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Among this year’s interns in Villanova’s Office of Communication and Public Affairs are (from left) Tainah Michida ’08 A&S, Michael Nataro ’06 A&S, ‘08 M.A. and Kelly Mimnaugh ’08 A&S.

“Music is a way of life for me,” notes the Rev. T. Shawn Tracy, O.S.A., ’63 A&S, who delighted guests at his 40th jubilee celebration by performing very spirited selections with his group, Sanctuary.
Plan Your Vacation Adventures with Villanova Alumni

Cruise Lake Cuomo, stroll world-famous gardens and savor authentic Italian cuisine. Tour Central Europe and explore famous palaces, museums and cathedrals while enjoying the hospitality of local villagers. Do any of these experiences appeal to you?

Villanova alumni, parents, relatives and friends are invited to visit some of the most spectacular destinations in the world through the Villanova University Alumni Association travel program. Find your dream vacation by visiting the Web site at alumni.villanova.edu. Here are just a few upcoming trips:

**Village Life in the Italian Lake District**
**June 2-10**
Spend seven nights in the Palace Hotel on scenic Lake Cuomo, then take daily excursions to explore charming towns, witness the stunning beauty of famous gardens and savor authentic Italian cuisine.

**The Danube River and Habsburg Empire**
**June 15-25**
Explore the legendary landmarks of the Habsburg Empire and Central Europe, including Budapest’s imposing monuments, the Wachau Valley’s villages and Krakow’s medieval churches. You’ll also enjoy cruising the Danube River, riding a faithful reproduction of an imperial train and luxuriating at some of the finest hotels.

**Cruising the Baltic and the Norwegian Fjords**
**June 20–July 2**
Meet Lech Walesa, the Nobel laureate and Solidarity leader, as you discover the rich history and culture of the Baltic states and the fantastic beauty of Norway’s fjords. Includes a cruise from St. Petersburg and several shore excursions to the fascinating cities of Stockholm, Sweden, and Copenhagen, Denmark.

**Village Life along the Dalmatian Coast**
**August 7-15**
Sail from legendary Venice across the dark blue Adriatic Sea to view the unmatched collection of Roman ruins, medieval towns and idyllic islands along the Dalmatian Coast.

**Village Life in the Alps**
**August 17-25**
Immerse yourself in the stunning beauty of Austria and Italy as you stay in a magnificent four-star hotel and experience the region’s fascinating history and culture. You’ll visit sites such as Mozart’s birthplace in Salzburg and Ludwig II’s fairy-tale castle in Germany.

**A Villanova Exclusive!**

**Village Life in the Dordogne, Hosted by Professor Schofield**
**October 4-12**
History aficionados and veterans won’t want to miss this trip. Assistant professor Mary Anne Schofield, Ph.D., of Villanova University’s Center for Liberal Education, will serve as trip host. A seasoned, historical interpreter, she will provide commentary on war history, especially that of World War II. On the trip, savor the good life of provincial France in the picturesque Dordogne Valley—one of the country’s best-kept travel secrets. You’ll also explore caves containing incredible prehistoric art, tour a castle and see many examples of splendid medieval architecture.

Alumni Help Hurricane Victims Rebuild Their Lives

Wielding hammers, energy and a sincere willingness to put their Augustinian traditions into action, Villanova alumni in October 2006 traveled to Slidell, La., to assist Habitat for Humanity rebuild homes for the survivors of Hurricane Katrina. Read more about their inspirational efforts on page 60.
Alumni Reunion Weekend
June 8-10, 2007

Remember the fun you had as a Villanova student? Ever wonder what happened to one of your college friends? Well, you can catch up with classmates and relive the nostalgia of your college days when you come to Alumni Reunion Weekend, June 8-10.

The Villanova University Alumni Association has planned a wide variety of activities to facilitate an enjoyable return to your alma mater. Alumni from all classes are welcome to attend. There will be special recognition and events for classes with years ending in “2” and “7,” including milestone reunions for the Class of 1957’s 50-Year Reunion, the Class of 1982’s 25-Year Reunion and the Class of 1997’s 10-Year Reunion. Sign up now or view the class pages available for all these years at alumni.villanova.edu.

Enjoy Basketball Games and Receptions with Alumni

Why watch an exciting Villanova basketball game all alone when you can share with fellow alumni the excitement of watching our 'Cats advance? Come cheer them on through another great season by attending local game watches and at pre-game and post-game basketball receptions, hosted by the Villanova University Alumni Association around the country. Alumni gatherings are held throughout the hoops season. Last year, thousands of Villanovans participated in these events. Check our regularly updated Web site (alumni.villanova.edu) for locations near you.

VUAA Celebrates Christmas with North Light Community Center

To make the holiday season brighter and more meaningful for all, Villanova University and the Villanova University Alumni Association hosted a Holiday Hoopla Christmas party on December 10, 2006, for the children of the North Light Community Center in Manayunk, Pa. Complete with refreshments, activities and toys donated by Villanovans, the event created a spirit of giving and joy that will last beyond the holiday season.

Alumni Receptions Welcome Father Donohue

During this academic year, Villanova alumni have been welcoming the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, at receptions sponsored by the Villanova University Alumni Association throughout the country. As alumni speak with Father Donohue, they learn of his vision for the University and the education it provides. These social events not only provide alumni with the

Chapters to Host Scholarship Golf Outings

The following chapters of the Villanova University Alumni Association will be hosting scholarship golf outings this year. Visit alumni.villanova.edu for details.

- April 23: Fairfield/Westchester Chapter
- May 7: Long Island Chapter
- May 10: Lehigh Valley Chapter
- May 24: Detroit Chapter
- June 4: Atlanta Chapter
- June 5: Carolinas Chapter
- July 23: Syracuse Chapter
- October 15: Monmouth/Ocean Counties Chapter

Save the Date!
Homecoming 2007 and Class of 2002 Five-Year Reunion:
October 5-7
The Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) and its local chapters have developed an ambitious and diverse events calendar to attract alumni with varied interests. From receptions, liturgical celebrations and community service projects to athletic events, there are gatherings appealing to the many aspects of being a Villanovan. For further information regarding these events, including cost and location, please call 1-800-VILLANOVA (800-845-5266) or visit the Events Calendar at alumni.villanova.edu.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Southern New Jersey Region</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, February 17</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
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<td>Villanova vs. Georgetown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Basketball Game and Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hosted by the Greater Philadelphia Chapter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Although game tickets are sold out for the game at noon, join Villanovans for a two-hour post-game reception ($35 per person) in the Lexus Club in the Wachovia Center.</td>
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| **March**                                             |
| **Saturday, March 3**                                |
| Philadelphia                                          |
| Villanova vs. Syracuse                                |
| Men’s Basketball Game and Reception                   |
| Hosted by the Greater Philadelphia Chapter           |
| Although game tickets are sold out, join fellow alumni and friends at a pre-game reception ($35 per person) that begins at noon in the Lexus Club at the Wachovia Center. Tip-off is 2 p.m. |

| **Tuesday, April 17**                                 |
| Delaware Presidential Reception                       |
| The Villanova University Alumni Association and the Central New Jersey Chapter invite alumni to a complimentary reception to welcome the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., '75 A&S, University president. It will be held from 6:30-9 p.m. Call 1-800-VILLANOVA (800-845-5266) for location and to RSVP. |

| **Monday, April 24**                                  |
| Ivyland, Pa.                                          |
| Bucks County Presidential Reception                   |
| The Villanova University Alumni Association and the Bucks County Chapter invite alumni to a complimentary reception to welcome the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., '75 A&S, University president. It will be held from 6:30-9 p.m. at Spring Hill Manor (171 Jacksonville Rd.). RSVP at 1-800-VILLANOVA (800-845-5266). |

| **May**                                               |
| **Friday, May 4**                                     |
| Philadelphia                                          |
| “Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs” Exhibit |
| Hosted by the Villanova University Alumni Association See King Tut with fellow Villanovans and friends. Thirty years after the “boy king” last visited the United States and more than 3,000 years after his death, King Tutankhamun is coming to Philadelphia’s Franklin Institute as the last stop on his final tour of this country. A limited number of group rate tickets will be available. Visit alumni.villanova.edu for more information. |

| **Mid-Atlantic Region**                               |
| **February**                                          |
| **Saturday, February 24**                            |
| Bethesda, Md.                                         |
| Villanova vs. Rutgers Men’s Basketball Game Watch     |
| Hosted by the Greater Washington, D.C. Chapter        |
| Gather for a “family friendly” game watch from 4 to 7 p.m. at Willie & Reeds in Bethesda (1409-A Fairmont Ave.), where our “Wildcats in training” can win prizes. All attendees are asked to support the Daily Bread charity by bringing a Giant or Safeway grocery gift card of any amount. RSVP to Jerry Quinn ‘87 VSB by February 17 at jerryquinn_us@yahoo.com. |

| **New England Region**                                |
| **February**                                          |
| **February 24**                                       |
| Boston Food Pantry Volunteer Day                      |
| Hosted by the Boston Chapter                          |
| Villanovans will be helping out at the food pantry Saturday’s/ Sunday’s Bread at the Church of St. John the Evangelist (35 Bowdoin St.). Questions or RSVP to Tim Saccone ‘92 VSB at timothy.saccone@villanova.edu. |

| **Attention all Villanova Singers Alumni**            |
| Mark these dates:                                    |
| March 23-25                                          |

The Villanova Singers Alumni Society and the Villanova Singers will be co-hosting their first annual Villanova Singers Legacy event, to be held at Villanova University on the weekend of March 23-25.

The event will bring together six decades of Singers alumni with the current Singers to enjoy food, NCAA “March madness” basketball and a special banquet and ensemble concert on Saturday night, where all Singers will perform some of the “classics” from over the years.

There will be a special Mass on Sunday morning for the Singers, with further performances, followed by a brunch.

Send an e-mail to mb@comcast.net to make sure you are on the e-mail list. Visit www.vusingerslegacy.com to learn more about this exciting event and to register.
**Western Region**

**April**

**April 29**

Miami, Fla.

**South Florida Presidential Reception**

The Villanova University Alumni Association and the South Florida Chapter invite alumni to a complimentary reception to welcome the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president. It will be held from 6:30-9 p.m. at the JW Marriott Hotel Miami (1109 Brickell Ave.). RSVP at 1-800-VILLANOVA (800-845-5266).
Make a Living from What You Love

Following the money isn’t always the highway to happiness. As a career coach on satellite radio and as her own boss, Maggie Mistal ’95 VSB tells why.

BY TAINAH MICHTA ’08 A&S

When she graduated from the College of Commerce and Finance (now the Villanova School of Business) with a B.S. in accounting, Maggie Mistal ’95 VSB knew her goal was to become financially independent and to be happy.

A firm believer in professional success as a path to economic independence, Mistal not long after graduation went to work for the internationally renowned Arthur Andersen accounting firm. Yet, while surrounded by coworkers who had become her close friends, Mistal felt she did not have it all. She had the job, but she lacked the happiness.

After Arthur Andersen executives were indicted in 2002 for obstruction of justice over the auditing of Enron, Mistal saw her opportunity to seek the missing elements of her existence. What she found was a strong desire to help others who, like herself, were unhappy in their careers.

Today, Mistal has achieved personal and professional satisfaction as a certified career coach and motivational speaker, as well as the host of the satellite radio show “Career Talk with Maggie.” Her weekly program is on Martha Stewart Living Radio (SIRIUS 112), Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. E.S.T.

On October 17, 2006, Mistal returned to her alma mater as an accomplished professional and a content individual. At the Villanova University Alumni Association’s Villanova Networking Night, Mistal addressed about 75 alumni, students and guests, offering advice on effective networking and career satisfaction. On January 10, she again shared her expertise at a Villanova Networking Night, held at the Princeton Club of New York.

Since her debut in the career coaching business four years ago, Mistal estimates she has helped perhaps millions of unhappy men and women to find and follow their paths towards personal fulfillment—from individual clients and workshop attendees to SIRIUS listeners.

Q. Tainah Michida ’08 A&S: You have a very successful career. What would you say is your current mission as a professional?

A. Maggie Mistal ’95 VSB: As a professional, it is really to help people who are unhappy in their careers find what they love to do and what they’re best at—to help them actually feel encouraged and empowered to make that happen, to become happy by really getting into that ideal career.

Q. What motivated you to follow this mission in life?

A. Basically, Arthur Andersen’s demise is what motivated me. I was an accounting major at Villanova. I did the accounting internship, which was a great program, and I landed my dream job at Arthur Andersen, which was the cream of the crop at the time. I thought, “Wow, great company, great job and I got my C.P.A.,” but I hated it. I said, “Wait a minute. I don’t even like numbers, what am I doing?”

I was able to switch to consulting, to have a creative career within Arthur Andersen that was much closer to my needs. I was there for about seven or eight years and had a great network, but I was tired of it and ready to quit and move on to something else. But I loved the people so much, it was hard to make that choice.

Then Arthur Andersen went away. There was no Arthur Andersen, there was no longer an option. I decided it was time to figure out what it was I really wanted to do. I found a process called the Life Purpose Process, and I thought, “This sounds like a good way to figure out what my life purpose is.” I wanted my career to mean something to me and to others—I wanted it to mean something valuable. I went through the Life Purpose Process right at the time when Arthur Andersen was winding down, and I ended up realizing, “Hey, this is kind of fun.” I loved going through it—I got a lot out of it.

The woman who created and runs the Life Purpose Institute said, “You can get certified if you want. You can do this for other people,” and I said, “Wow.” She said, “Yes, it’s called career coaching.”

I did a workshop for 20-to-25 of my closest Andersen friends to say not only “Here is what I am doing now,” but also “Here’s how it can help you, because we’re all on the same boat.”

That is where my new career came from—my new mission.

Q. Would you say your mission as a professional, as a career coach, is the same mission you have as a person?

A. Definitely. They are not separate things to me. What is exciting is that I am finally in a place where my work reflects who I am. It’s not different. I’m able to express my creativity, I’m able to share my talents. I really do have a talent in helping people to
get clear on what they want. It's not separate from who I am, and to me, that's great. It's peaceful, exciting. To me, work isn't a chore—it's something I look forward to.

Q. How has Villanova helped you get where you are today?

A. I was a Presidential Scholar at Villanova. Being able to get a merit-based scholarship that wasn't based on financial need or sports, but on my ability as a student, was what attracted me to the University. Not just the financial aspect, but the fact that Villanova offered that to me, said that it was a university that valued people for what they accomplished and paid them back, appreciated them. Just getting that kind of scholarship at that university is still something that is a huge accomplishment when I think about the things I've done in my life. I'm very proud of it. From a confidence standpoint, Villanova helped me from day one.

The other amazing thing—I didn't realize this while I was at school—is the network. Truly, the network of people. I worked in Philly, Pittsburgh and New York—everywhere I went, there were Villanovans people. I moved to New York about eight years ago, thinking “OK, here I go into this brand-new city not knowing anything,” but I had my sorority sisters here and a ton of Villanovans from ’95. Basically, I had a group of 20 people instantly, and I love it.

Still, to this day, they are what reconnect me to Villanova, too. I thought, “Yeah, I’m going to go there for four years, and I’ll get as much out of it as I can, then I’ll move on with my life.” But it's really become part of my life. My boyfriend is a ’95 graduate, and a lot of my very close friends are Villanovans.

I have a much stronger network of people than I had ever anticipated. We help each other, we support each other. It's nice to be able to relate to people and have that shared experience.

Q. When you came back on October 17 for Villanova Networking Night in the Connelly Center Cinema, did you have a chance to walk around campus, to relive any memories?

A. Absolutely. I got a tour around campus, saw all the new stuff and got to speak at the Cinema. To be able to come back and be a speaker or a teacher in that kind of workshop setting, for me, is like a dream come true. I learned so much [at Villanova] and now I get to contribute back. You feel like you never left.

Q. What would you say is your favorite Villanova memory from when you were an undergraduate?

A. I always have a problem with finding a favorite moment, because I think everything has a meaning. My favorite meaning, though, would have to do with my sorority, Delta Gamma. As a freshman, I remember rush was such a grueling process because it was so exhausting, but I met the other DGs and the woman who would become my big sister. I had a big brother, but he and I aren't that close, so it was a very interesting concept. My favorite moment was going through rush and ending up in a room full of people I could really connect with—people I had just met but with whom I knew I had a connection.

In general, at Villanova, I realized that you can get to know so many more people—your network can include hundreds of people. I never knew I could know that many people.

Q. You sound like a person who likes to relate to people. Why did you choose accountancy as your major?

A. I like to be a businessperson. I was always excited by business, but I am not a numbers person. The best people went into finance or accounting if you were in business, and I like that competitive nature of academics—to make us all better, not so we hurt each other in the process. [Competition] pushes you to be better. To be honest, I went into it, too, because I wanted to graduate from college with a job and be financially independent. That was a huge goal of mine—my parents didn’t even push it on me. I didn’t want to have to rely on anybody.

Freshman year, the dean of the business school said, “We have an accounting internship program. If you get in, and you do well in your internship, you’re pretty much guaranteed a job by the time you’re a senior.” So, fall of senior year, I was already set up with a job. I did like the people at Arthur Andersen. I didn’t like the work, and that was a big mistake—that’s why I’m a career coach now—but getting a job isn’t a bad thing out of college. What I’ve learned since then is that you don’t only need to get the job that can support you, you need to do it with something you care about, too. It needs to be both. It can’t just be one, because you can follow the money or even just the stability of a job and be miserable—it sure won’t make you happy by itself.

Q. When you were a freshman, did you think you would be a career coach today? What did you see yourself as?

A. I think I saw myself as CEO. I also always wanted to be president of the United States growing up—I always saw myself in a leadership role. I had big ideas, big goals.
Q. How did you see your personal life? Did you see yourself balancing the professional life and the personal life?

A. A lot of people feel pressured, thinking that whatever job they choose first has to be it for the rest of their life, but I never felt that pressure. I wanted to have a great career, great marriage, have kids...but have the kind of life I wanted, too. I didn’t see them as two separate things. I thought I could have it all. You can make your life whatever you want—it can even be more than what you think. Don’t ever think you can’t get it. I never did.

My mom and dad always said, “Whatever you want, you can have. You just need to figure out how to get there and get it.” I had a similar reinforcement at Villanova.

Q. Would you have done anything differently?

A. Yes, absolutely. I would have taken more than business classes or the electives I had to take. I never took a psychology class; I never took a marketing class. I never got to expose myself to enough areas. To be honest, most of the work I do now is business and psychology. Marketing is also a huge part of what I have to do for my own business. These would be skills and ideas that I would have realized were mine if I had taken a psychology class in college. I limited myself—I just had this idea of the right thing to do: If you follow the right path and go to school, work hard, get out and get a job, you’ll be happy. That is not true, unless you get a job in what you love to do. I didn’t expose myself enough to know what I love to do.

Q. You mentioned that your family never pushed you to pursue a highly financially rewarding job, but how else did they help you in your personal and professional growth?

A. By being good examples. My mom is a doctor and went to medical school when I was 6, my sister was 5 and my brother was 10. She was 28 at the time, so my father took care of us with the help of my grandmother, and my mom went away to medical school in Philadelphia. So I knew I could make it all work. My mom did, and I am fine.

My mom had a dream, and my dad supported her in this dream. My father has dreams, and she supports him in his. Basically, it’s about leading an example that you can have a career you’re passionate about and still make a living. They are not separate things. It is never too late. At the end of the day, that is the No. 1 thing I have learned. It is never too late to be what you love and to follow it, as long as you have the support and the people around you who will help you make it happen.

Q. What advice do you have for college students preparing to enter the real world of careers and demands?

A. Don’t do what you think you should do—do what you want to do. Doing what you think you should, or what everyone else tells you to do, is not going to make you happy. Even if you don’t know what you want to do, spend time figuring out what it is. You have to get clear on what you want. See a career coach.

I don’t have an agenda when I work with people, but your parents, relatives, teachers, advisors all have agendas. I am not saying these agendas are completely bad for you, but they are not necessarily yours. So I help people figure out their agenda. When I talk at colleges, I’m always saying, “Have confidence in your agenda. Figure out what it is and have the confidence to follow it, because you have less risk when you are a student.” You don’t have a mortgage, you don’t have kids to feed and it’s not as risky to follow your dream then. You can’t change your whole career 10 or 15 years later when you have an entire lifestyle built around a job.

Q. What advice would you give to parents?

A. I would say help your kids be who they are. Help your kids understand who they are. What I mean by that is, see what your kids are passionate about, see what things they are drawn to—and I’m not just talking about video games. When do you see your kids lighting up and excited about an activity? Is it when they talk about their science project? Is it when they talk about a presentation they made? That is a sign that your child enjoys and has a passion for it.

Keep an eye out, too, for what their talents are. Parents have no hard time seeing what their kids are great at, so make sure your children know these things you see—they may have something to do with their career. See what your kids are passionate about, see where their strengths lie and then talk about the ways they can make a living out of it. Don’t just push them down a road to get a job—it’s a mistake.

Q. Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

A. I see myself with kids who are attending a great university like Villanova. It’s such a great experience, they meet great people—I would be very happy if they did. I [hope I] am still doing work that I’m passionate about. I may still be a career coach, but I’m assuming it’s going to evolve, and I’m going to evolve. My career will evolve with me.

I will have built my coaching business and my reputation to a great point where I’m able to do these amazing projects, encouraging people not just in New York but across the U.S., maybe even globally, to really have amazing careers—that would be awesome.

Career-wise, that is where I would love to be in 20 years, and to have this great family to show for it—then I’m really living the philosophy I believe in.

Q. Is writing books a part of your plan for the future?

A. It’s going to take some time. I’m not in a huge rush. I really want it to be something valuable, so I’m not rushing to get it into the book shows, but it’s something I have thought about.

Q. How does helping people make you feel about yourself?

A. It feels amazing. This sums it up: A woman called in to my radio show and said, “You changed my life.” And I said, “Really! How did I do that?” She said, “I’ve been listening to your show for the past year, and about a year ago you started talking about how a great career is possible. I started to believe it, too, and now I’m in my dream job.”

That’s what I’m here for—to show people that it is possible, and that’s what feels amazing. I am doing what I’m meant to do, and people are benefiting from it, which feels great.

It has [also] inspired me to be back [at Villanova] and to work more closely with Career Services and the Alumni Office. Villanovans are the do-gooders, they want to do the right thing, but I think that also can be your downfall. You do what you think you should, not always what you want. So I’m excited to expand the way I’m able to help Villanovans see that their ideal careers are possible, and that they can have an amazing impact on the world through their talents and skills.

Visit Maggie Mistal online at www.maggiemistal.com.

Tainah Michida ’08 A&S is pursuing a double major in communication and sociology, with a Japanese minor. She is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs and looks forward to a career in international journalism.
In China, Kathleen Noone ’04 A&S takes Villanova’s mission of service into the classrooms of the Hunan province’s bustling capital city.

BY KELLY MIMNAUGH ’08 A&S

Villanova graduates are known for the unique ventures they take on after leaving the University. Many go on to contribute their time and efforts to the global community and successfully establish themselves as citizens of the world.

Kathleen Noone ’04 A&S, a former intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs, exemplifies this attitude of world service with her decision to volunteer in China for WorldTeach. A nonprofit organization based in Harvard University’s Center for International Development, WorldTeach places volunteers in developing countries all over the world to teach English in secondary school classes and to students of all socio-economic levels. In 2003, WorldTeach established a partnership with the Hunan Provincial Education Department to introduce English to a broader range of students than just those in elite schools.

Noone teaches at the Lashan International Boarding School in Changsha. The capital of the Hunan province in southwestern China, this subtropical city dates back to the third century B.C. Because Noone teaches in both the primary and middle schools, her students range from 8 to 18 years of age. Although she enjoys working with these diverse age groups, their varying levels of English skills have kept her busy with weekly curriculum modifications. She described her teaching experience so far as “exhilarating, but frustrating at times.”

The language barrier has proven to be the greatest challenge in Noone’s primary school classrooms, as most of the students know very little English. Her middle school classes have taught her the art of incorporating diverse components into one lesson to keep the attention of 65 14-year-olds for the 45-minute classes. Noone described her students as smart and captivating and is motivated by their excitement about learning.

An English and political science major at Villanova, Noone attended a volunteer career fair during her senior year. She spoke with a representative from another overseas teaching program who enlightened her about China’s high demand for English teachers. Noone previously had considered a teaching career and, having studied in Europe as a junior, was eager to travel and learn more about the world. “I thought teaching would be a fun career—something I had always wanted to try and a chance to personally contribute to something greater than myself,” she noted.

Following her graduation, Noone moved to Washington, D.C., where she worked for almost two years as the operations manager for the national headquarters for poison control centers. While gaining meaningful experience, Noone did not give up her dream of living and teaching abroad. After researching many programs, she was impressed by WorldTeach’s excellent organization and the great passion with which its returned volunteers spoke. Last August, Noone signed a WorldTeach contract and arrived in Changsha to begin her year as a volunteer.

As an undergraduate, Noone had not taken any Chinese language or education courses, but the WorldTeach program has provided her with intensive training. She meets with a Chinese tutor twice a week. Her teacher training included a practicum before being placed in a teaching site. When asked about her decision to teach in Hunan, Noone said, “I love China. I’m fascinated with its growing economy, with the stamina of its civilization and with the grit of its people. I had read a lot about China’s development and emergence as a world superpower, and just wanted to be there to see it for myself. Nowhere else in the world holds the same draw for me right now.”

While Noone meets different challenges every day, she credits her students with their own ability to redeem any situation. She recalled a card from one of her 6th grade students who had written in English: “You are a very good teacher. Can you love me?” Noone affirms WorldTeach’s reputation as an amazing program and urges anyone thinking about volunteering in a developing country to apply. Looking back on her time at Villanova, she appreciates how the University pushed her to think about the surrounding world and her responsibility toward it. Noone is one individual working to change the world. She has, without a doubt, become a citizen of the global community.

To learn more about WorldTeach, visit www.worldteach.org. To read an essay Noone wrote, visit www.worldteach.org/alumni/index.html#jwinners.

Kelly Mimnaugh ’08 A&S is an English and Honors double major and an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. She has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and the Villanova Environmental Group and is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. This spring, she is studying at the Umbra Institute in Perugia, Italy, where she intends to complete her Italian minor. She plans on a career that will engage her interests in both writing and world affairs.
More than 16 centuries may have passed since St. Augustine of Hippo left a transformative mark on Christian and Western culture. But the force of his ideas is as vibrant and profound today as it was during his lifetime.

That was the premise of “Reconsiderations II,” an international conference sponsored on September 28-30, 2006, by the Augustinian Institute at Villanova University in collaboration with the Augustinianum in Rome and the Augustijns Historisch Instituut in Heverlee-Louvain, Belgium.

The conference, held at the Villanova Conference Center, attracted 125 leading and emerging Augustinian scholars from the United States, Canada, Belgium, Italy, Germany and Scotland.

The organizer of “Reconsiderations II,” the Rev. Thomas F. Martin, O.S.A., called it a “world-class conference” that re-examined the relevancy and immediacy of Augustinian thought to modern life. Father Martin is associate professor of theology and religious studies at Villanova and director of the Augustinian Institute.

“The central message would be what a significant voice Augustine still has in the contemporary world of ideas and culture,” Father Martin said. “It’s the phenomenon itself that suggests that what Augustine wrote about has had a profound impact, especially upon Western Christian culture,” he added. “We need, as a result, to continue to look at what he said, question whether we’ve interpreted correctly what he said, and look for what it might mean for us today.”

The prestigious list of speakers was led by Dr. James Wetzel, who holds Villanova’s Augustinian Chair in the Thought of St. Augustine.

The event drew renowned participants such as Dr. Claude Lepelley, an emeritus historian from France known for his studies of North Africa in Roman times, and Dr. Peter Brown, the Philip and Beulah Rollins Professor of History at Princeton University. Lepelley, who delivered the 2006 St. Augustine Lecture at the conference, is “acknowledged as one of the leading voices today on Augustine’s thought,” Father Martin said, and Brown’s name is “virtually synonymous with the study of Augustine today.”

International scholars who spoke included Dr. Isabelle Bochet, S.F.X., Institute d’Etudes Augustiniennes in Paris; the Rev. Robert Dodaro, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’77 A&S, president of the Patristic Institute, Augustinianum, in Rome; Dr. Johannes Brachtendorf, Universität Tübingen in Germany; Dr. Giovanni Catapano, Università degli Studi di Padova in Italy; Dr. John Kevin Coyle, St. Paul University in Ottawa; Dr. Karla Pollman, University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

This icon of St. Augustine of Hippo was “written” by the Rev. Richard G. Cannuli, O.S.A., ’73 A&S, chair of the theatre department at Villanova University. The icon was featured on the “Reconsiderations II” promotional material.
Scotland; and Dr. Gerd Van Riel, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium.

American scholars who spoke included Dr. Lewis Ayres, Emory University; Dr. Michael Cameron, University of Portland; Dr. Sarah Byers, Ave Maria University; Dr. John Cavadini, University of Notre Dame; Dr. John Kenney, Saint Michael’s College; Dr. Michel Barnes, Marquette University; Dr. Eric Rebillard, Cornell University; and Dr. Marianne Djuth, Canisius College.

Each presentation sought to advance the spirit of the conference evoked by its title: Reconsiderations.

For Augustine, self-reflection and an accurate public perception of his work were important, Father Martin said. “Late in life, Augustine wrote Retracta, where he looked on all the things he had written and commented upon them. It suggests that Augustine, even in his own lifetime, wanted to be looked upon thoughtfully and critically. That’s how he treated himself, and that’s what these international conferences are meant to be—ways to be critical in the systematic sense, to try to take a look at Augustine’s thought and its impact.”

Augustine’s “Reconsiderations” also evokes a certain boldness that issues a challenge, according to Father Martin. “In some ways it’s a very Augustinian word that says we’re not afraid to look at, criticize and argue about what Augustine said and did.”

This attitude puts “Reconsiderations II” in complete accord with Villanova’s presidential inaugural series of conferences and symposia, “The Dialogue Between Faith and Culture.” As Father Martin remarked, “As a Catholic university, we engage in serious public dialogue about what we believe and why we believe it. We’re not afraid to think about what we believe and why we believe it.”

The Reconsiderations conferences, which take place every three years, advance Villanova’s position as the institution at the forefront of Augustinian thought. Father Martin said, “It’s one way of Villanova’s saying, ‘We can really be on an international level at the cutting edge of what our Augustinian mission at the University is all about.’”

Father Martin described the gatherings as “very high-powered conferences” and “not for the fainthearted.” He commented, “Some of the best leading and emerging scholars on Augustine worldwide were invited to participate. What it suggests is that Villanova wants to play a key academic role as a Catholic Augustinian university in the study and the understanding of the thought of Augustine.

Obviously we’re an Augustinian university that has all kinds of religious and spiritual dimensions to it, but it [the University] also has an academic commitment to understand, interpret and pass on thoughtfully and creatively the mind of Augustine to the modern world.”

LePelley, in the St. Augustine Lecture, emphasized that “We ought not simply to think of Augustine as a theologian, but also as a doer; someone who was very concerned with the welfare of the poor of his society.”

The Augustinian Institute offers lectures, seminars and conferences throughout the academic year. The organizing committee for the events consists of Father Martin; the Rev. Allan D. Fitzgerald, O.S.A., ’64 A&S, of the Augustinianum in Rome; and Anna Misticoni, conference secretary at Villanova.

“Reconsiderations III” will be held in 2009 in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first St. Augustine Lecture. For further information, visit www3.villanova.edu/augustinianinstitute or call (610) 519-4780.

Kathleen Scavullo last fall joined the Office of Communication and Public Affairs as a senior writer. She has worked as a journalist, a corporate and academic communications specialist, and a corporate communications consultant.

Lamb Lecture Addresses the “Song of Creation” in Evolution

BY KATHLEEN SCAVELLO

Dr. Simon Conway Morris may not yet have discovered the ultimate answer when it comes to reconciling evolution to religion. But, the questions that the volatile issue evokes—they are intriguing. And, the British paleobiologist, who spoke on November 8, 2006, at the Connelly Center Cinema, believes there are underlying patterns in the evolutionary process that point toward a link between the two.

That was the backdrop against which Conway Morris presented a freewheeling tableau titled “Darwin’s Compass: How Evolution Discovers the Song of Creation.” A professor of evolutionary paleobiology at the University of Cambridge, he is renowned for his insights into early evolution. His studies of Cambrian fossils have taken him to China, Canada, Mongolia, Greenland and Australia.

The lecture’s title refers to his assertion that Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution, when properly understood, enables us to access a richer and more complex “Song of Creation” with distinct theological tones.

Conway Morris spoke as part of the Vivian J. Lamb Lecture Series on Augustinian Thought and the Sciences, which is sponsored by the Augustinian Institute at Villanova University. He was introduced by the Rev. Thomas F. Martin, O.S.A., associate professor of theology and religious studies and director of the Augustinian Institute.

The Lamb Series, noted Father Martin, “seeks to be a forum for an open and honest dialogue between faith and science, both terms understood as broadly as
possible, inspired by the Augustinian conviction that truth is one."

Conway Morris agreed. "I\'m entirely convinced there\'s one truth," he said.

Studying convergence—the remarkable similarity of dissimilar life forms observed in nature—has led Conway Morris to believe that "There is more predictability in the system than one might expect," he said. "Convergence suggests an underlying math to which life is conformed."

Although, from the physical scientist\'s point of view, it is thought that all life is carbon-based and that biochemistry at the level of DNA may also be universal, Conway Morris suggested there are "trends, determinations, trajectories and convergences" that result in a vast array of variations on the main theme of life.

He pointed to the example of saber-tooth cats from two prehistoric periods. Fossil evidence of one species has been found in South America, and of the other in areas as far-flung as the La Brea Tar Pits in Los Angeles and parts of Asia and southern Europe. Although similar in almost every other aspect, the South American cat was marsupial while the transcontinental feline was placental. He gave other examples of convergence, such as echolocation in bats and dolphins, and social play in humans and birds.

Although Conway Morris rejects the Intelligent Design theory of the origin of life, he said that science has not yet come up with a proven answer.

"So far as we know, the universe was initiated billions of years ago," he stated. But, even the Big Bang theory, currently the prevailing scientific wisdom regarding the origin of the universe, is unproven, he said.

"If you talk to any philosopher, they will say you\'re not even asking the right question," he added.

Then there is the enigma of consciousness.

"How do we know anything about anything?" Conway Morris asked. "You have to have a pre-existing rationality to be rational at all. You don\'t wake up in the morning saying, \'I\'ll think some thoughts today.\' You just wake up thinking."

While convergences may point toward certain expected results, life and evolution are far from predictable, he believes.

"Suppose there are other equations written into the universe that things don\'t go on as expected," he suggested. "It is not clear to me that what we know about the universe allows us to make predictions about it. Be wary that just because the world seems to be continuing on the way it has that it will continue to do so," he cautioned.

The paleobiologist is excited at the thought of what the next decade may unveil in science, including the verification of "multiverses" (multiple universes). Scientists now know of the existence of 200 extra-solar planets that could, within 10 years, be found to be Earth-like, he said, meaning there is a possibility of life forms similar to our planet's.

The ethical questions that science raises are sobering, especially in regard to evolution, the origin of life and mankind's use of scientific advances. "With these questions, we find ourselves either in a cul-de-sac or in hell," Conway Morris stated. That is where religion, with its ability to add a different, wider dimension beyond the merely material, may come to the rescue, he believes.

Following the lecture, Father Martin commented that he appreciated Conway Morris' "careful effort to argue that 'science' and 'religion' do not need to be thought of as negating one another." Rather, "there are points of intersection that need to be explored and understood."

Conway Morris, a Fellow of Britain's Royal Society, has been awarded the Walcott Medal of the National Academy of Sciences and the Lyell Medal of the Geological Society of London. He has authored two books, The Crucible of Creation: The Burgess Shale and the Rise of Animals and Life's Solution: Inevitable Humans in a Lonely Universe, as well as numerous scholarly publications.

The lecture was the third in the Lamb Series. Father Martin in his introduction acknowledged the series' sponsors, who were in the audience: Dr. Michael G. Lamb '75 A&S, who majored in chemistry, and his wife, Dr. Kathy Lamb. A reception followed in the Connelly Center's Commons Lounge.
Liberty USO Honors Adm. Fallon ’67 A&S

BY IRENE BURGO

Navy Adm. William J. Fallon ’67 A&S, commander of the United States Pacific Command (PACOM), received the Liberty Award, the highest honor bestowed by the USO of Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey (the Liberty USO).

The ceremony took place at The Union League of Philadelphia on September 15, 2006. Family, friends and a contingent of Villanovans, including midshipmen and officers from the University’s NROTC Unit, were on hand to celebrate the achievements of the four-star admiral. The Liberty USO’s 65th gala included a reception, silent auction and dinner.

After graduating from Villanova, where he majored in social sciences and minored in physics, Fallon was commissioned as a Navy ensign. His 40 years of serving his country began as a naval flight officer in Vietnam. During his career, he has logged more than 4,800 flight hours in tactical jet aircraft. His tours of duty have taken him to the Arabian Gulf, the Mediterranean and Bosnia, among many other areas.

A former commander of the Second Fleet and the Striking Fleet Atlantic, Fallon was vice chief of naval operations from October 2000 to August 2003. He served as commander of the U.S. Fleet Forces Command and U.S. Atlantic Fleet from October 2003 to February 2005, then was appointed commander of PACOM. (See Villanova Magazine, Winter 2004 and Spring/Summer 2006 issues.)

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In February, the U.S. Senate confirmed Navy Adm. William J. Fallon ’67 A&S as commander of the United States Central Command (CENTCOM). He will become the first Navy officer to head this unified command that oversees 27 countries, including Iraq, in Northeast Africa, Southwest and Central Asia, plus the Seychelles.

The Liberty USO provides morale, welfare and recreation services to U.S. military personnel and their families. In 2005, it welcomed more than 130,000 to its service centers on military bases and at other locales, according to its Web site.

Special Olympians Rock ’n’ Roll

BY MICHAEL NATARO ’06 A&S ’08 M.A.

For the 18th year, Villanova University hosted the Special Olympics Pennsylvania Fall Festival on campus. More than 1,000 athletes attended from more than 44 counties in Pennsylvania. During the festival weekend of November 3-5, 2006, more than 2,500 volunteers from the University student body and the community served as officials, athlete escorts and award presenters, in addition to providing administrative support.

Villanova’s Fall Festival is the largest Special Olympics competition in Pennsylvania and the largest student-run Special Olympics in the world. Around the globe, Special Olympics offers sports training and competitions to more than 2.5 million people with intellectual disabilities.

The 2006 Fall Festival committee chose a rock ’n’ roll theme and encouraged the athletes to “play your heart out.” That motto was apparent at Olympic Town on “the Quad,” featuring karaoke, crafts, booths, games and prizes.

Special Olympians especially played their hearts out in the competitions in bocce, long distance running, roller skating/roller hockey, power lifting, soccer and
Villanova student volunteers—between 2,000 and 3,000 each year—keep Fall Festival’s fun activities and athletic events running smoothly.

volleyball. Each athlete takes the oath “Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.” At the festive Closing Ceremonies, athletes are presented with awards based on effort and participation as well as their athletic performance.

Villanova’s Dining Services each year makes a substantial contribution to Fall Festival, feeding on-campus Villanova students as well as 1,500 other people. Staff members work with local companies and vendors to secure funds and food donations to defray the cost of meals for the festival’s athletes and their coaches and families. “It fits well with the mission of the University,” said Michael McGuckin, director of resident and retail operations.

Each year, between 2,000 to 3,000 Villanova students volunteer for Fall Festival. They organize meals, scheduling, outreach, alumni affairs and decorating; run activities in Olympic Town; and give directions during the weekend and support the athletes.

Fall Festival “went better than we could have imagined,” noted Danica Feustel ’07 M.E., director of the 2006 event. “The weekend is one we will not soon forget.”

Michael Nataro ’06 A&G, ’08 M.A., who majored in political science and philosophy with a concentration in Arab and Islamic Studies, is now a graduate student in political science at Villanova University.

Glimmers of Hope in Africa’s AIDS Crisis

BY ANN BARROW MCKENZIE ’86 B.S.N., ’91 M.S.N.

“Everyone should recognize that we’re dealing with a scourge for which there is no historic precedent,” noted Stephen Lewis. Even after documenting genocide years ago in Africa, nothing prepared him for “the appalling epicenter of the [AIDS] pandemic.” That is how Lewis began to describe a compelling, frightening and very human crisis.


Addressing an audience that packed the Connelly Center’s Villanova Room on November 15, 2006, Lewis first illustrated the international AIDS landscape in China, India and Russia. Turning back to Africa, he described the most “soul-destroying dimension” of the last five years: the “extraordinary pervasiveness of death…you feel as if you are walking thorough a graveyard rather than a country.” Many Africans now live only into their 30s—unheard of historically, he said. After visiting a pediatric ward with five small children per cot, he asked himself, “Has the world gone mad?” Every 10 minutes, he heard the wails of a mother whose baby had just died.

Lewis spoke on the “Race Against Time” of the last five years. After briefly outlining the obstacles to treating people and saving lives, Lewis turned back to Africa, presenting the “extraordinary pervasiveness of death…you feel as if you are walking thorough a graveyard rather than a country.” After visiting a pediatric ward with five small children per cot, he asked himself, “Has the world gone mad?”

Every 10 minutes, he heard the wails of a mother whose baby had just died. The lecture was part of Nursing’s annual “Health and Human Values Lecture Series.”

Noted Dr. Lynore DeSilets, chair of the lecture committee, “He made it real. Made it human.” She is assistant dean and director of the College’s Continuing Education in Nursing and Health Care Program.

Lewis passionately described the crux of the crisis as gender inequality, saying that until women had some control in the family and society, there would be no improvement. He does see hope in the new U.N. women’s agency, as well as in recent advances in affordable combination drugs. He also looks forward to a vaccine—but that is likely 10 years or more away.

What is happening to Africa’s children is the most painful aspect for Lewis. Africa now has millions of orphans, and many households are headed by children who witnessed excruciating parental death. Grandmothers, after burying their adult children, care for the grandchildren, all the while worrying, “What happens when I die?” Only 5 percent of African children with HIV/AIDS are getting treatment, he said, and then only via downsized adult regimens.

It is the nurses of Africa who are holding the health-care system together, Lewis said. The most “negligent manifestation of the pandemic,” Lewis emphasized, “is the delinquency of the donor community” in the face of Africa’s request for resources. He called on governments to release more resources quickly. His love and hope for Africa are evident in his decades-long career as a social democrat and diplomat and as head of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. In a land of palpable anguish, Lewis finds decency, music, commitment and tremendous generosity. He was also buoyed by the audience, saying “It is gratifying to see so many in the room who care and are committed to doing something about it.”

With World AIDS Day approaching (it was December 1), Lewis concluded with a plea: “Things are happening in the world that should not be happening,” he said, “and they require your personal and collective response. To the extent that you can do so, I beg you to do so.”

This lecture is available online to Villanovans at www.villanova.edu/nursing.

At the alumni reception before the Nursing lecture are (from left) the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&G; University president, Sister Angela Onyemere ’06 M.S.N.; the lecturer, Stephen Lewis; Rose Mutomb, a Nursing senior; Dr. M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor; and Temitope Oladotun ’06 M.S.N. The three Nursing students and alumni are from Africa.


Charting the Course for Study Abroad

BY MICHAEL NATARO ’06 A&S, ’08 M.A.

“That world is a book, and the person who stays at home reads but one page.”
—ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO

Villanova University was ranked fourth in the nation (among master's-level institutions) in numbers of students studying abroad, according to the Open Doors 2006 survey. Conducted by the Institute of International Education (IIE), the survey found that American college students in 2006 studied abroad in record numbers—205,983 to be exact. IIE tracks U.S. students abroad as well as foreign exchange students in the United States.

With 706 Villanovans studying abroad in 2006, “We are No. 4 in sheer numbers,” said Lance Kenney, director of the University's Office of International Studies. “That's amazing compared with the enrollment of other peer universities. We expected to be No. 3, as we were in 2005. But when students who were set to study abroad in the spring [2006] saw how good the basketball team was supposed to be, many decided to stay at Villanova to support the team,” Kenney said.

Villanova's high standards for studying abroad are exceptional, according to Kenney. “Other schools count students who participate in week-long, school-sponsored study tours as 'study abroad students,'” he explained. “Although these are wonderful experiences, Villanova's standards are different: The shortest anyone can 'study abroad' is for three weeks, and that is only open to M.B.A. students and exceptional undergraduates. Our students are primarily in six-week summer programs or full-semester programs.”

The University's ranking “puts Villanova on the map in the field of study abroad,” Kenney said. “Ivy League universities actually have approached us for advice on study abroad policy issues.”

An international educational experience is important in three ways, according to Kenney. First, it helps students to become more conscious of their part in the world community. Second, it develops their global perspective, which has pragmatic value. Third, in the world today, students have the potential to become informal ambassadors who present a better image of the United States abroad, an image separate from American pop culture, foreign policy, or loud and loutish tourists.

The study abroad experience at Villanova "perfectly segues into the Augustinian mission," Kenney said. “It broadens our sense of community with the world as a whole and it reflects the Augustinian pedagogy of ‘learn by doing’ in interacting with the world around you,” he noted. Furthermore, St. Augustine himself was enriched by his many travels, and anyone who has studied him will see a development in his philosophy in every new place he visited.”

At Villanova, one-third of the 2006 graduating class studied abroad, and one in five juniors went abroad last fall. In any given year, 10 percent of Villanova students take part in an international study program. They often venture to non-English-speaking counties, which Kenney said was "unheard of in most universities" (nationally, the United Kingdom remains the top choice). At Villanova, for example, "There are students in Uganda, Cameroon, Thailand and the Vatican City State," he said.

About 55 percent of U.S. high school students say they plan to study abroad, which makes Villanova with its many international programs a desirable choice, according to Kenney. “While study abroad used to only be a perk enjoyed by those who could afford expensive international programs, Villanova now offers the experience at the cost of tuition, which means a student's financial aid carries over,” he said. “Because of this, anyone can study abroad.”

One element very important to Kenney is securing federal funding to support study abroad. In 2003, not long before his death, retired U.S. Sen. Paul Simon (D-IN) proposed a bipartisan effort to expand these opportunities. In 2004, based on his vision, Congress established the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Commission. The title of the commission's November 2005 report cited its goal: Global Competence and National Needs: One Million Americans Studying Abroad. Kenney has been selected to serve on a task force related to the commission.

In college, Kenney said, “Everyone should have every chance available to have such opportunities open to them.”
NROTC Alumna Helps Shape Navy’s Policy to Retain Women

By Kelly Mimnaugh ’08 A&S

avy Lt. Stephanie Miller ’01 A&S returned to her alma mater last fall to talk about her experiences as deputy for the Navy Office of Women’s Policy. She delivered the annual Women’s Studies Lecture, which took place in Bartley Hall on October 23, 2006.

An NROTC midshipman at Villanova, Miller, upon graduation and commissioning, was assigned as one of four women in a crew of 350 on the U.S.S. Bunker Hill aircraft carrier. As the main propulsion officer, she commanded 33 male mechanics and engineers. Two years later, she was deployed on another carrier, the U.S.S. George Washington.

In 2005 Miller was named to her current position, where she is responsible for interpreting and influencing the Navy’s policies affecting women. The Office of Women’s Policy monitors gender trends and studies issues that surround women and naval service, including combat, pregnancy and sexual harassment. She reports her findings regularly at congressional hearings on naval affairs.

Miller focused on the low retention rate of women naval officers; currently, only 16 percent stay in, which is less than one-half of the male retention rate of 33 percent. She has found that the reasons women leave the Navy include family care obligations, geographical instability (changes in postings) and the difficulty of balancing work with home life. As deputy, Miller has been working on policies to increase retention, including creating a new pregnancy and parenthood policy to extend the post-natal operational deferment from four to 12 months; increasing in-vitro fertilization support services; and creating nonchargeable leave programs for new fathers and for adoptions.

In the wake of these policy changes, there will be inevitable currents of resentment, Miller noted, and the possibility of a ceiling on women recruits if the retention rate continues to fall.

Miller’s concluding comments, however, were optimistic. Women play a very important role in the Navy, she stated, and she believes that an awareness of their needs and a constant improvement in policies will better serve the women of the Navy.

In commending the University’s role in her life, Miller noted that “My four years at Villanova helped me to develop the skills required of me now in my job.” She added that the creativity demanded of her in her classes, plus the leadership opportunities Villanova offered, helped her to be successful in her post-graduation endeavors.

A “Top Producer” of Student Fulbrighters

By Tainah Michida ’08 A&S

ased on the number of Fulbright grants awarded to U.S. students for 2006-07, Villanova University ranks among the top 10 master’s-level institutions, according to The Chronicle of Higher Education (October 20, 2006). The Fulbright Program for U.S. Students awards more than 1,200 grants annually to study overseas in 140 host nations.

This year, Villanova had three Fulbright recipients among its nine applicants:

• Bruce T. O’Neill ’04 A&S (sociology and philosophy), who is studying homelessness in Romania;
• Odessa Fernandes ’06 VSB (accounting/management information systems), who is pursuing a master’s degree in regulation at the London School of Economics and Political Science; and
• Samer Budeir ’06 A&S (economics and political science), whose project in the United Arab Emirates is studying the relationship between Islamic jurisprudence and modern economics.

The grants enable U.S. students to experience life in their host country, promoting appreciation of other intellectual perspectives as well as cross-cultural interaction.

“Fulbrighter from Malta

From August to November 2006, the School of Law hosted Dr. David Edward Zammit, a Visiting Fulbright Scholar and senior lecturer in civil law at the University of Malta. Zammit’s Fulbright project is “Establishing a Refugee Law Clinic at the University of Malta and American Clinical Education.”

The traditional Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program offers U.S. campuses the opportunity to take advantage of the wide expertise of these international scholars to enhance instruction and internationalize their faculty.
Villanova and Diocesan Fundraisers Exchange Insights

BY KATHLEEN SCAVELLO

Dr. Charles “Chuck” Zech likes to share the wealth. So, while interacting with bishops and other Catholic Church leaders in the United States, he discovered how some diocesan development directors are struggling to raise funds for their parishes. The light bulb came on for Zech, a Villanova University economics professor who directs the Villanova School of Business’s Center for the Study of Church Management (CSCM). Why not bring Villanova’s development officers together with the parish fundraisers for a mentoring meeting?

The result was a productive exchange during a two-day workshop last November, sponsored by the CSCM. At Picotte Hall at Dundale, the eight diocesan development directors from around the United States gained a fresh outlook on their mission.

The attendees, all directors of stewardship and development in their respective dioceses, were Thomas J. Sonni, Archdiocese of Baltimore; Anthony Gwiazdowski, Diocese of Providence, R.I.; John Scola, Diocese of Orange, Calif.; Joseph Therber, Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Ind.; John Kennedy, Diocese of Pensacola/Tallahassee, Fla.; Robert Mueller, Diocese of Arlington, Va.; Thomas Flood, Diocese of Brooklyn, N.Y.; and Marilyn Blanchette, Diocese of Orlando, Fla.

Villanova fundraisers who participated included Mary R. McRae ‘82 VSB, associate vice president for Development; Ken Hicks, associate vice president for Development; Chris Kovolski ‘96 A&S, then director of development communications and now in the Office of the President; Kathy Welsch, manager of development donor relations; Mary Bonnes, director of development for prospect management; and Sherri Weston, director of development at the business school.

The diocesan development officers came armed with a raft of questions. They ranged from staffing and budgeting, relationship/portfolio management, annual giving, long-range planning and capital efforts to planned giving, stewardship, events, communications and research.

Blanchette thanked the Villanova team for its generosity in sharing knowledge. “We’re really hoping that because of the time you’ve given us today we’ll be able to reshape and challenge our church to fulfill a mission that is most important as we continue our journey as a church in the United States,” she said.

In the candid, no-holds-barred workshop, the Villanovans emphasized the critical nature of relationship-building. Personal attention and frequent visits are keys to fundraising success, the campus team said. Persistence, consistency of message, stewardship and accountability to donors are indispensable elements of success.

“We talk a lot about how we use our money,” Kovolski said. “We do more with less. We have become better at spending our money more powerfully.”

The two groups also discussed issues such as the importance of staging special events, enlisting the involvement of volunteers, and expressing gratitude to donors in a manner that is sincere and substantial.

Noted Zech, “Both the diocesan representatives and the Villanova development staff were very open on strategies that they have found to be successful and those that have not been as successful, and why. The diocesan representatives were especially impressed by how far the Villanova development efforts have come in such a relatively brief period of time.”

This was particularly meaningful to the diocesan development officers, since many of them are starting at square one in their diocese. “They viewed the Villanova model as a good template to follow,” Zech added. “They were very impressed by the professionalism of the Villanova development staff members.”

The meeting also gave the diocesan officials a favorable impression that should promote future networking with other diocesan officials and bishops as the CSCM rolls out various programs in the coming months.

In 2004, the business school established the CSCM, the first center of its kind in the nation. The center educates and trains Catholic clergy and laypersons to become knowledgeable, effective managers in local church administration. They explore practical, everyday management issues faced by church managers at all levels. The CSCM’s programs equip them to stay abreast of issues to meet the challenges of today’s business and legal environment as it impacts the Church; to learn to be better stewards of church resources; and to get the specialized business education needed for this consecrated work. The CSCM also engages in scholarly and applied research and sponsors a distinguished speaker series.

The center held an inaugural Church Management Institute in July 2006 at the Villanova Conference Center. The 2007 institute is scheduled for July 8-13 at the same location.

For further information, visit www.villanova.edu/business/excellence/churchmgmt.

Campus Hosts Philadelphia’s Organic Chemists

BY ANDREW SHEEHAN ’06 A&S

Collegiate and industry members of POCC (Philadelphia Organic Chemists’ Club) convened at the Connelly Center on October 19, 2006, as Villanova University hosted POCC’s 29th Biennial Symposium and awards banquet.

The lecturers and their topics were Dr. Robert Batey, University of Toronto, on “Recent Advances in Metal Catalyzed Carbon-Heteratom and Heterocycle Formation”; Dr. Helen Blackwell, University of Wisconsin, on “Expanding the Language of Bacterial Communication with Synthetic Ligands”; and Dr. Michael Crimmins, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, on “Strategies for the Synthesis of Medium Ring Ethers: Eunicellins to Ladder Ether Toxins.”

At the banquet, Dr. Jeffrey D. Winkler, the Merriam Professor of Chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania, gave the address. He focused on his research synthesizing natural and unnatural products.

POCC is one of the oldest independent chemistry clubs in the United States. It fosters interaction between the area’s academic scientists and chemical/pharmaceutical companies in the Philadelphia region.

Andrew Sheehan ’06 A&S, who majored in English and graduated last December, interned in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs.
Middle East Expert Outlines One Path to Peace

BY MICHAEL NATARO ’06 A&S, ’08 M.A.

Last fall, on the fifth anniversary of September 11, Ronald J. Young, founder and director of the U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East (USICPME), offered his views to Villanovans on America’s role in the Middle East. Young’s lecture in Bartley Hall was hosted by Villanova University’s Center for Peace and Justice Education.

USICPME, founded in 1987, is a national organization of 2,500 American Jews, Christians and Muslims who “work together for peace in the Middle East based on the deepest values in the three traditions,” according to its Web site.

Noted Young, “Issues pertaining to the Middle East are especially divisive and polarizing, but I what would like to show is the view everyone has in common. We all want a long-lasting peace in the region. The only way to reach a long-lasting peace is to effectively resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.”

One reason why last summer’s war in Lebanon occurred, Young explained, was that Hezbollah was never disarmed as a private militia and assimilated into the Lebanese army. Young acknowledged that another cause for the lack of a peace agreement between Israel, the Palestinians and the Arab states as a whole was that “There’s no such thing as a safe, stable status quo in the Arab-Israeli conflict, and things can always drift backwards into decay,” he said.

“It can be seen that war is no solution to the conflict. Israel has military superiority; however Hezbollah’s military strength was impressive,” Young said. “Unilateral pullout is also no solution to the conflict either, as Israel’s pullout of Lebanon in 2000 and of Gaza in 2005 has obviously not resolved anything.”

Ultimately, there is only one solution to the conflict in the Middle East, Young said, and that is for substantial negotiations to take place on both sides. “There needs to be ironclad security clauses, and they have to be implemented effectively,” he said. “Furthermore, they need to be implemented by the international community, as well as the United States, as any advancement in peace in the region thus far has been U.S.-led,” he said.

Young quoted a rabbi who said he knows what a peace agreement is going to entail—a Palestinian state—but asked how many children have to die before Israel and the Arabs arrive there. Young then quoted a Muslim scholar who predicted there will be 100 years of occupation unless something happens, and that 100 years of suicide bombing will not end the occupation.

“If there were to be peace in Jerusalem, there will be reverberations around the world; terrorism would decrease and democratization would increase,” Young said. “Nervous nations who neighbor countries with U.S.-led wars in them would relax a little and tensions would be eased.”

Dr. Maghan Keita, director of Villanova’s Center for Arab and Islamic Studies and a professor of history, summed up about Young’s lecture that “I think he gave an excellent talk; he leveled out the perspectives on the question of peace as opposed to the question of violence. He gave some new perspectives on how the U.S. could engage in foreign policy.”

In Egypt, Smiles All Around

BY ANN BARROW MCKENZIE ’86 B.S.N., ’91 M.S.N.

Last November, Debbie Wimmer ’83 M.S.N., clinical assistant professor at the College of Nursing, had a chance to provide nursing care in the land of the pharaohs. During Operation Smile’s first international mission to Egypt, she was part of the team based in Qena, a one-hour bus ride from Luxor. Applying modern-day interventions in this ancient land, the 30 volunteers provided surgery for children and young adults with facial abnormalities who normally have no access to care.

A pediatric nurse practitioner, Wimmer helped identify patients eligible for surgery and provided nursing care in the post-anesthesia care units.

During the two-week mission, long days were the norm. The registered nurses, advanced practice nurses, pediatricians, plastic surgeons, anesthesiologists and other specialists triaged more than 900 patients with an amazing variety of health issues. The volunteers, from eight countries and 10 U.S. states, worked alongside Egyptian team members.

The mission furthered Wimmer’s interest in international health and nursing practice and education. Since 1996, she has traveled extensively with Operation Smile—to Kenya, China, Russia, Siberia, the Philippines and Ethiopia.

“Volunteering with Operation Smile is one of the most important things I do,” Wimmer said. “It is very satisfying to be a part of a large, international team, providing care to children and families who otherwise have no hope for receiving help. I share my skills but learn so much more through these experiences. I enjoy relaying all my stories to students as examples in class when I return to Villanova.”

Operation Smile volunteers perform primarily cleft lip and cleft palate surgical repair for poor children around the world.
Fifth Postmodern Conference Addresses Theology and Politics

BY KATHLEEN SCAVELLO

“Democracy sheds all guarantees and makes nothing safe.”

“The cross belongs not to a strong theology, but a weak one.”

“Satan (according to Augustine) was the first politician.”

“It is we who have made the weakness of God stronger than the world.”

These and other provocative statements, made by speakers at “Religion and Postmodernism Conference 5,” gave pause and provided a feast of food for thought to the 150 participants.

The conference, held on October 26-28, 2006, in the Connelly Center’s Villanova Room, took as its theme “Athens and Jerusalem on the Polis.” It was sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences as part of “The Dialogue Between Faith and Culture,” Villanova University’s series of conferences and symposia honoring the Inauguration of the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S as University president.

Father Donohue offered welcoming remarks at the conference, which drew noted philosophy and theology scholars from the United States, England and Italy, as well as Villanova faculty members and students.

Dr. James Matthew Ashley delivered the opening address, “Reflections on Politics and Theology,” on behalf of Dr. Johann Baptist Metz, the influential German “theologian of hope.” Ashley, an associate professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame, is Metz’s translator and a leading interpreter of his work.

Also making presentations were Dr. Robert Bernasconi, University of Memphis; Dr. John D. Caputo ’64 M.A., a Villanova professor emeritus of philosophy who holds an endowed chair at Syracuse University; Dr. Simon Critchley, The New School of Social Research; Dr. Fred R. Dallmayr, University of Notre Dame; the Rev. Robert Dodaro, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’77 A&S, the Patristic Institute, Augustinianum, in Rome; Dr. Roger Haight, S.J., Union Theological Seminary; Dr. Stanley Hauerwas, the Gilbert T. Rowe Professor of Theological Ethics at Duke Divinity School; and Dr. Sharon D. Welch, the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Two Villanova scholars coordinated the conference. The Rev. Michael J. Scanlon, O.S.A., ’60 A&S holds the Josephine C. Connelly Chair of Christian Theology. Dr. James Wetzel holds the Augustinian Chair in the Thought of St. Augustine.

In addition to Wetzel, Villanova faculty who served as chairs and introducers were Dr. Walter Brogan; Dr. Julie R. Klein; the Rev. Thomas F. Martin, O.S.A.; Dr. Eugene McCarraher ’88 M.A.; Dr. Bernard G. Pruskak; Dr. Sally J. Scholz; and Dr. Barbara E. Wall.

The conference was built around the proposition that “Postmodern political thought is in some cases the worry, in other cases the hope, that the modern notion of the secular has become unworkable and perhaps wholly anachronistic.” Conference goers were issued the challenge to join in thinking through “the fraught question of politics in our uncomfortably postmodern times.”

The sessions covered topics such as “Politics After Empire: Dangerous Memories, Cultivated Awareness and Enlivening Engagement”; “Religious Freedom: Preserving the Salt of the Earth”; “Augustine and the Political”; “Political Theology after 5/29/1453 & 9/11/2001”; and “The Need for Civil Religion—Politics, Law and Religion in and After Rousseau.”

Hauerwas, a renowned theological scholar, in his address on “A Haunting Possibility: Christianity and Radical Democracy,” laid down the gauntlet to his listeners. He asked them to contemplate the obligation of Christians to become radical thinkers and political activists to preserve democracy in its purest sense.

“Christians are so afraid to be Christians today, which means they become a tingling mass of availability just waiting to do kindness to someone, when our job is to create momentum,” Hauerwas stated.

“The great enemy of Christianity is sentimentality,” Hauerwas continued. “You know Christianity has gone by the boards when you believe your children don’t have to suffer for their convictions.”

For Christian disciples, those convictions should include a dedication to lessening war in the world through nonviolence, Hauerwas said. “I can’t think of anything more political than nonviolence because nonviolence causes you to listen to your enemy.”

Despite the often ineffectual language and weak appearance of traditional nonviolence movements, the strategy is strong and powerful, the theologian said.

But, it often comes at great price—the price of martyrdom. The martyr has overcome the fear of death which, Hauerwas believes, is the prime motivator for empire.

“A country shaped by the memory of martyrs makes possible a patient people capable of slow, hard work in politics—not driven by fear,” Hauerwas said. “A people who seek justice rather than glory are not driven by the fear of death.”

The theologian implored audience members to shed their reticence in the face of wrong.

“I’m just so tired of Christians having nothing to say. We have something to say,” Hauerwas remarked. “It’s not love when you don’t say [what] you think when something has gone desperately wrong with ourselves.”

Caputo in his presentation, “The Politics of the Cross,” agreed with Hauerwas’ call to action. “We are the body of Christ. We are the ones who have been called to answer,” he said. “The call of politics from the cross challenges sovereignty at its root.”

Following the way of Christ means relinquishing fear and finding strength in what the world perceives as weakness. “To do what Jesus would have done would follow the way of peace,” Caputo said. “Jesus was guilty of taking away the fear of empire. The politics of forgiveness, generosity and hospitality are powerful,” he concluded.

Dr. John D. Caputo ’64 M.A. elucidated “The Politics of the Cross” at the Postmodern conference. A Villanova emeritus professor (he retired as the David R. Cook Professor of Philosophy), he is now the Thomas J. Watson Professor of Religion and Humanities at Syracuse University.
On Fair Trade Day last September, students, faculty, administrators and staff gathered in Bartley Hall to discuss and learn more about this movement. The highlight was a panel of four individuals deeply involved in the issues.

“This program today, and this evening, are part of the Catholic Relief Services partnership with Villanova University,” said Dr. Jonathan Doh, assistant professor of management and director of Villanova’s Center for Responsible Leadership and Governance.

Michael Sheridan, director of Fair Trade programs at Catholic Relief Services, contrasted supply chain models in conventional coffee markets and in Fair Trade ones. Of particular note was Fair Trade’s dramatically shorter supply chain due to having fewer intermediaries. Fair Trade-Certified™ (FTC) coffee, Sheridan said, begins with a co-op of growers who bring their beans directly to a foreign or domestic wholesale coffee roaster, who then sells to consumers. Growers get a fair deal, and all parties are drawn closer together as members of a global community.

Cesar Rivas, general manager of the La Florida cooperative in Peru, discussed this co-op that began more than 40 years ago and now has more than 1,200 members. By organizing, these growers are able to sell coffee on the global market more effectively than they could on their own. The co-op, which struggled through a 1991 crisis when Peru’s government violently disbanded it, later gained direct market access in Europe.

Rivas, general manager of the co-op since 1997, listed Fair Trade’s three dimensions: a product that is socially responsible, economically viable and environmentally sustainable. Growers need to be compensated enough to earn a livelihood and feed their families. Rivas highlighted some of the co-op’s environmentally responsible guidelines. For example, if a tree must be felled for other consumption, a hundred trees must be planted to replace it.

“The Fair Trade premium has allowed us to improve our schools, build health clinics, open new roads and achieve so much more,” Rivas said in Spanish, with Sheridan translating.

David Funkhouser is from TransFair USA, which is responsible for Fair Trade certification and promotion in the United States. He cited other foods whose supply chains are also complicated, such as cocoa, bananas and some other fruits, rice and most recently vanilla.

Paul Nichols is from Pura Vida Coffee, a Seattle-based wholesaler that sells only FTC, shade-grown, organic coffee. Shade-grown coffee is planted in rain forests, rather than on cleared plantations. The for-profit wholesaler partners with charity groups to invest in schools, libraries and health clinics to benefit at-risk children and poor families in coffee-growing countries.

“Fair Trade is not just a warm-fuzzy thing,” Nichols said. “It’s a real business, and it is very profitable. We have a mindset we like to call tough-minded but warm-hearted,” he said.

Villanova sells only FTC coffee, an initiative launched by students. Timothy Dietzler, director of Dining Services, is the one who made sure the students’ plan would be carried out and now lobbies other colleges to follow suit. In his remarks on Fair Trade, he noted that “It’s a no-brainer.” Dietzler often repeats that when discussing Fair Trade with students. He added, “How can you have a place called Holy Grounds [Villanova’s Fair Trade coffee shops] and not make it a part of the University’s mission and the global mission of justice for all?”

Some of the household items produced by co-ops were on sale in Bartley Hall during Fair Trade Day. The event was co-sponsored by the Villanova-Catholic Relief Services Partnership, the Center for Responsible Leadership and Governance, the Center for Peace and Justice Education, Campus Ministry, Dining Services, the Villanova Entrepreneurial Society, the International Business Society, the Advertising Society and the Society for the Advancement of Management.

Oscar Abello ’08 A&S is double-majoring in economics and theology with minors in Peace and Justice Education and Africana Studies. He interned in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. His aspirations include a journalism career, graduate school in economics and volunteering.

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—Paul Nichols, Pura Vida Coffee
Radnor Township Presents Diversity Award to Dr. Nance

By Kelly Mimnaugh '08 A&S

Dr. Teresa “Terry” Nance, Villanova’s assistant vice president for Multicultural Affairs, addresses the audience at the Unity Breakfast last fall.

For her outstanding efforts to increase awareness and diversity at Villanova University and in the Main Line area, Dr. Teresa “Terry” Nance was honored with Radnor Township’s diversity award during its Unity Breakfast on September 13, 2006. Nance, an associate professor of communication at Villanova University, in 2004 was named assistant vice president for Multicultural Affairs.

In her remarks, Nance asked the audience to “break the unreasonable ideology of making one race superior to the next.” She expressed her gratitude for the community’s help and articulated her belief that “love and unity will set us free.” Nance left the audience with words of motivation.

Diversity, Nance said, is “the understanding of both external and internal differences.” She modestly emphasized that the progress at the Center for Multicultural Affairs is a reflection of those around her, and that she has simply worked to “stir the waters.” The center’s efforts are not specifically directed towards academics, students, faculty or the administration. Rather, they are a combined effort to reach the entire community. Nance commended the action-oriented faith present at Villanova and credits it for Villanova’s ability to “do” and “change.”

The greatest obstacle to diversity comes from people who believe that everything is “OK,” Nance acknowledged, for complacency can lead to complicity. She recognized that Villanova is a safe place, but warned about the dangers of confusing safety with comfort. “When we increase our willingness to be uncomfortable, we allow ourselves to grow and change,” she said. “Growth and change lead to understanding. It is uncomfortable to talk about racism and privilege, but we must.”

Villanova has made tremendous steps toward becoming a more diverse community, Nance said. In the past two years, 20 percent of its incoming freshmen have been multicultural students. The Class of 2010 has 344 multicultural students and represents 18 countries. Her office welcomes incoming multicultural students through various programs. One of its most successful efforts is a mentoring program that pairs freshmen with upperclassmen. Freshmen are offered academic assistance and guidance throughout their first year and are encouraged to join the many groups on campus.

Nance admitted that she is happy, but not satisfied, with this progress and believes there is a lot to be done. She has faith in the ability of the Villanova community to do it. Her ultimate goal, she said, is to make “everyone happy and comfortable on this campus.”

Continental Philosophers Convene

By Kathleen Scavello

Approximately 600 philosophers from across the country and the world converged on downtown Philadelphia October 12-14, 2006, to immerse themselves in a feast of phenomenological and existential reflection. They were hosted by Villanova University’s philosophy department and the Graduate Philosophy Program.

The 45th annual meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP), held this year at the Sheraton Society Hill, showcased seminars, lectures and discussions on topics of diverse appeal. SPEP is one of the country’s largest philosophical associations, with a membership of 2,200. The meeting’s 200 specialized sessions covered education, politics, psychology, literature, feminism, race theory, environmental philosophy, theology, Jewish Studies and more.

This was the second time Villanova has hosted the conference. Villanova’s role is particularly important since the University is considered to have one of the nation’s leading doctoral programs in Continental Philosophy, which pertains principally to phenomenology and existentialism.

The two plenary speakers were world-renowned philosopher Alain Badiou from the École Normale Supérieure in Paris and Dr. Wendy Brown, professor of political science at the University of California, Berkeley.


Brogan also served as a respondent on a panel focusing on his book, Heidegger and Aristotle: The Twofoldness of Being.

Dr. John R. Caputo ’64 M.A. served as a respondent to a panel on his book, The Weakness of God. A Villanova professor emeritus of philosophy (he retired as the David R. Cook Professor of Philosophy), he is now the Thomas J. Watson Professor of Religion and Humanities at Syracuse University.

Dr. John M. Carvalho, associate professor and chair of the philosophy department at Villanova, moderated a panel.

Several other Villanova philosophers made presentations. They included Dr. Chaone Mallory, assistant professor; Dr. Ammon Allred ‘04 Ph.D., visiting assistant professor; and graduate students Eric Butler and Alexi Kukuljevic.

The assistance of graduate students Katie Grosh, Elizabeth Irvine and Sarah Vitale in organizing the event was integral to its success, Brogan noted.

“Everything went flawlessly,” Brogan said. “The attendance at the meeting was very, very strong. The talks were awesome.”
Power Lunch Brings Together Villanovans and Latino Leaders

BY MICHAEL NATARO '06 A&S, '08 M.A.

As an outreach to the Philadelphia area’s Latino community, Villanova University co-sponsored a leadership lunch on September 20, 2006, with Al Día, the Philadelphia-based Spanish-language weekly newspaper. Approximately 125 people attended, including eight Villanova faculty and staff members representing several departments and colleges. Held at The Union League of Philadelphia, the event was the third in the 2006 “Power Lunch Latino Leaders Speakers Series.”

Al Día’s publisher, Hernán Guaracao, began the paper 15 years ago as a monthly newsletter about his native country, Colombia. Since then, it has become the Northeast’s fastest-growing newspaper and the voice of Hispanics in the region between New York and Washington, D.C. Guaracao’s daughter Gabriela is a sophomore in the Villanova School of Business.

The three-course luncheon began with an invocation from Dr. Teresa “Terry” Nance, director of Villanova’s Center for Multicultural Affairs. During dessert, Guaracao introduced the keynote speaker, Juan Gonzalez. A columnist for the New York Daily News, Gonzalez is a former president of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists. He focused on Latino immigration, including “A Day Without Immigrants,” last spring’s nationwide protest against tighter restrictions on immigration.

“The demonstrations by the Latino community between the months of March and May [2006] were the largest mass mobilization on any issue in the history of the United States,” Gonzalez said. “In this three-month period, more people came out than at the height of the civil rights movement or during the Vietnam War.”

Gonzalez told of a Latino Pentecostal minister in Brooklyn who organized a rally to begin in his borough and end in Manhattan. Because his primary means of organizing was via Spanish-speaking congregations and Spanish radio stations, no one in New York City was expecting the 70,000 people who turned out.

According to Gonzalez, this protest movement is a backlash against decades of immigrant scapegoating and persecution. “Ultimately, the United States is a double standard,” Gonzalez said. “If firms are allowed to go anywhere to pay the least for their capital, then workers should be allowed to go anywhere to get paid the most for their labor.”

Stephen R. Merritt ’78 A&S, Villanova’s dean of Enrollment Management, noted “From Villanova’s perspective, [the event] got us in touch with a community we would like to get to know better.”

Michael Gaynor, director of University Admission, also attended. “The Office of University Admission has advertised in Al Día over the past few years; however, the purpose of this luncheon went beyond our business relationship,” he said. “I was extremely proud of Villanova for sponsoring this speaker series. The historical insights I learned regarding matters relating to immigration provided me with a context for a different lens concerning these same issues today.”

Ignatian Prayer and the Poetic Imagination

BY KATHLEEN SCAVELLO

The power of imagination was not lost on St. Ignatius of Loyola. The founder of the Jesuits had a keen appreciation for literary imagery, its potential as a theological teaching tool and as a redemptive agent, Dr. John Freeh told a capacity crowd on November 6, 2006, at the St. Augustine Center for the Liberal Arts.

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His lecture was part of the “Catholic Imagination in Literature Series,” sponsored by Villanova University’s Office for Mission Effectiveness and the department of humanities and Augustinian traditions.

Imagination, often viewed as fanciful and lacking in gravity, was considered dangerous and the product of a crazed mind in Ignatius’ 16th-century world,
Panel Discusses the Pope’s Regensburg Remarks

BY KATHLEEN SCAVELLO

Last fall, when Pope Benedict XVI referred to a 14th-century Byzantine emperor’s remarks on the Islamic view of “holy war,” he ignited a firestorm of negative reaction and violence from some segments of the Muslim community—and touched off a worldwide debate. The Pope made the comments during his September 12, 2006, speech in Germany at the University of Regensburg.

To address the issues in the controversy, Villanova University’s Office for Mission Effectiveness sponsored a discussion on October 16, 2006, in the Connelly Center Cinema.

Four faculty members participated in the panel, which was followed by a question-and-answer period. The panelists were Dr. Anthony J. Godzieba ’77 M.A., associate professor of theology and religious studies; Dr. Anna B. Moreland, assistant professor of humanities and Augustinian traditions; Dr. Maghan Keita, professor of history; and Dr. Thomas W. Smith, associate professor of political science and of humanities and chair of the humanities department.

In her introductory remarks, Dr. Barbara E. Wall noted that “The university, especially a Catholic university, will always find it appropriate and essential to raise the issue of the correlation between faith and reason, especially in our world today.” Wall serves as special assistant to the president for Mission Effectiveness and is an associate professor of philosophy.

Moreland in her comments said “The core of Benedict’s argument is a theological one. When we mess up what we say about God, we mess up how we understand ourselves. These mistakes can lead in extreme cases to human bloodshed.

“Theological debates are not just esoteric nit-picking,” Moreland added. “More broadly, what goes on at the university has real consequences for civil society.”

Wall agreed about the university’s vital role in public debate. “It is through fostering the experience of this universitas (conversation of humanity) in the wider community that the university serves its purpose of promoting a truly polyphonic world based on a complementary relationship between faith and reason,” she concluded.

“. . . what goes on at the university has real consequences for civil society.”

—Dr. Anna B. Moreland

Freeh explained. However, the visionary cleric felt that theology was too obscure for the average supplicant and that using images would not only make Church teachings more understandable but could aid in redemption.

“Most literature is the fruit of the imagination,” Freeh stated. “It presents the world not as it is, but as it ought to be. If it is lunacy, it is a species of lunacy not altogether bad.”

Ignatius’ epiphany regarding imagination occurred while convalescing from a wound incurred as a soldier of fortune in Loyola, Spain. The only books he had to relieve the tedium were the Bible and a biography of the saints, Freeh said. As he read, Ignatius perceived that the imagination, if harnessed and disciplined, could be channeled for good. St. Augustine of Hippo and St. Thomas Aquinas concurred in this assessment, Freeh added.

In using the imagination to form a mental image, Ignatius theorized, one becomes an immediate part of events through visualization, and may experience a radical change of heart. Freeh spoke of how three English Renaissance poets—Southwell, Donne and Crashaw—explored this theory. He read and expounded on two poems, Southwell’s “Upon the Image of Death” and Donne’s “Good-Friday, 1613, Riding Westward.” Catholicism figured prominently in the experience of all three poets at various periods in their lives.

Ignatius developed a set of spiritual exercises to be performed over a 30-day period, ideally in a retreat setting.

Through the exercises, the retreatant uses the imagination to become immersed in a scriptural story, thereby fully experiencing and gaining a greater sense of immediacy of the sacred message it presents.

“It is useful and necessary in the Christian sense to see, hear and know what the senses cannot tell us,” Freeh commented. The imagination is “that faculty that Christians may meditate upon fruitfully,” he concluded.
On the Road

Across the country, campaign special events build support and recognize donors.

With the September 2006 Inauguration of the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S as Villanova University’s 32nd president and with the historic fundraising effort Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova in its final phase, Villanova has entered a crucial period. As of December 2006, the campaign has raised more than $235 million, reaching more than 78 percent of its $300 million goal.

To continue to communicate momentum and generate enthusiasm during these remaining months, Villanova has implemented a new program to heighten and maximize volunteer involvement and activity. Since late summer, a strategically planned series of volunteer-hosted events has been taking place around the country. These events serve as a unique and important way to introduce Father Donohue to benefactors of the University and to provide a forum to publicly recognize Villanova alumni, parents and friends for their roles in the campaign’s success.

In concert with the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA), the University and Father Donohue have taken the campaign on the road. Traveling to nearly a dozen cities in three months, from New York City to Houston to Chicago, a contingent of University representatives has been able to meet and engage Villanovans in their own hometowns or regions, providing the latest news on the University and the campaign.

“We have planned these events in collaboration with the alumni program in order to maximize our contact with alumni, parents and friends,” said John M. Elizandro, vice president for Institutional Advancement. “Through this initiative, we visit a city and connect directly with many Villanovans who are interested in staying involved in the life of the University, but who might not be able to make it back to campus or attend events in our area.”

Added Gary R. Olsen ’74 A&S, ’80 G.S., associate vice president for Alumni Affairs and executive director of the VUAA, “In the last few months, we have seen broad participation of alumni of all ages, from the Class of 1943 to the Class of 2006. Response and attendance has been overwhelming—more than 300 people came out in support of Villanova in New York and Washington, D.C. alone.”

Along with the evening receptions and athletic events sponsored by the VUAA and its local chapters, last fall 10 breakfasts and luncheons were hosted across the nation by campaign volunteers. Among the hosts were members of the campaign’s Steering and Major Gifts committees, as well as other individuals who have made significant commitments to the University. These volunteers play an important role not only in their support of the campaign but also in reaching out to greater numbers of members of the Villanova community.

Executive director of Development Charles A. “Chuck” Wright ’90 A&S, who spearheads the initiative and works closely with campaign committees and volunteers, explained, “These intimate settings with about 20 or 30 invited guests are perfect opportunities to enhance relationships, convey key messages, increase interest and ultimately broaden the base of support of the University.”

In addition to providing a forum for getting to know more Villanovans and encouraging involvement, another highlight of these events is recognizing members of the Villanova community for their exceptional support of the campaign. So far, Father Donohue has formally inducted 45 new members of the President’s Council: Transforming Minds and Hearts, which was commissioned and introduced by the

(From left) Leonard J. LoBiondo ’80 VSB and Anne W. McNulty ’75 A&S, both President’s Council: Transforming Minds and Hearts inductees, with New York City luncheon host and Steering Committee member Terence M. O’Toole ’80 VSB
Major Gifts Committee member Thomas M. Mulroy ‘85 VSB with Father Donohue during Mulroy’s induction into the President’s Council at a luncheon held last October.

(From left) Steven M. Pinkos ‘89 M.E. and Justin G. Gmelich ‘90 VSB, who was recently recognized as a new member of the President’s Council.

(From left) Father Donohue with Steven M. Pinkos ‘89 M.E. and Justin G. Gmelich ‘90 VSB, who was recently recognized as a new member of the President’s Council.

(From left) William B. Finneran ‘63 VSB, host of a volunteer luncheon to introduce Father Donohue to guests in New York City, with Maureen Kuchar and her husband, Stanley M. Kuchar. The Kuchars, who are the parents of Jason ‘01 VSB and Erin ‘09 A&S, are new members of the President’s Council.

(From left) Campaign vice chairman William B. Finneran ‘63 VSB, host of a volunteer luncheon to introduce Father Donohue to guests in New York City, with Maureen Kuchar and her husband, Stanley M. Kuchar. The Kuchars, who are the parents of Jason ‘01 VSB and Erin ‘09 A&S, are new members of the President’s Council.

(From left) Patrick B. Kennedy ‘95 A&S talks with Gary R. Olsen ‘74 A&S, ’80 G.S., associate vice president for Alumni Affairs and executive director of the VUAA, during an event held in Chicago and hosted by John S. Smock ‘65 VSB, VUAA president-elect.

(From left) Martin G. McGuinn, Esq., ’64 A&S, ’67 J.D., a member of the Steering Committee, reports on campaign progress during the luncheon he recently hosted in Pittsburgh.

(From left) William M. Savino, Esq., ’71 VSB, president of the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA), with Joanne and Joseph Lostritto, parents of Lyndsey ‘09 A&S.

(From left) Eric R. Quisenberry ‘98 VSB, director of regional and scholarship programs for the VUAA, and Charles A. “Chuck” Wright ’90 A&S, executive director of Development, greet Brian C. Digan ‘80 VSB and his wife, Jackie, at a luncheon in Dallas, Texas, hosted by Kevin M. Curley ‘80 VSB, a member of the Major Gifts Committee.

(From left) Eric R. Quisenberry ‘98 VSB, director of regional and scholarship programs for the VUAA, and Charles A. “Chuck” Wright ’90 A&S, executive director of Development, greet Brian C. Digan ‘80 VSB and his wife, Jackie, at a luncheon in Dallas, Texas, hosted by Kevin M. Curley ‘80 VSB, a member of the Major Gifts Committee.

World that will help to ensure the University’s future growth and its position as one of the nation’s top Catholic institutions. The program is scheduled to continue this spring with additional activities. Along with this increased campaign volunteer activity, the VUAA will host events designed to involve particular segments of the alumni population, including young alumni, to help access untapped resources and further widen the base of support for the University and the campaign.

Steering Committee last year. Members of the President’s Council have made commitments to the campaign of $100,000 or above for capital or endowment purposes, allowing for the creation of new faculty positions, scholarships and learning initiatives and providing resources necessary to further enhance campus facilities.

Noted Elizandro, “We will continue to highlight the impact of significant gifts that serve as important benchmarks in reaching the campaign goal in several ways, but this is a grassroots program that is critical to the outcome of the campaign, and it is proving successful.”

As Father Donohue observed, “Everyone that I meet is essential to continuing the tradition of giving at Villanova. It is the generations of alumni, parents and friends across the country and around the world that will help to ensure the University’s future growth and its position as one of the nation’s top Catholic institutions.”

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Villanova University held its annual Christmas Celebration at Steinway Hall in New York City on December 7. More than 130 alumni, parents and friends of the University gathered to celebrate the holidays and the continued success of Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova.

Guests were treated to a spectacular and intimate performance by the evening's featured entertainer, Michael Feinstein, who has been a household name since his critically acclaimed one-man Broadway show in 1988, *Isn't It Romantic*.

This year's Steinway event was the first for the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., '75 A&S, who had recently celebrated his six-month anniversary as University president. Robert M. Birmingham '66 A&S, former owner and director of Steinway Musical Properties and former chairman of the University's Board of Trustees, welcomed everyone to the 12th annual Steinway holiday celebration. Birmingham also welcomed and introduced Father Donohue.

Noted Birmingham, “It was a pleasure to serve on the selection committee that ultimately recommended Father Donohue’s candidacy to the board. We look forward to many more evenings at Steinway Hall with Father Donohue.”

After dinner, Father Donohue addressed the guests and expressed how much he has enjoyed all that has come so far with his new role as University president. The one thing that remains constant among all of his meetings and conversations across the campus and the country, he noted, is how alumni, parents and friends feel about Villanova. “It really has been a wonderful experience for me, for the staff that travels to these events and for the people we see. It is during these events that I really get a sense of the enthusiasm and excitement that exists for the University,” Father Donohue said.

“Eyes light up when we talk about the basketball team, of course,” Father Donohue noted, “but they also light up when we talk about the quality of the incoming freshman class, the number of nationally competitive scholarships our students win, faculty achievements and the national rankings of our academic programs.”

Father Donohue in his remarks recognized individuals whose commitments have supported the campaign and the University. He said, “I believe it is important to thank people for their generosity. You are helping to secure Villanova’s future.”

Campaign chairman Gerald S.J. Cassidy, Esq., ’63 A&S thanked Father Donohue for his commitment to advancing the campaign’s agenda and recognized Steering Committee members for their important work and leadership on behalf of the University. Cassidy reported that the campaign is now at 78 percent of its $300 million goal, having just completed a second record-breaking year. “The Campaign continues with a new level of energy, excitement and commitment,” Cassidy said, “which is reflective of both our great leadership in Father Donohue and the Steering Committee, and the support of our generous alumni, parents and friends.”

The evening concluded with everyone singing the “Alma Mater,” led by Joseph Hawkins ’08 A&S, a chemistry major from East Northport, N.Y.
Outstanding faculty members are among Villanova University’s most valuable resources. The endowment of a faculty position is an excellent way for supporters of the University to invest in Villanova’s academic character.

Last fall, the University celebrated the inauguration of two endowed chairs: the Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Moritz, Sr., Endowed Chair in Systems Engineering and the Richard J. and Barbara Naclerio Endowed Chair in Business.

“Endowed faculty chairs symbolize an institution’s commitment to academic excellence,” observed Dr. John R. Johannes, vice president for Academic Affairs. “They reward superior teaching and scholarship and help to attract and retain the very best faculty. Not long ago, Villanova didn’t have any endowed chairs; now, with the Moritz and Naclerio chairs, it has 13.”

The Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Moritz, Sr., Endowed Chair in Systems Engineering

The Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Moritz, Sr., Endowed Chair in Systems Engineering was established by Dr. Robert F. Moritz, Jr., ’51 VSB and his wife, Diane, in honor of Dr. Moritz’s parents. The chair was inaugurated October 5 at the Connelly Center in a ceremony that included Dr. and Mrs. Moritz; the inaugural chair holder, Dr. Kenneth R. Muske; and distinguished leaders of the University.

The Moritz Chair supports Villanova’s innovative systems engineering initiative, which combines aspects of chemical, mechanical, computer, electrical and environmental engineering. This initiative offers undergraduate and graduate students in the College of Engineering a modern, relevant education that prepares them for a technological society. The Moritz Chair will support research and scholarship in new technologies and the development of courses on topics such as system design, modeling and simulation, and optimization and architecture. In addition, the chair holder will lead the development of the College’s programs at the graduate and undergraduate level.

Muske, a professor of chemical engineering, said in his inaugural address as the chair holder that students are well-served by the interdisciplinary systems engineering perspective, which integrates the engineering specialties into a team effort. “A systems approach enhances the ability to work effectively on multidisciplinary teams,” noted Muske, who works with Villanova’s Center for Nonlinear Dynamics and Control and serves as a mentor in the Honors Program. He added that systems engineers “are problem-solvers and definers, collaborators who are responsible for all aspects of the project.”

Muske expressed his appreciation to the Moritzes for their generosity in establishing the $1 million endowment that funds the Moritz Chair. Their gift reflects the couple’s longtime relationship with the University.

Dr. Moritz graduated in 1951 from the College of Commerce and Finance (now the Villanova School of Business). He
The Richard J. and Barbara Naclerio Endowed Chair in Business

The Villanova School of Business also celebrated new faculty resources when the Richard J. and Barbara Naclerio Endowed Chair in Business was inaugurated on November 9. The Naclerios made the trip from their home in Pelham Manor, N.Y., to Villanova with a number of friends and family members to celebrate the occasion with the inaugural chair holder, Ronald Paul Hill, Ph.D., and distinguished leaders of the University and the School. The ceremony took place in the Villanova Room of the Connelly Center.

The Naclerio Chair will help to prepare Villanova students to meet the demands of today's interconnected world by enhancing the study of global commerce in the business school. The chair will support the development of the curriculum in global business, as well as in ethics, leadership and technology, with an emphasis on creativity and innovation.

“This is a very important moment for the School,” said James M. Danko, dean of the business school, during the ceremony. “We are thankful for the Naclerios’ vision. Their gift will help us to prepare students to go out into a changing world.”

Richard Naclerio ’54 VSB, a graduate of the former College of Commerce and Finance, went on to become president and chief executive officer of RAN Consulting Corp., as well as a private investor and real estate developer. His involvement with Villanova has included membership on the Dean’s Advisory Council of the business school. Barbara Naclerio is president of RAN Consulting and Design and has been involved in fundraising events for more than 40 years. Villanova recognized the couple’s support with membership in the President’s Forum, which honors exceptional gifts to Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova. The couple established the Naclerio Chair with a gift of $1 million.

The Naclerios’ children have carried on the Villanova tradition. Elizabeth graduated in 1982 from the business school and Lisa graduated in 1984 from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Their son Richard attended the University in 1988 and 1989.

Hill, who is senior associate dean for intellectual strategy in the business school, is the inaugural holder of the Naclerio Chair. He has authored more than 125 journal articles, book chapters and conference papers on topics including environmental management, corporate social responsibility, business ethics and public policy. He also serves as editor of the Journal of Public Policy and Marketing.

Richard J. Naclerio ’54 VSB and his wife, Barbara, accept a medallion from Father Donohue in honor of the inauguration of the Richard J. and Barbara Naclerio Endowed Chair in Business.

Dr. Ortega Honored as Birle Chair

BY BARBARA K. CLEMENT

It isn’t something we ordinarily do,” said Dr. Jerry Jones, chair of the mechanical engineering department at Villanova University’s College of Engineering, “but the department thought it was an opportune time to celebrate the passing of the baton” from Dr. Edward V. McAssey ‘67 M.E. to Dr. Alfonso Ortega.

The celebration Jones referred to was a reception on September 29 in the Presidents’ Lounge of the Connelly Center. More than 50 family members, faculty and administrators gathered to welcome Ortega, who is the only the second holder of the James R. Birle Chair in Energy Technology, which was inaugurated in February 1995.

After a welcome by Jones and an invocation by McAssey, Jones gave a brief biography of the honoree. Ortega holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Texas at El Paso and a master’s and doctorate from Stanford University. Before coming to Villanova, he served for two years at the National Science Foundation as program director for Thermal Transport and Thermal Processing in the Chemical and Transport Systems Division and as managing program coordinator of the Active Nanostructures and Nanosystems Program.

As a faculty member at the University of Arizona, Ortega in 1988 established the AME Heat Transfer Laboratory, and directed it until 2005. He has published extensively and is an internationally recognized expert on air-cooling of electronics, convection and conjugate heat transfer in complex flows, and experimental measurement in the thermal sciences.

In 2004, Ortega received the Inaugural Distinguished Service Award from Southern Arizona MESA (Math, Engineering and Science Achievement) for his many contributions to the math and science development of under-represented middle and high school students. That award is now named in his honor.

McAssey, now emeritus professor of mechanical engineering, was the first holder of the Birle Chair. “I can think of no one better qualified than Dr. Ortega to take over,” said McAssey during his remarks at the reception. “We know his work and the tremendous contributions he will make to the College.”

The donors, James R. Birle ’58 M.E. and his wife, Mary, were on hand to make the transference of the Birle Chair to Ortega.
As a student at Villanova, Gregg Paul Saberito ’97 VSB was well-rounded and especially loved sports. After a courageous battle with leukemia, he died shortly after his graduation.

As a son, “He was simply a really good kid. I never had a problem with him,” noted his mother, Paula Saberito. His father, Paul Saberito, recalls Gregg being highly respected by his friends and their parents. “Parents often told us that Gregg was a special young man of whom we should be very proud,” the father noted.

In the midst of his battle with leukemia, Gregg Saberito continued to maintain a heroic stance. He complained very little and was admired by caregivers for his courageous fight.

Following his untimely death in 1997, three benches, a brass plaque and a tree were dedicated to his memory in an uplifting ceremony held outside Bartley Hall. The ceremony included a Scripture reading by Dr. Thomas F. Monahan (who now holds the John M. Cooney Professorship in Accountancy) and remarks by Dr. Edward J. Mathis, who at the time was interim dean. Others attending included Saberito’s parents; his sister, Kristen; Melinda German, associate dean of the business school; and other faculty and staff.

As an extended tribute to the young man’s excellence and perseverance during his time at Villanova, the Gregg Saberito Memorial Stewardship Fund has been developed. His parents have graciously allowed the balance of the fund to be used in support of the business school’s Dean’s Fund for Strategic Initiatives. This stewardship fund will provide the business school with resources to attract and retain outstanding faculty; to implement curricular improvements; to support the professional development of students, faculty and staff; and to ensure that business programs are highly responsive to the changing needs of students, employers and the increasingly competitive global marketplace.

Each of these initiatives takes place in the name and memory of a beloved son, brother, friend and Villanovan.
For the past seven years, Villanova had been looking for the best place to build the new law facility. The decision finally has been made to put the new building on the parking lot next to Garey Hall, the existing building. Plans are now in the design phase for a four-story building with a total of 170,000 square feet. It will contain faculty offices, a law library, an atrium, classrooms, a cafeteria and a justice center to provide consultation to people who are unable to afford a lawyer.

The new, self-contained law school structure will be conducive to the way in which modern legal teaching has evolved and will benefit students, professors and clinical programs that serve the community. Although one of the ideas initially considered involved demolishing Garey Hall, extended discussion resulted in the decision that it will remain in place to provide undergraduate academic space, including classrooms and faculty offices. Construction on the building is set to begin next fall and is scheduled to be completed by August 2009.

In November 2006, Villanova broke ground for the first phase of the law school project: a parking garage. Although there was heavy debate over putting a garage on campus, the need for additional parking has become an issue of great importance. The garage, being constructed on the Spring Mill lot between the law school and the train station, has been carefully designed to be visually appealing. During construction of the law school building, there will be a temporary loss of about 250 parking spots. A new lot in front of Tolentine Hall and the St. Thomas of Villanova Monastery will offer parking until the garage is completed next fall. With the new garage, the law school will have 850 parking spaces, a gain of 100.
RCG Inc. architect Jonathan M. Fishman describes the model of the new College of Nursing building to (from left) John DeFazio, project executive, Torcon Inc.; John Cacciola ’93 C.E., Villanova University’s director of engineering; George Kourides, Torcon’s director of technical services; Colleen Avery, a Nursing sophomore; Rose O’Driscoll ’68 Nur., Nursing’s assistant dean for administration; Mario H. Boiardi, principal designer, RCG Inc.; Dr. M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor; Dr. Lesley Perry, associate dean of Nursing; Dr. Mary Carol McGovern ’68 Nur., ’86 M.S.N., assistant professor of Nursing; Marilou Smith, project manager, Villanova; and the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president.

NURSING BUILDING WILL BE CENTRALLY LOCATED

The College of Nursing has been recognized as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education. Unfortunately, its current facilities in St. Mary Hall have proven to be inadequate to serve the College’s outstanding programs. For this reason, Villanova decided to build a new Nursing building, to be sited in a central location on the Main Campus on what is now the softball field. The new facility will provide students and faculty with improved resources. Its 75,000 square feet will include eight regular classrooms, as well as two large classrooms that will seat 200. The groundbreaking is tentatively scheduled for April 10, and construction is expected to be completed by fall 2008.

A new softball field, to be constructed on the Pike Field athletic area across from the Jake Nevin Field House, will equal the quality of the existing field.

A FACILITY FOR FITNESS AND HOOPS

Villanova has begun construction on an intercollegiate athletic and recreation facility, next to the Pavilion and behind the Jake Nevin Field House. Its three sections will house facilities for men’s basketball, facilities for women’s basketball and a state-of-the-art student fitness center. Both basketball areas will include courts, locker rooms and a coach’s suite. Construction is set to conclude by next September.

The long-anticipated student fitness center will feature new cardio machines, free weights and group fitness rooms.

The intercollegiate athletic and recreation center now being build will include a student fitness center.

CAMPUS MASTER PLAN MAPS THE FUTURE

In addition to these three capital projects, Villanova is in the midst of a Campus Master Plan, scheduled to be completed within the next year. It will encompass a short-term and long-term look at overall facility needs. This plan is being created with the input and participation of the entire University community, guided by the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president. The plan will provide a road map to achieve the new president’s vision for Villanova’s future.

Capital projects to be considered in the plan’s discussions are new residence halls, a renovated and expanded library and a new performing arts center.

Commenting on Villanova’s newest endeavors, Robert Morro Jr., executive director for Facilities Management, noted that “It’s an exciting time because we have great momentum.” He added that the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58 A&S, now president emeritus, “started some wonderful things, and Father Donohue has clearly stated his vision to make Villanova University an even better Villanova, improving the things we already do well. The future looks terrific.”
The reach of Villanova University’s theatre program extends far beyond the footlights of Vasey Hall, exerting a subtle but substantial influence on the regional Philadelphia theatre scene.

Villanovans can be found actively participating in the productions or administration in many of the area’s 100 theatres, according to Sue Winge. The former theatre department marketing and public relations director, she is now assistant to Villanova’s president for research and communications. Villanovans perform roles as actors, directors, playwrights and dramaturges. And, Villanova Theatre graduates, faculty and staff also swell the ranks behind the scenes, working on sets, costumes, lighting and sound design.

Villanovans are consistently nominated for, and often win, the area’s most prestigious theatre accolades, the Barrymore Awards for Excellence in Theatre (see sidebar). Since 1995, Villanova Theatre has been nominated 49 times and won six coveted Barrymores. Michael Hollinger ’89 M.A., assistant professor of theatre, associate artistic director of Villanova Theatre and a playwright, has had numerous plays produced regionally, nationally and internationally. Harriet Power, associate professor of theatre, directed several plays last year in Philadelphia. The work of Dr. Joanna Rotté, professor of theatre, has been produced at the Philadelphia Fringe Festival.

“Our professors are active in the regional theatre community—directing, acting, playwriting—and have a strong reputation in Philadelphia,” Winge said. The theatre department also has many prolific staff members and alumni. The Rev. Richard G. Cannuli, O.S.A., ’73 A&S, who earned an M.F.A. from the Pratt Institute, recently succeeded the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S as chair of the department (see page 34 to learn about Father Cannuli’s other artistic talents).

Costume shop manager Janus Stefanowicz ’78 A&S, ’81 M.A., a three-time Barrymore winner, is “the costume designer in Philadelphia,” Winge said.

Technical director Parris Bradley has worked over the years at every major theatre in Philadelphia, Winge added.

Villanova Theatre alumni also serve on the faculties of at least nine universities, have founded their own theatre companies, perform on-stage or behind the scenes at theatres in major American cities, and are even players on the Hollywood scene.

“It’s no accident that Villanovans are sought after in the highly competitive theatre field, Winge said. The graduate theatre program prepares students for working careers by offering a balance of the academic and the practical.

“I think because we offer the scholarship side of theatre, where students are doing a lot of history and theory and dramaturgical work, and we also do the practical side of theatre, where they are stage managing, acting and working on production crews, they see the full scope of theatre,” Winge explained.

The theatre program is very “hands on.” “While the students are here learning and completing their academic curriculum, they’re also working in a professional theatre environment,” Winge commented. “They’re building the sets, they’re hanging the lights, they’re sewing the costumes,” she added.

On the administrative end, Winge’s graduate assistant has been learning the marketing aspect of theatre first-hand by writing press releases, updating the Web site and doing public relations work.

A Major Regional Role

The active, talented Villanova Theatre faculty, staff and alumni are well-cast as a strong presence in Philadelphia’s theatre community.

BY KATHLEEN SCAVELLO

Urinetown, produced last spring by Villanova Theatre, was nominated for four Barrymores. Leading the cast was Justin Damm ’05 A&S, now a theatre graduate student.
Many students come into the program narrowly focused but then discover previously unexplored aspects of theatre that drive them in a new direction. "A lot of times, students come here thinking they want to do one thing in theatre, like 'I want to be an actor,' and after two years here they say, 'No, I'm really good at dramaturgy,'" Winge said. "Our master's degree program gives them a broad overview of the different opportunities they have in theatre."

The other element that strengthens Villanova Theatre's position in Philadelphia is its involvement with the Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia. As a member, Villanova Theatre gains wider exposure, opportunity and recognition. Not only are its plays reviewed by the nominators for the Theatre Alliance's Barrymore Awards, but students have the opportunity to be seen by representatives of Philadelphia theatres at the Theatre Alliance's annual auditions in June.

The support of the University's local community as devoted audience members has also bolstered Villanova Theatre's standing in the metro area. The theatre's four-show season typically draws about 7,000 persons each year. A core group of 700 are season subscribers.

The final production of the 2007 season, The Robber Bridegroom, a bluegrass musical adapted from a Eudora Welty novella, will run from March 27-April 1 and April 10-22. For more information, visit www.villanova.edu/artscl/theatre.

Another Round of Applause

At the Barrymore Awards ceremony, Villanova Theatre nominees reprised their notable presence.

BY KATHLEEN SCAVELLO

Villanova Theatre made a strong showing at the October 23, 2006, ceremony for the prestigious 2006 Barrymore Awards for Excellence in Theatre. Last spring's musical Urinetown received four nominations for acting, choreography and direction—including one for the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., '75 A&S, University president. Urinetown was Father Donohue's final production before assuming the presidency in June 2006. In addition, Dr. Robert Hedley, who once chaired the theatre department and taught directing and dramatic literature at Villanova, was honored with the Theatre Alliance's Lifetime Achievement Award. The Barrymores are sponsored by the Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia.

The Villanovans nominated for the 2006 awards were: Tonilyn Longo '06 M.A., for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical; Barby Hobyak Roche, for Outstanding Choreography/Movement; Jim Ryan, part-time instructor, for Outstanding Music Direction; and Father Donohue, for the Harold Prince Award for Outstanding Direction of a Musical.

Two Villanovans who are members of the theatre department won Barrymores for their work on outside productions. Michael Hollinger '89 M.A., assistant professor of theatre, associate artistic director of Villanova Theatre and a playwright, received the Independence Foundation Award for an Outstanding New Play for Opus, performed by the Arden Theatre Company in Old City Philadelphia. Theatre department costume shop manager Janus Stefanowicz '78 A&S, '81 M.A., who also teaches the costume design portion of scenography, won a Barrymore for costume design for her work with the Philadelphia Theatre Company.

The Barrymores, presented at Philadelphia's Merriam Theater, are named in honor of the famed Philadelphia-based first family of theatre. According to the Theatre Alliance, the awards are the region's only comprehensive theatre awards. A stringent nominating and judging process, conducted by a diverse group of Theatre Alliance artists, educators, critics, board members and audience members, determines the winners.

The mission of the Theatre Alliance, a member-based service and leadership organization, is to strengthen and lead the region's theatre community through positive awareness, by acting as an information resource and in fostering professional development and advocacy.

Celebrating Villanova Theatre's prominent showing at the Barrymore Awards presentation were (from left) Leah Patterson '03 A&S, costume assistant; Megan Bellwoar Hollinger '90 M.A., actor; Michael Hollinger '89 M.A., associate artistic director; Charlotte Cloe Fox Wind '02 M.A., nominee for the C. Otto Haas Award for Emerging Theatre Artist; Janus Stefanowicz '78 A&S, '81 M.A., costume shop manager; and Joseph C. Healy '08 VSB, wardrobe manager. Michael Hollinger and Stefanowicz won Barrymores for their work in off-campus productions.
Corr Hall Chapel is aglow with a radiant new light. This past November, a stained glass window was installed in the chapel in memory of the Villanova alumni who perished in the attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. The Rev. Richard G. Cannuli, O.S.A., '73 A&S, chair of the theatre department and curator and director of the Villanova University Art Gallery in the Connelly Center, designed the memorial window. The light from this multicolored image floods the interior of the chapel, and the window’s delicate splendor is visible as well from the exterior at night.

Aside from its aesthetic beauty, this window holds a deeper significance. The window is special in many ways. It is Father Cannuli’s tribute to the 15 Villanovans who lost their lives on the morning of September 11, 2001, when two hijacked planes flew into the World Trade Center. It is the Augustinian’s well-thought-out expression of empathy and love. It is significant as well because this striking window began not at all as a design for glass. It was to have been carried out in egg tempera.

After much praying and meditation during the past few years, Father Cannuli early in 2005 began sketching a memorial design to “write” as an icon (an icon is described as being “written” rather than painted). Out of his work on the icon evolved the idea and design for the window.

According to Father Cannuli, the entire project may have taken about 300 hours. When one views this window and considers the amount of work required from start to finish, it seems almost incomprehensible that it could have been produced on any timetable.

In retrospect, noted Father Cannuli, shaping his reactions into this ultimate expression was neither quick nor easy. "After 9/11, it took me a long time to process what happened that day," Father Cannuli said. "The window is a way for me to express my love for God and my grief for the loss of these brave and talented individuals."
Cannuli said, “I wanted to do some creative work to mark not only the day but the [historically significant] time. I started about three years ago putting down on paper my feelings of that day. Since spring 2005, I have been working on a large icon with a similar design. I did not want to start ‘writing’ the icon until I was able to pray and place myself in the right position,” he explained.

The Villanova artist designed the window after a conversation with the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, now University president. Father Donohue had admired the icon that he saw Father Cannuli ‘writing.’ After their discussion, the artist agreed to create a design for the stained glass window from the image of the icon. The window would be installed in Corr

(Left) The September 11 memorial window is the first stained glass window to be added in Corr Hall Chapel since its construction.
Remembering These Villanovans

The September 11 memorial window commemorates the following alumni who lost their lives in the attacks on the World Trade Center in 2001.

W. David Bauer ’78 VSB  
James P. Berger ’78 VSB  
Dennis Michael Cook ’90 A&S  
Jennine Damiani Jones ’94 VSB  
Christopher M. Dincuff ’92 VSB  
Jeffrey Mark Dingle ’90 VSB  
Christopher M. Duffy ’00 VSB  
William F. Fallon ’70 A&S  
Peter Gelinas ’90 VSB  
Michael Gould ’94 VSB  
Amy Jarret ’94 VSB (flight attendant)  
Jennifer Lynn Kane ’97 VSB  
Danielle Kousoulis ’93 VSB  
Kaaria Mbaya ’86 U.C.  
Matthew Vienna ’00 VSB

A Window of Opportunity

As with other charitable contributions, there are naming opportunities for donors who wish to honor or memorialize a loved one through funding a stained glass window in Corr Hall Chapel.

If you would like to contribute to the September 11 memorial window, other stained glass windows or the refurbishment of Corr Hall Chapel, please send your donations (payable to Villanova University) to:

Office of the President  
Villanova University  
800 Lancaster Avenue  
Villanova, PA 19085

Hall Chapel as a permanent memorial to the Villanovans who perished in the attacks on the twin towers. Interestingly, shortly after Father Donohue’s election as president, he received an e-mail from an alumnus urging him to consider establishing a permanent memorial on campus to remember these Villanovans. Father Donohue then contacted the families to ask if the names of their loved ones could be included. “I would not have considered the memorial window unless all of the families had given their permission,” Father Donohue said.

For Father Cannuli, the window design began with a few rough thumbnail sketches drawn in pencil. He translated these sketches into scale drawings and rendered them in watercolor. In May 2006, he transferred his renderings into the correct size on paper, and took the design to the glass studio in Siena, Italy, that has manufactured many of the other stained glass windows he has designed (www.glassisland.com).

Throughout the project, Father Cannuli consulted with the artisans who gave his idea form at Vetrage Artistiche Toscanne, the glass studio owned by Gianni Bracciiali and his brother, Massimo. The artist who painted the glass is a master, Alberto Positano.

Upon seeing the rough sketch and the icon in progress, Father Donohue noted, “I want this window to be a fitting and sensitive permanent memorial for the Villanova victims of the 9/11 tragedy and for their families. The events of 9/11 affected our nation, but they also affected our Villanova community. We are a Roman Catholic and Augustinian community. The alumni victims were a part of us, and we need to remember them. The window will allow them and their memories to remain a part of us for many years to come. I think the window depicts in a beautiful way that they now are in the hands of God, and that connects us.”

The arched windows of Corr Hall Chapel are in the Gothic style. The memorial window, which faces west, replaces one in clear glass and consists of two main panels with several smaller panels above the main panes, held together by a leaded framework bordered by ornamental stonework. The window’s colors are a warm palette of mid-tone blues and carmine red, slightly warmer in tone from the chapel’s original stained glass windows. The memorial window’s left pane, or lancet, depicts the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Orate (prayer) position. Father Cannuli notes that she “is dressed in traditional robes with the red color over the blue, which symbolizes divinity (red) over humanity (blue). The Greek lettering on either side of Mary’s head is an abbreviation of Theotokas, which means God-Bearer.”

The right panel shows the twin towers, the Pentagon and the field near Shanksville, Pa.—the sites where the hijacked planes crashed. The names of the 15 Villanova alumni who perished that day have been inscribed meticulously by hand in Gothic lettering at the bottom of the panel with the twin towers. All 15 Villanovans perished at that site; 14 worked in the World Trade Center and one was a flight attendant on United Airlines flight 175.

Inscribing the names was a painstaking project. “The names were placed according to a design decision so that they could be fitted artistically,” Father Cannuli said, “and are not placed in sequence alphabetically. You have to read through all the names to see the name of your loved one.”

The details are illustrated in the smaller panels, including the date 9/11, which appears near the top in Roman numerals (IX-XI). Below, in four panels, the flight numbers of the four hijacked planes also are rendered in Roman numerals. Father Cannuli carefully considered this addition. The Roman numerals convey the reality but in a way that is more aesthetic and artistic. “I felt Roman numerals were more appropriate, especially for the flight numbers of the four planes,” he said. The other window shapes picture the heavens and stars.

Father Cannuli depicted the twin towers as if the buildings themselves were made of stained glass panels separated by lead frames. His design is of two buildings that are solid yet vulnerable. “As solid as the towers were, they

One main panel of the window depicts the sites where the four hijacked planes crashed. The names of the 15 Villanovans who perished at the World Trade Center are inscribed below the sites.
were breakable,” Father Cannuli observed. Their vulnerability is exactly what he wished to convey.

Corr Hall Chapel, constructed in 1912, was funded by munificent donations from Bernard Corr, a wealthy entrepreneur known for his philanthropy to Catholic institutions. The chapel’s original stained glass windows were made by the renowned German glass maker Franz Mayer & Co. of Munich.

After Corr died in 1912, work on the chapel eventually was suspended. So, too, plans had to be put on hold for the installation of any additional stained glass windows that would have completed the aesthetic of this sacred space. Several windows, especially on the west wall, remain as clear glass.

Originally the Augustinian seminarians and faculty members used the chapel for liturgies and recitation of the Divine Office. Today, the chapel continues to provide for the spiritual life of the Villanova community.

The memorial window was to have been completed, shipped and installed in time to commemorate last fall’s fifth anniversary of the September 11 attacks. Ironically, heightened airport security delayed the window’s inspection at U.S. Customs, and it arrived much later.

When the window was being installed last fall, its beauty strongly emphasized the emptiness of the clear glass windows. This reverent environment will not be complete until they, too, radiate with shimmering colors. Father Cannuli is willing to design additional stained glass windows for the chapel. He discussed the matter with Father Donohue, who agrees that the consecrated interior of the chapel remains half empty with only clear glass in several windows. Investing in the additional windows would indeed be a compelling visual and spiritual enhancement to the chapel and also would increase the University’s artistic and historical significance, he believes. Any windows Father Cannuli designs for the chapel would be a permanent record for the University community of a contemporary artist who gives new life to an ancient and radiant expression of divine light.

**Glorious Art in Many Forms**

As an artist, as director of the Villanova University Art Gallery in Connelly Center and as a professor of studio art, the Rev. Richard G. Cannuli, O.S.A., ’73 A&S has expressed his spirituality and creativity in many ways, not only on campus but at many other sites. He now has a new role as well: chair of Villanova’s theatre department. He succeeded the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, who took office as University president on June 1, 2006.

Father Cannuli’s capabilities as an artist are extraordinary and multifaceted. His watercolors reflect his reputation as a colorist with a distinct style. He also paints in acrylics and oils, and as a plein air artist paints landscapes. He has painted on commission as well as for his own enjoyment, and has exhibited scenes from his travels. He also creates in metal, ceramics, mosaics, fabric, tempera and wood.

A skilled iconographer (see the Spring 2003 Villanova Magazine), Father Cannuli studied this form of egg tempera painting for 20 years, 13 of them with master iconographer Vladislav Andrejev. At Villanova, Father Cannuli team teaches a course, “Icons: Making and Meaning,” with Dr. Tina Waldieier-Bizzarro, adjunct professor of art and art history.

As a well-known certified liturgical design consultant, Father Cannuli for more than two decades has designed and created liturgical art on commission for churches. Here, too, his talent is multifaceted, extending even to the actual stitching. He has designed and constructed thousands of religious vestments, furnishing and accessories for churches worldwide.

The Villanova community has long admired Father Cannuli’s liturgical handiwork in the beautiful hand-sewn vestments he has created for the community of Augustinians. The priests generally reserve his vestments for special occasions—the liturgies for Baccalaureate, New Student Orientation, Parents’ Weekend, Commencement and the School of Law’s Red Mass, among others.

For his own ordination as an Augustinian priest in 1999, Father Cannuli designed and created his vestments and those worn by the priests concelebrating the Mass. Most recently, he designed and sewed the elaborate vestments worn by Father Donohue during his Inauguration as University president on September 8, 2006. For example, the vestment for that ceremony contained more than 200 Chinese pearls, all hand-sewn in place.

In addition to all of this artistic expression, Father Cannuli has designed stained glass windows (See Villanova Magazine, Winter 2004). His windows have been installed in the Order of Augustinian Recollects’ St. Joseph Chapel at the Tagaste Monastery in Suffern, N.Y.; the Church of St. Augustine in New City, N.Y.; the Discalced Carmelite Nuns’ Holy Name of Jesus Monastery in Denmark, Wis.; the St. Margaret Mary Church in Neenah, Wisc.; in the new chapel of the St. Thomas of Villanova Monastery on campus; and now in Corr Hall Chapel.

—Irene Burgo

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Creating a New Blueprint for Engineering Education

BY IRENE BURGO

Dr. Gary A. Gabriele became dean of the College of Education on August 1, 2006. He came to Villanova University with a strong background in engineering education and research, plus a wealth of experience honed in industry and academe. His Ph.D. in mechanical engineering is from Purdue University.

Before being appointed as dean, Gabriele served for two years as division director for the Engineering Education and Centers Division of the National Science Foundation (NSF). For the 20 years previously, he was committed to shaping education at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI). He began at RPI as a faculty member in mechanical engineering and most recently served as vice provost and dean of undergraduate education, responsible for its overall strategic direction.

Before joining RPI, Gabriele worked for the U.S. Army in software engineering and at Lockheed-Georgia in systems design for large military transports. His research interests focus on engineering design teaching and multidisciplinary design optimization (MDO). MDO is a new approach to managing tradeoffs in complex design situations where design objectives drive the design in opposing directions.

Creative design, leadership skills and a multidisciplinary focus in engineering education are important elements of a 21st-century engineering education, according to Dr. Gary A. Gabriele, new dean of Villanova University’s College of Engineering. Gabriele intends to infuse these components into the curriculum so that future alumni will be ready to function in a global society. His hopes for the College include developing a distinctive undergraduate curriculum built on educating “whole-brain” thinkers, graduates who will define the next generation of engineering leaders.

“Everybody expects engineers to be problem-solvers, but to compete in today’s world, they need to be much more,” Gabriele said. “Engineers will need varied skills that allow them to develop and manage large-scale multidisciplinary projects.”

Making decisions on new curricula and new elements to inspire the future of engineering education are heady components of the job, but the dean is ready for the test. He likes the environment and challenge of academe, enjoys teaching and is glad to be at Villanova.

During his two years at the National Science Foundation (NSF), Gabriele had an opportunity to identify some of the national concerns in engineering education and research. “I looked at the different issues facing engineering and where educators thought education needed to go in the future,” he said. “When I decided to go back to academic administration, I chose Villanova because I thought I could accomplish some of those goals. Villanova has a strong focus on undergraduate education, not to the exclusion of research, which is an important criterion for me. The real opportunity for engineering education in the future is how well engineers are going to be able to integrate into the bigger issues that our country and the world are facing. Engineers today will need to have a broader knowledge so that they can interact with other disciplines,” he noted. “That’s best accomplished at a school like Villanova,” he added, because there’s an opportunity “to combine the strong liberal arts program with the strong engineering program. How do you combine the two? That’s what I’m hoping to do.”

Creating this new approach and introducing multidisciplinary courses will require a major effort, Gabriele admits. But he’s only just begun, and he’s chock-full of ideas. As he makes plans to incorporate creative design, leadership skills and a multidisciplinary approach into the Engineering undergraduate curriculum, he hopes to infuse it with one or more features that make it uniquely Villanova.

The new dean firmly believes that creative design, an area that he views with much enthusiasm, can help. Engineering students should be exposed to courses in creativity and design, Gabriele believes. At RPI, he developed a design program that combined first-year architecture and engineering design students. “Our job as faculty was to try to get them to understand what it meant to design, and to develop their design skills so that they were utilizing their ability for creative thinking and expression,” he noted about the RPI effort. The emphasis on design helped students open their minds to ask out-of-the-box questions, such as “How do you express ideas both practically and verbally? How do you think creatively in looking at a broader context?” That is where the engineering took on a more expansive focus, “where the engineering, architecture and anthropology all came together to induce students to look at not just what they thought was their small problem. It got them to examine the potential impact of things that go beyond the immediate problem so that they could conceive of a more creative solution,” he said. “Creating new things is central to engineering,” Gabriele noted. “At the same time, our goal was for students to understand what their impact was as designers. When you build something, you have a far-reaching impact beyond the object itself.”

Test yourself. Look around your environment. Observe. Everything you see—your desk, computer, keyboard, laptop, printer, discs, DVDs, lamp, cell phone, file cabinet, chair, water cooler and door—all needed to be designed and engineered before they could be manufactured. From a basic wooden dory to today’s most sophisticated “smart” ships for defense, nothing can be built without the skill of an engineer. Engineers construct and build. That’s the nature of the profession. But the increasing demands of a rapidly advancing technological society are putting even more demands on the professional engineer. Teaching engineers how to build both structures and technology poses new challenges for educators.
Engineering is about change—rapid change when you consider the pace of technology—and engineering changes and new products affect everyone in different ways. Engineers who design products must consider more than just how a new device will work. Gabriele lists some of the questions to be considered: “Who is going to interact with the object you’ve designed? Who’s going to manufacture it? Who is going to dispose of it? What are the unintended consequences of it? Design is about other issues important for all engineering education. While we want engineers who are creative problem-solvers, we want also to educate students to be creative problem-definers. We need engineers to look at problems from a technical standpoint, but they must have other viewpoints as well. They need to define a problem that can be solved in ways other than with only a technical solution. It’s not an area in which engineers often participate.”

Creative thinking involves changing the mindset of students. “When you alter the students’ traditional way of thinking, you encourage them to think outside of the box,” Gabriele said. Creative thinking is a good thing, but it is more easily said than done. He is optimistic nevertheless. “Design is an integral part of engineering. Engineering is about changing the world and creating things that didn’t exist. It’s what separates engineering from science,” he observed.

“In terms of what this country has done in general education and clearly in engineering education, we have been very much left-brain-oriented,” Gabriele said. “We need some strong right-brain thinkers, as well as some strong left-brain thinkers, in engineering. This is an opportunity within the framework—of looking at how we create engineers who are both left- and right-brain thinkers as well as good problem-definers. This is where Villanova could differentiate itself and contribute to engineering education—by providing a more innovative, creative opportunity. This focus is very consistent with the Augustinian values of the University because it is not just about the technology, but it is thinking focused on the broader issues.”

Gabriele’s ideas are still evolving. “My goal is to present my plans to the faculty on where engineering education has to go, and let the faculty define the best way to do that within the Villanova environment,” he said. “My hope is that they and I will agree on whatever we decide we ought to look at that will make us [the College] different, and hopefully, we will move forward with the ideas. There is an
opportunity—a place for us to create—something that works best for Villanova, its students and faculty.”

The dean would like the Engineering degree to reflect features specific to Villanova. “Most often I hear about Villanova’s strengths. I’ve been more than pleasantly surprised to find the high quality and high level of research going on. Many faculty doing research are strongly interested in teaching, and that’s a good combination. Also, the students are as good, if not better, than elsewhere. In some ways, they’re more involved than students I’ve met at other colleges—in helping to improve [their college environment], and in performing service activities to help others.”

Asked if there are unique things inherent in the Engineering program, Gabriele replied, “If I were a prospective student and wanted to compare the education here to other schools, that might be a question I’d throw into the market. The question is not merely rhetorical. That’s where we need to get to—what we need to address, not from the standpoint just to be unique but because there are numerous opportunities at Villanova that we could exploit in a positive way. That kind of uniqueness could really be an advantage.”

Multidisciplinary courses are critical for today’s engineering majors, Gabriele believes. “Mixing engineering majors with other majors is important, which is what other schools, particularly graduate schools, are doing at the design level. Engineers will be working with people who are not engineers,” he pointed out.

What advice does the dean offer to students? Build your creative capacity. Most programs equip majors to begin a career but not to sustain it. Engineers need to be flexible as well as proponents of continuing their education. He emphasized that students and graduates need to get used to the concept of lifelong learning. “Much of what we teach at the upper level will change very quickly over the years as new technology emerges, and they will need to be prepared to move along with it. One way to do that is to keep yourself educated in your area,” he said. Companies expect engineers to continue their education and supplement it with a master’s degree—but not always a technical degree, he explained. “The more popular advanced degree is a business degree,” the dean noted.

“Management courses are useful because engineers may find themselves in a management role within the company and need to have an idea of business at that level.”

The College’s master’s degree in technology management (M.T.M.) combines management with strengthening the student’s technical background. “After the bachelor’s, that is the best model for the next degree, and that’s one path that particularly benefits the working professional,” Gabriele said.

The old stereotype of an engineer being a “black-and-white-type sort of thinker with ‘risk aversions’” is outdated, Gabriele explained. “Engineers need to be open to new ideas, to new directions for doing things. While engineers need the traditional qualities of thoroughness and exactness, that can’t be their starting point for every situation. ‘Tell me the problem you want to solve, and I’ll solve it’ was the old way of thinking,” he pointed out. “But some problems don’t have technical solutions, and an engineer is probably the best person to say whether the problem requires a technical solution. In some situations, good engineers should be able to say, ‘Yes, we can solve this. There is a potential technical solution here but it is not going to be easy, and it’s not the right way to go about this.’”

The dean believes it is important for engineers to be present at project negotiations on critical problems, whether in the corporate sector or government, to add their technical expertise, especially for example, in issues of war. Engineers might need to say, ‘These are difficult, technical problems to solve and there is no guarantee. You can’t rely on this to be risk-free.’ If the engineers are not there, who will say what needs to be said?”

Recently, Gabriele has made some assessments in the College and evaluated its curriculum. He is considering some initiatives that he may undertake in the future. He would like to establish a Center for Innovation in Engineering Education. It would become a center of excellence in the scholarship of how students learn engineering and an incubator for change and innovation in engineering education, according to Gabriele. He foresees it may be feasible to create this resource by May.

Gabriele’s plans also include initiating a college-wide strategic planning process and appointing committees to review key areas to develop goals and objectives to address the fundamental challenges. The new engineer of the future will be competitive, global-minded and a creative thinker, Gabriele summed up. In this future world, engineers will need to hone “right-brain” qualities—innovativeness, empathy, meaning-predominant thinking. They will need to be problem-definers, addressing open-ended problems within technical boundaries. All of that is possible, he believes, if the curriculum becomes more responsive to the changing world of engineering.

“Design is an integral part of engineering. Engineering is about changing the world and creating things that didn’t exist. It’s what separates engineering from science.”

—Dr. Gary A. Gabriele
Overflowing” is the best way to describe the crowd at the Eucharistic liturgy and festival celebration in honor of the Rev. T. Shawn Tracy, O.S.A., ’63 A&S on his 40th anniversary of priestly ministry. Father Tracy has devoted more than 30 of those years to Campus Ministry at Villanova University, and also serves as chaplain of the Villanova University Alumni Association and its community service committee. The evening Mass and reception took place on November 18, 2006, in the Villanova Room of the Connelly Center. After presiding at the Mass, Father Tracy greeted the crowd of more than 400 well-wishers. At the reception, highlighted by a sumptuous dessert buffet, several tables displayed a photo montage depicting Father Tracy’s varied activities as a priest. He has delighted and inspired so many with his music and has long been an advocate for people with disabilities. Another table featured a display of the albums of sacred music recorded by Father Tracy and his group. In the entrance foyer was an exhibit of the history and recordings of Sanctuary, the sacred music ensemble at Villanova that he co-founded.

By all accounts, it was quite an evening—a night of unexpected delights and surprises, songs and stories, a special evening for Father Tracy and his friends that reflected his four decades of ministry.

Prelude to a life in music

After his ordination as an Augustinian in 1966, Father Tracy was assigned to St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish in Bronx, N.Y., where he taught theology and literature and did parochial ministry work from 1967 to 1975. While there, he and his friends formed a folk music group called THE 10:15. They released three albums: “THE 10:15,” “Making Tracks” and “Songs of the Father.” His music took a new direction in the 1970s when he was introduced to the Handicapped Encounter Christ (HEC) retreat program, then flourishing in New York State’s Hudson Valley. Father Tracy started a similar group at Villanova called He Shall Be Peace (HSBP). The group released three albums of pastoral music: “He Shall Be Peace,” “The Seed” and “Sanctuary.” HSBP was the precursor to the group that took the name of Sanctuary in 1996.

Sanctuary performs “ritual music for prayer and contemplation,” according to Father Tracy. The group has released three albums: “Magnificat,” “Passion” and “Ancient Light.” A new CD to be released in April, “Sacred Earth,” features an ecologically sensitive repertoire.

“Music is a way of life for me,” says Father Tracy, who considers it to be one of the greatest pleasures and tools for helping others. “I brought this pastoral music spirit when I came to Villanova in 1975,” he said. Father Tracy shares a special bond with Sanctuary by collaborating on its music and songs. Attesting to the talent of this evolving group of musicians, and his own expertise, is the fact that the first six albums were released by national Catholic music publishers—leading names like North American Liturgy Resources, Pastoral Arts of America and Modern Liturgy (World Library). Sanctuary’s albums have been distributed worldwide, including Asia and the Middle East.

After the liturgy and buffet, Sanctuary gave a concert of its “old and new” music, including many selections from “Sacred Earth.” Guests were riveted by the vibrant, festival music—the ballads, the soul-stirring gospel-like songs and some rousing rock and country-style ones designed to wake even the most complacent. The band played, the crowd swayed and some even danced. It was truly a good time. When the concert ended, guests crowded round to congratulate Father Tracy and the musicians.

At the celebration in his honor, held on November 18, 2006, the Rev. T. Shawn Tracy, O.S.A., ’63 A&S sang and performed some of the pastoral music he has written.
Father Tracy “has nourished and helped me to express my own spirituality and musicianship in ways that are often mysterious, and always profoundly God-centered.”

—Dan Mason ’78 A&S

The bonds of shared songs

A lifelong proponent of pastoral music, Father Tracy has encouraged that same interest in many of his student protégés. Father Tracy had written with Dan Mason ’78 A&S much of the music performed at the reception. Father Tracy noted that “Dan is my creative partner in developing this music.” Mason, who plays guitar, sings, writes and arranges music for Sanctuary, met Father Shawn (as he is affectionately called) when Mason was a student at Villanova. Mason has known him for 30 of Father Tracy’s 40 years as an Augustinian friar and priest.

As a student, Mason played guitar and sang at the 6 p.m. Sunday Mass in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church on campus. Mason recalled that “I was honored when Father invited me to play music with him and his friends from the Bronx who were working on his fourth album. Over the years, his passion and respect for sacred Scripture, people and music have amazed me. I feel very gifted to have worked with him on seven recordings (including the new release), hundreds of liturgies, prayer services in churches, retreat houses and even on mountain tops. I thank God for the blessing of knowing him, and I pray that we sing many more songs together in the years to come.”

Added Mason, Father Tracy “has been a friend to me, a counselor, a confidante and a musical companion. He has nourished and helped me to express my own spirituality and musicianship in ways that are often mysterious, and always profoundly God-centered. The music-prayer that flows from and around Shawn has touched untold numbers of people in their celebrations and festivals of both joy and sorrow, offering them a glimpse of the power of the love of God.”

A supportive friend

Throughout Father Tracy’s ministry, he has been a staunch advocate and supporter of individuals with disabilities. In 1977, he initiated the Philadelphia HEC program, sponsored by Campus Ministry, to offer persons with physical disabilities the opportunity to participate in a religious retreat. Often this is the only retreat designed to accommodate their needs, according to Father Tracy. In the Bronx, he had attended such retreats, to which participants from the Philadelphia area had been invited. Since forming the Philadelphia chapter, Father Tracy has continued to lead HEC retreats twice a year at the Variety Club Campground in Worcester, Pa. Scores of Villanova students, alumni, faculty and staff have volunteered at these retreats.

At the festival celebration, Margie Kernicky noted that “Accessibility, compassion and inclusion are meaningful words to Father Shawn, the priest for whom we are gathered here to celebrate today.” Kernicky, who was born with cerebral palsy, is a volunteer for Campus Ministry and for more than a quarter-century has been an advocate and activist for those with physical disabilities. “Father Shawn saw a need to have students become sensitized to the needs of disabled persons here on campus and in our communities,” added Kernicky, who attended Villanova.

For several years, Father Tracy has offered a one-credit weekend course at Villanova to teach students how to relate with persons with disabilities. He also created a team-taught course with Paula Michel-Johnson, a former communication faculty member, on the challenges of those who are disabled. In recent years, Father Tracy has led three trips to Jerusalem for people with disabilities, pairing the participants with able-bodied partners for assistance. Kernicky, who took part in one of the excursions, recalled that “This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, giving the disabled persons an opportunity to see where Jesus grew up, preached and was crucified.”

Kernicky observed that “Father Shawn is indeed a visionary.” He also has been instrumental in having the Villanova School of Law provide its expertise to residents of Inglis House on various topics such as transportation and medical issues. Inglis House provides a residence in Philadelphia for individuals with severe disabilities.

“I’m so grateful to God for having Shawn as my friend—a friend who has been very supportive to me,” Kernicky added.

Noted Michael Dolan ’99 A&S, “Perhaps the greatest illustration of Father Shawn’s love for others is his devoted ministry to persons with disabilities.” Dolan, who is the director of communications for the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, is Father Tracy’s nephew.

Dolan added, “While most of us avoid people and situations foreign to us, Father Shawn has embraced these ‘differences.’ ‘Life is too short to worry about differences’ [he has said]. When we are on a shared spiritual journey, no matter what faith or denomination we might have, the ego disappears, hearts connect and life happens.”

Well-tuned pastoral tradition

Through the years, Father Tracy has tutored Villanova student musicians through Campus Ministry’s Liturgy Program. He began many of Villanova’s pastoral music traditions and established its student pastoral music groups.

It was not a formal program at first. “We gathered together students who were talented, and we shared the music, performed and brought the music into the liturgy,” Father Tracy said. “We didn’t call it a program then, but it wasn’t long before Villanova students were writing and developing their own music for liturgical use on campus.” This music was used for Masses during Orientation, Parents’ Weekend and Baccalaureate; it was our own homespun music that we used, as well as newly.
crafted music from around the country. But it has developed now into a very well-tuned program on campus. The tradition is alive and growing at Villanova today but it is also a popular national tradition. “In his recordings, the musicians were students from New York as well as Villanova who combined to share this new music with the campus ministers and parish music ministers throughout the country,” said Father Tracy. “It is also very competitive. Our students have made appearances at national pastoral musicians’ conferences and national campus ministry conferences. Our students have a pivotal role in this process of learning and creating this music,” he added.

“In the pastoral music circles, there are numerous liturgical music organizations,” Father Tracy explained. “This type of music is very powerful among not only Catholic schools but at secular and the state schools like Penn State as well.” Other universities also have ministry centers that have active pastoral musicians.

**The dance of collaborating together**

Since the release of “Magnificat” in 1996, Sanctuary’s music has had an extraordinary impact on prayer and meditation circles in the United States and abroad, say those who know Father Tracy. “It can be heard as New Age because of its contemporary style and technique. But it is the best New Age because it is sacred music,” Father Tracy explained. “Some people believe the term New Age has bad connotations. New Age is fascinating and wonderful if you understand Christ as an essential aspect of New Age thinking,” he said. “I would be the first to condemn it if it were only surface and devoid of spiritual insight.”

In his modest way, Father Tracy emphasized that all of Sanctuary’s artists contribute equally to the success of the music and concerts. “I write the music,” he says, and he thoroughly enjoys it and likes to perform it. He also takes great pleasure in assisting and raising awareness about individuals who are disabled. The Augustinian does not view himself as an extraordinary person but as someone who is doing a job that needs to be done. “Music is collaboration. You get other people to write it, perform it, and that’s what it is—collaboration. First to me is my priesthood,” he says. “Through Baptism we become holy people, and when the priest works with us, the interaction is like a dance, a dance between the individual ordained a minister and the priestly people with whom he works.”

**Joyful Sounds—with a Mission**

The Villanova Pastoral Musicians dedicate their first CD to Father Tracy and Father Donohue, who perform on it, and donate the proceeds to Habitat.

The Rev. T. Shawn Tracy, O.S.A., ’63 A&S was recognized for his longtime work with pastoral music at a ceremony celebrating the November 2, 2006, release of a new CD, “Twilight Shadows Gather.” It is the first recording made by the current Villanova student Pastoral Musicians. Its title comes from a phrase in Villanova University’s “Alma Mater.”

At the ceremony, Donald Giannella, associate director of Campus Ministry and director of these musicians, recognized Father Tracy and the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president. Students in the Campus Ministry program joined in the recognition. In the St. Thomas of Villanova Church, where the CD had been recorded, Father Tracy and Father Donohue were presented with a ceremonial copy of the CD, which features songs performed and written by Father Tracy and the Rev. Scott Ness, O.S.A. The pastoral musicians dedicated their CD to Father Donohue and Father Tracy.

“Twilight Shadows Gather” features “Come to Me,” Father Tracy’s song reflecting his Hudson Valley experiences serving people with disabilities. Father Donohue sings “You Are All That I Have,” written by Father Ness.

“The more than 400 persons attending gave both priests a standing ovation,” Giannella said.

All proceeds from this CD will be donated to another Villanova project: a Habitat for Humanity “Villanova House.” A group of student volunteers with Campus Ministry is raising funds to build the house. The home in Norristown, Pa., will be constructed by Villanova students (see page 44).

“The goal of the Pastoral Ministry Program is to serve the University’s Masses and liturgies and assist at the special events on campus,” explained Giannella. The 98 pastoral musicians perform both as choirs and as instrumentalists. “Our student musicians perform sacred music that reflects our mission and heritage,” he said. The full orchestral complement consists of strings, woodwinds, a piano and four choirs. They can be heard on Sundays as three separate choirs that sing and play music at the three evening Masses at the Church.

Giannella teaches pastoral music through the Liturgical Ministry Program and also teaches in Villanova’s department of theology and religious studies. He hopes the student pastoral musicians will follow up their first recording with many more. “Our goal is to establish ourselves creatively and be recognized” in the Catholic Church’s music circles, he said, “Much of the music we have in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church right now is the product of Father Shawn’s work. He has been the catalyst in trying to gather through music and art the Augustinian spirit present at Villanova, and he is the one who has brought it to our attention, especially in the music performed during the liturgies and services. Father Tracy has had a lot to do with the vision and efforts for Villanova’s liturgical music. What we do, and what we perform now, is the result of his energy and inspiration. The students who recorded the CD are our heritage and hopes for the future.” —Irene Burgo
Villanova University students want to sponsor a house to build through Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County. Not a typical new house. They’re not looking for amenities. It won’t be a pricey vintage mansion or even a “fixer-upper.” In fact, it won’t even be a home until they build it. And once they finish it, they want to sponsor some more.

The first house they have in mind will be a bargain at $60,000. That’s not a lot of money in today’s real estate market, you’ll agree. It will take a lot of work to build it. But that’s the point.

The students are raising funds to build a “Villanova House” on land purchased by Montgomery County Habitat, based in Norristown, Pa. Villanova will become what is known as a whole house sponsor, thus launching a long-term partnership with Habitat. This sponsorship will give the University the opportunity to continue to support other Habitat houses for student volunteers to build.

Meanwhile, the students are eager to roll up their sleeves and get to work. Their “Villanova House” will be a townhouse in a cluster of five in Norristown. The groundbreaking will take place in April. The “Villanova House” will provide affordable housing for a needy family that will contribute its own “sweat equity” to help build it. The house could make history for these undergraduates if they are able to raise enough money for this project. But first, the students will need some assistance themselves.

Villanova students, faculty and alumni often take part in building Habitat homes. In fact, there is a waiting list of Villanovans who want to serve in the Philadelphia area, as well as abroad. Every Saturday, many Villanova students head out to rehab homes as part of the University’s Habitat chapter, Saturday Habitat. They’re currently working on several houses in the Chester County, Montgomery County (two sites in Norristown), Delaware County and Philadelphia. However, Habitat invites volunteers from other schools and organizations to work at its sites. Often there are more volunteers from Villanova than there is work for them to do.

The steering committee for Saturday Habitat, which is sponsored by Campus Ministry, came up with the idea of sponsoring a whole house, a “Villanova House” to build from the foundation up, according to two members of the committee, Michael Cunningham, a junior Human Services major, and Jane O’Connor, a senior majoring in mathematical sciences. Denise DiMeglio, a senior majoring in marketing, and Joanna Bowen, a senior art history major, head the Saturday Habitat committee.

Supporting a “Villanova House” under this sponsorship will allow Villanova students to work with one another to construct an entire Habitat home, starting with driving the first nail.

Cunningham and O’Connor thought this would be the best way to provide a venue for all of the Villanova students who want to undertake a Habitat project locally. With other students on the committee, they developed a plan to raise the funds and translate their idea into action. They even met with the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, to discuss the possibilities.

For Cunningham, the accidental death of Patrick F. Monaghan, a high school friend,
inspired him to become a volunteer. Patrick’s father, Frank K. Monaghan ’78 VSB, decided to help out the Villanova students who volunteer with Habitat; he offered a donation from the Patrick F. Monaghan Memorial Foundation that the family had established to keep alive Patrick’s dreams and goals (visit www.patricksdreams.org).

Noted Cunningham, “Everyone travels on service trips during the fall, spring and summer, but we thought there’s work here to be done. So that’s where we started. Montgomery County Habitat said that they had some houses that needed to be sponsored and asked, ‘Are you interested?’”

The students are raising the money on their own. As of December 2006, they had raised about $15,000 through various campaigns and their own ingenuity, according to Saramarie Bittmann of Campus Ministry, who advises them. They also have received some donations, so they have enough to put down a deposit.

Recently, Citibank has designated a contribution to Habitat in support of the whole house sponsorship for this first “Villanova House.”

But the students still have a long way to go if they wish to continue sponsoring and building Habitat homes as a permanent venture, which Villanova is interested in doing.

There is no doubt that these students have raised awareness on campus. They set up information tables at “the Oreo” and in other areas. They visited several academic departments to spread the word. They posted signs and posters with facts about homelessness and Habitat. They have expended a lot of time and effort to advance the cause. Still, even raising awareness is not easy, and the news has not spread far enough to make this long-term sponsorship viable.

“Advertising campaigns are difficult on campus,” Cunningham said. “How do we reach out to the surrounding Villanova community—faculty, staff, students and alumni—without calling them up and bugging them for money? How do we organize fundraising events within the confines of the University? Our No. 1 priority is raising awareness, not raising money.”

If you were to meet these volunteers, you would be impressed. When Cunningham speaks about the importance of volunteering, you notice first of all his energy and passion.

“The service experience sponsored for students during break trips emphasizes work, reflection and action,” Cunningham explained. “The coordinator organizes group reflections for students during and after the trips. Students are urged to reflect on what the experience of performing service for others means to them,” he added. “So when students return from going to local service sites, we need to fulfill those last two components. Students need to reflect on the whole service experience and what it means to them. They need to decide what further action they will take. The third component of the service experience is action. That’s where we really come in. We take hands-on action, work together as a community and provide something concrete—a house—for someone else.”

Another student on the Saturday Habitat committee, Katrine Herrick, a junior management major, had suggested that if everyone on campus could donate $10, students could purchase the “Villanova House.”

To give Father Donohue a better understanding of their goal, the students invited him to a dinner featuring a presentation on the “Villanova House,” according to DiMeglio and Bowen.

Father Donohue, a firm believer in the value of volunteering, recalled the students’ presentation. “They said, ‘All we’re asking for is $10 from each person.’ I thought, I spend $10 for lunch! It is not a whole lot of money,” Father Donohue said. “It was a resourceful idea. It was a really clever idea. I really admire their desire to do this and their energy. I was so impressed with their ingenuity and their desire to do this, their work and their planning, that I thought it would be a good story for Villanova Magazine. Publicizing their plan should help them get it started.”

To help the students further raise awareness, Father Donohue brought the idea to the attention of Villanova’s Board of Trustees. He allowed DiMeglio and Bowen to make presentations to the board, as well as to local alumni chapters. They outlined their project for the Philadelphia Chapter on November 29, 2006.

Father Donohue added, “This house will allow Villanova to have the opportunity to send students there in the future. And it will be called the Villanova House.” For Father Donohue, future is a key word. He very much wants Villanova to further its Habitat partnership through the whole house sponsorship.

Once the students complete the “Villanova House” in the spring of 2008, it will provide a brand-new home—in move-in condition—for a hard-working family. It will have taught the students a lot about work, service and entrepreneurship, and much more than fundraising or construction skills. But then they’re already aware of the priceless educational and emotional value of their project, and the long-range impact it could have for future Villanova students. Nevertheless, before they can raise more roofs, they need to raise more funds.
Adults Discover the Value of a VILLANOVA EDUCATION

Three graduates reflect on the flexible way they found to complete their degree part-time.

By Kelly Mimnaugh ’08 A&S

In 2008, Villanova University’s Part-Time Studies will celebrate its 90th anniversary. Since 1918, this division has provided thousands of adults with the opportunity to earn a degree conveniently on evenings and weekends. Through a commitment to treat each student’s individual needs and objectives, Part-Time Studies has succeeded in assisting adults with diverse academic agendas. They can enroll to earn a bachelor’s or associate’s degree, prepare for graduate and professional school, and enrich their previous education with new knowledge.

Part-Time Studies has produced some of the University’s most successful alumni, people with amazing stories who actively contribute to the Villanova community. These graduates and current students continue to inspire the world of higher education through their persistence, dedication and powerful determination.

At WCAU-TV, Penna worked with Herb Denenberg, a top consumer reporter, and his team to research investigative stories. Her time at the television station gave Penna the hands-on experience she was looking for and ultimately inspired her to become a health reporter. Through Part-Time Studies, Penna graduated with a double major in communication arts and English while gaining a meaningful experience in her intended career.

Looking back upon her life-changing decision, Penna credits Dr. Robert D. Stokes for providing the guidance she needed (he is now assistant vice president for academic affairs in Part-Time and Continuing Studies). “Dr. Stokes helped me a great deal to make this decision, and I always remember and still appreciate his help and guidance,” she said. “I try to guide other young people I meet because I remember the time he took with me and what a difference it made.”

A Healthy Approach to Life: Diana Penna ’88 A&S

At age 20, Diana Penna ’88 A&S was offered a full-time job at WCAU-TV (NBC 10) in Philadelphia, an opportunity she could not let pass her by. So halfway through her undergraduate education, she decided to switch from Villanova University’s full-time program to Part-Time Studies. Although apprehensive about taking on a full-time television job while still attending classes at night, Penna realized that this experience would complement her education by providing her with practical knowledge.

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Diana Penna ’88 A&S, who loves animals, made the cover of Sacramento magazine three years ago. The native of Upper Darby, Pa., is known for her expert and compassionate medical reporting in California’s capital city.

“I try to guide other young people I meet because I remember the time [Dr. Stokes] took with me and what a difference it made.”
—Diana Penna ’88 A&S

Following her graduation, Penna started as an anchor and reporter at the ABC television affiliate in Utica, N.Y., a position that further developed her television news expertise. She then became a health reporter for the NBC affiliate in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton, Pa., market. Her big break came when the network decided to provide her health reports to all 200 NBC affiliates across the country.

After becoming known nationally for her health reporting, Penna joined the CBS affiliate in Sacramento, Calif. There, she started the health franchise at CBS 13. In April, she will be celebrating her tenth year in California’s capital city, where she is considered the foremost medical reporter, someone equally adept at discussing consumer health and today’s complex medical issues and breakthroughs.

Penna has received several journalism awards, including an Emmy for hosting an award-winning medical program in Pennsylvania, the National Headliner Award for Investigative Journalism and a first-place Associated Press award for Breaking News and Feature Reporting. Numerous community organizations also have honored Penna for her contributions, including the American Heart Association, the Huntington’s Disease Society of America, the Child Abuse Prevention Council and the Sacramento SPCA.

Penna, who confesses her love for her work, finds it rewarding knowing that she has touched a life. “The most moving part of my job is when someone comes up to me at a mall or a restaurant and says that a story I did saved their life,” she said. “I really think television news is a great way to reach a lot of people with positive messages and to talk about their health, something so important. I’m honored to be able to do it.”

Along with her demanding career, Penna also has made community service part of her life. She has become very involved with several organizations since her move to Sacramento, including the American Heart Association, the Delta Blood Bank, flu shot drives and other charity/health events.

Penna plans to continue her work in television. She is excited about beginning a family—a new chapter in her life. As she stays active in the University community, she says she won’t forget her time in Part-Time Studies.

“I graduated from Villanova on a Saturday and started work on a Monday. The program allowed me to get my feet on the ground. It was a great opportunity, and I have been very fortunate.”
—Patrick Caulfield ’83 VSB

Part-Time Studies helped Patrick Caulfield ’83 VSB maintain a normal undergraduate lifestyle while working his way through college. Earning a degree proved to be a financial struggle; as one of 12 children, Caulfield was responsible for financing his own education. Obstacles aside, he was determined to pay his way through Villanova University.

Part-Time Studies helped him to reach his goals, Caulfield responded quite simply, “I graduated from Villanova on a Saturday and started work on a Monday. The program allowed me to get my feet on the ground. It was a great opportunity, and I have been very fortunate.”

Villanova has been a large part of Caulfield’s life ever since his childhood. Born in New Jersey, he grew up in Penwyn, Pa. His father is James Caulfield ’50 E.E. and he shares Villanova alumni status with three of his 11 siblings: Chris ’69 A&S, Kim ’78 A&S and Kamille ’89 VSB.

“It was like no other, and I am the individual I am today because of the values that were instilled in me during those years.”

Caulfield continues to contribute to the University community through his efforts...
Eases the Way for Prospective Students

By Tainah Michida ’08 A&S

Wind and rain were no hindrance to those interested in attending Villanova University’s fall Graduate and Part-Time Undergraduate Open House. Held on October 17, 2006, in the Villanova Room of the Connelly Center, it drew 479 prospective candidates for the graduate, Part-Time and Continuing Studies programs. “Considering the bad weather, the turnout of more than 470 prospective students is indicative of the variety and high quality of Villanova academic programs,” noted Dr. Robert D. Stokes, assistant vice president for academic affairs in Part-Time and Continuing Studies. “Being able to talk to faculty representatives, see the campus, attend seminars and find out about financial assistance and testing, the attendee has more information to make a wise decision.”

Those attending could meet with representatives from the Villanova School of Business and the School of Law, as well as from the colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Engineering and Nursing. The Open House offered 17 seminars, including sessions on some of Villanova’s most popular programs and on the graduate testing and enrollment process, education financing and career planning. Plus, there’s a bonus to attending an Open House: Villanova waives the application fee.

“The Graduate and Part-Time Undergraduate Open House is planned by a committee comprised of representatives from each college, the Office of Communication and Public Affairs, and other services,” Stokes explained. The first Open House was held in fall 1997, and these events have experienced success every semester since then.

The next Open House will take place on March 13.

Back in the Dorm After 25 Years: Thomas DePasquale ’06 A&S

Part-Time Studies has seen many extraordinary students in its long history at the University. The story of Thomas DePasquale ’06 A&S certainly belongs in that category. He started at Villanova in 1977 as an Engineering major and later switched to the College of Commerce and Finance (now the Villanova School of Business). Unsure of what he wanted to do with his life, DePasquale left at the end of his sophomore year with the intention of exploring other interests.

Soon after his departure, DePasquale opened an auto repair shop. In the years that followed, he and his wife, Linda, have welcomed three children into their lives: Tommy, Dawn and Michael. He converted his auto repair shop into a self-service carwash and coin laundry, and purchased a franchise in the Jackson Hewitt Income Tax Service. He has since expanded the franchise to 15 locations; he and his family live in Wayne, N.J.

In 2004, DePasquale decided to return to Villanova after his son Michael challenged him to join him as a student and complete his degree. Michael, who will graduate with a computer engineering degree in May, came to his father bearing his transcripts from 1979 and an application to Part-Time Studies. DePasquale took up the challenge, was accepted into the program and immediately began his journey toward graduation, dedicated to the goal of completing his degree. He took courses throughout that summer, first renting an apartment off-campus and later on residing in the West Campus apartments.

DePasquale was amazed by the technological advances he found in the classroom, as well as the friendliness of his classmates. In comparing the changes he has seen since being a Villanova student in the late ’70s, he admitted that he found today’s students to be much more studious. Although the transition back to campus was difficult at first, DePasquale credits his return to the University with enhancing his knowledge of the technological world.

“I’ve definitely benefited from my time at Villanova and have learned a lot,” he said.

DePasquale completed his bachelor’s degree requirements in Interdisciplinary Studies in September 2006, with a general studies major. He debated whether to tell his parents right away or surprise them by graduating with Michael in May (he opted to join his son at Commencement). But he does not plan to end his journey on the road to higher education. He is taking courses in communication and intends to earn his master’s degree in strategic communication, and then teach. His story is an inspiration to the University community and proof that it is never too late to earn a degree.

The Gateway to Life Goals

For more information on Part-Time Studies, visit parttime.villanova.edu or call (610) 519-4300.

“I’ve definitely benefited from my time at Villanova and have learned a lot.”

—Thomas DePasquale ’06 A&S
Diebold Named Vice President for University Communication

The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, Villanova University president, appointed Ann E. Diebold to the newly created position of vice president for University Communication, effective December 18, 2006.

Among Diebold’s responsibilities will be to work closely with Father Donohue, Villanova’s Board of Trustees and members of the Villanova community to develop and implement an integrated communication plan. She will incorporate the Office of Communication and Public Affairs into the new structure, as well as the Creative Design department.

Father Donohue noted, “As we continue to grow and become more visible nationally as a leading University, it becomes increasingly important that we communicate in a strategic and cohesive way. Ann will coordinate Villanova’s communication efforts to ensure that the University and its mission are represented powerfully, positively and clearly.”

Diebold brings to Villanova more than 20 years of experience in strategic communications, including the areas of crisis communications, institutional image, public relations, marketing, branding and consulting. She comes to the University from Carnegie Hall in New York City, where she served for nearly six years as director of Public Affairs. She was responsible for strategic communications, short- and long-term public relations strategies, and internal communications.

For the previous 13 years, Diebold served as vice president of Communications at The Curtis Institute of Music, overseeing marketing, advertising, publications and public relations. Prior to her work in the arts, she was communications coordinator at Johnson & Higgins, then the world’s largest privately-owned insurance brokerage firm.

“Villanova University is a distinguished and vibrant organization with a great sense of forward momentum,” noted Diebold. “I am delighted and honored to join Father Donohue and the entire Villanova community in communicating the University's message to its ever-expanding constituencies. This new position combines the institutional depth of Carnegie Hall and the educational breadth of Curtis in a national and international arena. I began my career in education, and it is wonderful to come full circle.”

Diebold has consulted for nonprofit organizations on strategic planning and organizational improvement, in addition to working directly with institutional leaders on media relations and communications. She received an M.B.A. from Temple University and a bachelor’s degree in music education from Michigan State University.

Eyes on the Stars, Feet on the Ground Globally

BY TAIIAH MICHIDA ’08 A&S

When asked about the number of countries he has visited, Dr. Edward F. Guinan ’64 A&S, professor of astronomy and astrophysics at Villanova University, replied, “I don’t know, maybe 80 or 90?” From Mexico to Morocco, there is little of the planet still unknown to him.

Guinan started accumulating international experiences while conducting doctoral research in New Zealand. He followed that nine-month stay with a trip around the world, including stops in India, Russia and Malaysia. His journeys, he said, “changed me entirely. I was a very typical American, and then I was eating fried snakes and rats.”

Since then, Guinan has collected many more stamps in his passport. The countries he has visited include Brazil, Turkey, Vietnam, Cambodia, Pakistan and Japan. Involved in several academic projects, he serves as an advisor for the telescope being built for the National Iranian Observatory to promote international collaboration.

In August, he was in Prague, Czech Republic, as chair, speaker and organizer for a major symposium on binary stars at the International Astronomical Union (IAU) General Assembly. His presentations included “Astronomy in Iran” and “Astrophysics from the Moon.”

Among Guinan’s other projects is the International School for Young Astronomers (ISYA), partially sponsored by the IAU. He teaches at the ISYA and helps to organize it. While its classes and labs are only two and a half weeks, the school “is intensive and it changes the students’ lives quite often,” Guinan explained. ISYA makes it possible for students in many developing countries—including Iran, Romania, Morocco, Palestine and Cuba—to further their knowledge and network with internationally known astronomers. The 2005 ISYA was in Mexico and the next one, in 2007, will be hosted by Malaysia.

Traveling “gives you an appreciation of other cultures,” Guinan affirmed. “In every country I go to, I try to learn at least 30 or 40 words in the language.” To appreciate a culture’s way of life, he stays in small hotels, and instead of using taxis, “I try to figure out the [public transportation] system,” he said. In the future, he plans to visit Mongolia and Turkmenistan.

“In every country I go to, I try to learn at least 30 or 40 words in the language.”
—Dr. Edward F. Guinan ’64 A&S
Stimblers Donate Coins from Year of Villanova's Founding

By Andrew Sheehan '06 A&S

Paul T. Stimmler '62 VSB and his wife, Gale, have donated to Villanova University a complete set of coins minted in 1842, the year Villanova College was founded by the Augustinian community in Philadelphia.

Paul Stimmler, who majored in economics, retired in 2002 as vice president of Triumph Group, Inc., an aerospace firm in Wayne, Pa. He now is an adjunct professor of business logistics at Penn State University’s University College. The couple resides in Downingtown, Pa.

Convinced that his Villanova education played a major role in his corporate success, Stimmler decided to give back to the University. Upon discovering that his coin collection, inherited from his father, contained a silver dollar minted in Philadelphia in 1842, he decided to collect a full set of 1842 coins from the Philadelphia Mint. In September 2006, he presented this beautifully displayed set to the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president.

Father Donohue is pleased that the University will be able to display this collection as a reminder “to connect our present with our past.” The display also includes a hand-colored engraving of the Philadelphia Mint.

Gen. Zinni Urges a New Strategy for World Stability

By Irene Burgo


Zinni explained why the United States needs to create a plan for strategic guidance to develop greater stability in our country and abroad. Americans need to shape new policy that will promote U.S. interests in a world environment that must be more stable and peaceful. “You enter a new world and greater challenge than what I faced,” Zinni said.

Outspoken about his disapproval of U.S. policy toward Iraq, Zinni argued that national security policy is not addressing the roots of instability, and that could endanger American interests and lives. “America’s ill-conceived war with Iraq has put this nation at risk,” he said. “The nation is in a position it has never experienced before—the sole superpower in the world with less international influence and credibility than ever before.” He believes Americans can and should change the U.S. political climate by demanding and voting for changes in government and its structure.

“I don’t believe we will ever again see a world like the one we went through in the good times,” noted the retired general who served 40 years in the U.S. military. “The Second World War demonstrated the best of what we are about. The entire nation was mobilized, went to war proudly and later rebuilt the societies affected by the war. War, therefore, has become our metaphor for dealing with problems, especially terrorism—i.e., the war on terror. Terrorism is a tactic; you can’t make war on a tactic,” he admonished. “But what is it we’re fighting for? We can’t even define it.”

“Angry young men,” Zinni said, have become the platform that feeds the cause of Osama bin Laden. The challenge is to stop that anger. Zinni noted, “Take away the anger, and you destroy Osama bin Laden. Fighting on the ground, fighting tactically—he’s ready for that. But if you don’t ever cut off that flow of manpower—more importantly, the reason for that flow—you’re never going to prevail. If you’re never going to understand that the political, economic and social conditions that drive those angry young men, that make easy canon fodder for the radical form of Islam that bin Laden preaches, then you’re never going to effect change. That’s the thing we don’t get.” The faculty, staff and students in the audience had lots of questions for Zinni after his talk.

As commander in chief of the United States Central Command (CENTCOM) from 1997 to 2000, Zinni was responsible for U.S. forces in a 25-country region, including the Middle East. Overall, he has spent some 20 years in that region. He participated in numerous presidential diplomatic missions to Somalia, Pakistan and Ethiopia-Eritrea, among many other nations.

Following his retirement from the Marine Corps in September 2000, the Conshohocken, Pa., native continued to serve his country. Zinni was the U.S. peace envoy in the Middle East while serving as special advisor to then-Secretary of State Colin L. Powell. His experience also includes service as special envoy to the HD Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue in Geneva, Switzerland, and as negotiator for the Indonesian peace effort.

While on campus, Zinni also spoke to students in the Professional Development Program (see next story).
Pilot A&S Program Steers Freshmen Toward Success

BY IRENE BURGO

Liberal arts freshmen at Villanova University have a new way to learn how to succeed in business—any business—by trying. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (A&S) introduced a Professional Development Program during the 2006 Fall Semester to help freshmen cultivate their personal and professional skills for future careers.

More than 100 first-year students are enrolled in this pilot program, which offers an opportunity to explore the value of a liberal arts education as a foundation for whatever type of meaningful work they choose to do after graduation, according to Dr. Nancy Allen. She is the program director, director of advising and professional development for A&S, and adjunct professor of English.

“It’s important to understand the relationship between a liberal arts degree and getting a job and a profession in life,” Allen said. “The program assists our students with these issues. We are looking at students’ personal development as inseparable from their professional development.”

The program defines life as a journey in which the process of self-discovery and learning is interrelated and lifelong. The program’s faculty encourage students to ask meaningful questions about life and to establish a relationship between self-perception and thinking. “The liberal arts and sciences provide us with ways of thinking, asking questions and solving problems,” Allen said. “We want students to see the relationship among these disciplines, and how they prepare them to make decisions. The program encourages freshmen to see multiple possibilities for themselves and provides faculty and alumni role models who can articulate the value of the liberal arts in their personal and professional success.

Each group of 10 students met with a faculty member for two seminars last fall. This spring, participating faculty plus eight A&S alumni from a wide range of majors are describing how their undergraduate experience has had an impact on who they are today. A February 13 panel featured Dr. Amy Bentz ’93 A&S, Dr. Michael Casserly ’70 A&S and Suzanne Tavani ’80 A&S. On March 19, John Casey ’87 A&S, Rosa Gatti ’72 A&S, Candace Robertson ’98 A&S and Michael Saulino ’86 A&S will be panelists. On March 27, Pulitzer Prize winner Diana K. Sugg ’87 A&S will speak.

The program’s first guest speaker was retired Marine Gen. Anthony C. Zinni ’65 VSB. On October 25, 2006, he addressed what students can do with a Villanova education in a talk drawing from his new book, The Battle for Peace: A Frontline Vision of America’s Power and Purpose, co-authored with Tom Clancy and Tony Koltz. Zinni also focused on strategies for career goals and leadership advice, lessons learned from his distinguished military career.

Zinni encouraged the freshmen to know their minds, set goals and define themselves accordingly so they can live a life guided by values they cherish. He urged them to ask meaningful questions about life and explore the possibilities of learning as they progress with their undergraduate education and move forward to seek professional success.

“Gen. Zinni said what I want to say to every student,” Allen noted. “Your Villanova education is teaching you how to learn. It will not only prepare you for your first job but also for the many decisions you make professionally and personally throughout your life.”

In discussing leadership and the characteristics of good leaders, Zinni pointed out that “How we define ourselves, and who we really are, are important. When you graduate from Villanova, because of your education and because of what you have achieved, you will be in a position to enter a leadership position. As a leader, you will be challenged.”

As Zinni consults and speaks to businesses on leadership, he said he often is asked “what people want and expect from leaders.” He noted, “More than anything else, they expect to have a role model,” someone who is consistent in his or her values and beliefs. Today, people demand more from their leaders, and they will demand more from you. To compromise on values is to actually destroy the organization,” he said.

Zinni cautioned, “You will be challenged, and sometimes it will be difficult to make the right decision. Knowledge, technology and exposure to other options will contest your ethical and moral values.” The ultimate test is to remain true to yourself and your values, and who you are, he noted.

Allen also echoed a point Zinni made about rapidly advancing technology. “It doesn’t matter how good our technology is,” she said. “It’s only as good as we use it. You can Google anything, but what are you going to do with that information, how are you learning to process it and make decisions? I think that’s important for our students to understand.”

“Gen. Zinni said what I want to say to every student. Your Villanova education is teaching you how to learn.”

—Dr. Nancy Allen
Dr. Smeltzer Honored for Nursing Research on Women with Disabilities

BY KATHLEEN SCAVELLO

Dr. Suzanne C. Smeltzer, professor and director of the Center for Nursing Research at Villanova University’s College of Nursing, was honored November 1, 2006, at a luncheon in the St. David’s/Radnor Room of the Connelly Center. Smeltzer was presented with the University’s 2006 Outstanding Faculty Research Award. She is a noted authority on the health-care needs of women with disabilities, especially those with multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injuries and other physically disabling conditions. Among other topics, she has examined osteoporosis, pregnancy complications and reduced respiratory functioning secondary to disability.

In introducing her, Dr. Gerald M. Long, dean of Graduate Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, pointed to her national reputation as being so illustrious that it has made Smeltzer “practically a household name in the nursing field.”

Long added, “The members of the scholar’s selection committee were extremely impressed by the highly visible service efforts and how this reflects Suzanne’s position as a highly recognized leader in health-care research.”

The award presenter, Dr. John R. Johannes, vice president for Academic Affairs, noted that “You can’t be a good teacher without being a good scholar. Our best scholars are our best teachers.”

Smeltzer cautioned the audience that “Knowing about disabling conditions is not the same as living with a disability. If you add the presence of a disability to the gender inequality of health-care for women, the problem looms large.

“Women with disabilities encounter serious physical, structural and institutional barriers to receiving care, they have been refused care, and they often fail to receive primary health-care and preventive health screening,” she added.

The Nursing professor and her colleagues have their work cut out for them. “We are continuing to forge ahead. In fact, I think we have a lifetime of research ahead of us,” Smeltzer added.

In accepting the award, Smeltzer said “I am elated because it increases the visibility of the research of the College of Nursing faculty, particularly in the area of health issues of women with disabilities.”

During her decade at Villanova, Smeltzer has authored several chapters and written more than 25 peer-reviewed articles. She frequently presents nationally and internationally. Her most notable work is Brunner & Suddarth’s Textbook of Medical-Surgical Nursing (Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins). Her co-authors for the 11th edition, published in December 2006, are Brenda G. Bare, Janice L. Hinkle and Kerry Cheever. The textbook is, according to Long, “a classic in the field and is referred to by students and faculty alike simply as ‘Smeltzer.’”

Smeltzer serves on the boards of several professional journals and as an officer of several national and international nursing research societies. She also edits several top nursing journals and reviews grants for foundations and medical associations, as well as for the National Institutes of Disability and Rehabilitation Research. She consults frequently for entities such as the World Health Organization, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and New Jersey’s and North Carolina’s disability services. She has received substantial grants from Bristol-Myers Squibb, the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging and Inglis Foundation. She also authored an $870,000 training grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to Villanova’s Nurse Anesthesia Program.

Vigil Celebrates Breast Cancer Awareness

BY KELLY MIMNAUGH ‘08 A&S

Villanova University held its fourth annual Breast Cancer Awareness Prayer Vigil on October 24, 2006, on the Quad in front of Bartley Hall. The Center for Health and Wellness Education and Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority coordinated the event. The vigil celebrated the strength of breast cancer survivors, recognized those currently battling the disease or who have lost their lives to it, and also supported the search for a cure.

Facilities Management had lit up the Quad with pink bulbs to celebrate breast cancer awareness and to recognize the vigil. The gathering began and concluded with music by the Villanova Voices and the Villanova Singers. Stacy Andes from the health center offered welcoming remarks. Junior Kelly Hill, philanthropy coordinator for Kappa Kappa Gamma, spoke about the importance of recognizing the survivors and victims.

Barbara K. Clement, assistant vice president of Communication and Public Affairs, reflected upon her own struggle with the disease. Clement encouraged the audience to support the search for a cure and communicated the reality of surviving breast cancer.

Junior Nathaniel Brower performed J.S. Bach’s Allemande Cello Suite No. 1. Maeve Hickey, a junior and member of the sorority, gave the final reflection, sharing her aunt’s experience surviving breast cancer. The vigil concluded with a reading by Joyce Minogue of the health center.

Hill stated that the vigil “is very important to women because it not only gives us the opportunity to honor the courageous women who have both lost and won their battle, but it also gives us inspiration to know how wonderful we each are, what we have to offer the world, and to take care of ourselves.”

Junior Kelly Hill, Kappa Kappa Gamma’s philanthropy coordinator, spoke at the October 2006 candlelight vigil about the importance of breast cancer awareness, a cause the sorority supports.
The address of Cardinal Avery Dulles, S.J., at the School of Law’s Scarpa Conference last September focused on the duality of Church and state.

The Villanova University School of Law hosted its first annual Scarpa Conference on September 15, 2006, in the Connelly Center. The keynote speaker was Cardinal Avery Dulles, S.J., the Laurence J. McGinley Professor of Religion and Society at Fordham University. Cardinal Dulles is an internationally known author of more than 22 books and 750 articles. Pope John Paul II received him into the Sacred College of Cardinals in 2001; he was the first American-born theologian who is not a bishop to receive this honor.

Cardinal Dulles’ lecture, titled “The Church’s Indirect Mission to the Sociopolitical Order,” was in response to Pope Benedict XVI’s call for the re-evangelization of law, politics and culture.

“Pope Benedict recognizes the need for a dualism between the Church and the state under Christ’s command to ‘give to Caesar’s what is Caesar’s,’” Cardinal Dulles said. “Religion can only be itself through the separation of Church and state; without the separation, freedom is impaired.” He also discussed how important it is for the Church and the state to recognize and complement one another. It is impossible for them to have perfectly separate spheres of responsibility, he noted, as there are ambiguous areas that perhaps concern both spheres, and collaboration is required. Society should therefore not make it difficult for religious institutions to function, as it does in many secular states.

“The conference was a great success on all fronts, but especially in terms of its contribution to Villanova Law’s Catholic mission,” noted Patrick McKinley Brennan, J.D., professor of law who holds the John F. Scarpa Chair in Catholic Legal Studies. “Another distinguished Catholic, Justice Antonin Scalia of the U.S. Supreme Court, will deliver the keynote address at the second Scarpa Conference. These are exciting times for those who care about Villanova’s being a place where the Church does her thinking.”

Junior Megan Quigley explains her summer chemistry research project to Dr. Brian K. Ohta, assistant professor.

Posters Highlight Students’ Chemistry Research

By Kelly Mimnaugh ’08 A&S

Many chemistry majors at Villanova University choose to spend their summer researching a topic of their choice on campus with a professor. On October 3, 2006, the chemistry department held an undergraduate poster session in the Mendel Science Center to give these majors a chance to present their findings.

Most of the program’s participants were sophomores or juniors; they received a salary as well as housing during the summer. Their projects enabled them to experience various research methods while gaining valuable insight into possible careers.

Their 15 posters ranged from “Organic Pollutant Reactivity in Arctic Sediments” to the “Synthesis of Gold Nanorods and Iron Oxide Nanoparticles.”

Megan Quigley, a junior, collaborated with Dr. Eduard G. Casillas, associate professor, on synthesizing prehelminthosporol. “It was really nice to work here over the summer,” Quigley said, “It gives the students a chance to work with their peers and build relationships with their professors.”

Dr. Brian K. Ohta, assistant professor, commended the department for offering these research opportunities. “The program works to develop mentor and student relationships and allows students to gain knowledge through experience,” he said.
The “Girls” Who Blazed Trails from a Madhouse and a Murder Trial

By Kathleen Scavello

“Front-page girls,” the pioneering journalists who revolutionized the field for women at the turn of the 20th century, were gutsy ladies. More than 100 years before “reality TV” captivated the nation, these now-forgotten newspaperwomen changed the face of journalism by not being “afraid of becoming the news themselves.” That was the focus of a talk given by Dr. Jean Marie Lutes, an assistant professor of English at Villanova University, based on her new book, Front-Page Girls: Women Journalists in American Culture and Fiction, 1880-1930 (2006, Cornell University Press). She spoke to a lunchtime crowd on November 8, 2006, at Falvey Memorial Library.

Drawing from her book, Lutes, a former general assignment reporter with the Miami Herald, chronicled the spectacular careers of two particularly colorful female journalists: Nellie Bly and Elizabeth Garver Jordan.

Bly burst onto the New York newspaper scene in 1887 by proposing to the editor of the daily New York World that he hire her to travel to Europe and return in steerage to submit a first-person account of the immigrant experience. The editor rejected that idea. Instead he asked Bly to create an intimate portrait of the conditions inside New York’s notorious Blackwell’s Island insane asylum by portraying herself as mentally unstable so convincingly that she would be committed. Bly did so “with no real guarantee she could get out,” Lutes said. The intrepid reporter’s undercover work resulted in a series headlined, “Ten Days In A Madhouse,” which not only launched Bly’s career in “stunt journalism” but spawned a wave of imitators.

Bly went on to report and write experimental journalistic pieces exposing important social issues like the woefully inadequate health-care “system” of the day and the bleak working conditions of factory laborers. Jordan preferred a hard news beat and became well-known for her sympathetic coverage of the trial of accused ax murderess Lizzie Borden. Her reporting was credited with saving Borden from execution. Jordan went on to become the assistant Sunday editor of the New York World newspaper, an editor of Harper’s Bazaar magazine, a prolific author and a suffragist.

Trailblazing women journalists like Bly and Jordan were almost as much the story as the story itself, Lutes said. Their physical attractiveness was important to both their editors and readers.

“The fact that they were called ‘front-page girls’ itself is an indication of the ‘girlie’ image their editors cultivated,” Lutes said. Most were young women in their 20s to about age 40; “the smaller and cuter the better,” Lutes explained. They tended to be white, respectable middle-class women who were educated (usually through private schools) and exuded an aura of sexual purity, according to Lutes.

Unlike the stories by their male counterparts, the articles written by the “front-page girls” were accompanied by photos and bylines. Although largely ignored by literary historians, their work reshaped journalism and literary culture.

The “front-page girls” broke the barrier for women seeking a career of substance, Lutes said. “They forged new models of the woman writer that were influential in the early 20th century and are still influential today,” added Lutes, whose book examines fictional women journalists as well. Several reporters, including Willa Cather, Edna Ferber and Djuna Barnes, became important novelists. Her book also includes a chapter on “The African-American Newswoman as National Icon.”

The legacy of the reporter/heroine has been kept alive in movies such as “His Girl Friday,” the “Bridget Jones’s Diary” series and the long-running HBO series “Sex in the City,” Lutes noted.

Having aspired to be a newspaper reporter from the age of 17, Lutes said her love of journalism made the subject of her book a natural choice. “The stories I told as a reporter stick with me because I was one of the first people to tell them to other people,” she commented. “Journalists are in the frontline of story-telling. I believe as a scholar the stories we tell make us who we are,” Lutes observed.

“Journalists may not tell the most powerful stories, they may not tell the best stories, but they tell stories first and they tell them the most often,” Lutes added. “The stories journalists produce surround us, help to define what we see in our world and what we pay attention to.”

Lutes retains her fascination with newspapers and the newsroom’s energy, spontaneity and camaraderie. “One of the things I especially miss about journalism is the unique access, as writers, journalists have to the bizarre and the unusual,” she admitted. “Reporters get to look at things, ask questions, even do things that other kinds of people don’t get to do.”

New Look for the President’s Office

By Kelly Mimnaugh ’08 A&S

Last fall, Villanova University remodeled the Office of the President in Tolentine Hall. The president’s dining room was removed to make space for additional staff, and the office was opened up to provide more daylight.

Agoos-Lovera, the architectural firm chosen for the project, is well-known in the area for its creative portfolios. John Cacciola ’93 C.E., director of engineering at Villanova’s Facilities Management, noted that the firm put together a “very impressive plan” to remodel the office of the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president. Cacciola added that the remodeling will make the office “more lively and efficient while maintaining a presidential feel.”

“Journalists are in the frontline of story-telling. I believe as a scholar the stories we tell make us who we are.”
—Dr. Jean Marie Lutes
Paralegal Graduates Gather for Awards Dinner

BY ANDREW SHEEHAN '06 A&S

Villanova University’s Office of Continuing Studies hosted its Paralegal Education Program graduation dinner at the Radnor Hotel on September 14, 2006, to celebrate the 2005-06 graduating class. The graduates had completed either a yearlong part-time evening program or a 14-week full-time day program.

The Excellence Award, for receiving straight A grades, was given to Jennifer Besa, Kristin Coughlin, Vincent Evangelisti, Gailynne Ferguson, Elaine Harris, Irene Lander, Colleen Loftus, Paula Masucci, Karen Neely, Claire Roth, Jennifer Schneller and Jessica Umstead. Besa and Lander also received the Award for Outstanding Scholastic Achievement in Legal Writing, as did Lynn Wagner and Gus Widmann.

At a reception, graduates mingled with fellow students and staff to discuss their plans for the future. Dr. Samuel DiLullo, coordinator of the paralegal program and an assistant professor in the Villanova Business School, in his welcoming remarks congratulated the graduates on completing one of the region’s most difficult paralegal programs. The event also was held “to thank the people involved who made this happen,” he said. DiLullo specifically mentioned faculty and staff and the graduates’ family members and significant others.

Mary Bustamante, director of Continuing Studies, gave the invocation, which was followed by a four-course dinner and presentation of the certificates. The event concluded with closing words from DiLullo, followed by a photo session.

For more information on the Paralegal Certificate Program, which is approved by the American Bar Association, visit www3.villanova.edu/continuingstudies/paralegal/index.html or call (610) 519-4310.

Constitution Day Forum Draws Audience into the Issues

BY TAINAH MICHLDA '08 A&S

“O”ur purpose is not to promote a scholarly discussion—it is to engage you in conversation,” explained Dr. Robert W. Langran in his opening remarks to students and faculty at Villanova University’s second Constitution Day Forum. It took place in the Connelly Center Cinema on September 18, 2006, and was organized by the department of political science and the Core Humanities Program. Langran, the forum’s moderator, is a professor of political science.

Praising the First Amendment, Langran stated that “It is the bedrock of a democratic government.” Among the Constitution’s other features he praised were the right to propose amendments and the right to habeas corpus enjoyed by every U.S. citizen.

Three other faculty members each had five minutes to share their views on significant features of the Constitution and to suggest possible reforms.

Dr. Colleen A. Sheehan, associate professor of political science, discussed the significance of the Preamble, “a declaration of the principle of popular sovereignty,” she explained. “It is based on the idea that human beings are all created equal.” In critiquing judicial review, she proposed the creation of a council of revision composed of members of the judicial and executive branches.

Dr. Catherine Wilson, a Lawrence C. Gallen Teaching Fellow in Core Humanities, called for an improved definition of the American citizen. She cited social movements such as the struggle for equality by two groups of political outsiders—African Americans and women. The question of who is a citizen “is fundamental to every society,” Wilson affirmed. She called attention to the question’s contemporaneity, reminding the audience of the ongoing debate over immigration policies. “This is a nation of immigrants and laws,” she stated.

Dr. Peter Busch, also a Gallen Fellow, cited the freedom of religion provided by the Constitution as both a “great danger” to the country and a beneficial contributor to society. One danger, Busch suggested, was that in the absence of an official religion, people could neglect spiritual matters. “What effect does this have on our souls?” he questioned. “We need an education that is more than just technical,” he said. “There are lessons to be learned from a Catholic or religious way of life.” Busch also mentioned, however, that this absence of an established religion “allows for the existence of various groups—no one faction ever gets the upper hand.”

The audience, invited to participate in the discussion, raised issues such as privacy and the validity of rights not guaranteed in the Constitution.
For nearly 16 years, Jonathan Dorn has been gracing the Villanova University community with his talents as a chef for Dining Services. The hundreds of students he serves every day know him for the creative touch he adds to their daily options and for his ardent determination to complement the menu with innovative fusions.

Most people, however, do not know that Dorn toured the world as a tuba player before coming to Villanova. His long and impressive musical career included time with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Broadway shows, Leon Redbone and appearances on NBC-TV’s “Saturday Night Live.” His career is undeniably remarkable and a source of inspiration for many musicians.

Dorn encountered the tuba for the first time in junior high after years of experimenting with different instruments. He described the instant attraction: “It just worked. I just knew this was the instrument I was meant to play. It clicked.” At age 13, he began to study tuba under Abe Torchinsky, who immediately recognized the youngster’s talent. From 1949 to 1972, Torchinsky played with the Philadelphia Orchestra, rising to principal tubist; he has written the standard study books for orchestral tuba players worldwide. Through Torchinsky, Dorn at age 18 became involved with the orchestra. In the late 1970s Dorn began substituting for the new tuba player, an experience he qualifies as “scary, but awesome.” He explained, “There was no rehearsal. I just had to go in there and do it. It was a real challenge.”

Although Dorn enjoyed playing with the Philadelphia Orchestra, he wanted to remain a freelance musician. His desire to make his career diverse and ever-changing exposed him to a world of ample opportunity. He has played in the orchestras of numerous Broadway productions, including Annie, The Sound of Music, Stop the World—I Want to Get Off and My Fair Lady. The long list of those with whom Dorn has played and recorded includes Peter Allen, Bette Midler, Roberta Flack, The Spinners, The O’Jays, Jerry Butler, Bonnie Raitt, former President Bill Clinton and Pope John Paul II. He also has performed on countless jingles over the years for General Motors, Piggly Wiggly markets, Coca-Cola, Nabisco, Levi Jeans and Schlitz beer.

Dorn appeared on “Saturday Night Live” twice in 1976, once in 1977 and once in 1982, where he complemented the classic cast of John Belushi, Gilda Radner, Chevy Chase and Bill Murray.

In 1974, Dorn met Leon Redbone while recording on his first album. After completing On the Track, the jazz and blues singer asked Dorn to accompany him on a two-man tour. Dorn explained, “I had the opportunity to do what I loved: Play music and see the world for free.” They toured across America, as well as Canada, London, Germany, France, Switzerland, Denmark, Holland, Australia and New Zealand.

In discussing his world travels, Dorn recalled one of his most memorable experiences as a musician: “I was on my first European tour with Redbone. We were in Germany at this beautiful stadium. Redbone began the concert by himself, and I joined him a little later on. When I walked onto the stage with my tuba, I received a standing ovation. We could not
NROTC Freshmen Pass Muster at Fall Review

By Kathleen Scavello

October 3, 2006, was a big day for 24 NROTC officer candidates at Villanova University. During Fall Review, they took to Mendel Field to parade drill before an admiring audience of parents, friends, faculty and distinguished military guests. Following administration of the military oath, the future officers were inducted into the ranks of 4th class midshipmen and assigned to companies Alpha, Bravo, Charlie or Whiskey. “It’s a proud moment for them,” said Navy Lt. Robert Hutchison, NROTC freshman advisor. “It’s the first time they get to wear their uniforms in public.”

Their induction followed five weeks of dedicated and rigorous drill, physical and military training, swim qualification and company runs. As members of the India Company, the freshmen had trained four mornings a week before classes. Their training will be on-going throughout their time at Villanova.

Navy Rear Adm. John J. Prendergast III spoke at the ceremony. His son, John, is a senior in Villanova’s NROTC. Prendergast is deputy chief of staff for logistics, fleet supply and ordnance for the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

The full NROTC battalion (all classes) consists of 120 Navy and Marine Corps volunteers. Marine Col. Glenn L. Wagner is the commanding officer.

Try This IQ Test: Imagine You Just Had Triplets

By Tainah Michida ’08 A&S

At the Bala Cynwyd Middle School, more than 60 parents, teachers and guests turned out to hear Dr. Edward G. Fierros on September 25, 2006. The Lower Merion School District Committee on Special Education invited him to speak on the theory of multiple intelligences and its application to young students with special needs. An assistant professor of education and human services at Villanova University, Fierros is a co-author of Multiple Intelligences: Best Ideas from Theory and Practice (2003, Allyn & Bacon).

The theory of multiple intelligences, based on the work of a Harvard psychologist, Dr. Howard Gardner, suggests there are at least eight ways in which people can understand the world: linguistic, musical, logical-mathematical, spatial, bodily-kinesthetic, interpersonal, intrapersonal (emotions) and naturalist intelligences. While individuals may possess all eight, each has particular strengths, according to Gardner, who is the John H. and Elisabeth A. Hobbs Professor of Cognition and Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

After an introduction by Pam Grossman, the committee’s president, Fierros began by exploring current definitions of intelligence—from mental capacity to the measures such as college entrance exams used for placement. Each definition, however, referred solely to general intelligence.

Fierros then involved the audience in an interactive activity, “The House Problem.” In groups of three, they had to consider the question: “What would you do if you learned you, your spouse and your child were blessed with triplets after making a substantial down payment on the house of your dreams?”

After lively discussions, each group summarized its solution on large sheets displayed on the walls. Their ideas ranged from a relaxed “Just go for it” to a practical “The triplets would share a room that was going to be the den.”

Fierros then asked them to reflect on this question: “Do IQ tests and the SAT help prepare you to solve problems like this?” Replied one audience member: “Standardization is an enemy to understanding.” Another commented that “I think we have become obsessed with tests.”

Fierros said the multiple intelligences theory not only provides a different vocabulary for teachers but validates what they already know and do. Following his talk, the audience engaged in an animated exchange on standardized tests and how well schools are serving students with special needs.
Gouverneur Morris: 
Author, Statesman, and Man of the World

By Dr. James J. Kirschke

THOMAS DUNNE BOOKS, ST. MARTIN’S PRESS
400 PP., HARDCOVER
$40.00

The giants who led the American war for independence and later created our system of government—men like George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton—frequently stood on the shoulders of less remembered but very important statesmen. These individuals negotiated treaties, corresponded for and in many ways acted for the great leaders, attended the Continental Congress and hammered out what would become the Constitution of the United States.

One of those statesmen was a New Yorker named Gouverneur Morris. The biography of that same name by Dr. James J. Kirschke, professor of English at Villanova University, describes in detail his contributions. They are overwhelmingly positive—to the war efforts of Washington, the nation’s early diplomacy and the writing of the U.S. Constitution.

Morris was born in 1752 on his family’s estate, which became the Morrisania neighborhood in the South Bronx. He is buried nearby in the graveyard of the church his son built, St. Ann’s Episcopal. He was educated at Franklin’s Philadelphia Academy and at King’s College (now Columbia University), and earned a license to practice law before his 20th birthday.

On May 24, 1776, several weeks before the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Morris in a New York speech called for independence from Great Britain. He later collaborated with Robert Livingston and John Jay to draft the first New York state constitution. He was a delegate to the Continental Congress. His admiration of Washington was boundless, and the general returned the favor by opening many doors for him in Europe. Morris served in both France and England, although not without controversy. In revolutionary France, where he succeeded Jefferson as minister, he was a known monarchist and actually hatched a plan to free Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette from their captors.

According to Kirschke, Morris made his greatest contribution as a drafter of the U.S. Constitution. Kirschke also credits him with “substantial” influence on the articles of impeachment, on the apportioning of members of Congress and on federal taxes. Morris staunchly supported a strong central government.

Morris also had a pragmatic streak. As Kirschke writes, “He generally seems to have been quick to understand which goals were attainable, which not, and to have accepted these positions realistically.” For example, in 1800, Morris supported Aaron Burr for president, but then welcomed the victor, Jefferson, his comrade from France. Yet Morris maintained his friendship with Burr. Notably, Morris did not relinquish his principles. He was always opposed to slavery.

A highly intelligent and charming, if somewhat elitist, personality emerges. A bachelor until the age of 56, Morris had an eye for the ladies. A severely damaged arm (the result of a terrible burn as a child) and the loss of a leg in a carriage accident at age 28 seem not to have cramped his style or limited his social life. Although an enthusiastic diarist like Samuel Pepys, he was a more discreet one about his amours, according to Kirschke. Theodore Roosevelt would later note Morris’ “amusing, light and humorous touch” as a correspondent.

Educated to be a statesman, Morris more than fulfilled his destiny. He also was a skilled moneymaker, legislator and diplomat, even allowing for that plot to rescue the French royals. Kirschke likens Morris to Adlai Stevenson, who helped launch the United Nations and was a lawyer, writer, politician, letter writer and wit. And a ladies’ man.

Morris died in 1816 at his beloved Morrisania, in the same room in which he had been born. He left a young widow (a kinswoman of Jefferson's) and a 6-year-old son named Gouverneur Junior.

Kirschke has done a great service to Morris, who is often overlooked by today's historians, jurists and legislators. He also has done a great service to American history students by putting flesh and bones and character on a name that might just have stood out for its uniqueness. One would hope that Kirschke would provide insights into the lives and contributions of more of the Founding Fathers who, like Morris, deserve the professor's fine attention to history and his engaging writing style.

Reviewed by Maureen McKew

Walden

By Michael T. Dolan '99 A&S

CONVERSARI HOUSE

136 PAGES, PAPERBACK

$10.95

In his first novel, Michael T. Dolan ’99 A&S skillfully illustrates a college experience marked with personal conflict. Walden XVI, Dolan’s protagonist, is a freshman haunted by 18 years of identity crisis. He is the product of a distinguished American family that founded the university, appropriately named Walden, in which he is enrolled. He has spent the greater part of his young life suffering from the pressure to conform to his family’s high expectations while searching for his own unique identity. His personal journey throughout the novel is reflective of his name, which was inspired by Henry David Thoreau’s Walden.

Through a series of adventures common to the first-year college experience, Dolan relates a darkly poignant coming-of-age story. The reader quickly becomes a companion to Walden as he relates his experience with his first roommate, Toby, whom Walden believes is incapable of any distinctive qualities. Walden goes on to describe Brooke, his first real love interest and a source of relief for his overcontemplative tendencies. Walden’s twisted journey toward some sort of self-definition is accompanied by the presence of mocking fraternity brothers, skipped classes, alcohol, assignment deadlines and a powerful defiance of authority. He consistently attempts to escape his family’s
overwhelming presence, but finds this to be more difficult than anticipated.

Dolan uses illustrations of the subconscious, the college culture and metaphorical symbolism to create a work that reaches beyond the stereotypical portrayal of campus life. Not only will college students identify with Walden, but readers of all ages will, too, as it communicates the universal struggle toward “the individual.” The ending forces every reader to consider individuality from a new angle. As Walden so knowingly states, borrowing from Thoreau, “A life so devoid of the distinctive characteristics of the individual is not worth living.” Dolan has created an ideal read for a diverse audience connected by this common search.

Dolan, who majored in English at Villanova University, was born and raised in the suburbs of Philadelphia. He is the director of communications for the Augustinians of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova. His novel was published by a new small press in West Chester, Pa., where he resides with his wife and their two children. In our interview about his first novel, Dolan said, “I had a blast writing it; now it’s just a matter of getting it out there.” While working to publicize Walden, he is writing his second novel, as well as a screenplay.

—Reviewed by Kelly Mimnaugh ’08 A&S

Gridiron Grit
By Doug Scancarella ’90 A&S
iUniverse
148 pages HARDCOVER
$11.95 PAPERBACK,
$21.95 HARDCOVER
(Also available from
ONLINE BOOKSELLERS AND
WAYNE.SPORTS.COM)

Even assuming your child is a sports fan, getting into a conversation about sports ethics is a rarity at best. That is unfortunate when we consider that the innocent heart of a child is sometimes the best of moral arbiters. We’re familiar with today’s “grown-up” conversations about Pete Rose and the Baseball Hall of Fame, as well as who is and who isn’t using performance-enhancing drugs.

With such topics, the question we dance around is what sports are used for. Some say winning is everything, that getting ahead is what matters. There is both wisdom and folly in this assessment. A team might succeed on paper, but in real life it just might be something less than a success.

Gridiron Grit is a story about a fictional town with two high school football teams that approach the question together. It is sports fiction for young adults, by Doug Scancarella ’90 A&S, who majored in communication at Villanova University. He was a sports writer for many years, including 13 at The New York Times.

He lives in his hometown of Wayne, N.J., and works for the corporate communications department at Toys “R” Us.

The rivalry of Mountainside’s two public high schools persists despite being in different divisions. It is especially heated because while East High has a tradition of consistent success, it is West High that seems to win all the trophies. This disparity is caused by the practice of redshirting—holding prospective athletes back a year in grammar school to give them a physical advantage in high school. Ostensibly, this is done for the child’s social or academic progress, but the real motivation is clear in the eyes of East High’s football coach, who soon has had enough. He begins raising discussion on the issue and challenging the practice, which is technically not against any school guidelines or town laws.

Soon the entire community is involved in the debate, and in the end, the battle is taken to the field in the championship game.

The novel’s conclusion is a coming together of people who are reminded, after the final whistle, of what sports really is about.

It is a story of deep moral implications, but Scancarella is conscious of his audience and does not dwell too much on the debate, focusing instead on the thoughts and feelings of the young athletes who are thrown into the limelight by the controversy.

For a parent or a young athlete looking for an honest but not-so-heavy examination of sports ethics, Gridiron Grit is a solid player and a worthy first novel.

—Reviewed by Oscar Abello ’08 A&S
Alumni Donate Time to Build Habitat Homes in Louisiana

BY ELISE MCINTOSH ’01 A&S

In August 2005, Hurricane Katrina obliterated many seaside towns in the South and claimed more than 1,800 lives. Rebuilding New Orleans, which suffered severe damage when its levee system failed, continues to be long and arduous. Neighborhoods have been abandoned, businesses have yet to reopen, and debris and wreckage from stores and dwellings still line the streets. For those who survived, the physical, emotional and economic wounds are still raw but healing.

From October 4-8, 2006, our group of 26 volunteers took part in the Villanova University Alumni Association’s first service trip to Slidell, La., the home base of our Habitat for Humanity project. The trip was co-sponsored by Villanova’s Campus Ministry. We came prepared to live in the close quarters of a church center, for long days that started at 6 a.m. and for strenuous labor that left muscles aching. However, no matter how much we had mentally equipped ourselves, we were not ready to witness just how vast the devastation had been.

On the 45-minute journey from the airport to Slidell, just northeast of New Orleans, we were left speechless, studying the untouched evidence of Katrina’s annihilation. At the East St. Tammany Habitat for Humanity work sites, we hammer ed and nailed alongside local residents, and received an in-depth look into their dark tales. We heard stories of lost friends and neighbors, how their homes were destroyed and all personal belongings, family heirlooms and photographs ruined. We also saw beyond the physical destruction of the city’s collapse and into its lingering economic despair. In the relatively intact French Quarter, managers stood on the sidewalks, kindly pleading to come inside and eat at their restaurants. Many of their former competitors have shuttered their doors for good, due to the shortage of patrons as well as of employees who had lost all hope and decided to rebuild their lives elsewhere.

As Diane Connelly Liga ’91 VSB wrote, it was disheartening to see just “how easy it was to seat our whole group of 20-25 people together when we went out to dinner, because the crowds just haven’t returned.” In gift shops, “Rebuild Restore Renew Orleans” T-shirts hinted at just how much more work would be required for the tourist district to return to its former glory.

Despite all the sorrow, hardship and chaos that came with Katrina, something beautiful and radiant glowed after the waters receded: The bright spirits of the local people. The future owners of these Habitat homes told us how they have been living in tiny FEMA trailers for nearly a year, some with infants and small children. Many complained about how slow-going and frustrating the restoration process has been. Residents who had lost everything arrived at the worksites with beaming smiles and a contagious positive energy that rejuvenated us when the hot Sun and intense labor bore us down.

“No one was ever bitter or had a ‘poor us’ attitude,” said Barbara Murray ’80 VSB, inspired by the local people we met. “There was almost a calming, brotherhood sort of feeling among all the people of New Orleans.” Murray also was touched that the residents “kept not only their spirit but their dignity and resourcefulness—they were an example to us all.”

Daniel Chelel ’02 VSB echoed Murray’s sentiments: “These are the people that were affected most by Katrina, but certainly their spirit

...a positive experience for all who attended, and I believe Villanova as a community is stronger for it. What a great way to show our values and breadth and spread the Villanova community to areas of the country where we might not have a strong local chapter or community presence.”

—Sarah Marchal ’98 A&S

Bill Finnegan ’62 A&S, Math., a retired FedEx pilot, in August 2006 celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination as permanent deacon in Holy Cross Parish in Anchorage, Ala. 2003. With the help of John Roup ’64 A&S, Geology and Paul Scannell ’67 VSB, Eco., the company has quickly become a leading contractor serving process engineering and energy industries. Varello’s dream of a company-owned, privately financed organization has become a very successful reality.

Marguerite K. Schlag, Ed.D., ’68 Nur. was elected president of the Eastern Division (New York and New Jersey) board of the American Cancer Society. Dr. Schlag is assistant dean and director of the Graduate Nursing Program at Villanova University. John J. Szajna ’69 A&S, Pol. Sci., ’76 J.D. is president of the Chambersburg Pa., engineering firm of Zeiders & Szajna, Inc., which specializes in civil, structural and environmental engineering, as well as municipal planning and consulting.

Dr. Regina Miecznikosk Phillips ’76 Nur. in August 2006 received her doctorate in community and public health from the University of Maryland.

Daniel P. McElhatton, Esq., ’71 A&S, Pol. Sci., a shareholder with the law firm of Christie, Pabarue Mortensen and Young, P.C., was elected chairman of the board of the Community College of Philadelphia.

“...a positive experience for all who attended, and I believe Villanova as a community is stronger for it. What a great way to show our values and breadth and spread the Villanova community to areas of the country where we might not have a strong local chapter or community presence.”

—Sarah Marchal ’98 A&S
was not affected.” Greta Kropp ‘02 A&S was deeply moved as well “by this terrible tragedy.” She wrote, “These people have nothing left, but yet they still maintain that they are blessed.” Kropp wondered, “How is it possible that these people are able to reach down somewhere deep inside their souls to find the courage and the strength to carry on despite all the adversity?” But, as they certainly showed us, they do.

Though many of us were novices with hammers and power tools, Habitat leaders like Caitlin Scanlan, Craig McDowell, David “Rock” Lastras and Marc Finch, as well as several AmeriCorps leaders, patiently guided us. They never became frustrated with the crookedness of the first wood we’d cut or the nails we’d driven.

Perhaps most remarkable was the warm welcome and the steady flow of “thank yous” we received from Louisiana citizens. The display of thankfulness by future homeowners Stella Brule touched us all. Working the graveyard shift at Walgreens’ cashier, her daughter Hillary Butzin; Daniel Chelie ‘02 VSB, Mkt.; Christine Cruz ‘97 E.E.; Betty Siak ‘91 VSB, Bus. Adm.; Jill Jacoby ‘95 A&S, Engl.; Marisa Kascak ‘01 A&S, Psy.; Greta Kropp ‘02 A&S, Comm.; Amy Layman ‘05 G.S., Pub. Adm.; Connie Layman, friend; Diane Connellyliga ‘91 VSB, Mkt.; Steve Liga ‘91 A&S, Engl.; Sarah Malinowski ‘01 A&S, Engl.; Sarah Marchal ‘98 A&S, Engl.; Elise McIntosh ‘01 A&S, Engl.; Shannon Mitchell ‘92 A&S, Engl.; Barbara Murray ‘80 VSB, Mkt.; Stephen Murray ‘97 VSB, Mkt.; Eric Nowicki ‘97 VSB, Acct.; Peter Ongena ‘94 VSB, Fin.; Laura Savino ‘94 A&S, Comm.; Mark Sebastian ‘01 VSB, Fin.; Aldo Vultaggio ‘03 Comp. Eng.; Julia White ‘06 A&S, Math./Hon.; and Coleen Harrington Wood ‘84 Nur. Italy hosted us at a Saturday night spaghetti dinner. This dinner was the first event held at their lodge since the storm. We were invited by lodge member Vincent Romano ‘56

We also welcomed the 20 Villanova students who arrived that day to donate a week of service to Habitat. All of these special guests made the festive dinner even more memorable.

That night, as we sang the “Alma Mater” while wearing our “Nova Nation” T-shirts, we all felt an amazing connection, tremendously proud that we are a part of the Villanova community as well as able to help in some small way the wonderful residents of Slidell, who are role models to us all. Many of us were strangers prior to the trip, but we were bonded by the spirit of service that was instilled in us during our years at Villanova. Despite their personal and financial losses, the residents remained united, not just because they share the same heartbreak, but also because they understand the values of teamwork and a positive attitude. They are lessons so simple, yet are those that most of us fail to practice in our daily lives. Though we may have helped their community with our small efforts to build new homes, on a much grander scale, the people of Slidell touched our hearts and our souls.

Elise McIntosh ‘01 A&S is an editor for the Staten Island Advance.

Volunteer help is still very much needed in the New Orleans area.

To learn more visit www.habitat.org.
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the internationally recognized soprano Janellene Farmer.

### Class of 1987: 20th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

Dr. Eric Weislogel '87 G.S., Phil. is the new executive director of Metaxenus Institute in Philadelphia. He has been with the Institute for five years and will pursue new ideas in scientific research, education and outreach. The Institute’s mission includes establishing a dialogue between science and religion.

Ian Williams ’87 M.E., ’06 M.B.A. in October 2006 became operations manager for the Philadelphia Division of Sunoco, Inc.

Charles Callanan ’89 A&S, Comm. and Neil Callanan ’98 VSB, Mkt. worked together to restructure their long-held family veterinary practices in Brighton and Somerville, Mass. In 2004, the brothers completed a 1.5 million facility in Rhode Island and will launch a 20,000 square-foot facility in Waltham, Mass.

### 1990s

Trey Faulk Roberts ’91 A&S, Hist. is an upstream issues advisor at Exxon Mobil Corp. in Houston. She had been the senior public affairs advisor at the company’s petrochemical facility in Baytown, Texas. She and her husband, Dave, reside in League City.

Kevin C. Heil, Esq., ’91 A&S, Pol. Sci., a history and English teacher at Gloucester (NJ)’s Catholic High School, was accepted into the four-year decoaration program for the Diocese of Camden.

Frances R. Wood ’91 G.S., Couns./Hum. Rel. was appointed assistant superintendent for the Highland Park, NJ, school district.

### Class of 1992: 15th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

Leslie Chelko Staab ’92 VSB, Bus. Adm. is director of music at St. Joseph’s Church in Spring City, Pa.

Greg Giza ’92 VSB, Mkt. was promoted to field sales trainer (for new salespeople selling medical devices) at Ethicon Endo-Surgery in Northfield, Minn.

Kimberly A. Douglass ’94 VSB, Mkt. follows five years in the White House Management Office, most recently as director, with her appointment in September 2006 as deputy chief of staff for the Office of the Administrator, U.S. General Services Administration, in Washington, D.C. At the White House, she oversaw the staff’s daily operations and logistical support operations.

Thomas Hallinan ’94 A&S, Gen. is a special agent with the FBI, currently assigned to New York City.

Michael Portas ’94 A&S, Eng. is an English teacher at Northern Highlands Regional High School in Allendale, NJ. He holds two master’s degrees in English, from Rutgers University-Newark and Teachers College, Columbia University.

Tanya Rusynko Bosco ’94 A&S, Eng. was promoted to vice president of client services for IDE Corp., an educational consulting firm in northern New Jersey. She is earning an M.B.A. at New York Institute of Technology.


Joseph Gentile ’96 A&S, Comp. Sci, is manager of the online store at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

### Class of 1997: 10th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007


James J. O’Connor, Esq., ’98 A&S, Comm. joined the Philadelphia law firm of Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young as an associate in the investment management/mutual funds group.

### 2000s

Sara Sheets ’00 Nur., who holds an M.S.N. from the University of Pennsylvania, is a pediatric nurse practitioner at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. She has been an invited presenter at conventions of the Society of Pediatric Nurses.

Lauren Bercarich ’01 A&S, Comm./Pol. Sci. joined WKRC-TV in Cincinnati as a news reporter. She earned a master’s degree in broadcast journalism at Syracuse University.

Kenny Girardi ’01 A&S, Math. is with The Aerospace Corporation in El Segundo, Calif.

### Class of 2002: Five-Year Reunion, October 5-7, 2007

Matthew Trush ’02 VSB, M.I.S. co-founded Convos, a New York City-based Internet startup company. It aims to integrate and organize messages, contacts, schedules, pictures and files for individuals and groups.
Bonnie J. Baker ’03 G.S., Couns./Hum. Rel. was promoted to director of utilization management at Mirmont Treatment Center in Lima, Pa.; Jennie Dilemme ’03 A&S, Comp. Prog. in September 2006 graduated with an M.S. degree in chemistry from Drexel University. An associate scientist at GlaxoSmithKline, she was awarded its Exceptional Science Award, which honors R&D chemists. Kevin McCarthy ’04 A&S, Comm. joined the White Plains, N.Y., real estate/money management firm of Jones Lang LaSalle as a broker.

Angela Mondavi ’04 A&S Chem., who holds a master’s degree in oenology, has relocated to Margaret River in Western Australia to become assistant winemaker/cellar hand with Cape Mentelle Winery.

Therese Nartzul ’04 M.B.A. is health services director for Evercare Pennsylvania.

Brian Tonry ’04 M.B.A. has moved up at McGraw-Hill Construction Co. to vice president for all international sales and integrated media solutions, and also leads the McGraw-Hill network consulting and integration practice.

Antonette Alonso ’05 M.B.A. was promoted to associate director at Pfizer Pharmaceutical Corp.

Al D’Amico ’05 M.B.A. was named vice president, construction, for the Sprinturf Corp. in Wayne, Pa.; John Rahman ’05 M.B.A. has been appointed chief operations officer for the department of orthopaedic surgery at the University of Pennsylvania Health System.

Erika von Hoyer ’06 M.B.A. was appointed vice president of marketing at SkillSurvey in Wayne, Pa. The company provides online reference assessment solutions.

**Marriages 1980s-1990s**


Colleen Cirelli ’90 A&S, Comp. Sci. married Jeffrey Ogden.

Mike Mannino ’92 VSB, Acct. married Tisha Jackson.

Julie Occhipinti ’93 Nur. married Andrew Temme.


Melissa von Hassel ’95 Nur. married Jorge Gomez.

Bruce Padula ’96 A&S, Hist. married Rebecca Creno.

Jennifer Traska ’96 A&S, Hist. married Jamie Grubb.

Erika Howard ’97 VSB, Fin. married Thomas Wojtek.

Frank Amico ’98 C&F, Fin. married Meredith Galeta ’00 VSB, Fin.

Normajeane Pratico ’98 VSB, Fin./Mkt. married Kenneth J. Swiss.


**2000s**


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Four Villanovans recently were admitted to the Pennsylvania College of Optometry’s D.O. program. They are (from left) Joanna Lizzie ’06 A&S, Bio.; Sejal Patel ’00 A&S, Bio.; Beth Salonia ’06 A&S, Bio.; and Helen Song ’05 A&S, Comp. Prog.

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In Memoriam

1930s

1940s

1950s


1960s

1970s

1980s-2000s

Memorial Tribute
Paul J. Arizin ’50 VSB
The Ever-Modest All-Star and Legend

Paul J. Arizin, ’50 VSB, a cherished member of Villanova University’s basketball family, the NBA and the Basketball Hall of Fame, died on December 12, 2006, at his suburban Philadelphia home. He was 78 years old.

“Paul Arizin was the most dignified, classy and humble legend I’ve ever met,” stated Jay Wright, head coach of men’s basketball at Villanova. “He was adored and respected by anyone who has touched Villanova.”

At Villanova, Arizin became one of the early masters of the jump shot, leading to his nickname, “Pitchin’ Paul.” One of Villanova’s most accomplished athletes ever, he was its first to be nationally known in basketball.

At Villanova, Arizin become the first 1,000-point scorer, averaging 20.0 ppg in 80 games over his three seasons. His 95 points against the Naval Air Material Center in a 117-25 game on February 12, 1949, is a school record. As a senior, he was named The Sporting News’ college player of the year and a consensus All-American for leading the ‘Cats to a 25-4 record. His 735 points that season topped all Division I players. He is the only one for whom Villanova retired both a jersey and a number (11).

Following his graduation in 1950, Arizin was the No. 1 draft choice of the Philadelphia Warriors. As a forward, for each of his 10 years in the NBA he was named an All-Star; he was the 1952 All-Star game’s MVP and scored 16,266 career points. He served with the Marines in Korea for two years (1952-54), then returned to the Warriors and helped lead them to the 1956 NBA title.

In 1977, Arizin was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. In 1996, he was voted one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History. He also enjoyed a career at IBM and was devoted to his family and a friend to many. In recent years, he frequently came to Wildcat events. In April 2006 at the men’s basketball banquet, he presented the award named in his honor to sophomore Kyle Lowry. Arizin is survived by his wife, Maureen; four sons; a daughter; and 14 grandchildren.
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