University Set to Celebrate 156th Commencement

On Saturday, May 13, more than a thousand undergraduates and some 700 graduate students will receive their diplomas at the University’s commencement ceremonies.

The University will bestow honorary degrees on alumna Mary Louise Quinlan ’75 at the undergraduate ceremony, and Mary Brabeck, Ph.D., dean of the Steinhardt School of Education at New York University, at the graduate ceremony. Quinlan will present a speech at the undergraduate ceremony and Dr. Brabeck at the graduate exercise. The graduate ceremony will begin at 9 a.m., and the undergraduate ceremony at 3 p.m. Both will be held on Gest Lawn.

On Friday, May 11, the undergraduate awards ceremony will begin at 2:30 p.m. in the Chapel of Saint Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J., Memorial, and the annual Baccalaureate Mass will be held at 5:15 p.m. on Gest Lawn.

Louis P. Gretta Awarded Prestigious William G. McGowan Scholarship

Louis P. Gretta, a junior management major at Saint Joseph’s University, has been named a William G. McGowan Scholar for the 2007-2008 academic year. Gretta is the third student at Saint Joseph’s University to receive this distinguished honor.

A resident of Bethlehem, Pa., Gretta was chosen for this award based on his character, academic achievement, leadership ability, and community involvement. A member of the University’s Honors Program, Gretta maintains a 3.86 G.P.A., holds a number of leadership positions on campus, and works with the youth of Saint Matthias Parish in Bala Cynwyd, Pa.

“I could not have been more thrilled upon being named Saint Joseph’s University’s 2007 McGowan Scholar. What a tremendous honor and privilege, as well as a great way to see the culmination of my efforts in the classroom and beyond,” said Gretta. “Having this scholarship has prompted me to look toward the coming year as a springboard for my future personal and professional goals.”

Management Chair Elizabeth M. Doherty, Ph.D., recommended Gretta for the McGowan scholarship. “From the first time I met Lou, (when he attended a management focus group as a sophomore) he showed intellectual curiosity, maturity and respectfulness far beyond his years,” she said. “He is very deliberate and purposeful in his choices regarding how he spends his time and directs his energy - all in ways that have strengthened his character and resolve to be a man for others.”

Gretta’s immersion in activities on campus speaks to the valuable contributions to society made by William G. McGowan. He is a member of Saint Joseph’s Budget Advisory Committee, University Student Senate, Appeals Board for Student Life, and former president of the Honors Program Student Council. In addition to these responsibilities, he is the newly appointed director of religious education at his parish.

The McGowan Scholars Program is based on the educational experience of McGowan, who did not have sufficient financial support to earn his M.B.A. from Harvard University until he was named the recipient of Harvard’s Baker Scholars Award. Saint Joseph’s was accepted into the McGowan Scholars Program in 2005. Only schools with AACSB accreditation are eligible for the program, which contributes $18,000 toward one outstanding student’s tuition.

HSB Alumnus Honored with Hall of Fame Induction

Haub School of Business Dean Joseph A. DiAngelo, Jr., Ed.D. ’70 and University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J. presented the HSB Hall of Fame Award to Robert D. Falese, Jr. ’69 and wife Mary on April 25. Robert D. Falese, Jr., B.S. ’69, president of the Commercial and Investment Bank for Commerce Bancorp. Each year, the Haub School of Business chooses an outstanding corporate citizen to recognize for their leadership and management qualities. Award recipients are business leaders who exemplify the characteristics of leadership and management excellence that the School of Business seeks to develop in students.
HAWKS Fly In To Mentor Local Elementary Children

Imagine a classroom full of eager, captivated third-graders. They sit at their desks and watch as a small group of Saint Joseph’s students reenact a scene on stage. When the performance ends, everyone claps and smiles, and then the discussion begins – how would the children handle a similar scenario if they were approached on the street? This is the typical format of a HAWKS (Helping and Watching Kids Succeed) meeting. As one of the University’s newest outreach organizations, HAWKS was created by SJU students to promote interaction with local elementary children. The program continues to grow due to its positive influence in local neighborhoods.

HAWKS was founded in 2003 by Bruce Thao ’06, who is now a psychology graduate student. Inspired by a volunteer experience in which he saw that elementary-aged children weren’t adequately trained to handle conflict resolution, peer pressure, goal setting, or diversity, Thao wanted to form an on-campus group to help mentor young students in these areas. He created HAWKS as a way to reinforce values in a fun environment. During a typical HAWKS visit, group members interact with the children through skits, music, writing, and discussions.

“I went through the Philadelphia public school system for elementary and middle school, but attended a suburban high school. The disparity was more than astonishing,” said Felecia Singh, HAWKS president and senior biology major. “When I got to Saint Joseph’s and had the chance to make a difference in these children’s lives, even by just encouraging them or reminding them that they can do what I’ve done and better, I couldn’t ignore it.”

Members of the program are divided into small groups and take turns visiting neighboring Gompers Elementary School or Bluford Elementary School once a month for an hour to guide and interact with the young students.

“The kids are very excited when we go to see them,” said sophomore mathematics major and HAWKS mentor Teague O’Connor. “We show them they can achieve whatever they want to pursue, and that they don’t have to follow everyone else,” he explained. O’Connor was also recently named a Jackie Robinson scholar by the Jackie Robinson Foundation for academic excellence and his community outreach efforts. He is one of just three college students in the city, and 266 nationwide, to receive the award, which was presented when the Phillies celebrated the 60th anniversary of Robinson breaking major league baseball’s color barrier at a game last month.

On April 17, HAWKS received the Love in Action Award during the Student Leadership and Activities Award Ceremony for the second year in a row. The Award recognizes a student organization that best uses the Jesuit ideals to reach beyond the walls of Saint Joseph’s to impact the world at large.

For more information on the HAWKS program, contact Felecia Singh or Claudia Schinstine at HAWKS@sju.edu.

—Sarah Whelehon

SJU Graduate Student Earns Fellowship to Increase SIDS Awareness

In the spirit of scholarship and service, Saint Joseph’s University graduate student Alana Wright Benton has been accepted as an inaugural Delaware Valley Schweitzer Fellow of the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship. One of only 11 students selected from universities throughout the Delaware Valley, Benton is currently matriculating in the joint major of Health Administration and Health Education.

A recent Philadelphia-area epidemic of deaths attributed to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), the leading cause of death in one-month- to one-year-old children, prompted Benton to undertake a community service project to decrease infant morbidity and mortality rates. By collecting and distributing safe infant bedding, as well as by facilitating SIDS-prevention workshops, Benton hopes to encourage families to take proper precautions to assist in preventing the unexpected loss of their children due to SIDS.

“Alana subscribes to the ‘Give a woman a fish, you feed her for the night. Teach her how to fish, you feed her for a lifetime,’ philosophy,” said Sally Black, Ph.D., assistant professor of interdisciplinary health services (IHS) and Benton’s faculty mentor with David White, Ph.D., professor of IHS. “We are proud of her contributions to the community.”

Benton’s many roles at Saint Joseph’s include graduate assistant in the health services department, program coordinator for the PRIDE (Promoting Responsibility and Involvement in Women’s Health through Discussion and Education) program, and graduate manager of the SJU ‘til 2 program. In the community, she has helped prepare and deliver meals to homebound seniors for the Martin Luther King Day of Service, participated in the Stop Child Abuse Now! Fundraiser, and served as an Americorps volunteer.

Founded in 1940 to support Dr. Albert Schweitzer’s medical work in Africa during World War II, The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship’s mission is to reduce disparities in healthcare by supporting individuals who inspire others by example through skill in and dedication to helping underserved communities. The Delaware Valley Schweitzer Fellows Program, founded in 2006 under the leadership of David B. Nash, M.D., and colleagues at Thomas Jefferson University, provides community service opportunities and support for graduate students in health-related disciplines who seek to serve the populations of Delaware, Southeastern Pennsylvania, and Southern New Jersey.

To donate gently-used pack-n-plays, portacribs, bassinets, or cribs to Benton’s SIDS-prevention project, e-mail communityproject07@gmail.com.

—Lauren Taniguchi ’07

HawkEye Information

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Note: HawkEye will run monthly through the summer.

Copy for HawkEye may be submitted via campus mail to University Communications, Merion Place; by phone to 610-660-1222; via e-mail to hawkeye@sju.edu; or by fax to 610-660-1992.

Editor: Kelly Welsh ’05 (M.A.), Associate Director of University Communications
Gerald J. Beyer, Ph.D., assistant professor of theology, published a report entitled “Catholic Universities, Solidarity and the Right to Education for All: Two Case Studies in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.” The first part of the report reviews the decline of access to higher education for economically challenged students in the U.S. and evaluates this phenomenon from the perspective of Catholic social teaching. The second part compares recruiting and retention of low-income students at Saint Joseph’s University and LaSalle University and argues that providing access to this student population is intrinsic to the mission of these Roman Catholic institutions. The report was a component of the RICCI Project, a collaborative research project between Saint Joseph’s University and the Program for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society at the University of Pennsylvania. It can be accessed at the PRRUCS web site at http://www.prrucs.org/reports.html.

Peter A. Clark, S.J., ’75, director of the Institute of Catholic Bioethics and associate professor of theology, along with Megan Brown, RSM, M.Div, vice president of mission at Mercy Hospital of Philadelphia, and Mathew Mathew, M.D., chief of internal medicine at Mercy Hospital of Philadelphia, published an article entitled “Regaining Minorities’ Trust: A Clinic Project in a Catholic Hospital in Philadelphia.” The article was featured in the January 2007 issue of Health Progress, the journal of the Catholic Health Association of the United States. Both Sr. Brown and Dr. Mathew are board members of the Institute of Catholic Bioethics.


Mark A. Forman, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry, and student researchers Caitlin Moran ’07 and Anthony Pozzessere ’07 presented two posters entitled “Generation and reactions of pentacyclo[4.3.0.0²,4.03,8.05,7]non-4-ene,” and “Synthesis and reactions of 4-iodo pentacyclo[4.3.0.0²,4.03,8.05,7]nonane,” at the 16th Biennial Philadelphia Organic Chemists’ Poster Session and Award Dinner.

Joseph J. Godfrey, S.J., associate professor of philosophy, addressed the Philadelphia Dialog Forum, an association of Turkish-American Muslims, on Catholicism and the Jesuits, using paragraphs from the SJU Mission Statement, under the title “Three Overlapping Circles: Catholic and Jesuit and University.”

Joseph M. Ragan ’69, associate professor and chair of accounting, had an article published in the Journal of Business Information Systems. The article is entitled “An Implementation Strategy for Developing Interdisciplinary Professional Skills within the Accounting Curriculum.” It provides a programmatic plan for the rollout of SAP R/3 within the accounting curriculum. Mr. Ragan was also recently named to the International Educators Advisory Board for SAP Americas. In this role, he will assist in the engineering of classroom applications and reporting using SAP software.

Randall M. Miller, Ph.D., professor of history, was interviewed on KYW-NewsRadio regarding the significance of the mayoral debates. He also appeared three times on 6ABC’s Action News to comment on the municipal campaign. He was quoted in the Philadelphia Inquirer on a profile of State Representative Dwight Evans, and in the Philadelphia Metro on the character of the mayoral campaign. Dr. Miller also was quoted in an Associated Press story on the Philadelphia mayor’s race that appeared in the New York Times, Boston Herald, Washington Times, and other papers across the country. In addition, he represented the Pennsylvania Humanities Council as co-sponsor and made the concluding remarks at the Speaker’s Millennial Lecture featuring John Updike at the State Capitol.

William Trombetta, Ph.D., ’65, professor of pharmaceutical marketing, presented at the Executive Pharmaceutical Breakfast Speakers Series for Eye for Pharma on “Sales Force Effectiveness: The Ties That Bind/Category Captain Management.” He presented at the Philadelphia Convention Center for the Annual Health Care Exhibitors Association Conference on “A Strategic Analysis of the CardioVascular Device Sector’s Big Three: Medtronic; Boston Scientific; and St. Jude,” and “Biotechs: Can an Industry in Which 99% of Its Firms Lose Money Sustain Itself?” Dr. Trombetta was also invited to address the corporate healthcare clients for Dendrite, a CRM company for the pharmaceutical industry, on “Category Captain Management: Building Relationships by True, Genuine Strategic Partnering.”

Fun Day Brings College and Elementary School Students Together

350 elementary school students came to campus on Friday, April 25 for a day of fun and games to celebrate the end of a year’s worth of service with their SJU student partners. Sack races, face painting and dancing were among the many activities of the day. The event was hosted by campus ministry.

May 7, 2007
May 7-21, 2007

7 Monday
- Grades due for graduating seniors

11 Friday
- Undergraduate Awards Ceremony, Chapel of St. Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J., Memorial, 2:30 p.m.
- Baccalaureate Mass, Gest Lawn, 5:15 p.m.

12 Saturday
- Graduate Commencement, Gest Lawn, 9 p.m.
- Undergraduate Commencement, Gest Lawn, 3 p.m.

14 Monday
- Summer Session I classes begin

18 Friday
- Air Force ROTC Commissioning, Chapel of St. Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J., Memorial, 10 a.m.

21 Monday
- Honorary Reception for Dr. Linda Lelii, Presidents’ Lounge, Campion Student Center, 3:30 p.m.

Political Science Honor Society Inducts Members

The Eta Nu Chapter of the national political science honor society held its annual induction dinner on Saturday, April 20, at which the following students were inducted: Gina Barbone, Stephanie Castrelos, Patrick M. Connahan, Rebecca Cunfer, Laura Iannarelli, Shruti C. Mehta, Nathaniel Morris, Gregory Norton, Michael J. Panikowski, Mallory Pelland, Kacie Peters, Kevin J. Phillips, Jessica Ritsick, Lindsay Swast, Elise B. Szabo, and Justin Witwicki.

The honor society’s newly elected officers for 2007/08 are Patrick Connahan, president; Victoria Gianopoulos, vice president; Mallory Pelland, treasurer; Allyson Sasser, recording secretary; and Justin Witwicki, corresponding secretary.

Barbara Perry, Carter Glass Professor of Government at Sweet Briar College and senior fellow at the McConnell Institute of the University of Louisville, spoke at the induction on “Clotheshorse or Cold Warrior? Jacqueline Kennedy’s Use of Symbols and Images.”

Decision Science and Information Systems Honor Society Inducts Members

On April 13, the Alpha Mu chapter of Alpha Iota Delta, the international honors society for decision sciences and information systems, inducted its second class of industry, faculty, and student honorees. Industry representatives inducted into Alpha Mu were Richard Devine, CFO for Smart Group, LLP, and David Sharp, assistant vice president for Global Operations, ACE/INA. In addition, three faculty members from the Decision & System Sciences Department were honored: Ronald Klimberg, Ph.D., Rashmi Malhotra, Ph.D., and Ira Yermish, Ph.D.

The six students inducted into the chapter were Alexandra Bretschneider, Adam Bialachowski, Ray Cathey, Nicholas Chiafullo, Alexander Heck, and class of 2006 graduate Martin Pio.

Welcome to SJU

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

- Jennifer Sommerkorn, Center for International Programs
- Salvatore Buono, Grounds
- Don Paul, Information Systems
- Donna Mallon, Office of Dean, CA&S
- William (Dale) Amburgey, Office of Enrollment Management
- William Brosious, Office of Facilities Management
- Shazell Hill, Office of Security & Public Safety
- Eric Evans, Office of Security & Public Safety
- Robert Dunn, Office of Security & Public Safety
- Ryan Regan, Office of Security & Public Safety
- Megan Mangefrida, Saint Joseph’s Fund
- Joseph Tulli, Sport Complex
- Lamont Anderson, Transportation

Promotions

The following employees were promoted in the month of April:

- Daniel Walsh, University Press
- James Brack, University Press

The annual Student Arts Festival was held Friday, April 27 in Boland Hall. The festival gives all fine arts students the opportunity to exhibit their original work and celebrates their achievements.