As alumni and friends of Saint Joseph’s University, you know that Hawk Hill is a unique and wonderful place. From my own experience — as a student, former chair of the Board of Trustees, and most recently, as senior vice president — this is something I share with you. While we continue our search for Saint Joseph’s next president, with the guidance of both our Jesuit community and the Board of Trustees, I am honored to serve the University as interim president.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of Nicholas S. Rashford, S.J., our 25th president, and Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., our 26th, Saint Joseph’s has been on a trajectory of growth and excellence that has taken us to places we never dreamed were possible. Rightfully so, we are proud of all of our achievements, but we are also mindful that we are charged with moving Saint Joseph’s into the future surely and confidently. The University’s mission — which is steeped in our Catholic, Jesuit heritage — is too important to be approached in any other way.

In an address to the leaders of American Jesuit colleges and universities when he was Superior General of the Society of Jesus, Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J., affirmed: You are who your students become. Saint Joseph’s identity, then, is ultimately tied to the people our students become in the world, and the broad outline of their character reveals them to be leaders with high moral standards, whose ethics are grounded in and informed by a faith that serves justice.

You will find in this issue of SJU Magazine inspiring stories of students who have achieved academic excellence while pursuing a rigorous and demanding education. Many of these students have also overcome adversity to join the ranks of our alumni. In particular, you will read about Nikki Johnson-Huston, Esq. ’98, who, in spite of poverty and homelessness, rose to be the City of Philadelphia’s assistant city solicitor in the major tax unit.

I hope the graduates introduced in the magazine will engage you. These new alumni are characterized by their dreams and goals, and they all possess the personal qualities they need to achieve their ambitions: determination, fortitude, resilience, creativity, compassion and intelligence.

While you were a student, you may have had the opportunity to take class with Joseph J. Feeney, S.J., a professor of English. Fr. Feeney has taught at Saint Joseph’s since 1971, and according to him, he has loved every day he has spent here. If you haven’t met him, you will get a strong sense of who Fr. Feeney is, and in a larger context, what Saint Joseph’s University is all about today, by reading a homily he delivered during a special Mass for the Board of Trustees in May. Printed on the last page of SJU Magazine and titled “Scenes and Wonders Chez St. Joseph,” it will, I believe, resonate with you on many levels, as it did me. It is an extraordinary reminder of why we, as alumni, students, faculty, staff, administrators and friends, are members of this distinctive community.

Sincerely,

John W. Smithson ’68 (B.S.), ’82 (M.B.A.)
Interim President

FROM THE INTERIM PRESIDENT
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By Tom DeSanto
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From the Editor

If you’ve already breezed by the inside front cover, go back and take a moment to read the first SJU Magazine letter from Saint Joseph’s interim president, John W. Smithson ’68, ’82. You’ve seen his name before — most recently, he served his alma mater as senior vice president, and before that, as Board of Trustees chair. Smithson’s ties to the University are long and deep, his commitment to its future profound. See page 3 to learn more about him and his vision for SJU.

Smithson’s allegiance to Saint Joseph’s began when he was an undergraduate, as it has for the resident assistants, Hawk Hosts and orientation leaders (Red Shirts) interviewed for the article on pages 16-19. Some of SJU’s most visible ambassadors, these students are on their way to cultivating a lifelong connection with Hawk Hill. First step? Embodying the spirit of Saint Joseph’s by demonstrating care, support, enthusiasm and knowledge to their residents, prospective students and families, and incoming students. Going far beyond that first step are the people who have made possible the success of With Faith and Strength to Dare: The Campaign for Saint Joseph’s University. Read about the celebration of their contributions to SJU’s most successful capital campaign and a final salute to former University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., inside this magazine.

One of the most visible and impactful results of the campaign is the James J. MacDermot ’58 Campus. This year, commencement ceremonies were held on the Maguire Campus for the first time. Previously, graduation took place on Gest Lawn, and through the years, at other spaces, on and off campus. SJU Magazine includes a pictorial of some of those sites.

Many of the rowers featured on the magazine’s cover graduated on the Maguire Campus this year. Their achievements on the river are a testament to their demanding hours of training, unwavering commitment to the team and desire to be a symbol of the spirit on Hawk Hill. I hope you enjoy reading about their achievements on page 6, along with the stories of all the others described above, who continue to show an enduring devotion to Saint Joseph’s.

Molly Crossan Harty

On the Calendar

ACADEMIC CALENDAR
Last day of classes and exams, Summer II, Thu., Aug. 4.
First day of classes, traditional offerings, Mon., Aug. 29.
Labor Day, no classes, Mon., Sept. 5.
First day of weekend classes, Sat., Sept. 10.
Fall Break, Fri., Sept. 16-20, Sat., Sept. 18.
Thanksgiving holiday, Wed., Nov. 22-23, Sat., Nov. 27.
Last day of classes, Sat., Dec. 10.

ACADEMIC EVENTS
38th Annual Northeast Business and Economics Association Conference, Thu., Nov. 3-Sat., Nov. 5, Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, Philadelphia. Hosted by the Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Marketing Department. Conference chair: George Sillup, Ph.D., 610-660-3880 or george.sillup@sju.edu. www.sju.edu/nbea
Top Ten Banned Books of the Year Exhibit, September, Drexel Library.

ADMISSIONS, GRADUATE PROGRAMS
New Graduate Student Orientation, Thu., Aug. 25.
Contact: 888-SJU-GRAD or graduate@sju.edu.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
For program information, contact: Kate McConnell, 610-660-3184 or kate.mcconnell@sju.edu.

Open Houses, Tuesdays, Aug. 9 and Oct. 18, Campion Student Center (6 p.m.). To register, visit www.sju.edu/higherknowledge.

ERIVAN K. HAUB SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
Professional MBA Information Sessions:
• Wed., Aug. 10 and Mon., Oct. 17, Mandeville Hall (3-30 p.m.).
• Thu., Aug. 11 and Tue., Oct. 18, Ursinus College (5:30 p.m.).
Contact: Janine Guerra, 610-660-1690, jguerra@sju.edu or 1-888-SJU-MBA1.

GMAT Test Prep Workshops, Mandeville Hall (9 a.m.–5 p.m.), www.sju.edu/academics/habdgrad/mba/gmat
• Saturdays, Aug. 20 and 27.
• Saturdays, Oct. 29 and Nov. 5.

ADMISSIONS, UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS
Open Houses, Sundays, Oct. 23 and Nov. 13 (8:30 a.m.–3 p.m.). Registration: Hogan Arena (8:30 a.m.). Contact: Undergraduate Admissions, 610-660-1300 or admis@sju.edu. www.sju.edu/admissions

ALUMNI
Alumni Day at the ballpark. Contact: Laura Brunette, 610-660-2071, lbrunett@sju.edu. www.alumni.sju.edu/register
• AT&T Park, San Francisco, Calif., Sun., Aug. 7 (1:05 p.m.).
• Dodger Stadium, Los Angeles, Calif., Mon., Aug. 8 (7:10 p.m.).
• Nationals Park, Washington, D.C., Thu., Aug. 18 (7:05 p.m.).

2nd Annual Hawks Soar to the Shore, Sat., Aug. 20, Lo Costa Lounge, Sea Isle City, N.J. (4 p.m.). Cost: $10 per person. First 200 receive a gift. Barbecue buffet, live music. Contact: Patty Newby, 610-660-2997, mnewby@sju.edu. www.alumni.sju.edu/register

SIU Night at the U.S. Open, Wed., Aug. 31, Arthur Ashe Stadium, Flushing, N.Y. Contact: Laura Brunette, 610-660-3201 or lbrunett@sju.edu. www.alumni.sju.edu/newyork
Medical Alumni awards, Sat., Sept. 10. Mass, Chapel of St. Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J., Memorial (5 p.m.); dinner, Campion Student Center Banquet Room (6 p.m.). Contact: Laura Brunette, 610-660-3201 or lbrunett@sju.edu. www.alumni.sju.edu/medical
• Clarence E. Shaffrey, S.J., Award recipient: Thomas P. Sutula, M.D., Ph.D.

National Alumni Board meeting, Sat., Sept. 10, Haub Executive Center (9 a.m.). Contact: Patty Newby, 610-660-2997 or mnewby@sju.edu.

Ignatian Circle Mass and Brunch, Sun., Sept. 11, Chapel of St. Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J., Memorial and Campion Student Center (11 a.m.). Contact: Corinne Miller, 610-660-1539 or cmiller@sju.edu.

Baseball Alumni Golf Outing, Mon., Sept. 12, Bala Golf Club (1 p.m.). Contact: Adrienne Accardi, 610-660-3206 or aaccardi@sju.edu. www.alumni.sju.edu/register

10th Annual Philadelphia International Dragon Boat Festival, Sat., Oct. 1, SJU’s Robert M. Gillin Boathouse (8 a.m.–5 p.m.). SJU team comprised of faculty, staff, students and alumni. Contact: Sue McFadden, 610-660-1740 or smcfadden@sju.edu.

SheUnited, Sun., Oct. 2, Campion Student Center. Contact: Katty Boyle, 610-660-3099 or kboy1601@sju.edu. See pages 28 and 33 for more information.

President’s Cup Golf Outing, Tue., Oct. 4, Applebrook Golf Club, Malvern, Pa. Contact: Adrienne Accardi, 610-660-3206 or aaccardi@sju.edu.

31st Annual Alumni Gala, Fri., Oct. 14, Hyatt at the Bellevue, Philadelphia (6 p.m.). Shield of Loyola recipient: Brian Duperreaut ’69. Contact: Nicole Grave, 610-660-1237 or ngrave@sju.edu. www.alumni.sju.edu/gala


Law Alumni Awards, Wed., Nov. 16, Union League of Philadelphia (6 p.m.). Contact: Laura Brunette, 610-660-3201 or lbrunnett@sju.edu. www.alumni.sju.edu/law

Real Estate and Construction Alumni Chapter Christmas Luncheon, Thu., Dec. 8, Union League of Philadelphia (11:30 a.m.). Contact: Laura Brunette, 610-660-3201 or lbrunnett@sju.edu. www.alumni.sju.edu/recre

ATHLETICS
Atlantic 10 Field Hockey Championships, Fri., Nov. 4–Sat., Nov. 5, Maguire Campus.

Athletics Hall of Fame, Sat., Nov. 5.

Men’s basketball home opener versus Virginia Commonwealth University, Mon., Nov. 14.

Women’s basketball home opener versus Sacred Heart, Sat., Nov. 26.

Men’s basketball, Charleston Classic, Thu., Nov. 17, Fri., Nov. 18, and Sun., Nov. 20.

For complete athletics schedules, visit www.sjuhawks.com.

CAP AND BELLs
Spring Awakening, Thu., Sept. 29–Fri., Sept. 30 and Fri., Oct. 7–Sat., Oct. 8 (8 p.m.), Sun., Oct. 9 (2 p.m.). Bluett Theater, Post Hall. Tickets: 610-660-1181

KINNEY CENTER FOR AUTISM EDUCATION AND SUPPORT
Kinney Sports Program, Saturdays, Sept. 10–Oct. 8 (10 a.m.–noon). Contact: kinneyautism@sju.edu. www.kinneyautism.sju.edu

MINISTRY, FAITH AND SERVICE
Liturgy of the Word and Eucharist in the Chapel of St. Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J., Memorial: Summer schedule
• Sundays, 11 a.m.
Fall schedule
• Sundays, 11 a.m., 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.
• Mon.–Fri., 12:05 p.m. and 9:15 p.m.
• Fri., 12:05 p.m.

STUDENT LIFE
Family Weekend, Sat., Nov. 5–Sun., Nov. 6, campus. www.sju.edu/studentlife/studentleadership/familyweekend
BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPOINTS INTERIM PRESIDENT

The Saint Joseph’s University Board of Trustees has approved John W. Smithson ’68 (B.S.), ’82 (M.B.A.) as the University’s interim president. Smithson, who most recently served as Saint Joseph’s senior vice president, assumed the post on May 18, following the departure of Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., to become president of Creighton University in Omaha, Neb.

Smithson was a University Trustee from 1999 to 2007 and Board chair from 2003 to 2007. He had been serving as senior vice president since February 2010. Previously, he held the position of senior vice president at Towers Watson Reinsurance, and he was also CEO and president of PMA Capital Corporation.

The Presidential Search Committee, led by Daniel J. Hilferty ’78 (B.S.), is continuing its process to find a permanent successor to Fr. Lannon. In January, the Board had elected Joseph O’Keefe, S.J., then dean of the Lynch School of Education at Boston College, to succeed Fr. Lannon. He withdrew, however, because of serious medical issues.

The Board appointed Smithson following a series of meetings with members of the campus community — students, faculty, staff and alumni — who shared their views on the selection of the University’s interim president.

In a message to the University community announcing Smithson’s appointment, Board Chair Paul J. Hondros ’70 (B.S.) wrote, “As a result of his deep engagement with Saint Joseph’s, John possesses a deep and holistic understanding of the University’s mission and history, its short-term needs and its long-term goals. … Most important, John has a demonstrated respect for and understanding of student and faculty needs.”

He also expressed the Board’s confidence that under Smithson’s interim leadership, the University’s “key initiatives will continue to move forward.”

SJU HOLDS 160TH COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

On May 14, 2011, Saint Joseph’s commencement ceremonies were held on the James J. Maguire ’58 Campus for the first time. The University conferred degrees on 872 undergraduates, 68 non-traditional undergraduates, 541 graduate-level students and seven doctoral candidates in education.

Honorary doctor of public service degrees were granted to commencement speakers Bob and Suzanne Wright, co-founders of Autism Speaks, at the undergraduate ceremony. Now retired, Catherine Stifler Nash, who was the first woman to join Saint Joseph’s faculty, received an honorary doctor of science.

At the graduate, doctoral and College of Professional and Liberal Studies ceremony, Charles L. Currie, S.J., president of the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities at the time, was granted an honorary doctor of religious education. A former rector of Saint Joseph’s Jesuit Community, Fr. Currie retired in June, his 14-year tenure the longest of any AJCU president.

“This year’s honorary degree recipients exemplify the Jesuit mission of selfless dedication to and for others,” said then-University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J. “The Wrights, in their tireless advocacy on behalf of those afflicted with autism, Fr. Currie’s leadership at the forefront of Jesuit education, and Kay Nash, whose career exemplifies what every member of the teaching profession should aspire to — all are so deserving of this recognition.”

Two faculty members were recognized for achievement in teaching. Peter Norberg, Ph.D., associate professor of English and fellowships director, received the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, and Karen Hogan, Ph.D., professor of finance, was honored with the Tengelmann Award for Distinguished Teaching and Research.

Bene Merenti medals were awarded to four professors for 25 years of service: Marybeth Ayella, Ph.D., assistant professor of sociology; David Carpenter, Ph.D., associate professor of theology and director of Asian studies; Sandra Fillebrown, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematics; and Nancy Fox, Ph.D., associate professor of economics and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Elizabeth Linehan, R.S.M., associate professor of philosophy, received the Lifetime Service Award.

Read more about commencement at SJU on pages 20-23.
STUDENTS EARN LOCAL ACCOLADES, GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES

Gabrielle Fulco ’11 (B.A.) and Kenneth Snyder ’11 (B.A.) have been awarded Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships (ETA) for the 2011-12 academic year. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, the Fulbright ETA program provides funding for grantees to teach English in elementary and secondary education environments. Because the ETA program is designed to promote mutual understanding and facilitate cultural exchange, teaching assistants are usually placed in schools outside of capital cities and integrated fully into the host community. An international relations major with minors in Latin American Studies and Spanish, Fulco will teach in Venezuela. Snyder, an English major and secondary education minor, will work in the Republic of Indonesia.

Samantha Koch ’11 (B.A.), a political science major, earned a first place Keystone Press Award in the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association (PNA) 2011 contest. The award recognizes strong, relevant journalism that reflects integrity and initiative. Koch’s winning article, “After two decades, Clery Act continues to have a positive impact on campuses,” ran in The Hawk, SJU’s student newspaper, and took first place in the general news category. Koch’s article was chosen over pieces submitted from student journalists at larger Pennsylvania schools such as Penn State University, Temple University and the University of Pittsburgh.

Lena Lupey ’12 (B.S.) was one of only 17 Pennsylvania students selected to receive a $7,500 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship for the 2011-12 academic year. The scholarship program, created to encourage academically outstanding students to enter the science and mathematics fields, awards rising juniors and seniors coverage of undergraduate tuition, room and board, and books and fees. Additionally, the American Society for Microbiology Undergraduate Research Fellowship awarded the biology major $4,000 to help fund summer research in the lab of John Tudor, Ph.D., professor of biology, who, along with Christina King Smith, Ph.D., professor of biology, nominated her for the Goldwater Scholarship.

Caitlin Rothwell ’13 (B.S.) was awarded the St. Andrew’s Society of Philadelphia’s Mutch Scholarship, which will allow her to participate in a year-long course of study at one of four prestigious universities in Scotland. After an arduous application and interview process, Rothwell, a psychology major and Italian minor who hopes to become a counselor, was the first student awarded the scholarship this year. She had her pick of schools and elected to study at the University of St. Andrew’s because of its strong social psychology school and research on community identity and formation.

CENTER GIVES ANTI-VIOLENCE A VOICE

The Institute for Violence Research and Prevention was renamed the Richard Johnson Center for Anti-Violence last spring, in honor of 17-year-old Richard Johnson, a 2005 graduate of Saint Joseph’s Preparatory School who had planned to attend SJU on a full scholarship when he fell victim to a senseless act of gun violence.

The Richard Johnson Center has been working to reduce violence among kids and teens and helped to develop an online sanctuary for them to safely speak out. Building on the social media phenomenon and today’s 24/7 connectedness, the Philadelphia Youth Solutions Project (PYSP) has launched a website (www.pysp.org) with the University’s support, whose aim is to provide an online forum for youth to discuss violence. This is a first-of-its-kind, grassroots anti-violence initiative.

“The PYSP website is a safe space for Philadelphia’s young people to explain their views and emotions about the danger and violence that consume so much of their daily lives,” said Maria Kefalas, Ph.D., director of the Richard Johnson Center and professor of sociology. “We want them to ask questions of themselves and the people charged with running this city, and to have serious conversations with teachers, parents, city officials, community leaders, state legislators, reporters and politicians.”

PYSP will tackle the many realities of urban youth, including street-based violence and interpersonal or romantic violence. The Richard Johnson Center has already worked with Philadelphia’s youth to create public service videos and an online memorial that pays tribute to victims and presents facts and figures on the state of violence in the city. The ultimate goal is to support young people in reimagining their neighborhood roles and to begin a youth-led movement against violence.
SAINT JOSEPH’S TEAM DEVELOPS CLEAN WATER SOLUTION

A team of 10 graduate and undergraduate students — led by medical bioethicist Peter Clark, S.J. ’75 (B.A.), professor of theology and director of the Institute of Catholic Bioethics, and four Institute Fellows — is developing an inexpensive and sustainable slow-sand water filter for use in Third World nations. With the help of microbiologists John Tudor, Ph.D., professor of biology, and Catalina Arango, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology, the team is testing the filter with *E. coli* — a bacterium similar in size and shape to *Salmonella typhi*, which causes typhoid — using a water supply from Guatemala.

“We witnessed the need for clean water while working in medical clinics in the Third World, where children are dying needlessly from water-borne illnesses like typhoid fever, bacterial diarrhea, schistosomiasis, etc.,” said Fr. Clark, whose firsthand knowledge comes in part from immersion trips with students in his Just Healthcare in Developing Nations course. “A low-cost, effective water filter could help lessen mortality from these diseases.”

In 2008, Fr. Clark and his students began developing the filter, aided by faculty in several disciplines. Through trial and error, the group designed a model filter that is now being tested.

Costing only $20, each slow-sand filtration system is constructed from easily accessible materials: two six-gallon plastic buckets, 50 pounds of sand and gravel, cheesecloth and plastic spigots. Research has shown that similar filters can remove up to 99 percent of bacterial pathogens and produce between 20 and 30 liters of clean water daily. The group hopes that the filter will someday be used in communities that are connected with Jesuit parishes, clinics or schools in Guatemala, Tanzania and the Dominican Republic.

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON NEW RESIDENCE HALL

On May 9, Saint Joseph’s broke ground on its newest residence facility, Villiger Hall, on Gest Lawn at the corner of Cardinal and City Avenues.

The 413-bed freshman residence hall is slated for completion by the Fall 2012 semester. The mid-rise building will feature a tower element visible from City Avenue and include generous living, social and study spaces.

“It was important to us that this new building include the appropriate amenities for our students, while enhancing the aesthetic of our campus,” said Kevin Robinson ’93 (M.B.A.), vice president of administrative services.

(Left) A rendering of the new residence hall, as seen from the corner of Cardinal and City Aves.

SJU CREATES CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER POSITION

Interim President John Smithson ’68 (B.S.), ’82 (M.B.A.) has announced that Fran DiSanti ’79 (B.A.) has been promoted to the position of chief information officer (CIO), a newly created Cabinet-level post at Saint Joseph’s University.

The role of information technology has become increasingly important on campus with the continually evolving digital nature of higher education. According to Smithson, the establishment of a CIO position will provide the leadership and guidance at the executive level to enhance the University’s strategic deployment of information technology resources.

For the past 10 years, DiSanti has served as the University’s assistant vice president for information technology. He coordinated efforts to develop an information technology strategic plan to identify technology priorities and goals for the next three years. Implementation of the plan began this summer.

DiSanti holds a B.A. in public administration from Saint Joseph’s University and an M.S. in computer science from West Chester University, where he served in an IT leadership capacity prior to joining Saint Joseph’s in 1997.

Congratulations! The Saint Joseph’s University American Marketing Association (AMA) Chapter achieved gold status at the 33rd Annual International AMA Collegiate Conference in New Orleans, La., in March 2011.
MARTELLI CHAIRS NATIONAL COACHES VS. CANCER

Men’s basketball coach Phil Martelli was selected to serve as chair of the Coaches vs. Cancer® National Council. The Council brings together National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) members, American Cancer Society volunteers and business leaders from across the country to explore new and innovative ways to fund the fight against cancer and send a message of hope.

The Coaches vs. Cancer program is a nationwide collaboration between the American Cancer Society and the NABC that empowers coaches, their teams and communities to join the fight against cancer. Martelli’s involvement with Coaches vs. Cancer has been year-round since the inception of the Philadelphia program in 1996. Since then, high school and college coaches across the country have raised more than $65 million to support the American Cancer Society’s mission. In Philadelphia, all six NCAA Division I basketball coaches together lead the most successful Coaches vs. Cancer program in the nation, having raised more than $6.5 million since 1996 to benefit the American Cancer Society.

WOMEN’S ROWING TOPS A10 FOR FIRST TIME, REPEATS SILVER AT DAD VAIL

The Saint Joseph’s women’s rowing team claimed its first-ever Atlantic 10 Rowing Championship in April at the Cooper River in Pennsauken, N.J., posting top-three finishes in every race — the Varsity 8, Second Varsity 8 and Varsity 4 — to finish the regatta with 45 points. Danielle Brady ’11 (B.S.), Brianne Kammerman ’11 (B.A.) and Colleen Smith ’11 (B.A.) were named to the Atlantic 10 All-Championship First Team, while coxswain Clare Burns ’11 (B.S.) was selected to the second team.

“This was our goal all year and our kids did a tremendous job,” said head coach Gerry Quinlan. “When everyone performs well under such trying conditions, we are just glad that we scored enough points to hang on.”

The women’s rowing team also captured two medals at the 73rd Annual Aberdeen Dad Vail Regatta on the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia in May. The Hawks won their first-ever gold in the Second Varsity 8 race and Varsity 4 took third place. The only team to be represented in the three main events in the finals, the Hawks finished second in the team standings.

Five SJU athletic teams earned NCAA Public Recognition Awards for their latest Academic Progress Rate scores: baseball and the women’s lacrosse, rowing, indoor track and outdoor track teams.

RECREATION CENTER NAMED FOR O’PAKE ’61

Saint Joseph’s recognized the Hon. Michael A. O’Pake, Esq. ’61 (B.S.), who passed away last December, by renaming the recreation center on the James J. Maguire ’58 Campus in his honor in May. campaign.sju.edu/gallery/gallery.html

Present for the dedication were Vice President for Student Life Cary Anderson, former University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., O’Pake’s lifelong friend Joan Wassell, Pa. Sen. Vincent Hughes, Bishop Robert Maginnis and Associate Vice President and Athletics Director Don DiJulia ’67.
STUDENTS PRESENT AT AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

Scott McRobert, Ph.D., professor of biology, and a group of his students attended the American Association for the Advancement of Science’s (AAAS) globally renowned annual conference in Washington, D.C., in February. McRobert presented “Bedtime Stories for Fido: Life in a Biodiversity Laboratory” at Family Science Days, a sub-conference of AAAS.

McNulty Scholar Molly Southwell ’13 (B.S.), Remington Roberts ’12 (B.S.), Kristoffer Bauer ’11 (B.S.), and biology graduate student Timothy Paciorek ’10 (B.S.) discussed their experiences in McRobert’s SJU Biodiversity Laboratory and demonstrated their educational and experimental tool, Fish Cam, during the conference. Bauer also presented his research in the student poster competition.

“The AAAS is one of the best scientific conferences in the world because it brings together scientists from different fields and areas,” said McRobert. “It is a great opportunity for the students to interact with these scientists and to present their research.”

Fish Cam, McRobert’s brainchild, is a 24-hour camera that captures the shoaling, or grouping, patterns of fish in the Biodiversity Laboratory. The tank housing the fish is streamed live to a webpage, allowing both elementary school and high school teachers to utilize it for classroom experiments.

www.sju.edu/academics/cas/biology/resources/biodiversity/fishcam

SJU PARTNERS WITH PHILADELPHIA ITALIAN CONSULATE

Last spring, the Italian Consulate in Philadelphia funded four workshops on “Teaching Italian Today: Language, Culture and Technology” that addressed the cultural, linguistic and pedagogical aspects of teaching Italian in middle school and high school. The workshops covered the latest trends in language teaching and provided an image of Italy as not just the cradle of Western civilization, but also as an advanced and modern country.

The program benefitted area high school and middle school faculty, as well as SJU seniors aspiring to be teachers of Italian, and recent alumni from SJU’s Italian program. Giorgio Galanti, Ph.D., director, education office, Consulate General of Italy, worked with Paula Giuli, Ph.D., associate professor of modern and classical languages, to bring the grant to fruition. Franca Riccardi, Ph.D., academic director, America-Italy Society of Philadelphia, contributed to the programming.

HAUB SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
JOHN NEIVA, PH.D.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MANAGEMENT

For John Neiva, Ph.D., what is most rewarding as an academic is the interplay between teaching and research. With nearly 20 years of professional software development, consulting and experience on Wall Street behind him, and 10 years as a university professor, he has confirmed two long-held beliefs: Research must be helpful to the less fortunate, and learning must start from within.

These two principles are ingrained in Neiva’s courses — business strategy and international business, taught at all University levels — in which he encourages experiential learning and builds on cultural diversity. A native Brazilian from a bicultural household, Neiva believes that this approach is key in developing students’ practical management skills while increasing their levels of self-knowledge.

“The teacher is also a guide,” said Neiva. “Learning begins with the student’s own curiosity and desire to understand. To internalize the meaning, the value and the depth of diversity, it needs to be experienced.”

But it isn’t only about teaching and learning. Neiva’s academic research also focuses on the collaboration and understanding of others, and explores economic and social sustainability, international business strategy and optimization of organizational performance.

Most recently, a paper he co-authored on school efficiency in Fe y Alegria Schools in Bolivia — a network of Jesuit schools devoted to educating the indigenous poor without compromising their cultural heritage — was selected as one of eight finalists in the International Federation of Operational Research Societies Prize for Operational Research in Development. Neiva’s research, an example of community-engaged scholarship, uses managerial techniques to offer a methodology to help increase school efficiencies.

In addition to his coursework and research, Neiva co-edited a forthcoming book, Green Products: Perspectives on Innovation and Adoption, focused on the adoption of sustainable products and practices.

— Nicole Katze ’11 (M.A.)
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
PHILIP SCHATZ, PH.D.
PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

As training and level of play continue to intensify for adolescents in high-impact sports like football, Philip Schatz Ph.D., professor of psychology, is taking a closer look at the potentially enduring effects of multiple previous concussions on high school students. Schatz and his colleagues, who published a study in Neurosurgery (June 2011), propose through their research that teens with multiple concussions may demonstrate early signs of post-concussion syndrome.

“Our results show that high school athletes with a history of two or more concussions had significantly higher ratings of concussion-related symptoms — especially those that were cognitive, physical and sleep-related — than athletes with a history of one or no previous concussion,” said Schatz.

The study evaluated concussion symptom questionnaires completed by more than 2,500 high school athletes in three different states. The results indicated that high school athletes with two or more concussions had higher ratings on symptoms such as headaches, difficulty remembering things, dizziness, and an increase or decrease of sleep, as compared to athletes with one or no previous concussion.

Because the study was based on self-report of concussion history and symptoms during the preseason screening of healthy teenage athletes, Schatz said that “these findings do not reflect any direct causal relationship. For example, it may be that athletes with multiple concussions are simply more familiar with concussion symptoms and terminology, or more sensitive to physical, cognitive and emotional fluctuations.”

Schatz warns that concussions are a serious hazard and should be watched closely. “If somebody sustains a concussion,” said Schatz, “the best thing is to monitor their symptoms and make sure that they are symptom-free and that they don’t return to play or practice until they have been seen by a qualified medical professional for clearance.”

— Bill Wells ’12

EVENTS HIGHLIGHT INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

In the spring semester, the International Business Society led a collaborative effort across several departments and centers to celebrate International Business Week. The series of events offered insights into international business in the pharmaceutical industry, a closer look at a female perspective of a career in international finance, as well as tips from alumni on how best to use foreign language skills on the job.

John Neiva, Ph.D., assistant professor of management, and Rafael Garcia Mora, S.J., also spoke about the current research partnership between Saint Joseph’s and Fe y Alegria, in Bolivia, of which Mora is director.

For more information about Neiva, see page 7.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE LAUNCHES

Last spring, Saint Joseph’s renewed its commitment to education by establishing the Educational Leadership Institute and the Center for Catholic Urban Education. Each will provide professional development for students and a hub for scholarly research.

The Institute and Center were designed by Robert Palestini, Ed.D. ’63 (B.S.), ’67 (M.A.), associate professor of education, and Jeanne F. Brady, Ph.D., associate dean of education. Palestini is acting as founding executive director until a permanent director is appointed.

“They both fit hand-in-glove with the mission of Saint Joseph’s University,” said Palestini. “They are mainly affecting graduate students, but they also affect undergraduates, especially the education majors.

While the Institute focuses on public school leadership and practice, the Center directs its efforts toward educational leadership in urban Catholic schools. Palestini envisions them providing scholarly research in the field of educational leadership, an archive of the research, and future professional development offerings for educational leaders domestically and internationally.

The Institute and Center will also have major implications for both SJU’s Department of Education and the University as a whole.

“We developed an online master’s degree, which will launch in the fall of 2011, which also opens doors for the program beyond the bounds of Philadelphia,” said Palestini.

FR. GODFREY NAMED TO HOGAN CHAIR

After an extensive national search, Professor-Designate of Philosophy Joseph J. Godfrey, S.J., has been named the inaugural holder of the Rev. Joseph S. Hogan, S.J. ’03, Endowed Chair in Philosophy. Fr. Godfrey, who joined SJU’s philosophy department in 1976, specializes in the philosophy of religion.

“I am grateful to colleagues and the University for the appointment, and eager to expand my teaching, research and service in the spirit of the chair,” said Fr. Godfrey. “As the donor and the University wish, the chair will contribute to conversations between philosophy and Catholic understanding and life, within and beyond Saint Joseph’s.”
PSYCHOLOGIST STUDIES INFANT SLEEP ACROSS CULTURES

New parents are faced with many adjustments: regular feedings, changing seemingly endless numbers of diapers and an entirely new, infant-driven sleep schedule. Some newborns sleep so little their parents feel almost nocturnal, while others snooze for a few hours at a time just days after birth. Jodi A. Mindell, Ph.D., professor of psychology and director of graduate psychology, found dramatic discrepancies in the nighttime sleep of children in a study that was published in *Sleep Medicine* (March 2010).

The first-of-its-kind study collected data on day and nighttime sleep patterns, and sleep-related behaviors, in almost 30,000 infants and toddlers from 17 different countries and regions. It focused on two distinctly different regions of the world: countries and regions that are predominantly Caucasian and those that are predominantly Asian.

“You end up with a difference of two to three hours in total sleep times,” said Mindell, “with children in Australia and New Zealand getting dramatically more sleep than children in places such as Japan and Korea.”

The study found differences in bedtimes, but that the time children wake up in the morning is about the same, with naps being almost identical. Though it is not clear, Mindell believes these differences are culturally based. She plans to use this particular study as a baseline for future research about the consequences and reasons for the differences in sleep times.

CAREER CENTER WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR

The Career Development Center appointed a new director, Brett Woodard. A native of Indiana, Pa., he has a B.A. in journalism and an M.A. in student affairs in higher education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. His career development experience includes positions at Appalachian State University, University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Elon University. Woodard is actively engaged as a member of the Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers, National Association of Colleges and Employers and National Society of Experiential Education.

“I’m thrilled to join the Saint Joseph’s University community and lead our office in designing an array of programs and resources that will facilitate the meaningful and successful career development of our students and alumni,” said Woodard.

PROFESSOR FINDS DISCLAIMERS CAN AFFECT BUYER BEHAVIOR

New research published in the *Journal of Consumer Research* suggests that disclaimers at the end of advertisements have a greater impact on buyer behavior than previously thought. The study, coauthored by David Allan, Ph.D. ‘99 (M.B.A.), associate professor of marketing, finds that the speed at which a disclaimer is delivered can impact consumers’ purchase intent.

“Companies need to stop talking so fast and start listening to their consumers, not just their lawyers,” said Allan. The study, “On the Dangers of Pulling a Fast One: Advertisement Disclaimer Speed, Brand Trust and Purchase Intention,” has the potential to impact both advertising and policy making. It is available online and will appear in the February 2012 edition of the *Journal of Consumer Research*.

Contributors: Patricia Allen, Philip Denne ’96 (B.A.), Harriet Goodheart, Nicole Katz ’11 (M.A.), Brooke Neifert, Carolyn Steigleman ’10 (M.A.), Bill Wells ’12, Kelly Welsh ’05 (M.A.), Marie Wozniak
OUTREACH LECTURE NAMED FOR SR. FRANCIS JOSEPH

Thirty years after its beginning, the Faith-Justice Institute’s Outreach Lecture Series was named in honor of its founder, Sr. Francis Joseph, R.A. The naming recognizes her commitment to Saint Joseph’s University and contributions to the Greater Philadelphia area.

“To recognize her efforts highlights the impact she has had on thousands of lives in the Faith-Justice Institute, Saint Joseph’s University, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and beyond,” said Virginia Goulding Johnson, Ph.D., assistant professor of education and director of the Faith-Justice Institute. “Sister has been the driving force in bringing outstanding speakers and cultural topics to the University and the community’s attention for 30 years.”

Each semester, the series presents a lecture that highlights contemporary issues related to Christian faith and social justice. When she first organized the lectures in 1981, Sr. Francis Joseph’s goal was to challenge her audience to take what they learned into their communities. The inaugural Sr. Francis Joseph, R.A., Outreach Lecture Series in April featured Joan Goodman, Ph.D., of the University of Pennsylvania, on “I Know It’s Wrong but So What? Examining Society’s Responsibility in Shaping Youth’s Moral Values.”

Since taking her vows in 1955, Sr. Francis Joseph has committed her life to supporting the lives and faith of others, traveling to Japan, the Philippines, Paris and Rome. She was called back to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in 1980 to become part of Saint Joseph’s Peace and Justice ministry. She organized the Outreach Lecture Series as a way to connect the University with the wider Philadelphia Catholic community. She continued to work with SJU for 30 years and currently teaches peace classes at St. Francis de Sales elementary school in Philadelphia.

LATINO STUDENT ASSOCIATION WEEK CELEBRATES DIVERSITY

The Latino Student Association hosted its Week for Diversity in March. Events included a book drive, a trip to Colombian restaurant Tierra Colombiana and two guest speakers: Bobby Gonzalez, an internationally known multicultural motivational speaker, poet and storyteller, and Jose Obando, an expert in international studies and salsa dancing.

THE HAWK STUDENT NEWSPAPER ARCHIVED ONLINE

The Francis A. Drexel Library announced that a digital archive of The Hawk student newspaper is now available by accessing http://thehawkarchive.sju.edu. The archive covers June 10, 1930 (Vol. 1, No. 1) through May 19, 2002 (Vol. 75, No. 2), is fully searchable, and replicates the content and layout of the original newspaper page.

NEW ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

Haub School of Business
- Business Administration (major)
- Family Business and Entrepreneurship (major and minor)
- Managing Human Capital (major and minor)
- Leadership, Ethics and Organizational Sustainability (major and minor)
- Sports Marketing (major)
- New Professional MBA Curriculum
- Online MBA and M.S. in Financial Services

College of Professional and Liberal Studies
- Professional and Liberal Studies (major)
- Concentration in Public Administration
- Professional and Liberal Studies (major)
- Concentration in Environmental Studies
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Accountancy

College of Arts and Sciences
- Behavioral Neuroscience (minor)
- Communication Studies (major)
- Environmental and Sustainability Studies (minor)
- Music (major and minor)
- Theatre & Film Studies (major), Theatre (minor), Film Studies (minor)
HUNGER ADVOCATE RALLIES STUDENTS FOR AWARENESS

Tony Hall, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nation’s Agencies for Food and Agriculture and current executive director of the Alliance to End Hunger, spoke at SJU in April. Hall’s career, including 12 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives (Ohio’s third district), has been animated by support for hunger relief programs. His campus visit was part of a month-long speaking tour, during which he sought to raise awareness about U.S. House-proposed budget cuts to food aid programs. To underscore the urgency of his message, he fasted for 28 days through the tour, and while at SJU, Hall had been fasting for two weeks. Several dozen students, faculty and staff fasted in solidarity with him for 24 hours, beginning their fast the night before he arrived. In recognition of his efforts to increase food aid and development assistance in the world’s poorest countries, Hall has been nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize.

PROFESSOR’S FILM CHosen FOR NEW DIRECTORS/NEW FILMS

In 2008, SJU associate professor of film and video Deron Albright, M.F.A., was selected as a Fulbright Scholar to Ghana, West Africa. While there, he directed and produced a feature film, “The Destiny of Lesser Animals” (Sibo Ne Kra, Dabo Ne Kra), a police drama and the moving story of one man’s journey to find and understand the value of his own culture.

“The Destiny” was screened at New Directors/New Films (ND/NF), a curated film program in New York presented jointly by The Museum of Modern Art’s Department of Film and The Film Society of Lincoln Center, the program known for premiering works that break or re-cast the cinematic mold. In the past, ND/NF has uncovered directors such as Stephen Spielberg, Pedro Almodovar, Ken Burns and Darren Aronofsky.

“The Destiny of Lesser Animals” also screened at the Seattle International Film Festival and the Los Angeles Film Festival in June.

SJU NAMED TO 2010 PRESIDENT’S HIGHER EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE HONOR ROLL

Saint Joseph’s University has been named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for 2010 and every year since 2006, when the honor was first awarded. Given by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the honor roll recognizes colleges and universities as leaders among institutions of higher education for their support of volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement. It is the highest honor a school can earn for engaging its students, faculty and staff in meaningful service that achieves measurable results in the community.

“I am always humbled by our students’ commitment to listen to the stories of people who are homeless, to teach English to recent immigrants, to mentor youth, to assist at medical clinics for people with no health insurance, and to serve wherever they are needed,” said Beth Ford ’99 (B.S.) ’00 (M.S.), campus minister, Service and Social Justice Programs, and adjunct professor of theology. “Our students travel across the country and around the world in order to learn from those who are most marginalized and vulnerable.”

Patrick A. Corvington, chief executive officer of CNCS, saluted Honor Roll awardees for embracing their civic mission and providing opportunities for their students to tackle tough national challenges through service. “Congratulations to Saint Joseph’s University and its students for their dedication to service and commitment to improving their local communities,” he said.
A Celebration of Historic Proportion

by Tom DeSanto
In a Day of Celebration on April 16, 2011, Saint Joseph’s recognized the historic milestones made possible by With Faith and Strength to Dare: The Campaign for Saint Joseph’s University.

More than 300 donors and families came together to honor the benefactors of the James J. Maguire ’58 Campus during a special dedication ceremony on April 16. The event recognized the generosity of alumni, parents and friends who have contributed to the greatest physical expansion of Saint Joseph’s University since the 1920s.

That evening, the Board of Trustees hosted the Campaign Celebration Gala and Farewell to University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., which marked the successful conclusion to the ambitious $150 million comprehensive campaign, With Faith and Strength to Dare: The Campaign for Saint Joseph’s University, and honored SJU’s 26th president, now president of Creighton University, his alma mater.

What I saw in the purchase of Episcopal Academy, today the Maguire Campus, was a lifetime opportunity to take St. Joe’s to the next level of successful growth, stature and maturity.

— James J. Maguire ’58

Left page: A dramatically transformed Michael J. Hagan ’85 Arena, featuring the SJU Gala Choir and a video tribute, awaits guests of the Campaign Celebration Gala and Farewell to University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J.

Above, top left, clockwise: Fr. Lannon with Frannie and Jim Maguire ’58; the Maguire Campus dedication ceremony begins with a ribbon cutting attended by (from left) Board of Trustees Chair Paul J. Hondros ’70, Vincent J. Genovesi, S.J., Maureen (Doyle) ’86 and David O’Connor, Connelly Foundation President and CEO Josephine C. Mandeville, Paul E. Kelly Foundation Trustee Judy Shea, Fr. Lannon, Jeanne Brady, Ph.D., Robert D. Falese Jr. ’69, Paul DeVito, Ph.D., Frannie Maguire, Bill Madges, Ph.D., and Jim Maguire ’58; speakers Brian Duperreault ’69, Michael Hagan, and Fr. Lannon; soloist Jean Bernard Cerin ’09 with choir.
Maguire Campus Benefactors Honored

The addition of the James J. Maguire ’58 Campus has increased the University’s footprint by 58 percent and is enabling significant enhancements to academic programming and student life. The April 16 dedication ceremony celebrated the 86 major benefactors who supported the campus acquisition — the largest number of donors to any single SJU initiative thus far — including 66 who have named spaces there.

The Maguire Campus illustrates how the University’s benefactors are fueling an unparalleled transformation of place, people and experience at Saint Joseph’s. Master of ceremonies Jeanne Brady, Ph.D., associate dean of education, told of how students and faculty are already reaping extraordinary benefits from the wide variety of expanded facilities, advanced technology and new programs on the Maguire Campus. Longtime University benefactors Josephine Mandeville, president and CEO of the Connelly Foundation, and Robert D. Falese Jr. ’69 (B.S.), Board of Trustees vice chair, spoke of the enduring value of Jesuit education and how opportunities presented by the new campus are enriching the student experience.

“We are grateful to all of you who showed your commitment to being men and women with and for others by supporting Jesuit education through the establishment of the Maguire Campus,” said Falese at the dedication ceremony.

“The Maguire Campus is the catalyst for Saint Joseph’s to become the Northeast’s preeminent Catholic comprehensive university,” Fr. Lannon said. “The impact of your generosity is beyond measure.”

SJU’s Most Successful Campaign

When the University launched With Faith and Strength to Dare: The Campaign for Saint Joseph’s University in 2004, Fr. Lannon challenged the University community to offer students “the best
possible experience, so we can provide to the world individuals who have critical thinking skills, intellectual curiosity, and the moral discernment and values to create a caring and just society.”

“When the Board of Trustees approved this Campaign, we endorsed a goal that was more ambitious than anything we had ever conceived of in the past,” said Board of Trustees Chair Paul Hondros ’70 (B.S.). “We immersed ourselves in the initiatives that would strengthen the University fiscally, academically and strategically.”

Despite one of the most severe economic downturns in the nation’s history, alumni, parents and friends generously supported the campaign, enabling the University to meet that challenge and contributing over $152 million, more than triple the amount raised in the University’s previous campaign.

To celebrate the campaign’s conclusion, more than 400 lead contributors filled the Michael J. Hagan ’85 Arena on the evening of April 16 for a black-tie gala themed “We Are Called: Celebrating Our Journey Together.”

Anthony A. Nichols ’67, campaign chair, welcomed guests.

“Together we have made tremendous strides on this journey for this great University,” he said. “We have accomplished so much because of your partnership and your willingness to embrace the vision of what Saint Joseph’s University can become.”

In thanking the campaign’s benefactors, Hondros emphasized its ultimate benefit. “I am truly proud of the way in which this community has come together in support of creating an even more robust learning environment for our students,” he said.

In addition to Hondros, some of the campaign’s lead donors — James J. Maguire ’58 (B.S.), Brian Duperreault ’69 (B.S.), Michael J. Hagan ’85 (B.S.), and John R. Post ’60 (B.S.) — spoke about the inspiration for their support and their aspirations for Saint Joseph’s.

“Universities cannot rely on tuition alone if they are to thrive and grow,” said Post. “They need the ongoing support of their alumni.”

Hagan marveled at how the dream of a new arena had become a reality and said, “This project gave us the opportunity to do what we love most, and that is to provide help where it is needed.”

The evening’s program recognized the sweeping transformation of the Saint Joseph’s experience made possible by donors’ support of campaign priorities involving the campus, facilities and academic programs. Philanthropy at Saint Joseph’s has also been transformed by a renewed engagement with alumni, parents and friends who bonded together as a community with a common goal to help the University reach its fullest potential.

“You have not only embraced the bold vision we espoused a few short years ago, you have succeeded in helping to define what Saint Joseph’s is today and can become in the future,” said Fr. Lannon. “You are the future of Saint Joseph’s University.”

### Visionary Leadership

Beyond presiding over the history-making campaign, Fr. Lannon provided the leadership, with donor support, for the establishment of many programs and institutes that inspire people to grow and excel. In a video tribute at the gala, members of the Saint Joseph’s community expressed their gratitude for his eight years of dedication, leadership and service.

“I met Fr. Lannon my freshman year,” Julian Phillips ’11 (B.A.) recalled, “and from that encounter, he remembered my name then and every other time I saw him afterward.” Elise Baker ’10 (B.A.) added, “It was nice to have a one-on-one conversation like he was your friend, versus the University president.”

“He has such a gift to connect with people and to keep his troops rallied,” said Trustee Maureen O’Connor ’86 (B.S.). “He’s taken us to a new level.”

When Fr. Lannon stepped to the podium amid a thunderous standing ovation, he spoke of the deep commitment, vision and partnership shared among the campaign benefactors and gratefully recounted the blessings he said he has received as president.

“Please know that all of you and this incredible University will remain forever in my heart,” he said in closing. “And, in my heart, the Hawk will never die.”

For more on the impact of With Faith and Strength to Dare: The Campaign or Saint Joseph’s University, visit www.campaign.sju.edu. For more on Fr. Lannon’s tenure, see www.sju.edu/news/magazine/archives/spring11.html.

Tom DeSanto is a freelance writer. Carolyn Vivaldi, executive director of communications and donor relations, contributed to this article.

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### Campaign Numbers at a Glance

*June 2004 through May 2011*

- **Campaign Total**: $152,100,000
- **Donors to the Campaign**: 30,461
- **First time donors**: 16,485
- **Number of gifts**: 67,427
- **Establishment of Endowed Academic Chairs and Programs**: 9
- **Newly funded student scholarships**: 86
- **The Saint Joseph’s Fund Total**: $31,143,513

### Campaign Priorities

- **James J. Maguire ’58 Campus**
- **Michael J. Hagan ’85 Arena**
- **Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support**
- **Maryanne Hennings and John R. Post ’60 Learning Commons**
- **Jack Ramsay ’49 Basketball Center**
- **Faculty Support**
- **Student Financial Aid**
- **The Saint Joseph’s Fund**
Matthew Verghese ’12 and his girlfriend call it “Snowflake Night.”

It happened one evening during Verghese’s first semester as a resident assistant in McShain Hall, when he asked to borrow a TV from one of his freshman residents. He was going on a first date — dinner and a movie on DVD — only he didn’t have a TV or a DVD and his cluttered room was more likely to inspire a headache than nurture a relationship.

When Verghese and his date returned to his room after dinner, the TV was there, all right, but that wasn’t all. Scattered papers and books had been cleared. Clothing had been put away. The bed was made, dishes washed and trash removed. The soothing scent of vanilla floated through the room, and a warm blanket was draped over the sofa in case a slight chill from the window — opened for just that purpose — necessitated sitting under it, side by side. As a finishing touch, the handful of residents who transformed the room had adorned the walls with carefully hand-cut snowflakes.

“I was speechless,” remembers Verghese, who hails from Rochester, N.Y. He attributes the blossoming of the romance in part to the dreamy atmosphere of “Snowflake Night.”

“They really helped me out,” he laughs.

Such heart-warming moments aren’t altogether rare in the realm of RAs, the students who live in residence halls as official university monitors, mentors, counselors and overseers and help students adjust to, and abide by, the protocols of campus and college life. RAs create communities out of students from far-flung worlds and sometimes the residents reciprocate with unexpected gestures of affection and camaraderie.

Friends, Facilitators, Enforcers and Comedians

RAs, Hawk Hosts and Red Shirts touch the lives of every incoming student and campus resident on Hawk Hill.

By Jill Porter
“We put a lot of emphasis on really trying to make the hall one cohesive unit and getting to know each other,” says David Trotto ’11 (Rochester, N.Y.). “Nine months can be a very long time with the same people. If you make those bonds strong from the beginning and encourage students to get to know each other, it can be a really great thing.”

Adjusting to residence hall living is an experience “that needs to be enriched by resident assistants so a community that values academic achievement, diversity, self-discipline and a Jesuit concern for others develops within the residence system,” says John Jeffrey, director of residence life.

Saint Joseph’s RAs — as well as Hawk Hosts, who conduct campus tours for prospective students and their families, and Red Shirts, who run student orientation events — ease incoming students through perhaps the most dramatic transition of their lives, while honing their own leadership skills. Students vie for the competitive slots and only about one-third of applicants are selected any given year.

These campus leadership positions may be challenging and time-consuming, but they can also be transformative.

When Christina Campeau ’11 (Shamong, N.J.) arrived on campus four years ago, she was reticent and shy, and apprehensive about being away from her family. Her RA drew her out of her homesick malaise by creating fun group activities and outings that helped her bond with other freshmen.

“Without her, I wouldn’t have met any people on the floor,” says Campeau. Her RA’s influence was so profound, in fact, that she decided to become an RA herself. Campeau went from being “the kind who didn’t initiate anything” to “having to plan programs and take control of a floor of 40-plus students.”

“It made me a lot more comfortable being in front of people,” she says. “I’m a completely different person now.”

It isn’t easy being an authority figure among your peers, and learning to navigate that sometimes tricky situation in a way that invites respect and avoids resentment is one of the critical lessons of being a campus leader. After serving as a Red Shirt for a couple of years, Steven Dorn ’11 (Rockland County, N.Y.) became a Red Shirt student coordinator, with authority to change policy and enforce procedures.

“I was sitting in meetings goofing around with other students for two years, then standing in front of them setting rules,” says Dorn. “Not everyone is always going to agree or think you’re right, and that’s OK. As long as you have the majority of people behind you and as long as you’re confident, things will work out and people will get behind you.”

Kasandra Grab ’12 (Harrisburg, Pa.) learned that lesson when she had to confront a loud resident whose response to criticism from her floor mates was to ramp up the offensive behavior. After several unsuccessful attempts to get her to quiet down, Grab asked her to “do it for me. Don’t slam the door … for me.” The next day, the resident left a note under her door that said she would try harder, “for you.”

“That’s why it’s so important to have that bond,” Grab says, “because they’re going to respect you.”

The gratification of helping current and prospective students feel enthusiastic about Saint Joseph’s more than compensates for the demands of the jobs.
“We all work really hard to reach out to people and make sure they’re having fun. Making someone feel welcome is huge for me.”

Kataney Couamin ’11

“I was really great feeling being able to host students and convey why I love this school and why I think it would be a good fit for anybody,” says Hawk Host Shane Kennedy ’11 (Indianapolis, Ind.). “You’d see them on tour and we’d host them overnight, and then the following year, I’d see them on campus, and there was a possibility that I had some influence on them coming here.”

Margaret Garvey ’11 (Boston, Mass.) agrees. “I had a girl come up to me and say, ‘You’re the reason I’m here,’” says Garvey. “She said, ‘My dad and I came on a Friday afternoon and you were the last one giving tours. You were so great.’

“That’s why Hawk Hosts are Hawk Hosts. Wow, someone’s going to be at Saint Joseph’s because of me!”

Students selected to be Hawk Hosts “have exceptional interpersonal communication skills, are involved on campus, maintain a cumulative GPA above 2.5 and have enthusiasm for SJU,” says David Sicoli, assistant director of undergraduate admissions.

To be a Red Shirt, “you need to be a people person, and have school spirit and pride,” says Beth Hagovsky, Ed.D., director of student leadership and activities. “Even though all of the students who attend orientation intend to enroll, we’re still trying to convince them and their parents and families that this is the right place for them, so we need people who highlight the best of SJU.”

It’s particularly fulfilling for Red Shirt Kataney Couamin ’11 (Long Island, N.Y.) to make incoming students feel comfortable during orientation. “We all work really hard to reach out to people and make sure they’re having fun,” says Couamin. “Making someone feel welcome is huge for me. As a minority on campus especially, I know how it feels to not exactly fit in. To make sure there’s a space where they can feel welcome is fun for me.”

And for the RAs, while some campus residents can make life challenging, others make life joyful by creating moments such as Mat Verghese’s Snowflake Night.

Verghese will be on a service internship in South Africa in the fall, but he hopes to be an RA again the following semester — despite friends’ suggestions that he simply have a good time during his last few months in college.

“I like being the go-to guy in the community and to be able to help develop the camaraderie that forms,” he says. “It’s something special.”

Jill Porter is a freelance writer.
Commence
Saint Joseph’s commencement exercises have long featured the traditional “Pomp and Circumstance,” well-deserved awards for scholarly achievement and beaming graduates clad in ebony attire. And while these traditions have endured through the years, the location of graduation has shifted a few times since Saint Joseph’s College held commencement exercises in places such as Sansom Street Hall and the Philadelphia Assembly Building to observe the close of each academic year.

The College moved from its location at 17th and Stiles streets in Philadelphia to City Avenue in 1927. Commencement, shown in 1931 at left, was held in the Barbelin quadrangle from 1928 to 1948.

This year, more than 1,400 undergraduate and graduate students received degrees on the University’s new James J. Maguire ’58 Campus. Instead of processing east over the McShain Bridge toward Gest Lawn — the site of most commencement ceremonies since 1968 — students headed westward over City Avenue, toward their destination on Maguire Campus, as shown on page 23.
**1948.** An aerial perspective captures the intimate atmosphere of commencement in the Barbelin quadrangle.

**1951.** As WWII veterans returned to school, enrollment surged and graduation found a new, larger home in the Alumni Memorial Fieldhouse.

**1976.** Gest Lawn was the home of graduation for many years between 1968 and 2010. In 1976, one small tent covered the staged area for dignitaries.

**1997.** The trees along City Avenue rise behind the graduation tent, which nearly spans the width of Gest Lawn.

**2011.** The Class of 2011 processes over the McShain Bridge to the James J. Maguire ‘58 Campus, becoming Saint Joseph’s first students to graduate there.
Now called a woman of distinction, a rising star and one to watch, this alumna dared to dream big.

By Kristen A. Graham
Growing up, Nikki Johnson-Huston, Esq. ’98 (B.S.), dreamed of a successful life. But her idea of success didn’t include earning a college degree, becoming an attorney, owning a home or mentoring young people.

“For me, success was not being on drugs, not being in jail, not having children out of wedlock, not being on government assistance,” says Johnson-Huston. She is keenly aware of who her ancestors were — slaves and sharecroppers. Her grandmother was a domestic. Her mother suffered from drug and alcohol issues. “Having credit cards and paying taxes and going on vacation — mundane things — seem pretty exciting to me,” she says.

Born in Detroit, Johnson-Huston was homeless and living in California by the time she was nine, shuttling between shelters, motel rooms and the streets. Eventually, she moved in with her grandmother, who was disabled and survived on public assistance but gave her a sense of stability and taught her the value of education. Johnson-Huston’s grandmother was poor but generous, uneducated but certain her granddaughter would do great things.

“There is no shame in being poor,” her grandmother told her, “only in having poor character.”

She was Johnson-Huston’s first role model. “There was something about her that was light and happy and hopeful — she made me believe that I was going to achieve,” Johnson-Huston says. “I had no idea how I would do it, but I knew that I would.” Johnson-Huston excelled in school, earning a scholarship to Saint Joseph’s, a school thousands of miles away but with Catholic values that matched her grandmother’s.

Going to Saint Joseph’s was a chance to start over, but it didn’t go smoothly. She felt out of place and was short on money, academically adrift and unwilling to reach out for help. Her clothes were inadequate for the chilly East Coast winters; there were days when she would attempt to use her meal card at the dining hall, and it would be denied for lack of funds.

“I was very secretive about my background,” says Johnson-Huston. “I tried to pretend I was like everybody else, and I just wasn’t.”

Eventually, Johnson-Huston was academically dismissed — and convinced she was a failure. But after she took a job as a nanny for a family on the Main Line, things started to change. She grew close to the family, and they encouraged her to go back to school. When Johnson-Huston found out she could get another chance at a Saint Joseph’s degree through University College (now the College of Professional and Liberal Studies), she jumped at it. She took classes at night after working full-time during the day, but this time, college was different. She earned good grades, and felt “worthwhile, valuable,” she says.

“I didn’t do everything right, but I really credit St. Joe’s with rehabilitating me, with giving me a second chance. A lot of institutions wouldn’t have done that.”

With a business management degree from Saint Joseph’s, Johnson-Huston moved on to law school at Temple University, where she earned a J.D./M.B.A./LL.M., all in four years. These days, she works for the City of Philadelphia as an assistant city solicitor in the major tax unit. She’s making a name for herself, having been selected as one of the Philadelphia Business Journal’s “25 Women of Distinction” and a “Lawyer on the Fast-track” for Pennsylvania by the Legal Intelligencer. She also won the Craig M. Perry Service Award from the Young Lawyers Division of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

The awards are in recognition of not just her successful legal career, but also her work as a motivational speaker, volunteer and mentor. Johnson-Huston sits on multiple boards of local organizations; she was recently elected to the board of governors of the Philadelphia Bar Association. She launched a mentoring program and an annual event that gives local high school students a roadmap for how to become a lawyer — teaching them everything from the ins and outs of financial aid to how to apply to law school.

Her community work is a tribute to her grandmother, who often reminded her that everyone has an obligation to help others. But it’s also driven by what happened to her brother, Michael, who went to live in foster care when Johnson-Huston moved in with her grandmother, because Michael had behavior issues and their grandmother couldn’t care for him. While Johnson-Huston achieved, he struggled — dropping out of high school, becoming addicted to drugs, working sporadically. Johnson-Huston tried to get him to earn his GED, tried to get him into rehab, but Michael resisted. Last summer, he died. Losing her smart, handsome, talented but troubled younger brother was excruciating for Johnson-Huston.

“At some point, I thought he would be able to turn it around,” she says. “And I thought, ‘That could have been me.’ If not for the opportunities I’d been given, maybe that would have been me.” She often talks to audiences about Michael, using his life as a way to remind people to get help, to make good choices, to have a dream and pursue it determinedly.

That she is in demand as a speaker, that she has a life where she regularly attends cocktail parties, goes on vacation to Europe and rubs elbows with important people still astonishes Johnson-Huston.

“I always say — ‘not bad for a college dropout,’” Johnson-Huston laughs. “I do feel like a very average, normal person who is lucky enough to be able to share my mistakes with the world, so that other people don’t make the same ones. But I’m completely amazed and flabbergasted that people want to listen to me, and that it really resonates.”

Kristen Graham is a regular contributor to SJU Magazine.
Dear Fellow Hawks,

In May, I had the opportunity to attend the commencement ceremony for the Class of 2011, the first held on the James J. Maguire ’58 Campus. While sitting under the tent across City Avenue, I reflected on a memory book from the Class of 1961, which celebrated its 50th Reunion that weekend.

What struck me about the remembrances noted by the Golden Hawks was how much we all have in common as graduates of Saint Joseph’s — shared memories of “orientation in the Fieldhouse,” our “first visit to the Palestra,” “an academic climate for serious study and hard work,” “finding my life’s work,” and “the teaching of the ‘whole man’ concept by the Jesuits.”

While the physical campus and curriculum have changed over the years, the core values instilled by our Catholic, Jesuit education and the enduring passion that we share for the University, regardless of our graduation year, remain the same.

In an effort to celebrate this shared passion, I invite you to return to campus this fall for Hawktoberfest, October 14-16. It’s not just a reunion for certain class years — all classes are welcome and encouraged to return to Hawk Hill to reunite and reconnect with friends and classmates and to make new memories.

Remember, as long as we keep our common passion for St. Joe’s alive, “The Hawk Will Never Die!”

Sincerely,

Gina M. Mazzulla ’91 (B.S.)
President
Saint Joseph’s University Alumni Association

DIPIANO ’92 RECEIVES HSB HALL OF FAME AWARD

The Haub School of Business recognized pharmaceutical leader Gerianne Tringali DiPiano ’92 (M.B.A.), president, CEO and founder of FemmePharma Global Healthcare, Inc., with the 21st Annual Hall of Fame Award in April. DiPiano is the first female recipient.

“I would like to thank God for giving me the opportunity to receive this award and share my experience with Saint Joseph’s students, faculty and administrators,” said DiPiano. “I believe His mission for me is to help women in many different ways. The disparities between men and women extend past healthcare. I feel it’s important for me, and for my company, to advance women’s issues for a better future for our daughters.”

A member of the Saint Joseph’s University Board of Trustees, DiPiano founded FemmePharma in 1996 to fill a void in what she recognized was an industry that fell short on women’s issues. She was named by the Philadelphia Business Journal as one of the “Top 50 People to Watch in Pennsylvania” and was recognized by former Governor Ed Rendell in 2007 as one of Pennsylvania’s “51 Best Women in Business.” Recently, DiPiano was named one of the “100 Most Inspiring Individuals” in the United States Pharmaceutical Industry and one of the top 12 entrepreneurs by PharmaVoice.

INDEPENDENCE BLUE CROSS CEO HILFERTY ’78 DELIVERS KEYNOTE AT NEW YORK COUNCIL DINNER

Daniel J. Hilferty ’78 (B.S.), president and CEO of Independence Blue Cross, presented the keynote address, “Healthcare Reform and Corporate Strategies,” at the 2011 New York Council Dinner on April 26 at The Harvard Club in Manhattan. The fourth annual event brought together more than 100 alumni, parents and friends from the region to hear an update from former University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., as well as the keynote presentation.

Hilferty, who is an SJU Trustee, received the Haub School of Business Hall of Fame Award in 2008. Prior to assuming his current position, he had served as executive vice president and president of IBC’s Health Markets and as president and CEO of the AmeriHealth Mercy Family of Companies, which is jointly owned by IBC and Mercy Health System.
RECORD NUMBERS VOLUNTEER FOR SJU’S NATIONAL COMMUNITY DAY 2011

A record 750 alumni, current and prospective students, parents, friends, faculty and staff took part in Saint Joseph’s 4th Annual National Community Day on April 16. Spanning the globe, volunteers established more than 50 service sites in 35 cities across the country and on three continents.

“It is so exciting to see the SJU community, past, present and future, band together to serve as men and women with and for others,” remarked Alumni Association President Gina Mazzulla ’91 (B.S.).

For local participants, the day kicked off with a brief ceremony in the Chapel of St. Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J. Memorial and concluded with a reflection in The Perch.

For additional information and to view all site locations and photos, visit www.sju.edu/nationalcommunityday.

LAW ALUMNI PRESENT SHEA ’79 WITH GEM AWARD

The Law Alumni Chapter has named Patrick Shea, Esq. ’79 (B.A.), as its 2011 Gem Award recipient. The award is presented annually to a graduate who displays great loyalty to the University while focusing his career on helping others. In addition, the chapter awarded a pair of postgraduate scholarships to Matthew Salkowski and Robert Bernardo, of the Class of 2011, who are attending law school this fall at Temple and Rutgers universities, respectively, and recognized Samantha Peruto ’11 as the recipient of the Kenneth Mines Award.

MEDICAL ALUMNI RECOGNIZE SAINT JOSEPH’S FIRST FEMALE FACULTY MEMBER

Continuing the University’s celebration of 40 years of coeducation in the day school, the SJU Medical Alumni Chapter recognized the life and career of Catherine “Kay” Stifler Nash. The first woman to join the Saint Joseph’s faculty in 1949, as assistant professor of biology, she received an honorary degree during the University’s undergraduate commencement ceremony and was recognized at a special reception on May 14. A member of the biology department for 34 years, Nash served as a role model and mentor for generations of students and faculty.

NEW NICOLETTI MUSIC STUDIO FORMALLY BLESSED

To view more photos and videos, visit campaign.sju.edu/gallery/gallery.html.
PARENTS MAKE AN IMPACT THROUGH LOYOLA SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Four years ago, Hank and Jane Mullany came to Saint Joseph's University for the first time as parents of a prospective student. It was the beginning of a long and fruitful relationship.

“We were really impressed by SJU's commitment to quality, its Jesuit ideals, leadership, faculty and staff,” said Hank Mullany. “The Loyola Society Executive Council for parents provided us with a meaningful opportunity to connect with the SJU community. We were motivated by the evidence of the University's commitment to its students through the expansion of the campus, programs and faculty lines.”

As outgoing chairs of the Loyola Society Executive Council (LSEC), a group of approximately 120 parents who have made a leadership-level philanthropic commitment to the University, the Mullanys agree that their best experiences have been the interaction with other parents they've met — outstanding, caring people who want to make a difference in students' lives, say the Mullanys.

LSEC members are partners with the University and have demonstrated their leadership commitment in a variety of ways. Whether helping to secure the financial resources needed for important projects like the development of the Maguire Campus or enhancing students' educational experience through the Saint Joseph's Fund, parent giving through the Loyola Society Executive Council continues to make significant educational opportunities possible.

“Parent participation is a key factor in the Council's success, especially now,” said Jane Mullany. “As we plan for a change in leadership, we're entering a new chapter in the University's history, and the role of parents is as important as ever.”

To read the complete article or learn more about the Loyola Society Executive Council, visit campaign.sju.edu/sjfund/parentslsecmullany.html.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOSTS 4TH ANNUAL GALLAGHER GOLF OUTING

Nearly 100 alumni hit the links on June 2 for the 4th Annual Jack Gallagher '63 Memorial Alumni Golf Outing at Scotland Run Golf Club in Williamstown, N.J. Among those in attendance were Bob Gallagher Jr. '98, '99, Dorothy Jean (Gallagher) Hordubay, James Dever '54, Jane Gallagher, Bob Gallagher Sr. and J.P. Gallagher.

CLASS OF 1961 CELEBRATES 50TH REUNION, GOLDEN HAWKS INDUCTION

Members of the Class of 1961 returned to campus in May for their 50th Reunion and induction as Golden Hawks. Among those in attendance were reunion committee chairs Frank Wellock, Frank Erbrick and John Paul Curran, who presented former University President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., with a class gift check in the amount of $2.2 million.

TENNIS ALUMNI RETURN TO CAMPUS FOR ALUMNI AND FAMILY DAY

Alumni spanning five decades returned to campus on April 30 for the SJU tennis program's inaugural Alumni and Family Day at the SJU Tennis Complex. The event featured lunch, open courts, a children's clinic and exhibitions by current players and young alumni.

To view more photos, visit alumni.sju.edu/photogalleries.
HAWKTOBERFEST 2011
Join fellow classmates and alumni of all ages for a new twist on an old tradition …

All alumni and families are invited to campus for Hawktoberfest 2011 on October 14, 15 and 16! It’s not just a reunion, but a Homecoming Weekend, featuring events and activities for alumni and friends from all class years. It’s a new twist aimed at sparking your Hawk spirit and rekindling an old tradition!

To learn more and to register, visit alumni.sju.edu/hawktoberfest or www.facebook.com/hawktoberfest.

Weekend Highlights

- Campus Tours
- SJU Men’s Soccer Game
- SJU Women’s Soccer Game
- Kristin’s Krusade 5K Run/Walk
- Men’s & Women’s Basketball Open Practice
- Alumni Mass and Renewal of Vows Ceremony for Hawkmates
- Alumni Brunch

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 610-660-2997 or alumni@sju.edu.

31st ANNUAL ALUMNI Gala

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HONORS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS
The SJU Alumni Association will present its most prestigious honor, the Shield of Loyola, to Brian Duperreault ’69 at the 31st Annual Alumni Gala on October 14.

One of SJU’s most prominent and loyal alumni, Duperreault has been a key member of the University’s Board of Trustees and a lead benefactor to With Faith and Strength to Dare: The Campaign for Saint Joseph’s University. Duperreault is among the insurance industry’s most respected leaders and currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of Marsh & McLennan Companies. He was inducted into the Haub School of Business Hall of Fame in 2002.

For the first time at this event, the Alumni Association will present the Rev. Joseph S. Hogan, S.J., Award to Richard J. Kelly ’59 and the Ignatius Award to Seán Patrick Sanford ’97.

Hawk Forum with James Martin, S.J.
Between Heaven and Mirth: Why Joy, Humor and Laughter are at the Heart of the Spiritual Life

Laugh out loud as James Martin, S.J., puts his unique spin on Catholicism, Jesuit education and much more. The culture editor of America magazine and author of numerous books, including The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything, he is a frequent commentator in the national and international media including Comedy Central’s “The Colbert Report.” His most recent book, Between Heaven and Mirth: Why Joy, Humor and Laughter are at the Heart of the Spiritual Life, is due out in October.

Alumni Tailgate
In Homecoming style, join us on campus for the inaugural All-Class Tailgate. Mix and mingle with alumni, faculty, family and friends along Finney Field, while enjoying “Taste of Philly” fare and cold beverages. Listen to alumni bands or take in the men’s alumni soccer game, and enjoy plenty of activities for the kids.

Reunion Class Parties
Reconnect with classmates at private and casual class parties on campus and throughout Philadelphia (i.e., Center City, Manayunk).
E-mail us at alumni@sju.edu and we’ll keep you in touch with the latest SJU happenings!

To submit information for Alum Notes, send an e-mail, visit www.sju.edu/alumni or see the Tell Us Your News form on page 38. The magazine’s policy is to print as many Alum Notes in each issue as space and timeliness permit. Submissions may be edited for length and content.

1950
Peter Fantacome (B.S.), a WWII veteran, made a DVD to “honor and keep alive the memory of all those who died on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944.” To view “A D-Day in Memory of the Fallen,” visit www1.teachertube.com and type in “Peter Fantacone.” Fantacome serves as a tour guide on the Battleship New Jersey, America’s most decorated battleship, docked in Camden, N.J.

Anthony E. Severino (B.S.), a certified tennis instructor, published Tennis with Tony and Friends (Outskirts Press, 2010), a collection of his 29 tennis-related articles. The book is for recreational players who want to enjoy the game, exercise and learn to play better.

1954
John Gallagher (B.A.) is president of the board of directors of Irish Heritage Theatre, a new professional company in Philadelphia whose first major production is scheduled for this fall. He directed a staged reading in February for Philadelphia’s Amaryllis Theater Company and is touring a playlet he wrote titled Mr. Dooley at Your Service.

1965
Thomas T. McDaniel Jr. (B.S.) and wife Nora welcomed grandson Colin Andrew McCarthy in January.

1967
Francis DeHoratius (B.S.) helped to create the website, louieorlando.com, where the second volume of The Ultimate Phillies Trivia Quiz by Lou Orlando is available for download.

Looking toward the future?

There are several ways to make a gift to Saint Joseph’s University of lasting value:

- Establish a scholarship to make a Saint Joseph’s education possible for future students.
- Plan a gift that pays you back during your lifetime and provides needed resources to Saint Joseph’s in the future.
- Make a bequest to Saint Joseph’s by creating a new will or living trust, or modify your present will or living trust by adding a codicil.
- Name Saint Joseph’s as the beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy.

Contact us to assist you in tailoring a personalized gift plan and to assure that your gift will be used as intended.

Advancing Saint Joseph’s Mission Through Gift Planning

1968
Rudy Nedelka (B.S.) was honored for 32 years of service with the NATO Small Arms Ammunition Interchangeability Group during a meeting at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. He has served as proof officer, superintendent and information officer of the NATO North American Regional Test Center.

1969

1971
Jim Collins (B.A.) was named regional vice president of Risk Sciences Group, which provides risk management information systems to consolidate and evaluate risk data for the domestic and international markets. Based in New Jersey, he has been with the company since 1997.

Andrew E. Lipenta (B.S.) was appointed state treasurer of the Knights of Columbus for New Jersey. He previously served as grand knight of Council #6735, district deputy and fourth degree master of the Second New Jersey District. Lipenta has earned several honors during his 25 years in the order. He consults part-time with Electro Magnetic Products in Moorestown, N.J., where he was employed for 32 years before retirement.

John T. Stone (B.S.) is a chief analyst at Stone and Rambo, which recently relocated from Avalon to South Dennis, N.J. The company provides real estate analysis, consulting and appraisal services for financial institutions and private individuals in southern New Jersey.

John P. Lubicky, M.D. (B.S.), is a professor of orthopaedic surgery and pediatrics at West Virginia University School of Medicine and chief of pediatric orthopaedic surgery at WVU Hospitals in Morgantown, W.V.

1975
Bill Ricci (B.A.) was named a “Lawyer of the Year” by the Philadelphia’s Best Lawyers supplement in the area of product liability litigation.

Glenn R. Ortley, D.O. (B.S.), was re-elected to the board of trustees of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA). Dr. Ortley is medical director of the Delaware County Memorial Hospital Home Care Services Program in Drexel Hill, Pa. Vice chairman of POMA’s District 2, Dr. Ortley serves as a delegate to POMA and the American Osteopathic Association.

1976
Gerald A. McHugh Jr., Esq. (B.A.), was named a Philadelphia Medical Malpractice “Lawyer of the Year” by The Best Lawyers in America (2011).

1979
Ed Lynch (B.A.) published two books this year, Starting Over: A Political Biography of George Allen (Hamilton Books, of Rowman and Littlefield) coincides with Allen’s run for the U.S. Senate, and The Cold War’s Last Battlefield: Reagan, the Soviets and Central America (SUNY Press) includes Lynch’s perspective as a participant in the Reagan administration.
Why is Albert Einstein so important?
That’s the question Joe McEvoy, Ph.D. ’59 (B.S.), asked his fellow physics department members while on the faculty of a small university in New England. It was the early 1970s, and McEvoy believed that his area of study, physics, had become far too specialized.

Although his colleagues were experts in their fields, none knew much about Einstein. This realization, along with the plummeting enrollment numbers in physics at the university, prompted McEvoy to create unusual and unorthodox courses to popularize the subject.

“There was a movement in the U.S.A. in the ’70s to make physics more accessible to non-specialists,” he says, “so I introduced three new courses: ‘Einstein,’ ‘Physics for Artists, Poets and Politicians,’ and ‘Astronomy for the Masses.’” He was amazed as the courses filled with students from psychology and history, education and English.

To McEvoy, this indicated a secret desire among students to know more about subjects like physics and astronomy — though no one would take such courses because they were full of math and taught by teachers who were too traditional.

About that time, McEvoy heard about a new course for secondary schools, produced at Harvard, called Harvard Project Physics, based on the historical development of the subject. He was intrigued by the concept of teaching physics as one of the humanities and decided his interests and skills might be better utilized in a high school environment. Before long, he was on his way back to London to take a job at The American School in London (ASL).

He, his wife Patricia, and their sons had lived in London for three years in the mid-’60s when he completed his doctorate in physics at the University of London after receiving the David Sarnoff Fellowship from his employer, RCA Laboratories. Now, in 1973, he was back in London.

He had great success there with the new Project Physics course at ASL — one of the top international high schools in the world — and was later awarded the prestigious founder’s award for outstanding contributions to education. Then, in 1993, out of nowhere, a publisher asked him to write a book on the life of Stephen Hawking, a celebrity in the field of physics and cosmology.

“Life is full of serendipity,” laughs McEvoy. “Originally, they wanted me to do a book on the Big Bang and I agreed. However, the next day they called and said they didn’t want a book on the Big Bang, but instead, on Stephen Hawking. I decided that I could do that, too, so I sent a fax to Hawking in Cambridge.”

McEvoy’s book, Introducing Stephen Hawking, has become widely popular across the globe, with several editions published in more than a dozen languages. Since then, he has published three more books, which continued to popularize his passion for physics: Introducing Quantum Theory (1996), Eclipse (1999) and the most recent, A Brief History of the Universe (2010). Somehow, without intention, he became a writer.

Reflecting on his early life, McEvoy recalls that his family did not have the resources to send him to college, but he was able to attend Saint Joseph’s through its Cooperative Education Program while working at RCA in Camden, N.J. He believes the thorough training he received at Saint Joseph’s, especially from influential professors Sam Ensor in mathematics and Bernard Miller, Ph.D., in physics, taught him to make certain that each concept must be completely understood before moving on to the next. In addition, he is convinced that the liberal arts aspect of his SJU education ultimately led him to leave physics research to become a teacher and writer.

Last April, McEvoy returned to SJU to speak about his book, A Brief History of the Universe, as part of the McGroddy Frontiers in Science Seminar Series.

— Bill Wells ’12
Martin P. Duffey (B.A.) was named one of seven new shareholders of Cozen O’Connor in Philadelphia. He is a member of the firm’s subrogation and recovery department and concentrates his practice in complex litigation matters, including product liability, fire and flood losses, construction defects, premises liability, immigration, bodily injury and medical malpractice.

1984

Patrick D. Mahoney (B.A.) was appointed chief marketing officer of the IEEE staff organization, the world’s largest professional society dedicated to the advancement of technology with 1,000 employees in several U.S. and overseas locations. He has global responsibility for sales, product marketing, new product development, platform management and public visibility. A member of the IEEE management council, Mahoney was elevated to senior member status and holds a U.S. patent. He and wife Lesley live in Westfield, N.J., with their four children.

1985

Judith (Vitiello) Dezagottis (B.S.) moved to Annville, Pa., and enjoys working part-time and traveling with husband James.

1986

Michelle Butterworth, D.P.M. (B.A.), was installed as president-elect of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons at the national association’s 69th Annual Scientific Conference in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in March. Butterworth practices at Pee Dee Foot Center in Kingstree, S.C., and is board certified in foot surgery and reconstructive rear foot and ankle surgery by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery.

1988

Mary Ellen (Monz) Dronitsky, Esq. (M.B.A.), is director of advertising and promotion policy at GlaxoSmithKline in Philadelphia.

1989

Glenn Brunette (B.S., M.S. ’93) was promoted to chief technology officer for Oracle Corp.’s Enterprise Solutions Group.

1991

Maj. Walt Fee (B.S.) is currently deployed to Baghdad supporting U.S. operations in Iraq.

1993

Robert S. Dolansky Jr., D.O. (M.B.A.), was re-elected to the board of trustees of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA). He is network director of osteopathic medical education for St. Luke’s Hospital in Allentown, Pa., and serves as a delegate to POMA, the American Osteopathic Association and the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP). Dolansky is a fellow of ACOFP and is board certified in family practice.

1997

Melissa A. Cornribe (B.A.) was named a new member of the Cozen O’Connor law firm. She is a part of the global insurance group and practices out of Philadelphia. Prior to joining the firm, she worked as an assistant district attorney for the City of Philadelphia from 2000 to 2004.
Prestigious Catholic Award Goes to Alumna

Mary Scullion, R.S.M. ’76, accepted the oldest and most prestigious honor given to American Catholics, the University of Notre Dame’s Laetare Medal, at the university’s commencement ceremony on May 22. She and Joan McConnon are co-founders of Project H.O.M.E., an organization devoted to ending homelessness in Philadelphia, and jointly received the award. For more on Sr. Scullion’s work with Project Home, visit www.sju.edu/news/magazine/archives/spring09.html.

1999

Sena Owereko (B.A. ’99, M.S. ’07) serves as the manager of Advising Projects for the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning and the lead consultant for SENT Coaching & Consulting, based in Philadelphia.

2000

Kristie (Bilik) Pasculli (B.A.) and husband Anthony opened a daycare center in Hoboken, N.J., in July 2011. Hoboken Little School will enroll 51 children from six weeks to three years old (www.hobokenlittleschool.com).

Seán Lavelle (B.S.) was promoted to vice president of development at the Gesu School in Philadelphia.

2001

Chad Piotrowski (B.S.) opened his own law practice specializing in criminal defense in Miami, Fla., last year. He served as assistant state attorney in Miami-Dade County from 2006 to 2010 after graduating from law school in 2006.

John J. Shimp (B.B.A.) was honored as a distinguished alumnus of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Philadelphia at the Shining Stars Gala in April. Currently vice chair of the Clubs’ board of directors and chairman of the strategic planning committee, Shimp became a member of the Bridesburg Boys and Girls Club at age 5 and has remained involved since then. He is an owner, a financial advisor and a managing director of Shimp, Townsley & Associates, a financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial, and was named a 2010 Top Scoring Wealth Manager by Philadelphia Magazine. Shimp, wife Carolyn, and son Connor reside in Philadelphia.

There are 25,000 stories... tell us yours.

Sunday, October 2, 2011

www.alumni.sju.edu/sheunited

Contact Kathy Boyle at kboyle01@sju.edu or 610-660-3099 for more information.
2003

Kathryn A. (Fromuth) Wilson (B.S.) earned a master’s degree in educational leadership from Wilkes University in 2009.

2005

Clancy Boylan (B.S.), a second-year law student at Duquesne University, was part of the team that won Duquesne’s first-ever national championship in the National Student Trial Advocacy Competition sponsored by the American Association for Justice in 2011. They finished first out of more than 225 teams and were undefeated for the tournament.

Albert Vagnozzi (M.B.A.) was promoted to vice president of safety at United Global Services in Blue Bell, Pa. The company is an engineering, construction management and installation services provider for companies specializing in telecommunications, broadband cable and satellite industries.

2006

Mia Campo (B.A.), owner of Campo’s Deli, signed a three-year contract with the Philadelphia Phillies to serve cheese steaks in Ashburn Alley, Citizens Bank Park’s outfield walkway.

Robert Lavorerio (B.B.A.) is a pharmaceutical representative for Forest Laboratories in Princeton, N.J.

Kenneth Sheeky (B.A.) was selected to lead the Professional Standards/Criminal Investigations Unit of the Delaware River and Bay Authority Police Department.

2007

Justin DiRusso (B.B.A.) is a problem resolution associate in the brokerage department of the Vanguard Group. He and wife Elizabeth (Taverna, B.A. ’08) live in the Manayunk section of Philadelphia.

Jessica (Gifford) Lavorerio (B.B.A.) works as an account executive at Katz Radio Group in Philadelphia.

New from Saint Joseph’s University Press

Philadelphia’s Wissahickon Valley 1620-2020

METROPOLITAN paradise

by David Contosta and Carol Franklin

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2003

A large contingent of alumni celebrated the wedding of John DiJulia (center, standing) and Kelly Foley ’05, including the groom’s father, Don DiJulia ’67, associate vice president and director of athletics (kneeling, front, right).

Judith Vitiello (B.S. ’85) and James Dezagottis III
David McFadden (B.A. ’93) and Kimberly John
Kathryn Fromuth (B.S. ’03) and Ron Wilson
Andrea Cristiani (B.S. ’05, M.S. ’06) and Pete Perry
Kelly Foley (B.B.A. ’05) and John DiJulia
Patricia Dougherty (B.S. ’06) and Paul Franzonia
Andrea Cristiani (B.S. ’05, M.S. ’06) and Pete Perry
Jessica Lynette Gifford (B.B.A. ’07) and Robert Lavorerio (B.B.A. ’06)
Jeremy Donmoyer (M.S. ’09) and Dawn Donmoyer
Sarah Benedict (B.S. ’10, M.A. ’11) and Lee Bussinger
Elizabeth Taverna (B.B.A. ’08) and Justin Nicholas DiRusso (B.B.A. ’07)
Sunny Side Up

It’s not every day that a business executive has the opportunity to watch morning television from the comfort of his office. If he does, the program most likely isn’t filming live just a few floors below — or co-hosted by a chicken puppet named Chica.

For Jim Multari ’06 (M.B.A.), vice president of marketing and research at Sprout, a 24-hour preschool television channel, the presence of Chica and her human co-hosts is part of an average workday. Specifically targeted to children between the ages of two and five, Sprout runs 24-hour programming that includes longtime favorites like Sesame Street and Thomas & Friends, bookended by Sprout originals such as the Sunny Side Up Show — which Chica hosts in the mornings — and the Good Night Show. Throughout the day, the channel offers parents of “Sproutlets” ideas for shared activities and learning moments.

“One of the main messages we try to send is ‘this is why Sprout is important for your family,’” says Multari. “The content is for kids, but what we want is parents and children sharing and watching together.”

Using a variety of custom research and analytical tools including Nielsen ratings, Multari and his department are able to analyze the viewing behaviors of preschoolers and their parents. Having direct access to this information allows them to know what the children like, what shows are best responded to, and how their parents influence viewing.

Multari started his career at a market research company after graduating from Marymount University in Arlington, Va. When his engagement and marriage brought him to Philadelphia, the hometown of his wife, Emily, he found employment with Research for Better Schools, an educational research nonprofit where he managed marketing and communications initiatives. At the same time, he began establishing contacts with the Comcast Corporation in the hopes of pursuing a job centered on media and technology, and enrolled in Saint Joseph’s MBA program.

“There’s a certain emotional and spiritual connection that schools like St. Joe’s and Marymount offer that a lot of larger schools can’t because of their community size and commitment to collaboration,” Multari says. “Many MBA programs seemed to be traditional business strategy programs, where SJU’s took the time to question how business can impact community.”

In 2005, Comcast launched PBS Kids Sprout, and Multari got a call from the contact he had been in touch with over the past year, informing him of an opening for a research manager. He took the job and continued in the MBA program, which he finished in 2006. Since then, he has risen to vice president of marketing and research at Sprout, and now serves on the Haub School of Business Thought Leaders Advisory Panel through the Center for Consumer Research. He is also involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters as a mentor.

In 2010, Multari and his wife had their first child, Bridget. This, he says, puts him in the unique position of being the same type of parent Sprout is trying to reach.

“As a father, I’m even more mindful of the importance of quality children’s television programming and the impact it has on families,” he says.

And while he looks forward to “a whole new perspective” as his daughter gets older, for now he’s content to greet the day with Sunny Side Up — at work and at home.

— Nicole Katze ’10 (M.A.)
Hawks Soar

to the Shore

Saturday,
August 20, 2011
4 p.m. – 8 p.m.
La Costa Lounge
Sea Isle City, N.J.
alumni.sju.edu/register

BIRTHS

Anthony Robert to Lorraine and Joseph Durso (B.S. ’71)
Michael to Kara and Joe Lyons (B.S. ’88)
Danielle Julie to Cindy and Walt Fee (B.S. ’94)
Olivia Grace to Kirsten (Andrews, B.S. ’98) and David Cataldi
Micah to Sena Owereko (B.A. ’99, M.S. ’07) and Christopher Ruffin
Katelyn Alice to Meghan (Thomas, B.S. ’00) and James Waters (B.B.A. ’01)
Emma Jane to Jennifer (Tomaszewski, B.S. ’01) and John Flynn (B.S. ’01)
Maximilian Adrian to Dana (Schwendt, B.S. ’02) and Ezequiel Castro
Colin Ronald to Kathryn (Fromuth, B.S. ’03) and Ron Wilson
John Thomas “Jack” and Grace Elizabeth to Kristen (Lease, B.A.A. ’04) and John McFadden
Lilian Grace to Lisa (Levandoski, B.S. ’05, M.S. ’06) and Kevin George
Teresa Marie to Alexandra (Trum, B.A. ’05) and Michael DelVescovo (B.S. ’05)
Brayden Luke to Annmarie and Marc Mancinelli (B.A. ’00)

Katelyn Alice, daughter of Meghan (Thomas) ’00 and James Waters ’01

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Note: Figures cited above are based on findings reported in the September 2010 edition of U.S. News and World Report.
MEET OUR NEW ALUMNI!

Saint Joseph’s University graduated another class of outstanding students in 2011. Here are some of their stories. For more on these new alumni and others, visit www.sju.edu/news/commencement.

Directing His Own Story
Jonathan Dorfman ’11 (B.A.), Fine Arts
1. Jonathan Dorfman has a zeal for life, superb comic timing and a unique lens through which to filter life experiences — perfect for an aspiring filmmaker. But for him, that lens isn’t a piece of equipment. It’s a fact of life. Dorfman has Asperger’s Syndrome, a milder autism spectrum disorder.

He became involved in SJU’s Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support as a Kinney SCHOLAR (Students Committed to Helping Others Learn about Autism Research and Support). Dorfman, a fine arts major, was an NBC10 producer who wrote a story about the Kinney Center. Impressed, she hired him as an intern for the spring semester.

Since then, Dorfman has gone on to write the next scene in his own life: SJU graduation, which he achieved in May.

From the Middle East to Market Street
Christopher Shovlin ’11 (B.S.), Accounting, College of Professional and Liberal Studies
2. Not many students can take 70 credits in 16 months and maintain a 4.0 G.P.A., all while serving as a non-commissioned officer in the U.S. Army. But Christopher Shovlin did.

He enlisted in the Army in 1999, just out of high school. Two years later on September 11, the world changed and so did his life. Deployed overseas for part of every year but one since then, Shovlin spent much of the last decade in Kosovo and Iraq. When the G.I. Bill’s educational benefits were expanded, the self-described “numbers guy” chose to attend Saint Joseph’s because of its accounting program and the ability to stay in Philadelphia, his hometown. It was a good decision. Shovlin will begin a new career as an auditor with Ernst & Young in the fall.

Called to Serve
Maggie Castile ’11 (B.S.), Chemical Biology
3. Second Lieutenant Maggie Castile of Medford, N.J., never forgets a date: She vividly remembers October 15, 2007. That day, she walked into the Air Force ROTC Detachment 750 at Saint Joseph’s University to enlist. She comes from a military family and always knew she wanted to serve others.

At SJU, Castille also became a campus leader for service, volunteer and faith-based organizations while achieving a 3.79 G.P.A. in chemical biology with minors in Spanish and aerospace studies.

The Alpha Sigma Nu Jesuit honor society member will now attend medical school, for which she received early admission. Castille will be a U.S. Air Force reserve officer while on active duty at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the U.S. federal health sciences university in Bethesda, Md. She will then complete a one-year residency at an air base before serving 11 years as a physician in the Air Force.

Never Give Up
Jerry Sanders ’11 (B.S.), Professional and Liberal Studies
4. In his 20s, Jerry Sanders cleaned Saint Joseph’s Babelin Hall as a janitor. At 62, he returned to City Avenue to earn a degree in professional and liberal studies.

Sanders, who retired as chief inspector with the Philadelphia Sheriff’s office after 24 years, took nearly 40 years to attain his degree, spending time at six local colleges before graduating from Saint Joseph’s. He raised six kids during that time, and the year he home-schooled them has inspired him to now apply for the SJU master’s program in elementary education.

Sanders is president of Reba Brown Senior Residence and a past president of Mt. Zion Community Development Corporation. He is also an associate minister at Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

Unbreakable Spirit
Laronnda Thompson ’11 (M.A.), Writing Studies
5. As an infant, Laronnda Thompson was diagnosed with osteogenisis imperfecta, or brittle bone disease, a genetic disorder affecting the body’s ability to make strong bones. By age 12, she had weathered 35 fractures, rounds of genetic testing and ongoing therapy. Thompson, who uses a motorized wheelchair, found a way to thrive, writing poems and stories throughout her childhood.

She entered city-wide writing competitions, winning some of them, and wrote many fantasy stories, but put them away to attend Temple University as a journalism major. After graduating, she entered SJU’s graduate Writing Studies program and revived her passion for creative writing. She is now finishing a fantasy/science fiction novel she started in high school and hopes to publish someday. Until then, she wants to teach creative writing, a skill she developed as a teaching assistant at SJU.

Unlikely Hero
Michael Sokorai ’97 (B.S.), ’11 (M.B.A.), Executive MBA Program
6. Michael Sokorai, director of information technology at Defense Support Services, was one of 36 students, two administrators and two faculty members in Tokyo when the tragic 9.0 earthquake struck on March 11. Part of an EMBA program study abroad tour of Asia, he and his classmates spent the next two days trying to survive amid the chaos.

Despite the anxiety of waiting to return home, Sokorai showed understated leadership, making it a priority to comfort and aid other stranded travelers. He was so committed to helping others that he nearly missed his bus to the airport while he and a classmate distributed unused meal vouchers they had collected from fellow EMBA students.


Tell Us Your News...

Have you moved to a new home? Changed jobs? Married? Do you have a new baby?

Use the form below to tell us your news. We welcome non-returnable photographs. Mail to: Development and Alumni Relations, Saint Joseph’s University, 5600 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131-1395. You may also fax your news and updates to 610-660-3210, send e-mail to alumni@sju.edu or visit www.sju.edu/alumni.

DATE ____________________________

NAME ____________________________________________________________________________________ YEAR __________________

MAIDEN NAME ___________________________________________________________________________________________________


COLLEGE/SCHOOL □ COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES □ HAU B SCHOOL OF BUSINESS □ COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL & LIBERAL STUDIES

SPOUSE NAME ___________________________________________________________ SJU GRAD? _________ YEAR _________________

SPOUSE MAIDEN NAME _______________________________________________________________________________________________


COLLEGE/SCHOOL □ COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES □ HAU B SCHOOL OF BUSINESS □ COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL & LIBERAL STUDIES

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YOUR POSITION ______________________________________________________________________________________________________

BUSINESS ADDRESS __________________________________________________ STATE _______________ ZIP _________________

SEASONAL ADDRESS __________________________________________________ PHONE (         ) ____________________________

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WILLING TO HELP WITH □ ADMISSIONS □ REUNIONS □ ALUMNI MENTOR □ SPEAKING ABOUT CAREERS

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CAREER/PERS ONAL NEWS ______________________________________________________________________________________________

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This news for publication in both print and on the SJU Web site? □ Yes □ No Non-returnable photo enclosed? □ Yes □ No

Alumni news is contributed to SJU Magazine by the Office of Development and Alumni Relations.

The magazine’s policy is to print as many Alum Notes in each issue as space and timeliness permit. Submissions may be edited for length and content.
Almost 1.2 billion people — 39.7 percent of all workers — ranked among the global working poor in 2009, according to the International Labour Organization. In the United States alone, there were 10.4 million “working poor” — employed people whose incomes fell below the official poverty level ($10,830 for a single person). Women, blacks and Latinos are more than twice as likely to be among them. One in three working families earns less than 200 percent of the poverty line.

Even the middle class often has a hard time making ends meet. As economist Robert Reich points out in Aftershock, worker productivity has steadily risen since 1947, yet the average hourly compensation has stagnated since 1977. Last year, American families worked 500 more hours than in 1979, but they are barely earning more. The median wage for males — about $45,000 in 2007 — is less than 30 years ago, adjusting for inflation. For females, who still earn 77 cents for every dollar males earn, the median wage is considerably lower. The minimum wage experience wage theft — underpayment or non-payment of their wages. In short, the typical American worker does not earn enough today to fulfill the American Dream.

Many workers are also facing an assault on their rights to a safe work environment and to unionize. Exposure to toxins and unsanitary conditions causes diseases and early mortality for countless laborers in underdeveloped nations. Unfortunately, American workers are not immune to occupational hazards. For example, the Charlotte Observer reported that OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) has ignored abuses in the poultry industry, where accidents and musculo-skeletal disorders abound.

Many workers can’t join unions to force employers to maintain safety standards, which some companies see as a threat to profits. In Bangladesh, a group of garment workers who tried to organize recently were jailed and could face the death penalty. “Union busting” in the U.S. has dwindled union membership to eight percent of the private workforce. In recent months, both Wisconsin and Ohio passed legislation stripping public workers such as firefighters, police officers and teachers of their rights to negotiate wages, benefits and work conditions. According to labor historian Joseph McCartin, Ph.D., government workers already earn less than private sector counterparts of equal age, experience and education.

Should the downtrodden worker find an ally in Karl Marx? Fortunately, there is a venerable and robust alternative — the Catholic social tradition. In the wake of the Industrial Revolution, Archbishop Wilhelm Emmanuel von Ketteler of Mainz, Germany, Cardinal James Gibbons of Baltimore and many other Catholics became staunch advocates of labor rights. In 1891, Pope Leo XIII released his encyclical, Rerum Novarum, which advocated wages that allow for “reasonable and frugal comfort” and “workmen’s associations,” among other rights.

Building upon his predecessors, Pope John Paul II articulated the church’s fullest vision of worker justice. In his 1981 encyclical, Laborem Exercens, he declared workers have the right “to form associations for the purpose of defending the vital interests of those employed in various professions.” Moreover, the pontiff contended that unions are a “mouthpiece for the struggle for social justice, for the just rights of working people.” In addition, fulfillment of the right to a just wage is “the concrete means of verifying the justice of the whole socioeconomic system.” A just wage should enable one earner to “properly maintain a family” and ensure “future stability.”

As the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church states, protection of human dignity also requires rights to work and to strike, safe work conditions, unemployment benefits, health care, a pension and rest.

Just as Church leaders stood up for workers in the past, Archbishop Jerome Listecki of Milwaukee raised his voice during the recent Wisconsin debacle. In his statement, he exhorted his fellow citizens to realize that “hard times do not nullify the moral obligation each of us has to respect the legitimate rights of workers” and that it is wrong to “marginalize or dismiss unions as impediments to economic growth.” He also quoted Pope Benedict XVI, who has argued that unions are more necessary than ever in the global economy, especially given the tendency of governments to limit the “negotiating capacity” of workers in the name of “economic utility.”

In bygone eras, Cezar Chavez, Dorothy Day and Lech Walesa drew upon their Catholic faith to pursue worker justice. The Church’s official teaching has unwaveringly endorsed the rights of workers (even if Catholic institutions have sometimes not complied). Sometimes workers must make reasonable sacrifices for the sake of the common good. But taking away their voice is never acceptable. Nor is paying them unjust wages. In today’s tumultuous times, all people should stand in solidarity with workers by promoting their rights to a just wage, unionization and collective bargaining, and safe working conditions. As Pope John Paul II contended, for Catholics, it is a necessary sign of “fidelity to Christ,” who “himself was a man of work, a craftsman like Joseph of Nazareth.”

— Gerald J. Beyer, Ph.D.

Beyer is associate professor of theology at SJU and a steering committee member of Catholic Scholars for Worker Justice. He recently authored Recovering Solidarity: Lessons from Poland’s Unfinished Revolution.
Scenes and Wonders
Chez Saint Joseph

Editor’s note: Joseph J. Feeney, S.J., professor of English, offered the Board of Trustees a sense of Saint Joseph’s at the “very present” in this homily during a special Mass on May 5.

Ah, good St. John the Evangelist: I envy his assurance and certainty as he divides “one who is of the earth” and “one who comes from above.” The first is “earthy and speaks of earthly things”; the second “is from heaven” and is “above all.” I wish I could be that assured and certain — but I don’t think I really want to. (I should say, in fairness to St. John, that he has a very restrictive definition of “earthy” — someone interested only in earthly things — but this distinction is too sharp for me.)

For me, as both priest and professor, I live in greyer, more human worlds, and that’s exactly where I should be. This world has problems and worries surely, but many moments of joy and wonder. Today is not the time for problems and worries, so let me just sketch eight recent scenes of wonder from SJU — all, in their own way, in praise of God.

Scene One: Last Sunday, 9 p.m. At the year’s final evening Mass here in the chapel, students pack the floor seats and half of the balconies. I’m here because a senior I teach, Matt Gassan from New Orleans, is entering the Church and being confirmed. The packed students sing with gusto, join hands for the Our Father, and at the end, loudly applaud Matt as he stands before the altar with eight other students who were baptized or confirmed elsewhere at Easter. The event is truly a wonder.

Scene Two: Last Thursday, 3:45 p.m. I finish a seminar on “The Catholic Imagination in Contemporary American Literature” (Matt Gassan was one of my students). From the first day, the 13 students talk with ease, are always prepared, and think, probe and examine the books, films and their own lives. It was the best academic experience of my 40 years — a wonder for me, a great semester.

Scene Three: Saturday, April 16. The Maguire Campus is dedicated, and a new statue of St. Ignatius the Pilgrim strides along outside Merion Hall. Hordes of benefactors, alumni, friends, students come to celebrate — all pilgrims. Fine talks, fine food, fine people. A fresh wonder, historic for SJU.

Scene Four: Tuesday, May 3. The director of fellowships announces that my old student Ken Snyder, son of two ministers and an English major with a near-perfect GPA of 3.97, has won a Fulbright Award to teach next year in Indonesia, then may join the Peace Corps to teach two years in China. A double wonder.

Scene Five: April 13, 3 p.m. A convocation celebrates Tim Lannon: his presidency, his leadership, his buildings, his warmth and care for people. In one talk at the convocation, a wag (named Feeney) even sings, “It is the climax of the Age of Lannonius, the Age of Lannonius.” ’Twas a convocation of happy wonder.

Scene Six: April 27, 4:15 p.m. Three professors and I are examining Caitlin Birkhead, a senior, on her Honors thesis about the way poets and others coped with World War I shell-shock and trauma by writing about it. Caitlin had read and thought deeply about literature and psychology, had reflected on her brother’s recent experience in war, and then wrote clearly and elegantly about three poets and two novelists. Her thesis was a wonder.

Scene Seven: Last week. Joe Ricculli ’06 (B.A.), ’08 (M.S.) is packing books with his wife, Kelly (Robinson) ’07 (B.A.), both ready to leave their Manhattan jobs and Hoboken apartment to spend two years in Ethiopia with the Peace Corps. One more wonder of generosity.

Scene Eight: The final scene, graduation, May 14. Under a white tent, a crowd celebrates the young graduates, and faculty research and writing, and SJU’s splendid teaching, culture of service, warm relationships of students and faculty, and grand cura personalis, as evidenced by a graduating senior from Atlanta, Chase Powell, who told me at lunch Tuesday about the vibrant SJU support during his mother’s recent illness and death. Saint Joseph’s is a place of wonders, a wonder-filled university.

This morning, as I prayed the Breviary, I found the words to express these wonders as SJU’s divine perspective and its way of praising God. As I end, I quote, for your own meditation, the very Jesuit-like prayer that illuminated these eight scenes for me this morning: “To enlighten the world, Father, you sent us your Word as the sun of truth and justice shining upon mankind. Illuminate our eyes that we may discern your glory in the many works of your hand.”

May God’s light and glory continue to shine forth from the many works and wonders of Saint Joseph’s University.


— Joseph J. Feeney, S.J.
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