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Your Alumni Association

Get Connected with Villanova’s ONLINE Alumni Community

More than 10,000 alumni have already registered on our Villanova ONLINE Alumni Community. It offers a great way to connect with old friends and network with alumni. The ONLINE Alumni Community gives you a better way to:

- search for alumni,
- check out the Event Calendar,
- choose a permanent e-mail address that you can keep—even if you move or change your Internet provider,
- search our Yellow Pages to find products and services offered by fellow alumni,
- post online class notes with photos,
- add your own listing—and much more.

To get started, go to alumni.villanova.edu and click on the Villanova ONLINE logo.

A Call for Service

Alumni make a difference by volunteering in their communities.

In soup kitchens, nature centers, shelters and many other sites, the Villanova University tradition of service continues through the caring and generous spirit of alumni.

Let us know about volunteer projects that you’re involved in: e-mail the information to Norma “Noni” Kline in the Alumni Office at norma.kline@villanova.edu. We publish online a list of alumni service projects (by individuals and through chapters of the Villanova University Alumni Association). Visit alumni.villanova.edu to see the list or to contact fellow alumni if you’re interested in signing up. Become involved with one of the many wonderful service projects that Villanovans are undertaking around the country.

Coaches’ Speaking Nights

This fall, the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) will again host a series of events with Villanova men’s and women’s basketball coaches. Talk Wildcat hoops and hear more about the 2005-06 season. During October and early November, the coaches will speak at events in southern New Jersey, New York City, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

Join Jay Wright, head coach of men’s basketball, and Harry Perretta ’95 G.S., head coach of women’s basketball, for the latest insights. You won’t want to miss the event in your area! Check the VUAA Web site for dates and times at alumni.villanova.edu.

“Transforming Minds and Hearts at Villanova University”

The Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, Villanova University president, will speak to Villanovans at various locations throughout the country. Learn more about Villanova’s successes, challenges and goals as he leads the University into a future of unprecedented achievement.

For more information on the locations and for updates, visit alumni.villanova.edu and click on Event Calendar.

Leadership Institute

On April 22, the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) hosted its annual Volunteer Leadership Institute. Chapter presidents came together on campus to share ideas, plan events and work to strengthen the ties with alumni and local chapters. Exciting plans are slated for 2006, so be sure to check the Event Calendar at alumni.villanova.edu to take part in activities in your area.

“Behind the Scenes at Villanova University”

Featuring the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’74 A&S, with special guest Kerry Kittles ’96 C&F.

This spring, the Northern California, San Diego and Southern California chapters of the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) hosted a series of three University Speaker Nights. Alumni and friends enjoyed insights from the Rev. Peter Donohue, O.S.A., ’74 A&S, chair of Villanova’s award-winning theatre department, and Kerry Kittles ’96 C&F, a guard on the Los Angeles Clippers basketball team. The series offered a wonderful venue for Western alumni to get together to socialize and learn more about Villanova.

Guests included Gary R. Olsen ’74 A&S, ’80 G.S., associate vice president for Alumni Affairs and executive director of the VUAA; Whitey Rigsby ’78 C&F, director of the Block V Club; and Eric Quisenberry ’98 C&F, assistant director of regional programs in the Alumni Office.

Save the Dates:

- **2005 Homecoming Weekend**
  - October 21-23
- **Five-Year Reunion Celebration for the Class of 2000**
- **2006 Reunion Weekend**
  - June 9-11
### Celebrate Alumni Reunion Weekend: June 10-12

**Get ready for a memorable Alumni Reunion Weekend on June 10-12!**

All are welcome to join in to commemorate their experiences at Villanova University and to celebrate the future of their alma mater. This year, classes ending in a 0 or 5 are invited to special events throughout the weekend. If you have not yet mailed your registration form, you can still register online at: alumni.villanova.edu (click on Reunion). Use this site as well to learn more about the weekend’s events and to find out which classmates plan to be there.

If you have questions, please call 1-800-VILLANOVA (1-800-845-5266). Don’t miss this fantastic weekend!

### Four Alumni Medals to be Awarded at Reunion

The Villanova University Alumni Association Alumni Awards Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the St. Thomas of Villanova Alumni Medal and the Young Alumni Medal for 2005. These four alumni will be honored during Alumni Reunion Weekend in June.

#### St. Thomas of Villanova Alumni Medals:
- **Thomas L. Kelly ’65 C&F**
  - Founder, Greensboro Dreamers, Greensboro, N.C.
  - Greensboro Dreamers provides a comprehensive long-term (16-year) educational support program for a first-grade class of 54 children, and assures them of an opportunity for further education beyond high school through tuition assistance. Greensboro Dreamers is an affiliate of the “I Have a Dream” Foundation.
- **William P. Loftus ’85 A&S, ’97 G.S.**
  - co-founder, president and CEO of Gestalt LLC, King of Prussia, Pa.
  - His firm is a leading provider of collaborative technology for government and Fortune 500 companies.
- **Sandy Myers Gomberg ’85 Nur., ’90 M.S.N.**
  - associate hospital director, Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia, and co-founder of the International Children’s Anophthalmia Network, a support group.

#### The Young Alumni Medal:
- **Christy Hansen ’97 A&S**, NASA flight engineer, based in Houston (see a profile of her on page 16).

Congratulations to these outstanding alumni! The Summer Villanova Magazine will include highlights of the award ceremonies. For more information about the awards and this year’s honorees, go to alumni.villanova.edu (click on Alumni Awards).

### New Student Receptions

More than 40 New Student Receptions will be held this summer, across the country and internationally. Hosted by local chapters of the Villanova University Alumni Association, these receptions are a great way for incoming Villanovans and their families to meet classmates, current students, parents and alumni who can answer questions and share their Villanova experiences.

For the complete schedule and information on how you can become involved with your local chapter, visit alumni.villanova.edu.
A Note from Gary Olsen

Through the many interactions that I have had with our alumni over the years, I continue to be touched by the loyalty and love our graduates have for Villanova University. It is obvious that the Villanova experience that began for us as students has continued for a lifetime.

There was certainly evidence of this passion during March Madness. On March 10, more than 300 alumni and friends joined us to kick off the NCAA tournament season. The Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) hosted a reception at the Big East Extravaganza in New York City’s Madison Square Garden.

In Nashville, we were thrilled to welcome more than 400 alumni and friends at the NCAA tournament game receptions. Then in Syracuse, 600 Wildcat fans packed the Sweet 16 reception!

The enthusiasm at all of these events certainly was a great tribute to the spirit of Villanova alumni. During the basketball season, VUAA alumni chapters hosted many events, with alumni and women’s game watch events in all parts of the country—and in Central America as well. In Panama, Seattle, Texas, Chicago, Atlanta and Boston, to name a few areas, Villanova fans gathered together to watch the Wildcats in action.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who worked so tirelessly to host these events. Your dedication and energy really made these activities successful. Congratulations also to the Wildcat men’s and women’s basketball teams for exciting seasons. I am already looking forward to next year!

These game watches and receptions are just a sample of the many activities in which alumni have supported Villanova. I encourage you to visit the Event Calendar on our Web site for information on many service projects and networking and social events, as well as alumni news and opportunities to become involved with the VUAA.

Yours in Villanova,

Gary Olsen ’74 A&S, ’80 G.S.
Associate Vice President for Alumni Affairs and Executive Director of the Villanova University Alumni Association

Travel with Villanovans

London: October 8-13, 2005

Join Villanova University students, parents, alumni, family and friends for a fall trip to London that you will always remember! See London’s pageantry come to life. Explore the best of its history and culture, and take time to shop and enjoy restaurants in the world’s most famous city.

This Fall Break trip includes best seats to the hit musical Mamma Mia! in the Prince of Wales Theatre. A four-star hotel, buffet breakfast and round-trip airfare are all included in this exciting package, starting at only $1,375.

Call Pat Gillin in the Villanova Alumni Office at 1-800-VILLANOVA (1-800-845-5266) or e-mail patricia.gillin@villanova.edu to make reservations or for more information.

Pennsylvania, Delaware and Southern New Jersey Region

May 2005

Thursday, May 12
Lehigh Valley Chapter
Third Annual Scholarship Golf Outing, Olde Homestead Golf Club.

Coming this fall to the Philadelphia area:

Coaches’ Speaking Night
“Transforming Minds and Hearts at Villanova University”
with the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president.

New York, Connecticut and Northern New Jersey Region

May 2005

Monday, May 2
Spring Lake Heights, N.J.
Monmouth/Ocean County Chapter
Third Annual Scholarship Golf Outing, Spring Lake Golf Club.

Monday, May 2
Old Brookville, N.Y.
Long Island Chapter
Fourth Annual Scholarship Golf Outing, Brookville Country Club.

June 2005

Thursday, June 16
Kensington, Conn.
Central Connecticut Chapter
Second Annual Scholarship Golf Outing, Shuttle Meadow Country Club.

July 2005

Monday, July 16
Marcellus, N.Y.
Syracuse Chapter
Third Annual Scholarship Golf Outing, The Links at Sunset Ridge.

September 2005

Monday, September 26
Mount Kisco, N.Y.
Fairfield/Westchester Chapter
Scholarship Golf Outing, Mount Kisco Country Club.

Coming this fall to the New York City area:

Coaches’ Speaking Night
Visit alumni.villanova.edu for dates and locations.
Mid-Atlantic Region

**April-July 2005**

Co-Ed Alumni Softball Team
Washington, D.C. Chapter
Competing against other college alumni teams, the chapter’s team plays one game during the week and two games on the weekends from April-July, with an end-of-season tournament in August. Contact the team’s coach, Siobhan Carroll ’99 A&S, at Villanova_Softball@yahoo.com.

**May 2005**

**Saturday, May 7**

80th Running of the Virginia Gold Cup
Join Villanovans at a reception tent hosted by the Washington, D.C. Chapter at Fauquier County’s Great Meadow in The Plains.

**June 2005**

**Sunday, June 5**

Washington, D.C.
Washington Nationals vs. Florida Marlins Baseball Game Outing
Washington D.C. Chapter
Join fellow alums to cheer on this new team. Tailgating begins at 11:30 a.m. in the R.F.K. Stadium parking lot. Game time is 1:05 p.m. $8 per game ticket. RSVP to 1-800-VILLANOVA (1-800-845-5266).

**Coming this fall to the Washington, D.C. area:**

**Coaches’ Speaking Night**
Visit alumni.villanova.edu for date and location.

Midwest Region

**April 2005**

**Saturday, April 30**

Colorado Golf Outing
Organized by Colorado alumni to restore the Colorado Alumni Chapter. Arrowhead Golf Course, Littleton. Pre-game tailgate at Tailgate Park, east of PETCO Park.

**May 2005**

**Thursday, May 26**

Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
Detroit Chapter
Fourth Annual Scholarship Golf Outing, Oakland Hills Country Club. RSVP to 1-800-VILLANOVA (1-800-845-5266).

**July 2005**

**Saturday, July 16**

Chicago
Cubs vs. Pirates Baseball Game
Chicago Chapter
Join fellow alums for a pre-game party at 11 a.m. at Johnny O’Hagan’s, 3374 N. Clark Street. Game time is 3:05 p.m. Lower-level seats are $35 each before June 1 and $40 after.

Southern Region

**May 2005**

**Monday, May 16**

Fort Mill, S.C.
Carolina Chapter
10th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing, Regent Park Golf Club.

**Tuesday, May 17**

Alpharetta, Ga.
Atlanta Chapter
Scholarship Golf Outing, White Columns Golf Club.

**Western Region**

**April 2005**

**Saturday, April 30**

Colorado Golf Outing
Organized by Colorado alumni to restore the Colorado Alumni Chapter. Arrowhead Golf Course, Littleton.

**Saturday, April 30**

Padres vs. Diamondbacks Baseball Game
San Diego Chapter
Pre-game tailgate at Tailgate Park, east of PETCO Park.

**May 2005**

**Saturday, May 21**

Community Service
Pacific Northwest Chapter
Visit alumni.villanova.edu for details.

**Monday, May 30**

San Diego
Deep Sea Fishing
San Diego Chapter
Join Captain Joe Cacciola ’70 A&S on his traditional Memorial Day deep-sea fishing outing for Villanovans. Meet at Sea Star

**June 2005**

**Wednesday, June 1**

Los Angeles

**July 2005**

**Thursday, July 14**

Seattle
Mariners v. Orioles Baseball Outing
Pacific Northwest Chapter
Join fellow alums at Safeco Field for the MasterCard Grand Slam Family Pack Night. Contact: Tim Costello ’98 C&F at timcostello1@excite.com.

**New England Region**

**Friday, June 3**

San Francisco

**Saturday, June 11**

Family Picnic
Pacific Northwest Chapter
Check the Events Calendar for details at alumni.villanova.edu.

**June 2005**

**Wednesday, June 15**

San Diego
Deep Sea Fishing
San Diego Chapter
Join Captain Joe Cacciola ’70 A&S on his traditional Memorial Day deep-sea fishing outing for Villanovans. Meet at Sea Star

**Friday, June 17**

San Francisco

**Saturday, July 2**

80th Running of the Virginia Gold Cup
Join Villanovans at a reception tent hosted by the Washington, D.C. Chapter at Fauquier County’s Great Meadow in The Plains.

**June 2005**

**Thursday, June 16**

“Transforming Minds and Hearts at Villanova University” with the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president.
Visit alumni.villanova.edu for date and location.

**Friday, July 15**


**Saturday, July 23**

Family Picnic
Pacific Northwest Chapter
Check the Events Calendar for details at alumni.villanova.edu.

**July 2005**

**Saturday, July 23**

Community Service
Pacific Northwest Chapter
Visit alumni.villanova.edu for details.

**Wednesday, July 27**

San Diego
Deep Sea Fishing
San Diego Chapter
Join Captain Joe Cacciola ’70 A&S on his traditional Memorial Day deep-sea fishing outing for Villanovans. Meet at Sea Star
A stroll through campus on a warm spring day can tell you a lot about an institution. At Villanova University, students wander the well-tended grounds and pathways, going to or coming from classes. Some students soak up the afternoon sun on the greens of Sheehan Beach; others relax on the steps of the recently renovated Bartley Hall. Near CEER (The Center for Engineering Education and Research), on a rolling hill, a class is meeting, surrounded by the stately trees of the University’s arboretum. Behind the tennis courts and softball field, the new Structural Engineering Teaching and Research Laboratory rises just below tree level, next to the steam plant. From all that one can see, it is evident there is a healthy energy emanating from the entire Villanova academic community.

This thrust of energy—which moves through the campus enveloping students, faculty and staff as it infuses the architectural landscape—is no accident. Instead, it is the result of a much more focused and directed effort that began in 1988 with the inauguration of the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., '58, as University president. "I recall very fondly my early conversations with Father Dobbin at the beginning of his presidency when I first arrived 16 years ago, and his vision of what he wanted to accomplish," noted John M. Elizandro, vice president for Institutional Advancement. "He recognized the daunting challenges that were on the horizon, and he had a vision of what he wanted to accomplish that was reflected in his inaugural address. Foremost was the additional capital and funding that would be needed to drive his agenda. The way in which he approached this was unique at the time. As we reflect upon the success he has enjoyed during his presidency, it is important to recognize where he began and how he began—with a modest endowment and with a serious need to address new construction on campus and renovation of existing facilities and maintenance. "So much was driven by the need for financial resources," Elizandro continued. "As Father Dobbin began to look at the landscape to see what needed to be done, he consulted with others to explore how other universities had made progress in more prosperous times. He looked in particular at the Boston College model; he found that the college, some 10 years earlier, had been in a similar situation where it had a serious need to increase its endowment and had aspirations to improve its fiscal plan. What Boston College did was to begin a very aggressive approach to fundraising, while at the same time embarking on a management strategy that would build the endowment through planned savings and bonding capital projects. That is what we began to do at Villanova."

Elizandro continued, "It was rather a bold move because our financial face was not that strong. As we began to look for funding sources to advance the seriousness of the plan’s needs, we found our endowment was a mere $18 million, certainly not anything that would capture the attention of the bond markets in New York. We then embarked upon a capital campaign that had a focus on the endowment. "As I look at his presidency, what I think about is how it began and how Father Dobbin first envisioned Villanova and where we are headed in the future," Elizandro noted. "In quieter moments, as we travel—and we do travel a lot together—it is interesting to hear him reflect on how well things have gone, in a way that he finds almost surprising. But it is not surprising when you reflect upon the great investment he
made in the University at the beginning of his presidency. Those early decisions were fundamentally critical in providing the financial base we have today. “Today,” Elizandro explained, “we have a strong student demand predicated on the academic success we are enjoying.”

A strong presence for parents

Elizandro also commented about the very positive and growing relationship between the University and parents of students. “One of the new initiatives that we have taken in recent months is a very strong presence for the parents and an involvement among parents. The Development Office has collaborated with Student Development, with Admission, with Financial Assistance and with the academic program in order to develop a more collaborative approach to involving parents in the life of the University. That forum has really created a lot of different opportunities for insights, for involvement, and has allowed parents to have a voice that might not have been heard as often in the past. That feedback helps us to shape our programs, and to respond to the needs parents see, in a way that we had not been able to do as often previously. It has been a very positive experience.”

Scholarships support students from a variety of backgrounds

The role of diversity in the academic life of Villanova also has been the focus of planning and has begun to show strong results. Reflecting on the importance of creating a more diverse population, Elizandro said, “Embedded in our ‘needs’ statement is cognizance of the need for scholarship assistance for students from a variety of backgrounds and economic situations, students who would not otherwise be able to attend Villanova. We are particularly fortunate to have donors who are sensitive to economic and other diversity issues. Scholarships continue to be a very important base for our needs and for students who want to come to Villanova. “As part of our kickoff [in December 2004] for Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova, we were fortunate to be able to announce a number of leadership commitments, two of which came from individuals who have provided important funding for scholarships. One of these commitments is for economically disadvantaged students from east-central Pennsylvania. James C. Curvey ’57 C&F has been very generous in providing scholarships for students from Mahoney City and northern Schuylkill County, where he was raised. William B. Finneran ’63 C&F of New York City, a longtime benefactor of the Archdiocese of New York, has provided scholarships for students from the Archdiocese who without financial assistance would not be able to attend Villanova.”

Endowment is the priority

While The Campaign for Villanova is focused primarily on raising funds for the endowment, Elizandro acknowledged that there would be assistance given to the School of Law when, at some time in the future, it identifies and makes a move to newer, larger facilities. Funding assistance also will be provided to athletics for some much needed intramural space, as well as for some additional opportunities for the men’s and women’s basketball teams “to elevate their programs to a higher level,” he said. “These are exceptions,” he explained, “to the fundraising goals, which are fundamentally predicated on raising money for the endowment.”

Many people may not understand just how important an endowment is to any university. “It is fundamental to the financial strength of an institution,” Elizandro emphasized. An endowment “is a barometer as to how solid a university’s financial base is. Essentially, an endowment is a funding mechanism that generates annual income to support scholarships, faculty and programs that otherwise might not exist.

“For Villanova, the endowment also has been a tool that we have used in leveraging the bond markets to provide a sense of the relative strength of the institution. It allows creditors to make judgments about the credibility of the institution.

“As we just enter our capital campaign, we are very fortunate to have a significant number of Leadership commitments,” Elizandro said. “In fact, we have 20 $1 million Leadership commitments to date in the campaign, which is almost as many as we had in the total campaign in the last fundraising effort we undertook. We also have a number of multi-million-dollar lead commitments that were announced at the campaign gala in New York City. Some of the funds have yet to be designated.

“Today, we have a strong student demand predicated on the academic success we are enjoying.”

—John M. Elizandro
vice president for Institutional Advancement
Recent Bond Ratings Affirm the University’s Financial Stability

By Irene Burgo

Kenneth G. Valosky, vice president for Finance, recently announced that two bond rating agencies, Moody’s Investors Service and Standard & Poor’s, have assigned Villanova University the ratings of A2 and A respectively. “These investment-grade ratings make the recent bond issue an attractive investment vehicle for institutional investors such as mutual funds and insurance companies,” Valosky explained. “Tax-exempt bonds, which most all colleges and universities take advantage of, certainly have a large place in investment portfolios throughout the country.”

These ratings were assigned in conjunction with Villanova's refinancing of bonds originally issued in 1995 for the construction of CEER (The Center for Engineering Education and Research) and the renovation of Mendel Hall. “Anytime we issue bonds, we go through an update with the rating agencies,” Valosky explained. “This one was important because through changes in interest rates, we saved $200,000 a year for the next 20 years. That certainly is a significant savings for the University. As important as the savings is, I think it is equally important that

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We feel the feedback we received from these agencies confirmed what we always felt to be true: that we offer an educational experience that is in strong demand.” —Kenneth G. Valosky vice president for Finance

Strong Bond Ratings Emphasize Confidence

By Holly Stratts

Villanova University’s recent favorable bond ratings by Moody’s Investors Service and Standard & Poor’s (S&P) reflect both confidence in the University’s present state and a secure outlook for its future, according to the Rev. William A. McGuire, O.S.A., ’62 A&S, senior vice president for Administration.

A positive credit rating benefits Villanova in many ways. “The Moody and S&P ratings send a message to our loyal alumni that we have a strong financial standing. Additionally, the University's ongoing capital campaign, Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova, has begun with strong support,” said Father McGuire.

The Moody and S&P evaluations were based upon three elements:
1. the University’s strong student demand,
2. solid operating performance and
3. an ongoing fundraising campaign with a focus on endowment.

“The fact that we have been rated by objective outside professional firms is important,” Father McGuire noted. “Having Villanova rated by these expert external agencies, which rate other educational institutions and businesses, further emphasizes confidence in the University's financial stability.”

Father McGuire lauded the efforts of Kenneth G. Valosky, Villanova’s vice president for Finance, for his work in initiating and maintaining many of the financial strategies currently in place. Moody commended the University’s financial discipline that stems from its planned savings program combined with its carefully planned budget.

“The campaign’s focus on endowment is especially important,” added Father McGuire, for $200 million of the $300 million goal is earmarked for endowment. The strong demand for access to the University, its skill in planning and use of its resources, and the favorable ratings confirm the strength of the institution.”

“The Moody and S&P ratings send a message to our loyal alumni that we have a strong financial standing.” —The Rev. William A. McGuire, O.S.A., ’62 A&S senior vice president for Administration
Stability

both of the rating agencies affirmed our existing ratings with a stable outlook. That's important because it tells the investor community that there is a high degree of certainty with regard to the payment of debt service. It ensures continued access to capital markets for the University.

Villanova did not have bond ratings until a few years ago. "The trustees and management were interested in a financial evaluation to determine our strengths and areas for improvement. Their comprehensive evaluation included not only financial data but enrollment statistics such as applications, acceptances, matriculations and win-loss ratios with the schools we directly compete with for students," Valosky said. "We feel the feedback we received from these agencies confirmed what we always felt to be true: that we offer an educational experience that is in strong demand. It also told us that our financial operations, on an annual basis, are strong and that we use our resources efficiently," he continued.

The rating agencies also noted that the University's endowment is smaller and its debt higher than similarly rated institutions. Accordingly, the capital campaign is crucial to strengthening Villanova's financial position.

"The University's commitment to growing the endowment extends to its budgeting practices," Valosky said. "Each year we transfer funds from our operating budget to the endowment. This year we will transfer $6.8 million, and that amount has been increasing at the rate of $500,000 a year for the past few years. Financial advisors will tell you your first bill should be to your own savings, and that's how the University handles its planned savings. The agencies give recognition to the University's conservative budgeting methods. We always ensure that we are able to satisfy through our budget our debt service requirements. We are also able to set money aside to grow the endowment and invest in our capital facilities. We are able to support our Academic Strategic Plan. I don't think there is much more you can ask from a budgeting perspective," he concluded.


Which Students Will Succeed Best at Villanova?

The dean of Enrollment Management answers not only that question but discusses the investment that parents make in their children’s college life and the high expectations of today’s Millennials.

BY BARBARA K. CLEMENT

In the inaugural issue of a new journal published by Villanova University, Academics: Reflections on Teaching and Learning at Villanova (Fall 2004), Dr. John R. Johannes, vice president for Academic Affairs, wrote the lead article, titled "Villanova, A Changing Institution." In the article, he observed that “…Villanova’s academic expectations and accomplishments have soared. From an applicant pool of approximately 9,000, this year’s entering class of 1,600-plus freshmen—representing 47 states and 25 foreign countries, and including 17 percent minorities —brings academic credentials and background unheard of 15 years ago. Once here, 80 percent of our students graduate in four years and 85 percent in five; and a quarter do so having studied abroad at some point. Villanova is proud of its students’ achievements. For example in the last 11 years, more Villanova students (54) have won prestigious national and international fellowships (Rhodes, Gates-Cambridge, Goldwater, Truman, National Science Foundation and Fulbright) than in the entire previous history of the University. Johannes went on to write, “One of the marks of the University’s evolution is its enhanced programs of graduate study. Villanova now offers three doctoral programs and master’s degrees in more than 40 fields to 2,300 graduate students, with some of the instruction offered via distance learning. Powering these changes are the efforts of the faculty, a growing number of whom have earned national and, increasingly, international scholarly recognition across the disciplines. Faculty research grants have more than doubled, even while classroom instruction has experienced a revolution along both pedagogical and technological dimensions. One manifestation of this development has been 15 straight years of being ranked the No. 1 master’s-level university in the North by U.S. News and World Report....

“People—well educated, properly motivated, morally sound people—represent society’s best hopes for the future,” Johannes wrote. “All universities and colleges are in the business of trying to produce such citizens and leaders.”

The Villanova formula for success

How does Villanova achieve this success? According to Stephen R. Merritt ’78 A&S, dean of Enrollment Management, “What is really happening at Villanova is a combination of many factors. First and foremost, our success is the result of a lot of focused effort by faculty, students and staff. These accomplishments, particularly in the academic realm, have assisted in building Villanova’s national reputation. With our expanding reputation has come tremendous positive momentum for the University.”

Merritt added, “What is critical, particularly when building and establishing a distinctive identity for the University, is making sure that Villanova’s success stories continue to get out to our varied constituents. What Villanova is enjoying now more than ever is the effect of so many positive endorsements of our successful graduates, their happy parents and our satisfied corporate partners.

“The bottom line is that the University’s reputation is enhanced most by the kind of productive, creative and ethically sound graduates it produces,” Merritt said. “For example, when an employer meets a Villanova graduate who has been through our transformative educational process, he or she often feels that ‘special something’ about the person. I’ve recently had the opportunity to spend more time with the parents of our students. Time after time, our parents rave about their son or daughter’s overall experience. What’s even more gratifying is that these spontaneous statements from
parents are supported by solid data from our periodic Parents’ Satisfaction Survey, which tracks the parent experience at Villanova. In essence, parents, employers and others trust that Villanova will deliver an educationally rigorous, socially rewarding and spiritually rich experience to its students; and the University delivers.”

**Parents play an important role in higher education**

In today’s world, parents and their children maintain not only a closer relationship but one that extends significantly longer into adulthood than in years past. According to Merritt, “Today, parents have an extremely close connection with their children during the college years. Parents make an increasingly large personal investment in their children’s higher education experience,” said Merritt. “That investment comes in the form of personal time. It comes in the form of financial commitment. But even more importantly, it comes in the form of strong emotional support.”

Fundamentally, parents entrust their children to institutions that they feel offer a high level of academic challenge, social engagement, personal comfort and safety. What parents want to see is their student thinking beyond the case study or the class assignment given by a faculty member two weeks earlier. “What I think parents want for their children is for them to learn to take academic content and make it relevant in the world in which they live, a world most adults can only imagine, but one in which they will some day be fully functioning adults. What do parents want for their children? They want them to develop into good citizens...informed, educated, ethical and acutely aware of the happenings in the world around them.”

**Student expectations are higher than ever before**

Since the late 1990s, Merritt has been researching the characteristics and expectations of the “Millennial generation.” “Millenials” are young people born between the years 1982 and 2004. The first wave of Millennials is just graduating from college now. Have the qualities he read about earlier now become a reality?

“Students at Villanova have always been bright, hard-working and interesting,” Merritt replied, “but today they not only come to Villanova with those characteristics, but they also arrive with extremely high expectations. They aspire to do great things and expect a great deal from our faculty, their classes and the entire educational process. They are involved in more activities outside the classroom, too. Their upbringing has literally trained them to be ‘doers and achievers.’ So, when they arrive in our environment, Villanova has to be ready for their energy, enthusiasm, expectations and dreams.”

**Transforming minds and hearts**

“What is most exciting about the level of expectation that these new students bring to Villanova is how the University plans to address and direct it,” Merritt said.

“Our new Academic Strategic Plan, Transforming Minds and Hearts, directly addresses student engagement and transformation. In the plan, programming focuses on international study, service learning, graduate education, living and learning experiments in the residence halls, and other innovative ideas. These integrated experiences are a perfect match for a Millennial generation ‘on-the-go.’ At Villanova, students not only actively learn, but they can find ways to apply what they are learning on a daily basis.”

Front and center at Villanova is an educational philosophy that has long emphasized transforming the mind and heart. “To me,” Merritt went on, “the most important word in that phrase is and. When young people take what they are learning and apply it to human and real-life situations, the essence and distinctive quality of a Villanova education emerges. When students challenge themselves intellectually and spiritually like this on a daily basis, what develops is not just a learning style, but rather a life style. Frankly, it seems that this process is exactly what the world needs now. It makes what goes on here at Villanova very exciting.”

**How the Admission Office decides which applicants to admit**

In light of the new changes in the SAT (including adding an essay), Merritt was asked to comment about how important SAT scores are in the selection of freshman candidates.

“Students who come to Villanova are judged primarily on their academic performance in high school,” Merritt explained. “The old saying, ‘The best predictor of future performance is past performance,’ is still valid in the Office of University Admission. We’re quite fortunate to have 10,400 candidates this year, all competing for only 1,595 spots. However, at the end of the day, when our admission officers make a final decision about a candidate, they always consider several items.

“First, the admission staff is constantly trying to assess whether a candidate will be successful at Villanova—not just graduate but be successful. There is a big difference,” Merritt said. “At Villanova, we do have a very high graduation rate of 85 percent. Perhaps even more interesting, when you consider how difficult the transition is from high school to college, of the freshmen who start at Villanova, we bring back 94 percent to begin their sophomore year. However, we want to admit candidates who will go beyond simply earning their degree. We look for students who want to grow intellectually, think critically and be fully engaged in their studies and the world.

“Second, we look for characteristics that indicate whether or not the candidate will bring something unique to the classroom and our learning environment,” Merritt said. “We thoroughly review a candidate’s past extracurricular experiences to make sure that each new student adds something rich and interesting to his or her classmates’ Villanova experience.

“Finally, we look for those special personal characteristics or accomplishments that make a candidate stand out from the rest,” Merritt noted. “Fundamentally, we are looking for those young people who when you meet them you say, ‘This person is a Villanovan, I can just tell.’”

“The bottom line is that the University’s reputation is enhanced most by the kind of productive, creative and ethically sound graduates it produces.”

—Stephen R. Merritt ’78 A&S dean of Enrollment Management
Presidential Leadership: Vision, Collaboration and a Culture of Planning

Father Dobbin, now in his 17th year at the helm, reflects on how the abstract ideals of his inaugural address have become a vibrant reality today.

By Maureen McKew

At a time when presidents of some major universities attract more attention—and the wrong kind of attention—than the institutions they lead, the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., '58 has guided Villanova University for 17 years with intelligence, judgment, a collaborative spirit and a healthy ego that does not require constant stroking. These are qualities the University president also has sought in hiring professionals for leadership positions at Villanova. The result is a management team that has raised strategic planning and teamwork beyond a science to an art form, and has helped to develop a forward-looking institution with a healthy financial picture and a proven ability to attract top-flight students.

According to Villanova’s president, the ability to plan together effectively in light of the mission and to budget carefully are among the strongest assets the University possesses.

How does Father Dobbin see his role of president? “My responsibility is to provide a broad vision for the University and to plan strategically, which we have been doing since the late 1980s and early ‘90s,” he commented recently. “In addition, we always have integrated planning with our budget process. Even though it’s the logical thing to do, it was not traditionally widespread among higher education institutions.”

A few years ago, Father Dobbin recalled, when the Middle States Association was completing its accreditation evaluation of the University, the chairperson of the evaluation committee announced during the public exit report that few universities in the country plan as effectively as Villanova does. (At Villanova, Augustine frequently is referred to in the present tense, as if he had offices throughout the campus.)

The president keeps a light and steady hand at the helm. “My job is not so much to do the visioning—we do that collectively—but rather to see that the process takes place and remains on course,” Father Dobbin said. “I’m a firm believer in delegation and collaboration. We have a great number of people here who want to make this institution successful, who are invested in it and who are very capable.”

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—The Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58
University president

St. Augustine’s vision and pedagogy of engaging the community are still relevant, even though, as Father Dobbin pointed out, Augustine is almost 16 centuries old. (At Villanova, Augustine frequently is referred to in the present tense, as if he had offices throughout the campus.)

An important aspect of leadership is accountability. Father Dobbin enables his management team members to take a great deal of responsibility for decisions in their specific areas. “My presumption is that they know more than I do about their areas. My idea of accountability is mutual and transparent. I am open with them and expect them to be the same with me, which they are. I am available for problem solving, of course, but I encourage our people to bring me solutions as well as problems. At the same time, I expect lateral collaboration among the team members. I also like people who can think outside the box.”

By his own admission, when Father Dobbin assumed the presidency in 1988, he had little management experience. “I went directly from being a professor of theology to being president. I had never had a secretary. I didn’t have financial expertise,” he recalled. “I had to rely on two assets with which I have
The Campaign for Villanova Hits High Gear

In its public phase, the focus is on raising support through increased outreach and volunteer activity.

The public announcement in December 2004 of Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova represented a critical juncture in this ambitious $300 million fundraising effort to secure unprecedented levels of resources for Villanova University. The campaign gala event at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City marked the end of the quiet phase, a period of planning and early solicitation that provided a foundation for future campaign efforts. The gala also represented the beginning of the campaign’s public phase, a three-year period of increased fundraising activity and involvement among Villanova’s alumni, parents and friends.

“The public phase is extremely important to the overall success of the campaign,” noted John M. Elizandro, vice president for Institutional Advancement. “It presents opportunities for every member of the Villanova community to become involved in helping the University reach its goals. In addition, campaign staff and volunteers, under the direction of the Steering Committee, will use the public phase as an opportunity to take Villanova ‘on the road’ to alumni, parents and friends in key geographic areas around the country.”

With such a sharpened focus during this phase of The Campaign for Villanova, staff and volunteers will implement the following series of initiatives designed to heighten activity and ensure success.

Increase cultivation and solicitation efforts at highest levels

Fully 60 percent of the campaign’s $300 million goal is comprised of gifts at the Leadership level, defined as commitments of $1 million and above. Leadership Gifts provide resources to meet the University’s largest and most pressing needs and serve to strengthen the endowment. Gift commitments at this level, five of which were announced at the gala in New York City, also serve to attract similar gifts from Villanova’s alumni, parents and friends.

“In a campaign like this, gifts at this level define ‘leadership’ in many ways,” said Elizandro. “They signify a tremendous commitment to the University and a belief in its mission. They are an ultimate representation of the value our alumni, parents and friends place in a Villanova education, and they signify a willingness to be part of charting the University’s future. We are very fortunate to have a community that cares deeply about Villanova and is willing to exemplify that in such a significant way.”

The public phase will feature significant involvement from the Leadership Gifts Committee, a group of volunteers tasked with helping to secure commitments at the highest levels. Potential donors will be matched with committee members according to existing relationships, as well as based upon class year, business/professional affiliation or geographic region.

(Continued from page 11)

been blessed: an ability to size up people well and a desire to delegate and collaborate.” Relying on these assets, he gathered a team around him and began to convert the abstract vision he had outlined in his inaugural address into the reality that is the University today.

It is a source of pride to Father Dobbin that leaders of other colleges and universities speak highly of the University’s culture of planning and collaboration. He does cite one criticism he occasionally hears from alumni: that the University should sell itself and its educational success more aggressively. As a former Villanova student and now an administrator, Father Dobbin observed that this has never been a part of Villanova’s modus operandi. “In more subtle ways, our parents, students and alumni present Villanova even more effectively than the professional marketers and promoters,” he noted. “Although this modesty has perhaps been due partially to our Augustinian charism, we have every intention of managing our reputation and communicating the University’s quality more broadly in the future.”

Villanova continues to retain and expand its ability to attract top students for undergraduate and graduate studies. The day Father Dobbin spoke with Villanova Magazine, he was savoring the news that Daniel DiCenzo, a candidate for a master’s degree in music and classical languages, had been awarded a Gates-Cambridge Scholarship for study at the University of Cambridge, England. DiCenzo is Villanova’s second Gates-Cambridge Scholar. David Quinn ’02, a mechanical engineering major, was among the first recipients of this prestigious scholarship, which Bill and Melinda Gates established in 2001. “There are only 38 Gates-Cambridge scholarships offered in the country each year, and we’ve received two of them in these few years,” the president stated.

As he completes his 17th year as president, Father Dobbin retains the energy he brought to the University in 1988. He attributes this to his own forward-looking personality. “I don’t like to look back. I think I stay young by being excited about the future and its possibilities, by pushing the envelope and by planning strategically. Right now, for example, we’re preparing to construct our new School of Law building on the site next to the Villanova Conference Center and provide new facilities for Nursing. Our good credit ratings will help us to achieve our plan.”

Several years ago, Father Dobbin took time to evaluate the University’s performance against his own inaugural vision. “We really concretized that vision,” he said in his low-key manner, “but I don’t take personal credit for it. The morale, the loyalty, the desire to move the University forward, the Augustinian charism—they were all here before I arrived. However, I think we are continuing to create something for the next generation of Villanovans to enjoy.”

“There are only 38 Gates-Cambridge scholarships offered in the country each year, and we’ve received two of them in these few years.”

—Father Dobbin
“This campaign...offers many opportunities for involvement, from scholarships and fellowships to named research labs and classrooms.”
—Mary R. McRae ’82 C&F, associate vice president for Development

“Committee members can share their reasons for supporting the University and the campaign at this level, and can encourage their peers to do the same,” Elizandro remarked. “This kind of volunteer activity will go a long way toward realizing our goals at the highest levels of campaign involvement.”

Maximize volunteers to increase campaign involvement

Commitments at the Major Gifts level, defined as gifts of $100,000 up to $1 million, provide significant opportunities for campaign involvement for Villanova's alumni, parents and friends.

“The University's donor base has grown considerably in the last 15 years,” noted Mary R. McRae ’82 C&F, associate vice president for Development.

“More people are becoming financially secure and are seeking out opportunities to share their success with Villanova. We are finding that many of our first-time donors to this campaign are making gifts at the Major Gifts level. This campaign has been structured to encourage this level of commitment and offers many opportunities for involvement, from scholarships and fellowships to named research labs and classrooms.”

During the public phase, the University will try to attract increased support at the Major Gifts level through a targeted program of outreach with receptions, golf outings and cultural events to take place around the country. These events will be hosted by members of the Major Gifts Committee, a group of volunteers who have pledged their time and support to The Campaign for Villanova. Such events will allow volunteers to educate fellow Villanovans about the campaign, outline areas of need throughout the University and share their personal reasons for investing in the University’s future. Volunteers also will work with staff to make phone calls, initiate correspondence and conduct one-on-one visits.

“Not only are these donors giving back to this University with tremendous financial support, but they are so committed to what we are trying to do here that they are volunteering time and effort as well. In many ways, they are on the front lines for this campaign, and we couldn’t ask for better representation,” McRae said.

Broaden the base of support among alumni, parents and friends

The campaign is designed to provide opportunities for every Villanovan to be involved. Gifts to the Annual Fund serve an important role at the University by providing resources to address needs that arise throughout campus each year. Areas that benefit from Annual Fund support include computers and technological resources, student scholarships, Student Life programs and academic enrichment initiatives.

With the Annual Fund providing the most opportunities for campaign involvement, activity during the public phase will focus on securing multiyear commitments and encouraging every graduate, parent and friend to participate at this level. Such commitments provide the University with critical resources and allow it to plan effectively, knowing that funds exist to address priorities.

“The Annual Fund is how many Villanovans remain involved in the life of the University,” noted Kenneth R. Hicks, associate vice president for Development.

“They know that their gifts are providing important resources that meet needs throughout campus. Growth in this area is important to the success of the campaign, and the public phase will help to draw even more attention to this critical initiative and encourage more alumni, parents and friends to participate in improving the Villanova educational experience.”

Coordinate alumni outreach efforts

The campaign's public phase will feature additional collaboration between the Office of Development and the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA). Such collaboration will maximize an effective and widespread alumni network to broaden awareness of the campaign and encourage increased participation. This will happen through a renewed Reunion Giving program and a series of regional events that will feature the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., '58, University president, along with other notable campus leaders and prominent alumni.

“Through these events, we hope to create a stronger bond with the University and increase participation in the campaign,” remarked Gary R. Olsen '74 A&S, '80 G.S., executive director of the VUAA and associate vice president of Alumni Affairs. “Villanova’s alumni want to remain an active and involved part of the campus community. These events are a great way for them to stay current with the University, hear about its needs and challenges, and learn about ways to help Villanova grow.”
Taking Villanova on the Road

Public phase events and outreach efforts focus on generating increased involvement.

Parents’ Receptions
Receptions will be held in key geographic areas to reach out to parents and involve them more closely in the life of Villanova University. Receptions are scheduled to take place in:

- California
- Boston/New England
- Long Island
- Baltimore/Washington, D.C./Northern Virginia
- Greater Philadelphia
- New York City
- New Jersey
- Pittsburgh

Alumni and Development Receptions
The following alumni and development receptions with the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbins, O.S.A., ’58, University president, have been tentatively scheduled:

- California (several cities), Spring 2005
- Boston, Fall 2005
- Philadelphia, Fall 2005
- Washington, D.C., Spring 2006
- Florida (several cities), Fall 2006
- Manhattan, Fall 2006
- Chicago, Spring 2007
- Pittsburgh, Spring 2007

Major Gifts Committee Events
Committee members will host regional dinners, golf outings, cultural events, athletics events and on-campus activities to engage key members of the Villanova community. Planned events include:

- Golf Outing at Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J.
- Regional Dinner in Upper Montclair, N.J.
- Golf Outing in Kiawah, S.C.
- Golf Outing at Manhattan Woods Golf Club in West Nyack, N.Y.
- Golf Outing at Metedeconk National Golf Club in Jackson, N.J.
- New Jersey Performing Arts Center event in Newark, N.J.
- Regional dinner in Ho-Ho-Kus, N.J.
- Regional dinner in Gladwyne, Pa.
- New Jersey State Theater Event in New Brunswick, N.J.
- Philadelphia Phillies baseball event
- Villanova football and basketball games and receptions

Coming up in California are three alumni events with the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’74 A&S, chair of the theatre department, and Kerry Kittles ’96 C&F, Los Angeles Clippers guard:

- San Diego, May 31
- Los Angeles, June 1
- San Francisco, June 3

Noted Harold A. Jensen ’87 C&F, president of the VUAA, “Alumni serve as Villanova ambassadors throughout the country and around the world, and they will play an important role in the success of The Campaign for Villanova. Working together, we can signify our support of the University through this campaign and help preserve the Villanova educational experience for future generations.”

Encourage greater parent involvement
Since its inception in 2002, the Parents’ Program has served as a successful way to engage parents of current Villanova students more closely in the life of the University. The program unites the University’s offices of Student Life, Career Services, Enrollment Management and Development, which work together with a committee of parent volunteers to develop strategies to reach more parents, collect their input and educate them about Villanova. The committee meets regularly on campus, and its members have engaged nearly 800 parents by hosting 16 receptions around the country over the past three years.

“Parents have demonstrated a strong desire to be more involved in their children’s educational experience,” stated Patricia L. McGoldrick, director of the Parents’ Program. “We are using this valuable resource to help us improve the Villanova experience and reach out to more parents who may be looking for ways to participate in the University community.”

Parent volunteer initiatives during the public phase will continue to include attending meetings, hosting receptions in key areas nationally and serving as Villanova ambassadors. In addition, parents will be asked to initiate and maintain contact among their peers on behalf of the University and the campaign. This will include reviewing peer lists, making solicitation phone calls, writing letters and taking part in solicitation visits when appropriate.
Integrate planned giving components into solicitation efforts

During the public phase, planned giving will become a more visible and important component of Leadership Gift, Major Gift and Annual Fund solicitations. A comprehensive marketing effort will be initiated and will include newsletters, direct mailings, an interactive Web site, advertising and presentations. This targeted outreach will introduce alumni, parents and friends to the benefits of planned giving while illustrating how wills, charitable trusts and other planned giving vehicles can maximize opportunities to support Villanova and its priorities.

“Ultimately, planned giving is reciprocal giving, helping donors to enhance their own family’s well-being while supporting Villanova,” noted Charles W. Thomas, director of planned giving. “Donors who take advantage of planned giving vehicles help the University carry out its mission and secure its future while advancing their own financial objectives, including tax savings and income benefits for loved ones.”

Deliver key messages through targeted communication and events

The campaign’s communications efforts will be expanded considerably during the public phase. Traditional vehicles, such as Villanova Magazine and the campaign newsletter, will continue to be primary sources of information for the Villanova community. In addition, targeted fundraising print materials and a user-friendly campaign Web site will be launched. All communication vehicles to alumni, parents and friends will be designed to deliver clearly and effectively campaign messages and information about the University’s fundraising priorities.

Special events throughout The Campaign for Villanova will provide opportunities to highlight progress and celebrate successful milestones. These regional events will play an important role in intensified campaign activities during the public phase. Cultural events, golf outings and receptions, like this recent reception hosted by Parents’ Committee members Cathy and Timothy A. Davenport in Washington, D.C., will help Villanova reach alumni, parents and friends in key geographic areas throughout the country. The Davenports are the parents of Carly ’06 A&S and Timothy ’08 A&S.

The community comes together to secure Villanova’s future

This is an exciting period for both the campaign and the University. As this ambitious fundraising effort moves forward, Villanova remains focused on its goal of providing a transformational educational experience, rooted in Augustinian values, that prepares students for successful careers and rewarding lives.

“These public phase initiatives are designed to reach every graduate, parent and friend and provide opportunities for them to help make this campaign a success,” noted Elizandro. “It is only through the active involvement of the entire community that the goals and aspirations of the campaign will be met, and that Villanova will secure the resources necessary to enhance its profile as one of the nation’s leading Catholic universities.”
Tethered to Her Dream

NASA flight engineer Christy Hansen ’97 A&S has a job where she can’t make mistakes: training shuttle astronauts to work in outer space.

By Irene Burgo

What are the chances of landing a dream job immediately after graduation from grad school? When you set goals and direction, opportunities exist. Consider Christy Hansen ’97 A&S.

“Keep your dreams open and follow what you want to do,” Hansen advised in the inaugural address she gave for the Women’s Studies Annual Alumni Lecture Series last November at CEER (Villanova University’s Center for Engineering Education and Research). Hansen believes goals and dreams are important for everyone. She is a good example of why. Following her lifelong goal, Hansen landed a much-coveted “dream job” while working on her master’s degree.

“All I always wanted to do is be an astronaut,” said Hansen. “That’s very challenging and difficult to do, but it’s always been my dream.” As a child growing up in Media, Pa., Hansen was interested in space and everything related to space science. She hoped to work at NASA one day, getting as close to her goal as possible. She pursued a career path, preparing through education. She wasn’t always sure how to proceed, yet she would not be deterred.

Eight years after graduation from Villanova, Hansen is achieving her goals. She has not yet suited up for launch, but she is on track. And right now, she’s closer to her dream than even she could have imagined in the wishing and planning stages. The Villanova alumna is a flight engineer at NASA’s Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston. She is responsible for training astronauts on the International Space Station for space walks. In her talk for Women’s Studies, titled “Glass Ceilings to Flight Plans,” Hansen described her job, as well as the struggles and the obstacles she overcame along the way.

Hansen’s parents, who supported her goals, believe Christy was programmed for a space science career from the start. Her mother, Geri Hansen, the graduate program assistant in Villanova’s College of Nursing, confirmed Christy’s passion for space. “Christy always insisted she wanted to be an astronaut, and nothing else,” said Geri Hansen. “Even as a little girl, that’s all she talked about. She watched tapes of events like the Moon landing and everything about outer space.”

Hansen had another special ally at Villanova: her twin sister, Diane Hansen ’97 A&S, who majored in communication, minored in Women’s Studies and is now a psychotherapist for Chesapeake Connections in Baltimore.

In high school, Cristy Hansen enjoyed math and physics. At Villanova, she majored in comprehensive science (CS) to gain a well-rounded science background, and minored in physics and Women’s Studies. “Today, having knowledge in several areas like chemistry, biology and physics that CS exposed me to—rather than one specific focus—has helped me in a lot of different things I now do in my job,” she said.

Hansen’s transition from college to NASA seems like it could have been designed, but not so. Serendipity stepped in. While reviewing literature for graduate schools, Hansen found a pamphlet describing a master’s degree in space studies at the University of North Dakota. “I didn’t even think such a degree existed, but it was as if it was tailor-made for me,” she said.

So Hansen enrolled in the graduate program. Her studies covered space vehicle design and planetary science, as well as issues such as the commercialization of space and the military in space. Just before completing her master’s degree in 1999, while on a class field trip to a conference on human space flight at the JSC, Hansen met a NASA contact who suggested she send a résumé. She did, and almost immediately, she said, NASA invited her for an interview. “They flew me down to Houston, and after the interview, offered me the job on the spot,” she explained. “I think my background in physics and space studies convinced them I was a good candidate.” According to Hansen, luck and being in the right place at the right time helped her along.

Hansen is animated when recalling the experience, but once you meet her, you realize enthusiasm is second nature to her. “I couldn’t believe it. What are the chances of matching up with a job you want right out of school? It was a unique opportunity to work in the field of space—something that was in the back
of my mind, if I couldn’t be an astronaut. I was very excited.” She is still energized.

As a space flight engineer, Hansen is responsible for training the astronauts who engage in extra-vehicular activities (EVA). The EVA group to which she belongs does planning, training and flying. It is her job to educate and train the crew members who work outside of the International Space Station to navigate safely in the environment of space while engaging in the tasks they perform while in orbit. “It takes a year to one-and-a-half years to train one crew of two to three astronauts,” she said.

Her duties include teaching courses, working hands-on with the astronauts astronauts who have flown in space and have so much experience and education! But you learn and gather confidence.” Imagine yourself in her shoes—passionate about space travel, plunging full-steam-ahead into performing your duties. With boundless energy and enthusiasm, Hansen displays a palpable level of excitement for the job. In fact, after reviewing her qualifications, NASA said they hired her because of her “energy and excitement for the job,” she said.

At the JSC, where the focus is on human space flight training, “Most of the work is dedicated to training astronauts on the different types of hardware or interfaces they will use, or getting them ready to perform actual flights,” said Hansen. “It’s a very exciting thing.” Recently, she has been involved in coaching astronauts scheduled for the Space Shuttle Discovery. However, to maintain confidentiality, she was not able to comment on the mission prior to its launch date, now scheduled for mid-July.

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“How a NASA trainer is trained

When she began at JSC, to groom for the job, Hansen trained for a year and a half. The training of instructors can be almost as extensive as the agenda for preparing astronauts to travel in space. Learning to teach the crew to perform their EVA assignments is just one part of the overall training.

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Hansen (fourth from right) and other NASA personnel stand in front of the External Stowage Platform, the space hardware that will launch aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery’s orbiter. This platform will hold spare electrical parts for the International Space Station. The blue-suited men are astronauts in training.
Before being assigned to the EVA group, Hansen was required to participate with other crew members undergoing training in other areas. NASA required Hansen to absorb some knowledge of other disciplines involved in space flight, among them thermal, structural and robotics. She also needed to learn how to teach up to 15 types of classes before she could become a certified instructor.

“It was stressful having to learn about the different classes, but I studied, learned and practiced teaching. Once you’re certified in all of your classes, you need to get started on your flight controller certification,” Hansen noted. “After I was certified, I was OK to train any astronauts or anybody else.”

Astronauts are not the only ones who train at JSC. Individuals from other flight disciplines also take classes. “For example, we work closely with robotics people,” Hansen said. “They sometimes take our classes because they need to understand the tools we’re using. So we inform other engineers and scientists at NASA as well.”

Hansen’s induction training included the challenge of learning all about the hardware the EVA astronauts need to perform their jobs in space. “My group is so interactive with the crew, and there’s so much work that goes into it, it just makes sense to learn the hardware. Otherwise you would not be able to write the procedures,” she said.

As a new employee, Hansen was required to read collections of manuals detailing the procedures she would be obligated to follow on the job. As a certified instructor, she now writes the procedures the astronauts must follow in space. “These procedures become the written guidelines reinforcing the training the astronauts receive in class at JSC before launch and are the detailed instructions they must follow when they are in space,” she said.

Overall, Hansen is intimately involved with the training in several ways: She teaches in the classroom, trains in the NBL tank and works with virtual reality. The training also includes traveling with the crew to Cape Kennedy, Fla., approximately every three months. “For an instructor, this experience is practical and valuable because seeing the real hardware on site allows you to make sure that what you’re writing in your procedures matches what you’re seeing there,” she said.

At the JSC, Hansen explained, most of the time the astronauts train on mock-up hardware. “Different engineers and different contractors build hardware to look like what’s going to launch, but the mock-up isn’t always the same thing as the original,” she said. “The crew must be aware of the differences between what the mock-up looks like and the real hardware, because there can be real differences in appearance. A bolt, or something else, may be different. It is a real communication issue.” Extensive training with hardware ensures the success of the EVA mission during orbit. Both the instructors and crew members must know their hardware and tools well. By training both at Houston and Cape Kennedy, Hansen and the crew can adapt themselves to the actual hardware used in flight.

This sounds simple enough, but it can be a Catch-22. According to Hansen, hardware changes happen all the time, for any number of reasons, during the lengthy training process. When changes happen, everyone needs to know immediately, and the updates need to be written into the procedures and communicated. Hardware changes can become critical issues if the EVA crew can’t identify a part or tool once in orbit. Communicating about the hardware is also a vital part of her job.

But more than communication is at stake if astronauts don’t recognize the hardware. “If some piece of new hardware comes along, and they bolt it to your truss or whatever other hardware you’re going to bring up into orbit and they don’t tell you or, you don’t receive that information, then the crew is mis-trained,” Hansen explained. “Now they’re training on a mock-up that doesn’t have the right hardware on it. These issues need to be resolved, communicated and written into the procedures immediately because they can make a critical difference in space,” she said.

“In orbit, you have to be aware of every little thing,” Hansen stressed. “It is easy to get disoriented when you’re up in space. You are weightless, and nothing is normal as you know it. So, little things are important,” Hansen added. That’s why NASA trains both instructors and astronauts in many different environments that simulate space.

Learning the ropes for space walks

One of those environments is the JSC’s Neutral Buoyancy Lab. Here, Hansen trained in a pressurized space suit (the extra-vehicular mobility unit, or EMU) like the astronauts wear in the lab. This lab or tank is a huge pool 102 feet by 202 feet, where crew and trainers alike do simulated space walking exercises. This
Hansen added, “Practicing in the pool was a great opportunity. But it’s not what I expected,” said Hansen. “The water environment makes you neutrally buoyant, so that you’re just floating there. But it also makes movements so much more difficult.” After six hours in the water, Hansen recalled how exhausted and sore she was. “Wearing the pressurized suit makes movement doubly hard. When the astronauts train in the pool, they’re sore and they get tired, but it prepares them for work in space. They know what to expect, and I know what to expect of them when they’re working in orbit.”

**Overcoming obstacles**

With her experience, Hansen can talk about torques and nuts and bolts as well as any engineer. Would an engineering degree have prepared her better for the job, since she needs to know so much about hardware? She said she wanted to study engineering in college but was discouraged beforehand by a male guidance counselor.

Hansen recalls that her concentration in Women’s Studies at Villanova gave her the confidence needed in preparing for obstacles she might encounter on the job. In her lecture for Women’s Studies, she related how a male professor at her graduate school had told her that she was a distraction to men because she was too attractive. Hansen has proven him wrong.

Hansen credits her twin sister for introducing her to Women’s Studies. The flight engineer recalled that these courses helped fortify her for the future. She fondly recalled Dr. Sally Schulz, assistant professor of philosophy, for her strong moral and emotional support. Says Hansen, “Women’s Studies taught me how to conquer the barriers and the fears that could have gotten me to doubt my dreams and could have prevented me from getting to where I am. It was a group I could go to, to express my struggles and be taken seriously.”

Last November, Hansen traveled to Moscow to give a presentation to the Mission Control Center there. She participated in the Russian Power Reconfiguration meeting involving NASA’s flight controllers.

Hansen has not given up her dream of being an astronaut. She’s filing away all the information she gets from the many female and male astronauts she has met and with whom she works. Who knows when the opportunity might open up for her? Still, she’s happy doing her day job. “If I couldn’t be an astronaut to start, this job is the next best thing,” she said.

In June, she’ll be returning to campus again, this time to receive the Villanova University Alumni Association’s Young Alumni Medal, to be presented during Alumni Reunion Weekend.
he hated. He quit after several months and made up his mind to figure out what would really bring him happiness in his profession. During his subsequent period of self-exploration, he taught at Bergen Catholic High School in New Jersey and ultimately decided to pursue a marketing post at BusinessWeek.

Wackermann now speaks ardently about the importance of finding a career you really love. In pursuing a career path, he says, you must develop a thick skin and self-confidence, and never listen to people who try to tell you that you are not good enough.

For his part, Wackermann considers himself lucky to be part of an exciting industry that changes every day. As a magazine publisher, he has the opportunity to travel, meet interesting people and learn constantly.

Wackermann considers his time at Villanova to have been invaluable. "The things I learned at Villanova have played such an important role," he insists. A former Blue Key member, he sees Villanovans as social, optimistic and hard-working people who know how to get along well with others—clearly vital qualities for the professional world.

Wackermann lives in Ridgewood, N.J., with his wife, Regina (Toth) Wackermann ’90 A&S, whom he met while at Villanova. She also majored in English. They have three children, Teddy, age 10; Hugh, who’s 7; and Helena, age 3. In his leisure time, Wackermann enjoys relaxing with his family and training for the Franklin Lakes (N.J.) Triathlon coming up in June.

Elizabeth Solly ’05 A&S is majoring in communication and economics and plans to pursue a career in finance or publishing.
Erin Elmore ’02 J.D. has distinguished herself as an exceptional young adult and attributes much of her success to her days as a Villanova School of Law student. As a leading candidate in the third season of “The Apprentice,” Donald Trump’s popular cut-throat reality series on NBC-TV, Elmore had high hopes of being the next woman to Trump. The Philadelphia resident displayed killer instincts throughout the season, where candidates were divided into two teams of nine—their “street smarts” (high-school grads who became entrepreneurs) and those with “book smarts” (the college grads).

As an undergraduate at the University of Miami, Elmore had a dual major in political science and broadcasting and wrote for the Miami Hurricane newspaper. As a law student at Villanova, she took part in the Volunteer Attorney Program. Since her graduation from law school three years ago, Elmore has gone on to make her mark by combining her education, experience and values. Not only was she an accomplished attorney focusing on women’s rights, but she models professionally and has been at work on a TV program she will host about Philadelphia.

In an interview with Villanova Magazine, Elmore discussed her experience on the TV reality show and how her Villanova Law education contributed to her longevity on the series. She truly is a Renaissance woman who is confident, clever and determined to leave a lasting impression on society.

Q: How did you first become interested in auditioning for “The Apprentice”?
A: There was an open casting call in Philadelphia, and my boyfriend convinced me to go. There were over 2 million people who applied to be on the show, and I was one of the very last in line during the auditions. Even still, afterwards I had a really positive feeling. The interview process is confidential and there are a lot of rigorous steps.

Q: Of course it is a competition, but was there an attitude from the “book smarts” candidates along the lines of snobbery?
A: Both teams are vying for the same position, but a lot of us became friends. It is unrealistic to go into something like this thinking you will always be on top or that you have an ultimate edge on another person. There was no real snobbery or bad sportsmanship displayed.

Q: Were you able to contact your friends and family during the filming of the show?
A: We had no free time during the taping, and it took over my life. It’s like boot camp. Everything must remain confidential until it is aired for the public to see, so we had little contact with outsiders until after the show aired.

Q: How did your Villanova Law education contribute to your composure on “The Apprentice”?
A: I felt very prepared and comfortable in the board room, more so than many other candidates. I always spoke with conviction and really articulated my points well. I have my law school education to thank for that, and my ability to convey my thoughts orally.

Q: Would you do this again, given the opportunity?
A: Absolutely! I made a lot of friends and it was an irreplaceable learning experience.

Q: Did you have any negative experiences during the process?
A: I wouldn’t say negative, just challenging. I was very sleep-deprived and we often did not have time to stop and eat. It was a wonderful experience but very difficult to keep up with at the same time.

Q: How did you handle being fired?
A: My firing was fair because I was inept at Home Depot. My character was not attacked in any way. I left the boardroom with class, integrity and self-respect, and that is all I really wanted to do.

Q: What are some of your interests and hobbies?
A: I have done a lot of modeling and really enjoy that. I also love knitting, yoga, gourmet cooking and shopping. I like to think I’m a well-rounded individual.

Q: What are your plans for the future?
A: I had high hopes of being the next apprentice and working for Donald Trump. I still enjoy practicing law and have plans to develop an “All Women for Women” law firm. Additionally, I am going to continue to volunteer and possibly get more involved with the Miss Universe organization.

Elmore represented herself with true style on the third season of “The Apprentice,” competing on the “book smarts” team for a coveted spot working for Donald Trump.

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Krystin Fischer ’05 A&S is an English major and a business minor who is interning in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs.
Never Too Busy for Success

A former math education major, Joseph J. Crivelli ‘87 A&S finds the value-added qualities to be found in the convergence of investor relations and public relations.

By Dana Imperia ’05 A&S

Joseph J. Crivelli ‘87 A&S has his hands full. As a father of three beautiful daughters—Francesca, 10, Christina, 8, and Angela, 4—and with a college sweetheart wife, Deanna Slota ‘89 A&S, who is a homemaker, Crivelli would appear to have no time for anything other than worrying. “They are all so beautiful already. Just wait till they get older and boys start coming around,” Crivelli said.

Besides anticipating the arrival of his daughters’ teenage years, Crivelli has been planning on other fronts as well. In December 2004, he was promoted to senior vice president of Investor Relations (IR) at Gregory FCA Communications, a leading integrated public and investor relations firm, based in Ardmore, Pa. As Henry David Thoreau pointed out, “Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it.” And Crivelli has had a busy, busy road to success.

Joining Gregory FCA in June 2003 as director of investor relations, Crivelli clearly made his presence felt. Eighteen months later, he was promoted to senior VP. Based in suburban Philadelphia, Gregory FCA specializes in media relations, investor relations and financial communications for growing private and publicly traded companies. As one of the only firms to integrate IR with PR, Gregory FCA has attracted many leading regional and national companies. “It has given Gregory FCA a very distinct advantage,” Crivelli said.

While the importance of integrating PR and IR might go over some people’s heads, Crivelli adamantly maintains the need for both practices: “In PR, you’re interfacing with the media, trying to get the media’s attention for the company. In IR, you’re interfacing with the investment community, and the goal there is to get Wall Street’s attention for your company. In the past, companies have kept their IR department isolated from the corporate communications department, employee communications department, and even the PR group,” Crivelli said, and that approach “creates mixed messages in the marketplace. Post-Enron and WorldCom, there is definitely a need for a company to speak with one voice.”

With poise, Crivelli effectively has communicated his clients’ messages to investors, customers and partners, becoming essential to the firm’s success. Don’t believe it? Just look at Crivelli’s record. When he first joined Gregory FCA, he was charged with expanding the firm’s IR practice, and in a matter of months his outstanding work attracted new clients with market capitalizations of up to $2 billion. Among them are PMA Capital, WorldGate Communications, Teleflex Incorporated, The Bon-Ton Stores and C&D Technologies.

Crivelli has several goals in mind to continue his rapid success following his promotion. For starters, Gregory FCA intends to broaden its financial relations resources and its expanding strategic investor relations services. “Since introducing IR, we have tripled our revenue, and we hope to keep that momentum going,” Crivelli said. He isn’t too busy to notice the “green field running opportunity in the Philadelphia market.” He added, however, “I’m not saying we won’t go outside the region, but my first objective is to make sure I have this area completely covered.”

Prior to joining Gregory FCA, Crivelli saw his career take off at PNC Bank, where he became an assistant vice president in the company’s Middle Market Lending Division. It was in his later job at Penn Engineering where he was first introduced to IR, launching a lifelong career. Crivelli built Penn Engineering’s first IR program. He then managed all aspects of IR programs for WorldGate Communications Inc., and Inrange Technologies Corporation, targeting new investors, coordinating investor meetings and assisting with public reporting to investors.

Crivelli finally had found his passion that would lead him to Gregory FCA. At Villanova University, Crivelli was a math education major with plans to become a teacher after graduation. But life took him in a different direction. With his math, public speaking and other liberal arts-oriented classes, he said, “When I found IR, it was a natural for me. You need to be able to sort through a company’s financial statements and understand why it’s an attractive investment for Wall Street. But you also need to have the skill to communicate the value of the company, whether in writing, speaking or by creating hard-hitting PowerPoint presentations,” he said. “I think my math education major was perfect for this discipline.” Crivelli also holds an M.B.A. from Drexel University.

While his education has taken him so far, Crivelli noted that his attitude about career choices really got him where he is today. “I thought I wanted to be a teacher after college, but I soon realized that wasn’t quite for me,” he reflected. “It’s important that you stay open-minded and flexible. Being open-minded allowed me to research this new responsibility of IR and put me on the career path I am on today.”

So began Crivelli’s busy but passionate road to personal and professional success.

Dana K. Imperia ’05 A&S is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. An English major with a concentration in writing and a minor in Japanese, she plans to pursue a career in publishing or public relations and later attend law school.
**Clean Water for Waslala**

After encountering Nicaragua’s rural poverty on two service trips, Matthew Nespoli ’04 A&S created an organization to direct the flow of help he enlists from Villanovans and the wider world.

**BY MICHAEL NATARO ’06 A&S**

Every year, hundreds of Villanova University students leave their comfort zones for one week to embark on journeys they know will make a difference in the lives of others. These Villanovans, through Campus Ministry, participate in what is called a break trip—an opportunity during the fall or spring to visit an impoverished region either in the United States or abroad, and to make a contribution to families who need their help to survive. Virtually everyone who goes on one of these trips is greatly affected by it, but few as much as Matthew Nespoli ’04 A&S. While at Villanova, where he majored in economics and minored in computer science, he visited Waslala, Nicaragua, on two of these trips. What he witnessed there changed his life forever.

“After meeting a Waslalan girl my age named Rosibel, I initially thought that we were like the same person; we had such similar personalities and similar interests,” Nespoli recalled. “However, after hearing her life story, filled with stories of sexual abuse, lack of health care, government corruption and unemployment, I realized that we were really complete opposites. That realization was like a volcano erupting. How was I supposed to deal with the fact that Rosibel and I led two completely different lives, simply because of where we were born?”

Nespoli had discovered his mission: to bring relief to Rosibel and her community.

Nicaragua is the second poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere. The mountainous region of Waslala, a rural municipality three times the size of Philadelphia with 85 communities and about 45,000 residents, has been plagued with extreme poverty since its beginnings under brutal Spanish colonial rule. The injustices continued under the Somoza dictatorship between 1937 and 1979 and the fierce civil war during the 1980s. As a result, the vast majority of the residents live in abject poverty, lacking everything from electricity, roads, health care, jobs and most importantly, clean drinking water. This basic need, which so many take for granted, inspired Nespoli to act.

“Clean water is the most fundamental human right and one of the most acute problems in Waslala,” Nespoli points out. “Child mortality rates are 23 percent in Waslala, and much of this is due to a lack of clean water.”

Shortly after Nespoli’s return to Villanova following his first visit in May 2003, he and the friends who accompanied him took action. Initially, they began by telling their friends, families and parishes about the conditions. Before long, they had raised $2,300. Nespoli refused to stop there. The following March, he led another group from Villanova to the Waslalans. When they returned, they appealed to the students of Cardinal O’Hara High School in Springfield, Pa., who in turn helped raise $3,000. After a summer of careful brainstorming and planning, Nespoli wrote a 45-page proposal titled “Water for Waslala.”

Under the auspices of the Augustine Volunteer Program, Water for Waslala (WfW) was born. Its primary goal is to implement clean water systems in areas

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![The main street in the city of Waslala, where roads are unpaved, muddy and filled with large rocks and debris.](image1)

![In this typical rural kitchen, women cook on woodburning stoves, which fill the room with smoke. As a result, many women suffer from respiratory illnesses and asthma.](image2)
where disease and contamination are rampant. Cholera and dysentery are commonplace, and Nespoli found that his mission was to remedy this. WfW's goal is to raise $100,000 during 2004-05. This will allow the construction and upkeep of about 20 new water systems in the region over the next three to five years. After this goal is met, WfW will continue to fundraise for the construction of water purification systems for 30 other communities still in need.

Since October 2003, Nespoli has been working closely with Villanova, including Campus Ministry, the Center for Peace and Justice Education and the colleges of Nursing and Engineering. During Villanova's 2003 Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, Nespoli invited two priests from Nicaragua to campus to speak about the conditions in their homeland. This resulted in a $6,000 donation from the University administration. In March 2004, Nursing and Engineering students and faculty visited Waslala. Students from the two colleges continue to visit Waslala today. The nurses go as part of a clinical option for their health course. They teach the community about nutrition, hygiene and disease and visit hospitals and nursing homes. The engineers, after examining the quality of the previously constructed filtration system, designed a standard system for the region. Over the next two years, they will continue to create systems for water filtration.

WfW tirelessly has worked to develop an awareness campaign about world poverty and social justice in the hopes that people would help the Waslalans and others in need around the world. Between $5,000 and $10,000 is needed to purchase the concrete, filters and pipes for each water system.

WfW is now a registered charity, and Nespoli has been traveling to promote its goals. In August 2004, he became an Augustinian Volunteer, and resides in St. Augustine's Parish in Philadelphia. He has spoken at more than 25 schools in the area, reaching over 10,000 high school and college students with his message. He has also been a guest of the Archdiocese of Chicago and has spoken at a conference before 75 teachers from 50 Midwestern schools, most of whom expressed interest in helping the cause. This exposure has helped WfW reach $50,000 in six months, halfway to this year's goal.

Nespoli also has been busy filming a documentary about the region, his predicament and his group's effort to raise awareness and to motivate people to help. The documentary was aired at Villanova on April 30. Nespoli says this film is pivotal to sustaining the project over the years.

“After being in this for so long, I've realized Water for Waslala is simply about fulfilling needs, ours and theirs alike. Our needs comprise finding a deeper meaning in our lives through uniting as a community in service to the poor. Theirs is one of survival, of simply staying alive. We need perspectives on priorities, on happiness, on ways to unite our minds with our hearts,” Nespoli affirms. “They need others to help them simply live with dignity. That is what encapsulates Water for Waslala for me.”

To follow the progress of Water for Waslala, visit www.waterforwaslala.org. The Web site includes bios of the many Villanovans on its board of directors.

Michael Nataro ‘06 A&S is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. A political science and philosophy major, he also has an interdisciplinary concentration in Arab and Islamic Studies. He plans to work for the State Department after graduate school.
From the Main Line to the Frontline of Homeland Security

Lisa Beury ’04 A&S assists in designing exercises and writing scenarios to deal with WMD terrorism attacks.

BY MAUREEN MCKEW

Just about a year ago, Lisa Beury ’04 A&S, a political science and Honors major, was contemplating graduation from Villanova University and her next move. The career decision she made placed her in one of the most important post-9/11 areas of public policy: anti-terrorism. Beury is a researcher with the international strategy and consulting firm of Booz Allen Hamilton, specifically the company’s weapons of mass destruction (WMD) exercise team. She is based in Abingdon, Md.

Beury’s career path was determined by her own longstanding interest in policy, and also by the events of September 11, 2001. She explained: “After 9/11, like many other people, I became interested in homeland security: how our domestic and foreign policies relate to homeland security, and how our internal policies can affect the safety of the people and infrastructure of our country. So, in my senior year, I did Web searches and came across Booz Allen Hamilton. I thought what this company did was fascinating.”

By good fortune, her roommate had interned with the firm and passed on Beury’s résumé. Beury was hired as a researcher for the company’s CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives) Training and Exercise Team. The team’s main function, Beury noted, “is developing and executing training and exercises for civilian officials and first responders around the country, and for combatant commanders and military installations around the world.” The team works with federal and state agencies in developing standard operating procedures (SOPs) for what are euphemistically called non-routine incidents. These include biological, chemical and nuclear terrorism attacks.

When the team worked with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service, Beury conducted a review of best practice and information reporting and incident management systems. She also provided research and writing capabilities to support the development of SOPs for the agency’s emergency management committee and program offices.

Beury also served on the company team supporting the Federal Highway Administration in developing emergency transportation preparedness and response workshops for cities throughout the United States. She and the team worked with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), assisting in exercise design and development for the DHS I-STAFF tabletop exercise and did similar work for the DHS Office of Domestic Preparedness for the state of Minnesota.

If this also appears a bit complex, Beury gave it a simple explanation. “When we go out to do various tabletop, command post or functional exercise for clients, I work on designing the exercise and writing up the scenario,” she said. “It’s a bit like playing terrorist. For a client group of first responders, for example, our team might design a scenario involving an incident where a car pulls off a major highway, explodes and sets off some sort of chemical device. You have casualties from the explosion and a vapor cloud over the area. The team presents this scenario to the first responders and they tell us how they would react. We document what they would do, identify any gaps we see and present it; the client can now beef up its plans so it is better prepared.”

Beury emphasized that the Booz Allen team is not playing “gotcha” with its clients. The clients themselves are highly motivated to make their good policies even stronger, and this is the reason they engage the team.

Two of the strengths of the CBRNE team are its combination of technical and intellectual expertise and the strong interaction between its members, who are former military people, weapons-specific experts and researchers like Beury. The cooperation among the members makes the end recommendations to the clients cutting-edge, effective and, very importantly, understandable and achievable.

While Beury has a long-term plan of returning to the classroom as a teacher, she finds great fulfillment with her team. She also hopes to take advantage of the opportunities for graduate studies that Booz Allen provides and supports.

Beury credits her Villanova education with making it possible for her to work in an area that before 9/11 was not on her personal radar. “At Villanova, I had an opportunity to study so many different things. The fact that my education was so well-rounded helps me now because I can see things from so many angles. This has been a critical advantage for me.”

Has working in counter-terrorism endeavors increased her own awareness of threats? “Oh yes,” she answered. “Writing the scenarios I write and realizing the threats that are out there, I am a little more suspicious now when I see an unmarked van. And having worked with the Federal Highway Administration, I certainly am more aware of things when I am driving myself. I don’t get paranoid, however. Watchfulness is not necessarily a bad thing. Also, I have the chance to see the reality of the efforts of our government to prevent terrorist attacks, and this makes me feel more comfortable.”
Political Scientists Consider the Outlook for the Bush Presidency

BY KIMBERLY WALLMEIER ’06 C&F

A day-long conference on “The Second Term of George W. Bush: Prospects and Perils,” drew to campus a dozen political science scholars on January 22. Hosted by Villanova University’s political science department, the conference took place two days after the presidential inauguration. Each scholar presented a paper on a different aspect of the second term, among them the 2004 presidential election, the White House staff, the Cabinet, the Congress and the war in Iraq.

Dr. Robert Maranto, assistant professor of political science at Villanova, gave an address and introduced Dr. John R. Johannes, vice president for Academic Affairs at Villanova, as a man who “encourages faculty entrepreneurship.” Maranto said he was grateful both to Johannes and to the University for supporting the event. Maranto was one of several speakers who took part in the opening session, “Are Second Terms Second Best? Why George W. Bush Might (or Might Not) Beat the Expectations.”

Johannes, who is also a political scientist and specialist on the presidency, presented a paper by Roger Davidson, of the University of Maryland and the University of California, Santa Barbara, on “Public Opinion, Presidential Elections and Presidential Governance.” Davidson recognizes that America is more divided politically than ever before. But it wasn’t controversial issues such as abortion, gay marriage and stem cell research that decided the 2004 election, according to Davidson. Instead, the candidates’ positions on terrorism and the war in Iraq were greater determinants of voter decisions. The events of September 11, 2001, transferred the nation’s focus from President Bush’s political agenda to his character. This second term will return public focus to the political agenda and his 2000 promise to be a “uniter, not a divider,” according to Davidson. The president’s second-term goals for Social Security reform, the Middle East and taxes will be a hard sell to the American people, Davidson’s paper noted.

Presenting their papers on the Cabinet, White House staff and presidential rhetoric were, respectively, Dr. Shirley Anne Warshaw, professor of political science at Gettysburg College; Bradley H. Patterson Jr., author of two books on the White House staff; and Dr. John Robert Greene, the Paul J. Schupf Professor of History and Humanities at Cazenovia College.

Warshaw has written seven books on the presidency. She analyzed the diversity of Bush’s second-term Cabinet, in terms of geography, race, gender and religious affiliation. Although Bush’s Cabinet is a very diverse group in some respects, Warshaw added that it consists of all pro-life, Christian conservatives. This lack of diversity could result in groupthink, with few challenges and alternatives to group opinion being made, she observed. “There is some concern among scholars that the war in Iraq was brought about by groupthink,” Warshaw said.

Patterson, in his paper on the people and structure of the White House staff, referred to White House operations as an “institutionalized non-institution.” Greene, author of books on George H.W. Bush and Gerald Ford, identified the differing rhetorical styles of President Bush and his father. The current president is “a speaker, not a speechwriter” who prefers to give informal addresses rather than rehearse speeches.

The luncheon speaker, Stanley A. Renshon, professor of political science at the City University of New York (CUNY) and author of books on George W. Bush and Bill Clinton, in his talk considered the current president’s character and leadership. Renshon’s recent book, In His Father’s Shadow: The Transformation of George W. Bush, identifies four transformations that describe his biographical and leadership psychology. Renshon showed the audience an image of Bush’s favorite painting, W.H.D. Koerner’s “A Charge to Keep,” which is also the title of Bush’s 1999 autobiography. It depicts three men on horseback struggling up a steep and blocked path. One man is ahead of the other two. Renshon believes the president invokes the same qualities as that lead horseman: perseverance, drive and urgency.

In a Q&S session, several people challenged Bush’s curiosity for facts and his ethical versus his political. Renshon noted that because Bush does not have the curiosity of a president such as Bill Clinton, more things will be accomplished in his time as commander-in-chief. Bush requires all government functions to produce positive results and is more interested in the product than the process, according to Renshon.

This corporate model of leadership was criticized by Dr. Lori A. Johnson, assistant professor of political science at Wellesley College. She sees Bush as unable to acknowledge his errors and also expressed the opinion that the president’s results-oriented mindset goes against democracy’s key values.

Among the other presenters was Dr. Ann M. Lesch, dean of humanities and social sciences at the American University in Cairo (and a former Villanova faculty member). She spoke about the Middle East and the war on terror. Maranto is compiling the papers from the conference, which was broadcast live on C-SSPAN2 and re-aired in February.

Among the dozen speakers was Dr. Robert Maranto, assistant professor of political science at Villanova.

CUNY’s Stanley A. Renshon spoke on presidential character and leadership.
University Mourns Passing of Pope John Paul II

BY MAUREEN MCKEW

At a Memorial Mass on April 6, the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president, spoke to the Villanova community of the deep spirituality of John Paul II and the Holy Father’s willingness to share his sufferings with the people of the world.

Father Dobbin particularly noted the Pope’s frequent iteration of these words to the Lord: “I looked for you…and you were there.” The president likened them to those of St. Augustine of Hippo: “Late have I loved you, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new, late have I loved you! You were within me, but I was outside, and it was there that I searched for you.” Noting that another person in poor health might have withdrawn from public view, Father Dobbin said that the Pope, by letting the world see his infirmities, united his sufferings with those of Christ on the cross and underscored the dignity of every human person.

On April 21, the University community gathered again at St. Thomas of Villanova Church, this time for a liturgy marking the election on April 19 of the new pontiff, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany, who chose the name Pope Benedict XVI.

International Law Society Hosts Speaker on United Nations

BY KIMBERLY A. WALLMEIER ’06 C&F

For its 20th annual dinner, the International Law Society of Villanova University’s School of Law hosted keynote speaker Ruth Wedgwood on April 5. She spoke on “Reforming the United Nations.” Organized by the Society’s faculty advisor, John F. Murphy, professor of law, the event was designed to stimulate and promote interest in international law and was open to the public. Held at the Villanova Conference Center, the evening included a reception and dinner.

Wedgwood is the Edward B. Burling Professor of International Law and Diplomacy at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, and previously taught international law at Yale University. Elected by vote of 148 countries, Wedgwood became the U.S. expert on the United Nations Human Rights Committee, which monitors compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Wedgwood’s research on international law and policy has taken her to Bosnia, Croatia, Kosovo, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Haiti, East Timor and Georgia in the former Soviet Union. She consults with the Department of Defense on law of war issues in the post-9/11 world and serves on the Secretary of State’s Advisory Committee on International Law.

Murphy noted, “The topic of her speech is one of the most important and controversial issues facing the world community, and will be the focus of attention at a summit of world leaders to be held at the United Nations in September. Professor Wedgwood’s speech was a tour de force of the challenges facing the United Nations,” Murphy said. “She made a number of provocative points that stimulated discussion at the dinner.”

Members of the International Law Society promote social and academic awareness of global events to encourage an understanding of diverse legal cultures. The Society hosts speakers and symposia to encourage cultural exchange, foster academic discussion and promote interest in international law.
Decoding the Rock Art of Ancient Skywatchers

BY MEGAN ARMSTRONG ’06 A&S

In the archeological treasure trove of New Mexico’s remote Chaco Canyon, two Villanovans are exploring how early Native Americans used certain rocks to mark the occurrence of equinoxes, solstices and other astronomical events.

“The sky over Chaco Canyon is often overwhelmingly gorgeous. We can look up at night and see all the stars without any light pollution, and then we go out before dawn and watch the solstice Sun rise at the exact place marked by early Navajos, giving us an awesome sense of connection between present and past,” noted Dr. Elizabeth Jewell, administrator of Villanova University’s department of astronomy and astrophysics. Jewell and Dr. Carol A. Armbruster, assistant professor, have been decoding a small group of rock art panels in this canyon in northeast New Mexico.

Jewell and Armbruster found evidence of archeoastronomy in Chaco Canyon. They presented their research to colleagues and students on February 16 in the Bryn Mawr Room of the Connelly Center.

The Anasazi who once inhabited this dry region marked rocks using paint, pecking, incising, scraping or graffiti. A petroglyph with three concentric circles, for example, is generally interpreted as an image of the Sun. The Anasazi were farmers, hunters and traders who built cities, irrigation systems, dams, and an extensive road network. Some of their structures in the yellow sandstone served as places to observe the Sun and Moon. Their disappearance 700 years ago is still a mystery, even to the Navajos (Anasazi means “ancient ones” in the Navajo language).

Armbruster and Jewell confined their research to an area known as Shabik’eshee, in the east end of the canyon. Here they studied various rock art sites within 300 feet of one another, specifically on its westernmost edge. In focusing on decoding “Rock B,” for example, they noted the Shabik’eshee Sun shield imprinted on its surface. At the Winter Solstice, an observer situated at the proper angle near this boulder can see that the angle of Rock B’s ridge is the same as the Sun’s trajectory up and down the Northernmost Defining Cliff, which forms the horizon there. Using a method known as a horizon calendar, for instance, enabled an observer to track the year by locating the Sun at a certain point along a mountain range’s bumpy horizon.

Such observations were vital to the survival of these ancient peoples, according to the two researchers. By monitoring the Sun’s position via certain boulders and cliffs, as well as closely observing other seasonal signs, they could know the proper time to begin preparing and planting seeds.

While evidence of archeoastronomy pervades areas like Chaco, researchers have no cultural context to help decipher the meaning of marked boulders and rocks, the two researchers pointed out. They outlined several current theories. Shamanic theory suggests that rock art is related to the ritual practices of the tribe’s shamans. The picture-language theory suggests that markings reflect the efforts of ancient peoples to communicate with one another. Ritual theory suggests that rock art is related to the ritual practices of the people who produced it. For instance, a mountain sheep etched in a Chaco rock could have been part of a ritual that summoned the animal before the hunt.

From their research, Ambruster and Jewell formulated several conclusions regarding cultural change in dialogue with the ritual practices of these ancient tribes, and later ones. They found that the 18th-century Navajo tribes of Chaco celebrated solstices and equinoxes, while the 20th-century tribes did not. Also, the 18th-century Navajos created permanent ritual sites, such as boulders, in the landscape, while the 20th-century Navajos created and then destroyed their ritual images, such as sandpaintings.

Their research poses questions that warrant further investigation. They Villanovans hope to find whether evidence of archeoastronomy here is widespread or local, and to investigate whether any additional sky-related ceremonial rock art lies in the immediate vicinity of their discoveries. Currently, they are surveying another area in Chaco, spanning about 1.2 miles, to learn more about the culture of the Navajo and Anasazi tribes.

Megan Armstrong ’06 A&S is an English major pursuing a business minor and a concentration in writing and rhetoric. She interned in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs.
Environmental Ethicist Receives 2005 Mendel Medal

BY MAUREEN MCKEW

On April 2, Dr. Holmes Rolston III, University Distinguished Professor and professor of philosophy at Colorado State University, became the 35th recipient of the Mendel Medal. The Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58 A&S, Villanova University president, presented the medal at the annual dinner honoring the memory of the Augustinian monk, Gregor Mendel, considered to be the father of genetics. Earlier in the day, Rolston delivered a public lecture on “The Good Samaritan and His Genes.”

According to the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’69 M.A., dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Rolston was chosen for the Mendel honor because he is known as the father of environmental ethics and because he embodies the spirit of Mendel’s concern for nature, scientific inquiry, religious conviction and the environment.

Rolston received the 2003 Templeton Prize for his work on the intrinsic value of nature in the relationship between science and religion. He is widely respected for his contributions to the dialogue between science and religion, especially in his reconciling of evolutionary natural history and monotheism. His book, Science and Religion: A Critical Survey (1987, Random House) was a groundbreaking work.

Team Effort Boosts Turnout at Open House

KIMBERLY A. WALLMEIER ’06 C&F

For prospective students, an open house experience is far richer than a visit to a Web site or a flip through an informative brochure. At the twice-yearly Graduate and Part-time Undergraduate Open House on March 15 at the Connolly Center, it was clear that the efforts of Villanova University’s Advertising and Marketing Committee had paid off in attracting prospective students. The committee’s chair, Dr. Robert D. Stokes, assistant vice president for Part-time and Continuing Studies in the Office of Academic Affairs, commented that “The Open House is a true team effort at Villanova, with all the colleges involved in planning and hosting the event.” With the assistance of committee members, Office of Communication and Public Affairs staff and interns, and Howell Partners, LLC, this year’s open house attracted more than 400 prospective students, an increase from Spring 2004.

“We had new seminars including ‘Why Graduate School? Why Villanova?,’ presented by Dean of Graduate Studies Gerald M. Long, as well as campus tours and sessions on financial assistance,” Stokes said. Most importantly, these potential students were able to have one-on-one conversations with representatives from the various academic departments. “By meeting faculty and staff, they can see and hear all that Villanova offers,” Stokes added.

Overall, the committee organized an open house that met the needs of prospective students while also showcasing the growing number of programs offered by Villanova.
A Harmony of Vietnamese Poetry and Music

BY KRYSTIN FISCHER '05 A&S

In traditional Vietnamese culture, folk poems are sung, rather than read, in Chu-Nôm, a language now used primarily by scholars. Many of these poems, as in many other cultures, tell a short story with an underlying message or theme.

When Dr. Ngô Thanh Nhàn presented selections of Chu-Nôm poetry and music at Villanova University on February 17, he began by playing the dan tranh. This 16-string zither, which often accompanies traditional poetry readings in Vietnam, is arranged in three octaves. Ngô is a renowned computational linguist from New York University’s Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences.

One of the poets Ngô discussed was Ho Xuan Huong. Well-known in Vietnam, she has been dubbed the “Queen of Nôm” because of her beautiful and influential poems. Through Huong’s works, people have been able to uncover historic, geographic, cultural and literary information about Vietnamese society, Ngô said. Her poetry is a map into the heart and soul of their country.

Ngô concluded his lecture by playing on the dan tranh a song he had written for a friend. The audience was intrigued by his presentation and asked many questions about Chu-Nôm and the style of Vietnamese literary and musical traditions, as well as how to acquire more knowledge about them. In November 2004, Ngô helped organize the First International Nôm Conference at the National Library in Hanoi.

His talk was sponsored by Villanova’s Concentration in East Asian Studies and the department of history.

Study Abroad Survey Ranks Villanova Fifth among Master’s Institutions

BY MEGAN ARMSTRONG '06 A&S

Open Doors 2004, the annual report on international academic mobility, this past November ranked Villanova University fifth among the nation’s top 20 master’s institutions for study abroad. Villanova had been ranked 12th the previous year.

Published by the Institute of International Education (IIE), Open Doors 2004 highlighted study abroad programs in 2002-03, the first full academic year following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Overall, the number of American college students receiving academic credit for study abroad rose by 8.5 percent from the previous year, a record total of 174,629 students in 2002-03. Villanova experienced a 20 percent increase in study abroad students during that year. The study suggests that numbers rose across the nation both in response to and in spite of the political climate following 9/11.

The survey also showed that more American students are choosing to study abroad as opportunities have become more plentiful, varied and affordable. The students also are taking advantage of shorter programs. Fifty percent of undergraduate and master’s degree students in 2002-03 elected summer, January term or another program of eight weeks or less. These short-term programs are popular because they allow students interested in an international educational experience to overcome financial or curricular constraints.

Of the 534 Villanova students who studied abroad that year, 304 were enrolled in summer programs. Lance Kenney, Villanova’s director of international studies, commented on these summer programs in comparison to other popular short-term programs: “Many schools in our category send students overseas for just a few days, or for January term trips. We’ve specifically avoided this sort of academic study tour. Our undergraduate summer programs are all at least six weeks long.” Traditionally, most Villanova students who study abroad go for at least a semester. “I believe this shows our commitment to cultural immersion, not tourism,” Kenney said.

IIE is the leading not-for-profit educational and cultural exchange organization in the United States. It has conducted the annual statistical survey of international students in the United States since 1949, and has been collecting study abroad figures since 1986.

Panel Considers Animals in the Moral

BY Dana Imperia '05 A&S

A panel discussion at Villanova University on February 3 addressed the topic of “Animals in the Moral Community.” The panelists were Christian Diehm, Ph.D., assistant professor of philosophy; Dr. Brett T. Wilmot, the St. Catherine of Sienna teaching fellow for the Ethics Program; and sophomore Bob Vierlinck, founder of Villanovans for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (VETA).

The speakers were introduced by the moderator, Dr. Carol Anthony, associate director of Villanova’s Center for Peace and Justice Education. Each speaker made a 10-minute statement, followed by questions from the audience.

Vierlinck began the discussion by referring to Peter Singer’s Animal Liberation, which has become a quasible for animal rights activists. The book details the chilling realities of animal abuse in slaughterhouses and research laboratories. Vierlinck noted that in 2000, almost 9 billion animals were killed for food in the United States, a number that does not include the fish, horses and animals used in experiments.

Diehm in his remarks stated that people have an ambivalent relationship with animals. “Things we find true about our pets are true about the animals we eat, but we socially and physically enforce barriers so we don’t have to face the inhumane treatment of agricultural animals, causing us to live in a tension where we care for some animals and not others,” the philosophy faculty member said. He also discussed animal processing plants, saying “We don’t know what is going on behind the doors of slaughterhouses, and it’s intentional. People need to know the world they are living in.”

Vegetarianism was one of the key issues discussed. After several students
A Literary Festival of Poetry, Prose and Music

BY DANA IMPERIA ’05 A&S

Throughout the Spring Semester, the English department has been welcoming distinguished writers to its seventh annual Literary Festival. Free and open to the public, it featured receptions and book signings.

The literary festival commenced on February 3 in the Connelly Center’s Radnor-St. David’s Room with a reading from Edward P. Jones. He is the author of The Known World, a novel about the institution of slavery and winner of the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.

On February 17, Karen Tei Yamashita, author of four novels and several plays, discussed her work; the intimate setting was the De Leon Room of the St. Augustine Center for the Liberal Arts. Her work is known for its culturally diverse nature, owing to her wide range of travel, especially in Latin America and Japan. Her 1997 novel, Tropic of Orange, captures the melting pot of America in modern-day Los Angeles. According to Village Voice, “Yamashita’s brilliance is her poetry, her rich linguistic gymnastics, and her sweetly cynical optimism about human nature.”

On March 15, Irish poet Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin read from her latest collection, The Girl Who Married the Reindeer (2001). Irish Literary Supplement declares this volume “elegant and difficult, rich and haunting.” Chuilleanáin, author of eight collections of poetry, received the 1992 O’Shaughnessy Prize for Poetry, as well as other awards. The reading took place in Falvey Memorial Library.

Harlem-born poet Sekou Sundiata read some of his works on April 5 in the Villanova Room of the Connelly Center. Vibe magazine stated, “Sundiata’s poetry moans, soothes, stirs and shakes.” Sundiata also is a musician, composer and teacher. His acclaimed album, Long Story Short, blends blues, funk, jazz and Afro-Caribbean percussion. Among his theatrical works are The Circle Unbroken is a Hard Bop and The Mystery of Love. His latest project, blessing the boats, combines theatricality with lyricism and storytelling.

Concluding the festival, Jacob Slichter shared his experiences as a musician and writer; he spoke on April 19 in the Connelly Center Cinema. Slichter’s just-published book, So You Wanna Be a Rock & Roll Star, describes his story from basement drummer to international fame. His band Semisonic rose to the top of the charts after releasing its 1998 single Closing Time. According to Publisher’s Weekly, Slichter’s book is “funny and poignant.”

The Literary Festival was organized by Dr. Lisa Sewell, assistant professor of English. It was co-sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, Falvey library, Irish Studies, Africana Studies, the Writing Center, the Center for Multicultural Affairs and the Honors Program.

Edward P. Jones’ The Known World, a novel about freed and black slaves, whites and Indians, received a Pulitzer Prize. Jones was one of five distinguished writers who spoke at the literary festival this spring.

Sekou Sundiata in his latest solo performance, blessing the boats, conveys through poetry, music and storytelling how a kidney donation from his manager saved his life. He also focuses attention on the need for organ donation, especially within the African-American community, which is most at risk for kidney failure.

Community

questioned its practicality and effects, Wilmot said, “It’s a personal feeling. You ask yourself what kind of person do I want to be, and how can I manifest my values in my behavior?” The teaching fellow added that vegetarianism isn’t about changing the world but about achieving moral success and dealing with personal principles. Vierlinck in his response asserted that becoming a vegetarian is a “social cause with tangible results.” He said, “Around 95 animals are saved each year by one vegetarian.”

Other issues discussed included animal welfare, neglect and animal abuse, and the problems that arise from the surplus of domestic pets in shelters.

The event was sponsored by VETA and the Center for Peace and Justice Education. VETA holds its meetings on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the Center. For further information, e-mail Vierlinck at animalrightsvu@yahoo.co .
Author of 11 Thrillers Shares Moments of Truth

BY IRENE BURGO

Lisa Scottoline, best-selling author of legal thrillers, had a confession to make in her talk on November 10, 2004, in Falvey Memorial Library. “I was a book-a-holic, and I always secretly wanted to be a writer,” she said. “And if you want to do it, you really can do it.”

Scottoline discussed the process of writing rather than focusing solely on her latest novel, Killer Smile (2004, HarperCollins). Her talk was hosted by the English department and sponsored by the National Italian-American Foundation. Dr. Karyn Hollis, associate professor of English, introduced the novelist.

The Malvern, Pa., resident, who grew up in the Philadelphia area, said that when she began writing novels, she set a goal of getting published within five years. Her desire to write was so intense that she went into debt, living on credit cards while struggling at writing full-time. “I had five credit cards and a limit of $10,000 on each,” Scottoline recalled. “I literally spent my last funds on preparing my manuscript for publication.”

The want-to-be novelist survived numerous rejections, including one from a New York publisher who told her, “We can’t take on any new clients and even if we could, it wouldn’t be you.” Undeterred, Scottoline continued writing and eventually sold her first novel, Everywhere That Mary Went, to a publisher. “After I wrote a second book, I had a career,” she said.

Scottoline urged would-be writers to write something they love. “I wrote what I wanted to read—something that is emotionally true,” she said. “We’ve all read books and said, ‘I can do that,’ and you can. Write what really matters to you, and if it is emotionally true, it will start to feel like the things I am feeling as a writer. If my latest book resonates, it is because it was my most personal subject that I wrote about. Writing is hard, and it is hard for me, but I think hard about what I put down [on paper].”

The author of 11 books offered students first-hand advice. She urged individuals who want to see their work published to develop a writing schedule. “Writing takes time, and you’ve got to struggle as a writer,” she told them. Scottoline writes every day, seven days a week. She admitted she does not use outlines and does not know where or how her story will end. “If you write about something with specificity, people will extrapolate it to their own experience. Use your imagination. If you can see it, then all you have to do is just write it. Writing is like a muscle. If you use it, the stronger it gets,” she said. “You also have to nurture it, and have a little faith.”

The Catholic Imagination, as Illustrated by Paul Elie

BY MICHAEL NATARO ’06 A&S

Paul Elie, best-selling author of The Life You Save May Be Your Own: An American Pilgrimage, on January 26 gave a lecture on “Walker Percy’s Dialogues.” Hosted by Villanova University’s Office for Mission Effectiveness, his lecture in the Connelly Center was the fourth in the year-long series on “Catholic Imagination in Literature.”

Elie discussed the nature of pilgrimage in the context of Percy, one of the four great 20th-century American writers that his acclaimed book connects through their Catholic faith (the other three are Thomas Merton, Dorothy Day and Flannery O’Connor). Elie talked about Percy as a writer, philosopher, semiotics student and Catholic.

Percy’s spiritual journey, which eventually led to his conversion, was the result of a life filled with sharing and love, tragedy and solitude, according to Elie. He revealed how Percy, who came from a wealthy Protestant family, was stricken by misfortune at a young age with the suicide of his father and the death of his mother. The teen-ager went to live with his uncle, a benevolent “baron” of a small, Southern town. His uncle had guests who would stay for months at a time, writing and philosophizing. Percy learned an immense amount about the world and life from his uncle and his uncle’s friends.

Stricken with tuberculosis in his twenties, Percy left the South for upstate New York to recover. The isolation and solitude he found there allowed him to write and philosophize. The reading and writing he was able to do, as well as the friendship and support he received from his best friend, Shelby Foote, guided Percy on his own pilgrimage to the Catholic Church. For Percy, the Church provided him with the opportunity to assert his own identity, separate from his family, as well as a way to understand the importance of family.

In the Church, Percy found the “human standard,” that man was part angel, part beast. As a result of the tragedy that filled his life, Percy forsook the need to diagnose human unhappiness but rather used the Church, as well as the Catholic human anthropological understanding, as a vehicle by which to remedy it.
Insights into the Sudan Crisis

BY KRYSTIN FISCHER ’05 A&S

The war in Sudan, which has been lingering since the 1980s, erupted out of frustration and negligence. But its problems are escalating because of a lack of knowledge from the outside world about its major issues, noted Dr. Ali B. Ali-Dinar in his talk on February 10. Director of outreach for the African Studies Center at the University of Pennsylvania, Ali-Dinar visited Villanova University to give a lecture, “The Sudan Crisis: Understanding the War in Darfur.”

In Darfur, Sudan’s western region bordering Chad, the conflict has led to widespread displacement of people and thousands of deaths. Water and food shortages, along with rape and the destruction of villages, have contributed to the hardships in this area of subsistence farmers and nomadic tribes.

During his trips to Sudan, Ali-Dinar interviewed citizens and spoke with marginalized members of the community. They expressed their fear and concern about the situation occurring in their backyards.

Sudan’s current problems are ethnically based, and there has been a revival of racist sentiment, Ali-Dinar said. The government in the north has armed Arabs and sent them to patrol the south, stimulating civil tensions. There has been resistance by the Sudan Liberation Army, but fighting has not ceased between the Arab troops and the black Sudanese. For the people of southern Sudan, there is very little economic opportunity or positive political involvement. Many view the government as the real enemy because of its actions since the fighting broke out.

In the past, problems would be resolved by traditional means of negotiation and compromise. However, with firearm technology on the rise, fighting and violence have ensued in Sudan. In light of the lack of international commitment to resolving this crisis, Ali-Dinar fears that disaster looms for the people of Sudan. He urged everyone to take the time to research this crisis in order to spread awareness and understanding. He is disappointed in how the United States has responded to the war, leaving promises for aid unfulfilled. Although he recognizes that the United States recently has been preoccupied with other foreign affairs, he is certain something can be done to solve this massive challenge.
A&S Enthusiastic about Growth of Combined Bachelor/Master’s Degree Programs

BY MEGAN ARMSTRONG ’06 A&S

In the past decade, in colleges and universities across the nation, more undergraduates have been opting to pursue graduate studies in lieu of immediately entering the business world. This trend exemplifies the change in society’s expectations of higher education, namely, that more careers now require a graduate degree for entry-level positions. In response to this trend, Villanova University’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (A&S) now offers more five-year bachelor/master’s degree programs.

In 2001, A&S launched a five-year program in biology (B.S./M.S.). Since then, the College has introduced the following six combined programs:

- Classical Studies (B.A./M.A.),
- Liberal Studies (B.A./M.A.),
- Political Science (B.A./M.A.),
- Spanish (B.A./M.A.) and

There are several additional programs under consideration for the near future. The University’s 10-year Academic Strategic Plan, adopted a year and a half ago, set the stage for these programs. In the plan, the second of the four goals addresses enhancing graduate education by linking more carefully undergraduate and graduate education.

“Villanova is responding to these greater societal demands and expectations,” said Dr. Gerald M. Long, dean of Graduate Studies in A&S. “We’ve had graduate education at the University since the 1850s, but we also have this wonderful undergraduate education at Villanova. It’s not that we do two different things at the institution; perhaps they should be better linked, especially now that we know that so many seniors, something like 92 to 94 percent of our graduating seniors in the last survey I saw, expect to pursue graduate education.”

To be admitted into the majority of these five-year programs, a candidate who meets a minimum G.P.A. requirement and has sufficient Advanced Placement credits is invited to submit an application at the end of the sophomore or the beginning of the junior year. If accepted, the student can begin taking graduate courses in the senior year. Upon completing the program, the student will have earned the credits required for both the bachelor’s and master’s degrees in just one additional year or a year and a half. Although the time frame is accelerated for earning the degree, there is no reduction of credits required. “Anything that we might do that would lessen the reputation [of the University] would hurt us in the long run, and we have to be very sensitive about that,” said Long.

The first participants in the B.S./M.S. biology program have not yet graduated, but the University is optimistic about their success. Departments that offer these combined programs have been very pleased thus far, Long observed. “There has been a change in the intellectual climate of the department. You have graduate students, undergraduate students and then this interesting cohort group…that will have the opportunity to work with the faculty for a longer period of time,” he said. “The hope is that possibly there will be more publications that will be forthcoming because of that, and a more intensive relationship.”

Long addressed the concern that may arise about receiving both an undergraduate and graduate degree from the same institution. This practice is sometimes frowned on in higher education as being too homogenous in terms of the faculty with whom students work. “I don’t have those qualms with the accelerated bachelor/master’s degree programs, especially given the fact that more and more people expect a master’s degree now; the bachelor’s degree is more readily morphing into the master’s degree,” Long noted. “Any individual could raise the concern about a student’s working with the same people at the master’s level as he or she did at the undergraduate level, but that’s more than compensated for by the arguments I hear in the other direction, saying that that is the benefit of the program.”

Long also suggested that there are additional benefits, such as the elimination of the acclimation period a graduate student undergoes at a new institution. Students who remain at Villanova are really able to “hit the ground running,” with an easy transition, he added.

A&S will continue to monitor the progress of these combined programs. Faculty and staff are excited about the prospects of implementing additional ones as the University continues its mission to enhance the benefits of a Villanova education by marrying undergraduate coursework with challenging graduate work.
Philosophy Major Offers Cognitive Studies Track

BY MICHAEL NATARO ’06 A&S

Last fall, the philosophy department launched a new area of concentration: cognitive studies, for students interested in the theories of knowledge and the philosophy of science. This field of study within the philosophy major is the sixth track offered by the department (the others are pre-law, social and political philosophy and ethics, cultural studies, continental philosophy and the history of philosophy).

“The new cognitive studies track is a potential option for any student majoring in cognitive science, psychology or the natural sciences with an interest in the philosophy and thought behind their first field of study,” according to the Rev. James J. McCartney, O.S.A., ’66 A&S, coordinator for undergraduate philosophy studies. “This track was initiated for those students whose interest in philosophy might be related to current analytical thought and also for those interested in science, especially the cognitive science major.”

Students in all tracks must take three electives focused on their desired field of study within the major. They also must take “Introduction to Philosophy,” three history of philosophy courses and either two senior seminars or one seminar and a senior thesis.

Since 2002, when the track system was instituted, the philosophy department has grown from 15 majors to more than 60. Dr. Helen S. Lang, chair of the department, noted, “The cognitive studies track is one of the most intellectually exciting areas, and it’s one of the coming areas of the 21st century. I’m very proud the philosophy department can contribute to this program and attain a partnership with the other departments in cognitive science.”

16 Classrooms Receive Makeovers

BY IRENE BURGO

During the Christmas break, Villanova University renovated 16 classrooms in four campus buildings: Bartley, John Barry and Tolentine halls and the St. Augustine Center for the Liberal Arts.

“This was a great opportunity for us to enhance the academic environment,” said Dr. John R. Johannes, vice president for Academic Affairs. “Classrooms that were once noisy and physically uncomfortable are now a pleasure to use for both the teachers and students.”

Last fall, an ad hoc committee of the Space Committee met to consider the needs and goals for improving classroom environments. The committee identified a critical need to equip old classrooms with the infrastructure needed to support multimedia. The renovations would enable faculty members to use laptops and make PowerPoint presentations. Also, the committee identified several classrooms in which a more aesthetic ambiance was needed, according to Johannes.

Serving on the committee were Rick McKay, project architect for Facilities Management; Dr. John Immerwahr, associate vice president for Academic Affairs; Catherine Connor, associate dean of Enrollment Management; Michael Hoffberg, associate director for media technologies and creative design (MT/CD); David Gregorio, senior technical specialist for MT/CD; and Dan McGee, director of UNIT’s information technology and user support services.

The largest renovation occurred in John Barry Hall’s Room 208 and the adjacent room. Known as the civil engineering department’s “rock room,” this old geology laboratory underwent a total overhaul, according to McKay. An extreme makeover? Possibly. Its outdated environment was transformed into a modern, bright space equipped with the University’s standard audio/visual (AV) system.

Throughout the projects, McGee worked closely with MT/CD office staff to coordinate efforts and equip the rooms for AV. The staff installed the systems while Facilities Management provided electrical and construction support.

“The goal was to bring these rooms technologically up-to-speed,” said McKay. The old “rock room” and 15 other rooms now feature a modern technologically adapted environment. New projectors with VCR/DVD capabilities, housed in a rack, were installed in each room. Other renovations include flooring, ceilings, new whiteboards and furniture, plus a fresh coat of paint. Air-conditioning was added where needed. Some of the rooms, among them the St. Augustine Center’s rooms 210 and 310, needed mostly paint and cosmetic work. Where appropriate, the Office of Environmental Health and Safety was consulted to ensure safe handling of any toxic materials involved in the renovation.

According to Gregorio of MT/CD, “With the addition of these 16 rooms, we now have some 105 classrooms so equipped [with technology] on campus.”

McKay summed up, “By adding the AV systems, we brought the classrooms up-to-date with technology, making them more user-friendly. By upgrading the aesthetics, we made the rooms more pleasing to students using them.”
Conti Enterprises Rewards Three Engineering Students

BY AMY SIRIANNI ’06 A&S

Three juniors in the College of Engineering were honored at the second annual Conti Enterprises Scholarship luncheon, which took place at the Villanova Conference Center on February 9. Madeline Flynn ’06 M.E. and Brian Sensi ’06 C.E.E. were awarded scholarships and paid summer internships with the company.

The Conti Enterprises Scholarship program typically awards $7,000 scholarships and paid summer internships to two students—one in civil engineering and one in mechanical engineering. But this year, Conti made an exception, and also extended an internship to Garrard Esposito ’06 M.E. because the interviewers felt he was so well-qualified.

Kurt Conti ’84 C.E., fourth-generation descendent of Conti Enterprises founder N. Tony Conti, presented the awards. “Of course we were looking for high-performance students,” said Kurt Conti, who is president and CEO of the firm and serves on the College of Engineering Advisory Council. “But more importantly, we were looking for students with good attitudes and good core values.”

Flynn heard of the award initially at the Advisory Council dinner she attended as a member of the Engineering Student Council. She plans to use the scholarship for tuition and hopes to be accepted into Villanova’s five-year M.E./M.S.E. program.

Sensi, from Princeton, N. J., shares Flynn’s goal of applying to a Villanova five-year program. His interest lies in structural engineering. “My sister is also going to be attending college next year,” Sensi said. “The scholarship will really help our parents.”

Requirements for the award include a 3.0 G.P.A. and an intense hour-long interview with Conti representatives. Charlie Fresolone, the firm’s director of human relations, and Jyothish Daniel, general manager, interviewed the seven applicants.

Conti Enterprises is a heavy construction firm headquartered in New Jersey.

Amy Sirianni ’06 A&S is majoring in communication with a minor in English. Next fall, she will be returning as an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. She aspires to work in magazine journalism or public relations after graduation.

Conference Highlights
Senior Thesis Research

BY SHELLY LUTTON ’05 A&S

At the annual Senior Thesis Research Conference, held February 13 in the St. Augustine Center for the Liberal Arts, Honors Program students presented their research to friends, family, faculty and peers. The conference provided an ideal atmosphere for them not only to describe their research topics but to explore and exchange ideas with their colleagues as well.

In their 15-minute presentations, students briefly described their topic, their research and any tentative conclusions. A short discussion between the thesis author and his/her audience followed.

The Honors thesis is the final requirement for students pursuing a B.A. or B.S. in Honors at Villanova University. It consists of a two-semester research project conducted under the guidance of a primary advisor and a secondary reader. Dr. Edwin L. Goff, director of the Honors Program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, noted that the faculty members are “the backbone of the program,” providing both academic assistance and encouragement for students throughout the project. Participating faculty members are selected by the students and receive nothing but gratitude and a celebratory luncheon in exchange for all of their time and commitment. However, for most faculty, the experience of watching students grow and learn is its own reward.

Goff explained the significance of the research conference by defining it as two culminating experiences integrated as one. First, it provides an opportunity for Honors students to understand a major research project, including the organization of time and exhaustive resources that are necessary. Secondly, the conference functions as a capstone event for both the Honors experience and the undergraduate academic career, offering a wide range of cross-disciplinary understanding.

Students may conduct their research
A future city known as “Abington,” north of Philadelphia, needed a mass transit system, and ZAMway proved to be just the ticket—in more ways than one. This SimCity 3000 project, designed by three students from Our Lady Help of Christians Middle School (which just happens to be located in the real Abington, Pa.), brought the team first place at the 10th annual National Engineers’ Week Philadelphia Regional Future City Competition. The competition was held in Villanova University’s Jake Nevin Field House on January 9.

Villanova hosted the Philadelphia regional competition on campus in honor of the College of Engineering’s 100th anniversary in 2005.

The winning team, Grace Givnish, Stephen Kenas and Luke Sawick, at the Villanova event defeated 300 other seventh and eighth grade students from 30 area schools. “My heart is racing right now,” Givnish said when her school’s team was announced as the winner. It became even more exciting. With all expenses paid, her team went on to the national competition, held in Arlington, Va., on February 21-23 during Engineer’s Week. Their ZAMway (Zero-resistance Automotive and Mass transit system) not only won third place nationally but was awarded the “Most Innovative Design of Infrastructure Systems” prize. The national competition, sponsored by Bentley Systems, Inc., included teams from 32 regions across the United States.

The goal of Future City is to “provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program” that “combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a hands-on application,” according to the organization’s mission statement.

Each team—three students, a teacher and an engineer advisor—designs a city of the future using SimCity 3000 software donated to the schools. The team then creates a scale model of a portion of the city, spending no more than $100. They are encouraged to use recycled and inventive materials, such as toothpicks and empty cans. They must also write an essay on the competition’s theme and present their future city to a panel of judges. This year’s theme was “How can futuristic transportation systems efficiently use aggregate materials—crushed stone, sand and gravel—as a basic construction product?”

In addition to awards presented at Villanova to the top six finalists, 42 special awards were given, each highlighting an important aspect of engineering. The Villanova University award, granted for attention to educational facilities, went to the New Hope-Solebury Middle School team. Dr. Kenneth Kroos, associate professor of mechanical engineering at Villanova, presented the $150 prize and a plaque for each team member.

Shell Oil Company, the Philadelphia regional event’s primary sponsor, presented three $300 special awards for outstanding engineering performance to Carl Sandburg Middle School, Independence Home School and Kutztown Area Middle School.

“Our children’s futures are important to us as parents and employers,” noted Shell representative Debbie Grant ’87 C.E., a facilities engineer, before presenting Shell’s special awards. “It has become increasingly important for education and business to work together,” she added.

In the competition’s 10 years, this is the first time it has been held at Villanova. “We are excited for the new venue this year,” said John Kampmeyer, Philadelphia regional coordinator. “We have been cramped in the past.” He hopes that Villanova will host the event again next year.
Birmingham Lunch Series Features Talk on Poetry

By Amy Sirianni ’06 A&S

Dr. Gage McWeeny, assistant professor of English at Villanova University, delivered the Spring Semester’s second Birmingham Lunch Series lecture to faculty members on March 17. He spoke on “Forms of Promiscuity: Oscar Wilde and the Epigram.” These short poems were also the topic of McWeeny’s doctoral dissertation at Princeton University. He plans to turn his dissertation into a book.

The Birmingham Lunch Series, which began in fall 1998, honors Robert M. Birmingham ’66 A&S, former chair of Villanova’s Board of Trustees. Birmingham gave a generous $1 million donation to the Core Humanities Department in 1996.

“Instead of naming a building after Dr. Birmingham, we decided to honor him in this way,” said Dr. John A. Doody, associate dean of the A&S Core Curriculum and holder of the Robert M. Birmingham Chair in Core Humanities.

The luncheon series has an interdisciplinary focus, according to Doody. Although speakers are primarily A&S faculty members, lecturers from the College of Commerce and Finance have also spoken in the past.

At the Birmingham Lunch Series lecture in March, Dr. Gage McWeeny, assistant professor of English at Villanova University, spoke about Oscar Wilde’s short poems.

Fledgling Mock Trial Team Wins Success

By Caitlin Collins ’05 A&S

It was only last year that Villanova University’s mock trial team participated in its first full year of competition. This year, these undergraduates delivered a stellar performance and gleaned high accolades in the regional tournament at Princeton University.

Villanova sent two teams to this prestigious tournament, held on the weekend of February 18-20 and sponsored by the American Mock Trial Association. Both the “A” and “B” teams had successful runs, with the “A” team falling just half a point shy of receiving a bid to the National Tournament. Indeed, the “A” team held its own against some of the best teams regionally, and its hard work paid off a few weeks later when it received a delayed bid to the National Tournament in St. Petersburg.

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A staple of law schools, mock trial competitions began on the undergraduate level in 1985 to give students insights into trial law and the judicial system. Brian Collins ’05 C&F commented on the benefits of a university’s having a team, saying, “Participating in mock trial prepares people for law school and is also great for critical thinking.”

In Princeton, in addition to the honors earned by the team, Paul Vitale ’05 A&S and Greg Riviello ’05 A&S won prestigious “Best Witness” awards.

At the March 11-13 tournament in St. Petersburg, 48 other teams had been invited. Villanova was extremely successful, finishing in 14th place. The Villanovans competed against Washburn, DePaul, Dayton and Kansas universities.

Team co-founders Collins and Vitale were commended by their coach, Dr. Arthur Shuman, an adjunct ethics professor, for their efforts in creating this extracurricular activity and aiding in the team’s success. According to Shuman, despite the hundreds of hours the students put into mock trial, the team’s overall G.P.A. is about 3.8.

As the team transitions into becoming an academic organization at the University, Collins, who plans to be a lawyer, reflected on how the team got its start. “I competed on my high school mock trial team, and I really missed it when I came to Villanova,” said Collins. “At the end of my sophomore year, I decided to start it up because I thought it would be an asset to the school.”

Caitlin Collins ’05 A&S is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. She is a communication major and hopes to pursue a career in public relations.
Up 'Til Dawn Concludes with Upwards of $119,000 for Charity

BY AMY SIRIANNI ’06 A&S

More than 500 participants stayed up all night in Dougherty Hall on March 18 to take part in Villanova University’s third annual Up ’Til Dawn finale. The participants, divided into 92 teams, competed to raise money for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. Their efforts raised more than $119,000.

Team 37—Zoe Murray ’08 C&E, Erin Jay ’08 A&S, Mallory Karl ’08 A&S, Brittany Gentile ’08 A&S, Kristin D’Adamo ’08 A&S and Kim Lynyak ’08 Nur.—raised the most money this year, with D’Adamo as the highest fundraiser overall.

Villanova’s Up ’Til Dawn has brought in nearly $350,000 for St. Jude in the past three years, said Christine Brooks ’05 A&S, executive director. “Raising money and awareness on campus was our ultimate goal, and as a result, there are so many thankful families all across the nation who have benefited from our efforts,” she added.

The evening began with a blessing by the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president. The Renna family, whose son Kevin is a patient at St. Jude, then offered a few words. Also at the opening ceremony, Jennifer Bedwick, the local ALSAC/St. Jude representative, introduced the hospital’s executive board.

Other activities included a performance by the Upright Citizens Brigade, Moonbounce activities, a Plug ‘n Play Nintendo game tournament, card and board games, and wacky Olympics.

In the morning, a Mass was celebrated, followed by the closing ceremony during which Up ’Til Dawn awarded the prizes. A patient hallway was set up to give participants the opportunity to remember loved ones they have lost.

“I joined Up ’Til Dawn the year that it started in the hopes of making it a fun, widespread and worthy cause on campus,” Brooks said. “I lost six of my own friends over the past seven years, and promised that I would do my little bit to try to help prevent that kind of loss for other people. I have been lucky enough to serve a place like St. Jude.”

A&S Opens Academic Advising Office for Undeclared Majors

BY SHELLY LUTTON ’05 A&S

Last August, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences opened a new academic advising office for freshmen and sophomores who have not yet declared a major. The office, officially known as the Academic Advising Office (AAO), has been nicknamed the Place for Advising Liberal Arts & Sciences (PALAS) and offers an array of services to students, including assistance with registration, peer mentoring and advice on numerous college-related topics.

Dr. Nancy Kelley, director of the AAO, explained that its aim is to assist incoming students with the transition from high school to college and provide them with a richer and more thoughtful understanding of the many possibilities that Villanova offers—not just on an academic level but on a personal one as well. “The office tries to create a comfortable and inviting atmosphere for students, so they are not afraid to seek help,” said Kelley.

The PALAS Web site offers a vast amount of information and advice, such as where to study on campus; how to take advantage of the University’s many academic resources; and important dates in the academic calendar, such as the last day of drop/add.

While the Web site addresses almost every college-related topic, sometimes students may want a more individualized response. In that case, they can either contact the office through AOL Instant Messenger (under the screen name vuavdising) or use the Web site’s “emergency button,” which will prompt a staff person to provide an answer to any question within 24 hours. Students can also use the site to schedule appointments with Kelley or assistant director Karima Bouchenafa, and they can contact Joan Prendergast, administrative assistant, to arrange an appointment.

Faculty members play an integral part in the new advising center. Kelley maintains that “The keystone of the program is the commitment of the faculty mentors who advise the undeclared students.” There are currently 39 mentors, and it is through their good will and cooperation that students receive the advice and counseling needed for a successful academic career. Faculty mentors undergo extensive training to better assist them in advising students about choosing appropriate courses and fulfilling core requirements. Students are required to meet with their mentor four times per year. This ensures that at least two meetings are non-registration-oriented, so that other essential issues can be discussed. Mentors are encouraged to emphasize planning, including opportunities such as studying abroad and summer internships, and to encourage students to participate in extracurricular activities.

In addition, the PALAS offers students access to peer mentors—upperclassmen who have recent experience with some of the same issues, such as homesickness and procrastination. Chosen through a highly selective process, peer mentors have proven to be a useful resource. Students can either e-mail their mentors or schedule an appointment to meet in the office. The Web site also provides responses to frequently asked questions and a list of contacts.

The advising office also holds weekly skill-based workshops nicknamed “Thirsty for Academic Success Thursdays.” The workshops, which don’t require signing up, are held from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and concentrate on topics such as time management, how to read a dense text and how to take notes at a lecture. The program’s success thus far was best illustrated during the spring registration period: Kelley said that more than 170 students came into the office to register for classes, while another 80 students called in with questions and concerns. PALAS staff expect the program will continue to grow.

The PALAS, located in Room 451 of the St. Augustine Center for the Liberal Arts, is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, with special evening hours during registration. Visit the Web site at www.artsci.villanova.edu/advising.
Renowned Sociologist Suggests Approaches to Addressing Urban Poverty

BY SHELLY LUTTON '05 A&S

A commanding figure in fields such as race relations, poverty and public policy, Harvard University’s Dr. William Julius Wilson delivered the Fritz Nova Memorial Lecture in Bartley Hall on March 16. Wilson, the Lewis P. and Linda L. Geyser University Professor at Harvard, also is director of the Joblessness and Urban Poverty Research Program at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Wilson studies race and the social organizations of neighborhoods, the effects of high-risk neighborhoods on adolescent social outcomes, and the effects of welfare reform on poor families and children. His lecture, “The World of the New Urban Poor,” focused on this research, paying particular attention to the increasing concentration of poverty in large cities, as well as the causes and consequences of jobless poverty throughout a period of welfare reform.

Past president of the American Sociological Association, the distinguished scholar is the author of numerous influential works, including The Declining Significance of Race (1978), The Truly Disadvantaged (1987) and When Work Disappears: The World of the New Urban Poor (1996). In the latter book, Wilson argues that it is the lack of job opportunities that generates and propagates social dysfunction, rather than vice versa. In his lecture, he emphasized that joblessness is one of the great causes of urban poverty and therefore needs to be addressed and resolved.

His speech also made several references to Martin Luther King Jr. and the monumental effects of King’s civil rights efforts. However, Wilson believes that the structure of racial inequality has changed, that civil rights movements are no longer enough and that the problems of urban poverty must be remedied through more effective means. He suggested changing the focus from discrimination to social rights as a whole, including jobs, education, housing and health care, all of which have an impact on the poor of all races, not just minorities.

Wilson concluded his discussion of social rights by proposing several solutions. Among them were promoting school-to-work transitions via internships and apprenticeships, and job training and placement programs.

Wilson also reiterated his belief that “While many problems are driven by the fundamental changes in the global economy, many [people] will view black problems separately.” He believes that race-based solutions are needed to address urban poverty. There are both supporters and critics of this theory, and more than a dozen books have been published concerning the “Wilson debates” in fields of race relations and poverty policy.

The turnout for the lecture was outstanding. Students and faculty filled all 130 seats and even sat on the floor. Wilson received a warm round of applause at the end of his lecture. Junior Theresa Murray commented, “Wilson was able to convey remarkable insight with his theories on the new urban poor and his solutions to this growing problem.”

In introducing the speaker, Dr. Peter Knapp, professor of sociology at Villanova University, commented that “No one on the face of this Earth is more suited to be a Fritz Nova speaker than William Julius Wilson. He has a commanding presence in a number of disciplines and his studies have generated an abundance of solid research literature,” a quality to be found in all Fritz Nova Memorial lecturers. Among them have been Steven Messner, Duncan Watts and Joe Feagin.

Mission Effectiveness Hosts Conference on Catholic Social Teaching and Racism

BY MICHAEL NATARO '06 A&S

A two-day conference, “Catholic Social Teaching and Racism,” brought together on campus an array of scholars from a variety of prestigious universities and institutions. Among them were Harvard University, Princeton University, the University of Pennsylvania and Georgetown University. Gathering at Villanova University on November 18-19, 2004, the group discussed issues relating to racial injustice and intolerance in our society from the perspective of the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Villanova’s Office for Mission Effectiveness sponsored the conference, which was held in the Villanova Room of the Connelly Center.

The conference began with a continental breakfast and a short welcome from Dr. William J. Werpehowski, director of Villanova’s Center for Peace and Justice Education.

The first speaker was from Princeton: Dr. Albert Raboteau, the Henry W. Putnam Professor of Religion, who discussed “Thomas Merton on Racism in America: A View from the Margins.” In working with the poor in Harlem, Merton inspired to see Christ in the people he was able to help. Raboteau explained how the philosopher years later, during the Civil Rights Movement, wrote letters to activists encouraging them to protest the racist status quo, stating that African-Americans “are equal to whites in every sense of the word” and that blacks and whites “complete one another” in society.

Another Princeton scholar, Dr. Douglas S. Massey, professor of sociology, spoke on “Why Housing Segregation Still Matters.” Among blacks and whites, the barriers to residential mobility represent barriers to social and economic mobility because people need to be able to move to get the full range of benefits and resources, Massey said. For the last 100 years, this level of mobility has been cut off to many minorities, especially blacks. Massey noted that “Black people also have a stronger inclination than whites to have integrated neighborhoods. One-fifth of whites in 2000 said that their ideal neighborhood was all white, compared with 6.5 percent of all blacks wanting to live in black neighborhoods. Similarly, one-fourth of whites said their ideal neighborhood would contain no blacks, whereas 9 percent of blacks said their [ideal] neighborhood would contain no whites.”

Dr. Barbara E. Wall, special assistant to the president for Mission, said that as a result of the conference, she hopes “that we all might be better able to understand the complexities of race in light of the Gospel commitment to love all peoples, and to be about the work of building the kingdom of God as a place wherein all peoples will be regarded as sacred and provided with the necessary means to flourish as children of a loving God.”
Sophomore from Zimbabwe Awarded a K. Leroy Irvis Scholarship

By Dana Imperia ’05 A&S

The Pennsylvania Black Conference on Higher Education (PBCOHE) awarded Villanova University sophomore Martin Ganda one of six K. Leroy Irvis Scholarships. PBCOHE gave a total of nine $1,000 scholarships to the most talented undergraduate and graduate African-American students in Pennsylvania. The scholarships were announced at its annual conference, which took place in February at the Pittsburgh Hilton.

Ganda, who is from Zimbabwe, attends Villanova on a full academic scholarship. He is a mathematical sciences major with an actuarial science concentration and a business minor.

Following his graduation, Ganda plans to earn a master’s degree in finance and would also like to earn an M.B.A. He intends to pursue a career as an actuary, estimating risk in the financial investments world.

Ganda is actively involved in numerous extracurricular activities. He is a math tutor, a member of the Villanova International Student Board, a founding member of Villanova African Student Association and a participant in the RAMP program to secure a resident assistant position for the future. He also plays intramural soccer.

“Martin is a wonderful student. He brings an excitement and enthusiasm for education that is infectious,” noted Dr. Teresa “Terry” Nance, assistant vice president for Multicultural Affairs.

Recipients of the K. Leroy Irvis Scholarship are selected on the basis of a rigid criteria. Each must exemplify:

- scholarship,
- extracurricular activity participation,
- leadership qualities,
- interpersonal qualities and
- a 3.0 or above G.P.A.

Applicants also must write an essay explaining why they believe they should be awarded the Irvis scholarship. It honors the community leader and member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives (1959-1989) who in 1977 became the first African-American in the nation to serve as speaker of the house in a state legislature. Irvis introduced to the legislature the idea of a community college system in Pennsylvania.

Ganda, delighted by the scholarship, attributed his success to Villanova’s education, which he said is “very good and diverse because you’re exposed to a lot of experiences that are beyond the classroom. Plus, when you know your career goals, there are a lot of options available to further your skills.”

NSF Grant Funds Scholarships in Computing Sciences

By Dana Imperia ’05 A&S

Recent grant of almost $400,000 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to Villanova University’s Department of Computing Sciences has made available 29 scholarships for undergraduates in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Created to increase the number and diversity of computer science majors, the grant will fund scholarships of $3,125 each that can be renewed throughout a student’s college career.

Villanova was one of 20 schools in the nation to be awarded this grant. The Villanova Computing Scholars Program (VICS) is open to new and existing computer science majors. While students from outside the major are welcome to apply, those accepted must declare a computer science major.

VICS scholars will participate in the Enrichment Seminar in Computing. In small groups, they will work with faculty mentors; junior and senior scholars typically will be involved in student-faculty research programs. Dr. Frank Klassner, associate professor of computing sciences and a member of the department’s VICS management committee, said that this grant is great for those “looking to merge computer work with their other work,” for example through a double major.

Congress authorized this NSF grant program to address the nation’s growing demand for workers in computer science. More than double the current number will be needed in the coming years. The goal is to attract more students, including minority and underrepresented students, with these awards, which offer a combination of merit and need-based funds.

The VICS program is accepting applications for the scholarship. For more information, visit the Web site at www.csc.villanova.edu/vics.

Boeing Salutes Scholars at Luncheon

By Caitlin Collins ’05 A&S

Two Boeing Company University Scholarships of $3,000 each were awarded to Justin Csik ’05 C&F and Michael Seibert ’05 M.E. at a luncheon on November 8, 2004. Representatives from Boeing and academic leaders from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Commerce and Finance attended the luncheon at the Villanova Conference Center.

Each year, Boeing awards the two scholarships, which demonstrate the company’s support not only of engineering but also of business. The scholarships also reflect the company’s interest in helping people to communicate, travel and look after others. Boeing’s scholarship program supports students who are able to apply their technical expertise in a highly competitive business setting.

The luncheon offered an opportunity for Boeing representatives to meet the recipients, and for students to learn more about the company. The two students said they were honored to have received the award. Csik said, “I will use the scholarship to help with the cost of tuition.” Csik and Seibert are applying for jobs.

Boeing is the world’s leading aerospace company and the largest manufacturer of commercial and military aircraft. Villanova has had links with the company for more than a decade. Boeing donated the Blitzen software package to the College of Engineering and provides technical support for it.
**Oblate Sister Tells of Her Order’s Pioneering History**

BY ELIZABETH SOLLY ’05 A&S

The department of Africana Studies on February 16 welcomed Sister Marcia Hall, O.S.P., Ph.D. as its guest speaker. Sister Hall, assistant principal at Seton Keogh High School in Baltimore, began her presentation with a “pop quiz” about her religious order, the Oblate Sisters of Providence. She then detailed its extraordinary history.

The Oblate community was founded by Elizabeth Lange, a Haitian refugee who came to Baltimore in the early 19th century. She was a woman of color in a slave-holding state and a French-speaker in an English-speaking country, but she was determined to do the work of God, according to Sister Hall.

Lange started a school for refugee children in her own home, which evolved into St. Francis Academy in 1828. It is the nation’s oldest Catholic school founded for black children. The school prospered, taking in boarders, day students and orphans, who were referred to as “children of the house.”

In 1829, Lange and three friends from the Caribbean all took vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. This marked the official establishment of the Oblate Sisters, the oldest successful religious order of African-American women in the world. Lange changed her name to Mother Mary Lange at this time, and modern-day Oblate Sisters refer to themselves as “daughters of Mother Lange.”

During its 176-year history, the Oblate Sisters, as the pioneering organization of women of color, faced many obstacles. One bishop asked the sisters to disband and become servants instead. Some members found the opposition too great and headed to the Midwest, where they “passed” for white and started their own order.

Through all of this, Sister Hall explained, the Oblate Sisters have persevered and prospered. There were 300 members at the peak, though that number has now dwindled to 95 (reflective of a universal decline in the numbers of those choosing to become nuns or priests). The Oblate Sisters have missions in 22 states, as well as the Dominican Republic. Mother Lange, a candidate for canonization in the Roman Catholic Church, would become the first woman of color from the United States to be proclaimed a saint.

With the expansion of St. Francis Academy, Sister Hall, who earned her doctorate in sociology from the University of Michigan, will take over next fall as principal. Of the high school’s 325 students, 70 percent live in impoverished neighborhoods yet 90 percent go on to college, according to an article in The Baltimore Sun (April 11). Camille Cosby this spring created an endowment of $2 million to fund 16 scholarships at the school (her husband, entertainer Bill Cosby, attended an Oblate Sisters elementary school in Washington, D.C., according to the Sun).

Following her talk, Sister Hall opened the floor for questions and shared some of her personal experiences and inspirations.

**Fashion Show Puts Health in the Spotlight**

BY KIMBERLY A. WALLMEIER ’06 C&F

A movement encouraging a healthy body image is sweeping the country. A bevy of major consumer products companies are introducing campaigns emphasizing natural beauty and healthy lifestyle choices. To promote and raise awareness of a healthy image, Villanova University’s Center for Health and Wellness Education (CHWE) hosted a fashion show on March 21 at the Connelly Center.

The event highlighted how students use today’s fashions to express their sense of style while taking full advantage of their body type, size and ethnicity. “The goal is to illustrate that the typical Villanova student is confident with his or her body and can use fashion to express personality,” said Jennifer Flannelly, a graduate assistant in the CHWE.

Title “Love the Skin You’re In: The Faces and Fashions of Villanova University,” the runway show featured student models sporting fashions from affordable to wishful, conservative to creative. The main clothing sponsor was Lord & Taylor of Prussia, Pa. Other clothing sponsors included Life is good®, Buttons and Bows, and the University Bookstore. Each model was nominated by his or her advisors and peers in student organizations, including Multicultural Affairs, the theatre department, Campus Activities Team, Student Government Association, Greek Life and others.

To kick off the evening, emcees Daniel Davis ’07 A&S, Nirvana Rivera ’06 A&S and DeJuan Lewis ’07 A&S explained the significance of the fashion show. The runway event followed, relaying the powerful messages of good self-esteem.
Michael Baker Scholarship Celebrates Engineering Students

BY CAITLIN COLLINS ’05 A&S

Representatives from the Michael Baker Corporation and the College of Engineering gathered at the Villanova Conference Center on November 9, 2004, to celebrate the achievements of three women Engineering students. Kathleen Halcovage ’05 C&F and Stephanie Gilpin ’05 C.E. were awarded Michael Baker diversity scholarships. Laura Ledgerwood ’05 Ch.E. was honored as an intern for the company.

The scholarships recognize the accomplishments of these young women who are making their way in engineering. Halcovage said she was “honored to receive the scholarship from a company with a global presence in the field.” She added that she was also extremely appreciative because the award enabled her to study in England at the University of Sheffield during the 2004 Spring Semester.

Ledgerwood, who is participating in a business internship for an engineering division of Michael Baker, began working for the firm last summer. She had met Donald P. Fusilli Jr., president and CEO of Michael Baker, at a College of Engineering Advisory Council meeting. Working for the company has helped her come full circle. Ledgerwood explained, “I grew up down the block from the Michael Baker office in Pittsburgh; I always knew the company’s name.”

At the luncheon, Villanova was represented by Dr. Barry C. Johnson ’70 M.E., dean of Engineering; Joan Chrestay, associate dean of External Relations for Engineering; and Melanie Terburg, assistant director of External Relations for Engineering. Representing Michael Baker were Fusilli; David Higie, who heads Corporate Communications; Jill Diorio, coordinator of minority programs; and Mark Aliesky, manager of the Horsham office.

Michael Baker is a national and international engineering and energy management firm.

In Memoriam

Dr. James C. Fee Sr. ’51 C&F Retired Villanova professor of accounting

Dr. James C. Fee Sr. ’51 C&F, a tax accountant, lawyer and retired professor at Villanova University, died on November 21, 2004, at his home in Wynnewood, Pa. He was 77 years old and had a chronic pulmonary disease. Fee grew up in the Port Richmond section of Philadelphia and graduated from St. Joseph’s Preparatory School. He served in the U.S. Army in Panama from 1945 to 1946.

After graduating from Villanova with a degree in accounting, Fee earned a J.D. at Temple University’s law school and an M.B.A. at his business school.

For almost 30 years, Fee served as chief counsel for appeals at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). In his early years with the IRS as a revenue agent, he examined mostly business returns and then was assigned to the appeals division. While working for the IRS, he became a CPA. Following his retirement in 1982, Fee joined Villanova’s faculty as an adjunct professor of accountancy. In the School of Law’s graduate tax program, he taught a full range of graduate and undergraduate tax courses. He retired from Villanova last year. Fee was very active in various committees of the Pennsylvania Institute of CPAs, the Section on Taxation and the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Fee is survived by his wife of 53 years, Dorothy Heron Fee; a daughter, Maureen; a son, James Jr. (who is on the graduate tax faculty at Villanova Law); and a grandson.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated on December 2, 2004, at the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Wynnewood, Pa.

Dr. Lawrence J. McGarry Retired sociology professor at Villanova

Dr. Lawrence J. McGarry, retired professor of sociology at Villanova University, died peacefully in his home on November 29, 2004, after a six-month illness. He was 79 years old.

After serving in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific during World War II, McGarry earned a bachelor’s degree at the University of Denver. He then returned to his native New York City, where he earned a master’s degree in 1962 and a doctorate in philosophy in 1965, both from Fordham University.

He joined Villanova’s sociology department in 1963. His specialties were the sociology of religion and sociology of the community. He was an active member of the American Catholic Sociological Association. A reviewer of his 1968 monograph, Human Kindness and Human Nature, commented that it was a valuable analysis of a capitalistic system that values production and profit over the common good.

A relentless advocate for social justice, each year McGarry made significant contributions to Saint Francis Indian Mission in South Dakota; the Sacred Heart School in Camden, N.J.; and the Tutwiler Clinic in Mississippi, as well as other organizations.

McGarry’s colleagues in the sociology department honored him in 2003 for his commitment to his students and the less fortunate by establishing the Lawrence J. McGarry Award. It is presented to the graduating student who best combines “academic excellence and a commitment to social justice.” In 1990, McGarry initiated the David and Anne McGarry Endowed University Scholarship to honor his par ents. The need-based scholarship benefits African-American students at Villanova.

McGarry is survived by his brother, David, and seven nieces and nephews. A Memorial Mass was celebrated on December 3, 2004, at St. Thomas of Villanova Church.
Language Programs Change to Reflect the Need for Cultural Studies

BY MAUREEN MCKEW

Villanova University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has always been justly proud of its department of classical and modern languages and literature. However, the recent addition of new faculty members and new ideas further strengthens the department.

One of those new faculty members is also the department's chair, Dr. Silvia Nagy-Zekmi, professor of Latin American cultural studies, who joined Villanova last year from the University at Albany (SUNY). Nagy-Zekmi reports that there have been changes and enhancements in almost all of the department's 10 languages: the modern languages of Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish and the classical languages, Greek and Latin.

“The biggest changes so far were made to the Spanish graduate program,” Nagy-Zekmi said. “The name change to Hispanic Studies reflects that we are now offering more than the traditional linguistics and literature. We have added cultural studies as a third track, and in the literature track combined both peninsular Spanish and Latin American studies.” Dr. Salvatore Poeta directs the graduate program and is coordinator of the entire Hispanic Studies Program.

The program changes respond to recent trends in higher education and society, changes that have moved languages from narrow fields of study to those that are cross-cultural and interdisciplinary, according to Nagy-Zekmi.

Among the other new faculty members is Dr. Lee B. Abraham, assistant professor, who specializes in Spanish linguistics. His area of research involves technology and language teaching, voice and sound. José Luis Gastañaga, now completing his doctorate at Princeton University, will join the department next fall, bringing his expertise in transatlantic literature and culture. The department also added two full-time, non-tenure track professors, Dr. Kristian Van Haesendonck, who also comes from Princeton, and Dr. David Miralles from the University of Oregon.

The Hispanic Studies graduate program is geared to students who will go on for doctoral studies. “More than 50 percent of our students continue on after the master’s degree,” Nagy-Zekmi stated. “We know that in the job market after they complete their Ph.D., cultural studies are very important. In fact, it is for this reason that we now also offer graduate certificates of specialized study in all three tracks: language pedagogy, literature and culture.” This initiative will serve high school teachers. The department is developing a number of courses designed for the needs of teachers. Nagy-Zekmi says, “We would like to become a home, a magnet for teachers in the area.”

Nagy-Zekmi believes there is an urgent need for today’s and tomorrow’s students to become linguistically and culturally fluent in Spanish. Some 392 million people speak Spanish in 22 countries throughout the world. A 2001 survey revealed that in the United States alone, the Latin population was 29.2 million, over 10 percent of the total U.S. population, and the number is growing. By 2010, the Latin population in the United States is expected to reach 42 million, making this the largest minority group.

Next steps

Having upgraded the graduate program, next fall the department will overhaul the Spanish offerings for undergraduates. Currently, the department has more than 70 students majoring in languages, 40 to 50 of them in Spanish, and approximately 270 language minors.

Already, there are new B.A./M.A. programs in Hispanic Studies, as well as in Classical Studies, the other graduate program in the department. Nagy-Zekmi described these programs as a “wonderful way of getting an undergraduate and a graduate degree in five years.” She added that these programs reflect the mission of the department: to make languages more palatable to Americans, who will have to learn languages and acquire cultural literacy to deal with globalization. “I think that we, as a department, can certainly help with that,” she said.

Nagy-Zekmi said that she and her faculty colleagues hope to offer cultural sensitivity training regarding the Arab/Middle Eastern cultures, in cooperation with the Peace Corps, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Education.
with the Center for Arab and Islamic Studies. French Studies have also been restructured. Francophone Studies have been added to the traditional French track, and the entire curriculum was revised last year. “This is like having a brand-new program in French and Francophone Studies!” commented Nagy-Zekmi.

The department also keeps mission in mind in choosing opportunities for students to study abroad. Currently, there is a highly successful Spanish program in Cadiz, Spain, and very soon, there will be a similar program in Latin America, most likely Mexico.

**Cultural and literary events**

At the same time, the department is raising its profile by hosting series of cultural and literary events. This spring, for example, it celebrated the 400th anniversary of the publication of Cervantes’ *Don Quixote*, with an international symposium. Antonio Muñoz Molina, renowned writer and director of the Instituto Cervantes in New York City and a member of the Royal Academy of Spain, was the keynote speaker for the event, which featured papers by internationally known scholars. An international poetry symposium is in the preliminary planning stages.

After just two years at Villanova, Nagy-Zekmi has become appreciative of the University’s communal atmosphere and observes that this is especially notable in her department. “We’re a regular United Nations here,” she said with a smile. She also admires the University’s evolution from a teaching institution to a teaching/research university. “The nice part of this is that the research is not taking place at the expense of teaching but rather on a parallel track. Teaching is as important as ever, but faculty members, even those who have been teaching for many years, are encouraged to keep an active research agenda.”

Nagy-Zekmi herself continues to research and write about postcolonial theory, literary theory and cultural studies, as well as contemporary Latin American issues. Her current work in progress is *The Postcolonial Condition: Representations of Nationhood, Ethnicity and Identity in Latin America*. She chairs the 20th century comparative literature division of the Modern Language Association.

For more information about new programs and events, visit the department’s Web site at [www.classicalmodernlanglit.villanova.edu/faculty/index.htm](http://www.classicalmodernlanglit.villanova.edu/faculty/index.htm).
Michael Coady, the Irish writer and musician who holds the Charles A. Heimbold Jr. Endowed Chair in Irish Studies for the Spring Semester at Villanova University, has been in the country since January 1. But the story of the Coady family in America traces him much earlier in our national history.

“That story began as the story of an abandoned child in Ireland, and it ended as the story of an abandoned father in Philadelphia,” Coady recalled recently.

“I came along and tried to bridge the two. Usually people are traveling from America to Ireland in search of family roots, family connections. I was doing the opposite, really. I was coming to America from the future, discovering the past in America—an amazing experience, which I didn’t foresee at all. It was just as though there were ghosts at my elbow.”

Coady’s great-grandfather, James Coady, emigrated to America in 1885 after his wife died in childbirth; he left his son behind. Michael Coady was compelled to write about this story in a poem called “The Letter,” originally published in his book Oven Lane (1987) and later reprinted in All Souls (1997, 2001). The poem, which he developed into a prose memoir titled “The Use of Memory,” recounts how the letter—a plea for forgiveness from James to his son in Ireland—was torn up by the son and thrown into the fire.

However, all those facts were not available to Coady at the time he composed the poem. “I wrote the poem not knowing at all what had happened in America, except that this letter had come, and it may have come from Philadelphia, and the poem was published. The poem is an exploration of all that happened in Ireland and what might have happened in America. So, it was as though I was trying to answer this letter three generations on,” he said.

With the help of a Maryland genealogist who specializes in Irish-American lineage, Coady filled in the gaps of his family history. He even found his great-grandfather’s grave, put a stone on it, and read “The Letter” in North Philadelphia’s St. Malachy Catholic Church, where James had remarried. Coady also befriended the parish priest, the Rev. John McNamee, who turned out to be a poet (and the author of Diary of a City Priest, relating his more than three decades serving this inner-city parish).

“We’ve become friends and I’ve gotten to know people in that community of St. Malachy and restored something. I visited the locations where my great-grandfather lived—some of them are still there. So I know more than my father did, or my grandfather did. And here I am, back here at Villanova, which is practically in Philadelphia,” he said.

Coady’s family history has come full circle, beginning

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Out of the maze of circumstances, the ravelled tangle of effect and cause, something impelled you, brought you finally to bend above the unmarked page

—Excerpt from the poem “The Letter” by Michael Coady, first printed in Oven Lane (1987)
Roots of His Family History

An acclaimed Irish poet and memoirist, Michael Coady weaves together literary forms and music, as well as the Irish and American cultural experiences. This semester he holds the Charles A. Heimbold Chair in Irish Studies at Villanova University.

“I found that people here in America are astonished when I tell them that by the time I leave [Villanova] with my family at the end of May, I will have been longer out of my hometown continuously than I’ve ever been in my life,” Coady said.

This March, Coady celebrated St. Patrick’s Day in the United States, but very differently than he is accustomed to celebrating it in Ireland. He and friends visited the Plow & the Stars, an Irish pub in Philadelphia, and then toured the city.

“I was asked to sing [at the pub]. I did a traditional song in the Irish language. And we went down into the Irish memorial at Penn’s Landing. It was very moving to be there, because I was right on the ground where my great-grandfather had bent his back three, four generations ago,” he added.

Next year, Coady will celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with family and friends in Ireland where, appropriately, his life once again will have come full circle.

with a few trips to the United States earlier in his life (including a poetry reading at Villanova in 1998-99), and culminating with his appointment to the Heimbold Chair this semester.

“The way that things happen to happen fascinates me, the chance things that decide our lives, the choices and the chances. And it’s hard to know sometimes where choice begins and where chance enters in,” Coady said.

Like his cyclic journey of uncovering his family history, Coady’s work as a writer demonstrates a similar fluidity. He integrates poetry, prose and his own photographs into his publications. In addition to these creative interests, he also incorporates his musical talents into the writing process. On April 12, he gave a reading of All Souls in the President’s Lounge of the Connelly Center.

“Often, when I’m writing poetry, I sometimes take a poem, when I’ve written it, and write it down in musical notation to see the rhythms. Otherwise, I follow my instinct about sound. I think sound and poetry have always gone together in the tradition of poetry. I come from a country in which folk song is important, and we have a long poetry tradition as well,” he observed.

“I like the idea of multi-genre; I don’t see why prose and poetry shouldn’t be side-by-side, and I don’t see why photographs shouldn’t be with these as well, provided you can find some thematic overall structure that gives some sense to putting them together,” Coady said. “I don’t like the idea of corralling poetry in one book, short stories in another. I like to think that a book will find its form.”

Coady’s other books include Two for a Woman, Three for a Man (1980), Full Tide (1999) and One Another (2003). His writing, primarily concerned with time and mutability, also explores individual destiny, community, mortality and memory within the concept of place.

This semester, Coady hopes to offer to his students his insight into the creative process. He teaches two classes: “Dancing with Words,” essentially a creative writing course, and “Visions and Voices from Ireland,” on contemporary Irish literature.

“In the case of literature, what I want to try and do is explore the Irish voice and the Irish experience and how it connects with Americans, which is a very important part of my own work,” he said.

When asked about the advantages of studying Irish literature, Coady suggested the strong ties that link Irish and American cultures. “I think you have to acknowledge the fact that there are unique links between the two countries. Now there is something like 40 million people in this country who have Irish links of one kind or another. That is an enormous part of your national story, and that alone, I think, should make people curious about the culture. I think at the same time that young people now have an interest in the Irish constituent of their cultural background, they want to get beyond the superficial,” he said.

When he was younger, to help support his family, Coady taught primary school in Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary. He was born in the town in 1939, and still lives there.

An acclaimed Irish poet and memoirist. Michael Coady weaves together literary forms and music, as well as the Irish and American cultural experiences. This semester he holds the Charles A. Heimbold Chair in Irish Studies at Villanova University.
Tuck’s James M. Danko Named Dean of C&F

By Barbara K. Clement

On August 1, James M. Danko, known for his innovative and collaborative approach in M.B.A. and executive education, will begin his tenure as dean of the College of Commerce and Finance. His appointment was announced on April 7 by Dr. John R. Johannes, vice president for Academic Affairs.

Danko joins Villanova University from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth University, where he is associate dean for Strategy and Operations and associate dean for Executive Education. At Tuck, he provides strategic management and direction for key departments, including the M.B.A. program, executive education, public relations, admission, career development, fiscal services, information technology and human resources.

At Tuck, Danko has been credited with developing strategies that enhanced the business school’s reputation and recognition in the national media. Since Danko’s arrival in 2000, Tuck has placed in the top three in the first two Wall Street Journal surveys of corporate recruiters; has risen in rank to No. 10 (from No. 16) in Business Week; and also has entered into the top 10 in both the U.S. News & World Report and the Financial Times.

The incoming dean has served in leadership roles at several other business schools. Prior to joining Tuck, he was associate dean and lecturer in entrepreneurship at the F.W. Olin Graduate School of Business at Babson College. Before that, he was executive director of the M.B.A. program and lecturer at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He also was an innovative administrator at the University of Michigan Business School, from which he received his M.B.A. In Cleveland, where he grew up, he earned his B.A. in religious studies at John Carroll University.

Danko will continue to serve as president of the MBA Roundtable, an international management education forum.

Dr. Edward J. Mathis has been serving as C&F’s interim dean.

C&F Launches First Full-time Graduate Degree Program: the M.S.F.

By Dana Imperia ’05 A&S

A new Master of Science in Finance (M.S.F.), degree will groom students for careers in the financial services industry. The curriculum of this one-year, 30-credit program emphasizes the theoretical foundation of finance and quantitative methods in financial management. This new full-time graduate degree program builds on the bachelor’s degree offered by the College of Commerce and Finance.

The M.S.F. is intended for current accounting, economics and finance students. “Villanova’s technology-based M.S.F. program offers eight newly designed courses covering a broad spectrum of sub-fields in finance that emphasize critical thinking skills and applied problem-solving skills,” noted Dr. Andrea L. DeMaskey, chair of the finance department. The courses cover areas such as fundamental decision-making under uncertainty, corporate financial management problems, derivatives markets and management of real-world investment funds.

In collaboration with the business school’s Institute for Research in Advanced Financial Technology (IRAF) and its new Applied Finance Lab (AFL), the M.S.F. focuses on current business events and technologies. Through a combination of real and simulated exercises, this new graduate degree program fosters an atmosphere where academic principles and theories are applied to real-life scenarios. Enhancing the depth and degree of finances, this experiential component furthers what a student gains on the undergraduate level or in a traditional M.B.A. program.

Recognizing the importance of both theory and practical experience, the M.S.F. program emphasizes current advances in financial theory, effective quantitative skills and excellent analytical capabilities, thus differentiating its graduates in the competitive job market.

For more information on the M.S.F., visit www.cf.villanova.edu/msf or contact Karen Ringlaben, coordinator of Graduate Business Programs, at (610) 519-6959.
After almost eight years of deliberation, the College of Commerce and Finance (C&F) has announced plans to launch a new Honors Program for business students. Beginning this fall, the C&F Honors Program will be offered to incoming freshmen, as well as to current business students who are able to complete the requirements by graduation.

Villanova’s current Honors Program enables students to earn either a B.A., Honors or a B.S., Honors, or to choose a concentration in Honors within a major in another discipline. Students who successfully complete the new program will earn the degree of B.S., Business Honors. This new degree program differs from those offered by other universities because it is the only one fully integrated with a Liberal Arts Program.

The University has received overwhelming support for the new program, and administrators believe there are a variety of reasons for implementing it. First, it provides an opportunity for students and professors to engage in discussion-driven seminars, in an more intimate learning setting. Second, backing it has grown as an increasing number of strong candidates have been attracted to other competitive institutions with honors business degrees, such as Boston College and Lehigh University. In addition, C&F’s strategic plan includes a goal of offering an Honors degree specifically from the College.

Planning for the business Honors program began with the former dean, Dr. Thomas F. Monahan (who now holds the John M. Cooney Professorship in Accountancy). The extensive planning and development had the full participation of all parties. “Faculty were an integral part of the planning,” said Dr. Edwin L. Goff, director of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (A&S) Honors Program, “and they worked hard to ensure that the program would be mutually beneficial for both students and professors.”

Goals of the business Honors Program include attracting the best and brightest high school students to C&F and bringing more positive recognition to the undergraduate program, thus improving the business school’s ranking. The prestige of the new program also is expected to increase internship and job opportunities for students, as well as to enhance their prospects for being admitted to elite graduate schools.

The new program’s admission requirements are similar to those of the A&S Honors Program. Incoming freshmen with a G.P.A. of at least 3.7 will be invited to participate, and current Villanova students may apply at any time. Once enrolled, C&F Honors students must complete a total of 12 Honors seminars, six of which must be C&F Honors courses. This allows them the freedom to take liberal arts Honors courses to complete the Honors requirements if they so desire.

In addition, C&F Honors students must complete a two-semester senior thesis seminar. They are already required to take a capstone method seminar, so the Honors senior thesis project will further build upon the knowledge from that course. For the Spring Semester thesis course, students have two options: They may participate in a group learning project or conduct an individual research project. In either option, the fall seminar will serve to prepare them for this thesis project.

The C&F senior thesis project is similar to the one undertaken by A&S Honors students; seniors from both colleges will present their projects at Villanova’s annual research conference (see page 36). Students from the two colleges also may find themselves taking Honors courses together, and the A&S Honors Program will continue to permit students from all majors, including Engineering and Nursing, to participate in its offerings.

When asked how the logistics of the new program will change the University’s curriculum, Goff explained, “There will be no net effect on the current Honors Program.” The number of students enrolled in the Honors concentration is expected to remain the same, and only more Honors business courses will be required to complete the major. Full-time faculty will teach the new C&F Honors seminars, so no new faculty need be hired. Each C&F department will offer at least one upper-level Honors course per year.

Administration for the new program will be provided by Goff, in conjunction with the C&F department chairs and the C&F Dean’s Office. Goff and C&F faculty members will advise business Honors students.

“Faculty were an integral part of the planning...and they worked hard to ensure that the program would be mutually beneficial for both students and professors.”

—Dr. Edwin L. Goff, director of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (A&S) Honors Program
Dr. Charles R. Taylor Appointed to John A. Murphy Chair

By Dana Imperia ’05 A&S

A scholar of international marketing and public policy issues, Dr. Charles R. “Ray” Taylor, in August 2004 became the second holder of the John A. Murphy Endowed Chair in Business Administration.

Taylor, professor of marketing, joined the College of Commerce and Finance (C&F) in 1992. Author of more than 100 academic articles, he is working on his seventh book, “The Chair is a Wonderful Recognition for What I’ve Been Able to Accomplish at Villanova,” Taylor said. “Villanova already has a wonderful reputation. Under Father Dobbin [the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University President], we have been moving to a higher and higher national profile, and I believe my research can contribute to that,” Taylor explained.

The marketing specialist has studied the impact of standardized advertising on a firm’s financial performance, as well as which international advertising approaches work effectively and how they affect a firm’s bottom-line performance. Another area of his research involves the marketing functions of advertising signs and their value to large and small companies. He has also studied the impact of cigarette and alcohol advertising.

Taylor’s extensive research on the functions of signs led to national recognition and an appearance as an expert witness before the U.S. Congress in May 2003. During his career, he has testified in several court cases involving the sign industry. He recently became president of the American Academy of Advertising, a leading organization in the field for scholars and professionals.

In his international marketing research, Taylor concentrates on East Asia. As a Fulbright Senior Specialist, he taught short-term courses in China, Korea, and the Czech Republic. While a Senior Specialist, he made presentations at universities throughout these countries as part of this program administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars.

Prior to entering academia, Taylor held positions with R.L. Polk and Company and General Motors. But the professor says he prefers the personalized environment that is strongly emphasized at the University. “Villanova is a great place to work, and I can’t say enough about my colleagues. The people in the marketing department have been very supportive, especially our department chair, Dr. Greg Bonner, who has done a tremendous job,” Taylor said. “I have been very fortunate to do a lot of neat things with my research, but the single most important component of our job is to teach, and the students here are a pleasure to work with.”

Taylor offers a course on international marketing and also teaches courses in C&F’s Summer Business Institute for non-business majors and graduate students.

This year, Taylor helped to establish Villanova’s Center for Marketing and Public Policy Research, which promotes understanding of these issues. “I’m very excited to work with [Dr.] John Kozup [assistant professor of marketing], the director, and we have invited several Villanova alumni to be on the board. I am continually impressed by the level of accomplishments of our graduates,” Taylor pointed out. He also serves as a senior research fellow for the center.

Taylor received his doctorate in marketing from Michigan State University.

Dot-com Entrepreneur Reveals Lessons from the Bubble That Burst

By Michael Nataro ’06 A&S

In 2000, Kaetil Isaza Tuzman was so driven by his ego and his desire to make money and live the high life that he lost sight of how to attain his goals. As a result, he said, he failed miserably and lost the millions of dollars that people had invested in him and his venture. On March 15 in Bailey Hall, Tuzman, the lead figure in the 2001 docum entary “Startup. com,” told his story to about 75 M.B.A. and undergraduates in the College of Commerce and Finance.

Tuzman in 1999 co-founded Cow-Works.com to put U.S. and state governments online so that citizens could easily pay parking tickets and conduct other business. In his talk, he spoke of how one becomes a successful entrepreneur, based on what he learned when this dot-com crashed. From his mistakes, he was able to identify what makes ambitious business people fail—and succeed.

Tuzman told the students, “To want, to desire to be an entrepreneur is like a thirst you can’t quench, a fire in your belly you need to tap into...you need to have your eyes wide open for the entrepreneurial path, a path of courage, a path of seeing what you’re made of, seeing what you can do.” He added that because he was not able to identify these necessities for entrepreneurship, he accepted responsibility for the failure of his venture.

“The good thing about the American bankruptcy code is that they are the most forgiving,” Tuzman noted in his talk. “You can try again—the market allows it. Take responsibility of your failures and get back up there.” This is exactly what Tuzman did. Following the collapse of his business, he went back out to investors and raised even more money. His investor group in 2002 bought the weight-loss firm of Jenny Craig, Inc.

Tuzman now is promoting his new book, The Entrepreneur’s Success Kit. It centers on how to channel the desire to be an entrepreneur, how to be successful and how to embrace the successes as well as the failures. Most importantly, his book discusses in great length a Socratic philosophy Tuzman holds to be most crucial to success: Know thyself.

Dr. James W. Klingler, associate professor of management, had much to say about Tuzman’s visit. “The students have felt like they have known him for years,” said Klingler. “His documentary is so revealing about him personally, how he lives, how he eats, how he breathes.”
While there, he met a fellow graduate student who would become his wife: Dr. Hae-kyong Bang is now associate professor of marketing in C&F. The couple resides in Bryn Mawr, Pa., with their son, Mitch, who is 4.

Committed to the University's mission and values, the new holder of the Murphy Chair brings to it a record of excellence in marketing and distinguished teaching, research and involvement with the business community. "I am very grateful to the Murphy family for providing me with this wonderful opportunity," Taylor said.

The late John A. Murphy, Esq., '51 C&F, who retired as vice chairman of Philip Morris Companies and who was the former chairman and CEO of Miller Brewing Company, in 1999 had established the Murphy Chair. His commitment to Villanova's values and students continues to enhance teaching and learning at the University.

Taylor succeeds the inaugural holder of the Murphy Chair, Dr. Robert H. DeFina, professor of economics, who now is affiliated with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The Bubble That Burst

In 1999, Kaleil Isaza Tuzman left Goldman Sachs and with $60 million in venture capital co-founded a dot-com. In 2000, it had a spectacular crash. He now is president and managing partner of Recognition Group, a Hispanic-owned corporate restructuring firm and investment bank in New York City. In March, Tuzman shared his experiences with Villanova business students.

Klingler was very impressed with the nature of Tuzman's talk. "Kaleil was on a book tour; he had an opportunity to sell his new book," Klingler said. "Instead, he could not have given a more pertinent talk about entrepreneurship to undergraduate and M.B.A. students. What he addressed primarily was the choice of the entrepreneurial path, what goes into it, what is involved. To experience it you must be prepared for the failures."

A three-hour Global Simulations Workshop gave participants an opportunity to enact various economic and political scenarios by playing the parts of global actors, such as trade specialists or cultural specialists. About 50 students took part in the interactive game. Held on April 1 in Dougherty Hall, the workshop was sponsored by the College of Commerce and Finance (C&F).

Each student was given a sealed envelope with an assigned role. After the introduction, they opened their envelopes to see on which team they would play. Would they represent a region of the world? A superpower? A non-governmental organization similar to the Red Cross or Greenpeace? A technology mogul?

The teams then convened to discuss their situations, represented by chips and vouchers. Each team had certain allocations from Global Foundations, a fictional world conglomerate similar to the United Nations. They had to trade and negotiate their resources and solutions with other teams to solve all their region's (or group's) economic, health, environmental and other problems—and still maintain as much of their wealth as possible.

After each of the three rounds, the team met to hear a broadcast from the world's media, condensed into one reporter, that is. Based on the news broadcast, the teams strategized for the next round. In the last two rounds, the Middle East went from "developing" status to "moderate" and then to "high" status. China rose from "superpower" to "responsible" status, something rare for a nation to achieve.

"I thought it was an amazing learning experience and a great deal of fun at the same time," said Richard Irvine '05 C&F. "I feel that now I have a small taste of what it is like to be a world leader, as well as what really goes on between the top economists of the various countries, regions and non-governmental organizations in the world community today."
Dr. Aaron Bauer and a longtime friend and colleague from Germany, Dr. Wolfgang Böhme, were attending a lecture in St. Petersburg, Russia, when Böhme handed Bauer an envelope containing photos. They depicted a small, very plain-looking gecko with no outlandish features. “I looked at them and thought they were interesting,” recalled Bauer, who is a professor of biology at Villanova University and a well-known herpetologist.

But there was something odd about the gecko’s feet. Later, Bauer realized something else was highly unusual. At first, he related, “I didn’t know the specimen was preserved in Baltic amber.” A specimen embedded in Baltic amber, which dates back about 50 million years, would be more than twice as old as geckos found in amber in the Dominican Republic.

Bauer began to suspect that this plain-looking Baltic gecko could be a remarkable find. An expert in the comparative anatomy and evolution of reptiles and amphibians, he has done research all over the world. We last tracked Bauer’s work when he was in New Caledonia (“Lizard Man,” Villanova Magazine, Fall 2002). Said Bauer of his latest find, “The excitement was that there are so few vertebrates in amber that nobody really specializes in them. People specialize in insects and plants in amber, as they occur frequently. But for lizards or birds or amphibians, there are just so few of them that being presented with one is almost a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and you want to take advantage of these rare opportunities as much as possible.”

Bauer, Böhme and another German colleague studied the actual specimen at a German museum housing a huge collection of scientifically, historically and artistically valuable amber—the Deutsches Bernstein-Museum at Ribnitz-Damgarten.

“The feet are the feature that can identify this animal,” explained Bauer. “By analysis of the foot structure, we were able to identify this as a new species.” They named the gecko Yantarogekko balticus. “The name comes from yantar, the Russian word for amber, and it is the first gecko described from Baltic amber,” he added.

In a scholarly paper in the April 2005 Journal of Zoology, published by the Zoological Society of London, the three co-authors scientifically described Yantarogekko balticus. Böhme is from the Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig in Bonn, and the third colleague, Dr. Wolfgang Weitschat, is from the Geologisch-Paläontologisches Institut und Museum der Universität Hamburg.

In the abstract that preceded the formal description, the three biologists wrote: “A new genus and species of gecko from the Lower Eocene of northwestern Russia is described from a superbly preserved specimen in Baltic amber. It is the oldest gekkonid lizard to be represented by more than fragmentary skeletal remains. The digits of the specimen are mostly intact and reveal a unique combination of characters not seen in any living gecko. It could have lived in trees some 50 million years ago, similarly to modern climbing geckoes.”
While the abstract described their find, it does not capture the excitement experienced by these scientists who redefined the natural lineage of the lizards. For Bauer, it was the easiest find he has ever made: a gift handed to him in photographs.

“This was especially interesting because this animal had one foot visible,” Bauer said, recalling the photos. “In geckos, if you can see the feet, you can usually tell what type of gecko it is. This lizard had a foot structure that doesn’t occur in any living type of gecko.

“One of the concerns always with specimens in amber is that there are a lot of forgeries,” Bauer added. “The third co-author on our paper, Wolfgang Weitschat, is really an expert in detecting forgeries in amber. Some forgeries are very good, and there are a lot of fakes of lizards in amber. This one passed the test. Weitschat was sure it wasn’t a fake but the fact it was a genus of gecko that doesn’t exist today mostly solidified that this was a legitimate find. Because of the small insects and plant parts imbedded in the amber with the gecko, we were able to identify it as amber from the Baltic region of Russia, and we were able to set the age at between 50-54 million years old.”

**Russia: a tropical paradise?**

You might ask, “Why would a tropical to subtropical animal wander into northwest Russia?” The answer is easy…northwest Russia was subtropical at the time.

“These pieces are pure luck when they turn up,” Bauer continued. “We know [the Baltic specimen] reappeared in 2002. That’s when the amber museum in Germany became involved. We don’t know when it was first found. My suspicion is that it was probably in a private collection in Russia during the Soviet period and rather than have to forfeit it to the state, the person who found it perhaps decided to keep it, and when times changed, tried to make a profit on it. The first lizard (not a gecko) in amber to be found in the Baltic was mentioned about 1887 and formally described a short while later. Until the 1990s it was the only lizard in Baltic amber that was really confirmed.”

**Twice as old as other geckoes in amber**

The real find for these biologists lies in the fact that the only other geckos found in amber are from the Dominican Republic and are 20 to 25 million years old.

“All other geckos that are known from amber are referable to living groups,” Bauer explained. For example, the five or six geckos found in Dominican amber “are all referable to a genus of small leaf-litter dwelling gecko that is common in the West Indies and Central and South America today.”

Those Dominican amber fossils “don’t really tell us anything we didn’t already know about the evolution of geckos because they are members of an existing group,” Bauer said. “They tell us that that group was around 20-25 million years ago but not anything beyond that.”

On the other hand, “This Baltic amber gecko is important,” Bauer emphasized. “Traditional fossils of geckos and almost all geckos of that age [the Dominican ones] are fairly good from the last 15 million years on. We have very few geckos—mainly from Mongolia and places in central Asia—that are in the neighborhood of 80 to 110 million years old, and most of them are known simply by individual jaw bones, which is what the whole genus is based on. So we have a very spotty record very early on, then almost nothing through the early and middle part of the Tertiary period.”

Relatively recently, Bauer said, “We have started to find gecko fossils. This amber fossil fills a huge gap, a gap of perhaps 60-70 million years with no gecko fossils to speak of. It gives us an idea that at least we know that there were other groups of geckos that are not alive today. We now know there were other genera that didn’t make it to modern times.”

The Baltic gecko is important for other reasons as well. “It also tells us something about their climbing systems,” Bauer said. “We have cases where we have skeletons of lizards. For example, the feet were like. This is an easy find he has ever made: a gift handed to him in photographs. The first lizard (not a gecko) in amber to be found in the Baltic was mentioned about 1887 and formally described a short while later. Until the 1990s it was the only lizard in Baltic amber that was really confirmed.”

**“This amber fossil fills a huge gap, a gap of perhaps 60-70 million years.”**

We now know there were other genera that didn’t make it to modern times.”

—Dr. Aaron Bauer

Dr. Aaron Bauer (right) and Dr. Wolfgang Böhme together have published papers on the history of natural history museums in Germany and America. At a German amber museum, they and a third colleague examined the Baltic amber gecko. The museum has a large collection of the amber mining and working industries that thrived in northeast Germany prior to World War II. Here, the two colleagues are at a meeting in Kansas City. Spring 2005 53
Father Dobbin Shares with the Villanova Community Augustine's Vision of the Eucharist

BY MAUREEN MCKEW

In response to a request from the bishops of Pennsylvania to all presidents of Catholic colleges and universities in the Commonwealth, the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, Villanova University president, recently presented a talk on the writing and preaching of St. Augustine of Hippo on the Eucharist. The bishops’ request came as part of the worldwide celebration of the Year of the Eucharist (October 2004-October 2005), which had been proclaimed by Pope John Paul II on June 10, 2004. Father Dobbin said he was always delighted at the opportunity to reflect on Augustinian themes, which are at the core of Villanova’s mission. This is most especially the case with the theme of the Eucharist.

Over the centuries, the Church has not taken full advantage of the unifying vision Augustine had for the Eucharist, Father Dobbin said. He suggested two reasons for this: the antiquity of Augustine’s writings (more than 1,650 years ago) and his highly sophisticated use of rhetoric. Augustine was one of the great rhetoricians of all time, and his use of metaphor and symbolic discourse often has been difficult to interpret in later times and cultural contexts. The difficulty often had to do with how realistically to interpret his symbolic references. For example, in later centuries some scholars questioned Augustine’s belief in the Real Presence, arguing that the presence of Christ’s Body and Blood in the Eucharist was “merely symbolic.”

With that as a background, Villanova’s president went on to talk about four aspects of the Eucharist that have always been part of Church teaching and certainly in Augustine’s writings: (1) the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist (2) Eucharist as sacrifice (3) Eucharist as banquet and (4) Eucharist as sacrament of unity. Although these aspects of the Eucharist have always been essential to the understanding of the sacrament, down through history, there often has been a tendency for one to be emphasized at the expense of the others. For example, at times reverence for the sacred presence was so emphasized that the reception of

“Through that bread and wine the Lord Christ willed to commend His Body and Blood, which He poured out for us unto the forgiveness of sins. If you receive worthily, you are what you have received.”

—St. Augustine of Hippo, Sermons (227)
Augustine’s Vision of the Eucharist

Communion was forgone out of respect, thus diminishing the sense of Eucharist as a banquet. At other times accentuation of the sacrificial nature of the Eucharist diminished the sense of Eucharist as a communal banquet.

Augustine’s view of the Eucharist as sacrament of unity clearly integrates and nicely holds together these four essentials. Father Dobbin read several citations confirming Augustine’s strong and realistic affirmation of the first three essentials—Real Presence, sacrifice and banquet. He then suggested the fourth essential as the key for Augustine’s understanding of the sacrament. He cited at length the following text, which summarizes Augustine’s typical sermon to the newly baptized:

“The image of the many grains of wheat gathered into one loaf offered as the Eucharist as symbolizing the Church’s unity is found as early as the Didache, and later in Irenaeus and Cyprian. Augustine expands on it in his homilies to those who have just been baptized at Easter (Sermons 227, 229, 229A, 272). There were many grains, he tells them, which were threshed by oxen when the Gospel was preached to them, and stored in barns when as catechumens they were held back from participation in the Eucharistic celebration.

“Then they were ground by fasting and exorcisms, moistened with water and shaped into one lump of dough in baptism, and stored in barns when as catechumens they were held back from participation in the Eucharistic celebration.

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The Clinical Christ

BY CHARLES L. ZEIDERS, PSY.D., ’90 M.S.
JULIAN’S HOUSE
151 PAGES, PAPERBACK
$19.95
www.christianhealingresources.org

A person with religious beliefs applies his or her faith in all physical, social and psychological aspects of life. According to a 1994 study in the Journal of Family Practice, 77 percent of adults who believe in God feel that their caregiver should respect and address their spirituality. For this reason, the inclusion of spirituality in clinical psychotherapy seems a logical choice. Yet, science has long disregarded this practice, calling it a “regression” or “escape” from complete mental health. The Clinical Christ, by Dr. Charles L. Zeiders ’90 M.S., addresses this misstep and provides a framework for the inclusion of religious teachings and practices in clinical psychotherapy.

The book is a collection of articles by several scholars and practitioners of Christian holism, whose application to psychology came about through the Think Tank for the Development of Holism in Christian Psychology. Zeiders chairs this group of psychologists, spiritual leaders and religious specialists whose central tenet acknowledges that “the Holy Spirit is present and active during treatment.” The book further defines this tenet within the context of clinical psychotherapeutic treatment.

The Clinical Christ guides the reader first through the science of Christian holism then through its clinical application and case studies. The book intelligently considers the arguments of the opposition and addresses their criticisms. Zeiders and his colleagues realize that more scientific evidence will be needed to ground Christian holism and present it as a treatment method. His book provides a full understanding of this approach to spiritual and mental health.

Christian holism intends for the afflicted to first acknowledge his or her trespasses, then, through an act of will before God, forgive the trespasser. God’s love for man enables the patient to allow his or her own will to forgive to overcome the will to punish. Zeiders calls this process the Resurrection effect and states that, “Jesus commanded forgiveness, because he knew that unforgiveness imprisons us in a will to punish that locks us into our woundedness.”

The book concludes with an argument for the inclusion of spirituality. Zeiders cites research on the correlation between piety and positive well-being. The Clinical Christ recognizes that some practitioners may have core psychological fears about spirituality. This fact may be the main deterrent to a widespread acceptance of Christian holism by the mental health community, but growing scientific evidence supports the inclusion. Zeiders and his colleagues feel that all mental health practitioners will be better served if spirituality is addressed in treatment.

Zeiders, who is the clinical director of the Christian Counseling Associates in Havertown, Pa., received his master’s degree in counseling and human relations at Villanova University. He earned his doctorate in psychology from Immaculata University and is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania’s Center for Cognitive Therapy.

He can be reached at dr.zeiders@comcast.net.
—Reviewed by Kimberly Wallmeier ’06 C&F

Requiem for the Devil

BY JERI SMITH-READY ’91 A&S
382 PAGES (PUBLISHED IN 2001 IN PAPERBACK BY WARNER BOOKS)
$16.96 PAPER, FROM ONLINE BOOKSELLERS
$4.95 E-BOOK, WWW.FICTIONWISE.COM

In a novel labeled fantasy but that truly evades neat classification, Jeri Smith-Ready ’91 A&S probes an intriguing question: “What if the Devil were to fall in love?” Smith-Ready’s Devil is alive, well and impossibly good-looking. He resides in a palatial apartment in Washington, D.C., where he cruises around in a luxury car and picks up girls at local bars with his hard-drinking posse—Beelzebub, Belial and Mephistopheles.

In addition to debauchery, Lucifer (AKA the youthful and smart political consultant Louis Carvalho, or Lou for short) specializes in the business of destruction. Utilizing magical superpowers, he conjures up and executes new ways of clandestinely spreading poverty, famine, war and hatred around the world. So he has done for centuries, and so he would continue to do but for the intervention of one unanticipated factor: Gianna O’Keefe.

The beautiful and bold, compassionate but caustic Gianna captivates Lucifer unlike any other mortal, right from the start. Of his first glimpse of his future lover, he thinks, “Not a single note was on key, but she sang like she didn’t care. Her conviction was so potent that it seemed as if the musicians were the ones who were tone-deaf… I looked down and saw that my hand was trembling so violently that the ice in my drink had leapt out of the glass.” From then on, she turns his entire world upside down. Smith-Ready details their tumultuous time together and illustrates the ensuing remarkable transformation in the Devil’s character.

The author’s renderings of her characters are alternately hilarious and touching, but they are always genuinely realistic. Such a term seems ill-suited to a “fantasy,” but despite the superpower-endowed main characters, the book evokes a profound degree of truth about human relationships. In fact, Requiem for the Devil is a thoroughly surprising novel, in more ways than one.

Few authors can write about religion without preaching, and few can make the reader cry two pages after laughing out loud. Requiem for the Devil does all of that masterfully. The humor is smart and
well-timed, the religious debate thought-provoking. The novel, like Gianna herself, is at once cynical and hopeful, and never predictable. Its appeal transcends personal preferences, to reach pragmatists and fantasy buffs alike. Smith-Ready maintains the reader’s interest through to the very end, with an unforeseeable conclusion.

Smith-Ready majored in Honors at Villanova University, with minors in English, biology and philosophy. She received a master’s degree in environmental policy from the University of Maryland. In Westminster, Md., she lives with her husband, Maj. Christian Ready ’92 A&S of the Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol. She offers freelance writing, editing and policy research and works for Catherine Asaro, a science fiction/fantasy novelist.

In all of Smith-Ready’s creative processes, she considers music her primary inspiration. “Music for me is the most direct path to the soul, especially to the creative part that can reach for the divine.” On her web site, www.jerismithready.com, readers may sample the first chapter of her book for free.

Requiem for the Devil, which the author considers a possible second sequel to Milton’s Paradise Lost, is truly unlike anything else on bookshelves today. She has two sequels to her book in the works. One can only eagerly anticipate how she will follow up her triumphant first work.

—Reviewed by Elizabeth Solly ’05 A&S

Paths to Prayer:
A Little Book of New Testament Devotions

By Lore Kephart ’86 A&S
Providence House Publishers
176 PAGES, HARDCOVER
$23.95

On the journey through Paths to Prayer, a book of New Testament devotions, Lore Kephart ’86 A&S provides inspiration and a new-found relationship with the Lord to offer guidance in daily life.

In each devotion, Kephart presents selected Scripture, historical narrative and a prayer. From Jesus to St. Peter, Paths to Prayer includes selections from various parables, Beatitudes and Revelations. Kephart also incorporates 12 full-color plates illustrating the glorious artistry of stained glass windows from around the United States, representing New Testament events and saints.

A departure from the typical themes remembered from Sunday school days, her little book explores the struggles of daily life, providing readers with the ultimate path to prayer. As Kephart encourages readers, she opts for parables and Beatitudes that deal with realistic situations. She explores the daily problems that Jesus encountered in His life and how she reflects on the personal impact St. Peter had on her life because of his initial denial of Jesus. Kephart doesn’t lecture readers on how they should lead their lives, but rather guides them with hopeful prayers.

Kephart graduated from Villanova University magna cum laude. A political science/history major, she created and served as editor of The Villanova University Student History Journal. She has spent the last 18 years as moderator and teacher for Great Decisions, a lecture series hosted by Bryn Mawr (Pa.) Presbyterian Church. She resides in Newtown Square with her husband, three children and six grandchildren.

—Reviewed by Dana Imperia ’05 A&S

Battle Ready

By Tom Clancy
with Tony Zinni (Ret.) ’65 C&F
and Tony Koltz
G.P. Putnam’s Sons
450 PAGES, $28.95 HARDCOVER

With 40 years of service in the U.S. military, Gen. Anthony C. Zinni, USMC (Ret.) ’65 C&F has become known as a statesman, humanitarian, warrior diplomat and warrior peacemaker. Former U.S. envoy for peace in the Middle East, the Villanovan also has gained a reputation for candor. Saying and acting upon what he believes is a trait he developed during his career as a Marine.

From 1997 to 2000, Zinni was commander in chief of the United States Central Command. From November 2002 to March 2003, he served as then-Secretary of State Colin L. Powell’s U.S. envoy to the Middle East for peace, negotiating between Israel and the Palestinian people. Zinni made no secret of his opposition to the war on Iraq, an opinion that forced him to resign as peace envoy.

In Battle Ready, written with bestselling author Tom Clancy (and Tony Koltz), Zinni recounts, in his own words, his experiences from the Vietnam War through his role as special envoy, relating how the knowledge he gained on the battlefield shaped his thinking as an officer and peace advocate. Clancy meanwhile provides the context to Zinni’s reflections; this is Clancy’s fourth book in his “Commanders” series on military leaders.

The book is not a biography but more a record of how the Marine’s 40 years in the U.S. military turned a warrior into a warrior peacemaker. In testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in February 2003, a month before the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Zinni expressed his view that defeating hostile forces militarily does not necessarily mean victory. He believes victory results only when the defeated people see that they have a future that’s livable and that they have some say in it. He learned this lesson as a young lieutenant in Vietnam.

In Vietnam, as the most junior advisor, Zinni was “the utility infielder,” sent wherever needed. This was not a bad thing, he thought. It gave him a chance to encounter all different kinds of people, places...
and aspects of war. “I came back with a real understanding that this war was multifaceted; everything was all over the place,” he writes. “There was no clear and simple way to look at it. But most Americans who served in Vietnam had perhaps a year tour and saw one geographical area... The war they saw was real, but partial... Each man’s definition of war would turn out to be completely different... I didn’t see every possible way the war was fought, but I saw most of it... I was to rediscover these truths later in life when I began to be engaged in peacekeeping, humanitarian operations.”

On his second tour of duty in Vietnam, Zinni realized that few of the lessons he had learned actually applied elsewhere. “The previous experience helped; put me in the right frame of mind; but it didn’t tell me how to solve particular problems. You have to be open to each new and different reality. It’s wrong to use models and think stereotypically about problems and issues,” Zinni writes.

Clancy observes that Zinni’s travels and experiences in Vietnam “affected him deeply.” Further, they cemented his resolve to speak the truth whenever possible. When a young, wounded lance corporal in Vietnam had asked him, “Sir why are we here?” Zinni, then a Marine captain, answered with “the party line,” as he calls it, even though he himself didn’t believe it. Afterward, Zinni vowed never to give such a reply again. “If I felt something was wrong that put the lives of our troops in needless risk,” he writes, “I swore I would speak out.”

Speaking out did, and still does. Zinni notes that during a midshipmen address at the U.S. Naval Academy, hosted by its Center for the Study of Military Ethics, he observed that “Speaking the truth could be painful and costly, but it was a duty.” Zinni added, “There are times when you disagree and you have to speak out, even at the cost of your career. If you’re a general, you might have to throw your stars on the table...and resign for the sake of some principle or truth.”

Zinni writes, “Careerism is corrosive to the principle of truth telling. So is political expediency. In both cases, the hope of personal gain outrights personal integrity and honor.”

The retired Marine leader believes too many senior commanders fail in their obligation to speak the truth. For Zinni, his predictions about the cost of going to war with Iraq seem like a prophecy fulfilled.

“T

There is only one thing that counts, Faith expressing itself through Love,” the Rev. Thomas P. Dwyer, O.S.A., ’55 A&S, University of San Augustin, offers without cost. Michael Dolan, Director of the Communications Office of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova: e-mail communications@augustinian.org or call (610) 327-3330, ext. 238. 149 pages, paperback

“T

There is only one thing that counts, Faith expressing itself through Love,” the Rev. Thomas P. Dwyer, O.S.A., ’55 A&S, quotes from the Holy Scriptures in his introduction to Taken from among Men: Reflections and a Novel. This very apt verse sums up both his personal reflections as well as his fictional account about a pious but human priest, the Rev. Frank Donovan. There are certain distinct similarities between the reflections of Father Dwyer and the life of the character he creates, from their spiritual journey into the Faith to their pastoral roles.

In his reflections, the first part of his book, Father Dwyer takes aspects of life, especially the religious life, and meditates upon them and their importance in his spiritual journey. One of his earliest memories is of his first Holy Communion. On that day, his father, who worked nights for the electric company, picked up his son and his wife and drove straight to the church without changing into his one-and-only suit. The father didn’t want to risk being late for his son’s big day.

Father Dwyer’s faith journey, which started early in life, eventually took him to Rome. He was there in October 1958 when Pope Pius XII died. Father Dwyer recalled reflecting that “no one could live up to the saintly, scholarly and ascetic Pius XII.” Little did he know that the newly elected pontiff, Cardinal Angelo Roncalli of Venice, would become the beloved Blessed Pope John XXIII, who would convene the Second Vatican Council.

Shortly thereafter, Father Dwyer left Rome for missionary work in Japan. He reflects a great deal about the differences between Western and Japanese culture, to which he had to conform to be a successful missionary. He said that the most important trait for a missionary is humility: from learning the native language to adapting to seemingly primitive living conditions. I found myself deeply affected by this part of the book. It offers many great insights on various aspects of the Catholic and spiritual life and provides answers to many questions people of the Faith ask themselves.

The second half of Father Dwyer’s book is his novel, another spiritual journey, this one about Frank Donovan, beginning with his family life, his spiritual life, his calling to the priesthood and his pastoral ministry. The protagonist’s human qualities became evident during his service in the Korean War as well as during his mission in the inner city. This novel is very short and easy to read. It is a touching story that inspires and calls readers to embrace their humanity as a complement to their piety and holiness.

—Reviewed by Michael Nataro ’06 A&S
To Nantucket with Love, Bo

BY KIMBERLY A. WALLMEIER ’06 C&F

Doing what you love to do and getting paid for it: quite possibly every college graduate’s dream. The entrepreneur inside each of us is constantly addressing this credo, but rarely do we see the aspiration become reality. Bo Blair ’94 A&S, who majored in political science at Villanova University, has seen his love of event planning turn into something enjoyable and profitable in his hometown of Washington, D.C.

Five years ago, Blair entered the Georgetown restaurant scene with Smith Point, a seafood restaurant and guest-list-only club at 1338 Wisconsin Avenue, at the corner of O Street. More recently, the restaurateur opened Jetties, a gourmet sandwich shop and comfort foods café at 1609 Foxhall Road, N.W.

Smith Point is a Nantucket-style restaurant, as well as an after-hours meeting place for a list of 1,500 of Blair’s closest friends. A D.C. favorite, it received positive reviews by critics from The Washingtonian, Newsweek and The New York Times. Its underground location is very private and “hard to find,” according to Blair; a lonely blue awning is the only locator. Smith Point’s casual atmosphere includes exposed brick walls, low lighting, white table cloths, simply printed menus and an imposing wooden bar.

Smith Point has an extensive wine list of moderately priced reds and whites, with 10 to 12 available by the glass. The dinner menu changes weekly, but always highlights seasonal ingredients and fresh seafood, including seared scallops with crispy corn grits and sautéed crab cakes with a caper remoulade.

Once the clock strikes 11:30 p.m., the main attraction of Smith Point begins: velvet ropes, bouncers and house music. The growing D.C.-area hotspot has been frequented by the Bush twins, tennis star Andy Roddick and the Golden State Warriors’ Mike Dunleavy, to name a few. Yet even with the attention of these star patrons, Blair hasn’t changed his vision for the bar: a meeting place for successful 25-to-35-year-old professionals, Tau Kappa Omega fraternity brothers and private school classmates.

Our next stop is Jetties, a five-minute car ride away. It’s a meeting place for moms, a quick bite for local business people and Georgetown University Hospital employees, and a lunch-escape for college students. The eatery’s most attractive quality is its ample outdoor seating with summery umbrellas and quaint park benches. Every aspect of the interior and exterior transports the patron to a beach in Nantucket: warm feelings all around.

As for Jetties’ food, Chef David Scribner, also the chef at Smith Point, has designed an innovative and familiar lunch menu of specialty sandwiches, all bearing the names of Nantucket beaches, and soups ranging from New England clam chowder to Southwest chili. The light dinner menu includes homey comfort foods like chicken pot pie and meatloaf, with a Nantucket twist of course. Jetties has counter-service only, both take-out and dine-in.

Sandwiches are definitely the focus here, and as I glance at the meals around me, I can see that the Nobadeer is everyone’s favorite: roasted turkey, bread stuffing and chunky cranberry sauce on sourdough from the local Lyon Bakery. Jetties offers 20 flavors of Gifford’s, which I’ve heard is the best ice cream you’ll ever enjoy.

Why the focus on Nantucket? According to Blair, who spent many summers in this Massachusetts island community, Nantucket is like a different country, where you are shut off from the outside world. The lifestyle there is laid back, friendly and comfortable. These qualities are definitely alive in Jetties and Smith Point, but in very different ways.

So what’s next on his plate? Blair plans to open a larger version of Smith Point. The new restaurant and club will follow his proven business plan, with the same guest-list model.

As for a little advice to the Villanova community, Blair says he believes success is measured by “confidence in your idea. People will always tell you what they think would be a good idea, but if you believe in something, you should do it.”

The Hungry Wildcat is Kimberly A. Wallmeier ’06 C&F, a management major whose new goal in life is someday to get on the Smith Point guest list.
**Class Notes**

### 1950s

Henry J. Blaszczyk ’50 A&S, Gen. Arts was selected the first president of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees Educational Support Foundation, an all-volunteer nonprofit that promotes public education. Blaszczyk is in his 25th year of volunteering with the sunshine Foundation, which grants wishes to terminally and chronically ill children.

Robert W. Mahoney ’58 C&F, Eco., retired chairman of the board and CEO of Diebold, Inc., was elected to the board of directors of Cincinnati Bell Inc. He also serves on the boards of the Timken Company, the Sherwin-Williams Company and the Professional Football Hall of Fame, and is chairman of the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. In 2000 Mahoney was awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and in 2002 he was inducted into the Northeast Ohio Business Hall of Fame.

John N. McGrath ’58 E.E. received a 2004 Distinguished Society Service Award from The Instrumentation, Systems and Automation Society. A registered professional engineer, he specializes in instrumentation and controls for nuclear reactor safeguards systems and in the management of information application systems. He resides in Philadelphia.

### 1960s

Robert Scarito ’62 A&S, Bio., a real estate broker, is president of Listold Inc. in Smithtown, N.Y.

Angelo Armenti Jr., Ph.D., ’63 A&S, Physics is in his 12th year as president of California University of Pennsylvania. During two decades at Villanova University, he served in a variety of academic roles, from assistant professor to associate professor to chair of the physics department, and from director of planning to dean of University College.

Martin G. “Marty” McGuinn, Esq., ’64 A&S, Gen., ’67 J.D., Mellon’s chairman and CEO, has been named president of the Federal Advisory Council of the board of governors of the Federal Reserve System for 2005.

William S. McKinney III ’64 C&F, Eco., has joined Tasty Baking Co. in Philadelphia as director of purchasing, distribution and services.

Jeanne Burke-Guardia ’65 Nur. is nurse manager at the Montgomery County Geriatric Center in Royersford, Pa. She is a candidate for a master’s degree in long-term care administration at Saint Joseph’s University.

Faith Connor Murray ’65 Nur. and her husband, Robert, have returned to southern California after eight years in Nashville, Tenn. She is active in a global ministry, Aglow International, and has spoken at several of its functions. The Murrays are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary this year.

Charles “Chappy” Moore ’65 A&S, Edu. in January received the All-American Football Foundation’s Contribution to Football Award. Moore is head coach of football at Notre Dame High School in Lawrenceville, N.J.

David A. Banniller ’66 C&F, Eco., has been appointed president and CEO of Aloha Airgroup Inc. and Aloha Airlines Inc. in Honolulu. Banniller’s career in the aviation industry spans more than three decades. Most recently he was executive vice president and chief operating officer of Air Jamaica.


Lucille Cerchiaro Gambardella, Ph.D., R.N., ’67 M.S.N., was one of five award recipients nationwide chosen by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing/ELNEC Project. The award recognizes her innovative curriculum initiative for clinical specialist graduate students. She is a professor of nursing at Wesley College in Dover, Del.

Philip Colombo ’67 A&S, Gen. has been appointed interim executive director of Catholic Broadcasting Northwest, serving as general manager of KBVM-FM, the nation’s first lay-owned Catholic radio station. The station, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, is on the campus of the University of Portland.

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**Father Riley Honored for Heisman Trophy Chaplaincy Service**

**BY DANA IMPERIA ’05 A&S**

In commemoration of his 17 years as chaplain for the Heisman Trophy award ceremony, the Rev. George F. Riley, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’58 A&S, ’61 G.S. was honored with the All-American Football Foundation’s Loyalty Award. Father Riley is special assistant to the president of Villanova University. The foundation’s president, Jimmie McDowell, a longtime sports writer and a member of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, presented the award to Father Riley at the foundation’s 66th Annual Banquet of Champions, held in Princeton, N.J., on January 26.

For 43 years, Father Riley has served Villanova and his vocation as priest. A native of Lawrence, Mass., he attended Merrimack College before entering the Order of St. Augustine. He received a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree from Villanova, a master’s degree from Augustinian University and a doctorate in education from The Catholic University of America.

At Villanova, Father Riley has taught religious studies and was the first Peace Corps liaison on campus. For more than 20 years, he was vice president of the offices of Development, Public Relations and Alumni Affairs. He directed two highly successful capital campaigns: Covenant I, which helped build the Connelly Center, and Covenant II, which provided funding toward the Pavilion. In 1991, Father Riley was appointed to his present position by the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president.

Over the years, Father Riley has received numerous awards and honors, including the Barry Award from the American Catholic Historical Society in Philadelphia and “Man of the Year” from the New Jersey Chapter of B’nai B’rith.

Named to Endowed Chair.
The Rev. Gary N. McCloskey, O.S.A., ’73 A&S, Hon. was appointed to Merrimack College’s first Chair in Augustinian Pedagogy. He will lead the newly created St. Augustine Institute for Learning and Teaching and will continue to serve as Merrimack’s dean. Father McCloskey also serves on the Villanova University Board of Trustees and its Alumni Affairs Committee.


Richard Hook ’68 C&F, Bus. Adm., chief executive and founder of the bank consulting firm of Madison Financial Group, has opened Maryland Financial Bank in Towson. This is the first bankers’ bank in Maryland available to both institutional and individual investors.

1970s
Joseph Micucci ’70 A&S, Phil., ’73 G.S., Edu., director of human resources at Methodist Hospital in Philadelphia, was selected as 2004 Distinguished Human Resources Professional of the Year by the Society of Healthcare Human Resource Professionals of Pennsylvania.

James P. Riehl, Ph.D., ’70 A&S, Chem., dean of the College of Science and Engineering at the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD), in October 2004 was awarded a McKnight Presidential Leadership Chair, created to recognize unique and gifted leaders among deans and executive officers at the University of Minnesota. While professor of chemistry at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Riehl received the American Chemical Society’s St. Louis Award. In 1993 he became chair of the chemistry department at Michigan Technological University and in 2000 was appointed to the deanship at UMD. He also has held visiting faculty positions at Kings College London and the University of Leiden in the Netherlands.

Robert J. Krist ’71 A&S, Physics was named chief financial officer at Endologix Inc. in Irvine, Calif. The firm develops and manufactures minimally invasive treatments for life-threatening medical conditions, including aortic aneurisms.

James G. Ham III ’72 C&F, Bus. Adm., was appointed vice president of finance at NitroMed Inc., an emerging pharmaceutical company in Massachusetts specializing in nitric oxide technology.


Charlie Waters ’72 E.E. was named senior vice president for global marketing at Cyclades Corp. in Fremont, Calif. The firm, with 16 offices worldwide, is a leader in IT infrastructure management.

Albert P. Bianchi Jr. ’73 A&S, Pol. Sci. has been approved to judge “best in show” at the American Kennel Club’s all-breed dog shows.

Navy Capt. Brian W. Blanchfield ’74 C&F, Bus. Adm. retired from the Navy after 30 years of active service and is now a logistics engineer at Lockheed Martin Corp. in Chantilly, Va.

Jere Brown ’74 A&S, Pol. Sci. joined Dimension Data Holdings North America, a global technology company, as senior vice president of national sales. He is based in the New York City office.

Edward Connor, M.D., ’74 A&S, Bio., was promoted to executive vice president and chief medical officer at MedImmune Inc. in Gaithersburg, Md. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, he has been with MedImmune since 1994.

Ernest L. Kelly, Ph.D., ’74 G.S., Chem., ’77 Ph.D., Chem. was recently named vice president-worldwide quality control of Cephalon, Inc., headquartered in West Chester, Pa. He has more than 31 years of experience in quality operations and analytical research and development, most recently as senior vice president at Savient Pharmaceuticals.


Frank McLaughlin ’74 C&F, Bus. Adm. has been named senior manager at NJVC, a 1,200-employee IT services corporation in Tyson’s Corner, Va.

Gerald Santilli ’74 A&S, Soc. is the founder of First Philadelphia Charter School for Literacy, one of 53 charter schools operating in the Philadelphia School District during 2004-05. Last fall, the school consolidated its three locations into an extensively renovated former chocolate factory in Frankford, Pa. The K-4 school features a large literacy center/library, classroom reading nooks, and a school day and school year that are longer than in public schools.

Thomas P. Davis ’75 A&S, Pol. Sci., project manager at Muller Bohlin Associates in Perth Amboy, N.J., recently earned his master’s degree program in city and regional planning at Rutgers University. He also holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Columbia University.

Joseph S. Tesoriero, Esq., ’75 C&F, Acc., was appointed vice president and chief financial officer at Dole Food Company Inc. in Westlake Village, Calif. A graduate of New York Law School, he also holds an L.L.M. from Boston University School of Law.

Joseph Barry ’76 A&S, Psy. is a clinical therapist at Child and Family Services in New Bedford, Mass. He is a candidate in a post-master’s program at Rhode Island College, leading to licensure as a mental health counselor.

Joseph R. Chinnici ’76 C&F, Acc., senior vice president, finance and chief financial officer at Ciena Corp., headquartered in Linthicum, Md., has been named to the board of directors of Brix Networks.

Brian E. Huber, Ph.D., ’76 A&S, Gen., ’80 G.S., Bio. joined Adherex Technologies Inc. in Research Triangle Park, N.C., as chief executive officer. He had been vice president of biology/pharmacology in drug discovery for GlaxoSmithKline. He received his doctorate in molecular pharmacology from George Washington University.

F. Michael Tucker, Esq., ’76 A&S, Eco., ’79 J.D. was elected president of the Harriman Research and Technology Development Corp. The firm’s role is to transform the 300-acre Harriman State Office Campus in Albany, N.Y., into a world-class research and technology park. Tucker is admitted to practice law in New York and Pennsylvania and is a licensed real estate broker in New York State. In 1995, Villanova University awarded Tucker a College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Medallion for outstanding achievement in his field. He and his wife, Lynnette Miller Tucker ’77
Honoring the 20th Anniversary of the NCAA Championship

Former men's basketball coach Rollie Massimino and the entire roster of the 1985 NCAA champion Wildcats returned to campus on the weekend of January 14-16. The 14 champions were honored in several ceremonies.

On Friday night, the team was welcomed back with a reception in the Presidents’ Lounge of the Connelly Center. Then in the Connelly Center Cinema, a limited edition print by noted sports artist Dick Perez was unveiled; the print pays tribute to these 1985 champions who defeated Georgetown University in the epic 66-64 upset, Villanova’s only NCAA crown. Guests then viewed the première of “A Family’s Legacy: The Stories behind Villanova’s 1985 NCAA Championship,” a 53-minute DVD.

On Saturday, the championship team was introduced to the sellout crowd in the Pavilion at halftime of the Villanova-Georgetown game. A jersey honoring the achievements of Massimino’s coaching career (1973-92) was unveiled. It will join the jersey gallery of other Villanova greats above the student section. As the Hoyas played on campus for the first time, the score was the same as the historic game’s—66-64—but this time, Georgetown won.

The gala dinner, the weekend’s signature moment for the 1985 champs, took place on Saturday night at the Philadelphia Hilton. Among those addressing the 300 guests were the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, University president; Harold Jensen ’87 C&F, president of the Villanova University Alumni Association and an ’85 team member; and Ed Pinckney ’85 A&S, the 1985 tournament’s Most Outstanding Player and current assistant men’s basketball coach.

Massimino in his remarks noted, “I’d like to thank everyone in this room, because each of you contributed in some way to the success we enjoyed.”

Limited edition prints are available for purchase through the Block V Club; call (877) 434-1500. Copies of the DVD may be purchased through the online store at villanova.com.

Kenneth A. Paladin ’79 C&F, Acct. was named chief operating officer at TI-Network Technologies Inc. in Copague, N.Y. He continues as chief financial officer.

Marine Col. James L. Welsh ’79 C.E. has begun an assignment as director of the Marine Corps staff in the office of the assistant commandant. He and his wife, Mary Benolken Welsh ’77 A&S, Soc., reside in Gainesville, Va. They are the parents of a daughter and two sons, both of whom serve in the Marine Corps.

1980s

James J. Agnew ’80 A&S, Pol. Sci. was appointed vice president at VHAI Inc. in Braintree, Mass. An alliance of for-profit hospitals, health systems, and their affiliates, VHAI helps them manage their supply chains. Agnew is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Navy Capt. James Bougher ’80 A&S, Pol. Sci. is chief of staff, U.S. Naval Forces Korea. He has been honored with the Legion of Merit, the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Meritorious Medal (four awards), the Commendation Medal (three awards) and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Merrell Cashion ’80 Ch.E., has been named assistant editor of the Journal of the Patent and Trademark Office Society.

Terri Demorest Fehnay, Ph.D., ’80 A&S, Psy. has a private practice in clinical psychology in Willow Grove, Pa. She also serves as a psychological consultant at Project Transition, a residential treatment center in Warrington. She is the mother of an eight-year-old daughter and resides in Harborto.

Ed Pinckney ’85 A&S holds up the trophy in this 1985 photo from the welcoming ceremonies in Philadelphia for the Wildcats, following their victory over Georgetown in the NCAA Championship. Pinckney, then a senior, was the men’s basketball tournament’s Most Outstanding Player and now is assistant coach of the Wildcats.
Caridad Piñeiro Scordato, Esq., '80 A&S, Bio., the first female and Latino partner in the Manhattan law firm of Abelman, Frayne & Schwab, practices in the area of international trademarks, computer law and international litigation. Born in Cuba, she also publishes romance novels with a Latin and paranormal twist, under the name of Caridad Piñeiro. She has a contract with Pocket Books to publish Tori Got Lucky, plus another book and two novellas. She and her husband, Robert Scordato '80 A&S, Bio., and their family reside in Edison, N.J.

Kenneth Voss, Ph.D., '80 G.S., Sec. Edu. is superintendent of schools in the Ambridge (Pa.) School District, near Pittsburgh.
Birmingham, Ala. He and his wife, Apsi, have three children.

William Pezalla ’86 E.E. has been named general manager of the Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority in Chandler, Ariz. The authority provides electricity for the reservation. He and his wife, Marianne, reside in Phoenix.

Deidre A. Dittrich ’87 Nur. was selected to receive the Excellence in Nursing Award, given to a senior staff nurse at New York Hospital.

Steven H. Santini ’87 C&F, Bus. Adm. joined Sovereign Bank as director of its private clients group in the Mid-Atlantic division. His responsibilities include management and development of the private banking business in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland. In this role, he becomes a senior executive in the trust and wealth management division. Santini serves on the boards of the Pennsylvania Ballet and the Philadelphia Chapter of the Risk Management Association. His home is in Chalfont, Pa.

Kathleen Shea Ballay, Esq., LL.M., ’87 C&F, Acct., of counsel at the Philadelphia office of Pepper Hamilton LLP, in January was elected to partnership in the law firm. She focuses her practice on corporate mergers and acquisitions, real estate investment trusts and the structuring of venture capital funds. Ballay is a graduate of the Fordham University School of Law and earned her LL.M. at the Georgetown University Law Center in 1993.

Anthony J. Villari ’87 C&F, Acct., was awarded “The Hall of Fame Medal” by AXA Advisors, LLC for qualifying 10 times in the National Leaders Corps during a distinguished career in financial services.

Anthony Braca ’88 C&F, Acct., relocated from Blue Bell, Pa., to Singapore, where both he and his wife are working. He is SMB regional controller for SAP Asia Pte Ltd.

Lisa Ruth-Sahd, D.Ed., ’88 M.S.N., a nursing instructor at the Lancaster (Pa.) Institute for Health Education, received her doctoral degree in adult education from Penn State University, where she was honored with the Graduate Student Year. He and his wife, ready to retire, reside in Monterey with her husband, Frank, and their three children.

Navy Cmrdr. Desmond Connolly ’89 C&F, Bus. Adm. is operations officer for Carrier Air Wing Five at the Naval Air Facility Atsugi in Japan.

Elizabeth Kennedy Walsh ’89 A&S, Eng. has been appointed marketing director of Adventure Aquarium in Camden, N.J. She had been director of marketing at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia.

Michael J. Smith, Esq., ’89 A&S, Eco., ’93 J.D. was a featured speaker for the American Conference Institute’s “Advanced Forum on Welding Related Litigation,” where he discussed the insurance coverage issues. He is a member of the law firm of Cozen O’Connor in its West Conshohocken, Pa., office.

Nan Russell Yancey ’89 M.S.N. is the director of graduate studies at Lewis University’s College of Nursing and Health Professions in Romeoville, Ill.

1990s

Air Force Maj. Christopher Hayes, M.D., ’90 A&S, Physics is stationed at the American Air Force Base in Turkey, where he is a physician in family practice. He is a 1999 graduate of Ohio State’s College of Medicine and Public Health.

Louis A. Mongello, Esq., ’90 A&S, Soc. compiled The Walt Disney World Trivia Book: Secrets, History & Fun Facts Behind the Magic (2004, The Intrepid Traveler). Mongello fell in love with the theme park at age 3 and has devoted thousands of hours since then to learning all about it. He hopes his book will appeal to casual visitors and Disney fanatics alike.

John Nadel ’90 C&F, Bus. Adm. in October 2004 was named vice president and senior analyst with the U.S. life insurance team at Fort Pitt, Keiton. He works the New York City office of this investment bank specializing in financial institutions worldwide.

Glen Santangelo ’90 C&F, Acct. in November 2004 was named managing director and senior equity research analyst at Jefferies & Company, Inc. in New York City. He serves the healthcare industry and technology sector for this global investment bank and institutional securities firm.

Stacey Breen Sao ’91 A&S, Pol. Sci. is founder and managing director of BostonCentral.com, a Web site and e-newsletter featuring family activities, shopping and parenting resources.

Heather Byrnes Douglas ’91 Nur, senior safety associate at Johnson & Johnson in Horsham, Pa., in 2004 received a master’s degree in pharmaceutical quality assurance/regulatory affairs from Temple University’s School of Pharmacy.

Brian R. Kenny ’91 C&F, Mkt., ’94 M.B.A. is with Universal Underwriters Corp., where he earned national recognition as top sales performer in the country. He and his wife, Sarah, reside in Charlotte, N.C.

Lorraine Reale ’91 C&F, Acct. was promoted to principal with the Remnick Group, a national accounting, tax and business advisory firm. She works in the Bethesda, Md., office.

Richard “Rick” Riegel ’91 M.B.A. in September 2004 was appointed vice president, sales and business development at Taratec, a life science consultancy firm in Bridgewater, N.J.

Denis W. Cole ’92 C&F, Acct., a director with the New Haven, Conn., C.P.A. firm of Beers, Hammerman & Co., P.C., was appointed chair of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants’ committee for relations with colleges and universities.

Dr. Charles D. Dern ’92 G.S., Phil., was awarded his Ph.D. in moral theology from The Catholic University of America in May 2004. Jennifer Girvin Martin ’92 A&S, Gen. opened Twice As Nice, a children’s consignment boutique in Narberth, Pa.

Marine Maj. Jeff Lipson ’92 A&S, Geog., is serving in Fallujah, Iraq, as information systems officer for the 4th Civil Affairs Group.

Maj. Christian Ready ’92 A&S, Astro./Astro. serves in the Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Air Force Auxiliary. Also serving as commander of the Carroll County Combined Squadron, Maryland Wing, he was named 2004 Commander of the Year. He and his wife, Jeri Smith-Ready ’91 A&S, Hon./Eng., reside in Westminster, Md. (see a review of her most recent book on page 56).


Christina Clark ’93 A&S, Engl. is a radio host for Cumulus Media in Beaumont, Texas. Her show airs five nights a week on Magic 102.5.

She recently was named to the board of directors for the Press Club of Southeast Texas and freelances for publications in the area.

Marine Maj. Sean Clements ’93 A&S, Pol. Sci. is serving in Iraq as public affairs officer for the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing at Al Asad Air Base.

James Conaboy, Esq., ’93 A&S, Pol. Sci., an attorney in the Scranton, Pa., law office of Abrahamsen, Moran & Conaboy, PC, has been certified as a civil trial advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy.

Helen Goff Foster, Esq., ’93 C&F, Mgt. joined the Washington, D.C., office of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr as counsel in the law firm’s financial institutions department.

Claudine Fritz ’93 C.E. has been named a project manager in the civil engineering office of Barry Isert & Associates in Norristown, Pa. She earned an M.B.A. from Widener University in 2001.

Michael R. Greco, Esq., ’93 A&S, Pol. Sci. was elected to partnership in the Mid-Atlantic law firm of Saul Ewing LLP. Based in the Chesterbrook, Pa., office, he concentrates his practice on issues relating to the movement of employees between competitor firms.

Kathy Koerber Zvarick ’93 A&S, Comp. Prog. was promoted to manager of the toxicology and risk assessment department at Environmental Standards Inc., a consulting firm in Valley Forge, Pa. Recently she earned a black belt in tae kwon do.

Peter Toolan ’93 C&F, Acct. is a director on the corporate risk management and derivatives management team at Barclays Capital in New York City. He earned an M.B.A. at Columbia University.

Robert Blandi ’94 C&F, Acct., of Suffern, N.Y., was promoted to vice president in the private equity division of Credit Suisse First Boston in Manhattan.

Elizabeth A. Hartnett, Esq., ’94 A&S, Hist., ’97 J.D. is a
co-founder of the Rebuilding Afghanistan Foundation, which promotes the development of the country's educational facilities. This is the first group of young New York City professionals to assist in the rebuilding effort; the foundation was one of the largest donors to a new elementary school in Wardak. For more information, visit www.rebuildinginwardekan.org.

Dana Kenny Sullivan '94 Nur. has worked with the thoracic cancer programs of Skoan-Kettering and Massachusetts General hospitals. She resides in Needham, Mass., with her husband, Dennis, and their infant son.

Michael Portas '94 A&S, Engl. was named Teacher of the Year at Northern Highlands Regional High School in Allendale, N.J., where he teaches English. He, his wife and their two sons reside in Lincoln Park.

Air Force Capt. Robert K. Campbell '95 C.E. spent last summer as a missionary and English teacher in East Asia.

Air Force Capt. Karen Creaou '95 Nur. is a staff nurse at Aviano Air Base, Italy.

Peter G. Ford '95 A&S, Pol. Sci. and his wife, Adrienne Guard Ford '95 C&E, Mgt., have been living in Hong Kong since August 2003, following his transfer with AIG Insurance Co. She left her job with the Ford Motor Co. and is now serving as second vice president with the American Women's Association in Hong Kong.

Thomas Golden '95 C&E, Acct. and Matthew Mitchell '95 A&S, Pol. Sci., co-owners of Game Sports Management in Philadelphia, represented Mike Ciccotelli '04 A&S, Gen. and Adrian Schau '04 C&E, Fin. in the 2004 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft last June. The firm currently represents 10 professional baseball players.

Dr. Walter David Greason '95 A&S, Hist. was appointed as assistant professor of history at Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pa. He received a Ph.D. in history from Temple University and resides in Yeading with his wife, Janiece, and their young son.

Dr. Daniel Griffith '95 A&S, Comp. Sci., received his Ph.D. in ecology and evolutionary biology from the University of Michigan. He is a postdoctoral fellow with the Saint Louis Zoo.

Giancarlo Lanzano '95 A&S, Geog. was promoted to executive director of event development for the International Federation of Competitive Eating (see the Fall 2004 Villanova Magazine for a profile of one of its founders, Richard "Rich" Shea '93 A&S).

Blaise M. Lutz, Esq. '95 C&E, Acct. in September 2004 joined the Philadelphia office of Cozen O'Connor as an associate in the business litigation department. He concentrates his practice in construction and commercial litigation. He graduated magna cum laude in 2004 from Temple University's James E. Beasley School of Law.

Robin "Rob" MacNamara '95 C&E, Bus. Adm. was promoted to manager, eastern network, at Aqua Pennsylvania Inc. He oversees maintenance and construction operations in 29 municipalities in eastern Montgomery County and southern Bucks County.

Jennifer O'Rourke Tiffin '95 Nur. is an undergraduate nursing instructor at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Nursing.

David Cotter '96 A&S, Engl. has been promoted to senior account manager at British Telecom, where he covers the greater Philadelphia/New Jersey/Delaware territory.

Jonathan Peri, Esq., '96 A&S, Theol. is an associate in the litigation department in the Philadelphia office of Saul Ewing, LLP, as well as a member of the law firm's life sciences industry service team and white collar criminal defense practice group. He serves on the alumni board of directors at the Widener University School of Law and on the advisory council of the Pennsylvania Academy of Sciences.

Jennifer Rhines '96 C.E., who competed in the 2004 Olympic women's marathon in Athens, was a recent guest on the PBS affiliate WHYY-91 FM. Discussing the psychology of running long distances, she talked about motivation, competitiveness and emotional benefits.

Neasa Thornton Burdick '96 A&S, Engl. is living in Haarlem in the Netherlands; her husband, Jeff, is working there.

Jennifer Turner '96 C&E, Mgt. is a reporter/anchor for "Delaware Tonight" on the PBS affiliate WHYY-TV 12.

Lisa Whisler '96 A&S, Engl. has been appointed defense advisor to U.S. Senator Max Baucus (D-Mont.).

Jonathan Gust '97 A&S, Comm., formerly assistant director of media relations at Villanova University's athletic department, has been named director of communications for the Big East Conference, in Providence, R.I. He serves as day-to-day media contact for football and as the liaison for the Big East Web site, and also assists in other sports information operations. Gust also is a media director for the Big East baseball championship. His wife, Kelly Gust '01 A&S, Soc., was formerly finance assistant for the Atlantic 10 Conference.

Russell Lane Holderness '97 A&S, Psy., who served for six years as a Navy surface warfare officer, this fall will begin his studies at the West Virginia University School of Dentistry.

Christine Kando Szabo '97 C&E, Fin. has moved to Waldwick, N.J., where she founded her own business, BQ Errand Service.

Anthony Smeglin, M.D., '97 A&S, Comp. Prog., graduated from New York Medical College in 2003 and is a resident at Boston Medical Center. He recently published his sixth paper and plans to complete a fellowship in interventional cardiology.

John Giordano, Esq., '98 A&S, Engl., '02 J.D. is senior advisor and staff director of the federal Electricity Advisory Board, established in 2001 to provide independent advice to the U.S. Secretary of Energy and the Department of Energy.

Navy Lt. Joseph S. Gondusky, M.D., '98 A&S, Bio, has returned from Iraq with his wife, Lt. Christina Gondusky, M.D. He served as a medical officer for the Marine First Light Armor Reconnaissance Battalion, patrolling Al Anbar Province, and she served as a medical officer for the First Marine Division Battalion, headquartered in Ramadi. They are both graduates of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and plan to

A Master at Repairing Cars. Stephen Duna '01 G.S., Lib. Studies is a collision repair instructor at Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport. He was recognized by Chief Automotive Systems as a master structural technician and by Aspire Inc. in Bristol as a certified master repair technician. He holds Master ASE status from the National Automotive Institute for Service Excellence.
complete their residencies at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego. His father is Joseph M. Gondusky '65 M.E.

Scott Hackwelder, Esq., '98 C.E. is a patent attorney in the Cleveland office of Jones Day, an international law firm.


Jennifer Dallari '99 E.E. received a graduate fellowship at Southern Illinois University in the plant biology department.

Tim Johnson, Esq., '99 M.E. is a patent counsel at Schick-Wilkinson Sword, the shaving products company in Milford, Conn.

John Christopher Pilato III, Esq., '99 C&S, Fin., '04 J.D./M.B.A. joined the Rochester, N.Y., law firm of Hiscock & Barclay, LLP. His litigation practice is focused on torts, insurance coverage, products liability and construction law.

Michael J. Rinaldi, Esq., '99 A&S, Pol. Sci./Psy., '99 Hon. is a litigation associate in the Washington, D.C., law office of Arnold & Porter, LLP. He and his wife, Gabrielle, reside in Friendship Heights, Md.


2000s

Brian Benscoter '00 A&S, Bio., '02 G.S., Bio. received a graduate fellowship at Southern Illinois University in the plant biology department.

Ryan Burns '00 C&S, Fin. received an M.B.A. and a master's degree in accounting from Northeastern University. He is with PriceWaterhouseCoopers in Boston.

Celeste Morello '00 G.S., Hist. was selected for the eighth year for Marquis' Who’s Who in the World. She is a historian, criminologist and author of several books about Philadelphia.

Matthew M. Ryan, Esq., '00 A&S, Engl./Pol. Sci., '00 A&S, Hon. joined the Philadelphia law firm of Duane Morris LLP as an associate. A 2003 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School, he is an associate of its American Inn of Court. His wife, Rhoni Stefanacci Ryan '01 A&S, Comp. Sci., is admissions information specialist at Swarthmore College.

Michael Schuster '00 M.B.A. is vice president of marketing for Nancy’s Notions in Beaver Dam, Wisc. He heads the marketing and merchandising efforts for this multi-channel company geared to sewing.

Noelle Silberbauer '00 C&S, Acct. founded the women’s clothing company In Your Skivvies (www.inyourskivvies.com). It was featured on CBS TV’s “Early Show” and on Bravo TV’s “Project Runway” Web site.

Melissa L. Yemma, Esq., '00 A&S, Pol. Sci., '03 J.D. passed both the Pennsylvania and New Jersey bar exams and is currently an associate in the Media, Pa., law office of Mallon & Blatcher.

Lauren Bercarich '01 A&S, Comm./Pol. Sci. has joined WSIL-TV in Carterville, Ill., as a news reporter, covering Cape Girardeau, Mo.; Paducah, Ky.; and Harrisburg, Ill. She holds a master's degree in broadcast journalism from Syracuse University.

Old Friends Stick Together.
The Villanova University men’s lacrosse team sponsored an alumni lacrosse game and barbecue for Villanovans who played prior to 1986. Forty former players, 20 or so non-players and many more family members and friends attended the get-together on October 30, 2004. Among the guests were nine members of the original 1961 Wildcat lacrosse team, including Richard Lennon '62 C&S, Eco. and Art Shuman '62 C&S, Eco., ’72 J.D., two of the team’s founders, and Gene Melcher, who coached for the first three years. The third co-founder—Ed Hartwell ’62 C&S, Econ.—was in China and could not attend.
Katie Fallon '01 Nur. in April returned from six months in Sudan, where she brought basic health care to villages decimated by rooting Arab militia. She coordinated a mobile clinic and also promoted health, hygiene and polio vaccines for children. A staff nurse at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Fallon was one of the first two nurses to be honored with the hospital’s Thomas S. Durant Fellowship for Refugee Medicine, which supported her humanitarian mission.

Sarah M. Linn, Esq., '01 A&S, Pol. Sci., '01 A&S, Hon. earned her J.D. at Washington College of Law in 2004 and is an associate in the law firm of Kirkpatrick & Lockhart LLP. She is with the corporate group in the Pittsburgh office.

Sean Maher '01 A&S, Bio. received a master’s degree in natural resources from the University of Michigan.

Louis A. Mancini, Esq., '01 C&F, Acc't, graduated magna cum laude from New York Law School and is a tax consultant in the New York City office of PriceWaterhouseCoopers.

Katrina Wawer, Esq., '01 A&S, Pol. Sci. received her J.D. from The Catholic University of America’s Columbus School of Law. She has been admitted to the Maryland State Bar and is employed by the Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration, in Arlington, Va.

Rachelle Damminger '02 A&S, Comm., is a public relations coordinator in the marketing department of EwingCole, a Philadelphia architectural, engineering, interior design and planning firm. She received an award for excellence from the Philadelphia Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. At Villanova University, she is earning a master’s degree in strategic communications.

Kimberly DeEugenio '02 Nur., a resident of Glassboro, N.J., is a nurse in the surgical critical care unit at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia.

Navy Lt. Elisha Seth Larkin '02 Nur. is a labor and delivery nurse at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md.


Jason Olcese '02 C&F, Fin. was promoted to associate with RBC Capital Group in Wilmington, Del.

Jennifer Slikte '02 A&S, Comm. is assistant director of alumni affairs at The Episcopal Academy in Merion, Pa.

Carly Sproul '02 C&F, Mkt. is a project manager for Delphic Sage, a Web design firm in Philadelphia.

Christopher O’Brien ‘03 C&F, M.I.S. has joined General Electric’s Information Management Leadership Program. He is completing the first of four rotations in Danbury, Conn.

Christopher O’Brien ‘03 C&F, M.I.S. has joined General Electric’s Information Management Leadership Program. He is completing the first of four rotations in Danbury, Conn.

Army 2nd Lt. Robert Valdivieso ‘03 A&S, Gen. served for 18 months in Korea as an extension node platoon leader in the 307th Signal Battalion at Camp Carroll. He was awarded the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Korean Defense Service Medal.

Navy Ens. S. Garrett Bastable ‘04 C&F, M.I.S. is stationed in Norfolk, Va., aboard the USS Trenton.

Christine Bula ‘04 A&S, Spanish Lang./Lit./Soc. is working at an orphanage for teenage girls in Cochabamba, Bolivia, under the auspices of Associate Missionaries of the Assumption.

Mike Ciccotelli ‘04 A&S, Gen., who was chosen by the Seattle Mariners in the 29th round of the 2004 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft, played with an affiliate through mid-April of this year. As a senior at Villanova University, he was one of the Big East’s top relief pitchers.

Gwen DeBenedetto ‘04 A&S, Psy./Comm. is a Jesuit volunteer serving in Cleveland at Transitional Housing Inc.

Liz Downey ‘04 A&S, Psy. is a Jesuit volunteer serving at Dumas Wesley Community Center in Mobile, Ala.

Kaitlin Dunne ‘04 A&S, Hon. is a Jesuit volunteer, living in San Francisco and working with the Lawyer’s Committee for Civil Rights.

Navy Ens. Kathleen Kunkemoeller ‘04 Ch.E. is stationed on the USS Paul Hamilton in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Kevin Lutz ‘04 G.S., Math. is a member of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales and is a candidate for a master of divinity degree at Washington Theological Union in Washington, D.C.

Kevin Maher ‘04 A&S, Comm. is an account coordinator at Gregory FCA, an integrated public and investor relations firm in Armodre, Pa.

Colleen O’Boyle ‘04 A&S, Comm. is an account coordinator at Gregory FCA in Armodre, Pa.

Victor J. Senseng ‘04 G.S., Engl. has begun a three-year term with the Mennonite Central Committee and will be teaching at Satya Wacana Christian University in Central Java, Indonesia.

Adrian Schau ‘04 C&F, Fin., who was drafted by the Cleveland Indians in the 27th round of the 2004 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft, plays with the Captains, the Class A affiliate in Eastlake, Ohio. During his senior year at Villanova University, Shau was the Wildcats’ starting first baseman as well as a closing pitcher, and won a 2004 Villanova Senior Student Athlete Award. He had been drafted by the Indians in 2003 as well but chose to remain at Villanova and complete his degree.

Melissa Tadeo ‘04 M.B.A., senior vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, has been elected to the board of directors of the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Melissa Wibbens ‘04 A&S, Pol. Sci. is assistant director of the St. Francis Academy Community Center in Baltimore.

**Marriages**

**1950s-1970s**


Raymond A. Duffy ’70 A&S, Pol. Sci. married Margaret Neejeer.

**1980s**

Mary Kazmierczak ’82 Ch.E. married John H. Smickenbecker III.


John Casey ’87 A&S, Pol. Sci. married Michele Morneau.

Elizabeth M. Kelley ’88 G.S., Comp. Sci. married Brett Sennett.


**1990s**


John Palmieri ’90 C&F, Acct. married Katlin Sassone.


Joseph L. Przybyslowski ’90 E.E married Trace Telesinlik.


Kathy Koerber ’93 A&S, Comp. Prog. married Felix S.G. Zerick.


Steven R. Ferri ’94 E.E. married Beth J. Geiman ’94 E.E.

Michele Martin ’94 A&S, Spanish married John Slais.

Christina Parisi, Esq., ’94 C&F, Fin. married Ronald O. Whittford.


Mary Frances Heyman ’95 Nur. married Brian T. Scott.

Rosemary Hohenleitner ’95 Nur. married Peter Miller.


Julie Vastola ’95 A&S, Gen. married Daniel Cannistra.

Andrew Wilbur ’95 Ch.E. married Nicole Evald ’95 A&S, Psy.

Mark Birkett ’96 C&F, Fin. married Isabelle Perrault ’95 A&S, Psy.

Correction: Kara Gilmore ’96 A&S, Comm. married Andrew Michael Shaw.


Elaine Murphy ’96 A&S, Psy. married Steven Pohl.

Caryn Perlotto ’96 C&F, Acct. married Gregory A. Bocchino.


Carolyn Goldkamp ’97 E.E. married Mark Gerhold.

Ronald Josey ’97 C&F, Fin. married Matisse Aldamaris Rovira ’97 C&F, Fin.

Mark P. Doolan '98 C&F, Mkt., married Carrie Fornaro.
Daniele Levine '98 Ch.E., married Michael W. O'Grady.
Stephen T. Shimko '98 C&F, married Margaret Catalano '98 Nur.
Pamela Carducci '99 Ch.E., married Greg McAvoy
Jason Kling '99 C.E., married Jennifer DeBari.
April Quartell '99 A&S, Hum. Serv., married Alan Erck.
Rebecca Rocco '99 A&S, Gen. married James Kelly.
Cari Shillingford '99 A&S, Psy., married A. Joseph Heumann Ill.

Amber Nikol Kyle '00 A&S, Pol. Sci., married David James Blake Jr.
Michael Lehner '00 A&S, Comp. Sci., married Jennifer Vasche.
Erin Lynch '00 Nur., married Christopher Burke.
Brian Perry '00 C.E., '01 M.C.E., married Meghan G. Dunne '01 A&S, Hum. Serv.
Matthew M. Ryan, Esq., '00 A&S, Eng./Pol. Sci., '00 Hon., married Rhoni A. Stefanacci '01 A&S, Comp. Sci.
John Campbell '01 C&F, Fin., married Cheryl Selbtschka '01 A&S, Bio.
David Champagne '01 Ch.E., married Kelly Van Train '01 A&S, Bio., '01 A&S, Math.,
Courtney Keith '01 C&F, married Jeffrey Bristow.
Courtney Lyons '01 C&F, Mkt., married Jeff Snyder.
Kristin McDonald '01 A&S, Pol. Sci., married Daniel Hauser.
Jeffrey Paige '01 A&S, Hist., married Jessica Lind '02 A&S, Soc.
Ryan Halla '02 C.E., married Kelsi McBroom '01 C&F, Acct.
Imonda Umschweil '02 Nur., married John Deegan.
Jennifer L. Durfee '03 A&S, Gen., married Douglas C. Bottmiller.
Kelly Hofmann '03 A&S, Eng., married David Kosoff.

Joseph Lamack '87 Ch.E. and Corrine Kohl Lamack '89 A&S, Psy., boy, third child.
Deirdre Robinson Carnes '87 A&S, Edu., twins, boy and girl, first children.
Lawrence Koutchav '89 A&S, Gen., boy, first child.
Stephanie Naujok Kazanjian '89 A&S, Mkt., girl, third child.
Mary Norcini Marvin '89 C&F, Aec., girl, third child.

1990s
Josephine Casey Lindgren '90 A&S, Eco., girl, third child.
Christopher Caufield '90 A&S, Eco., girl, third child.
Peter Kouveliotis '90 A&S, Bio., girl, first child.
Elizabeth Levandoloski Baak '90 A&S, Gen., girl, fourth child.
Laura Smith McAnena '90 A&S, Math., girl, third child.
Carolegine Cleary Reardon '91 A&S, Math., boy, fourth child.
Patricia Flynn Lombardo '91 A&S, Eng., boy, second child.
Larissa Hamory Miller '91 A&S, Eco., girl, first child.
Raymond Hyer '91 C&F, Aec., girl, fifth child.
Cathleen MacPherson Diegnan '91 Nur., boy, third child.
Michael Cruz Magbalon '91 A&S, Eco., girl, first child.
Jenifer Van Osten Bucknam '91 A&S, boy, second child.

Glenn L. Durkin '92 C&F, Acct. and Marie Joaquin Durkin '95 C&F, Acct., girl, second child.
Katie Herlt Oliver '92 C&F, Acct., girl, third child.
Jennifer Cieslinski Tutiflaro '93 E.E., boy, second child.
Sarah Prost Kaster '93 A&S, Psyc., girl, first child.
Christian H. Randazzo '93 C&F, Mkt., boy, second child.
Correction: Rosemary Scalo

Births
1970s-1980s
Michael Unger '84 C&F, Acct., boy, fourth child.
Timothy Riordan '86 M.E., boy, third child.

Corrections: Rosemary Scalo

2000s
Gregory M. Chamberland '00 C&F, Fin., married Meredith Scott '02 A&S, Pol. Sci.
Kennedy Crossan '00 Ch.E., married Kerri Clark '99 A&S, Comm.
Mark D. Grimm, Esq., '00 J.D./M.B.A., married Carla Generose '97 C&F, Aec.
In July 2004, the Panama Chapter of the Villanova University Alumni Association hosted a New Student Reception and welcomed two faculty members from the College of Commerce and Finance.

Greeting New Villanovans. In July 2004, the Panama Chapter of the Villanova University Alumni Association hosted a New Student Reception and welcomed two faculty members from the College of Commerce and Finance.
In Memoriam

1930s
James F. Cain '33 C.E., on August 15, 2003, Fort Myers Beach, Fla.
Clemens A. Tarter '33 C&E, Eco., on June 16, 2004, in Upland, Calif.
Augustine C. Liotta '34 A&S, Gen., on January 10, in Long Branch, N.J.
Martin A. Donnelly Sr. '35 M.E., on December 30, 2004, in Havertown, Pa.
J. Raymond Manahan '39 C&E, Eco., on November 27, 2004, in Morristown, N.J.
Charles H. Harrington '45 C.E., on October 28, 2004, in Pearl River, N.Y.
Frank Bukowski '47 C&E, Eco., on December 30, 2004, in Dunellen, N.J.

1950s
Jack J. Land '50 C&E, Eco., on December 11, 2004, in Sea Isle City, N.J.
George C. Corcoran Jr. '51 C&E, Eco., on January 3, in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
Thomas F. Park Jr. '51 C&E, Eco., on February 12, in Haverford, Pa.
Richard J. Bolger '52 C&E, Eco., on April 15, 2004, in Egg Harbor Township, N.J.
Michael J. Holmes '52 C&E, Eco., on December 18, 2004, in Denvillle, N.J.
Thomas J. Kelly '52 Ch.E., on March 18, 2004, in Northbrook, Ill.
Bill Kolanowski '52 C&E, Eco., on January 27, in Maplewood, N.J.
Edward T. Orzechowski '52 C.E., on July 3, 2004, in Oceanport, N.J.
James D. Amy '53 C&E, Acct., on August 23, 2004, in Fort St. Lucie, Fla.
Joseph A. Saldutti '55 C&E, Eco., on December 27, 2004, in Mountain Lakes, N.J.
Fred Gobillot '56 A&S, Gen., on October 6, 2004, in Raritan Township, N.J.
George V. Gorham '56 Ch.E., on September 10, 2004, in Fripp Island, S.C.
Sister Mary Madeline McCarthy, R.S.M., '57 G.S., Classics, on November 14, 2004, in Watchung, N.J.
Jerry Kerwin '59 E.E., on January 30, in Belmar, N.J.

1960s
William J. Hill '60 C&E, on April 22, 2004, in San Diego.
Dr. Helen B. McCool Sankey '60 Nur., on October 17, 2004, in Glenolden, Pa.
William J. Wooten '63 C&E, Acct., on October 15, 2004, in Dover, Del.
Louis M. DiBello '64 G.S., Chem., on October 21, 2004, in Bardstown, KY.
Jerry Gorman '64 C&E, Eco., on December 4, 2004, in North Kingstown, R.I.
Michael J. Early Sr. '65 C&E, Acct., on October 7, 2004, in Beach Haven Terrace, N.J.
William B. Klimek '65 C&E, Eco., on November 19, 2004, in Brigantine, N.J.
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Spring 2005 71
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Lucy McGearty Eichman ’76

Thomas N. Jackson ’76 C&F,

Susan E. Steele ’76 G.S., Hist.,

Elizabeth R. Clark ’77 G.S.,
Couns., on October 15, 2004, in Wilmington, Del.

Noreen Egan Domville ’77 Nur.,
on December 2, 2004, in Atlanta.

Sister Mary Esmonde, R.S.M.,

Michele M. Hummel, Ph.D.,

Mollyann Kent Kay ’77 G.S.,
Sec. Sci., on December 12, 2004, in Silver Spring, Md.

Kenneth G. McConnell ’77

Neal M. Welsh ’77 A&S,

Alberta O’Brien ’79 G.S., Lib.

David A. Wright ’79 C&F, Acct.,
on June 17, 2004, in Irving, Texas.

1990s

Patrick J. McCoy ’80 G.S., Sec.
Adm., on June 18, 2003, in Spring Hill, Fla.

Carolyn Murray ’80 Nur.,

Douglas McCarthy ’83 A&S,
Hist., on December 4, 2004, in Manasquan, N.J.

Dorothy Carlson Lambdin ’84

Robert S. Quinn ’84 A&S,
Eng., on September 6, 2004, in East Fallowfield, Pa.

Pamela D. Allan ’86 G.S.,
Eng., on October 8, 2004, in Wilmington, Del.

Geraldine R. McCabe ’86
G.S., H.S.A., on May 29, 2004, in Alleghany, N.Y.

Paul H. Loughlin ’89 A&S,

1990s

Thomas Huemmer, Esq., ’90 A&S,

Rebecca Long Campbell ’90
M.S.N., on November 14, 2004, in Silver Spring, Md.

Donald Brophy ’91 G.S., Rel.
Studies, on January 13, in West Chester, Pa.

Lisa A. Callahan ’91 A&S,
Eng., on November 21, 2003, in Indian Head Park, Ill.

Angeline V. Testoni ’91

2000s

Sandra Feliciano ’00 M.S.N.,
on September 17, 2003, in King of Prussia, Pa.

Faculty, Staff and Students

Brian M. Anderson, a senior
majoring in engineering, on May 8
in Villanova, Pa.

Theresa Christian, associate
professor emerita in the College
of Nursing, on January 10, in
Pottstown, Pa.

George T. Farrell, retired
facilities supervisor, on September

Dr. James C. Fee Sr. ’51 C&F,
retired professor of accounting, on
November 21, 2004, in Wynnewood,
Pa. (see page 43).

Sarah Duncan Kasosky,
retired cook for Dining Services
and the St. Thomas of Villanova
Monastery, on September 27, 2004,
in Conshohocken, Pa.

Laura Mazzola, a junior
majoring in communication, on
February 8, in Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Dr. Lawrence J. McGarry,
retired professor of sociology, on
November 29, 2004, in Bryn Mawr,
Pa. (see page 43).

Robert Nally, retired member
of the business law department, on

John Vasily, chemistry
department storeroom manager,
on November 4, 2004, in Lafayette
Hill, Pa.

Friends of the University

Edward Kahil Driebe, former
member of the Villanova
Development Council, on January 1,
in Stroudsburg, Pa.
“You’re only young once.”

(a year)

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