Dear Alumni and Friends:

As Villanovans, we are united in our commitment to building community and never tire of finding new places and innovative ways to accomplish this goal. Through academic collaborations, alumni involvement and service experiences, we expand the borders of campus so that what we teach, learn and reflect upon will translate into positive change whenever and wherever Villanovans are engaged.

In the classroom and often beyond, our faculty and students find unique ways to bring their knowledge and talents to bear on pressing issues throughout the world. One such example is the long partnership that exists with the impoverished people living in the mountains around Waslala, Nicaragua, where Villanovans work to improve living conditions among those communities. Another recent initiative in that community features a cross-college team pooling its expertise and applying its knowledge to foster economic opportunity, develop alternative energy sources and explore technological solutions for improving access to health care in the region. We are privileged to have a growing number of similar partnerships throughout campus that impact other countries and continents.

Building community includes gathering to celebrate major milestones. At the 167th Commencement in May, I joined the rest of the University in saluting the latest wave of Villanovans to bring our Augustinian ideals into the world. As the members of the Class of 2010 move forward in different directions, they have the opportunity to use their talents and gifts to serve the greater good and transform society while building upon the Villanova legacy.

While we bid farewell to our graduates, we welcomed back alumni who gathered to celebrate 2010 Reunion Weekend. The festivities allowed them to strengthen their bonds with old friends and with the campus they will always call home. They learned about significant plans for the University’s future and the vital role alumni can play in supporting Villanova’s mission and helping the University achieve new levels of excellence.

Students graduate and alumni return, but service always remains a constant. It is an important part of who we are as Villanovans, so much so that the annual St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service has become a signature initiative at the University. The event has grown to include thousands of students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends and families who serve in the Greater Philadelphia region and in their own communities around the country. The 2010 Day of Service on Saturday, September 11, is just around the corner. Please contact your local chapter to find out about the many ways you can get involved (see page 46 for details).

Sincerely,

Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., Ph.D. ’75 A&S
University President
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167th Commencement of Villanova University
May 16, 2010
A message of community and inclusion was the hallmark of the Baccalaureate Mass, presided over by the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’75 A&S, Villanova president. On a sunny Saturday afternoon in Villanova Stadium, he told graduates, “The greatest job you will ever have is to know yourself. In your experience at Villanova, we have tried to instill in you that you have a talent, a gift that must be given to other people. But in order to live that gift, you must understand the truth around you…and first and foremost the truth about yourself,” he said. “Every step of the way [here] you have learned more about yourself and have opened yourself up to the possibilities that exist around you. Don’t stop believing in who you are and what you have accomplished…and recognize that you cannot do it alone.”

He added, “You have learned to speak in a voice that calls people to inclusion. Know that you have the power and the privilege to bless others.”
You are at the beginning of a grand adventure,” Jamie Hyneman, co-host of the Emmy-nominated science series *Mythbusters*, told the Class of 2010. Wearing his signature beret, Hyneman, who received an honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering, advised graduates to remain curious and continue to ask questions.

Hyneman has been in the visual effects field for more than 25 years, working on dozens of major feature films and producing 800-plus television commercials, including the feature films *Arachnophobia* and *Flubber* and a number of Super Bowl ads. He holds several patents, has a degree in Russian linguistics from Indiana University and is actively involved in developing cutting-edge technologies and prototypes for various industries, ranging from defense to green vehicle design.

Hyneman has collaborated with Villanova’s College of Engineering on several projects, including the Wavecam, an aerial robotic camera system used at sports events, and the development of blast-resistant armor. “The Villanova engineering staff has embraced me as one of their own… I, too, am now a proud Wildcat,” he said.

Regarded internationally as one of the leading industrialists of our time, Dr. Peter Wallenberg, a lifelong supporter of education and research, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities.

Born in Stockholm, he represents the fourth generation of a family that has played a significant role in economic development in Sweden. Over the years, as long-standing chairman of several Wallenberg foundations and through his strong interest and deep understanding of the conditions and needs of research in many disciplines, Dr. Wallenberg has supported many educational and research endeavors. He has contributed to the long-term development of research at the Karolinska Institutet, one of Europe’s largest medical universities.

He continues to fund the Dr. Peter Wallenberg Scholarship, which was established at Villanova University by his life-long friend, Ambassador Charles A. Heimbold, Jr. ’54 A&S, to provide worthy Swedish scholars the opportunity to attend the University for one year as a visiting student.
Lindback Award for Teaching Excellence

Randy Weinstein, Ph.D., professor and chair of Chemical Engineering and director of the Sustainable Engineering program, received the University’s Lindback Award for Teaching Excellence during Commencement. Since joining the College of Engineering in 1998, Dr. Weinstein has demonstrated passion for and dedication to teaching, research and service. “It feels very good to receive the award—there are a lot of excellent teachers here,” he says. “I am not necessarily known as one of the easier professors, but students feel like they learn a lot and that I help them along the way.”

Being honored with this year’s Lindback Award only bolsters his growing list of accolades at Villanova. He earned the Farrell Award in 2001, the inaugural Innovative Teaching Award in 2008 and was a semi-finalist for the Lindback Award in four previous years. The Lindback Award for Teaching Excellence is sponsored by The Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation, which makes grants primarily to cultural and educational institutions and other charitable organizations in Southeastern Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey.

Brave Heart
Memorial sword commemorates alumna’s courageous spirit

Frank Falcone, A.P., P.E., ’70, ’73 has had ample opportunity to observe heroic deeds. In his 30 years with the U.S. Naval Reserve, this now retired captain completed two tours of duty in Southeast Asia, held major command positions and earned an array of medals and awards. But nowhere did Falcone witness greater courage than on the home front, as his daughter Jessica Falcone ’98 A&S waged a fierce, 13-year battle against acute lymphocytic leukemia.

“Jessie was the most courageous person I ever knew,” says Falcone, an associate professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Villanova. Diagnosed at the age of 13, Jessie endured extensive treatments, lengthy hospital stays and debilitating side effects, and she agreed to try an experimental drug that had never been administered to humans. Overcoming the odds, she persisted through high school and college and held a job before passing away in 2002 at the age of 26.

To honor their daughter, Falcone and his wife, Linda, created the Jessica Falcone Memorial Sword in 2008. They present this sword at the Villanova University Naval ROTC Unit’s Spring Review—held this year on April 20 on Mendel Field—to a graduating midshipman who exhibits the qualities of courage, tenacity and commitment and who upholds the finest traditions of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps.

This year’s recipient was Midshipman 1st Class Nicole DeMicco, USNR, battalion operations officer. Col. Brian Mantle, USMC, commanding officer of the NROTC Program, had nominated DeMicco, describing her as bright, motivated, mature, professional and respected by her peers.

“It was an honor to have been selected for this award,” said DeMicco, a Sociology and Criminal Justice major. After graduation, DeMicco took up duties as a surface warfare officer in San Diego.
To celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2010, College of Nursing faculty and staff joined students’ families and friends in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church for the annual Convocation on May 15. In preparing for their new professional roles or advanced nursing practice positions, these degree candidates had contributed to the Villanova community, to regional and global health and to the many successes that marked the academic year.

Class acts

- Included in the 157 students who earned their B.S.N. degree were 54 accelerated second-degree adult learners and three newly commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy or Army Nurse Corps. Three registered nurses from the United States and 20 nurses from the Sultanate of Oman also earned their B.S.N.

- At the graduate level, 26 students received master’s degrees, two earned doctoral degrees and 10 completed post-master’s certificates.

- The College presented awards for academic achievement, service and leadership to nine degree candidates and acknowledged the distinguished service of retiring faculty Elise Pizzi, M.S.N., CRNP, and Maureen Sullivan, Ph.D., R.N.

Milestones and innovations

- The College completed a positive 10-year reaccreditation process for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and inaugurated the Center for Global and Public Health.

- The first flight of students enrolled in the Graduate Nursing Program’s new Family Nurse Practitioner option, which had been approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

- Through a signed agreement, Villanova University and the College formalized their relationship with the School of Nursing, American University of Beirut. The partner schools will collaborate on projects in nursing education that involve faculty and students.

- The 16-year agreement with the Sultanate of Oman’s Ministry of Health continued.

- The College’s first endowed graduate nursing scholarship was established.

- The Villanova chapter of the Student Nurses’ Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP) again was named “Most Outstanding Chapter in Pennsylvania.”

Scholars in action

- M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., F.A.A.N., Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, was elected to the international board of trustees of the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS).

- Two faculty and several alumni participated in humanitarian missions in earthquake-devastated Haiti.

- Ten students were awarded scholarships from a $100,000 grant to the College as part of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing program. The grants provide scholarships to college graduates from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds who are transitioning into nursing in an accelerated B.S.N. program.
The College of Engineering develops technically excellent engineers who not only benefit from a foundation in the liberal arts and leadership development, but also see the potential for engineering to advance the common good. In the 2009–2010 academic year, students and faculty brought this mission to life in a variety of ways.

Class acts

- The College presented awards to six outstanding undergraduate and graduate degree candidates at its Recognition Ceremony on May 15.
- At Commencement, engineering students earned degrees at every level—206 bachelor’s, 36 master’s and one doctoral—while two of the College’s faculty were recognized by the University for outstanding teaching and service, respectively.
- Two Civil Engineering majors were awarded National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships; a third was named a 2010 Udall Scholar.
- A Mechanical Engineering major received a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Nepal.

Milestones and innovations

- The College implemented a new first-year curriculum in fall 2009. One of the most innovative freshman engineering experiences in the country, the curriculum features a core course on engineering fundamentals and each student’s choice of two multidisciplinary engineering projects.
- The new M.S. degree program in Sustainable Engineering, among the first in the country, also launched this year. Students can take core courses and electives in alternative and renewable energy technology, watershed sustainability and environmental sustainability.
- The College unveiled the Villanova Center for the Advancement of Sustainability in Engineering (VCASE). Its mission is to protect and restore the environment through research on the integration of sustainability principles and engineering practice.
- The College opened three new laboratories: the Biothermal Sciences Laboratory, Core Genomics Laboratory and Materials Science Laboratory.

Scholars in action

- Faculty continued to secure competitive research grants from the National Science Foundation, Office of Naval Research and other high-profile organizations.
- Electrical and Computer Engineering faculty and graduate students are helping the organization WE CARE Solar optimize the design and impact of its Solar Suitcase, which brings reliable solar electricity to health clinics in developing countries.
- The College expanded its outreach efforts to increase interest among middle and high school students in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) subjects.
- By strengthening its relationships with universities in Chile, Australia, Ireland, France, Germany and Turkey, the College opened more doors for collaborative research and student and faculty exchanges.
- Collaborating with transportation agencies, Civil Engineering students conducted a technical and economic feasibility study of a fifth Delaware River crossing.

In the College of Engineering’s new state-of-the-art Core Genomics Lab, engineers from a variety of disciplines can investigate engineering research projects at the gene level.
On May 15, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences celebrated the academic achievements of the Class of 2010 at two recognition ceremonies. In the Pavilion, faculty and administrators paid tribute to graduating seniors, while 176 master’s and two doctoral recipients were honored at a gathering on Mendel Field. The events marked the culmination of another banner year for the College.

Class acts
- Thirty-eight seniors in the Honors Program defended their theses; 22 seniors were inducted into the Pennsylvania chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.
- Two Biology majors received Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships, and a senior majoring in Physics and Civil Engineering was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.
- Three Astronomy and Astrophysics majors earned Honorable Mention in the 2010 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship competition.

Milestones and innovations
- The College concluded a nearly three-year process to re-imagine its core curriculum. The new curriculum will take effect in fall 2011.
- The College offered its first fully online graduate degree, an M.S. in Human Resource Development, and approved the implementation of a Post-Master’s Certificate in Mathematics.
- The Master of Public Administration program was fully accredited for the first time by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration.

Scholars in action
- Students in the social justice documentary course added two incisive films to their vault. Coming Off the DL profiles two students who have cerebral palsy and work as managers of the men’s and women’s basketball teams, respectively. Meh Sha tells the story of a 17-year-old Burmese refugee living in Philadelphia.
- As part of an ongoing project, faculty and students from the Communication and Computing Science departments launched virtual-reality tours of two more Vatican sites: the Basilica of St. John Lateran and the Sistine Chapel. The project has gained international attention.

Thanks to a series of virtual tours created by faculty and students in the Communication and Computing Science departments, armchair travelers can enjoy detailed views of Michelangelo’s frescoes and other Vatican attractions with only a click of a mouse.
At the Graduates’ Recognition Ceremony on May 15, James M. Danko, The Helen and William O’Toole Dean, Villanova School of Business, urged students to embody the motto of the University and the spirit of St. Augustine by being servant leaders. As the successes of the past year indicate, faculty and students already embrace this message in and outside of the classroom.

Class acts

- Over the last academic year, VSB awarded 665 undergraduate degrees and 262 graduate degrees.
- Two months before graduation, 92 percent of accountancy students had accepted full-time positions or were headed to graduate school.
- Seven undergraduate and eight graduate students received Bartley Medallions in recognition of outstanding achievement in a specific discipline. Three faculty members took honors for excellence in research, excellence in teaching and outstanding merit in innovation and creativity.

Milestones and innovations

- After two years of study, 16 students became VSB’s first recipients of an M.S. in Church Management. The degree program educates church leaders and managers to address management issues from a faith-based perspective.
- VSB launched the Center for Business Analytics, the mission of which is to promote education, research and best practices in that field. The Center will work closely with industry professionals and will host roundtable sessions, conferences and workshops.
- In April, the Daniel M. DiLella Center for Real Estate hosted the inaugural Villanova Real Estate Challenge, a national real estate development case competition for students from top undergraduate real estate programs. VSB students placed third in what is the largest event of its kind in the United States.
- Anticipating new requirements that students complete 150 credit hours and have one year of public accounting experience before being eligible to earn the CPA license, VSB redesigned the delivery of its Master of Accountancy program. In the new format, VSB students can be “150-ready” the summer after senior year.

Scholars in action

- Launched in 2008 by four VSB seniors, Business Without Borders has attracted more than 100 members and has completed missions to Kenya, Nicaragua and the Philippines.
- As part of their international immersion, 24 EMBA students visited Malaysia and Vietnam in April. They met with companies such as Grant Thornton, Nhabeco, Johnson & Johnson, SABMiller, Sime Darby, Royal Selangor, Denso and Scomi Group.
- Four MSF students won second place and $5,000 in the fourth annual ACG Philadelphia Cup, a private equity/investment banking case study contest sponsored by the Association for Corporate Growth.
- Thanks to a $250,000 gift from Ronald Cruse ’77 A&S, The Cruse Endowed International Fellowships provide financial resources for undergraduates in VSB and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to participate in global work and study opportunities.

From left: George Diehl, business fellow; Gary Loveman, chairman, president and CEO, Harrah’s Entertainment, Inc.; Matthew J. Liberatore, Ph.D., John F. Connelly Chair in Management and director, Center for Business Analytics; and James M. Danko, The Helen and William O’Toole Dean, Villanova School of Business, gathered to celebrate the launch of the Center for Business Analytics. To mark the event, Loveman delivered a speech on the value of analytics in the business world.
School of Law

At Villanova Law School’s 55th Commencement ceremony, Richard L. Trumka ’74 J.D., president of AFL-CIO, the nation’s largest labor federation, received the University’s Medallion Award and gave the address. Trumka encouraged graduates to prevail against the country’s mood of anger and frustration by channeling those feelings “into hope, not hate; reform, not repression; and progress, not polarization.” This is just the kind of challenge that the Law School prepares its graduates to accept.

Class acts
- Villanova Law School awarded 223 Juris Doctor degrees and 11 Master of Laws in Taxation degrees.
- A record number of graduates were honored for public service this year, with 47 graduates receiving the Dorothy Day Award for Pro Bono Service. This award recognizes students who have given a minimum of 40 hours of pro bono service.

Milestones and innovations
- The Class of 2013 started in the new Law School building, which features state-of-the-art classrooms and stunning spaces in which to study and gather. Dedication ceremonies were held in October.
- First-year students experienced curriculum innovations that provide a transactional practicum in either Property or Contracts, giving students an opportunity to draft documents that apply doctrine to real-world settings.
- The Law School was honored by the American Bar Association (ABA) Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline and the ABA Judicial Division in recognition of Villanova’s long-standing support of and participation in the ABA’s Judicial Clerkship Program.
- The Villanova Law J. Willard O’Brien American Inn of Court received national recognition from the American Inns of Court Foundation for two of their programs. The American Inns of Court are designed to improve the skills, professionalism and ethics of the bench and bar. Membership comprises judges, lawyers, law professors and students.

Scholars in action
- The 50th annual Theodore L. Reimel Moot Court Competition finals were judged by Chief Judge Anthony J. Sirica of the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, the Honorable Edward G. Rendell ’68, governor of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Judge Marjorie O. Rendell ’73 of the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Students participated in service trips to rural North Carolina and Haiti. They provided legal services to help the poor in North Carolina deal with immigration issues, domestic violence, workers compensation and tax preparation. A third-year student organized more than 120 volunteers and thousands of dollars of aid and materials for a relief trip to Haiti. He also created a foundation to raise funds and support humanitarian efforts in Haiti.
- Students raised more than $47,000 during the year through Villanova Law School’s Walter Lucas Public Interest Fellowship Program, which supports students who perform public-interest legal work during the summer.
Shreya Trivedi ’10 A&S had every excuse to feel overwhelmed. Just a sophomore at Villanova, she was three time zones away from home, presenting a scientific poster at her first major biology conference and facing hundreds of top-tier international researchers.

Instead of wilting, she was fearless, completely in her element among the experts. Trivedi divided her schedule between studying, attending lectures and making new friends and professional connections. “I learned that if I put my whole heart and mind into an effort I could accomplish anything,” she says. The experience proved to be a turning point, building confidence and motivating her to keep working hard.

This faith in her abilities has been hard-won. Born in Gujarat, India, Trivedi and her family moved to the United States when she was in first grade. For a girl who had been part of India’s highest caste, the experience was “total culture shock.” Her cousin had advised her to raise her hand often so the teacher would know she was smart, so she did as soon as possible—in the classroom doorway. The other students giggled at her faux pas and even more when they heard Trivedi’s foreign accent.
“I would speak one word and people would laugh,” she recalls. Embarrassment only made her more determined to fit in.

By seventh grade, however, she realized that in her rush to embrace American culture she had actually denied her Indian heritage, an equally important part of her identity. She decided to enroll in Sunday School to learn Gujarati, her native language, and later taught in the school. “Now I’m proud of my differences. I’m proud of who I am,” she says.

To build a community
Possessing a growing self-understanding, she wanted to continue exploring the two cultures upon entering Villanova, says Terry Nance, Ph.D., assistant vice president for Multicultural Affairs. “The process of self-identification was one she used to reconcile what civil rights activist and scholar W.E.B. Du Bois called ‘twoness’—her Indian self and American self—and, in turn, she encouraged others to think about their own particular stories.”

Her experiences at Villanova helped Trivedi understand herself as both an American and Indian, and she ultimately became the co-chair of Villanova’s South Asian Multicultural Organized Students Association.

As she learned more about herself, Trivedi wanted to add even more to the sense of community and social justice at Villanova. She founded the Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service on campus and ensured the mantle will be carried into the future. “Shreya is not just interested in doing things: they have to fit into the bigger, broader picture. She speaks with a centeredness that is beyond her years and asks hard questions about humanity and what it means to be human,” Dr. Nance explains.

As one of about 20 Presidential Scholars at Villanova, she excelled in biology studies, earning a 3.94 G.P.A. and proving herself time and again, everywhere from the classroom to the bench. As a Presidential Scholar actively engaged in undergraduate research, Trivedi received the Villanova Undergraduate Research Fellowship for three consecutive years in addition to a competitive undergraduate research internship at the University of Pennsylvania. Her research prowess earned her Honorable Mention from the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship Program, a nationally competitive scholarship for undergraduate science students. This past year, Trivedi was recognized for her academic achievements and community leadership with the awarding of a Fulbright U.S. Student Grant.

Under the mentorship of Louise Russo, Ph.D., Trivedi worked to finalize data sets to prepare a multi-year research on uterine tissue remodeling for publication in Reproductive Biology and Endocrinology. It was her dedication to finalizing the work that allowed the researchers to submit the paper to journal. “Shreya has contributed more quantitatively data-wise and possesses the greatest skill set and breadth of application of any student I have mentored,” Dr. Russo says.

Dr. Nance adds that she is bright, incredibly caring and the kind of rare, intrepid student “who doesn’t ask how to do something, only when it is due.”

“An amazing journey”
Experiences at Villanova gave her more than just a library’s worth of book smarts. She has gained worldly perspective, reflected in her decision to delay medical school while she teaches English to secondary school students in South Korea. She credits Villanova faculty with helping her to find the courage to discover the right path. “What I needed was to feed my soul, not to do something just because it was logical or looked good on paper,” she says. “I’m always excited for a new challenge and living out of open-mindedness.”

Trivedi plans to work with her students and people in the community to create an atmosphere in which genuine curiosity and understanding about different experiences and perspectives occur, ultimately leading to growth.

New graduate’s journey leads her to Fulbright Grant in South Korea
BY SHAWN PROCTOR

(Left) Shreya Trivedi ’10 A&S will teach English to an underserved community in South Korea.
Three-college collaboration focuses on improving access to health care in Nicaragua

When set to a Rodgers and Hammerstein score, the acts of climbing mountains and fording streams are rousing metaphors for pursuing self-fulfillment. But for the impoverished people living in remote communities around Waslala, Nicaragua, these are real legs of the arduous, daylong journey to the region’s one hospital. Those who are sick, injured or dealing with a medical condition face a dilemma. Making the journey may cost them precious days away from their families and livelihoods. Not making the journey may cost them their lives.

Led by Pritpal Singh, Ph.D., professor and chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering, an interdisciplinary team of faculty and students has resolved to improve access to health care in these communities by taking advantage of one of today’s most popular forms of communication: text-messaging. If their project succeeds in Waslala—a region in which Villanovans have been providing health education and water-related engineering services since 2004—they hope to apply their solution in other countries. In the meantime, the members of this eclectic group are discovering what they can accomplish when they put their heads and hearts together to address real-world problems.

“We have a duty to be global citizens and to share our knowledge and skills at home and abroad,” says senior Derek Ferfuson ’11 VSB.

Texting their way to better health

The plan is predicated upon two preexisting conditions: the availability, although spotty, of cell phone coverage in rural areas; and the existence of a network of volunteer community health workers (CHWs) who liaise between their respective communities and the health professionals in Waslala. “It is wonderful to see these volunteers,” says Ruth McDermott-Levy, Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor. “With minimal resources and education, they are providing the best care they can.”

The long-term goal of Dr. Singh and his team is to equip CHWs with cell phones and teach them how to text-message (a cheaper form of communication than voice) patient information to a server that will be housed in the Waslala hospital. The server will store the data and alert a doctor if a situation requires medical attention. The doctor or other trained person will reply by text message with the diagnosis and next steps. “Using this system, health promoters can prevent people from coming to town unnecessarily but also identify emergency situations,” says Elizabeth Keech, Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor.

Conducting the assessment

To test the feasibility of their project, some two dozen faculty and students from the colleges of Engineering and Nursing and the Villanova School of Business (VSB), and sundry participants outside of Villanova, traveled to Nicaragua in May. When Tim Hansell, coordinator of the Integral Health Program in Waslala, greeted the new arrivals, he felt a ripple of panic. How would this kaleidoscopic cohort’s diverse interests coalesce? Before the end of their visit, Hansell could see the big picture. “Everyone shared their perspectives, and we all became clearer on how the various components will come together.”

From the beginning, representatives of different disciplines accompanied each other as they went about their business. For the engineers, that business included assessing Waslala’s cell phone and power infrastructure, as well as the capabilities of the hospital’s computer system. They also discussed their project with the local cell phone company, which is considering providing phones and services plans to CHWs.

Meanwhile, the nursing contingent met with key health informants, toured the hospital and conducted a qualitative study of the needs of CHWs and their communities. When they shadowed one of the CHWs on a visit, the experience helped them appreciate what this volunteer commitment entails. “We went to assess a boy with a heart problem, and within 10 minutes people started coming...
from everywhere looking for help,” recalls senior Katherine Weatherbie.

Finally, VSB delegates learned about the local economy so that they can devise a sustainable business model for the cell phone initiative. They interviewed business owners, visited micro-financing institutions and investigated regional business opportunities, such as eco-tourism. Because a separate group of Villanova engineering students is designing a micro-hydroelectric power system for one of the communities, VSB students hope to examine whether having reliable power increases entrepreneurial opportunity.

In the next steps, the nursing group will analyze the data and recommend what patient information should be tracked and how. On the basis of the data collected, they also will develop education programs to be implemented during the College of Nursing’s trip to Waslala in March. Besides constructing appropriate business models, VSB participants will delve more deeply into Waslala’s micro-financing practices and follow up on potential business opportunities. Engineers will develop the solar-powered charging system for the cell phones (see sidebar), as well as the software needed for the coding, transmission, storage and retrieval of data. The team hopes to test a prototype system in the fall.

**Got synergy?**

Collaborating with the “client” helped the disciplinary groups to think more broadly and not to impose their own assumptions. Yes, they want to improve access to health care, but as Sarvesh Kulkarni, Ph.D., associate professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, points out, “this trip taught us that we can’t do anything without the support of the people on the ground.”

Equally beneficial was the exchange of ideas and expertise among themselves. Gathered one evening to compare notes, the team members found themselves asking questions and voicing opinions that would not have occurred to them a week earlier. “As I listened to nursing students share a business insight and engineering students give a medical insight, I realized they were already thinking differently,” says James Klinger, Ph.D., assistant professor of Management & Operations and associate director of VSB’s Center for Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship. To the ears of faculty, such fruitful dialogue was the sound of music.

For more information on this project, e-mail Dr. Pritpal Singh at pritpal.singh@villanova.edu.

**Packing the Power**

When the student-faculty team left Waslala, they left behind one piece of luggage. The “Solar Suitcase” is a portable power system developed by Laura Stachel, M.D., M.P.H., co-founder of WE CARE Solar, to reduce maternal mortality in Africa by providing health care workers with reliable lighting, communication and blood bank refrigeration.

The Nicaragua team equipped a community health worker with a Solar Suitcase and will monitor how she uses the device over the next year and what opportunities the availability of electricity creates. Tim Hansell, coordinator of Waslala’s Integral Health Program, already is seeing changes.

“Now that the CHW and her family have light at night, they stay up talking, neighbors come to visit them and their children can finish their homework,” Hansell also gave the CHW a cell phone that can be charged by the suitcase.

In addition, faculty and students in Electrical and Computer Engineering are collaborating with WE CARE Solar to advance the suitcase’s capabilities.
Inspiring the Mind

Interdisciplinary courses prepare students for multidisciplinary careers

By Jennifer Schu

It's not every day you'll find a top executive at one of the world’s largest pharmaceutical firms passing out his business cards to a classroom full of college students. Yet that's exactly what happened this past spring semester in an innovative new interdisciplinary course, "The Global Pharmaceutical Industry." A full collaboration between the Villanova School of Business (VSB) and the College of Engineering, the course attracted students from both Colleges and exemplified the type of partnership that is a major academic initiative of the University’s Strategic Plan.

Developed by William Kelly, Ph.D. of the College of Engineering and Jonathan Doh, Ph.D. of VSB, the course was designed to provide cross-disciplinary exposure to the global pharmaceutical industry, offering engineering and business students alike a wealth of in-depth knowledge of the industry's issues and practices. It integrated different engineering and business topics and teaching styles.

"In the College of Engineering, there has been an increased interest in providing our students and faculty with more interdisciplinary experiences, since the students will surely find themselves working on interdisciplinary teams when they graduate," Dr. Kelly says.

VSB leadership was likewise eager to offer such an experience to their students—many of whom find employment in the pharmaceutical industry.

"It was a great course for business students, because we hadn’t seen chemistry since high school," says Andrea Loulakis ’10 VSB, who recently accepted a job offer with Johnson & Johnson. "I wanted a course that would offer some insight into both the business aspects of the pharmaceutical industry as well as the chemical makeup of the different drugs I’d be working with."

A collaboration across Colleges

Dr. Kelly notes that the Chemical Engineering department already had several courses at the graduate and undergraduate level that prepare students for the technical challenges of a career in the pharmaceutical industry. However he felt that Engineering students interested in that career path also needed a course that dealt with technical and global business issues, since the drug industry is increasingly marketing and manufacturing in countries such as China and India.

"I knew of our business school's excellent reputation and was even more convinced of the great potential for this novel course to succeed after I met and began interacting with Dr. Doh," he says. "I was encouraged by his ideas on course content."

Dr. Kelly and Dr. Doh—who had never met before—began planning the course content in the summer of 2009. "Honestly, I was a bit hesitant at first because it seemed like a great deal of work—and it was," Dr. Doh says. "But it was definitely worth it."

One of the challenges was a difference in teaching styles. In Dr. Kelly's regular classes, he adopts a pedagogical style typical in Engineering—presenting a lecture first and having the students follow it with assigned reading. In a typical VSB course, it's often the reverse; students are asked to read material beforehand and prepare to discuss it during class. The solution the professors came up with was constant communication with students via e-mail and in person to prevent frustration with teaching approaches that varied from class to class.

Another issue was preparing tests that would not give either Engineering or Business students an unfair advantage. The two professors decided that each test would include multiple choice science and engineering questions along with short and long essay questions on business topics.

From the outset the two saw the benefit of bringing in outside speakers from top pharmaceutical firms to provide expert opinions and perspectives on current topics in their respective areas. They realized they both had considerable contacts in the pharmaceutical industry and quickly reached out to them.

"We were pleased and a bit surprised that all of our top choices were interested in participating—for no fee—and were flexible with their speaking dates so that their topic would integrate well into the flow of the course," Dr. Kelly says.

With a focus on the fundamental drivers and essential elements that characterize the global pharmaceutical industry, the course offered students the opportunity to meet industry leaders such as Bob McMahon ’79 VSB, senior vice president of U.S. Commercial Operations at Merck & Co. Inc. He offered students an inside look on details such as Merck’s $41 billion merger with Schering Plough, making it one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world.

Impressed by the students’ questions and engagement in the class, he gave each one of them his business card.

"The world has been moving toward more multidisciplinary capabilities," McMahon points out. "Engineers who are aspiring to work in pharma should be better prepared by being able to understand what the business challenges are. On the flip side, it's important to have business people understand the expense, challenges and risk that go into manufacturing pharmaceuticals."

Accounting and International Business major Maureen McElligott '11 enjoyed the variety of speakers. "They provided insight into issues that affect the industry and in turn how those issues impact consumers."

Future plans

The success of the course has led to talk of more collaboration between VSB and the College of Engineering. "Jonathan and I learned so much from each other in terms of material and approaches to teaching," Dr. Kelly says.

"The two Colleges have collaborated and will continue to collaborate across a range of curricular and extracurricular initiatives, especially in the areas of entrepreneurship/innovation and international service," adds Dr. Doh. "It’s exciting because interdisciplinary learning is one of the key components of Villanova's Strategic Plan."
Even a hint of swagger would be understandable. After all, how many people can say they received a full track scholarship to a university that grooms Olympians? That their relay team broke its own indoor world record? That they served as CEO of two different companies? That they were selected to be chairman of the Rockefeller Foundation?

James F. Orr III ’65 A&S can claim these honors and more. Yet he chooses to clothe himself with humility, and in his case, the clothes do make the man. Orr came to Villanova determined to contribute; he graduated from Villanova determined to give back. His legacy of giving and involvement, especially as a member of the University’s Board of Trustees, shows that he still goes the distance for Villanova.

Competing with the best
In high school, Orr emerged as a national standout in the half-mile. Colleges vied for his signature, but the offer from the track and field powerhouse outside Philadelphia was “as good as it got.”

At Villanova, legendary coach James “Jumbo” Elliott impressed upon Orr and his teammates the importance of excelling not just on the track but in the classroom—advice that Orr heeded.

“Jim was very studious and a real team leader,” says Thomas Sullivan, M.D., ’65 A&S, who, along with Orr, Al Adams ’65 VSB and the late Noel Carroll ’65 VSB, was formidable in the two-mile relay. “I could tell from the way he carried himself that he was going to succeed in life."

Orr’s track record in financial services proves how prescient Sullivan was. After earning his MBA from Boston University, he advanced from bank executive to president and CEO, first of Unum (which later became UnumProvident Corp.) and then of United Asset Management Corp. In 2002, he founded Landing Point Capital, a private investment firm.

Expressing his gratitude
Orr has always felt indebted to the school that set him on the path to success. He made it a priority to pay Villanova back for his education. In addition, he has served on the University’s Board of Trustees since 2002, helping to clarify the institution’s vision and guide its progress. He is especially proud to have been part of the development of the Strategic Plan and is confident that, as a result of its implementation, “stronger and stronger students will come to Villanova.”

For much of his term as trustee, Orr played a central role in the Transforming Minds and Hearts campaign. He enjoyed engaging other alumni and was among the first to make a gift at the $1 million level, establishing The James F. Orr III Endowed Fund for Athletic Leadership and International Competition in Track and Field. This endowment—Orr’s second at Villanova—enables students to train for competition and hone their coaching skills while in graduate school.

“Thanks to this fund, I can continue racing at an elite level while I enhance my academic credentials,” says Adrian Blincoe ’03 VSB, an Olympian and the assistant coach for the men’s team.

Supporting Orr in his career and philanthropy has been his teammate for life, Ann. They enjoy golfing, boating and traveling from Florida to Boston to visit their daughters. Orr is thrilled that the number of his grandchildren (all female) will soon double from three to six. “Both our daughters are pregnant with girls, and one is expecting twins.” Some things he can’t help boasting about.
Kimble A. Byrd, Esq., ’73 A&S

It is not surprising that orienteering activities that involve finding treasures hidden by other gamers appeal to Kimble A. Byrd, Esq., ’73 A&S. As a lawyer, teacher, scholar, entrepreneur, consultant and Villanova University trustee, Byrd has amassed stores of wisdom and experience. But he also has made it a point to share these treasures to help people realize their potential and achieve their dreams.

“My primary goal is to ‘do good’ and to do well,” Byrd says. “It is not sufficient to do well for myself. I want to assist, guide and elevate other people.”

Gaining and giving knowledge

Judged against that benchmark alone, Byrd has had a spectacular career. He earned his J.D. from University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1976 and headed to Washington, D.C. There he racked up experience as a legal advisor for the Department of Commerce, a partner in a commercial law firm and a consultant to small-business entrepreneurs. At Howard University, he found another niche: teaching. “I derived as much satisfaction from facilitating students’ learning as I did from business and law.”

Byrd twined these threads of expertise when he accepted a faculty post at Rowan University. An award-winning scholar and teacher, he specializes in entrepreneurial financing, blending theory with the practical knowledge he continues to acquire through his own consulting firm, Venture Analytix.

“Kimble is a pioneer in entrepreneurship education in the Delaware Valley,” says James Klingler, Ph.D., associate professor of Management & Operations and associate director of the Center for Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship in the Villanova School of Business. “When we were launching our program, he gave us wonderful feedback on our ideas.”

Equipped for life at Villanova

The liberal arts education Byrd received at Villanova gave him the broad-based knowledge and skills he needed to strike out in any direction. Through his political science courses, he came to appreciate the importance of social responsibility; serving as president of the Black Student League cultivated his leadership skills. Above all, Villanova’s sense of community helped him form lasting relationships—especially with his wife of 37 years, Lora Graves Byrd ’73 A&S. They have three children and live in Wilmington, Del.

Byrd had the chance to reengage with the Villanova community when he was tapped for the Alumni Association’s Board of Directors in 1996. In 2002, he began his term on Villanova University’s Board of Trustees and “was honored to contribute to his alma mater’s strategy and governance.” He has drawn upon his background in law, business and higher education to serve on numerous committees, including the Academic Affairs and Trustees committees.

Ever the teacher, Byrd gives superlative marks to University President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, Ph.D., O.S.A., ’75 A&S. “Father Peter has brought together disparate constituent elements, as well as corporate partners, and blended them into the mosaic of the University.” Byrd is especially pleased that the Strategic Plan builds upon the University’s intellectual and spiritual legacy and is designed to bring about well-focused, incremental improvements.

This dedication to Villanova’s growth and mission, says longtime friend Maghan Keita, Ph.D., professor of History and director of Villanova’s Institute for Global Interdisciplinary Studies, “is one of Kimble’s most endearing qualities. When it comes to knowing what kinds of changes have been made and what kind of changes could be made, Kimble is a treasure trove.”

And Villanova doesn’t even have to use navigational tools to find him.

—Suzanne Wentzel
Living in an eco-friendly dorm is habit-forming, as the students who called Fedigan Hall home this past year quickly discovered. In summer 2009, the 80-year-old residence hall had received a sustainability makeover, and in no time the more than one hundred male and female sophomores assigned to live there for the 2009-2010 academic year grew accustomed to an energy-efficient, water-conserving, environmentally sustainable lifestyle.

“It definitely made me think more about my habits when it came to using water and turning off lights,” says Maggie Emerson ’12 A&S. “If everyone on campus could get used to living as we did in Fedigan, I think we could be well on our way to a much safer and healthier planet.”

The extensive renovations made to Fedigan—which is named after former University President the Rev. John J. Fedigan, O.S.A., a visionary leader who in the 1890s initiated one of the University’s largest building campaigns—elevated the building to the status of “green dorm” and made it a model of sustainability for the Villanova campus. New technologies introduced include light switches with built-in occupancy sensors, dual flush toilets and low-flow shower heads (see diagram for all the upgrades).

The Facilities Management Office joined forces with the College of Engineering to consider how to incorporate into Fedigan Hall’s renovation renewable energy practices that would provide learning and research opportunities for faculty and students. For example, since 2007, Alfonso Ortega, Ph.D., the College’s associate dean for Graduate Studies and Research and the James R. Birle Professor of Energy Technology, and a team of graduate and undergraduate students had been conducting sponsored research to make the heat exchange in geothermal wells used in ground source heat pumps more efficient. It made sense, then, to install geothermal wells to support a portion of Fedigan’s heating and cooling load and then study their performance. “Engineering students were able to carry out research in the lab and apply what they had learned to a real-world project,” Dr. Ortega said.

The Fedigan project is just one of the many green-building initiatives of the FMO, which is pursuing a Silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Existing Buildings certification. In summer 2010, Sheehan and Sullivan halls began to be renovated, and other buildings on campus are slated to undergo similar upgrades in the coming years. “Villanova has made a conscious decision to make all of its new construction and renovations LEED certified,” says Robert Morro, associate vice president for Facilities Management. “Fedigan is the first existing building that we have renovated with the goal of gaining LEED certification.”

Recycling: During the renovation, 90 percent of construction waste was diverted from landfills through a recycling effort. Students are encouraged to use recycling stations for glass, paper, plastic and cans.

Lights: Occupancy sensors are built into the light switches in each room. The sensor can detect motion and body heat and will turn off if the occupants leave the room and forget to turn off the light.

Geothermal wells: The building is now air conditioned, and each room has a thermostat so that occupants can adjust the temperature to suit their needs. Geothermal wells that were installed in front of the building have been integrated into Fedigan’s heat pump system and support a portion of the building’s heating and cooling load, reducing the reliance on fossil fuel energy.
Toilets: Dual flush toilets help save water. Users press the smaller button for less water to flush liquids and the larger button for more water to flush solids.

Rain gardens: Storm water from the roof is diverted into two rain gardens in front of the building. The garden on the left side returns regular rainfall to the atmosphere through evapo-transpiration and pipes excess amounts into the sewer system. The garden on the right side relies on bio-infiltration, by which water filters into the ground.

Rain barrels: Downspouts along the back of Fedigan divert water into rain barrels, which are used to water plants via soaker hoses, thus reducing the amount of storm water that drains into storm sewers.

Showers: Each shower stall has a low-flow shower head with a mechanical timer. Pulling the string once starts the timer. If the water stops and the user needs more time, the string can be pulled again. The device reminds users to keep showers short.

Porous asphalt and pavers: New walkways are made of materials that allow rainwater to infiltrate the ground. Less water running into sewers means less treatment and greener plants.

Fedigan Goes Green
The residence hall becomes a model of sustainable living at Villanova
When the Wall Street Journal article caught his eye, it was like an answer to a prayer. Stan Zerkowski, a secular Franciscan, had been puzzling over one question: how could St. Brendan the Navigator Parish more effectively reach out to its Katrina-ravaged “sister” parish in Louisiana? It wasn’t that the coffers were low. St. Brendan saw its population of 1,200 families triple—and its collection increase—every year when out-of-state “snow-birds” wintered in Ormond Beach, Fla.

Still, as director of Liturgy and Outreach, Zerkowski believed that if the parish possessed better strategies for harnessing the congregation’s stewardship, managing resources and integrating outreach with prayer, it could do more to build up God’s kingdom nationally and globally. Zerkowski scanned the article, which featured Charles Zech, Ph.D., director of the Center for the Study of Church Management in the Villanova School of Business. He pondered Dr. Zech’s insights into stewardship and faith-based management practices. Then he flipped open his phone.

Six states of separation
Sitting at her desk in the rectory of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Northwest Philadelphia, pastoral associate Barbara Purnell-Small mentally paged through her week: visit the inter-parochial school that afternoon; oversee religious education classes on Tuesday; welcome the seniors group on Wednesday; run gospel-choir practice on Thursday; manage the office … every day. A lot for one person, she knew, but if people wanted to help, they would come forward, right? Besides, with parish membership hovering at 200 families, the volunteer pool was limited. St. Francis resembled other struggling urban parishes, where funerals equaled or outnumbered baptisms. She had seen old photos depicting the neighborhood’s once robust Catholic community and longed to help her beloved parish thrive again, but how?

When her new pastor, the Rev. Eugene Sheridan, C.M., showed her an ad for a master’s degree in Church Management at Villanova and said, “This program would be good for you,” Purnell-Small had her answer.

Sharing one destiny
In May 2010, Zerkowski, Purnell-Small and their online classmates became Villanova’s first recipients of an M.S. in
attributes these accomplishments to strategies provided by Villanova.

**Identifying your mission and your market**

Meanwhile, new strategies helped Purnell-Small energize St. Francis. For example, she began to recruit volunteers and delegate responsibility by walking up to people, shaking their hand and asking how they wanted to help the parish. “St. Francis may be small in number, but it is generous in heart,” she says.

Purnell-Small discovered that to effectively proclaim the gospel and evangelize, St. Francis would have to articulate its mission and put its dollars behind it. “Otherwise, we are a church without direction.”

She and Father Sheridan created a stewardship committee to help parishioners take ownership of this process. The parish also began to do “market research” to find out who it was serving, what their needs were and how to reach to them.

Above all, Purnell-Small started communicating in relevant, appropriate ways. She directed people to an up-to-date Web site and used language that spoke to the un-churched. For example, she promoted the Ash Wednesday liturgy to everyone in the community, not just churchgoers.

**Lighting the world**

These graduates have no intention of hiding their lamps under a bushel. Purnell-Small discusses marketing strategies with other church leaders; Zerkowski recently published an article titled “Forecasting Expenses, Partnering for Solutions.” They encourage others to enroll in Villanova’s program and, with their classmates, have established a scholarship in memory of the Rev. James Hynes, O.F.M., a fellow student who died in 2008.

Their enthusiasm is good news to Robert Miller, Ed.D., director of Research and Planning for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and an adjunct professor. It is imperative, he says, that Church Management degree holders be reflective practitioners. “If they put to good use what they have learned and inspire others to do the same, they have the potential to change the world, one parish at a time.”
Imagine being a top customer service executive in an industry that has historically taken heat for its customer relations. For some, that would be a challenge. For Tina Waters ’89 VSB, it’s a dream job. As Comcast’s senior vice president, Human Performance, she heads human resources for all customer operations and has a gift for building relationships. That’s also what makes her an ideal appointment to the Villanova University Alumni Association board.

Take for example her first day on the job as a call center supervisor for Bell Atlantic (now Verizon). Just turned 21 and the ink barely dry on her Villanova diploma, she had 15 employees reporting to her—all more seasoned than she was.

Cable Gal

Comcast’s Tina Waters has a song in her heart for her alma mater

By Jennifer Schu
“Villanovans are ‘Renaissance people’”
A customer service call center can be like a hotly contested basketball game—full of tension, with emotions running high. Yet Waters found she had a knack for customer contact and creative problem solving and enjoyed being at the center of the action. She was quickly recognized for her talents, transitioning from her management trainee position at Bell Atlantic to serving 1.5 million customers as call center manager for PECO Energy.

In 2000 she was recruited by Comcast. Since then she has been frequently recognized as one of the Top 50 Most Influential Minorities in Cable and Most Powerful Women in Cable by Cableworld Magazine and was named a “Woman of Distinction” by the Philadelphia Business Journal.

Throughout her career she’s drawn upon her experiences as a Villanova undergradu- ate, using skills acquired during both classes and extracurricular activities. She was president of the Glee Club, a Freshman Orientation counselor and a member of the Black Cultural Society and Villanova Student Union, among other activities.

“You hear about the ‘Renaissance Man.’ Villanovans are ‘Renaissance people.’” We can create a spreadsheet, we can speak to an auditorium of a thousand people, we can build a house for Habitat for Humanity, we can be on the band or on the football team,” Waters says. “Villanova encourages you to develop the whole person, not just the part of you that’s going to work 9 to 5.”

She says the foundation she received at Villanova better prepared her for the real world. “People aren’t going to do what you want them to do just because you have a title behind your name. You have to have healthy disagreement. You learn more by listening than by talking.”

She makes good use of those skills at Comcast. “Tina’s methodology is simple—get the right people in the room and make real conversations happen,” Gallagher says. She’s engaging and caring, a “family person” who enjoys downtime at home with her husband and her mother, who lives with them. When she makes a friend, it’s for life.

“Five of us who met at the beginning of freshman year still get together a couple of times a year, and Tina’s house is the place everyone wants to be,” says classmate Kathryn Quigley ’89 A&S. “She’s this great combination of silly and goofy yet serious and determined.”

She adds with a laugh, “Tina had Glee Club running like clockwork. She’s musical and artistic and fun but also very organized. We were 50 girls and we traveled a lot. With Tina in charge, we always made it to where we were supposed to be—and on time!”

A pivotal moment
From the day she stepped onto campus for the first time, Waters loved Villanova—yet she almost had to leave the University. Midway through her college years, “I had a gap between my financial aid and my costs.”

She remembers calling her mother from a pay phone, crying. “I was devastated. I thought I was going to have to drop out.”

Villanova administrator Edward Collymore, Ph.D., ’59 VSB, found an emergency anonymous donor who closed the gap, enabling Tina to continue at Villanova. Waters has never forgotten that experience, and says her first goal as a Villanova University Alumni Association board member is to raise the alumni donor participation rate. “I don’t want any other kid to go through that. It was traumatic. If we get our giving participation up, we’ll be able to help more of the top tier students.”

The board is lucky to have Waters and her relationship building skills. Comcast has continued to earn higher marks in the American Customer Satisfaction Index report based on the May 2010 report.

“Tina’s business experience, energy and commitment to the University will prove to be valuable resources to the mission of the Alumni Association,” says Gary Olsen ’74 A&S, ’80 G.S., associate vice president for Alumni Relations.

After Waters’ first board meeting, “I was floating on air. I realized how we have to leverage our amazing Villanova network.”

One 20-year employee made her opinion quickly apparent. “She looked me up and down and said, ‘I’ve got socks older than you,'” Waters recalls with a laugh.

Instead of feeling insulted, Waters reached out to the woman. “I told her I wanted to learn from her, and she took me under her wing,” she recalls. Two decades later, “Elaine is like a member of my family.”

Waters’ Villanova-hewn talents can even transcend fierce cross-town college basketball rivalries.

“Tina does a tremendous job managing relationships across the organization, promoting innovation in Comcast’s work processes and keeping the customer front and center,” says Dan Gallagher, vice president, Comcast University, and a former Saint Joseph’s University Hawk mascot. “There’s only one day a year I cannot work with Tina—the day of the ‘Holy War.’”
When Michael J. O’Neill, vice president for University Advancement, looked around the room at the Villanova Conference Center last April 26, he saw 47 dedicated, distinguished Villanova alumni who had willingly given up two days in their busy schedules to come back to campus to discuss how they could contribute their time and talent to their alma mater.

It was the first full meeting of the President’s Leadership Circle, recently formed as a specific priority for Villanova President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’75 A&S. Members of the President’s Leadership Circle will work directly with Father Donohue, serving as a valuable sounding board and providing him with advice and support.

To O’Neill, the excitement and enthusiasm of the group were quickly apparent. “I knew immediately that this group is going to really help the president with some impactful initiatives associated with the University’s Strategic Plan,” he says.

Father Donohue’s vision is that the Leadership Circle will be instrumental in raising the University’s national profile, increasing alumni engagement and involvement and helping Villanova to enhance its reputation as a premier national university and to be recognized as a preeminent Catholic university.

“I’m looking forward to challenging the members and being challenged in return as we work collaboratively to identify and advance priorities for the University,” Father Donohue says.

“A great opportunity to give back to Villanova”

The Leadership Circle is designed to engage key alumni who have exhibited a high level of interest in and involvement with Villanova, attract new individuals who want to become more involved and provide a venue for former Villanova Board, Campaign and Advisory Council committee members to stay connected and share their expertise. It also will prepare its members to assume future leadership roles at Villanova and provide a pool of candidates for consideration for the Board of Trustees and vital Campaign committees.

“We look at it as a way to leverage not just the financial but the intellectual capital of our alumni,” O’Neill explains. “These are Villanovans who can really help us by mentoring students, fundraising and more—and it’s a way to do it at a very high level.”

The 48 charter members of the Leadership Circle will serve a three-year term and have agreed to contribute a minimum of $25,000 annually, with young alumni (post-1999 graduates) contributing $10,000 annually.

Ed Welsh ’66 VSB, president and owner of ADCO Electrical Corp., has been appointed chair of the Leadership Circle executive committee.

The charter members of the Leadership Circle are excited about this new chance to serve the University. “My education at Villanova made it possible for me to enjoy a number of exciting and fulfilling jobs in...”

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Edward J. Welsh ’66 VSB, chair, President’s Leadership Circle executive committee

Catherine Barr Windels ’75 A&S, member, President’s Leadership Circle executive committee

Patrick M. McMahon ’85 VSB, member, President’s Leadership Circle executive committee
which I was able to travel the world,” notes Catherine Barr Windels ’75 A&S. “This is a great opportunity to give back to Villanova.”

During her career Windels has worked in the U.S. federal government as associate and acting director of the President’s Commission on White House Fellowships. She currently serves on the boards of several organizations, including the Galen Institute, an influential health policy think tank in Washington, D.C., and the Fraser Institute, the leading Canadian free market think tank. Her experience is expected to help Villanova nurture corporate and foundation relationships across the country.

Getting down to work

By the conclusion of the first President’s Leadership Circle meeting, four initial priorities had been identified and presented to members, and executive committee members had been assigned to spearhead them. The initiatives are development; mentoring; corporation and foundation relations; and admissions. Father Donohue and members will identify other areas for involvement as the group moves forward.

Windels will head corporation and foundation relations, with the goal of leveraging those relationships to create opportunities for both students and alumni. She will start by having her committee members work with University Advancement to prepare an overview of key contacts and create a matrix matching those potential funders to appropriate projects or departments at Villanova.

“For example, committee members with contacts in the health care industry might be able to find alumni support for projects in the College of Nursing,” Windels explains. “The aim is to identify areas in which we can have some early successes and create momentum.”

Patrick M. McMahon ’85 VSB, principal and co-chief investment officer of MKP Capital Management, LLC, will lead the mentoring effort. It is designed to provide current students and young alumni with professional advice and offer alumni the opportunity to participate in programs such as the Executive in Residence Program, which includes meeting with faculty, conducting seminars and offering career guidance.

“As I’ve interviewed Villanova graduates and students over the years, it’s become apparent to me that having a significant mentoring program will not only help the students, but also the University’s brand,” McMahon says.

He adds, “There’s a very strong commitment to Villanova among the alumni from Wall Street. With an organized mentoring program—which can take students through college and through the first few years of their careers—we can raise the profile and brand awareness of Villanova across the financial world, as well as other sectors.”

The admissions committee of the Leadership Circle, led by Gen. Anthony C. Zinni, USMC (Ret.), ’65 VSB, will assist the Office of University Admission with pre-admissions interviews, outreach to potential applicants and participation in focus groups. Fundraising, spearheaded by Christopher J. Maguire ’89 A&S, will provide philanthropic support and leadership.

Facilitating the work of the President’s Leadership Circle is Robert M. Melchionni ’69 VSB, principal gifts officer in University Advancement. “This group is going to have a big impact on our next campaign and on Villanova’s future,” he notes.

“The enthusiasm has been great,” says O’Neill. “Now the real work begins.”
It's been quite a year for Matt Szczur ’11. He was signed by the Chicago Cubs, earned All-BIG EAST first team honors in baseball and was named a first team All-American in football. Last December he helped lead the Villanova football team to its first-ever national championship. Yet his biggest accomplishment in 2009-2010 has nothing to do with sports.

The Villanova student-athlete recently donated bone marrow to try to save the life of a 19-month-old girl he has never met.

Each year since 1992, Villanova head football coach Andy Talley and his team have hosted a bone marrow testing drive on Villanova’s campus. Last fall, Szczur was identified as a bone marrow match for the tiny leukemia patient—who had only a 1-in-80,000 chance of finding one. “I was so excited,” Szczur says.

Thousands of patients with leukemia and other life-threatening diseases need bone marrow transplants and depend on the Be The Match Registry to find a donor. Among 20 million registrants, only a few hundred matches are found each year.

The medical procedure was originally scheduled for December 2009—which meant Szczur would miss the national football playoffs. (The medication donors must take beforehand enlarges the spleen, so sports are off-limits for a time.)

For Szczur the choice was clear. “My best friend from high school is in remission from leukemia. There’s always another football game, but how often do you get the opportunity to save a life? Anyone else would do the same thing if given the chance.”

When the procedure was moved to May 2010 for the benefit of the patient, Szczur missed ten baseball games—yet still led the BIG EAST conference in batting.

On June 7, Szczur was drafted by the Chicago Cubs in the fifth round of the Major League Baseball Draft. He hopes to one day meet the little girl. “I can’t wait until she is well enough to come to one of my games and see me play.”

Szczur’s contract with the Cubs will allow him to return to Villanova this fall and play his senior year of football for the Wildcats. “I’m thrilled that I can help my teammates defend our national championship,” he says.

“There’s a quote on my office door: ‘It’s nice to be important, but it’s more important to be nice,’” says Talley. “Matt Szczur is an All-American both on the field and off it.”
Sullivan and Sheehan Halls Have New Look

Two University residence halls are looking a lot different these days—thanks to planned renovations that began this summer. Built in the 1950s, Sullivan and Sheehan halls now feature new, updated bathrooms featuring Corian® shower surrounds, terrazzo shower bases, porcelain ceramic tile walls and stainless steel sinks. The halls’ traditional small, built-in closets have been replaced by expansive wardrobes that allow students added flexibility in setting up their rooms. Additional electric circuitry has been added to each room to accommodate students’ increasing technology needs. The renovations also include safety and security features such as new sprinkler and fire alarm systems and guard stations in each building. Sullivan Hall also boasts a new lobby. Fresh paint, carpeting, furniture and lighting in both buildings completed the transformation this summer. The renovations—which are part of the University’s Campus Master Plan—will continue in the summer of 2011 and will include the installation of air conditioning.

Great Eats

Villanova Dining Services joined rarefied company when Tim Dietzler, director, took home International Foodservice Manufacturers Association’s Gold Plate Award, one of the industry’s top honors. This marks only the second time a university or college has received the annual prize in its 56-year history. The winner of the Gold Plate Award is selected by a jury of foodservice media and prior recipients. Dietzler expressed gratitude to his family, professional colleagues and the University in accepting the award, but saved special thanks for his dining services team.

Moving Documentaries Celebrate Human Spirit

Two compelling student films, produced as part of the Department of Communication’s social justice documentary course, have captured stories of people triumphing over adversity.

Meh Sha chronicles the journey of Meh Sha Lin, who, with his family, flees Burma and emigrates to Philadelphia, only to meet racial tensions. Lagging six grade levels behind and working an after-school job to keep his family afloat, he strives to overcome cultural obstacles common to modern immigrants. “This is a story about seeing the uniqueness in everyone,” says Hezekiah Lewis, assistant professor, who led the documentary.

Coming Off the DL—or “disabled list,” as it is known to athletes—focuses on Frank Kineavy and Nick Gaynor, two students with cerebral palsy who work as managers of the men’s and women’s basketball teams, respectively. Each transcends CP’s physical, academic and social challenges. Together, they strive to change how people think of ability. “This film demonstrates the power of the human spirit,” says Stephen McWilliams, director of International Students and Human Services at Villanova.

Frank Kineavy (left) and Nick Gaynor, two students with cerebral palsy who work as managers of the Villanova men’s and women’s basketball teams, challenge viewers of the documentary film Coming Off the DL to redefine “ability.”
Tasha Mason, 15, wants to be a pediatrician. Brittany Rodriguez, 16, dreams of becoming a nurse. Eighteen-year-old Lorraine Diaz is interested in a career in criminal justice, while Jade Marie Nesbitt, 17, plans to attend law school.

All four Philadelphia high school students spent three weeks on campus this summer as part of a new program called the Villanova Initiative for Engaging Women (VIEW).

This spring, Villanova received a three-year commitment of $225,000 from The Pew Charitable Trusts' Pew Fund for Health and Human Services to support VIEW, a year-round program to help minority young women from Philadelphia public high schools pursue post-secondary education. It is the second largest gift Villanova has received from Pew, according to Kristen Gladsky, director, Foundation Relations at Villanova.

"The VIEW program exemplifies Villanova’s enduring commitment to serving the Philadelphia community and provides an opportunity for these young women to see that higher education is within their reach," Gladsky says. "The University is very proud to count The Pew Charitable Trusts as a partner in this important initiative."

The goal of VIEW, which is run through Villanova’s Center for Multicultural Affairs, is to promote university acceptance and attendance and to prepare students for success in college. During the residential summer session, VIEW students receive mentoring and follow a university-like schedule with classes in English, mathematics, visual literacy and global citizenship, as well as elective workshops.

"VIEW prepares students for college life and helps them avoid some of the minefields they may encounter as freshmen," says Linda Coleman, associate director for Multicultural Affairs.

The grant enabled 60 young women to live and study on the Villanova campus this summer. VIEW also has an after-school component conducted in the students’ high schools.

The Pew Fund for Health and Human Services, part of The Pew Charitable Trusts’ Philadelphia Program, provides funding for three groups of at-risk populations: vulnerable adults; the isolated and frail elderly; and disadvantaged children, youth and their families. The Pew Charitable Trusts is driven by the power of knowledge to solve today’s most challenging problems. Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public and stimulate civic life.
Poetry Reading Occasions Three Milestones

Admirers sat shoulder to shoulder, waiting for the mellifluous voices of two of Ireland’s most acclaimed poets to penetrate the dimly lit stillness of the Villanova Room. First to captivate was Peter Fallon. Founder of The Gallery Press, Ireland’s preeminent publishing house, Fallon offered samples from his extensive collection, including “The Gate”:

It clings to rusty hinges / on chiselled stone,
It hardly infringes on the course of stock.

Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney followed. Among his readings was “Mid-Term Break,” which recalls his coming home from school for his younger brother’s funeral:

He lay in the four foot box as in his cot.
No gaudy scars, the bumper knocked him clear.

Field April 20, the poetry reading culminated the Department of English’s 12th annual Literary Festival; marked the 10th anniversary of the Charles A. Heimbold, Jr. Chair in Irish Studies (Fallon was the first Heimbold Professor); and paid tribute to English professor James Murphy, Ph.D., who was stepping down after 30 years as director of Villanova’s Irish Studies Program.

“Seamus and I are here not only as an act of homage to the Chair and Villanova but also in appreciation of the personal presence of Jim Murphy,” Fallon said in an interview.

Fallon’s and Heaney’s joint appearance was an encore of sorts. A decade earlier, the two luminaries had read at the inauguration of the Heimbold Chair. Since being formally endowed in 2000, the Chair has attracted, said Dr. Murphy, “the best of Irish writers to Villanova” each spring semester.

At a reception preceding this year’s poetry reading, the University celebrated the prestige of Villanova’s Irish Studies Program, the dedicated leadership of Dr. Murphy and the generosity of Charles A. Heimbold Jr., Esq., ’54 A&S and his wife, Monika. Other guests included John McAuliffe, the Heimbold Chair in spring 2010, and Breandan O’Caollai, Deputy Consul General of Ireland.
Environmental Research Group Secures Grant for “FOG” Conversion

Rather than signal the last stop on wastewater’s journey back into the environment, the wastewater treatment process might be the first step toward a second life as a renewable energy source. Dr. Metin Duran, associate professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the Environmental Microbiology and Biotechnology (EMB) research group have secured a $40,000 grant from the Philadelphia Water Department to investigate the conversion of fats, oils and grease (FOG) present in wastewater into methane gas.

For five years, the group has worked with the Philadelphia Water Department to develop technologies that convert wastewater byproducts into renewable energy. For this research study, the group will explore anaerobic co-digestion of FOG, which accumulates during wastewater treatment and is typically sent to landfills.

“At the municipal level, it costs about $80 per ton simply to send this FOG to the landfill,” says Dr. Duran. “Converting it to an energy source saves money and is better for the environment. This project also fits well into Philadelphia’s sustainability initiative, as the city has plans to build a co-generation plant to convert methane into electricity.”

Dean Gary Gabriele Elected to Board of Directors of ASEE’s Engineering Research Council

Gary Gabriele, Ph.D., Drosdick Endowed Dean of Engineering, will join the board of directors of the American Society of Engineering Education’s Engineering Research Council, having been elected vice-chair/chairperson-elect for the term 2010-2012.

In this role, Dr. Gabriele will provide leadership to the Council as it seeks to fulfill its primary objectives to

- Provide a forum for discussion of problems and exchange of information pertaining to the research activities of ASEE members
- Provide programs at meetings
- Represent and speak on behalf of research and its administration
- Improve the effectiveness of research operations at ERC member institutions
- Liaise with other organizations concerned with research and its administration.

The Council supports and enhances the efforts of education organizations as they conduct research into engineering, technology, computing and applied-science topics.
Dr. Kei-Peng Jen Awarded Boeing Welliver Faculty Fellowship

Boeing, the world’s largest aerospace company, has selected Dr. Kei-Peng Jen, associate professor of Mechanical Engineering, to participate in its highly competitive Welliver Faculty Fellowship program.

Each summer, Boeing invites nine professors from engineering, business, manufacturing or computer science-related fields to work alongside its professionals and offer suggestions to improve Boeing’s processes. The program promotes a working relationship between industry and academia. Dr. Jen also plans to use this experience to further enhance his undergraduate teaching and research projects.

“My objective is to deliver up-to-date information to my students about how the latest technologies are employed in the aerospace industry,” says Dr. Jen. “Boeing is the ideal place for me to learn about the most recent developments in aerospace vehicle design, materials selection, fatigue control, nondestructive evaluations and cost-reduction strategies.”

Villanova School of Business

Symposium Focuses on Issues in Competition and Regulation

Six days after the biggest one-day point drop ever recorded on the New York Stock Exchange, more than 100 alumni, faculty and students of the Villanova School of Business gathered for a symposium entitled “Current Issues in Competition and Regulation.”

SEC Commissioner Kathleen L. Casey served as the luncheon’s keynote speaker and discussed how governments and regulators around the world are contemplating changes to financial regulation that can reduce systemic risk and enhance the robustness and integrity of financial markets and institutions.

“Number one,” he said, “hold on to your values. Your values define who you are and what you stand for. Second, it’s noble to serve. American Express, for example, is a company and brand that has endured for more than 160 years because of its promise to serve the needs of its customers. Third, make a difference. Have a willingness to be different and to make a difference. Leave your own unique indelible mark on your work and on your community. And finally, don’t forget to laugh. It’s your career and your life. Enjoy it.”

The Marketing Showcase is sponsored by the Center for Marketing and Public Policy Research, the Clay Center and the Department of Marketing and Business Law.
The Center for Business Analytics welcomed Gary Loveman, chairman, chief executive officer and president of Harrah’s Entertainment, Inc., who spoke to students, faculty, alumni and corporate partners about the importance of analytics in successful casino management. “We use analytics as a strategic initiative, even in tough economic times,” he said.

Loveman also spoke about the importance and interconnectedness of employee satisfaction, customer satisfaction and shareholder value. His visit was part of an ongoing relationship with the Harrah’s company, which invited a VSB analytics class to Atlantic City for an inside look at analytics in action. The event marked the official launch of VSB’s Center for Business Analytics.

To more accurately describe its academic program offerings, the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures has changed its name to the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. Because all the programs—undergraduate and graduate—in the department pertain to romance languages and literatures (French and Francophone Studies, Hispanic Studies and Italian Studies), the department has adopted a name that reflects the coherency of these programs. In addition, starting in fall 2010, the department, in conjunction with the Latin American Studies Program, is offering Portuguese. Villanova joins other prestigious institutions of higher education in having a department devoted exclusively to the overarching theme of Romance Studies.

If climate change trends continue, one fifth of the world’s lizards may go the way of the dodo by 2080, according to Aaron Bauer, Ph.D., the Gerald M. Lemon Endowed Chair in Integrative Biology and professor of Biology. He was part of an international research team that has attributed local lizard extinction patterns on five continents to rising temperatures. “It’s striking. They have so little time during the day to forage and so little time to reproduce that conditions become untenable,” says Dr. Bauer, co-author of the study which was published in the May 14 issue of Science.

Willy, persistent and ever-changing, influenza viruses afflict people and animals. Infections cause everything from a few days’ discomfort to death and pandemic. The good news is that Robert Webster, Ph.D., is no less clever and tenacious. Professor in the Division of Virology, Department of Infectious Diseases, at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, where he also holds the Rose Marie Thomas Chair, Dr. Webster has dedicated almost 50 years to studying the emergence and control of flu viruses.

To honor his significant contributions, Villanova University has named Dr. Webster its 2010 Mendel Medalist. Dr. Webster will deliver the Mendel Medal Lecture on Friday, September 24, at 2 p.m. in the Connelly Center. The lecture, “The role of waterbirds in the genesis of pandemic influenza viruses,” is free and open to the public.

“I am delighted to have been chosen as the 2010 Mendel Medalist,” Dr. Webster said. “Mendel established the basis of our understanding of genetics and was one of my heroes. I look forward to receiving the medal and presenting the lecture on influenza and how it continues to outfox us.”

The Mendel Medal was established in honor of Gregor Johann Mendel, Abbot of the Augustinian Monastery, Brünn, Austria, who discovered the celebrated laws of heredity. The Mendel Medal is awarded to outstanding scientists who have done much to advance the cause of science and, by their lives and their standing before the world as scientists, have demonstrated that no intrinsic conflict exists between true science and true religion.

Dr. Robert G. Webster, 2010 Mendel Medalist
College Honors Four Distinguished Alumnae

The College of Nursing honored four alumnae with its highest award, the College of Nursing Medallion. Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., F.A.A.N., presented the awards at the 21st Annual Mass and Alumni Awards Ceremony on April 17 in St. Thomas of Villanova Church. The event is co-sponsored by the College and its Nursing Alumni Association.

2010 Medallion Recipients

Medallion for Distinguished Contributions for Nursing Education
Mary Ellen Smith Glasgow ’87 M.S.N., associate dean for Undergraduate Programs, MSN Programs and CE, Drexel University

Dr. Glasgow brought Drexel’s cooperative model to its undergraduate programs and developed the standardized patient laboratory experience for undergraduate nursing students. She implemented the use of mobile technology in the clinical setting and created the accelerated career entry BSN program. At the graduate level, Dr. Glasgow served on the planning committee for Drexel’s Doctor of Nursing Practice and Doctor of Philosophy programs. She called her master’s education at Villanova “a strong, relevant academic program.”

Medallion for Excellence in Clinical Practice
Jocelyn Bessette Gorlin ’80 B.S.N., nurse practitioner, Hematology Department, Minneapolis Children’s Hospitals and Clinics

Gorlin was honored for her care of children with hemophilia and for the expertise she shares with the underserved worldwide. She has created models to educate school personnel about students with hemophilia and is a representative on the boards of the National Hemophilia Foundation and World Federation of Hemophilia. With her Villanova education as the bedrock supporting her work, Gorlin acknowledged the children who “taught me that I was not the teacher; I was the student.”

Medallion for Distinguished Leadership in Administration of Nursing and Health Care Services
Carol J. Quinn ’70 B.S.N., president and CEO, Mercy Home Health and Mercy LIFE, and senior VP, Mercy Health System

Quinn was recognized for her ability to influence quality care through management of vital community and home health services and for expressing Villanova’s values in her work. She has grown the businesses she leads, navigated the web of industry regulations and exceeded national and industry quality standards, while bringing sensitive, sensible care to the community her organizations serve. Regarding her undergraduate education, Quinn recalled the influence of the “outstanding curriculum and faculty dedicated to excellence.”

Medallion for Distinguished Service to the College and Nursing Alumni
Florence Benas Smoczynski ’62 B.S.N., assistant professor, George Mason University

Dr. Smoczynski was honored for her support of nursing education at Villanova and her pioneering efforts in the use of technology in nursing education. She encourages faculty to venture beyond traditional modes of instruction to hone students’ ability to make critical judgments and institute appropriate clinical interventions. Dr. Smoczynski has been among the most loyal of College of Nursing alumni and credits the leadership, support and role modeling of Villanova faculty for her professional growth.
DO YOU HAVE A CHILD APPLYING TO THE CLASS OF 2015?

Application Deadlines

Deadlines for a completed Common Application with Villanova University supplement:

- **November 1**
  - Early Action
- **November 1**
  - Health Affiliation Programs
- **December 1**
  - Presidential Scholarship nomination and completed application
- **January 7**
  - Regular Decision

Class of 2014 Admission Statistics

- **14,300** Freshman applications received
- **1,630** Targeted freshman class size
- **82** Percentage of students who ranked in the top 10 of their graduation class*
- **98** Percentage of students who ranked in the top 20 of their graduation class*
- **3.80-4.20/4.00** GPA range for the typical accepted applicant
- **1330-1440/1600** The middle 50 percent range of SAT scores for the typical accepted applicant
- **30-33** The middle 50 percent range of ACT scores for the typical accepted applicant

* where class rank is reported
Opportunity never knocks on the door of Robert S. Byrnes ’76 VSB. Long before it reaches his threshold, Byrnes sees it coming and runs to embrace it.

When Byrnes moved to North Jersey in 1978, for example, he discovered that the local alumni chapter had flatlined. He called the Alumni Relations Office and announced, “I’m here to change that.” As its president, he helped transform the chapter into one of the most robust in the country.

Then in 1991, newly transplanted to North Carolina, Byrnes noticed that the car ahead of him on the highway had a Villanova sticker. He got the driver to pull over, and their roadside chat inspired John Lighthall ’49 E.E. (now deceased) to donate $500 to fund the startup of a Charlotte chapter. Byrnes was elected its inaugural president.

Several months ago, Byrnes learned that Villanova freshmen were coming to North Carolina for a Habitat for Humanity service trip. He and two other alumni drove 130 miles to welcome the students and arranged for the Carolinas Chapter to provide them with lunch every day of their stay.

Such behavior is quintessential Byrnes. “Bob has always been a great leader and networker, someone whose relationships transcend cliques and personality types,” says Douglas Mazzuca, D.O., ’76 VSB, a surgical ophthalmologist and one of Byrnes’ Delta Tau Delta brothers. “He loves Villanova more than anyone I know.”

Inaugurated as president of the Villanova University Alumni Association in May, Byrnes continues to be a passionate playmaker, determined to get more of Villanova’s 106,000 alumni into the game by increasing their involvement and stewardship.

“Almost every Villanovan I meet is extraordinarily passionate about the school and proud of their education. We need to translate those positive experiences into generosity to the University.” The keys, he believes, are telling alumni...
the Villanova story and asking clearly for their support. For a grassroots guy like Byrnes, that’s business as usual.

Villanova and Byrnes: Perfect together
A Rhode Island native who grew up in Scotch Plains, N.J., Byrnes first saw Villanova when he arrived as a freshman. He knew instantly that the school was a fit. Because he loved basketball, he volunteered to manage the men’s freshman team. When that team was eliminated, he co-managed the varsity squad under new coach Rollie Massimino. Although many responsibilities rested on the shoulders of Byrnes and head manager Gary Becker ’76 VSB, working under Coach “Mass” and trainer Jake Nevin more than compensated for the long hours, missed dinners and post-practice cleanups. “Rollie was bigger than life,” Byrnes recalls. “It was exciting to be a part of his program and to meet so many people.”

Joining DTD fraternity also helped Byrnes forge lifelong friendships—although it was a short-term goal that prompted him to pledge. As a freshman, he had walked to Rosemont’s campus, hoping to introduce himself to some girls. He arrived in time to see ten female students pile into a VW Beetle to attend a DTD party in Overbrook. “By sophomore year, I was the brother driving the car. That’s how I was able to get a date!”

DTD connected Byrnes with men who are now luminaries in their fields: Dr. Mazzuca; Daniel DiLella ’73 VSB, president and CEO of BPG Properties, Ltd.; and Alfonso Martinez-Fonts ’71 A&S, a fellow of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. At Villanova, Byrnes also met the classmate who is still one of his closest friends: Chuck Ciarcocchi ’76 A&S, president and CEO of Modern Mushroom Farms.

After graduating, Byrnes embarked on a successful career. He pursued an MBA at Hofstra University, hoping to land a job in New York’s Financial District. His father, Hofstra University, hoping to land a job in New York’s Financial District. His father, an alumnus and CEO of BPG Properties, Ltd.; and Alfonso Martinez-Fonts ’71 A&S, a fellow of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. At Villanova, Byrnes also met the classmate who is still one of his closest friends: Chuck Ciarcocchi ’76 A&S, president and CEO of Modern Mushroom Farms.

After graduating, Byrnes embarked on a successful career. He pursued an MBA at Hofstra University, hoping to land a job in New York’s Financial District. His father, whose manufacturers’ rep agency sold elastomer products, enticed Byrnes to come work for him for a year instead. “Dad knew that once I started, I would never go back.” When his father retired in 1988, Byrnes succeeded him as president, reopening the firm under the name of R.S. Byrnes Associates, Inc., and eventually moving it and his family to North Carolina.

Byrnes has been married for 27 years. A Villanovan in spirit, his wife, Tracy, has played a leading role in her husband’s alumni activities, hosting everything from student picnics to game-watch parties. Although the Byrnes’ children, Jeffrey, Morgan and Cory, elected to attend other universities, they share their parents’ Villanova pride.

Clarion call to alumni
One of Byrnes’ first tasks as president was delivering the Graduate Pledge of Loyalty at Commencement. As he invited the Class of 2010 to repeat the words that are his life’s anthem, Byrnes could not suppress his joy. Later, the mother of a graduate told Gary Olsen ’74, ’80, associate vice president for Alumni Relations, that it was one of the most poignant moments in the ceremony.

The accolade reconfirmed what Olsen has known for years: no person is better qualified to be VUAA president. “Bob Byrnes’ commitment, leadership and passion will inspire others to support Villanova’s mission and its strategic plan,” Olsen says.

That strategic plan includes engaging the broadest spectrum of alumni and friends in the life of the University. Byrnes’ predecessor, Paul Tufano ’83 VSB, ’86 J.D., made significant strides in reaching out to alumni. Now, Byrnes says, “we have to keep that momentum going.” He doesn’t hesitate to flash the number 19 everywhere he goes. That’s the percentage of alumni who support Villanova—compared to 26 percent at Boston College, 34 percent at Bucknell and 42 percent at Notre Dame.

Besides increasing the percentage of alumni who invest in Villanova’s future, Byrnes and the board plan to position the VUAA as one of the best alumni associations in the nation. They also are working to create an alumni welcome center in Garey Hall, the VUAA’s new home.

Byrnes’ gaze is fixed on these goals. On campus, during road trips and in this correspondence, he exhorts alumni to “be the difference; give to Villanova today!” To make his case, he points to the milestones the University has reached under the presidency of the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’75 A&S—among them, the strategic plan, the campus master plan and the opening of Driscoll Hall. “Father Peter and the Board of Trustees are doing their part. Alumni need to play a bigger role in supporting them.” One can almost hear the next words revving Byrnes’ mental engine: “I’m here to help them do that.”

Alumni Association Board Welcomes New Members
Two alumnae passionate about their alma mater now have the opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of the Villanova University Alumni Association. Tina Waters ’89 VSB (see article on p. 24) and Laura Savino ’94 A&S each have been elected to a three-year term on the VUAA Board of Directors.

A seasoned leader of and participant in alumni activities, Savino has shared her time and talent to organize numerous events, from game watches to scholarship golf outings, and has worked as a reunion volunteer. After Hurricane Katrina, she participated in the alumni Habitat for Humanity trip to Slidell, Louisiana. To prepare for her role on the board, Savino recently stepped down after a long and fruitful tenure as president of the Long Island Chapter.
Reliving residence hall days gone by, 1,400 alumni and their families journeyed to campus to commemorate their past at Villanova during Alumni Reunion Weekend.

At class dinner receptions on Friday, attendees rekindled friendships, reveled in nostalgia and discovered new additions to the venerable University grounds. The class of 1985 marked its Silver Anniversary by presenting a special class video created by the class committee.

The weekend’s most senior alumnus, Ambrose “Russ” Flanigan ’35 E.E., feels time has transformed the school he graduated from three-quarters of a century ago. “Villanova was a wonderful place back then, a great big campus with very few buildings. Look at what it has become now—this is amazing!” he remarked at the Top Cat Luncheon, an event for graduates of more than 50 years.

Former students learned on Saturday about what to expect in the decades ahead. Academic deans met with alumni, discussed the institution’s vision for the future and led a tour of the academic facilities. Later, alumni were invited to the Connelly Center to enjoy coffee and conversation with the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’75 A&S, Villanova president.

Fun in the sun
Highlighted by a retrospective mix of music provided by Villanova Radio alumni, the Reunion Family Picnic gave kith and kin the chance to enjoy a special afternoon of entertainment in the shadow of the church. The Wildcat mascot posed for photos, as did members of the men’s basketball team (when not perched inside the dunk tank).

Inside St. Thomas of Villanova Church, more than 100 couples said, “I do!” all over again by reaffirming their wedding vows and receiving a communal blessing. Other alumni celebrated their enduring faith by attending a vigil Mass.

The day’s festivities culminated with dinner, dance and song at the Alumni Gala, held in the Pavilion. Chico’s Vibe, a premier event band, provided hours of grooving entertainment and conga lines, and Farher Donohue took the microphone to sing the school fight song and a Villanova-themed version of Frank Sinatra’s “My Kind of Town.”

Bob Byrnes ’76 VSB, president of the Alumni Association, says, “It was wonderful to welcome so many alumni back to campus for the weekend. The enthusiasm and support of our talented alumni has been instrumental in facilitating the great things happening at Villanova today. Thank you to all who contributed to their Class Gift. Your generosity allows Villanova to continue its commitment to academic excellence while advancing a deeper understanding of Augustinian values.”

—Shawn Proctor
New Student Receptions

From California to the New York Island (and many places in between) alumni hosted more than 30 New Student Receptions for incoming freshmen and their families in recent months. Fun and informal, the receptions helped the Class of 2014 learn more about Villanova. They allowed them to meet alumni and other local students, preparing them for University life, even before arriving on campus. See photos from this year’s events by visiting www.villanova.edu/advance/alumni/events and clicking “New Student Receptions” then “Photo Galleries.”

Alumni Relations has relocated to the new Alumni Center in Garey Hall on West Campus. You’re invited to plan a visit—look for news about the upcoming Open House on www.villanova.edu/advance/alumni.

We’re on the Move

Play a Round for Nova

All summer, Villanova alumni have teed up for their local chapter’s “Great Golf, Great Cause” charity events. More than just a way to play 18 holes and reconnect with alumni and friends, VUAA golf outings support student scholarships, based on academic achievement and financial need. The events, held from upstate New York to Georgia, have raised $25,000 to date this year. Fore!

Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’75 A&S introduces the student scholarship recipients at the Detroit Scholarship Golf Outing.

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Volunteer Leaders Recognized for Service, Innovation

At the 2010 Volunteer Leaders Conference, the VUAA recognized alumni who have rolled up their sleeves to bolster the University. Their service ensures Villanova students, faculty and programs will have the resources to reach their full potential.

Francis “Chip” Moynihan ’70 A&S received the Distinguished Service Award for his diligent and faithful commitment to the University over the years. In recognition of the Nursing Alumni Association’s (NAA) exemplary leadership and superb efforts in strategic planning and instituting new initiatives, the entire NAA Board received the 2010 Leadership Award.

The Villanova University Alumni Association’s Greater Philadelphia Chapter was awarded the Rev. Jackson Community Service Award for its dedication to several community organizations, including Philabundance and Project H.O.M.E.–Women’s Emergency Respite Center. And the Singers Alumni Society received the Creative Achievement Award for the creation of the Villanova Singers Legacy, which ensures the singers’ traditions are passed from generation to generation.
Class Notes

Class of 1946: 65th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

Class of 1950s

Class of 1951: 60th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

Class of 1956: 55th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

Emanuel Rubin, M.D., ’50 A&S, Bio., distinguished professor of Pathology, Anatomy and Cell Biology at Jefferson Medical College, was honored as a benefactor by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and American Friends of the Hebrew University. The Hebrew University also established The Dr. Emanuel Rubin Endowed Chair in Medical Science to recognize his longstanding contributions.

Class of 1960s

Class of 1961: 50th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

Class of 1966: 45th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

John Benigno ’68 A&S, Soc., is an award-winning fine arts photographer. His work recently was featured in the Quattro Amici Plus: 24 Eyes exhibit at the Villanova Art Gallery.

John Kilduff ’68 A&S, Pol. Sci., has been named to the Board of Advisors of the Skinny Nutritional Sci. exhibit at the Villanova Art Gallery.

Class of 1970s

Class of 1971: 40th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

Class of 1976: 35th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

Teresa Cavanaugh, Esq., ’73 A&S, Psy., was a panelist for the “Women in Leadership” symposium organized by the Pennsylvania Diversity Council. She is a partner in the Trial Practice Group of the law firm Duane Morris LLP in Philadelphia.

Kevin Kolmer ’74 VSb, Bus. Adm., was recognized in Barron’s magazine as one of “America’s Top 1,000 Advisors: State-by-State” by Barron’s magazine.

Class of 1980s

Class of 1981: 30th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

Class of 1986: 25th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

Michael Raquet ’80 A&S, Arts, president of Client Alignment Inc., is the author of Selling Big: Growing Your Business Within Large Companies, released by Praeger Publishers. He also launched the Business Alignment Board, a peer advisory group of business professionals that meets monthly in the Philadelphia area.

The Rites of Stone, a new book of poetry by Robert Lima ’57 A&S, Arts, ’61 G.S.Theat., has been published by The Orlando Press and is available at Lulu.com. The book presents the award-winning poet’s perspective on the archaeological sites of the Andes and Rapa Nui.

Christopher J. Pippett, Esq., ’81 VSB, Acct., has joined Fox Rothschild as a partner in Corporate Department.

John G. Reidy, P.E., ’88 C.E., has joined O’Brien & Gere as vice president in its Alpharetta, Ga., office. Reidy will lead the office’s water practice.

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Craig F. Zappetti, Esq., ’89 VSB, Acc., ’89 A&S, Comm., has edited the 20th editions of 2010 SEC Reporting Rules for Forms 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K and 2010 Reporting Rules for Proxy Statements. He is a partner of Saul Ewing LLP.

1990s

Class of 1991: 20th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

Class of 1996: 15th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011

Daniel E. Cummins, Esq., ’90 A&S, Eng., has been selected to write the annual supplement to the Pennsylvania Trial Advocacy Handbook. Cummins, a partner in the Scranton, Pa., law firm of Foley, Cognetti, Comerford, Cimini & Cummins, also writes a monthly civil litigation column in Pennsylvania Law Weekly.

Charles A. Wright III ’90 A&S, Gen., has joined Peirce College as vice president, Institutional Advancement. He is responsible for creating, developing and implementing alumni relations and community relations plans for the college.

Maureen Elizabeth Hill Nigro ’92 A&S, Psy., ’96 G.S.Hum. Org.Sci. was featured as a Top 40 Under 40 finalist by The Irish Echo weekly newspaper. A former Miss Mayo of Philadelphia, Nigro is a compensation consultant with State Street Bank in Boston, Mass.

Matthew Spahn ’92 VSB, Acc., welcomed a girl.

Vincent Donohue, Esq., ’93 VSB, Acc., has been appointed to the Paoli Hospital Foundation’s Board of Trustees. Donohue is a partner at the law firm Lamb McErlane, PC, in West Chester, Pa.


Kristina Parker ’94 VSB, Acc., is one of the 40 under-40 winners selected by the Philadelphia Business Journal. Parker is an audit partner at KPMG.

Kelly Drometer Alley ’95 VSB, Mkt., welcomed a girl.

Sean Haley ’95 A&S, Pol.Sci., welcomed a boy.

Monica Emmons Hyjek ’95 A&S, Edu., welcomed a girl.

Alfred Maduro ’95 VSB, Mgt., welcomed a girl.

Melissa McManus Welsh ’95 A&S, Comm., welcomed a girl.

North Highland has appointed Robert Hogan ’97 M.B.A., vice president and local office leader in New York. Hogan specializes in financial management, finance transformation and related technologies.

John Naberezy ’95 VSB, Acc., welcomed a girl.

Christine Peterson Cappello ’95 A&S, Pol.Sci., welcomed a girl.

Mark Blazejewski ’96 VSB, Mgt., welcomed a girl.

Kristen Cirillo Ecklord ’96 VSB, Mkt., welcomed a son.

Let’s Work Together for Villanova’s Success!

Villanovans are known for coming together to make a difference. When it comes to alumni annual giving, we need every member of our community to participate. Our giving percentage is lower than our peers, but if we all pitch in we can keep moving forward. Join your fellow alumni by making a gift to Villanova today. Working together, alumni participation will continue to climb and help us paint an even brighter future for our students.

VILLANOVA ANNUAL FUND
800 LANCASTER AVENUE | VILLANOVA, PA 19085 | 1.800.486.5244 | VILLANOVA.EDU/MAKEAGIFT

2000s

Class of 2001: 10th Reunion, June 10-12, 2011
Elizabeth Bee Soriero ’00 A&S, Gen.Arts/Edu., and Kenneth Soriero ’00 VSb, Mkt., welcomed a girl. Jennifer Caponigro McConnell ’00 VSb, Mkt., welcomed a girl. Angela Capron Deering ’00 VSb, Acct./Fin., welcomed a girl. Nathan M. Cline, P.E., SEO, ’00 C.E. has been named Young Engineer of the Year by the Delaware County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers. Cline is the municipal division manager for Pennoni Associates’ West Chester office.

Class of 2006: 5th Reunion, October 23, 2010

With the goal of engaging 6,000 volunteers throughout Greater Philadelphia and around the country, the 2010 event is sure to be the biggest yet!

Contact your chapter leader or visit www.alumni.villanova.edu for nearby volunteer opportunities.

St. Thomas of Villanova 2010 Celebration
Join the Villanova Community for the 2010 St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service Saturday, September 11

Visit www.villanova.edu/stvc for information about the St. Thomas of Villanova Celebration

Generously Sponsored by

Villanova Magazine
John M. Birle ’54 VSB, Eco., on March 10.
Rita M. Fenwick ’55 Nur. on May 6.
Robert J. Gross ’56 VSB, Eco., on March 15.
James A. Abel ’57 VSB, Eco., on March 25.
Ronald J. Girioni ’57 Ch.E. on February 7.
Thomas J. Brennan ’58 VSB, Eco., on March 1.
Thomas M. Collins, Lt. Col., USMC (retired), ’58 VSB, Eco., on March 16.
James M. Mullen ’58 VSB, Eco., on April 20.
Robert P. Raikowski Sr. ’58 VSB, Eco., on April 19.
Edward F. Moriarty ’58 M.E. on February 7.
Sister M. Pacelli Staskiel ’58 G.S. Engl. on February 16.
Anthony Mullen ’59 VSB, Acct., on April 27.

1960s
Ronald B. Desilets ’60 G.S. Arts on April 5.
Vincent J. Osbowski ’60 E.E. on March 22.
Sister Madonna Marie Cunningham ’61 A&S, Arts, on January 20.
Edward F. Moriarty ’61 VSB, Eco., on April 10.
Otis P. Drayton ’63 VSB, Eco., on March 2.
Joseph W. Hoopes ’64 A&S, Physics, on January 10.
Daniel A. Brennan ’65 G.S. French on February 16.
Lionel R. Heath ’65 VSB, Eco., on January 23.

Class Notes Submission Form*
Have you received an honor, award or promotion? Did you earn another degree, get married or have a baby? Submit this Class Notes form via fax to (610) 519-7583 or mail to Kate Wechsler, Villanova Magazine, Alumni Office, Garey Hall, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085. Please send photos by mail or e-mail digital photos to alumni@villanova.edu. Digital photos should be jpeg or tif format that are 300 dpi and preferably at least 3 x 5 inches.

Please print or type:

Name ________________________________________________________________________
Class Year ____________________ College ______ Major _________________________
Additional Villanova graduate degrees and years:
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Residential Address _____________________________________________________________
City __________________________ State _______ ZIP ________________________
Telephone _____________________________________________________________________
Employer _____________________________________________________________________
Position _____________________________________________________________________
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News for Class Notes
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*Villanova University reserves complete editorial rights to all content submitted for Class Notes, and posts and publishes listings as space permits.
During his career in the priesthood, the Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Fitzgerald ’73 J.C.D. has worked to spread the message of God and faith to the people to whom he has ministered. Now he answers a new call to serve the church as Auxiliary Bishop of the nearly 1.5 million-member Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

“In accepting this nomination I am conscious of the great responsibility that has been entrusted to me, but I am even more aware of the providence of Almighty God in calling me to the priesthood and sustaining me happily in the priesthood these past thirty years,” he said.

Cardinal Justin Rigali ordained Fitzgerald to the episcopacy August 6 at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia.

Fitzgerald attended Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary and was ordained in 1980. He earned a B.A. from Temple University, a Licentiate in Canon Law from The Catholic University of America and a doctorate in Canon Law from Gregorian University, Rome. He has served as Vice-Rector of St. Charles Seminary, Director of the Office for Legal Services and Judicial Vicar.

“I sincerely ask for your prayers. Pray that I will be a good bishop and heed the words and example of the Good Shepherd, who said to his first disciples and to us: “I have come not to be served but to serve and to give my life in ransom for the many,” he said. —Shawn Proctor


Faculty

Class Notes Publication Policy
Villanova University accepts submissions of news of professional achievements or personal milestones for inclusion in the Class Notes section of Villanova Magazine. Concise submissions can be submitted electronically or by mail. The University reserves the right to edit for content, accuracy and length. Every effort is made to print submissions in a timely fashion as space permits. Reasonable steps are taken to verify the accuracy of the information submitted, but the University cannot guarantee the accuracy of all submissions. Publication of professional achievements or personal milestones does not constitute endorsement by Villanova University.

Richard J. Jackson ’65 E.E. on April 8.
Thomas Lynam ’65 A&S, Arts, on August 19, 2009.
Sister Catherine Edgar ’66 A&S, Arts, on May 11.

1970s
Fred Nicholas John Sarasin ’70 M.C.E. on April 10.
Edward M. Petruska ’71 G.S.Chem. on April 18.
Elizabeth J. Casey ’72 G.S.Arts on March 6, 2009.
John F. Cooper III ’72 VSB, Eco., ’92 G.S.Edu. on February 19.
Barbara Speirs Stephens ’72 A&S, Arts, on November 27, 2008.
John C. Fitts ’73 A&S, Psy., on February 25.

1980s
Kevin R. Scott ’85 VSB, Acct., on April 13.

1990s
Brian C. Fiore ’93 VSB, Acct., on April 13.
Gretchen R. Lips ’94 A&S, Psy., on January 27.

2000s

Staff
Horace “Jack” Dischert, a World War II veteran and former employee, on March 22, 2010.

“Let nothing of the past prevent us from listening, and let no present things hinder us from giving thought to the future. Move on what lies ahead.”

-St. Augustine

Join University President, the Reverend Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., as he shares the University’s ten-year strategic plan. Be there as the University embarks on a journey to further strengthen our tradition of excellence and ensure that Villanova thrives for generations to come.

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Events and dates are subject to change.
If you receive two or more magazines at your home address, or if you are a parent receiving your son or daughter’s magazine at your home, please call the Villanova University Alumni Association at 1-800-VILLANOVA.

WELCOME BACK!
ALUMNI HOMECOMING WEEKEND
OCTOBER 22–24, 2010

FRIENDS, FOOD, FOOTBALL & FUN
The Villanova University Alumni Association invites you back to celebrate the best of your college fall weekends. Enjoy activities for everyone including an alumni family picnic and a Villanova football game in a match-up against James Madison. The Class of 2005 will celebrate their Five Year Reunion during the weekend with special events and opportunities to reconnect with your friends and classmates.

Visit www.alumni.villanova.edu for all the details and the schedule of activities and don’t miss...

HOMECOMING WEEKEND 2010
OCTOBER 22–24, 2010