OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE
820 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, Pennsylvania 19085

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA CELEBRATION AND DAY OF SERVICE

Each fall, the Villanova community begins the academic year with a celebration honoring St. Thomas of Villanova, a 16th-century Augustinian bishop and patron of the University. Now in its tenth year, this tradition continues in 2015 with four days of special events.

The celebration begins with the St. Thomas of Villanova Lecture, an opportunity for the University community to examine an important and timely issue facing society. This year’s speaker is Reyna Grande, an award-winning novelist and author of the 2015 One Book Villanova selection, The Distance Between Us: A Memoir. This memoir tells the compelling story of a young girl’s life before and after illegally immigrating to the United States from Mexico.

The next featured event is the Community Collection Day, which provides a way for students, faculty and staff to collect and donate items needed in local communities. Once collected, the items will be delivered to partner agencies, many of which are service sites for the Day of Service the following day.

The hallmark of the weekend is the St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service. St. Thomas of Villanova was known for his great charity to the poor and marginalized. The Villanova community celebrates his patron saint and the Augustinian ideal of caritas—love—with a Day of Service in his name. This annual event has become a signature initiative at the University and builds upon the great service performed throughout the year by the Villanova community. It is one of the many ways that Villanovans put their Augustinian ideals into action to inspire and ignite change.

Nearly 5,000 students, faculty, staff, alumni and their families participate in the Day of Service, making it one of the largest single day service events in the region. Volunteers work in partnership with neighborhood agencies to perform service throughout Greater Philadelphia. Last year, volunteers served at more than 140 sites in Greater Philadelphia while 17 alumni chapters organized service in their communities around the country.

The St. Thomas of Villanova Celebration concludes with a Community Liturgy and Dinner to celebrate and reflect upon the events of the weekend. For more information about the St. Thomas of Villanova Celebration and the Day of Service, visit www.villanova.edu/stvc.

VILLANOVA NOTES

THANK YOU FOR MAKING AN IMPACT!

Parents provide an important part of the generous support that makes Villanova an exceptional place to live and learn.

- Parents donated $8.3 million in the 2014–15 academic year
- 11,500 parents have contributed to For the Greater Great: The Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change

- More than $1 million was raised through gifts of $250 or less from Villanova parents, alumni and friends

Learn more about ways to make an impact: www.villanova.edu/parentsprogram
Parents Weekend is a time for families to experience the Villanova spirit and energy that surrounds our students on campus throughout the academic year. Weekend activities are designed to provide a glimpse into our community’s academic, athletic, and co-curricular excellence.

Parents Weekend 2015 is shaping up to be an exciting weekend filled with campus traditions, entertainment, and engaging educational programs. One of the highlights of Parents Weekend is the number and variety of Parent University sessions that are offered. Along with traditional information sessions presented by University academic programs, the Office of Career Services, and the Office of International Education, we have added several unique sessions featuring faculty research and other timely topics.

In the featured athletic contest of the weekend, the Villanova Wildcats football squad will take on the University of Delaware at 12 p.m. on Saturday in the Villanova Stadium. The weekend also showcases the academic and musical talents of our students. In addition, Villanova traditions such as the Senior Breakfast promise to make this weekend special for students of these classes and their families.

On Friday evening there will be a special Parents Weekend “Late Night at Villanova” program, complete with a concert featuring the Villanova student a cappella groups, free refreshments, and live entertainment. On Saturday night, we will have another great event in the Pavilion for families to gather together for great entertainment to have some laughs and make some great memories. Of course, the weekend wraps up with a beautiful Parents Weekend Liturgy in the Pavilion on Sunday.

Information on tickets and the full schedule of events can be found at www.parents.villanova.edu. Please call 610-519-4210 if you have any questions or need additional information.

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INTRODUCING PROVOST MAGGITTI

This past spring, the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, President, appointed Patrick G. Maggitti, PhD, as the University’s first Provost. Dr. Maggitti’s appointment was the result of a national search led by a committee of Villanova faculty, trustees, students and administrators.

As Provost, Dr. Maggitti will be the Chief Academic Officer and the second ranking officer of the University. Maggitti brings a breadth of experience to this new role, melding wide-ranging knowledge in the academic, business and administrative arenas. He has distinguished himself as a leader who believes in acknowledging, understanding, and bringing together diverse viewpoints to create a collaborative and creative interdisciplinary academic environment.

“I am honored to serve as Villanova’s first Provost and I look forward to working along with my academic colleagues to foster creative and innovative approaches to enhance Villanova’s educational offerings, our research productivity and our intellectual climate,” said Maggitti. “I consider myself fortunate to serve among such a committed and talented group of faculty, staff, and students and I am excited to have this opportunity to work together to build and achieve even greater academic success for Villanova.”

Dr. Maggitti has been a member of the Villanova community for seven years. He is intimately familiar with Villanova’s Augustinian mission and understands the University from diverse perspectives—

that of a faculty member, director of the Center of Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship, and most recently as the Dean of the Villanova School of Business. Maggitti is a former entrepreneur and an award-winning teacher and scholar who takes the University’s responsibility to educate students very seriously, and believes in fostering academic innovation and co-curricular programming consistent with Villanova’s mission.

Provost Maggitti is passionate about helping students pursue their interests inside and outside the classroom so they can thrive academically, personally and professionally. He believes strongly in the distinctiveness of the Villanova experience, and will continue to create opportunities for students to have unique and powerful experiences that will help shape who they are now, and in the future. He believes these opportunities are the foundation to having students become successful, productive citizens in today’s world.
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