Seeking Solutions for Childhood Obesity

Graduate Student Recounts Life in Iraq
Alumnus and CEO Beats the Odds
College Binge Drinking: Still a National Problem
When the editors of Forbes magazine went looking for their Entrepreneur of the Year for 2006, they didn’t look in Silicon Valley for a high-tech whiz kid or along Boston’s Route 128 corridor for a biotech pioneer. Their search took them to Montgomery County, just north of Philadelphia, where Michael J. Hagan ’85 is the chairman, president, and chief executive officer of NutriSystem. Under his leadership, NutriSystem has experienced a stunning turnaround, with its sales and earnings growth and return on equity earning it the top spot on Forbes’s list of the Best 200 Small Companies in America last year. The magazine’s October 30 issue featured Mike on its cover.

The recognition was well earned, but hardly surprising. Saint Joseph’s University is blessed by the leadership of many alumni, who can be found in an astonishing array of fields, where every day they heed God’s call to go forth and serve others.

These are graduates who are school principals and teachers, physicians and research scientists, Fortune 500 vice presidents and directors. They are attorneys and accountants and journalists; artists and singers and writers; university presidents, priests, elected officials and social workers. Their work may not result in feature stories in business magazines or coverage in daily papers, but in their own equally significant ways, they — you — are achieving so much that is worthy of celebration.

What ties the work of our alumni together, regardless of their field, regardless of their title, is a special kind of leadership. It is a result of the Jesuits' emphasis on rigor and service, combined with our deeply held Catholic values of intellectual drive and spirituality. Men and women educated at Saint Joseph’s, leaders all, change not only the wider world but also their own individual domains. They bring to their enterprises technical acumen as well as a worldview that encompasses compassion and ethics. And they change their organizations — from entrepreneurial start-ups to non-profits to corporate institutions to government agencies — in ways that deepen the human experience and transform the world into a better, more just place.

This special brand of leadership is fostered by a holistic, all-encompassing curriculum that gives each student a firm grounding in the humanities, the natural and social sciences, and the arts, and that includes ethics and justice as major components. It is informed and inspired by a campuswide emphasis on service to others. Individually, each of these efforts is laudable and worthy. Combined, in reflection of Catholicism's encouragement to seek truth and Ignatius's call to find God in all things, they cultivate in men and women an inquisitive nature and a deep commitment to bring meaning to their pursuits.

And so I congratulate Mike Hagan for an honor that is richly deserved. At the same time, it gives me great pleasure to be part of the community that includes all Saint Joseph’s University alumni. Your contributions reflect well on all of us. More important, they foster goodwill and justice, in the process providing a model for all to emulate.

God’s blessings,

Timothy R. Lannon, S.J.
President

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spirits | Intellect | Purpose
Cover Story

12 Americans in the Battle of the Bulge: A Troop of SJU Researchers Fights Childhood Obesity
By Kelly Welsh ’05 (M.A.) and Carolyn Steigleman

Members of Saint Joseph’s faculty have joined forces to combat the national epidemic of childhood obesity.

Features

18 Red Skies at Night
By Bradford T. Pearson ’06 (B.A.)

An Iraqi journalist makes his way to SJU and the master’s in writing studies program.

20 Bucking the Odds
By Kevin Mulligan

Underprivileged circumstances didn’t hold back Bruce Crawley ’67 (B.S.) in his quest for success.

22 The Party’s Over: Consequences of College Binge Drinking
By Thomas W. Durso ’91 (B.A.), ’02 (M.B.A.)

New research illuminates the serious ramifications of binge drinking among college students, particularly women.
Life is full of tough choices, isn’t it?
Paper or plastic? Starbucks or Dunkin’ Donuts? PlayStation or Xbox?
If only all of our decisions were that simple.
So many more of our choices have long-lasting ramifications, far-reaching consequences. And when we’re lucky enough or smart enough or in-the-right-place-at-the-right-time enough, those choices can change our lives in ways we may not imagine … often for the better.
The subjects of this issue’s features can attest to that.

Upon meeting Bruce Crawley ’67, you would never guess the circumstances from which he came. The advertising mogul’s dazzling smile and high-rise office space belie his childhood in a North Philadelphia project. Checking out library books as a kid instead of the action on the street was the first of many decisions that would change his life.

Iraqi journalist Bassam Sebti’s wise judgment kept him safe despite his growing up in a country mired in turmoil and then choosing to pursue a potentially dangerous career there. His keen intellect will continue to guide his path after he completes the graduate writing studies program on Hawk Hill.

As Crawley and Sebti may have viewed their choices as means to an end, several Saint Joseph’s faculty members are trying to show others the effects of their choices. Their collaborative research projects — one in the area of childhood obesity, now considered a national epidemic, and the other in college binge drinking, the effects of which often extend to sexual abuse — show the dire consequences of uninformed, compulsive, and often unplanned actions. The professors offer solutions stemming from years of solid academic scholarship and research. The outcomes will depend on individuals choosing to change their behavior.

Life’s full of tough choices, isn’t it?
From now on I won’t consider where I have my morning coffee to be one of them.
An expansion of Alumni Memorial Fieldhouse and a dedicated center for men’s and women’s basketball highlight a comprehensive plan for enhancing varsity and recreational athletics at Saint Joseph’s University. The SJU Board of Trustees approved Phase One of the plan last summer, and construction will begin this spring.

The total project will proceed in three phases over the next several years:

• **PHASE ONE**: Construction of a 17,700-square-foot center adjacent to the existing Fieldhouse that will house state-of-the-art facilities for men’s and women’s basketball. They are to include new locker rooms, coaches’ offices, strength and conditioning facilities, sports medicine and training areas, and additional academic and study space. Also planned are video and multimedia technology, along with an expanded media relations capacity.

• **PHASE TWO**: The relocation of five varsity sports and the student recreation/intramural program by 2009 to the Episcopal Academy campus, followed by renovations to the existing Rec Center to house the remaining 13 varsity sports as well as new athletics offices. A hardwood practice court for men’s and women’s basketball will also be added to the Rec Center during Phase Two.

• **PHASE THREE**: Expansion of the Fieldhouse to include a full-service concourse around the perimeter of the arena and an increase in capacity by at least 1,000 seats. It is expected that men’s and women’s basketball will need to play one full season off campus during the heaviest construction period, but both squads will retain access to the basketball center and new practice court.

Current arena plans call for significant Fieldhouse upgrades, including premium seating options, modern amenities, and concession/merchandise areas. The facility will also provide meeting and group entertainment space while preserving an intimate spectator experience and the significant home court advantage that has long been a hallmark of men’s and women’s basketball on Hawk Hill. Events in the renovated facility could begin as early as 2010.

“So much of this is made possible by the flexibility we acquire along with the Episcopal Academy campus,” stated SJU President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J. “All of our varsity programs, along with club, recreation, and intramural programs, will have the kind of facilities that reflect their status as integral to the campus life experience.”

“All Saint Joseph’s students will benefit from these upgrades,” added Don DiJulia ’67 (B.S.), associate vice president/director of athletics. “And all Hawk fans will enjoy a dramatic and positive change in their spectator experience.”

Plans for the expanded Fieldhouse were announced last summer at a press conference featuring DiJulia ’67, Jack Ramsay, Ed.D. ’49, former Hawks coach (1955-66); Fr. Lannon; and John Smithson ’68, ’82, Board of Trustees chair.
TWO NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AWARDS GO TO SJU

The National Science Foundation has awarded Saint Joseph’s two grants. Stephen Cooper, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematics and computer science and director of the Center for Visualization, is principal investigator for both.

SJU will share a two-year, $500,000 award with Georgia Tech, Ithaca College, and the Colorado School of Mines to further Dr. Cooper’s work with “Alice,” a three-dimensional rendering program used by computer science students with little programming background. It is being combined with Georgia Tech’s Media Computation curriculum to allow students to manipulate pictures and music using traditional Java programming language and to form a single, level-one computer science course.

A four-year, $460,000 award from NSF’s Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics program is supporting Saint Joseph’s Pathways to Careers in Math and Computer Science (PACMACS) Bridge initiative, which focuses on inner-city educational outreach. After completing the program, up to four students may now receive scholarships to attend the University.

“We choose students from Roxborough and West Philadelphia and offer them math and computer science classes,” Dr. Cooper explained. “These are some of the brightest kids from the worst backgrounds in our area.”

Elaine Terry, Ph.D., and Deborah Lurie, Ph.D., both assistant professors of mathematics and computer science, acted as co-principal investigators for this grant.

Online: wwwmacs.sju.edu/news/steve05.html
www.sju.edu/~scooper/PACMACS/pubs.html

ERDLC USES $1 MILLION GRANT TO STUDY SUICIDE BOMBERS

Saint Joseph’s Early Responders Distance Learning Center (ERDLC), armed with nearly $1 million from the Technical Support Working Group (TSWG), is working to figure out what makes suicide bombers tick. TSWG is the U.S. national forum that identifies, prioritizes, and coordinates interagency and international research and development requirements for combating terrorism.

The ERDLC is developing online courses, also suitable for classroom delivery, that address the psychological aspects of suicide bombing. Topics include the history of suicide bombers, the sociocultural context of suicidal/homicidal bombers, tactics used, bomb scene response, coping with panic, and communication and mass media management.

“The suicide/homicide bombers project has as its overall goal to educate responders to the enemy we are facing, as well as to know more about ourselves,” said Thomas Tavantzis, Ph.D., senior director of technology management and evaluation research for ERDLC. “We see this coursework as a critical contribution to understanding the psychosocial aspects of terrorism, an area the ERDLC has done a significant amount of work with already.”

Online: erdlc.sju.edu

BIOLOGISTS PUBLISH IN PRESTIGIOUS SCIENCE JOURNAL

The prominent scientific journal Nature has accepted the work of two Saint Joseph’s biologists for publication. Michael McCann, Ph.D. ’87 (B.S.), and Karen Snetselaar, Ph.D., professors of biology, contributed to the paper “Insights from the genome of the biotrophic fungal plant pathogen Ustilago maydis.”

The knowledge gained by studying this fungus could lead to important discoveries in the way that certain human pathogens work.

Ustilago maydis is a fungus that affects maize crops around the world. Drs. McCann and Snetselaar are two of some 80 experts worldwide who contributed to the study announcing the release of the sequenced genome of this fungus.

“People stopped studying [fungi that affect humans] for a while because the immune system usually protects people effectively,” Dr. Snetselaar said. “But some immuno-compromised patients can be killed by something as simple as a mold on bread.”

HAUB SCHOOL LAUNCHES RISK MANAGEMENT AND INSURANCE ACADEMY

The Erivan K. Haub School of Business has established the Academy for Risk Management and Insurance. Designed to offer scholarship aid, recruiting, internships/cooperative education, counseling, and placement to students enrolled in the risk management and insurance program, the Academy will provide students and executives with opportunities few universities in the area offer.

“This highly specialized field demands completion of technical courses, industry designation programs, and now more than ever, advanced academic training,” said HSB Dean Joseph DiAngelo, Ed.D. ’70 (B.S.). A board of governors consisting of senior-level executives from the insurance industry will provide guidance and support to the Academy. James J. Maguire ’58 (B.S.), chairman and founder of Philadelphia Insurance Companies, will chair the Academy board.
SJU PHYSICIST CO-PUBLISHES PAPER IN NATIONAL PERIODICAL

Saint Joseph’s physicist Paul J. Angiolillo, Ph.D. ’78 (B.S.), has been working with a team of University of Pennsylvania researchers for the last 12 years, collaborating on about a dozen published papers and presentations.

The group’s most recent work, published in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, involved small molecules called chromophores. These are molecules or parts of molecules that are responsible for its color. They are also responsible for shuttling charge in biological systems.

Research findings indicate that “these molecules are unique in that they appear to be able to move charge relatively easily over large distances,” according to Dr. Angiolillo. The research suggests that the use of chromophore-based circuitry could create nano-sized electronic components for numerous applications, including disposable plastic electronics, radio frequency ID tags, electronic drivers for active-matrix liquid crystal displays, organic light-emitting diodes, and lightweight solar cells.

New Minor Explores African Culture, History and Thought

Saint Joseph’s introduced a minor in Africana Studies last fall. The program, under the direction of Arnold Farr, Ph.D., associate professor of philosophy, offers multidisciplinary courses with a focus on the African Diaspora and the African and African-American experience, struggles, and ideas.

“The purpose behind these kinds of courses is twofold,” explained Dr. Farr. “First, everyone should learn something about the other social groups they are interacting with. Secondly, our education tends to be thoroughly Eurocentric. A program like this would remedy that problem.”

Currently courses that satisfy the minor’s requirements are available in theology, philosophy, sociology, history, English, foreign languages, and political science. Education and mathematics courses are also being developed.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT RECOGNIZES SCHOLARSHIP OF TWO PROFESSORS

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded two professors research grants. NEH grants of this size are unusual and highly competitive.

David R. Sorensen, Ph.D., professor of English and associate director of the Honors Program, received a $175,000 NEH grant for his work on *The Collected Letters of Thomas and Jane Welsh Carlyle*. Dr. Sorensen is senior editor and North American project director of the Duke-Edinburgh edition.

The *Collected Letters* is widely regarded by literary biographers, historians, students, and general readers as one of the finest and most comprehensive literary archives of the 19th century. As Carlyle biographer Simon Heffer noted in the *Spectator*, “This project will be, if it is not already, the single most important work of scholarship in 19th century English literature.”

Begun in 1970 and now spanning 33 volumes, the *Collected Letters* also garnered a £500,000 grant from the British Government’s Arts and Humanities Research Council. Together these funds will allow for the publishing of volumes 34 through 36, and the launch of an online edition. This edition will contain hundreds of previously unpublished letters and documents Dr. Sorensen and his colleagues have located in the past five years at libraries all over the world.

The NEH and British Government grants to Dr. Sorensen come after two past NEH awards he received for the project, both for $150,000, in 2000 and again in 2003.

Bruce Wells, Ph.D., assistant professor of theology, earned a $150,000 NEH collaborative research grant for a two-year project to study Neo-Babylonian trial procedure. An NEH award of this size is especially unusual because it was Dr. Wells’ first submission. Saint Joseph’s serves as the grant’s host institution, as Dr. Wells collaborates with another scholar at Augustana College in Rock Island, Ill.

The project’s purpose is to analyze and describe the system of trial procedure in place in Babylonia (currently southern Iraq) in the years 600 B.C. to about 450 B.C. The research has three components: document identification and analysis, legal and historical analysis, and text encoding.

“Overall, we believe our research will show that the Neo-Babylonian judicial system was based on a type of legal thinking and sophistication that most scholars would not have anticipated this early in the history of law,” said Dr. Wells.

When the research is completed, Dr. Wells and his collaborator will coauthor a book documenting their findings.

News Contributors: Kelly Welsh ’05 (M.A.); Alexa Bonadonna ’06 (B.A.); Tom Duroso ’91 (B.A.);’02 (M.B.A.); Maria Fulton ’03 (B.A.); Joe Lunardi ’82 (B.A.); Jeffrey Martin ’04 (B.A.); ’05 (M.A.); Carolyn Steigleman; Lauren Taniguchi ’07; Sarah Whelehon; Sean Woods ’07; Marie Wozniak.

*spring 2007*
ACCOUNTING MAJORS HONORED WITH SAP AMERICA SCHOLARSHIPS

Two STAR (Student Technologist to Assist and Reengineer curriculum) Scholars were recognized by SAP America with $10,000 scholarships for the current academic year. Both recipients, Jonathan Frejuste ’08 (Maplewood, N.J.) and Ryan Sullivan ’08 (Lumberton, N.J.), are accounting majors.

SAP America’s Scholarship program recognizes outstanding undergraduate students pursuing business degrees. The application requires a research paper on a topic relevant to Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), computer software that integrates an organization’s departments and functions into a single computer system that can serve the needs of all, or into another state-of-the-art technology. The paper must examine both the issue and its consequences, as well as propose practical recommendations to solve it.

Sullivan wrote his paper on corporate outsourcing and the supply chain challenges it creates. “Through my involvement in the STAR Scholar program, I have had the opportunity to not only enhance my own education, but also assist in the education of my peers through work with application scenarios in the classroom,” observed Sullivan.

The topic of Frejuste’s paper was fraud and corporate governance. It addressed ways ERP software facilitates forensic accounting examinations. “Working with SAP has provided me a great way to learn how accounting and auditing are really done in the business world,” said Frejuste.

W.W. SMITH CHARITABLE TRUST AWARDS GRANTS

The W.W. Smith Charitable Trust awarded Saint Joseph’s a $98,000 grant for full-time undergraduate student scholarships for the 2006-2007 academic year. The Trust also approved a $10,000 Prize Award that represents two individual grants of $5,000 each for W.W. Smith Scholars who are seniors and have demonstrated academic excellence in their fields. The grants are in addition to scholarship funds each student has already been awarded through the Trust.

Andrew Wallin ’07 (Malvern, Pa.), a history major, and Lauren Vasta ’07 (Ambler, Pa.), a biology major, were named this year’s Prize recipients.

The W.W. Smith Charitable Trust awards over $7 million annually to organizations in the Delaware Valley for student aid at colleges and universities, basic research on cancer, AIDS, and heart disease, and programs providing food, clothing, and shelter for children and the elderly. The financial aid program, in existence since 1977, annually provides grants and scholarships to 30 colleges and universities for students to achieve their educational goals. Saint Joseph’s has received more than $2 million in financial aid scholarships, benefiting over 765 students, from the W.W. Smith Charitable Trust.
FACULTY BOOKS


Stephen Cooper, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematics and computer science: Learning to Program with Alice Prentice Hall, 2006) with Wanda P. Dann and Randy Pausch.


David Floyd, visiting assistant professor of English: The Sudden Architecture of the Dark (CustomWords, 2006).

Richard George, Ph.D. '67 (B.S.) 2006).

April Lindner, Ph.D., assistant professor of English, edited Lineas Conectadas: Nueva Poesia de los Estados Unidos (Sarabande, 2006).

William Madges, Ph.D., dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, edited Vatican II: Forty Years Later, Vol. 51 (Orbis Books, 2006) and The Many Marks of the Church (Bayard/Twenty Third, 2006) with Michael D. Alley.


Jo A. Parker, Ph.D., associate professor of English, edited Time and Memory: The Study of Time XII (Brill, 2006) with Michael Crawford and Paul A. Harris.


Agnes M. Rash, Ph.D., professor and chair of mathematics and computer science: Interactive Calculus with Applications (Brooks-Cole, 2006) with Jean Marie McDill.

Raymond Sarnacki, visiting professor of management: Hit the Job Running (Rise & Shine, 2005) with Andrea Dolph.


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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES:
PETER CLARK, S.J. '75 / THEOLOGY, CATHOLIC BIOETHICS INSTITUTE

Peter Clark, S.J., graduated from Saint Joseph’s in 1975 with a bachelor of arts degree. Since that time, he has gone on to receive additional degrees from Duquesne University, Fordham University, and the Weston School of Divinity, as well as his doctoral degree in medical ethics from the Loyola University of Chicago. Yet he has always found his way back to his alma mater.

In 1978, he returned to serve as associate dean of students until 1983, when he left to join the Society of Jesus. He came back in 1996 to teach theology and he remains a professor today. Now he has taken on a new role: director of the Institute for Catholic Bioethics, established at Saint Joseph’s last fall.

The Institute’s purpose is to provide an ethical framework for the University’s undergraduate and graduate students, to give them research opportunities in fields of bioethics and health care, and to assist the broader medical community.

“There is a real hunger for information about Catholic bioethics and how it can assist the medical community in dealing with complex medical dilemmas,” said Fr. Clark. “These issues are cutting-edge and quite pertinent to the legal, medical, and ethical areas of research.”

Fr. Clark specializes in neonatology, a branch of medicine concerned with the care, development, and diseases of newborns. Because of this background, he knows it is necessary for the Institute to serve as a consultant to parents who must make important ethical decisions about their children. As a Jesuit, he recognizes the importance of reaching out to people on these issues.

“Jesuits were among the first medical ethicists and paved the way for all of us who have followed in their footsteps,” said Fr. Clark. “It’s important to the Society of Jesus that individual Jesuits and our universities are working in this field.”

In addition to his role at the University, Fr. Clark is the bioethicist for St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children and the Mercy Health System in Philadelphia. He has written a book, The Ethical Methodology of Richard A. McCormick, S.J.: As Applied to Treatment Decisions for Handicapped Newborns. Fr. Clark is also the recipient of several awards, including the Catholic Health Association Midcareer Award in 2004 for his commitment and significant contributions to the promotion of ethical integrity, and two others from Saint Joseph’s — the Certificate of Merit-Extraordinary Achievement in Teaching (2005-06), and the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindbach Award for Distinguished Teaching (2004-05).

FACULTY FELLOWS:
DEBORAH LURIE, PH.D., MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Deborah Lurie, Ph.D., assistant professor of mathematics and computer science, and Brent Smith, Ph.D., assistant professor of marketing, were both named faculty fellows of the Catholic Bioethics Institute for the 2006-07 academic year.

Dr. Lurie is analyzing the outcomes of various forms of assisted reproductive technologies (ART) in order to facilitate an informed decision on treatment options. Her work looks at the ethical issues associated with ART.

Dr. Smith examines the ways marketing can influence how individuals identify and manage quality-of-life health priorities. He is researching how individuals reconcile their roles and responsibilities as patients and free-market consumers. His research aims to produce more balanced, robust methods of evaluating ethical standards in light of such factors as stakeholder positions and market externalities.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES NAMES TWO NEW MEMBERS

The Saint Joseph’s University Board of Trustees recently awarded four-year terms to two new members:

Robert D. Falese Jr. ’69 (B.S.) is president of commercial and investment banking for Commerce Bank, where he has worked since 1992. He has more than 30 years of banking industry experience, beginning in 1966 at First Pennsylvania Bank, and later moving to Fidelity Bank/First Fidelity Bank in Philadelphia in 1980. In addition to an M.B.A. from Drexel University, Falese completed the Executive Development Program at Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business and attended Rutgers University’s Stonier School of Banking.

C. Kevin Gillespie, S.J. ’72 (B.A.), is director of the master’s program in spiritual and pastoral care and associate professor of pastoral counseling at Loyola College in Maryland. He also directs the college’s international program, Loyola Overseas Gifts of Solidarity. Fr. Gillespie maintains a private practice and is a member of Loyola’s Year of the City initiative. He earned his Ph.D. from Boston University, a master’s in divinity from Jesuit College of Theology, and a master’s in psychology from Duquesne University.

The new trustees replace outgoing member Peter Lynch.

SOMALI PEACE ACTIVIST PROMOTES COURAGE AND LEADERSHIP

“Women and children are the first and last victims of war,” Somali peace activist and 2005 Nobel Prize nominee Asha Hagi Elmi Amin told a crowd of faculty, staff, and students in the Chapel of St. Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J., Memorial in October.

Elmi’s talk chronicled her tireless work as an advocate for women in her country. In an effort to gain entry for women into the political process, she convinced others to join in the fight. Her efforts resulted in the formation of Save the Somali Women and Children. Under Elmi’s leadership, the organization formed the Sixth Clan, made up of women allowed to participate in the nation’s reconciliation process.

“Our contribution as women was vital to the peace process,” Elmi asserted. “Women bring tenacity, vision, compassion, and forgiveness.”

Under her leadership, significant progress continues to be made in Somalia. Twenty-three women were given seats in the interim Somali parliament, and in 2004, Elmi signed the peace agreement, a historic event for women in Somalia.

CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS

Many notable individuals offered lectures on campus last fall:


- Stephen Harvey, attorney for the plaintiffs in the intelligent design case of Kitzmiller v. Dover Area School District (2005), SJU Reads lecture for Inherit the Wind.


- Vicki Schieber on the death penalty from a victim’s perspective, sponsored by the Graduate Criminal Justice Program, the Faith Justice Institute, Departments of Philosophy and Sociology, and the Rape Education and Prevention Program. Schieber’s daughter Shannon was raped and murdered in Philadelphia in 1998.


- Mark S. Smith, Ph.D., Skirball Professor of Bible and Ancient Near Eastern Studies at New York University: “How God is One,” sponsored by the Jewish-Catholic Institute.


UNIVERSITY APPOINTS NEW ADMINISTRATORS

Paul L. DeVito, Ph.D., an accomplished teacher, recognized scholar, and skilled administrator at Saint Joseph’s, has become associate provost. Since 1980, he has served the University in numerous capacities, including professor of psychology. Dr. DeVito’s most recent role was as executive director of the Early Responders Distance Learning Center (ERDLC).

Harriet K. Goodheart is Saint Joseph’s new assistant vice president for university communications. She comes to SJU from Temple University’s communications office, where she worked for more than 20 years and earned awards for her leadership and work in the areas of advancement and branding.

John G. Haller was named associate provost for enrollment management, with responsibility for the University’s entire enrollment management area, including admissions, retention, and financial assistance. Haller comes from Drexel University, where he served most recently as assistant dean of enrollment.

Mary-Elaine Perry, Ph.D., joined Saint Joseph’s as assistant vice president for student development. She oversees residence life, student leadership and activities, counseling and personal development, career development, and student health. Dr. Perry previously worked at the College of New Jersey, where she was vice president for student life.

Wadell Ridley Jr., former director of constituent services and community relations for former 4th District City Councilman Michael A. Nutter, comes to Saint Joseph’s as assistant vice president for government and community relations. Ridley served Councilman Nutter for 13 years, representing him at community meetings and zoning hearings.

CATHOLIC INTELLECTUAL SERIES CONTINUES

Saint Joseph’s inaugurated its Catholic Intellectual Series for the 2006-07 academic year with a lecture in September from renowned religion writer and New York Times columnist Peter Steinfels, Ph.D. His lecture examined the issues of Catholic conscience formation in an increasingly diverse culture.

“There is no such thing as conscience pure and simple,” he explained. “Conscience, like humans, always comes in flavors. It comes with an adjective.” Dr. Steinfels went on to illustrate how someone might have a Catholic conscience, an American conscience, and with it, something of an Enlightenment conscience as well. “At some point in each of our lives,” he pointed out, “conflict will emerge among these elements.”

The second installment of the series was a lecture in October on the lives and work of Jesuit priests Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, S.J., and Friedrich Spee, S.J. Ronald Modras, Ph.D., professor of theology at Saint Louis University, discussed parallels in how the pair engaged the public square of their time and urged Catholics to do the same today.

The Catholic Intellectual Series, sponsored by the Office of Mission and the Academic Council on Mission and Identity, aims to promote the history of Catholic intellectual thought and highlight the latest and best developments within its tradition.

AMERICAN CATHOLIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY HONORS JESUIT RECTOR

The American Catholic Historical Society, the oldest Catholic historical society in the United States, honored George W. Bur, S.J., with its 25th Annual Commodore Barry Award last November for his work with the Gesu School in Philadelphia.

Now a trustee and rector of the Jesuit community at Saint Joseph’s, Fr. Bur served as president of the Gesu School from 1993 until 2003, when he was assigned to Saint Joseph’s. Sr. Ellen T. Convey, I.H.M., Gesu School principal, and Winston J. Churchill Jr., chairman of the Gesu School Board of Trustees, also received the award.

“I join with Win Churchill and Sister Ellen in thanking the American Catholic Historical Society for recognizing Gesu School, an oasis for the children and families of North Philadelphia for 140 years,” said Fr. Bur. “The traditions of faith, discipline, and learning continue to bring life to all of us related to the school in any way.”

Fr. Bur continues his work to improve the lives of Philadelphia’s urban youth through programs such as the University’s Ignatian College Connection.

Previous Barry Award recipients include Paul Henkels, former chair of the SJU Board of Trustees, and his wife Barbara, in 1990; Archbishop John P. Foley ’57 (B.A.), president of the Vatican’s Pontifical Council for Social Communications in Rome, in 1997; and John ’22 (B.S.) and Mary Horstmann McShain, both deceased, for whom McShain Hall is named, in 1998.
STUDENT DELEGATION EXPLORES SOCIAL INJUSTICE IN EL SALVADOR

A delegation of four students spent part of their summer in El Salvador, experiencing firsthand the economic struggles that cripple that nation. Junior English major Earl Aguilera (Secaucus, N.J.), junior psychology major Mark Maher (Philadelphia, Pa.), junior finance and international business major Elisa Ninde Jerome (Cohasset, Mass.), and senior international marketing major Zoya Pavlovskaya (Russia) joined others from Jesuit universities across the country to create a one-of-a-kind conference on economic development and social justice.

"We were looking for students who would be returning to campus after the experience to apply what they learned with suggestions for programs, course content, activities, and partnerships," Richard Warren, Ph.D., director of the Latin American Studies program, explained.

"I learned that the purchases I make as a consumer in the U.S. directly affect people in less developed countries like El Salvador," Jerome observed. "I was amazed and moved by the ‘sweatshop’ workers we met and the unfair working conditions we witnessed."

"The trip was a true eye-opener to the realities of the majority of the world outside my comfort zone," added Aguilera.

The SJU delegation has continued to meet throughout the academic year to explore ways to apply what they observed.

"In El Salvador, these issues took on a new urgency," Maher noted. "While there are no clear solutions to the problems of destitution, the delegation helped illuminate ways in which we, as students, can aid and stand in solidarity with those workers who make most of the products that we take for granted."
SJU TO HOST 2009 NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL SUB-REGIONAL

Saint Joseph’s has been selected to host the 2009 NCAA Men’s Basketball Championship first- and second-round games at the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia. The games will be played on March 19 and 21.

“On behalf of the University, we are pleased to partner with the Wachovia Center and the Philadelphia Sports Congress to bring back another major sporting event to the city,” said Don DiJulia ’67 (B.S.), SJU associate vice president and director of athletics. “Saint Joseph’s is just one of the city’s institutions which has brought high-level events to this area over the years. It is a tribute to the region’s fan base, the quality facilities, and the outstanding Convention and Visitors Bureau that we can continue to do this.”

The Wachovia Center was the site of the 2006 NCAA Men’s First and Second Rounds, hosted by the Atlantic 10 Conference; the 2001 NCAA Men’s East Regional; and the 2000 NCAA Women’s Final Four.

ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME INDUCTS EIGHTH CLASS

The Class of 2006 (left to right): Gavaghan ’59, Fitzpatrick ’90, Jamie (McDermitt) Rispoli (accepting on behalf of her father), Booth ’62, Twomey ’89, and Martin ’86.

Saint Joseph’s honored its eighth Athletics Hall of Fame class at its annual gala in September.

Former men’s basketball standout Maurice Martin ’86 (B.S.) headlined the class. Martin starred from 1982 to 1986 and was an Associated Press honorable mention All-American in his senior year. The 1986 Atlantic 10 Player of the Year, he was a three-time selection to both the All-Conference team and the All-Big 5 squad. A native of Liberty, N.Y., Martin is one of five Hawks to be chosen in the first round of the NBA draft, with his selection by the Denver Nuggets in 1986.

The Class of 2006 also comprised:

- Harry Booth ’62 (B.S.), who played and coached both baseball and basketball at SJU;
- Ellen (Shields) Fitzpatrick ’90 (B.S.), one of the top shooters in women’s basketball history, who still holds the SJU career record for 3-point accuracy (40.4 percent);
- Jim Gavaghan ’59 (B.S.), captain of SJU’s first varsity soccer team, in 1958;
- Paul McDermitt ’50 (B.S.), member of the 1947-48 basketball team that captured the Big 5 title and the 1948-49 basketball team that upset defending national champion Oklahoma A&M; and
- Kelli (O’Donnell) Twomey ’89 (B.S.), ’91 (M.S.) one of the Hawks’ top distance runners.

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR GIVES ATHLETICS LEADERSHIP AND DIVERSITY LECTURE

Best-selling author and former Saint Joseph’s certified athletic trainer Kevin Carroll ’97 (M.S.) returned to Hawk Hill last semester to speak as part of the Athletics Leadership and Diversity Lecture Series.

Founder of the Katalyst Consultancy, Carroll has authored the highly successful Rules of the Red Rubber Ball: Find and Sustain Your Life’s Work, published by ESPN Books. He has worked with a wide range of people from CEOs of Fortune 500 companies to first grade students, teaching audiences around the world how to use the spirit and lessons of play to enliven and enrich their work lives, enhance innovation, and improve team dynamics and interpersonal communication.

Prior to forming the consultancy, Carroll spent seven years with Nike. Working directly for Nike founder Phil Knight, he held the position of katalyst and master storyteller, helping the company deepen its understanding of athletic product performance, build strong teams, and create a positive corporate culture.

Before that, Carroll spent 10 years as an Air Force linguist, becoming fluent in Croatian, Czech, and Serbian, and attaining conversational proficiency in German and Russian. He also worked as a high school health educator before becoming head athletic trainer at Saint Joseph’s and then holding the same position with the Philadelphia 76ers.
Kids are living large these days — literally. As widely reported in the media today, childhood obesity rates have spiked. A group of SJU faculty is working to combat the problem and ensure a healthier future for today’s children.
America’s rich history boasts enormous expansion. The original 13 states swelled to 50, voting rights broadened to include women, and American space travel exploded through previously impassable boundaries. The United States is regarded as a leader in countless arenas.

The field of public health is no exception, although one of the country’s burgeoning leadership roles is not nearly as coveted. America’s widening waistline has earned the “land of the free” an undesirable title: Fattest Nation on Earth.

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), obesity rates in the United States have skyrocketed to epidemic levels. NIH data indicate that more than 60 percent of Americans are obese, including one third of all children. A study published in the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine last October also found that one third of American children are “unfit” — they do not meet national standards for physical fitness.

Obesity is quickly becoming one of the most commonly diagnosed childhood ailments. Too much time watching television and playing video games, combined with high-calorie, low-fiber diets, are only parts of the problem, researchers say. Sadly, obesity strikes children of minority or low-income backgrounds at an even higher rate than the rest of the population, oftentimes because their families have limited time and resources to make healthy eating and exercise a priority. The NIH has considered these factors and attributes the epidemic to a variety of causes, from environmental to economic, as well as genetic, and continues to research the problem from a number of perspectives.

On a smaller but no less important scale, Saint Joseph’s is employing strategies similar to those of government health agencies to combat obesity. Armed with a $700,000 appropriation from the Federal Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Bill, faculty in both the College of Arts and Sciences and the Erivan K. Haub School of Business have been hard at work on a program to fight obesity among metropolitan youth.

The interdisciplinary approach makes this project unique, says Jeanne Brady, Ph.D., chair of the education department and co-director of Saint Joseph’s anti-obesity initiative. “In order to properly and effectively address the hazards of obesity,” she states, “comprehensive research and education are crucial.”

Faculty are following the public health model known as PRECEDE-PROCEED, whereby researchers study the problem through a number of lenses to seek out triggers and propose unique solutions.

Sally Black, Ph.D., assistant professor of health services and co-director of the initiative, confirms that obese and unfit children are at risk for a number of health complications including diabetes, asthma, and hypertension, as well as emotional difficulties. “The problem is multifaceted, and in looking to solve it, we must approach it from a variety of different angles.”
The American Academy of Pediatrics released a report last fall that brought smiles to the faces of children everywhere: Kids need more playtime. A lack of spontaneous recreation, according to the academy, is contributing to the increasing epidemic of obesity among school-aged children. Among Philadelphia children, almost four out of ten (38.2 percent) are considered at-risk for obesity, with the highest prevalence of obesity among the youngest children, according to a survey by the Philadelphia Health Management Corp. in 2003.

In Wynnefield, where safe places to play are limited, Saint Joseph’s spearheaded the construction of a community playground at neighboring Samuel L. Gompers Elementary School to offer students and others an outlet for unstructured and active play — and, hopefully, a chance at enjoying a more happy and healthy childhood.

The visual culmination of Saint Joseph’s anti-obesity initiative, the community playground endeavor received $100,000 of the University’s $700,000 government grant. Co-directors Jeanne Brady and Sally Black worked tirelessly on this collective effort involving local community members, government and school officials, and others.

"Being a part of this community playground project and witnessing it going from a thought to a reality is truly the highlight of my education career,” said Gompers Principal Phillip DeLuca. “It’s exciting to see how this partnership (between Saint Joseph’s and Gompers Elementary School) is improving the quality of life and health of this community.”

Atop a canvas of asphalt, more than 600 volunteers banded together one weekend in September to transform the school’s stark back lot into a colorful new playground. Boasting a rock wall, connecting bridges, three slides, multiple climbing elements, a track ride, and several play panels, the playground has not gone unnoticed by Saint Joseph’s own students.

“Seeing how excited these kids are really makes me happy to have contributed to this project,” says junior Amanda Arena (Mendham, N.J.), who participated in the playground build and was there when the youngsters experienced it for the first time.

“Saint Joseph’s is proud to be a part of a lively community such as Wynnefield,” said University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., during the program marking the start of the build. “That’s part of why the anti-obesity initiative has been so important to us. It has given us a chance to impact the world around us in a positive way.”

Father Lannon was followed by a number of guests: Gompers Principal DeLuca; Congressman Robert Brady; Congressman Chaka Fattah; IBC President Joe Frick; former City Councilman Michael Nutter; and Philadelphia School Superintendent Paul Vallas.

“Saint Joseph’s University, under the leadership of Father Lannon, has been supportive of Gompers Elementary School since my arrival in 2003. Thank you to the administration and the wonderful students at Saint Joe’s. When you walk around on Hawk Hill, you will be able to look down at the Gompers School, the little hawks at the bottom of Hawk Hill, and smile to know you had so much to do with the construction of this playground.

— Carolyn Steigleman
Using funds from the anti-obesity initiative's federal appropriation, faculty members from both the College of Arts and Sciences as well as the Erivan K. Haub School of Business have researched the problem in children. Four of them describe their research projects here. See page 17 for a complete list of participating faculty.

FOOD SHOPPING FOR HEALTH

Grocery labels sport green “smart spots” and yellow “sensible snacking” icons. Snacks are slimmed into 100-calorie packs and sodas reduced to eight-ounce cans. And these are just some of the changes seen nowadays on food labels and packaging.

McDonalds is selling salads, and kids’ meals carry the option of substituting fruit for fries and juice for soda. We’re seeing changes in the food aisle, on the restaurant menu, and in our school cafeterias.

There’s been an avalanche of food media and food policy addressing obesity. Most of it deals with branded food and beverage manufacturers, student lunch lines, and fast food operators. Food retailers — Acme, Wegmans, your local supermarkets, etc. — have been off the radar screen as a problem or solution, when, in fact, they have a substantial opportunity to influence food choices and to partner with food manufacturers to encourage healthier eating among children. The often-overlooked retailers are a critical part of the solution for childhood obesity.

My research examines what food retailers are doing, and what they want to do to make it easier for us to select healthier foods for our children and families when we shop.

A national, two-part study in 2005-06 examined retailer “best practices” in promoting health and wellness and followed up with an assessment of which practices were most popular. Twenty-seven best practices were identified and classified as product selection, merchandising and promotion, or education activities.

Food retailers are very interested in offering healthier foods for children, it seems, and prefer to approach the process positively as promoting health and wellness for the family, rather than critically as anti-obesity practices.

Retailers especially see in today’s climate an opportunity to advance their own store-brand healthy products. Connecting health directly with a store brand builds store loyalty and helps the store take a meaningful position for its consumers in a popular new category. Retailers also like to engage in community-based efforts that promote physical activity such as walk-a-thons, community 5K races, and biking events. Like the food industry, they wish to keep the emphasis on the “calories out” side of the equation instead of focusing on limiting “calories in” as the solution.
The physical activity approach is a healthy and fun way to shed light on the obesity problem, and it allows retailers to strengthen their roles in communities. Nutrition education is another community-focused activity popular with retailers. They provide nutrition-based store tours for various community groups and supply nutrition- and weight loss-specific educational materials. Being proactive and responsive by supporting educational and physical activity efforts to address the obesity crisis — especially for children — appears to be a significant opportunity for retailers.

In terms of merchandise, food retailers are interested in selling healthier and lower calorie products, and are welcoming manufacturer efforts to partner in promoting them. Creative manufacturer efforts to partner in promoting them. Creative

GETTING CHILDREN TO MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES

What can you do about one in four children in your community being at risk for a chronic disease?

That’s what we asked while working with a group of fourth graders at Gompers Elementary School in Philadelphia. Data collected showed that 24 percent of a randomly selected group of fourth grade students were overweight while another 17 percent were considered to be at risk for becoming overweight. These results agree with several recent national studies that show a steep increase in the number of overweight children in the U.S. over the past decade. This dramatic rise is grounds for concern because overweight children are at a much greater risk for diabetes and cardiovascular disease, a leading killer by adulthood.

How can we, as scientists and educators, help children break this unhealthy trend? An important first step is to provide children with the tools to understand what good nutrition really is. We began by asking students what they already knew about food and good nutrition. A short nutrition pre-test indicated that the students had a very limited amount of accurate information about nutrition. While 76 percent of the students reported that they believed they had a healthy diet, we observed that they held several misconceptions regarding the makeup of the food they consumed, the need for and differences among nutrients, and the relationship of energy to the calories they derived from food. Before we attempted to clarify their misunderstanding of food-related issues, we felt it was important that the students learned something about their own bodies so they could make informed food choices.

Using an everyday symbol for the food calorie, namely, a Hershey’s Kiss, we had the students look at the physics and chemistry behind the energy in a single Kiss. Each Kiss contains about 25.5 calories — 52 percent from fat, 43 percent from carbohydrate, and 5 percent from protein. Students discovered, to their surprise, that this is the same energy required in the form of work to lift a barbell from the floor to the top of their desks approximately 10,876 times, which means that there is a lot of energy stored in the food that we eat. The fourth graders were then able to apply the concept of a food calorie to their current food choices. They compared food labels to see how many equivalent Kisses are contained in a given meal; for example, how many Hershey’s Kisses are equivalent to the same food energy in a McDonald’s quarter-pounder with cheese, large fries, and a medium Coke? The answer is 50! Could they imagine eating 50 Hershey’s Kisses for lunch?

Because both the number and type of calories matter, we had the students explore the properties of 16 common foods as a means to identify healthy choice options from unhealthy choice options based on food labels and current nutrition information. Students conducted common laboratory tests to identify the presence and types of fats, sugars, and proteins. They learned that saturated fats should be limited while trans fats in fried and processed foods are not safe to consume, even in small amounts. Moreover, students learned to limit the amount of simple sugars from soft drinks and juices, while balancing their caloric intake with exercise. The students then collected their own food data by recording daily food choices to see whether they met healthy USDA dietary guidelines.

We hoped to empower these fourth graders with the knowledge to make healthy food choices, which we believe is an important first step in fighting the rising tide of at-risk children in our communities. — Joseph Cifelli, Ed.D., Assistant Professor of Education, and Mark Reynolds, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biochemistry

Reynolds, Cifelli
ESTIMATING THE SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF ADULT OBESITY IN INDIANA: IMPLICATIONS FOR MARKETING AND PUBLIC POLICY

The objectives of my research were to spatially map and determine the high-risk areas in a community, identify the possible reasons for those high risks based on the knowledge about the geographical information, and suggest targeted intervention strategies to marketers and public policy officials that may have a better impact than a blanketed approach, which may not be a wise use of limited resources.

We chose to conduct the research in the state of Indiana for several reasons: Indiana is one of the top 10 states in America with the highest percentage of adult obesity over three previous years (2003-2005); about 26.2 percent of the adults in Indiana are obese, with a Body Mass Index (BMI) of above 30; and drivers’ license data from the Indiana Department of Motor Vehicles includes both height and weight.

While drivers’ licenses in many states, including Pennsylvania, do not have this data, the same research could be conducted in states that do, to the population’s benefit.

We were able to use Indiana’s height and weight data to calculate BMI and “geocode” zip codes on the map using the Geographic Information Systems software ArcGIS. The distribution of the obese population was color-coded. (See chart for details.)

A total of 4.93 million adults were analyzed, 17.3 percent of whom were obese and 33.7 percent were overweight based on BMI calculations. BMI is calculated as weight in pounds divided by the square of the height in inches, multiplied by a factor of 703. A BMI under 25 is categorized as normal, a BMI of 25.0-29.9 is overweight, and a BMI over 30 indicates obesity. The average BMI for those in the obese category was 33.8, and those in the overweight category was 27.2. (See chart for details regarding the distribution of the obese population.)

With this information, pockets of the population with a high proportion of obesity can be targeted for intervention strategies: 1) the composition of the demographic distribution (age, income, education, gender, socioeconomics, and race) can be studied; 2) the distribution of fast food restaurants in these locations can be mapped to see if the concentration of outlets is higher there than in other areas contributing to the problem; 3) food stores and pharmacies in these locations can provide education and awareness programs to educate the public about obesity; 4) these regions can be targeted for developing parks and gyms that would facilitate physical activities; 5) health care providers can be targeted to develop programs to control the obesity awareness and treatment programs; and 6) in these areas, the IRS can provide tax breaks as incentives for weight-loss programs and provide guidelines that may benefit from this policy. — Thani Jambulingam, Ph.D., Chair and Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Marketing

Saint Joseph’s Anti-Obesity Initiative Faculty and Research Project Areas

- Sally Black, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Health Services. Obesity and physical-activity levels.
- Jeanne Brady, Ph.D., Chair, Associate Professor of Education. Creating solutions within communities.
- Nancy Childs, Ph.D., Professor of Food Marketing. How food retailers influence food choices.
- Joseph Cifelli, Ed.D., Assistant Professor of Education. Hands-on science lessons for children to better understand food and nutrition.
- Waqar Chani, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Accounting. Obesity as it relates to shareholders’ wealth.
- Thani Jambulingam, Ph.D., Chair and Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Marketing. Developing public policy programs based on geographic distribution of obesity.
- Althier Lazar, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Education. Raising children’s awareness of advertising and marketing techniques.
- Kim Logio, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Sociology. Uncovering risk factors for obesity and other disordered eating.
- John Lord, Ph.D., Chair, Professor of Food Marketing. Analyzing changes in food advertising aimed at children.
- Mark Reynolds, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biochemistry. Hands-on science lessons for children to better understand food and nutrition.
- Claire Simmers, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Management. Evaluating differences in sales for companies that address childhood obesity and those that do not.
As Bassam Sebti lay down to sleep, he had an uneasy feeling in his stomach. It was January 17, 1991, and lying next to his makeshift bed on the floor were a gas mask and a small pile of papers. Among the papers was his national identification card, one of the few things that proved his existence. It was the eve of yet another war, Operation Desert Storm.

After eventually nodding off among his sister, cousins, aunts, uncles, grandparents, and parents, he was awakened by the sounds of artillery fire. Carefully creeping toward the taped glass window, Sebti peered out into the Baghdad sky, alit with American bombs and planes and dyed red by the bombs’ reflections off of his home city.

As any 10-year-old would be, he was scared.

In a war zone, night rarely signals restful slumber as it does for the rest of the world.

Bassam Sebti, an Iraqi journalist now studying on Hawk Hill, is still haunted by what he's seen after the sun goes down.
By Bradford T. Pearson ’06 (B.A.)

Sebti, now a graduate student in the writing studies program at Saint Joseph’s, followed an unusual path to Hawk Hill. Like many SJU students, he was educated at a Jesuit high school — but the similarity ends there. For Sebti’s school was located in Baghdad, where he was born and raised. Indeed, Sebti has had the kind of life most American students only read about in textbooks.

Prior to arriving in Philadelphia last fall, Sebti worked as a correspondent for The Washington Post, covering the Iraq war in 2003. While he admits that as a child he was afraid during wartime, it is his work during the most recent conflict that still haunts him.

“I always had the feeling that every day when I woke up, there would be a bomb on my front step, or someone would be waiting on the corner to kill me,” Sebti recounts. “I don’t remember that I slept well once after I started working for The Post.”

As a journalist, especially an Iraqi one, his fears were not unfounded. At the time SJU Magazine went to press, 53 journalists and 27 media support workers had been killed in Baghdad since the war began in 2003, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. Its figures also indicated that 77 percent of journalists killed throughout the country were Iraqi. Sebti believes this is no coincidence.

“The notion among some Iraqis, especially the insurgent groups,” says Sebti, “is that any Iraqi working for an American or western media group is a spy.”

Because of the perilous conditions, he could not reveal his profession to anyone but his immediate family. As far as the rest of his neighborhood knew, Sebti had opened an Internet café, a flourishing business when Saddam Hussein’s repressive tyranny ended. While it provided effective cover for a time, one incident nearly unmasked Sebti’s true profession.

While covering a press conference one day in Baghdad, an Iraqi television crew focused its camera on Sebti as he asked a question. The image was transmitted throughout the country, reaching, to Sebti’s panic, a small barbershop in his home neighborhood.

“I saw you on TV the other day, Bassam,” the barber said.

“Are you a journalist now? What happened to the café?”

He froze.

“No, no, that wasn’t me,” Sebti answered, in front of not only the barber but 20 other patrons and neighbors in the small shop.

“I’m not a journalist.”

“I’m sure it was you. …”

And then the barber abruptly became silent.

“I’m not sure if he realized his mistake or what, but he immediately stopped,” said Sebti. “That moment was one of the scariest of my life.”

Throughout the war, Sebti worried less about his own life and more about his family members. He would never let them open the front door at night for fear that someone was lurking outside, ready to shoot.

“I should be the one who is shot, not them,” he says emphatically. “They want to kill me. I would kill myself if I ever saw anyone try to punish me through killing my family.”

While working for The Post, Sebti was frequently given assignments that would have been considered too dangerous for the American members of the bureau. After working his way through The Post’s hierarchy, from translator and interpreter to feature writer and correspondent, he was often offered the opportunity to explore stories to which other journalists may not have had access. Often dispatched to riots and other grisly events, Sebti would simply hide his notebook and camera if a situation began to escalate.

“This is my country,” he would say to his editors. “I can tell which situations are dangerous and which aren’t.”

During his time at The Post, Sebti established friendships with many colleagues, including Jackie Spinner, a reporter whose sister, Jenny Spinner, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of English at Saint Joseph’s. While Sebti had always planned on pursuing a master’s degree, it wasn’t until he talked with Spinner that he considered coming to the United States.

“I knew it was very difficult to get into the United States to study,” he notes, “and it was also very expensive.”

Following their discussions, Spinner put Sebti in contact with her sister at Saint Joseph’s. The rest reads like a Horatio Alger story: Boy comes to America for the first time; boy meets with admissions counselors and department heads; boy gets accepted into master’s in program at prestigious university.

While Sebti is glad to be at Saint Joseph’s, he admits that the work can be hectic. “I have a graduate assistantship, work, and writing assignments for each class,” he says, “so it’s hard to keep track of everything.” The words sound somewhat ironic from a man who has experienced firsthand the devastation and calamity of two wars.

Despite the workload, he remarks with a smirk, he feels he’s still “on the safe side.”

After he finishes at Saint Joseph’s, Sebti hopes to earn a Ph.D., whether in the United States or another country. He also plans to return to Iraq, where an appealing offer awaits him. A friend currently studying at the University of California at Berkeley plans to revive a family newspaper that was repressed during Hussein’s era. Sebti has been offered a position with the joint Arabic and English language publication, something he would love to do.

As Bassam Sebti sleeps in his apartment overlooking City Avenue, he wakes suddenly from a nightmare.

“I’m still not used to the normal life,” he says uneasily. “Sometimes I just wake up and say ‘Oh my God, I’m alive.’”

Sebti knows that his family and friends are glad he’s in the United States because, if for no other reason, he is safe. And, after 24 years of looking into the sky and seeing nothing but red, it’s comforting to look up and see, well, nothing. Safe nothing.

Brad Pearson was a staff writer and op-ed editor for The Hawk, SJU’s student newspaper, from January 2005 to January 2006.

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Bucking the Odds

By Kevin Mulligan

Surrounded by the impressive, framed proofs of success adorning the walls of his Center City office, A. Bruce Crawley pauses in thought, eyes narrowing as he pans the scenery provided by a 29th floor high-rise office.

The interview was in its 100th minute. The question was simple: “Ever wonder where you’d be today had you not attended Saint Joseph’s?”

Crawley momentarily allows himself some imaginary time-travel back to the 1960s.

“I often wonder, I really do,” he answers. “I wonder how I would have turned out had pure luck not led me to St. Joe’s. It became the crack in the door for me, one which opened up the world to me.”

No one, Crawley’s friends would say, opened any doors for him. Rather, against the long odds of being African-American and living in a North Philly project, they would tell you that he shoved them open whenever opportunity so much as tapped. And he did it with determination, self-motivation, and an unbridled desire to achieve.

If Crawley’s life were a Hollywood movie, the opening scene would be set in the now-demolished Richard Allen Housing Projects, circa 1950. Surrounded by temptation, trouble, and poverty, he somehow learned to overcome the odds and fend for himself, the oldest of six children his mother Edith eventually would raise alone on a crossing guard’s salary.

Picture it: 50 years ago, Crawley would go hungry four days out of five at school, rather than beg for lunch money.

Fast forward to today: Crawley is one of Philadelphia’s most prominent business and political movers and shakers. The 1967 Saint Joseph’s graduate is founder and CEO of Millennium 3 Management (previously Crawley Haskins Sloan PR and Advertising), a firm providing a wide range of marketing, advertising, and public relations services to corporate and institutional clients. Millennium 3 specializes in marketing strategies and penetration of the country’s $700 billion African-American consumer market.

It’s no wonder Crawley thinks about where he would be if circumstances had been different. What would have happened to him if his mother’s best friend — a Catholic — had not suggested
she have him baptized so he could attend Catholic rather than public school?

Inspired by a nun at Blessed Sacrament School, Crawley discovered a love of reading. Instead of turning to the streets at the end of the day, he would head to the library, often entertaining his public school friends by reading comic books to them.

“The library would only let us check out five books at a time, so I’d take my friends and tell them what books I wanted, and I’d have about 20 books that way,” Crawley remembers. “I’d pick a different topic and read all I could about it. Automobiles, horses, Egypt, on and on. I just wanted to learn all I could once I could read.”

He sailed through grade school and was admitted to St. Joseph’s Prep on a full scholarship, where he quickly discovered, as one of the few black students, that street slang was not proper English. He taught himself how to speak properly by imitating the white students and practicing in front of a mirror.

Crawley ran track, did well academically, stayed out of trouble, and responded to every push the Jesuits gave him at the Prep. Still, come senior year, he could barely name three colleges to receive his Scholastic Aptitude Test scores. Naturally, being a Prep student, he wrote in Saint Joseph’s College. He added Villanova, because its star basketball player of the era was Hubie White, a local success story from the same housing project, and Hampton (Va.) Institute, the only other college he recognized because a neighborhood kid received a football scholarship there.

To Crawley’s surprise, Hampton offered him an academic scholarship. He declined, after discovering the school was in Virginia, but the news prompted his best friend Tony Romero, another black student at the Prep, to ask Crawley where he had applied. Romero happened to have an extra Saint Joseph’s application.

Crawley was accepted at Saint Joseph’s College and enrolled in 1963, along with his good friend Romero, now a medical doctor. He quickly realized it was a mistake to major in accounting simply because it was at the top of the alphabetized list of business degrees. Intrigued by the nuances of advertising after reading Vance Packard’s The Hidden Persuaders, he switched to marketing. He excelled, overcoming more than just academic and cultural roadblocks as one of just 10 African-Americans on an otherwise all-white campus in the tumultuous mid-'60s.

“There were a lot of people who grew up in the same North Philly neighborhood and did not have my opportunity,” explains Crawley, who worked two jobs to pay his tuition. “They were not challenged to do their best, the way I was by the Jesuits. They didn’t give you a choice. Saint Joseph’s gave me the opportunity to test myself outside my neighborhood, outside my environment.

“I realized early on who the competition was,” he adds, “what they thought of me, and how to find soft spots in their armor. I lost any intimidation I might have had about whites, which was put into us early by the larger society. I was ready and prepared when I left St. Joe’s.”

In 1983, he earned a master’s degree in journalism from Temple University while working at First Pennsylvania Bank, where he eventually rose to become a senior vice president. In 1989, he broke away and opened his own public relations firm.

Climbing the corporate ladder, he also found time to earn a fourth-degree martial arts black belt and make two U.S. National Teams (1977 and 1985). “A kid from the Richard Allen projects, competing for Team USA in Japan — not bad, huh?” he beams. At the age of 60, he looks like he could still karate kick through a steel door.

But there’s more. Along the way, Crawley founded Philadelphia’s African-American Chamber of Commerce; served as former chairman of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau; chaired the Urban League and the Public Relations Society of America’s National Multicultural Affairs Committee; and served as public relations chair of the Pennsylvania State Caucus of Black Legislators. He currently serves on the boards of Saint Joseph’s Erivan K. Haub School of Business and Independence Blue Cross.

Crawley’s ties and influence in local politics run deep, as well. His present challenge is helping unionized and highly skilled African-American contractors gain city labor contracts.

“The workforce of this city should look like its population,” Crawley says. “Improve people. Let them work. They’re skilled; they’re trained; they’re good workers. They deserve work as much as the next guy. There is no downside. None.”

It’s the last question of the interview. With his interests, experience, fund-raising clout, and business savvy, why isn’t Crawley considering a run for political office?

“I’m happy doing what I do,” he concludes. “When I come to work, I really enjoy it. I enjoy being engaged in the city. Not being limited to the business side, but being able to be involved on the civic and community side. I really feel I can have a voice in what’s going on. That’s critically important for me.

“To be able to do something about things affecting people,” he says, “to me that’s the perfect life. There are so many opportunities in Philadelphia to do that, and I don’t want to limit myself with any of them.”

A freelance writer, Kevin Mulligan last wrote for SJU Magazine’s Winter 2004 issue.
THE PARTY’S
OVER
CONSEQUENCES OF COLLEGE BINGE DRINKING

By Thomas W. Durso ’91 (B.A.), ’02 (M.B.A.)
Recent pioneering research from Saint Joseph's, Harvard, and elsewhere points to the growing danger of alcohol abuse on college campuses, and reveals a disturbing link to sexual violence against women.

As American rites of passage go, college boozing stands apart. Pop culture depictions of young people socializing amid vast quantities of alcohol are legion. It’s difficult to find a graduate of any age who doesn’t wistfully reminisce about a night — or several — of harmless drinking whose primary consequences were an awkward encounter with a member of the opposite sex or a hard-to-handle hangover.

But what happens when one looks past the rose-tinted memories and explores what really happens on campuses where alcohol is used to excess?

For more than a dozen years, a Saint Joseph’s sociologist has been one of a number of researchers conducting ground-breaking research into this very issue. What they have found is disturbing. The consequences of excessive collegiate drinking are far more dire than most people think, and not just for those consuming the alcohol. Indeed, there are shattering, damaging behaviors fostered by alcohol abuse that completely eclipse the fond memories so many have of getting drunk at a party and then staggering home to their dorms. The national conversation given rise to by this research is long overdue.

One can’t help but begin with the stark numbers: Across the nation, one in 20 female students has non-consensual sex during a single academic year. Of these victims, 72 percent are too drunk or too stoned to give consent.

“Intoxicated rape turns out to be the most common form of rape among college women,” says George W. Dowdall, Ph.D., a Saint Joseph’s professor of sociology and faculty member since 1982. “What we’ve learned is that far from being an uncommon experience, it’s fairly common.”

In 1993 Dr. Dowdall met Henry Wechsler, Ph.D., of the Harvard School of Public Health, who was just beginning what would become the landmark College Alcohol Study (CAS) on the use and abuse of alcohol on college campuses. Dr. Dowdall spent two years at Harvard contributing to several papers with Dr. Wechsler and others, then returned to Saint Joseph’s where he made the topic his primary area of scholarship. In addition to teaching such courses as Culture of Addiction and Alcohol, Drugs, and Society, he has continued to write about college drinking and is currently completing a book on the issue.

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America has educated college students for more than three centuries. It has drunk alcohol for even longer. As Dr. Wechsler notes, Thomas Jefferson complained about student drinking when he was president of the University of Virginia. Yet the concerns raised by the College Alcohol Study are surprisingly recent.

“Society has largely ignored this issue for several reasons,” says Dr. Wechsler. “Beer, for example, is a familiar product, while drugs are viewed as coming from other countries. Most parents drink alcohol and don’t have a problem with it. When their children use it, the response is often ‘Thank goodness it’s not drugs.’ Yet about 80,000 people die each year as a result of heavy alcohol use.”

Additionally, an open question is whether drinking rates have risen on campuses. More germane to the alcohol-rape link, alcohol abuse among female students appears to have increased dramatically.

“A lot of women drink to get drunk in a way I don’t think happened a generation ago,” notes Dr. Dowdall. “It wouldn’t be surprising that there would have been an increase in rape.”

Even if, as Dr. Wechsler suggests, parental concern has not risen as the crisis has escalated, more and more college students themselves are cognizant of what’s happening on their campuses and how ruinous the phenomenon has become. “Many, particularly those who aren’t binge drinkers, recognize that it is a problem,” he says. “It affects the quality of their life on campus through

At Saint Joseph’s, A Comprehensive Approach

ALCOHOL ABUSE

Saint Joseph’s University has taken several steps to address campus drinking, combining social, educational, and community outreach in a comprehensive approach to the problem.

SJU ‘TIL 2

Now in its sixth year, SJU ‘til 2 is University-funded initiative that brings social programming to Campion Student Center until 2 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Bands and comedians, games and contests, movies, food, and more, all at no cost to students, are meant to keep them entertained in a safe environment. For students who prefer to work their biceps by lifting weights instead of beer cups, the Rec Center also maintains late hours.

ALCOHOL AROUND THE COUNTRY

At the same time, the primarily policy-oriented Alcohol and Other Drugs Task Force has been revamped and refocused. The Advisory Council for Alcohol and Student Health includes an even split among students and faculty/administration, and is charged with guiding a comprehensive prevention program. Besides exploring social alternatives to drinking, the group is examining academic life to determine, for example, how to engage faculty members in prevention efforts, and is reaching out to the community to establish constructive partnerships with neighbors, off-campus housing providers, and bar owners.

COUNSELING AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Recognizing that new students are most vulnerable, Counseling and Personal Development staff delivered a powerful interactive presentation on alcohol poisoning to parents and students at last summer’s orientation sessions, then spent the first three weeks of the academic year in freshman seminars reinforcing the message. And all freshmen are required to complete Alcohol EDU, an online alcohol education program. Early results are very promising. Midway through the fall semester, reported alcohol poisonings were down significantly from a similar point last year.

“The students are unbelievable,” says Joan Bradley, coordinator of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention Program. “We’re so blessed at St. Joe’s. The overall attitude is care for others.”
secondhand effects. Sadly, those who drink the most feel that they don’t have a problem.”

Finding a solution is a tricky matter, in no small part because the higher education establishment isn’t always sure where it stands on the issue. Dr. Dowdall cites a Chronicle of Higher Education survey of college presidents (Nov. 4, 2005) that showed “almost an even split” among them over whether their institutions should be held responsible for student drinking and its consequences. Many universities, he says, prefer to eschew responsibility in order to avoid legal liability, and he adds, “A lot of people in higher education would like to see this issue go away.”

The goal must be (and is at Saint Joseph’s, see below) to curtail dangerous behavior and provide an environment in which students can learn to make responsible choices about their studies, their relationships, and their bodies. Data suggests that campuses such as SJU with significant community-service programming have less binge-drinking, other things being equal.

Jesuit schools, in fact, may be uniquely positioned to tackle the problem with the kind of direct approach it seems to warrant. Their irrevocable standard of cura personalis, with its focus on students’ complete well-being, not simply their classroom education, demands institutional intervention, not only after a tragic event — a rape, a death — but before it even happens.

Dr. Dowdall has been a part of SJU’s Alcohol Task Force since its inception in 1987. He is now joining with Loyola Marymount psychologist Joseph LaBrie, S.J., and Linda Lelii, Ph.D., SJU vice president for student life and academic development, to form a coalition of Jesuit colleges and universities to deal with the problems of college drinking.

“A university setting is not a detention center,” says Dr. Lelii. “It’s a place where we try to help students learn about themselves and about how to be an adult whose behavior expresses their values and the spiritual lessons they were taught as children. But it’s a trial-and-error process. We try to keep them safe as they go through that process, and be clear about our expectations of them and help them learn how to meet those expectations.”

The findings provided by Dr. Dowdall, Dr. Wechsler, and their collaborators provide an opportunity to talk about tragedy, learn from it, and change behaviors to reduce its future likelihood. Today’s students, after all, are tomorrow’s parents. But it will take the combined efforts of a large collection of groups — faculty members, administrators, high school teachers and guidance counselors, and, perhaps most important, students themselves and their parents — to recognize the extent of the problem and commit themselves to fix it.

“We will not make inroads into lowering the incidence of rape [on campus] unless we lower alcohol abuse,” Dr. Dowdall says flatly. “Unfortunately, it’s turned out to be very difficult for colleges and universities to deal with alcohol problems.”

Tom Durso is a freelance writer and former director of university communications at Saint Joseph’s.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

A pair of unique programs — one longstanding, one new — is allowing Saint Joseph’s to address sexual violence in ways targeted to college women and men, respectively.

RAPE EDUCATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM

The well-established Rape Education and Prevention Program (REPP) provides intensive training to students to serve as on-call rape counselors. A cell phone (610-733-9650) is on and answered 24 hours a day, with students available to assist rape victims anytime. REPP counselors also visit freshman dorms and tell students how to protect themselves and what to do in the event of a crisis.

“This has become my passion,” says REPP counselor Sabrina Costabile, a senior sociology major from Princeton, N.J. “It hasn’t personally affected me, but I know far too many girls who have been affected. It really does happen everywhere.”

Faculty adviser Raquel Kennedy Bergen ‘89 (B.S.), Ph.D., associate professor and chair of the sociology department, notes that through activities such as the annual national Take Back the Night vigil, the program is helping to open students’ eyes.

“St. Joe’s is really ahead of the curve on this,” she says. “REPP has been around for so long, and even though not every student needs or uses it, at least they’re aware of it.”

ONE IN FOUR

New at Saint Joseph’s this year is a chapter of One in Four, a national rape-prevention effort begun by the College of William & Mary’s John D. Foubert, Ph.D., the keynote speaker last year at SJU’s Take Back the Night vigil. One in Four applies theory and research to rape-prevention programming, with a focus on male-only programming.

“Foubert’s approach is so unique because it’s research- and peer-based and gives men a way to feel empowered rather than blamed,” says Gerard J. McGlone, S.J., assistant professor of psychology and the chapter’s adviser.

Among those who joined what became One in Four’s largest founding chapter was Michael Kauffmann, a senior English major from Wayne, Pa., who notes that the concept of men educating men is a key differential.

“A lot of guys don’t really understand what they can do about it,” he says. “The mission of the presentations is to change what we call the rape myths — things like rape is usually falsely reported, or it’s more of a ‘he-said, she-said’ — and put men in a position to help rape survivors move toward recovery.”

— Tom Durso
Dear Fellow Hawks,

The National Alumni Board (NAB) held its second meeting in October, beginning with a Commissioning Mass and general session, followed by the Shield of Loyola Dinner honoring John R. Post '60 (B.S.).

The NAB continued to discuss changes in the Alumni Association and its future. I am pleased to report that we accomplished a great deal, and, thanks in no small part to the NAB’s significant reorganization over the past year, the leadership of Saint Joseph’s University Alumni Association is energized and focused on a very promising future.

During the meeting, NAB members reviewed the past six months of alumni activity, initiated a conversation regarding alumni communications, and laid the foundation for a strategic planning process to begin in 2007. The NAB is focused on creating programs and activities that will more fully engage our alumni — not only with each other, but also with the University community.

Recently a survey of more than 4,000 alumni was completed, which established the framework for the meeting. It provided some striking information.

• The data support SJU alumni wanting to be involved with the University in many ways — including service opportunities, mentoring and regional programming, networking, and social activities and events.
• We learned that our graduates also want to spend time together — assisting current students academically and professionally — and they want to know what is happening on campus.
• Seventy-seven percent of you look to e-mail and the Internet as primary sources of communication, with alumni news, campus programming, and athletics occupying your main interests.

The NAB will meet again in April with much of our attention focused on strategic planning. I am confident the Alumni Association will thrive under the leadership of the outstanding individuals listed on the next page. The success of the NAB’s new programs and initiatives will certainly assist in Saint Joseph’s goal of preeminence.

Forever a Hawk,

Patricia (McElwee) Mahoney ’76 (B.S.)
President, National Alumni Association

SJU ALUMNI CHAPTER EVENTS ARE IN FULL SWING!

BOSTON CHAPTER ROOTS FOR THE BOSTON CELTICS (AND!) ORLANDO MAGIC

On November 13, alumni and their families in Boston came out to cheer on two former Hawks — Jameer Nelson ’04 of the Orlando Magic and Delonte West ’05 of the Boston Celtics. Nelson was the game’s high scorer with 24 points, leading the Magic to a 92-89 victory. After the game, West (standing, white sweater) met with fans from SJU and talked about his time at Saint Joseph’s as well as his transition into the NBA.

LAW ALUMNI CHAPTER PRESENTS PAIR OF AWARDS

The Law Alumni Chapter presented its highest honors at a dinner November 15, at Philadelphia’s Union League. The Honorable Francis McClanaghan ’27 Award was presented to John M. Gallagher, Esq. ’66 (B.S.), and the Brother Bartholomew A. Sheehan ’27 Award honored Richard M. Kelly ’59 (B.S.).

Gallagher was honored with the McClanaghan Award (named for the first president of the Law Alumni Chapter) for his commitment to both his profession and to Saint Joseph’s University. He is a highly regarded litigator at the Media, Pa.-based firm of Gallagher, Schoenfeld, Surkin, Chupin & DeMIn, where he has spent his entire career. A past president of the SJU Law Alumni Chapter and the Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association, Gallagher has been actively involved in the Law Alumni Chapter for decades. His friend and partner, Lex DiSanti, Esq. ’56 (B.S.), presented him with the honor.

The presentation of the Sheehan Award was very personal to Kelly. “Brother Bart,” or “Judge Sheehan,” as he was known then, was a legend in the East Camden, N.J., neighborhood where Kelly grew up and Sheehan himself resided. Kelly was honored for his lifelong commitment to Saint Joseph’s — which culminated with his presidency of the Alumni Association (2000-03). He currently serves on the National Alumni Board.

Judge Francis Hazel ’64 (B.A.), who will be honored by the Law Alumni Chapter in the spring with the Gem Award, emceed the evening.

YOUNG ALUMNI INVADE BOURBON BLUE!

Saint Joseph’s Young Alumni (graduates from 1997 to 2006) came out in droves to enjoy an evening at Bourbon Blue in nearby Manayunk on November 17.

Surpassing last year’s attendance, more than 200 Young Alumni and friends packed the downstairs at the hip establishment. They enjoyed food and drink specials, entered their contact information for raffle prizes, and relaxed in the company of fellow alumni.

The Alumni Office hopes to host another Young Alumni event in the spring. If you are interested in helping plan an alumni event in your area, contact Nora Clancy ’04 (B.S.), associate director of regional programs, at 610-660-3203 to get involved with your local Saint Joseph’s Alumni Chapter. See you at our next event!
REAL ESTATE AND CONSTRUCTION ALUMNI CHAPTER ESTABLISHED

The inaugural event for the new Real Estate and Construction Alumni Chapter was held on campus December 4.

Saint Joseph's Board of Trustees member Anthony Nichols ’67 and Dennis Durkin ’74 (B.A.) initiated the idea for the chapter. More than 65 alumni attended the event.

The chapter’s goals include offering a forum for SJU alumni in the real estate and construction industries to network, providing internships and co-ops for undergraduates who may be interested in these fields as a career, recognizing alumni who have excelled in the industry, and working with the Erivan K. Haub School of Business to possibly offer relevant academic coursework for both undergraduates and business professionals in these industries.

For more information on this chapter, contact Katie (Dougherty) Shields ’87 (B.A.), ’93 (M.S.), assistant vice president for development, at 610-660-1231.

JOHN R. POST ’60 AWARDED SHIELD OF LOYOLA

The Saint Joseph’s University Alumni Association presented the 2006 Shield of Loyola to John R. Post ’60 (B.S.) in November.

Post was honored for his distinguished achievements professionally and personally, as well as his unwavering loyalty to his alma mater. More than 400 alumni and friends attended the black-tie function at Philadelphia’s Park Hyatt at the Bellevue.

“John is a man of faith, commitment, and integrity,” affirmed University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J. “Through his family life, professional career, and outstanding commitment to Saint Joseph’s, John clearly personifies the Shield of Loyola. He embodies what Saint Joseph’s University is all about.”

Post described the award as “one of the greatest honors of my life.”

“I am deeply honored and moved to receive the Shield of Loyola Award,” he added. “I have always had the highest respect and affection for Saint Joseph’s University. It has prepared and shielded me well for both life and my career in industry.”

The Reading, Pa., native is president and founder of Post Precision Castings, a privately held company located in Straustown, Pa. Post Precision is a worldwide leader in the manufacture of cast valve and pump parts for the chemical, petroleum, pharmaceutical, and food and beverage industries.

A dedicated alumnus, Post has served the University as a member of the Magis Society and recently spearheaded a “Young Alumni Challenge” in support of The Saint Joseph’s Fund. In 1999 he and wife Maryanne, pictured above, made a gift of $6 million to SJU.

These funds transformed Villiger Hall, now named John R. Post Hall, into an academic building complete with state-of-the-art networking and in-class computer technology for several academic departments, including psychology, sociology, and interdisciplinary health services.

At the time, it was the largest gift by an alumnus in Saint Joseph’s history — serving as the catalyst for others to make recent major institutional gifts.

Post credits his Jesuit education for instilling in him the values and work ethic contributing to his personal and professional success.

“It’s true that St. Joe’s did not make an Albert Einstein out of me, but I can tell you that what I learned here was true genius,” he said. “The lessons taken and the values given — not just from professors and administrators, but from many friends — are a foundation and a shield in the makeup of a more complete person.”

John and Maryanne have two children, both of whom are Hawks. John Jr. received his M.S. in International Marketing in 2006, and Maryanne is currently a senior majoring in Food Marketing.

SAINT JOSEPH’S UNIVERSITY NATIONAL ALUMNI BOARD

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GIFT FROM BERNADETTE B. AND JAMES J. NEALIS ’69
EXPANDS ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

Saint Joseph’s University plans to expand its Asian Studies Program — proposing a new major and creating a faculty chair in Asian Studies — thanks to a $2.5 million gift and bequest from Bernadette B. and James J. Nealis III ’69 (B.S.), of Rock Hall, Md.

The Bernadette B. and James J. Nealis III ’69 Program in Asian Studies is an interdisciplinary program within the College of Arts and Sciences and will begin in the 2008-09 academic year — replacing the minor and certificate programs currently offered.

Additionally, and as part of its strategic plan, Saint Joseph’s will dedicate two new tenure-track faculty positions to the development of the Asian Studies Program — one coming on line in 2008 and the other in 2009.

“This program in Asian studies will propel Saint Joseph’s University a step closer to achieving its vision of a comprehensive university with a global focus,” said University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J. “The development of this major once again reinforces Saint Joseph’s commitment to accomplishing even more — to becoming a University of higher academic stature, true to the marvelous Jesuit and Catholic mission of educating men and women to lead lives of purpose.”

In the 21st century — an age of constant information and instant communication — students who understand the dynamics of global economic and intercultural relations will have a distinct advantage in securing good jobs, according to Nealis, a retired executive vice president for human resources at Lafarge North America in Herndon, Va.

“Those with knowledge of world history, languages, global health, and international affairs will be able to make informed decisions regarding domestic issues influenced by global circumstances,” he said. “By the same token, with an entire generation lacking in this knowledge, the United States is in danger of putting itself at a competitive disadvantage.”

“University graduates with a foundation in the rich historical and cultural heritage of the countries of Asia, as well as their growing importance in world affairs and their critical relationship to the national interests of the United States, will certainly have an advantage in competing for jobs on the global stage,” said Brice Wachterhauser, Ph.D., University provost.

In addition to expanding the Asian Studies Program, $1.5 million of the Nealis gift, through a bequest, will support the creation of The Bernadette B. and James J. Nealis III ’69 Faculty Chair in Asian Studies.
GIVE TO THE SAINT JOSEPH'S FUND TODAY

The 2006-07 edition of The Saint Joseph’s Fund is in the home stretch. As of February 15, 2007, more than $2.9 million has been pledged, with alumni participation nearing 13 percent. This year’s goal of $4.25 million raised and 22 percent alumni participation is well within reach.

The Saint Joseph’s Fund represents your partnership with the University and the entire campus community — benefiting almost every aspect of the undergraduate experience: University scholarships and financial aid, academic programs and initiatives, faculty support, service opportunities, and student research — all of which continue to have a profound effect on our students during their time on campus and beyond.

Consider a gift to the University, to your academic program, or to a favorite activity you enjoyed as a student. Every gift makes an undeniable impact at Saint Joseph’s University.

Below is a testimonial from one loyal Saint Joseph’s Fund donor:

To some degree I never really thought about why I support Saint Joseph’s. I just do. But when thinking about it, the first word that comes to mind is “special.”

Saint Joseph’s is a special place, and I always felt lucky to have attended the University and to have had the experiences I did. I believe the liberal arts core inherent in a Saint Joseph’s education was an invaluable grounding in “how to think, not what to think” — a broad education that serves someone well no matter what career or life path they later pursue.

More than the education, it was the people at Saint Joseph’s that made the experience such a special one — a true “community” long after you leave. To this day, some of my closest friends are the guys from the track team, relationships that are strong after 15 years. That just doesn’t happen everywhere.

Giving to The Saint Joseph’s Fund is, in part, a way to say “thank you” and to ensure the Saint Joseph’s community grows and thrives so a new group of students can share the same experience. I also feel that as a young alumnus, it’s important to give back now. It’s easy to put things off and say “I’ll do it when …” Sometimes, that day just keeps getting pushed off, so I made a conscious decision to give early and often.

I’ve always felt that if all alumni thought the same way, regardless of an individual’s level of giving, if we gave back in the way that we are able, the sum of the total would be a great thing. Saint Joseph’s has grown and thrived since I left campus, growth that is inspiring and exciting to see and made possible in part by the people giving back. There’s not a place or cause I’d rather support because I know it will help someone share the same special experience I did.

I’m proud to be a Hawk!

James Barge ’91, Partner, Intellect Technical Solutions, Inc.
Clearwater, Fla.

To make your gift online, visit www.sju.edu/development.

SJU CHRISTENS NEW SHELL ON BOATHOUSE ROW

Saint Joseph’s University’s newest shell, the Festina Lente, was christened at Saint Joseph’s Robert M. Gillin Jr. Boathouse in October in honor of Gerry and Marguerite Lenfest (far left). The Lenfests recently established the Lenfest Scholars Program — a partnership with the Ignatian College Connection, which enables students from Philadelphia’s Gesu School to attend SJU. Sharing in the celebration were (from center): University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., and SJU rowing coaches Gerry Quinlan and Drew Hill ’74 (B.S.).
1956

John R. Gallop (B.S.) retired after 42 years of working as a sales consultant. He spends his time golfing, traveling, and volunteering.

Vincent F. Yezzi Sr. (B.S.) retired from IBM after 40 years and now enjoys traveling, golf, photography, working part-time as a radio DJ, and spending time with his nine grandchildren and family. He and wife Joan have been married 46 years and are a true Hawk family. Their four children are SJU graduates — Mary Beth Phillips (B.S. ’83), Vincent (B.S. ’86), Thomas (B.S. ’89), and Linda Schubert (B.S. ’94) — as are two sons-in-law. Two grandchildren are current students.

1960

William Brendley Jr., Ph.D. (B.S., M.S. ’62), was selected for the Centurions Program of the Wilberforce Forum, the Chuck Colson program promoting a biblical worldview. Dr. Brendley has presented seminars on refuting The DaVinci Code and on defensive efforts against bioterrorism.

1961

Mike Slavin (B.S.) retired in September after 25 years with the Port of Long Beach, Calif. His last position was as chief financial officer.

1962 Reunion Year! May 18-20

Sandra Pali Jr. (B.S.) received the JUST AWARD for his publication The Forgotten Foursome, a report on golf club-fitting techniques for physically challenged golfers.

John S. Rabada, M.D. (B.S.), received the 2005 Rick Aguilar Social Justice Advocate Award. A retired emergency room doctor, Dr. Rabada volunteers at the Virgil Gianelli Medical Clinic in Stockton, Calif., and provides episodic and chronic care to uninsured people in San Joaquin County, Calif.

1964

Charles W. Bradley (B.S.) retired as an assistant professor and chair of the business administration department at Wesley College in Dover, Del. He had been a full-time instructor there since 1992.

Gerald P. Madden, Ph.D. (B.S.), joined the finance and law department in the College of Business Administration at Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, Mich., where he teaches financial analysis and investments.

1967 Reunion Year! May 18-20

J. Jeffrey Grill, Ed.D. (B.A.), became a professor of education at Ohio Dominican University in Columbus after retiring from Athens (Ala.) State University. He also received the 2006 Jasper Harvey Award for Outstanding Teacher Educator in Special Education from Alabama’s Federation Council for Exceptional Children.

Stanley M. Kochanek (B.S.) retired as vice president of Wachovia Bank’s community banking department. He was with the company for more than 34 years. He later received a master’s degree in management at Antioch University in Yellow Springs, Ohio.

William J. Matta, Ed.D. (B.A.), published Relationship Sabotage: Unconscious Factors that Destroy Couples, Marriages and Families (Greenwood, 2006). His premise is that couples often separate or divorce without fully understanding why.

1968

Greg Blazic (B.S.), a consultant, brought an SJU rally towel when he climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa, with his two daughters last summer. The temperature was about minus five degrees Fahrenheit when they reached the summit. That night, Blazic, a golfer, slept in the extinct volcano’s crater and their thermometers registered negative 20 degrees. Blazic reports that he and brother Chris (B.S. ’72) attend many SJU basketball games.
Robert Boswell (B.S.) is a regis-
tered representative/investment
advisor representative of Equity
Services for KeyAdvisors in Media,
He and his wife have been friends
since they were 15 years old and
now have three children and seven
grandchildren. The couple spent
14 days in Italy in fall 2005.

James J. Kelly (B.S.) has become
president and CEO of the
Washington, D.C.-based Food and
Drug Law Institute, a non-profit
international organization of food,
drug, and medical device manufac-
turers, attorneys, regulators, and
consultants. He most recently
served as president and CEO of
Carl Zeiss, the U.S. subsidiary of
the German-based manufacturer of
precision optics.

Joseph M. Mazzafr o (B.S.) serves as scientific
and technical intelligence liaison officer for the Johns
Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL).
There he provides intelligence support for the myriad
APL-sponsored Department of Defense tasks. Since
joining APL after retiring as a captain in the Office of
Naval Intelligence in 1996, Mazzafr o has played a key
role in many areas: Area Air Defense Commander
system development; the Global Net Centric
Surveillance and Targeting system; various ballistic
missile defense programs; and numerous intelligence,
surveillance, and reconnaissance systems operations.
He has also played a significant role in advising Naval
Intelligence on how to improve the nation’s defense
against maritime-borne terrorism.

1970

Charles J. Cunningham III (B.A.), a Philadelphia
Court of Common Pleas judge, was appointed to the
Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board. The 12-member
board investigates allegations of ethical misconduct
brought against Pennsylvania judges.

Anthony DeCurtis (B.S.) was nominated for
Outstanding Professor at Widener’s University
College, where he is an adjunct professor of English.
He also teaches at Cardinal O’Hara High School in
Springfield, Pa.

Tom Dolan (B.A.) owns Dolan Media Management,
which won a 2005 silver medallion and second place
in the interactive media business Web site category at
the annual Broadcast Industry's Marketing
Convention in New York, N.Y. It was hosted by
Promax International, an association for promotion
and marketing executives in the electronic media. He
spent more than 25 years in TV news before devel-
op ing his company, which is based in suburban
Washington, D.C., and builds management teams for
TV stations.

Joseph W. Ryan Jr. (B.A.) was elected to the
International Association of Defense Counsel Board
of Directors for the 2006-07 term. He is a partner at
Porter Wright Morris and Arthur in Columbus, Ohio,
and specializes in civil litigation with an emphasis on
complex professional liability, intellectual property,
and commercial law. Ryan represents corporate
clients throughout the country on trademark, service
mark, and trade dress claims.

NICK DINUBILE, M.D. ’73

Your Body’s Framework

It’s hard to imagine an alumnus more dedicated to the Ignatian
course of cura personalis — care for the entire person — than
Nick DiNubile, M.D. ’73 (B.S.). Whether he’s tending to injured
players at a 76ers game or sharing medical advice on his blog,
DiNubile — or “Dr. Nick,” as he’s affectionately known — has
turned his Saint Joseph’s education into a lifelong passion for
caring for others.

One of the nation’s foremost orthopedic surgeons, Dr.
DiNubile is the author of Framework: Your 7-Step Program for
Healthy Muscles, Bones, and Joints (Rodale Press, 2005). The
book explains that one of the key aspects of a healthy body is a
sound frame, and outlines what we should do to maintain strong
muscle and bone structure while following the diet and exercise
regimens that keep the rest of our bodies healthy. The book was
the inspiration for a documentary, “Your Body’s Framework,”
which began airing on PBS this past November.

Dr. DiNubile, a clinical assistant professor in the orthopedic
surgery department at the Hospital of the University of
Pennsylvania, is also a spokesperson for the American Academy
of Orthopedic Surgeons and the American Orthopedic Society
for Sports Medicine. He has been chosen as one of the “Best Doctors
in America” and featured on “Good Morning America,” CNN,
and National Public Radio, and in The New York Times, The

Dr. DiNubile received his degree in biology at Saint Joseph’s
before earning his medical degree from Temple University. He
credits his time on Hawk Hill with preparing him to succeed in a
wide range of fields.

“Just because you choose to go into medicine doesn’t mean all
of your work has to be medical,” he said. “Saint Joseph’s
expanded my horizons, giving me the opportunity to learn to
write, which has been extremely useful in my career.”

In addition to his book, Dr. DiNubile writes regularly for the
experts’ blog at Yahoo! Health (health.yahoo.com/experts/sportsnick),
drawing more than a million hits for the site and inspiring more
than 5,000 comments on one entry about cracking knuckles.

Dr. DiNubile has also brought the Jesuit ideal of being a person
with and for others to his professional life. After forming a friend-
ship with Arnold Schwarzenegger through his work on the
President’s Council on Fitness during the first Bush administra-
tion, Dr. DiNubile joined the advisory board at Schwarzenegger’s
After-School All Stars program. For more than a decade, the
program has been dedicated to providing positive, safe activities
for underprivileged youth in more than a dozen cities nationwide.

“If you give kids an alternative to hanging out on the street,
they’ll veer toward more positive life paths,” Dr. DiNubile said.
“The program started in cities with great sports traditions, but
that was just the hook. We also provide computer skills training,
SAT courses, and more to promote learning.”

— Jeffrey Martin ’04 (B.A.), ’05 (M.A.)
A beloved member of the Saint Joseph’s family, Francis E. “Frank” Rosato, M.D. ’56 (B.S.), 72, died of blood cancer on October 18. He leaves behind a wife, Trudy (left), and five children.

Recognized for his distinguished career in surgery, Dr. Rosato had retired from his position as Samuel D. Gross Professor and Chairman of Surgery at Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia in 2005. He was a prolific author and won countless professional awards for his skill, experience, and leadership. Dr. Rosato was known as a “surgeon’s surgeon,” according to James W. Fox IV, professor and chief of reconstructive surgery at Jefferson. “Frank was revered by the more than 300 surgeons he trained,” Fox said in a Philadelphia Inquirer article. “They often asked his advice in difficult surgical procedures years after leaving Jefferson. His surgical techniques doubled the life span of patients with pancreatic cancer. He was the first surgeon to use intra-operative radiation and the first to perform a liver transplant in this region.”

Dr. Rosato attended both St. Joseph’s Prep (Class of 1952) and Saint Joseph’s College before going on to medical school at Hahnemann in Philadelphia. Though he left Hawk Hill after his junior year, he stayed in touch with his alma mater and celebrated reunions with the Class of 1956. His brother, Ernest ’58 (B.S.), also graduated from Saint Joseph’s. Saint Joseph’s Medical Alumni group recognized Dr. Rosato with the Shaffrey Award in 1981 for his many achievements, and the Alumni Association also bestowed on him its highest award, the Shield of Loyola, in 1988.

Dr. Rosato became a member of Saint Joseph’s Board of Trustees in 1993 during the presidency of Nicholas S. Rashford, S.J., and served as chair from 1999 to 2003. “Dr. Frank Rosato was a great Board of Trustees chairman because of his academic experience,” Fr. Rashford observed. “He understood universities and how they worked and this was helpful with the Board on many occasions.”

“As a personal level, Frank was my doctor and friend,” he added. “He knew how to listen to patients in a way few physicians and most surgeons could not equal. Many times I was welcomed and spent time with Frank and his family at their home.”

— Molly Harty

IN MEMORY

Alfred F. Bernt, father of Frank, Ph.D., director of Faith-Justice Institute
Herman “Bud” Bocher, former adjunct professor of management and husband of Rita, Ph.D., adjunct professor of modern languages Nicole M. McKeon, Ph.D., adjunct professor of psychology
Colleen Morris, biology department assistant
Agnes Myer, mother of Stephen, public safety and security officer
Violet M. Slinger, mother of Violet Giles, education department assistant
Dorothy Wallace, mother of Patty Bazrod, Cooperative Education Program director
Frank P. Kelly ’40
Clifton M. Durning, M.D. ’42
Cornelius J. “Neal” McGranery Jr. ’44
William P. Brodie ’50
Augustus J. Genova ’54
Ralph D. Mercer ’54
Betty Ann Voss, wife of John, Esq. ’54 (deceased)
Kathleen M. Higgins, wife of Thomas S., Esq. ’58, mother of Sean ’99
Stephen Joseph La Rosa, O.S.A. ’59
John H. Kane ’61
John P. “Jack” Gallagher Jr. ’63, son of John P. Sr. ’31, father of Michael ’97. (See page 40)
M. Dorothy Meyer ’64
Lois M. Zurbach, mother of Peter, Ph.D. ’70, 72, associate professor of chemistry
Mary G. Ristow, mother of William C. ’72
Anne Ognosky, sister of Daniel J. Curran, Ph.D. ’73
Patricia Almeida, wife of Paul ’78 (deceased)
Florence Petragnani, mother of Joseph ’79, assistant vice president for information technology
Mary Anne Dunne, mother of Renie Shields ’82, director of compliance services in athletics
John “Jack” Joyce, father of Dan R. J., S.J. ’88, assistant to the vice president for mission
Maryellen (Clarke) Dorsey ’92, wife of David ’54, former director of alumni relations, mother of Peter ’80, Ph.D., Kathleen Mitchell ’80, and Barbara Cowan ’93
John F. Reilly, father of Anne Marie Cilli ’93, ’01, director of enrollment operations
Debbie Osborne, mother of Matt ’07 and Ben ’09
Julia M. Valliere, mother of Beth Ann ’10

1971

James R. Hedtke, Ph.D. (B.S.), is a professor and chair of the history and political science department at Carthage College in Racine, Pa. His recent book, Civil War Professional Soldiers, Citizen Soldiers and Native American Soldiers of Genesee County, New York (Mellen Press, 2006), chronicles the valor and courage of the men from Genesee County during the Civil War.

Dolores Ambruster Kelly, Ed.D. (White, B.S., M.S. ’94), was appointed director of field experience and certification at Widener University in Wilmington, Del. She coauthored an article titled “Developing a Model Curriculum for Information Literacy Standards in a Small Liberal Arts College” that was published in the International Journal of Learning (Vol. 12, No. 8). She is now working on a biography of her uncle, which she plans to make into a children’s book.

John P. Lubicky, M.D. (B.S.), has moved to Indianapolis, Ind., to become a professor of orthopedic surgery at the Indiana University School of Medicine. His duties are centered at Riley Hospital for Children, and he concentrates on pediatric orthopedics and spine surgery.

1972 Reunion Year! May 18-20

Christopher J. Blazic, Ed.D. (B.S.), is completing his 35th year as a school counselor at Cornwall Elementary School in Bensalem, Pa. He is also an adjunct professor in the counseling/psychology department at West Chester University and in the education department at Holy Family University.

William J. Cunningham (B.S., M.B.A. ’81) owns Military Marketing in New York, N.Y. The firm specializes in helping technology and consumer package goods companies secure contracts and distribution of their products in the military market. It also provides full advertising and marketing support, including specialized advertising on military bases.

Stephen C. Kazanjian (B.S.) was ordained a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia last June. He is assigned to his home parish of St. Pius X in Broomall, Pa.

1973

Jim Beirne (B.S.) is associate dean of the Olin School of Business at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. He and wife Mary Ann Altergott reside in St. Louis with sons John and James (twins) and Michael.

1974

Harold Melleby Jr., Ph.D. (B.A.), received his doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Pennsylvania. He and wife Cheryl, along with sons William and Daniel, reside in Cherry Hill, N.J.

John J. Ott (B.A.) has been a juvenile probation and parole officer since 1975 and has a master’s degree in probation and parole administration. Fifty-six of his essays related to the field have been accepted for publication in various research journals, magazines, and newspapers.

1975

David W. Brennan, Ph.D. (B.A., M.S. ’93), is an assistant professor of education at Immaculata (Pa.) University. For almost 30 years, Dr. Brennan has worked as a teacher, department chair, assistant principal, and principal for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia’s Office of Catholic Education.

Don Duffin (B.A.) has retired.
Joseph Gunn (B.S.) retired from the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Labor Racketeering, as a senior special agent. He resides in Wayne, Pa.

1976
Gerald A. McHugh Jr., Esq. (B.A.), was named one of the top 10 lawyers in Pennsylvania for the third consecutive year in the annual Super Lawyers poll, a survey of 35,000 members of the legal profession. He was also listed again in the national directory The Best Lawyers in America.

1977 Reunion Year! May 18-20
Robert F. Marino (B.A.) is a board member of the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association and chairs the Pennsylvania Public Policy Coalition for both state chapters. A Philadelphia resident, he is also the owner/principal of RFM Development, a training, design, and development company in Lafayette Hill, Pa.

Daniel J. Waters (B.S.) was recently the subject of a segment on the French television show Incroyable mais Vrai (Incredible but True) for his role in the treatment of a snow-mobile submerged in an icy lake. The patient was successfully resuscitated. The segment aired on the French television network TF1 in July 2006.

1978
Karen Barry (B.S.) is a member of the Brookline Labrador Retriever Rescue, which serves areas of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware (www.brooklinelabrescue.org). She is looking for volunteers to help with the organization's Adopt-a-Fosters-Volunteers campaign to find homes for shelter and owner-surrendered dogs.

John K ozel (B.S.) is a senior consultant with Visionary Integration Professionals in Lakewood, Colo.

1979
Lawrence Brown (B.S.) authored a new book, Kwanzaa King and Queen. He is also the CEO, president, and founder of the Philadelphia College Center.

Richard McNell (B.A.) is a founder and managing partner of the law firm McNell & Walker in Philadelphia. He specializes in representing labor unions and individuals in all aspects of labor, employment, and employee benefits law. He and wife Tracey reside in Boothwyn, Pa., with their two children, Ryan, Michael, and Amy.

Maureen O’Connor Blom (B.S.) has been president of Silverside Corp., a private investment firm, for the past five years. She and husband Paul have two children, Christine and Sean. Sean is an SJU freshman. In May Blom will serve as chairperson of the 73rd Scholastic Rowing Association Nationals on the Cooper River in Camden, N.J., which will host 4,000 high school rowers from across the country in a two-day championship-rowing event.

1980
Ann Marie Byrnes (B.A.) was awarded the Pope John Paul II Award for Teaching and Best Practices in June at Holy Cross High School in Delran, N.J., where she serves as the English department chair and teaches honors freshman English and advanced placement English literature and composition. She also has volunteered as a docent for the past 20 years at the Philadelphia Zoo. Byrnes and husband Tom Hartman reside in Lumberton, N.J.

Joe Martin (B.S.) started the first competitive girls’ golf league in Philadelphia, the Academy Girls’ Golf League, now in its fourth year. Several players have gone on to play golf in college. Martin has been a coach at Nazareth Academy since 1999.

1981
Susan (McKinney) Andersen, Ph.D. (B.A.), is an associate professor of English at Colorado Mountain College. She and husband Michael Wayne live in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

Rosemarie (Conover) Grosso (B.S.) purchased an Atlanta-based importer of fabric goods. She is president of the company and sells its products to gift and clothing stores under the new name of InDiago. Husband Vance (B.S. ’81) is a marketing consultant with the energy-saving industrial solution division of Westinghouse Lighting Solutions. They reside in Gulph Mills, Pa., with their two daughters.

Joyce (Goldner) Smith (B.A.) is a legal assistant. She and husband Terry reside in West Chester, Pa.

Joseph B. Szgalsky, M.D. (B.S.), successfully completed his recertification examination with the American Board of Family Medicine. A fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, Dr. Szgalsky is on the medical staff of both Underwood Memorial Hospital in Woodbury, N.J., and Woodbury Family Practice Associates. He, wife Helen, and son Louis live in Mullica Hill, N.J.

1982 Reunion Year! May 18-20
Lesly D’Ambola, D.D. (B.S.), is president of Saint Joseph’s Medical Alumni Chapter. She is a board-certified internist and medical director of St. Luke’s Catholic Medical Services, a ministry of Holy Name of Camden, N.J., and the Jesuit Urban Service Team.

William Healy (B.S.) is associate director of major gifts for the Brooklyn College Foundation.

James Honigman (B.S.) is a senior vice president of key accounts for Aon Consulting in Radnor, Pa.

Mark S. Mandia (B.S., M.B.A. ’89) is executive vice president and chief operating officer of DMV Worldwide in Wayne, Pa.

Frank A. Squilla (B.S.) celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary with wife April in Italy. They have three daughters: Gina, Dana, and Andrea, an SJU freshman.

1983
Jim Quigley (B.S.) and wife Teresa opened Healthy Spaces, which does biopollutant and chemical testing, healthy home assessments, and building-biology consulting (www.healthyspaces.com).

1984
John J. Cairns (B.S.) is a national distribution manager for Nissan Corp., Infiniti DVN. He, wife Pam, and children Michael and Kate relocated to Nashville, Tenn., from Mission Viejo, Calif.

Col. James Cobb (B.S.) serves as command director in Cheyenne Mountain, Colo., for the U.S. Air Force.

Margaret A. “Peggy” McCausland (B.A.) established the Law Offices of Margaret A. McCausland, in Plymouth Meeting, Pa., representing management in employment and labor law. She speaks and publishes frequently on employment law issues, has served as an adjunct faculty member at Villanova Law School since 1999, and works pro bono as a child advocate on behalf of abused and neglected children. McCausland has also been a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer for the last three years.

Laurence L. Smith (B.S.) recently formed Simon & Smith, P.C., a general practice law firm located in Media, Pa., with areas of concentration in municipal, real estate, and business and immigration law.

1985
Joseph W. Devine (M.B.A.) was promoted to senior vice president of business development and physician relations for the Kennedy Health System, a multi-hospital healthcare system serving the communities of southern New Jersey. He has worked with Kennedy for more than 20 years, now leading and implementing business growth and development as well as focusing on physician recruitment, retention, and partnering. Devine lives in Washington Township, N.J., with his wife and two daughters.

Jamie Moyer (B.S.), pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies, was signed to a two-year contract extension through the 2008 season. He and wife Karen live in Newtown Square, Pa., with their six children. The Phillies secured the left-hander in an Aug. 19 trade with Seattle. In September he went 4-1 to tie for third-most wins that month among National League pitchers.

Patrick J. Rusnak (B.S.) relocated to Spokane, Wash., to serves as chief operating officer of AmericanWest Bancorporation.

Thomas J. Schwartz Jr. (B.A.) has been president of In Your Corner Public Adjusters in Philadelphia since 1992.

1986
John D. Feehan (B.S.) was appointed chief financial officer of Virgin Mobile USA after nearly five years of service as vice president of financial operations.

1987 Reunion Year! May 18-20
Scott Behringer (B.S.) of Avon, Conn., has three children, Jessica, Alexander, and Sarah.

David Camp (B.S.) was named among the top one percent of Realtors by the Chicago Association of Realtors where he has been practicing for more than nine years.

Eileen K. Cardile (B.S., M.S. ’91) was named the first female president and CEO of Underwood Memorial Hospital in Woodbury, N.J.

Sharon Orlowski (B.S.) is working for Dun & Bradstreet as a sales leader in Bethlehem, Pa. She resides in Breinigsville, Pa.

1988
Laura Chmielewski (B.A.) is assistant professor of Atlantic World and Applied History at the State University of New York in Purchase, N.Y. She is preparing a manuscript on religion andencounter the 17th and 18th century New England frontier.
1989

Karen (Crenny) Cuskey (B.S.) worked for Vanguard for 16 years before leaving last year to stay home full-time with children Elizabeth, Kristen, and Lauren.

Jocelyn M. File (B.A.) accepted a position as executive assistant to the new director of the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. For the past five years, she has lived and worked in Torino, Italy.

MARRIAGES

Karen Deom (B.S. '97) and Martin Glodde (B.S.) moved to Columbus, Ohio, with their two children, Jacob and Samantha.

Rosalie Intartaglia (B.S., M.B.A. '97) teaches math at the Kent Place School in Summit, N.J. She lives in Chatham, N.J., with children Olivia and Dominick.

Thomas Marino (B.S.) joined Karr Barth Associates after 17 years in the commercial finance industry. His team of financial experts works with clients and their tax and legal advisors to craft investment and risk management strategies. Marino resides in Quakertown, Pa., with wife Patty and children Joseph and Caroline.

Jessica Crossed Shanahan (B.S.) was named a trustee of the Genesee Country Village and Museum, the third largest living history museum in the country. She and husband Tim reside in Rochester, N.Y., with their four sons.

Jon Vanderloo (B.S.) was appointed director of home care for St. Francis Hospital in Wilmington, Del.

1990

Maria Deysher (B.A.) is a financial advisor for AIG Valic, located in Malvern, Pa., where she counsels teachers on how to invest.

Thomas G. Francesconi (B.S.) was promoted to district sales manager in South Jersey for SYSCO Food Services in Philadelphia. He has been with the company for 13 years. Francesconi and his wife of 10 years, Maria, have children Victoria, Tommy, and Caroline.

Stephen A. Iatrola (B.S.) is owner and director of the Tutoring Club of Washington Township in Sewell, N.J. The company helps children in grades K-12 improve their learning skills and offers SAT prep.

Thomas Jones (B.A., M.B.A. '98) was promoted to vice president of applications, global sales, at Oracle Corp. He and wife Honor (Vassallo, B.A. '90) reside in Havertown, Pa., with children Hannah and Luke.

Robert V. Kyle III (B.S.) is a vice president/investment strategist for Wachovia Wealth Management. He and wife Beth reside in Blue Bell, Pa., with their two daughters and son.

Margaret (McSurdy) Moran (M.S.) is an RN and EMT, with certification in EpicCare EMR and Nurse Triage, at Children's Hospital in Philadelphia.

Marguerite Pierre-Baril (B.A.) serves as director of special education at Nueva Esperanza Academy Charter High School in Philadelphia. She resides in Drexel Hill, Pa., with husband Jeffrey and their five children.

Kathy Shott (M.B.A.) is director of human resources at Dock Woods Community, a continuing care retirement community in Lansdale, Pa. Prior to this position, she served as vice president of human resources for Greenacres Health Systems in Hyland, Pa.

1991

Kate (Ferrick) Delosso (B.A.) runs Collectible Tours (www.collectibletours.com), a special interest tour company in Chadds Ford, Pa. Delosso is a certified travel instructor whose destination specialty is Asia. She offers “motherland tours” for foreign-born adoptees to “provide a level of support for the adoption agencies that found permanent, loving homes for children.” She and her husband have two birth children and three internationally adopted children.

Michael Eagan (M.S.) is a special agent with the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Diplomatic Security. He is the regional security officer at the American Consulate in Lahore, Pakistan.

Michele Ettore-Williams (B.A.) teaches preschool for Hispanic Counseling and Family Services of N.J. She and husband Colin reside in Mount Laurel, N.J.

Daniel Haggerty (B.A.) joined the philosophy department at the University of Scranton (Pa.) after seven years as an associate professor and formation director at St. Mary’s Seminary and University in Baltimore, Md. He and wife Rebecca (Dennis, B.A. ’90) live in Clarks Green, Pa., with daughters Zoe, Charlotte, and Lily-Jane.

Christopher Quinn (B.S.) is a marketing consultant specializing in direct marketing. He is based out of San Diego, Calif.

1992

Reunion Year! May 18-20

Sean P. Faherty (B.S.) practices real estate law in Lambertville, N.J., where he is also an assistant prosecutor. He, wife Debbi, and children Ryan and Sarah reside in Lambertville.

Jo-el (Mcintyre) Cox (B.S.) is an educational consultant for private schools in Northern Virginia and teaches part-time in the Graduate School of Education at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. She and husband Michael have two boys, Joshua and Gabriel.

Thomas Schmidt (B.S.) moved from Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico to Lackland Air Force Base in Texas to become commander of the 331st Training Squadron.

Cynthia M. Zgleni (B.S.) of Doylestown, Pa., has two children, Jacob and Samantha.

1993

Stephanie Manning Cicale (B.S.) was named Fundraiser of the Year by the New Jersey Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. She received the Robert J. Smythe Outstanding Professional Fundraiser Award at the Excellence in Philanthropy Awards Dinner last April. Cicale is director of development at Family Service of Morris County in Morristown, N.J.

Ted Engelke (B.S.) is head of Guinness Nigeria’s trade marketing department. He, wife Katherine, and daughters Hattie and Ousie resides in Lagos, Nigeria.

Anthony R. Faltin (B.S.) of South Brunswick, N.J., is a senior accountant for Novo Nordisk in Princeton, N.J.

Kristi Foley (B.S.) moved to Columbus, Ohio, with husband Mike and their children Jacob and Kathryn.

1994

Lori (Aquilio) Watson (B.S.) and daughter Abigail live in Blackwood, N.J. Watson was promoted to executive director of Mental Health Services at Wedge Medical Center, where she oversees four of the center’s six sites in Philadelphia.

Maria Ciranni-Ionfrida (B.S., M.S. ’95) was promoted to director of consumer promotions for the William Wrigley Jr. Co., U.S. businesses. She and husband Joe also opened a pizzeria in Chester, N.J., named GianAngelo’s after their sons Angelo and Giovanni.

Victoria Marie (Dunphy) Satterfield (B.S., M.S. ’95) is a field sales territory manager for Wyeth Pharmaceuticals in Bucks County, Pa. She and husband Dale reside in Pottstown, Pa., with children Blake and Nicolette.

Walt Fee (B.S.) works for the U.S. Air Force. He was transferred to Hickam Air Force Base in Oahu, Hawaii, in August.
BRIAN EGAN ’90

Riding the Airwaves

After earning the moniker “Mr. Monotone” during his time on Saint Joseph’s own radio station WSJR, Brian Egan ’90 (B.A.) never thought he’d have a career on the airwaves. Yet 18 years later, Egan comprises one half of the Ben and Brian show on 98.7 Country WMZQ-FM, broadcast from Washington, D.C.

The program airs weekday mornings from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. and features news and entertainment commentary from both Egan and radio partner Ben Campbell. Egan describes the program as “a very entertaining, hip-sounding country music morning show.”

But as an undergraduate, he will tell you, his radio skills were less than enjoyable. Egan balanced his involvement in WSJR with a demanding course load; he double majored in history and English with a minor in medieval studies. His behind-the-scenes work with WSJR landed him an internship at the former Eagle 106 FM, broadcast down the street from campus in Bala Cynwyd.

“After the internship,” he remembered, “I realized I wanted to give radio a shot for my career.”

Although Egan’s humanities degrees may offer an unlikely background for radio, he credits his liberal arts education for a now flourishing career.

“You need to know how to think,” explained Egan. “You need to know how to read a news story, think critically, find what’s relevant to your audience in that story, and then have your unique ‘take’ on it” — skills Egan says he acquired at Saint Joseph’s and uses on a daily basis when interviewing guests and taking calls from listeners.

Post-graduation, Egan found his way on the air in several cities before pairing up with Campbell for a morning show in Lexington, Ky. In 1996, the duo took their act to Phoenix, Ariz., where they won the 1998 Country Music Award Major Market Personality of the Year, followed by the 2000 Billboard Country Personality Award. In 2002, they returned to Egan’s native area, Washington, D.C., to host their current morning show on WMZQ. The pair also hosts the Big Top 20 Country Countdown, broadcast each weekend on over 100 stations around the country.

“Brian is one of those rare individuals who looks at things differently than most of us,” noted former WMZQ Program Director George King. “He is a very smart and articulate person with an engaging personality.”

Egan has interviewed numerous celebrities, including country power couple Tim McGraw and Faith Hill, Sara Evans from ABC’s “Dancing with the Stars,” and Kenny Rogers, who Egan attests is “far and away the best” interview.

Egan and wife Jennifer met in 1993, wed in 1997, and have a four-year-old daughter, Madeline. In July 2005, Jennifer was diagnosed with leukemia. With the help of WMZQ listeners, Egan raised more than $100,000 and became the local first runner-up and the national second runner-up for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Man and Woman of the Year fundraising campaign.

— Alexa Bonadonna ’06 (B.A.)
Eileen Gadsden and Christopher reside in West Chester, Pa., with children Alexandra University.

J. Meredith (Tegler) Datz and her husband Mark are involved in local community activities. She and husband Todd have fraternal twins, Alex and Mark.

Liza Micloni Lee (B.S.) is a lead clinical research organization. She and husband Todd have fraternal twins, Alex and Mark.

Linda Mac Nichol (B.S., M.S. ’01) is an administrative staff assistant in the Seattle (Wash.) Police Department. Before graduating from SJU, she earned degrees from Delaware County (Pa.) Community College and West Chester (Pa.) University. Mac Nichol also has a paralegal certificate from Widener University.

Christian Goodman (B.A.), wife Amy, and sons Ryan and Benjamin have moved to Point Mugu Naval Air Warfare Center in Calif. Goodman is the air warfare officer with Carrier Air Wing Nine assigned to USS John C. Stennis.

Michael Haas (B.S.) is an investment advisor with Merrill Lynch’s Global Private Client Group in Marlton, N.J.

Jenny Bartelle (M.S.) received a master’s degree in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania, where she works as director of educational activities.

J. Meredith (Tegler) Datz (B.S.) and husband Chris reside in West Chester, Pa., with children Alexandra and Christopher.

Eileen Gadsden (B.S.) earned an M.B.A. in new ventures and entrepreneurial studies from Penn State University. She is married to Alan Wandalowski (B.A.) who joined the Bethlehem, Pa., office of the law firm Mosebach, Furst, Dayton, and Duckworth. He and wife Susan live in Oreifield, Pa., with son Owen.

1997 Reunion Year! May 18-20

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RENEE HYKEL '01

Law Student Extraordinaire

Renee Hykel '01 (B.S.) is not your average superhero. Her special powers — dedication, determination, and drive — are rather human. Her signature costume has no mask or cape; it is a streamlined Nike unisuit. Her most powerful weapons are simply a pair of oars and her intellect. While these characteristics are not futuristic, their amalgamation in Hykel distinguishes her from everyone else.

Law student by day, world championship rower by morning and night, Hykel succeeds at both things simultaneously when most people find it difficult to do just one. And considering Hykel is only 27 years old and never played a sport in high school, one cannot help but wonder: “Is she for real?” But she is indeed.

In 1997 Hykel, then in her first year at Saint Joseph's, decided to take up rowing, because, as she said, “It is the only sport that required no prior experience.” By her sophomore year, Hykel realized rowing was not simply an extracurricular activity; it was a calling. She spent the summer between her junior and senior years sculling at the Vesper Boat Club on Boathouse Row, an experience she brought back with her to Saint Joseph’s the following fall.

“I loved rowing at St. Joe’s,” Hykel recalled fondly. “One of the greatest things about collegiate rowing is being part of a program and being able to look back on that program, knowing you contributed to what it has become.”

And contribute she did. Not only was she team captain, she was the M.V.P. Although she did not expect to pursue rowing after graduation, her days of competing were nowhere near over. Currently, in addition to completing law school, Hykel's goal is to qualify for the U.S. Olympic Rowing Team in 2008.

Hykel trains throughout the year. Her daily routine consists of rowing in the morning, taking classes at Rutgers School of Law during the day, and rowing again at night. Her athletic prowess and perseverance placed her and partner Julie Nichols fourth in the semifinals and ninth overall in the World Championships in Eton, United Kingdom, this past summer. They also won bronze medals at World Cup #3 in Lucerne, Switzerland, in July.

“Renee is a wonderful person,” said Don DiJulia '67 (B.S.), associate vice president and director of athletics. “She embodied the SJU spirit as a student and we are proud to have her as an SJU alum. She made her mark in part due to her ‘Hawk Will Never Die’ attitude, and we wish her nothing but the best.”

Proving DiJulia’s belief that she is a Hawk at heart, Hykel will tell you that it isn’t so much about the winning as it is about the journey.

“Being the lead rower has taught me how to get the most out of things,” Hykel stated. “Being excellent takes so much more than I ever thought it would.”

— Alexa Bonadonna '06 (B.A.)
J. Michael Kowalski, D.O. (B.A.), received a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in June.

Kelly Machovec, M.D. (B.S.), graduated from the University of North Carolina with a medical degree and a master's degree in public health in May. She started a surgical residency at Temple University in July. Dr. Machovec and husband Scott Matthews live in Philadelphia.

Ed Zanoni (M.B.A.) resides in Narberth, Pa., with wife Anne-Marie and children Patrick and Andrew.

2001

James J. Gillele (M.B.A.) joined AlliedBarton Security Services, a large American-owned and operated security services firm, as vice president of learning and organizational effectiveness.

Mary (Gunn) McCafferty (B.S.) works for Vanguard and completed her M.B.A., with honors, from Penn State University. She and husband James live in Conshohocken, Pa.

Christie Joyner (B.S.) is senior accountant for the City of Quincy in Florida. She resides in Tallahassee, Fla.

Shannon Patton Huffman (B.S.) is a clinical social worker in Phoenixville, Pa., where she and husband Michael live. She also teaches figure skating and ice hockey at Ice Line in West Chester, Pa.

Sean Lavelle (B.S.) received his M.A. in bicultural studies from La Salle University in Philadelphia in May.

Holly Meng (M.B.A.) is founder and president of the Etiquette School of Grace in Villanova, Pa. The school strives to provide a positive difference in the lives of children and business professionals through professionally supported etiquette programs and consulting services.

Angelika Mohrke (B.A.) received her master's degree in educational leadership with a concentration in higher education administration from Villanova University. She is programs coordinator for the psychology department at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Jennifer Zeier (B.S.) graduated from the University of Oregon with a master's degree in public administration and a master's certificate in not-for-profit management.

2002: Reunion Year! May 18-20

Juan Arteaga (B.A.) was the baseball league director for Harlem's Revitalizing Baseball in Inner Cities in New York, N.Y., last summer. He teaches English at St. Peter's Prep in Jersey City, N.J.

Tracy Beinhauer (B.S.) was promoted to semi-senior accountant at WithumSmith+Brown, CPAs and Consultants. She lives in Hulmeville, Pa.

Megan Brown (B.S.) graduated from law school and passed the Pennsylvania Bar Examination.

Jeffrey Hostetter, D.O. (B.S.), was awarded a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in June. He is an internal medicine resident at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown, Pa.

Francine Elizabeth Natal (B.S.) has authored two books of poetry — Every Rose Has a Thorn and The Assortment — and a manuscript. Excerpts from the books of poetry were published in The Spirit Community Newspapers in Philadelphia.

Christopher J. O’Connell (B.S.) was one of three golfers to represent the U.S. Virgin Islands National Team at the World Team Amateur Golf Championships in South Africa last October.

Meredith Perry, D.O. (B.S.), received a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in June.

Robert Todd Rinner, D.O. (B.S.), was awarded a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in June.

Brian Rossetti (B.S.) launched an online coaching Web site for physical fitness and athletic achievement, www.runsmartproject.com. Ben Koch (B.S. ‘02) is also on the coaching staff.

Jenna Tesoriero (B.S.) earned a master's degree in communication disorders in January from William Paterson University in Wayne, N.J. She is a speech-language pathologist working with developmentally disabled children in Monroe, N.J.

Devyn McNamee Spears (B.A.) was named 2006 Clark County School District New Teacher of the Year, a title she won over 3,300 others. She spent a summer working with the American Society of Newspaper Editors in an effort to improve student journalism.

Jenna Tesoriero (B.S.) earned a master's degree in communication disorders in January from William Paterson University in Wayne, N.J. She is a speech-language pathologist working with developmentally disabled children in Monroe, N.J.

2003

Brian Holt (M.B.A.) is director of new product development with American Shower & Bath, a division of Masco Corporation.

Joseph T. Kelleher (B.S.) joined the law firm Stradley Ronon Stevens and Young as an associate in the litigation department. He graduated magna cum laude from University of Notre Dame Law School.

Cynthia (Lauter) Normart (B.S.) is a special education teacher for the Franklin Township (N.J.) Board of Education. She and husband Rob reside in Lawrenceville, N.J.

Lawrence Strawhacker (B.S.) of Boston, Mass., accepted a position in the human capital division of Deloitte Consulting.

Amanda (Trahey) Schaler (B.S., M.S. ’04), a teacher, moved to Indiana with husband Neil.

2004

Jermaine Clarke, D.O. (M.B.A.), was awarded the doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in June.

James Cosentino (B.S.) is working toward his doctor of osteopathic medicine degree at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Anthony D. Cerand (B.S.) earned an M.B.A. in business administration with a concentration in management from Penn (Pa.) College in May. He is director of operations for Family Health Associates in York.

Alyssa Hillmann (B.S.) expects to complete her master's degree in speech-language pathology this May at Seton Hall University in South Orange, N.J.

Lauren Mello (B.S.) works for Gyro Worldwide Advertising in Philadelphia, where she specializes in media.

Michael Pagliaro (B.S.) received his M.B.A. with a concentration in finance from Bentley College in Boston, Mass. He now works for SEI Investments in Oaks, Pa.

Thomas A. Rambo (M.S.) was appointed associate dean of student life and director of public safety at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pa.

Vikki Scialabba (B.S.) is a third grade teacher at Pohkeka Elementary School in Oahu, Hawaii. She lives in Ewa Beach.

Tameka Simpson, D.O. (M.B.A.), received a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in June. She is an intern at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine in Stratford, N.J.

Michelle Ruth Underkofler, D.O. (M.B.A.), was awarded the doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in June. She is an intern at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine in Stratford, N.J.

Victoria Nicole Zysok, D.O. (M.B.A.), received the doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in June. She is a resident at the Cleveland (Ohio) Clinic Foundation.

2005

Kevin McGrann (B.A.) helped power the Italian National Lacrosse Team to their best finish in international competition, posting a 4-3 record at the World Lacrosse Championships in London, Ontario. He currently resides in Washington, D.C., where he serves on the staff of U.S. House of Representatives Minority Leader John Boehner (R-Ohio).

Robert J. Staub III (B.S./B.A.) received a full scholarship to Drexel University College of Law and became a member of the inaugural class in August.

2006

Kelly Anne Flanagan (B.S.) works for accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers in New York, N.Y.

Lyric Prince (B.A.), a Richmond, Va., native, was selected as a Japan Exchange and Teaching Program grantee to teach English there this academic year. After her year in Japan, she hopes to pursue a career in communication.

Erika Rendeiro (B.S.) spoke at SJU in October on behalf of Con Agra Foods, where she is a sales representative.

Maria C. Sass (B.A.) is a Lexus national account coordinator for Team-One Advertising in El Segundo, Calif.

Dolly M. Taunk (M.B.A.) was promoted to Enterprise Identity Services (EIS) project manager at the DuPont Information Security Office.

Kimberly Y. Wensel (M.B.A.) obtained Certified Information Systems Auditor certification in October.
An Inextricable Bond: Catholicism and Academic Freedom

Does the Catholic religion liberate or straitjacket higher education? This may seem a surprising question. Writing in The New Republic (Feb. 15, 1999), Charlotte Allen claimed that many top-flight professors at Catholic universities view Catholicism and academic freedom as incompatible. Academic freedom is the right given to professors. It entitles them to teach and seek knowledge without undue interference. Its apparent conflict with Catholicism results from a major shift in American higher education.

During the last century, the loyalty of faculty members has moved from the institutions that support them to the authorities in their disciplines who evaluate their competence to receive degrees and be promoted. The upshot is, professional scholars alone are deemed to be the fitting guardians of education. This view clearly excludes administrators, trustees, and religious figures. All of them are seen as extrinsic to the heart and soul of the academic enterprise.

How do we educators who are also committed churchmen answer this charge? First we point to what Pope John Paul II says in his 1990 teaching on higher education, Ex Corde Ecclesiae. It commits Catholicism unequivocally to academic freedom. The Pope expressed this commitment even better than the American Association of University Professors. Academic freedom, said John Paul, is given to scholars so that they can find truth wherever evidence and analysis may lead them. They may publish their results, so long as they stay within their expertise and follow the proper methods of their field. The Pope advises professors to respect the rights of the community they serve. No one serves a university as an isolated individual. On the contrary, everyone there serves the truth and the common good. This service is a shared task. It is a university’s fundamental purpose. For the Pope, academic freedom is not so much a professor’s personal right as a means to reach what is true and good.

How, then, does a Catholic university reach what is true and good? In addition to respecting every professor’s right to pursue knowledge without undue interference, a Catholic university bears an additional responsibility. It must witness to Christ, the incarnate Word of God, who is “the Way, the Truth, and the Life” (Jn.14.6). This duty, as Pope Benedict XVI reminded us, does not conflict with the freedom of our intellects to investigate and draw conclusions. On the contrary, Catholicism insists that a mutually enriching friendship binds faith and reason together. Faith enlarges our search for the truth, giving us answers to problems that our limited powers of inquiry could never find. Faith tells us that God is love, that we have an eternal destiny after this life, and that we should forgive our enemies. On the other hand, reason keeps faith from flying off into superstition and sentimentality. The Bible needs to be interpreted, for instance. It needs to be understood in light of its history and culture, of archeology and literary criticism. The point is, Catholicism keeps faith and reason happily married. By doing so, it nurtures and develops academic freedom.

When these two partners seek a divorce, the consequences can be dire. For instance, J. M. Roberts, former head of Merton College in Oxford, claims that universities are aiding and abetting the rampant materialism of modern society. Their value, he says, is being determined by their ability to manipulate nature, to create wealth, and to augment the power of the elite. If he is right, we face a serious problem. Instead of liberating our intellects, modern universities are making people the victims of greed. When this happens, democratic societies such as our own are undermined. Power shifts from the people to the specialized interests. It gravitates into the control of great capital, corporate lobbyists, and international cartels.

There is also the opinion of Donald Kennedy, former president of Stanford University. He argues that higher education’s current leadership has failed to create distinctive identities for America’s colleges and universities. This is making our schools mere duplicates of one another. When the same subjects are taught and researched according to the same methods, a healthy diversity of perspectives disappears. In turn, the pursuit of the whole truth is compromised. If he is right, universities are running the risk of training people to be prejudiced. Prejudice results when the purely scientific view of truth is given a special privilege over the truth of art, philosophy, and religion. Prejudice, like specialized interest groups, also undermines our free society. It makes people prone to the groupthink of fascism. The millions of mute victims from the wars of the last century will always remind us of fascism’s dire consequences.

In short, Catholicism liberates the human mind by keeping it wedded to faith. In doing so, it not only promotes academic freedom, but also protects our republican form of government.

— Stephen Fields, S.J.

Fr. Fields was the Donald I. MacLean, S.J., chairholder for the Fall 2006 semester in the Department of Theology. During Fr. MacLean’s presidency, Fr. Fields taught in Saint Joseph’s English and philosophy departments (1981-83). He is currently an associate professor of theology at Georgetown University.

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A True Hawk

There was nothing ordinary about John P. “Jack” Gallagher ’63 (B.S.). Everything about him and his love for Saint Joseph’s was most extraordinary. His father, John P. Sr. ’31 (B.S.), named the school’s legendary mascot. The extended Gallagher family established the full-tuition, endowed scholarship awarded to each year’s Hawk in his memory.

Gallagher’s own involvement with the University included membership on the Board of Trustees (1994-2003), past presidencies of the SJU Alumni Association and the Hawk Hoop Club, and the founding of the Alumni Mentor Program. He won the Hogan Award for dedication and service to Saint Joseph’s in 2003.

Cofounder of Gallagher Tire, whose main office is in Levittown, Pa., Gallagher extended his commitment and perseverance to his business endeavors. Under his leadership, the company became a multi-million-dollar distributor of specialty tires. He retired in 2003.

Gallagher’s sudden death on October 24, 2006, was an enormous loss for wife Jane, sons J.P. and Michael ’97 (B.A.), brother Robert F. Sr., nephew Bobby ’98 (B.S.), ’99 (M.S.), “The Hawk” in 1997-98, and a legion of alumni and friends with long-standing connections to SJU. Ed Trainer ’63 (B.A.), classmate and former Alumni Association president, shared some of his own memories of Gallagher. Incidentally, Trainer’s father, Edward C., and Gallagher’s father were classmates in 1931.

When I read the note that Jack had been called home to his heavenly reward, my initial reaction was that a board seat had just opened and our divine Lord needed it to be filled. Not by just anyone, however. This person needed to be a man of faith, a devoted and loving family man, a tough Irishman, a Jesuit-educated individual, and a dyed-in-the-wool Hawk.

Jack fulfilled all of these requirements and then some. During the past 20 years, Jack and I drove together from Newtown to Saint Joseph’s more times than I can count. At the end of each trip, Jack would always use his signature line: “Peace, brother.”

I believe we are very lucky in our journey through life if we have a true friend, one who supports us when we are down, rejoices with us when we are up, and takes an interest in what’s important to us — without regard to personal cost. Such a friend was Jack. Such a brother, as it were.

During those rides, I always figured the drive home would be a time for relaxation. If, however, there was a problem looking for a solution or an issue requiring an answer, Jack would spend the drive reviewing the matter from every aspect. If it were not solved by the time we reached home, I could expect phone calls that evening and into the following day until a direction was figured out. I often thought a lioness chasing dinner for her cubs was a poor provider compared to Jack on the road to helping a family member or friend.

Some years ago, I met a man who knew Jack through the tire business. He said that Jack was the toughest negotiator he ever knew. But, he went on to say, when Jack came to the table he always brought his faith together with his sense of decency. This man echoed what we all know — that he would always receive a fair deal from Jack.

Jack’s humor was a bit unique. When Father Mike Smith [for whom the campus chapel is named] asked Jack and I to meet then-SJU president Father Rashford in 1986 in Shannon, Ireland, our job was to show Father around the country. We soon learned that we knew nothing of Ireland, and Father Rashford was the teacher. Yet Jack always maintained that we were the real tour guides.

What can we say about this man, who long ago fulfilled his duty to his God, to his family, to his community, and to his alma mater? We can say we are that much better for his having passed our way. We can say, for the most part, that his charity and good deeds are known only to the recipients and to the Lord. We can thank Almighty God for putting Jack on this earth, and we can thank his beloved Jane for sharing him with us.

Were he present at the funeral, Jack may have been humbled by the outpouring of friends and he would have smiled at the real Hawks hovering over the church. We might say: “Good night, sweet prince, and flocks of angels take thee to thy rest.”

We might also add: “Peace, brother.”

— Ed Trainer ’63 (B.A.)
Thursday, May 10:
Join us for seminars, the Memorial Mass, Golden Hawk Induction Lunch, and Memory Lane Dinner Dance

Friday, May 11:
Tour Hawk Hill and share memories with friends

Saturday, May 12:
Process with fellow 50th Reunion Hawks in the 2007 Commencement Ceremonies

All Golden Hawks are invited to help welcome the Class of 1957 into their elite group of alumni by participating in the activities on Thursday, May 10.

Friday, May 18:
Family friendly on- and off-campus events and Phillies game kick off Reunion Weekend 2007

Saturday, May 19:
A full day of on- and off-campus activities, lectures, and campus tours, concluding with class reunion dinners

Sunday, May 20:
Annual Alumni Mass, breakfast reception, and campus tours

For more information on Reunion activities, please contact the Alumni Office at 888-SJU-ALUM or visit the Reunion Web site alumni.sju.edu/reunion
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