Welcome from Patty

I am delighted to share with you that Villanova University has recently formed a formal relationship with *Sports Illustrated* by establishing a new Co-Op program. Each semester, one or two juniors will be selected to work in NYC, where they will gain real-world professional experience and the opportunity to network with professionals in their selected field.

"Many wonderful opportunities can result from networking," explains Karen Graziano, director of Leadership & Professional Development in the Office for Undergraduate Students (OUS) in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. "The new *Sports Illustrated* Co-Op for English majors is one of those wonderful opportunities."

This exciting program developed through the power of Villanova's alumni network, and parents are helping with similar types of corporate partnerships across the country. To read the full story in last week's issue of *The Villanovan*, [click here](#).

In this issue of the Parents Page, you will read about the generosity of Ann and Jim Radecki, whose philanthropy is supporting the work being done by OUS, as they work to connect students with professional development opportunities and successful alumni and parents in their industries. You will also see a request for assistance with thank you calls to parent donors, an award recognizing the good work of the Falvey Memorial Library staff and information on the Health Promotion Influencer Series.

In addition, you can now check out back issues of this newsletter, as well as photo galleries of past events and more, on the redesigned University Advancement [web pages](#). We welcome your feedback as we continue to make the website a resource to parents interested in giving their financial support and/or talents to strengthen our community.

As always, thank you for your continued support. Your contributions are helping Villanova to be as strong as possible for today's students - your sons and daughters.

With warm regards,

Request for Assistance: Thank You Phone Calls

Villanova University is very grateful for the contributions we receive from the parents of our students, which last year surpassed $4.5 million. One of the simple, yet wonderful ways that you can help with these efforts is taking the time to call a few of this year’s parents donors to express our appreciation for their generosity. Parents deserve a sincere thank you for including Villanova in their philanthropic giving, and the feedback from this program has been overwhelmingly positive from both the callers and the recipients.

If you are able help make calls, please [email me](#) at your earliest convenience and include any specific requests you have on the types of families you would like to call (e.g., those affiliated with a specific high school, college or who live in a specific geographic region). I will send you a list of five families, as well as suggested speaking points.
Donor Spotlight: Ann and Jim Radecki

Special thanks to Ann and Jim Radecki for their generosity in support of the Office for Undergraduate Students (OUS) within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. OUS guides and supports LAS students from orientation to graduation as they explore the many academic and professional possibilities that the College provides. OUS empowers students to begin a process of self-discovery and provides the resources students need to forge their own educational and professional path.

"I know how competitive the job market is for young people when they first graduate from college," said Jim. "Being prepared to best represent yourself starts well beyond the day of the interview. It's crucial that students have opportunities to have a dialogue with successful leaders. That's why, when Ann and I learned that the College wanted to do more in this area to support students, we decided to be a part of it."

The Radeckis have generously established an endowed fund to support OUS, as well as additional funding to support their immediate efforts. Jim and Ann are members of the Parents Executive Committee and parents of Sara '14 LAS and James '16 VSB.

President's Report: Wisdom to Shape the World

I am pleased to share with you the digital version of Villanova's 2011-2012 President's Report. The content demonstrates how knowledge - when combined with our Augustinian principles and tradition - leads to wisdom to shape the world. Stories feature students, faculty members and alumni from all our Colleges. Please click here to view an electronic copy of this year's Report.

Falvey Memorial Library Named Recipient of 2013 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award

The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) has named Villanova University's Falvey Memorial Library as a recipient of the 2013 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. Sponsored by ACRL and YBP Library Services, the award recognizes library staff and programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution. ACRL awards are given out in university, college and community college categories.

Health Promotion Influencer Series for Parents: Spring 2013

Villanova understands that the parents of our students are in a unique position to positively influence the lives of their sons and daughters, but may not always feel equipped to handle the challenges they are facing. The Health Promotion Influencer series is designed to provide parents the opportunity via the web to discuss emerging health issues and topics with campus and community professionals. This semester's topics include stress management, mental health, healthy eating, and unhealthy relationships. Click here for more details on the semester's programs.