Greetings from Patty

Each summer, Villanovans across the country host New Student Receptions to officially welcome the incoming freshmen and their families into the Villanova community. One wonderful yet simple way that you can help the University and these new families is by attending one of these receptions. By sharing your experiences with the parents in attendance, you can help to ease their fears, provide practical information and introduce them to what 'community' truly means at Villanova. Perhaps your son or daughter would also be available to attend to speak with the young people joining us in the fall, allowing you to share the experience as a family.

The parent community is strong at Villanova (and still growing!), and it wouldn't be possible without you. Thank you for all you do for us. To see the list of New Student Receptions being held this summer, as well as to register to attend, please visit: www.villanova.edu/NSR

I wish you all an enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Kind regards,

Graduates’ Family Endowed Fund Raises $62K

In 2008, an active group of parent volunteers realized a growing opportunity to provide financial support to Villanova seniors faced with an unexpected financial need. They collaborated with the Parents Program to create The Graduates’ Family Endowed Fund, which helps to alleviate the stress and worry related to meeting educational costs during a difficult time. Since its inception, 378 families have graciously supported this special program. This spring, 66 families contributed over $62,000 to commemorate their sons’ and daughters’ achievements, bringing the fund's total to $420,000. The growth in this endowed fund will ensure that even more students will have the chance to continue their Villanova education despite financial hardship.
St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service - September 22, 2012

Each year, the St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service brings together nearly 5,000 students, faculty, staff, alumni and their families to work in partnership with neighborhood agencies to perform service throughout Greater Philadelphia. This annual event builds upon the great service performed throughout the year by the Villanova community and exists as a unique way to put its Augustinian ideals into action. You, too, can be part of this memorable day by participating either onsite at Villanova University or with the many events around the country hosted by regional chapters. To see the latest information on regional sites for the Day of Service, please click here.

Believing in Mission: The Pamela M. and John W. Cembrook Family Endowed Scholarship

For John and Pamela Cembrook, some choices are obvious. Find a mission congruent with their own, embrace the ideal of service to others and act on it. For that reason, these parents of three Villanova students -- Alissa ’11 A&S, Samantha ’13 CON and Jacqueline ’15 CON -- have felt a strong affinity both for Villanova and the College of Nursing. In 2011, they established the Pamela M. and John W. Cembrook Family Endowed Scholarship, which will provide financial support for Nursing students with demonstrated academic merit and financial need. The first scholarship will be awarded in fall 2012.

For the Cembrooks, the reason to support Nursing is clear: “We feel it is very important to help give future students the ability to attend Villanova's College of Nursing and have the same wonderful experiences and educational opportunities our daughters are having.”

Campus Transformation: Phase Two Starts

This summer marks the second phase of Villanova University's Transformation of the Campus Landscape initiative. This bold, three-year, $22.5 million project -- which began during the summer of 2011 -- is part of the implementation of the University's Strategic Plan and Campus Master Plan. By modifying the layout of the campus grounds, this initiative will improve the quality of life for the Villanova community and enhance the visitor experience.

During Phase II, the University Grotto will be moved to the area between St. Rita and Austin Halls. The new Grotto will resemble a small amphitheater designed to hold approximately 20 to 30 people. This phase will also feature the transformation of the Kennedy Ellipse -- the area between Kennedy, Corr and Dougherty Halls and the Connelly Center -- into an open and attractive gathering place. Work will also be done to improve the Sullivan-Sheehan Quad. Phase II is scheduled for completion in November. To read more, click here.
Villanova University on YouTube

If you missed an exciting speech or presentation on campus, you may have a second chance to see it, thanks to the University YouTube channel. In four years, nearly 650 videos have been uploaded, recording almost 400,000 views. They are searchable and sorted by playlist, making finding content simple. Give it a try: from events to lectures to presentations, a robust library of videos awaits. For additional information: http://youtube.com/villanovauniversity.