s champions for the autistics, the course aims to make a larger point about issues...
Business

Terrorism With

Graduate

Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., was recently awarded third place in a

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after all was said and done, I felt I got closer to the

children I was working with than I had during class.

Schaldenbrand was also placed at Saint Martin de

and has written about his experiences there in an

text for the course; Ignatian Humanism: A Dynamic Spirituality for the 21st Century

by Fr. Joyce, S.S.J., assistant professor of sociology Richard G. Malloy, S.J., and

Ignatius Loyola: Spiritual Exercises by Joseph A. Tettlow.

Students are not required to do The Spiritual Exercises

for the course, but the study of the exercises is important to

gain an understanding of Jesuit missiology. “Ignatius created a

way in which people can notice their own unique experience of

grace and call it The Spiritual Exercises,” said Fr. Joyce.

“In the course, we study how this method of spirituality has

become increasingly relevant in the modern world, and how

it offers them the tools to perform service with a deep and

abiding respect for the people with whom they interact.”

Risk Management and Insurance Students

Benefit from Generous Scholarships

By Patricia Allen

Encountering Ignatius in the City

By Dan Whitmeyer ‘08

Graduate Student Fights Terrorism With Business

Saint Joseph’s University’s Steve Alvater, a graduate management major,

was recently awarded third place in a national business ethics competition.

Alvater achieved third place in Net Impact’s Network Challenge held at

Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. Net Impact, an international

network of business and business leaders who work to use

business for social good, challenged members to devise a business plan

that the network would implement in the future.

Alvater opted to work on the “Business and Peace” section of the

competition, where contestants devel-

oped a business model that could

implement the network’s mission of reducing terror.

Steve’s plan centered on an increase in Net Impact chapters at uni-

versities in countries with known terrorist activities, in hopes that Net-

Impact’s presence would aid in an increased communication between

these countries.

“If we work to develop business

relationships across political and reli-

gious lines, a dependency between

countries could be created that would

then decrease the possibility of a

nuclear attack,” said Alvater.

The Saga Foundation, a non-profit

organization that raises awareness of

nuclear safety and sponsored the

“Business and Peace” section of the

competition, awarded Alvater $500 for

his third place finish. And while

Alvater’s business model will not be

implemented by Net Impact, he was

approached by a number of people

with both business and academic back-

grounds who were interested in his

proposal, with whom he plans to meet

again at Net Impact’s 2008 North

American Conference at The Wharton

School in Philadelphia.

“Regardless of outcomes and

awards, spending time focused on a

specific issue and actionable plan

made my optimistic business model

seem more realistic and more possible,” said

Alvater.

Saint Joseph’s faculty praised

Alvater not only for his competent

business model and third place finish

but also for his exposal of Jesuit ideals.

“Steve is very skilled at creating

both morally compelling and strateti-

gically sound solutions to business

problems,” said David Steingard,

Ph.D., assistant director of the Pedo

Arrupe Center for Business Ethics, who

taught Steve in his Stakeholder Theory

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Ignatius of Loyola was a compelling man. A small group of

the best, brightest, and in some cases, the wealthiest young

men of his day left the comfort and promise of their secular

lives behind and joined him in Rome to discern a new spiri-

tuality and theology -- while living amidst and caring for the

city’s poor, sick and disenfranchised.

“Ignatius and his early followers lived in the underbelly of

Rome, where they heard confession, preached in the

streets and tended to the weak and vulnerable living in

wretched circumstances,” said Daniel Joyce, S.J., assistant to

the Vice President for Mission. “At the same time, he charged

his followers to discuss theology at the highest levels of soci-

ety, and they were often called to debate at the papal court.

Out of this experience, a new missiology -- particular to the

Jesuits -- was born.”

This semester, Saint Joseph’s students who are enrolled in

the upper level theology course “Ignatians and the City: An

Introduction to Jesuit Urban Missiology,” which is taught by

Fr. Joyce, will discover how Jesuit missiology was established

by studying its history, as well as by engaging in service in

and around Philadelphia’s inner city.

“Service learning is critical to the course. Placements are

possible at Summerbridge, The Welcome Center and Old St.

Joseph’s Church Outreach program, among other sites.

At Old St. Joseph’s, they may even get to canvas in The Street’s

The Spiritual Exercises with men and women who spend some of their

life on the streets,” said Joyce. “But the focus of the course is

academic. Students will examine the Jesuit theory of mission

by encountering it in 21st century Jesuit urban missions and

will ask hard questions. Does this approach to ministry make

sense, or is Ignatius’ spin more of the same?”

I left Lehigh Avenue that day knowing that it will forever

be my own bridge into another America. An America

where thirty 7th graders taught me that the building and

maintaining of those bridges is not a singular effort; rather,

it is accomplished only through the bonds and connections

forged between people on both sides of the canyon.

by Heinz Schaldenbrand

“This class was extremely interesting,” said Allison

Reamy, a senior psychology major and faith-justice minor,

who was enrolled in the class spring semester ’07. Her serv-

ice placement was a second grade classroom at St. Martin de

Powers, a North Philadelphia elementary school run by the

Sisters of Saint Joseph. “It put it all together for me. I gained

a better understanding of what the Ignatian ideals are, and

how best to implement them.”

Heinz Schaldenbrand ‘07 also took the class last spring.

“From Fr. Joyce’s class, I got a good, pragmatic understand-

ing of what solidarity means – that there is reciprocity

between two people; it’s not one person giving and another

taking. After all was said and done, I felt I got closer to the

children I was working with than I had during class.

During the course, Fr. Joyce hopes students will continue
to clarify or identify their own thinking on issues related to

theology and spirituality. Four texts are used for the course; Ignatian Humanism: A Dynamic Spirituality for the 21st Century

by Ronald Modras; Landmarking: City, Church and Jesuit Urban Strategy by Thomas M. Lucas; A Faith that

Frees Catholic Matters for the 21st Century by SJU assistant professor of sociology Richard G. Malloy, S.J., and

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“In the course, we study how this method of spirituality has

become increasingly relevant in the modern world, and how

it offers them the tools to perform service with a deep and

abiding respect for the people with whom they interact.”

Six Envan K. Haub School of Business students received

financial aid scholarships from the Academy of Risk Management and Insurance (RMI) and Philadelphia

Insurance Companies, a subsidiary of Philadelphia

Consolidated Holding Group.

“We are very pleased that these scholarships will allow

students who are interested in risk management and insur-

ance to continue down that path,” said Karen Hogan, Ph.D.,

chair of the finance department. “These scholarships can

help to offset some of the costs of their education.”

The RMI scholarships, which were awarded for the

first time ever, were based on three key criteria: risk management as

a primary interest of concentration in the finance department;

high school academic performance; and interest in the field.

The inaugural recipients were two members of the freshman

class, Vi-Zanne Ho ‘11 and William Morrison ‘11; sophomore

Mary McCabe ‘10; and junior Brett Cavanaugh ‘09.

The students each received a $1,000 stipend which can be

renewed annually provided they meet GPA requirements and

show continued interest in the risk management concentration.

“I am enormously thankful for the help given to me

by this organization,” said Cavanaugh. “I am both fortunate

and blessed to enjoy this level of support from the faculty
to further my studies.”

For the second year, Philadelphia Insurance Companies

presented two SJU students with academic scholarships.

To qualify for this scholarship, students must have worked as

an intern or co-op at Philadelphia Insurance Companies the

previous year. This year’s recipients are Lauren Rosinski ‘10, and

Michael Hudacko ‘08.

“It was an honor and a great surprise to learn that I had

received a scholarship from Philadelphia Insurance

Companies,” said Hudacko, who through the University’s

co-op program worked at the organization. “It is truly an

honor to be recognized and though it prides me in knowing

that great things, such as this scholarship, can come from

hard work, no monetary value can be placed on the great

work experience and the great friendships I have had during

my time at Philadelphia Insurance.”

James J. Maguire ’58, is a well-respected alumnus of the

University and chairman and founder of Philadelphia

Consolidated Holding Group. He recently donated $10 mil-

lion for the acquisition of Episcopal Academy, which will

become Saint Joseph’s University’s Maguire campus.

by Dan Whitmeyer S.J.
Campus Colleagues

Concha Alborg, Ph.D., professor of Foreign Languages and Literatures, published an article entitled “Modelos de mujer” in Almudena Grandes: Maures sin medalla,” in Muestra, literaturas, políticas y compromiso en el Nuevo Milenio: dialogos transatlánticos (Ediciones Nuevo Espacio, 2007).

The book deals with the new directions that Hispanic literary criticism may take in the new millennium and the crosscurrents between Spain and the Latin American countries. Dr. Alborg’s article studies the irony and the changed feminine roles as they are portrayed in the short stories of Almudena Grandes, one of the best-known contemporary Spanish writers.

David Allan, Ph.D. ’99, assistant professor of marketing, appeared on CNBC’s It’s Your Call with Lynne Doyle to discuss the popularity of Oprah Winfrey, her extensive fan base and the announced launch of her television network.

Paul Andrews, adjunct professor of criminal justice, was the principal presenter at a one-day continuing education security seminar on business continuity plans, risk assessment and management. The seminar was presented to member bankers of the West Virginia Bankers Association, in Flatwoods, W.Va., and focused on the threat spectrum faced by West Virginia bankers.

Sally Black, Ph.D., assistant professor of health services, was featured in a PhiladelphiaMetro story about her efforts to curb bullying.

Nancy Childs, Ph.D., chair and professor of food marketing, was quoted by the Associated Press, Forbes, CNN, Newsday, MSN, Marketplace and BusinessWeek about the H.J. Heinz Co.’s packaging and consumer-friendly products. She was also quoted in the Los Angeles Times and on KCQX-TV in Los Angeles about the issue of cloning for food.

Thomas Cronin, director of the Coney Institute of Industrial Relations, was quoted in the Philadelphia Business Journal about his new post at SJU.


Carolyn Choh Fleming, Ph.D., lecturer in pharmaceutical marketing, commented in the Philadelphia Inquirer on the use of Verilogue’s software in patient-doctor interactions.

Richard George, Ph.D. ’67, professor of food marketing, was quoted in The Press-Enterprise of California, The Post and Courier of South Carolina and the Herald-Leader of Kentucky, about Wegman’s decision to stop selling tobacco products.

Maria Kefalas, Ph.D., associate professor of sociology, discussed the role that teenage pregnancy played in the baby boomlet of 2006, with the Press of Atlantic City.

Shawn Krahmer, Ph.D., associate professor of theology, spoke with KYW Newsradio 1060AM about New Year’s resolutions.

Francis Graham Lee, Ph.D., professor and chair of political science, was re-appointed to First Lady Marjorie Rendell’s advisory committee on civic education in Pennsylvania (PENN-CORD).

Michael McDonald, a senior philosophy major, was interviewed by community affairs reporter Karen Phillips on KYW Newsradio 1060AM about his return trip with other SJU students to help Katrina- ravaged areas.

Randall M. Miller, Ph.D., professor of history, was quoted in The Philadelphia Inquirer on the political significance of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court upholding the Philadelphia campaign finance law, and on the effects of the court’s decision on other future legislation limiting contributions to political campaigns.

He was quoted in the Philadelphia Metro on then Mayor-elect Michael Nutter’s choice of managing director for the city, and again on Mayor Nutter’s decision to review the city’s actions on placing slot casinos on the waterfront. He was quoted in the Temple News on Temple University’s hiring of former mayor John Street to teach a course on urban politics. He was heard on KYW Newsradio 1060AM regarding then Mayor-elect Nutter’s possible good relations with City Council, on the pending labor contracts that will greet the new mayor in 2008, and on Nutter’s role on Temple’s agenda. Dr. Miller also was quoted in Associated Press stories on the legacy of Mayor John Street. The stories ran in newspapers across the United States and even in the United Kingdom and were picked up by two local TV news broadcasts.

Jodi Mindell, Ph.D., professor of psychology, was quoted in the San Antonio Express-News about the effects of sleep deprivation on teenagers.

Diane M. Phillips, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of marketing, had an article published in the Electronic Journal of Business Research Methods. The article is entitled “Development of Variant Definitions for Stakeholder Groups with Regard to the Performance of Public Transit in the United States,” and the research was originally presented at the European Conference on Research Methods in Business and Management in Lisbon, Portugal in July.

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Hundreds Participate in Day of Service to Remember Martin Luther King, Jr.

Saint Joseph’s University made the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday “a day on, not a day off” as part of its annual day of service and celebration. Over 250 student-athletes served the community at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, the John C. Anderson Cultural Center, Hayes Manor, Simpson House, Inglis House, Philabundance, Morris Park, First African Presbyterian Church and Mr. Olivett Church.

Welcome to SJU

The following employees joined the University in the month of December:

- Thomas Paine Cronin
- Robert Dunn
- Kiri Gaffney
- Herbert Hayes

Promotions

The following employees were promoted in the month of December:

- Brenda Gormley
- Susan Wendling

Service Learning Course Examines Autism

continued from page 1

of justice by pointing out the social disparities as well. Students will visit one of five off-campus sites, Easter Seals Early Intervention Program, Samuel L. Gompers Elementary School, KentCrest Child Development Center (Suburban and Philadelphia campuses) and Melmark, where they will observe in the classroom and assist teachers.

“The hope is that students not only learn what autism is, but what it looks like in the real world,” says Rowe. “The differences between the haves and have-nots in the school system is not limited to the clothes they wear.”

Rowe will use a variety of texts to provide students with as much information as possible about the baffling nature of autism and the history of its treatments, many of which remain controversial in the medical community. The class will also read Catherine Mauria’s *Let Me Hear Your Voice*, the true story of a family’s battle to help two children, diagnosed in the 1970s, recover from autism.