DISTINCTLY VILLANOVA
Melding Academics and Mission

ALUM WINS PULITZER PRIZE
HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS
"We will always be an Augustinian Catholic University committed to the ideals of Truth, Unity and Love; an academic institution focused on providing an exceptional education rooted in the Liberal Arts; a place where students, faculty, staff and alumni find ways to use their talents and abilities to help those around them."

— The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD
Opening Address to the Villanova Community, Aug. 30, 2012

DEAR FRIENDS,

As many of you so often tell me, a Villanova education is a transformational experience. It is distinguished above all by academic excellence. Our students are challenged by a rigorous learning experience rooted in the liberal arts and shaped by a community where students and professors are partners in learning.

Yet we cannot ignore the fact that higher education is facing significant challenges. For the benefit of future generations of Villanovans, we must successfully navigate them—so our University may continue to thrive in what has become an increasingly complex landscape. We must be agile, thorough and strategic. Above all, we must continue to be dynamic to serve the evolving needs of the students who come to us for the distinctive education we offer.

Moving forward, our focus will be on creating educational models that stimulate critical thinking and fostering scholarship and research that contribute new knowledge to academic disciplines. In support of this focus, the University has established the Office for Research and Graduate Programs. It marks the beginning of an exciting strategic initiative for Villanova and a major step in promoting faculty scholarship and graduate programs as presented in the University’s Strategic Plan.

With the increasing popularity of online learning, Villanova must invent new ways to make today’s classrooms places where our students want to learn. We are committed to interdisciplinary learning, which teaches our students to develop creative solutions to real-world problems. Such offerings help ensure that the Villanova experience will remain distinctive and powerful.

Also, I am pleased to share that Villanova has once again earned the #1 placement in the Regional University-North category in US News & World Report’s annual “America’s Best Colleges” rankings—marking our 20th consecutive year in the top spot of that category. Villanova was also again ranked among the best value schools in the same category, for “Great Schools, Great Prices.”

While we take pride in this acknowledgement of Villanova’s excellence and value, we must continue to develop new ways of doing what we already do so well. We must be a leader in emerging trends while also remaining true to who we are. Education is about serving the mission of the institution so that it can serve others. It is not about making profits, but profiting the larger community. Together we can face the challenges that lie ahead—and continue to inspire minds to explore, act from the heart and succeed.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD’75 A&S
President
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CAA Salutes Coach Talley and QB Robertson

For the third time in his career, Villanova head football coach Andy Talley was named the CAA Coach of the Year, while redshirt freshman quarterback John Robertson was named the CAA Offensive Rookie of the Year.

Juniors named to All-Big East: Akande

Lipari’s Standout Season

Junior Emily Lipari was named All-American by the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. This All-America honor in cross country is a first for Lipari, a two-time All-American for indoor track and a leading performer in Villanova’s cross-country lineup this season. The Wildcats’ top finisher at the NCAA Championships, she also received All-Big East and All-Mid-Atlantic Region acclaim. She won the individual title at the Big East Championships, giving the Wildcats the individual conference champion for a fourth straight year, and registered a third-place finish at the NCAA Mid-Atlantic Regional.

Capella to Oversee Graduate Business Programs

Michael L. Capella, PhD, associate professor of Marketing, has been appointed associate dean of the Graduate and Executive Business Programs at the Villanova School of Business. In this role, Dr. Capella will lead efforts to ensure the continued, and increasingly higher, level of academic quality and recognition to the VSB graduate business programs and corporate educational programs. He will partner with faculty and administration to provide strategic and academic direction, keeping with the overarching mission and strategy of VSB and the University.

AKANDE NAMED MID- ATLANTIC REGION ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

After winning the individual title at the NCAA Mid-Atlantic Regional Championships, junior Nicky Akande was chosen as the Mid-Atlantic Region Athlete of the Year by the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. It marks the fifth season in a row that a Wildcat has received this honor. Akande captured the individual region title with a career-best time of 20:14 in a 6,000-meter course. She now has earned both All-Mid-Atlantic Region and All-Big East accolades the past two years.

Villanova Quidditch Clinches

Villanova Quidditch triumphed over the University of Maryland to win the 2012 Mid-Atlantic Regional Championship in Roanoke, Va. “I could not be more proud of our team for pulling through despite the adversity,” says co-captain William Greco ’13 COE.

Court Action

The Villanova Wildcats never trailed en route to a 74-49 win over the Montana Lady Grizz in the championship game of the UNLV Lady Rebel Round-Up in Las Vegas in November. Senior guard Rachel Roberts was named to the All-Tournament Team. To see the schedule for men’s and women’s basketball, visit the following links:

villanova.com/sports/m-baskbl/sched/nova-m-baskbl-sched.html

villanova.com/sports/w-baskbl/sched/nova-w-baskbl-sched.html

20 Years at the Top

Villanova again earned the #1 placement in the Regional University-North category in US News & World Report’s annual “America’s Best Colleges” rankings, marking the University’s 20th consecutive year in the top spot of that category. It also continued to rank as one of the best value schools in the Regional University-North category for “Great Schools, Great Prices,” earning the #2 spot.

Prize-Winning Journalists Talk Shop at Villanova

Eileen Sullivan ’99 A&S, part of an Associated Press reporting team to win the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting (see feature on Page 26), highlighted a group of award-winning journalists who came to campus for “Pulitzer Prize Week.” Sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences’ Writing and Rhetoric Program, the event also brought to campus the team of Philadelphia Inquirer reporters who won a Pulitzer for their series on violence in Philadelphia public schools.

Kephart Lecture Explores Melville Tale

Melville’s novella Benito Cereno inspired the fourth annual Kephart Lecture, delivered by historian and author Greg Grandin, PhD, of New York University. “Fast-Fish and Loose-Fish: Freedom and Slavery in Herman Melville’s America” examined parallels between the narrative and the issues polarizing the United States in the 1850s. The Lone Kephart ’86 Distinguished Historian Lecture Series was established in memory of Lone Kephart ’86 by her husband, Horace “Kep” Kephart.

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Dr. Capella, who joined the VSB faculty in 2005, was recently named the Villanova School of Business Emerging Scholar in Marketing. He has published in leading journal outlets and serves on several editorial review boards. His research has won several awards, including the 2008 Journal of Advertising Best Article Award.

Prior to pursuing his doctoral degree at Mississippi State University, Dr. Capella spent nearly 10 years in professional sales management with an international food manufacturer. His industry experience involved account management and relationship marketing with large retail grocery chains, national restaurants, wholesale accounts and channel intermediaries.

For the third time in his career, Villanova head football coach Andy Talley was named the CAA Coach of the Year, while redshirt freshman quarterback John Robertson was named the CAA Offensive Rookie of the Year.

After the young team won just two games in 2011, a preseason poll had predicted that the Wildcats would finish eighth in the CAA this year. Instead, Talley led Villanova to an 8-3 regular season and the team’s fourth playoff berth in five years.

Robertson was a big part of Villanova’s success. In his first 10 career starts, Robertson threw for 1,830 yards and 14 touchdowns. The Wildcats’ second-leading rusher, he ran for 336 yards and tied a team-high 13 rushing touchdowns. Robertson is the first player in school history to run for more than 1,000 yards and pass for more than 300 yards in the same game.

Quarterback John Robertson

Senior guard Rachel Roberts

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Engineering Pays Tribute to Alumni

At the 36th annual Engineering Alumni Awards Dinner Reception, the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 A&S, University president, joined Gary Gabriele, PhD, Drosdick Endowed Dean of Engineering, in acknowledging the outstanding leadership; academic, technical and professional achievement; and meritorious service of the College’s distinguished alumni. The 2012 recipients were Kurt Conti ’84; Eric Ricci ’01, ’03 MS; Victor Manuel Garcia Talavera ’98; William Leighton, PhD, ’73; Michael Gigliotti ’70; James O’Leary ’00; Daniel Weeden ’89; Daniel Flynn ’82; Paul Varello ’65; Karl Zurn ’66, ’69 MSE; Glenn DeSimone ’69; and William Albert ’12 (who received the Robert D. Lynch Award at the Recognition Ceremony on Commencement Weekend). The Engineering Alumni Society oversees the nomination process.

RESEARCHERS RECEIVE CLEAN-WATER GRANT

In a world of increasing demand on a limited water supply, technology that can purify water more efficiently could benefit millions of people. Professor Metin Duran, PhD, and Assistant Professor Brian Chaplin, PhD, Civil and Environmental Engineering, in partnership with a researcher from Drexel University, received a grant from the National Science Foundation to develop a technology that could improve water and wastewater treatment facilities’ ability to remove contaminants from water.

Formula SAE Car Showcased

Students, faculty, alumni and supporters from the College of Engineering gathered at McLaren Philadelphia to be introduced to Villanova’s newest Formula SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) race car inside the same building that houses the world-famous McLaren M26 Formula 1 race car, which James Hunt drove to victory in three Grand Prix races in 1977.

The College’s Formula SAE model, which weighs only 450 pounds, came in 30th out of 120 teams in the competition held in May at the International Speedway in Dearborn, Mich. SAE challenges students at schools throughout North America and international locations to conceptualize, design, fabricate and enter into competition a Formula-style race car.

McLaren Philadelphia was pleased to be selected as the location for the presentation of the College’s SAE car, says Robert DiStanislao, president of the RDS Automotive Group. “Just as the McLaren MP4-12C is an innovative and advanced automobile that will have an impact on the design of future cars, so is the Villanova project something that could create new standards of design in the years to come.”

Brandt Named Director of Moorad Center for Sports Law

A sports-industry expert who has worked as a lawyer, player agent, team executive, television analyst and national columnist, Andrew Brandt brings his experience and vision to bear as the inaugural director of the Jeffrey S. Moorad Center for Sports Law.

In this position, Brandt—who also is the NFL business analyst for ESPN and a lecturer at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania—will oversee the activities of the newly created center.

“Andrew Brandt brings the perfect blend of sports industry and legal expertise to his new role,” said John Y. Gotanda, dean of the Villanova University School of Law. “As an industry insider, Andrew knows the field of sports law like few others, and we’re thrilled to welcome him to the VLS team.”

A graduate of Stanford University and Georgetown University Law School, Brandt has represented such top athletes as Michael Jordan, Patrick Ewing, Boomer Esiason, Matt Hasselbeck, Adam Vinatieri and Ricky Williams. He gained front-office experience as general manager of the Barcelona Dragons in the NFL’s World League and as vice president of the Green Bay Packers.

Grant Funds Research on Acrylic Paints

Anthony Lagalante, PhD, associate professor, Chemistry (right), and a colleague at the University of Delaware have received a $300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to study the composition, cleaning and aging of water-borne emulsion polymer (acrylic) paints. Acrylic paintings are a significant constituent of the country’s cultural assets, and the cleaning and preservation of these treasures pose great challenges. This research will incorporate staff and facilities at the universities and at the Winterthur Museum in Delaware and the Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles.

A&S Bestows Alumni Medallions

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences awarded Alumni Medallions to graduates who have used their knowledge, skills and compassion to better the world. Alfonso Martinez-Fons Jr. ’71, executive vice president of the US Forum for Policy Innovation (third from left); Jennifer Gossett-Ferracci ’95 MA, ’99 PhD, professor of Philosophy at Fordham University (center); Vice Adm. Nanette M. DeFazio ’83, the 42nd Judge Advocate General of the Navy (third from right); Irwin Nisselt ’98, Villanova’s first George J. Mitchell Scholar (seated from right). Joining the honorees were Gary Olsen ’74 A&S, ’80 MS, associate professor of English (left); Jean Ann Linney, PhD, dean of A&S (second from left); and the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 A&S, University president.

Alumnus Ford Commits $1 Million to VLS

Stephen D. Ford ’73 VLS and his wife, Mary, have committed a $1 million gift to Villanova University School of Law. The gift further endows The Stephen D. and Mary C. Ford Scholarship, established by the couple in 2010 to support an incoming first-year student from New England who is deserving of assistance because of academic merit and/or financial need and who demonstrates an interest in public interest legal work.

“Steve Ford exemplifies what it means to be a Villanova lawyer—a successful corporate leader who remains dedicated to serving the greater good,” said John Y. Gotanda, dean of the law school. “Through the further support of this scholarship, Steve and Mary are helping to ensure that future Villanova lawyers have the opportunity to follow in their footsteps, continuing the Villanova tradition of leadership through service.”

Andrew Brandt, Ford has been a master in the Villanova Law. J. Villard O’Brien American Inn of Court, served as co-chair of the Leadership Gifts Committee for the Campaign for Villanova Law and volunteered in many other capacities.
COPE Director Receives Leadership Award

Denice Ferko-Adams, MPH, RD, LDN (left), who serves as director of the MacDonald Center for Obesity Prevention and Education (COPE) in the College of Nursing, received the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' prestigious 2012 Medallion Award for her outstanding leadership and service to the dietetics profession. Ferko-Adams has held many roles over her career, including president of the Pennsylvania Dietetic Association, chair for the Nutrition Entrepreneurs Dietetic Practice Group (DPG), symposium chair for the Weight Management DPG leadership and professional issues committee in the Academy.

As president of Wellness Press for more than 20 years, Ferko-Adams has been a visionary in the area of wellness through her innovative, team-based weight management and health campaigns for worksite employees. As COPE director, Ferko-Adams leads the fight against obesity by educating health care professionals through interdisciplinary webinars, conferences and simulation workshops.

Father Donohue In Director’s Chair

The opening-night performance of Villanova Theatre’s The Drowsy Chaperone celebrated the return of the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 A&S to the role of director for the first time since 1973. The Villanova Singers and Spires performed throughout the year by the Villanova community, offers a distinctive example of Augustinian ideals in action.

THOUSANDS TURN OUT FOR DAY OF SERVICE

More than 4,200 Villanova students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends participated locally in the Day of Service, the centerpiece of the St. Thomas of Villanova Celebration. Volunteers worked in partnership with 342 agencies throughout Greater Philadelphia. In addition, 150 alumni in 18 chapters nationwide supported the day by serving in their neighborhoods. This annual event, which builds upon service performed throughout the year by the Villanova community, offers a distinctive example of Augustinian ideals in action.

Afternoon with Ingrid Croce

More than 120 faculty, staff, alumni and friends came to meet and greet Ingrid Croce, wife of the late singer-songwriter Jim Croce ’65 A&S. In addition to signing copies of I Got a Name: The Jim Croce Story, a memoir she co-authored with current husband Jimmy Rock, Ingrid discussed Jim’s rise to fame and the challenges of the years after his death in 1973. The Villanova Singers and Spire perform during the event in memory of Jim, who had belonged to both groups.

Trustee Sheila Klehm Receives Bartley Alumni Medallion

The Villanova School of Business awarded the Rev. Joseph C. Bartley, OSA, Alumni Medallion to Sheila Klehm ’83 VSB. The 2012 medallion recipient is an executive director in Morgan Stanley’s Private Wealth Management Division. An active alumna and philanthropist, Klehm is a member of Villanova University’s Board of Trustees, has served as chair of the Dean’s Advisory Council and has been a member of the Advisory Board since 2002. Named after the founding dean of VSB, the Bartley Medallion recognizes alumni who have distinguished themselves in their careers, demonstrated service to their communities and provided extraordinary service to VSB.

Conference Explores Faith in the Public Sphere

Experts from around the country weighed in on “Living the Catholic Faith in Public Life,” the focus of the Villanova University School of Law’s seventh annual John F. Scarpa Conference on Law, Politics, and Culture. The symposium is considered to be among the preeminent events in Catholic legal education.

NASA Scientist Shares Findings of Kepler Mission

At a colloquium titled “The NASA Kepler Space Mission: Discovering Other Earths in the Universe,” William Borucki, Kepler’s principal investigator and one of NASA’s most eminent space scientists, detailed the accomplishments, breakthroughs and goals of the mission. Introducing Borucki was astrophysicist Andej Pisa, PhD, visiting assistant professor at Villanova. A member of the Kepler team, Dr. Pisa tracks and catalogs eclipsing binary stars.

Leno Headlines Parents’ Weekend

Poignant moments during Parents’ Weekend can move students and families to tears. This year, Jay Leno’s comedy also did the honors. The Emmy Award-winning host of The Tonight Show entertained families at the annual Parent’s Day part of the 2012 festivities.

Scholarship Memorializes Beloved Professor

He was a dedicated alumnus, passionate teacher, caring advisor and faithful fraternity brother. In appreciation of the many ways Oliver Ludwig, PhD, ’57 A&S served the University community, Villanova’s Sigma Nu/Zeta Rho Alumni Association and other admirers of the onetime associate professor of Chemistry, who died in 2010, have established the Oliver Ludwig Scholarship for Undergraduate Science. The award memorializes Dr. Ludwig’s devotion to scholarship and supports Villanova’s ongoing commitment to academic excellence in the sciences. John Thackara ’84 VSB, president of the association, announced the endowment at the group’s 36th annual reunion.
**Nobel Laureate Awarded 2012 Mendel Medal**

Villanova University awarded the 2012 Mendel Medal to Ahmed Zewail, PhD, in recognition of his pioneering scientific research and dedication to the promotion of education and partnership for world peace.

In 1999, Dr. Zewail was the sole recipient of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his groundbreaking developments in “femto-science,” making possible observations of atomic motions during molecular transformations in a quadrillionth of a second. He is the Linus Pauling Chair Professor of Chemistry and Professor of Physics at the California Institute of Technology.

“Dr. Zewail epitomizes the purpose of the Mendel Medal,” says the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, OSA, PhD, ’69 MA, vice president, Academic Affairs. “He has publicly advocated for a more peaceful and just world that can be achieved through investments in education and economic development, and with respect for faith and religion.”

**Cardinal Rallies Support for Immigration Reform**

Cardinal Roger Mahony, archbishop emeritus of Los Angeles, has a small-group discussion on immigration reform with members of the Villanova community.

“The question isn’t ‘What is somebody else going to do next?’ but ‘What am I going to do next?’” Cardinal Roger Mahony, archbishop emeritus of Los Angeles, told members of the Villanova community during a lecture on the need for federal immigration reform. Earlier in his daylong visit to campus, the cardinal celebrated Mass, met with student leaders and addressed the law school. Villanova was an initial stop on his nationwide tour of Catholic colleges and universities to encourage student advocacy.

**Law Alumni Celebrate Reunion**


**Student Researchers Shine at Poster Day**

Faculty, administrators and students filled the second-floor Learning Commons at Falvey Memorial Library Sept. 19 for the University-wide 2012 Undergraduate Research Poster Day. Sponsored by the Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships, in partnership with the Department of Chemistry, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Engineering, the session featured more than 50 posters reflecting research that students had conducted over the summer.

The annual event exemplifies the University’s commitment to undergraduate research. It gives students the opportunity to share the results, challenges and next steps of their work with fellow Villanovans and industry partners.

**Dr. Hill’s Service to the Marketing Profession Laudet**

Ronald P. Hill, PhD, the Richard J. and Barbara Naclerio Endowed Chair in Business, received two awards recognizing his exceptional research on the topic of diversity and marketing, and for significant mentoring accomplishments with students and colleagues of color.

The PhD Project recognized Dr. Hill for “outstanding service, leadership and commitment to the marketing profession and for being an exemplary model for all those who will follow in your footsteps.” The PhD Project is a consortium of mostly Fortune 500 firms that come together to fund minority doctoral candidates in each of the business professions.

A well-known marketing scholar, Dr. Hill has held a number of editorial positions with such publications as Journal of Consumer Affairs and Journal of Macromarketing. He won the 2010 Richard W. Poyll Prize from the Sauder School of Business at the University of British Columbia, a lifetime achievement award recognizing intellectual excellence in the study of marketing in the public interest.

**Grant Funds Study of Nursing Research**

The College of Nursing’s Center for Nursing Research, has received a nearly $300,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Evaluating Innovations in Nursing Education program to study the effectiveness of teaching demands on research productivity of doctoral program faculty.

Principal investigator Suzanne Smeltzer, EdD, RN, FAAN, professor and director of the Center (left), plans to examine the research productivity and scholarship of faculty to teach and mentor doctoral students. Her co-investigators are Mary Ann Cantrell, PhD, RN, professor (right), and Nancy Sharts-Hopko, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and director of the PhD in Nursing program (center).

**Exhibit Brings Icons, Dignitaries to Campus**

As part of the University’s commemoration of the ecumenical Year of Faith proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI, Villanova’s Art Gallery featured an exhibit of sacred icons, vestments, chalices, Gospel books and other liturgical artifacts that reflect the prayer and faith traditions of the Eastern Orthodox churches. “Icon: The Way to the Kingdom” ran from October to December and occasioned lectures, visits from religious leaders and other special events. Among the highlights: the awarding of an honorary doctorate in Sacred Theology to Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev of Volokolamsk, a bishop of the Russian Orthodox Church, for his work building relations between the Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches.

**Dr. Dowdell Inducted Into American Academy of Nursing**

Professor Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN, was among 176 nurse leaders from across the country to be inducted as a fellow during the American Academy of Nursing’s 39th Annual Meeting and Conference in Washington, D.C. Inductees represent the nation’s top nurse researchers, policymakers, scholars, executives, educators and practitioners.

Dr. Dowdell was selected because of her significant and sustained contributions as a nursing leader and advocate for vulnerable children. She has contributed more than any other nurse scientist to knowledge on perilous Internet behaviors of youth, including cyberbullying and sexting (sending sexually explicit messages or images), and is funded by the US Department of Justice. Her cutting-edge research informs policy on strategies for protecting children and adolescents from Internet-associated hazards.

**Cardinal Roger Mahony, archbishop emeritus of Los Angeles, has a small-group discussion on immigration reform with members of the Villanova community.**
Profiles

in

LEADERSHIP

Two distinguished members bring diverse knowledge, skills and experience to Villanova University’s Board of Trustees.

By Shawn Proctor

Rev. Raymond Dlugos, OSA, PhD, ’79 A&S

Augustinian ideals have guided the life of the Rev. Raymond Dlugos, OSA, PhD, ’79 A&S and, in turn, he has dedicated himself to promoting heritage of the Augustinians. As Vice President for Mission and Student Affairs at Merrimack College and Trustee at Villanova University, the two Augustinian institutions of higher education in the U.S., Father Dlugos possesses incredible insight into what makes an Augustinian education powerful.

I have found it very helpful to view the Villanova Board through my Merrimack lenses and helpful to work at Merrimack while wearing my Villanova lenses,” he says. “They are very different institutions, yet we share this heritage.”

Prior to his post at Merrimack, he served as chief executive officer of The Southdown Institute in Ontario, where he provided leadership to members of religious orders suffering emotional, psychological and behavioral disorders. He also served as vice president for the institute and was a postdoctoral fellow. He held an American Psychology Association internship in the Department of Veterans Affairs Psychology Service at the Edward Hines, Jr. Hospital in Illinois.

Father Dlugos was ordained in November 1983, and received a master’s degree from Washington Theological Union and earned a doctorate in counseling psychology from the State University of New York at Albany. He is a licensed psychologist in New York and Massachusetts.

In 1990, he returned to Villanova to serve as director of operations with the Order of St. Augustine, Province of St. Thomas of Villanova. He remembers thinking then that much had changed throughout campus. The University had begun a major transformation, one that would strengthen its national reputation, he says.

“There was a whole lift of the reputation. Now awareness of Villanova University is much higher.”

He joined Villanova’s Board of Trustees in 2002, a role and experience that have only reinforced his belief that a Villanova education is defined by high standards of excellence and an outward-looking perspective. His term of service concludes at the end of the year, and Father Dlugos believes the value of community, spirituality and service are as strong at Villanova today as they were when he was an undergraduate in its Honors program. “What ties all of that together is an important virtue in the Augustinian tradition: humility,” he says.

Rev. Raymond Dlugos, OSA, PhD, ’79 A&S

TRUSTEE

William M. Gibson ’66 VSB

William “Bill” Gibson ’66 VSB believes he is proof students gravitate to the university that is right for them. He knows Villanova was his perfect choice. A product of a blue-collar environment, he attended Villanova as a “day-hop” and balanced academics with off-campus work. It readied him for future career challenges.

“I’ve always valued my Villanova experience. It taught me that a workday is a very long day, and that if one wishes to succeed, there are no short cuts. Secondly, it gave me great street sense and an understanding of how decisions are made in the real world environment,” he says.

His career began with IBM, but blossomed in executive management positions with successful computer services companies. In 1986, Gibson led a management buyout of STSC Inc. and helped transform it into the world’s leading provider of supply chain management solutions. This company, Manugistics Inc., grew from a small start up to a publicly held company with a market value in excess of $2 billion.

At the core of Manugistics’ solutions was an ability to improve the decision making within their clients’ operations and then rapidly share this information within the enterprise and among business partners. “Our clients collapsed inventory investments, maximized manufacturing resources and streamlined their distribution networks. As a result they were at the forefront of major efficiency improvements experienced by many firms over the past 20 years,” he says.

Gibson served as chairman and chief executive officer of Manugistics, until retiring in 2001. Since then, he has been a managing partner of The Albermarle Group, a private equity firm. In addition to earning an Economics degree from Villanova, he completed the executive education program at the Harvard Business School.

His connection to the University continued when his daughter Caroline graduated in 1995. In honor of his Villanova experience and his family’s involvement with the institution, he established the Gibson Family Endowed Scholarship at Villanova in 2006. His role as a trustee and interactions with scholarship recipients have given him the opportunity to help shape Villanova students into ethical leaders.

“The spirit and philosophy of St. Augustine are still here and still affect people,” he says. “The University continues to develop well-rounded individuals, prepared to succeed. They have a sense of what’s right and what’s wrong and how to contribute to society.”

William M. Gibson ’66 VSB

TRUSTEE

From left to right: Rev. Raymond Dlugos, OSA, PhD, ’79 A&S and William M. Gibson ’66 VSB
Player on a National Stage

Villanova establishes Office for Research and Graduate Programs

By Jennifer Schu

The Rev. Kail C. Ellis, OSU, PhD, ’69 MA, vice president for Academic Affairs, announced the establishment of the office and the appointment of Alfonso Ortega, PhD, as associate vice president for Research and Graduate Programs, calling it “the beginning of an exciting strategic initiative for the University.”

He added, “It is my hope that it will be a watershed in our shared goal of promoting faculty scholarship and graduate programs as presented in the Villanova University Strategic Plan.”

The creation of the office and the appointment of Dr. Ortega are the result of a study initiated in 2010 by the Office of Academic Affairs.

Creating a culture of teacher-scholars

An internationally renowned researcher, Dr. Ortega is the James R. Birle Professor of Energy Technology in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and previously served as the associate dean for Graduate Studies and Research in the College of Engineering. Before coming to Villanova in 2006, he served in the Engineering Directorate at the National Science Foundation as a program officer in the Division for Chemical, Biological, Environmental and Thermal Programs. Leaving that post to come to Villanova was, he says, “the best decision I ever made.”

“Villanova offers an environment that genuinely promotes the philosophy that research and scholarship are intrinsically intertwined with education,” he says. “You can engage in world-class scholarship and establish an international reputation here and, at the same time, be a part of an outstanding educational institution that places the education of its students front and center. This is not necessarily the case in institutions that pride themselves as research universities.”

One of the most important aspects of his job will be to develop opportunities for research across the University. That will involve raising research awareness and the importance of research in support of the Strategic Plan.

“The impetus for creating this office was related to the Strategic Plan goal of increasing our national stature—which impacts our ability to continue to recruit the very best students,” Dr. Ortega says. “In order to do so we need to increase our faculty’s ability to do research on this campus.”

Establishing the office sends a message to Villanova’s colleagues that “we have the capability to be an active research university, calling it a ‘wonderful life.’”

“Villanova really is the kind of institution where you can attempt this model and pull it off in a beautiful way.”

It’s clear that the establishment of the Office of Research and Graduate Programs will benefit both students and faculty—and is a strong step forward in terms of increasing the University’s national stature. “We have areas in this university where we can legitimately be research players on a national stage. We will have more and more of them as we continue to attract faculty who want to be teachers as well as researchers,” Dr. Ortega says.

“I am extraordinarily fortunate to be here. Undergraduate education remains our most important mission. Villanova offers a wonderful opportunity to those who see higher education as a vocation, who want to be educators, role models and scholars. This creates an outstanding learning environment for our students. I think Villanova offers the true hope of what a University can be.”
Summer study-abroad program blends structural engineering, theology and Augustinian mission into an unforgettable experience for faculty and students.

By Suzanne Wentzel

Civil engineers looking to study historical structures can’t go wrong with Italy. From arches and aqueducts to catacombs and domes, the country brims with soaring, spanning, leaning, sinking and crumbling monuments of human ingenuity.

But it’s also famous for structures made not from bricks and mortar but from “living stones.” One of the sturdiest is the community that bears the name of a man forever linked with Italy: Augustine. It was here that he was baptized; here that his mother, Monica, died; here that the hermits who followed his monastic rule came to be known as the Order of St. Augustine.

And in June 2012, it was here that a group of engineering students witnessed the convergence of their academic discipline and Augustinian heritage into one unforgettable Villanova experience. The students not only examined the structural characteristics of Italy’s finest edifices. They also discovered how it feels to live as an Augustinian community thousands of miles from campus.

Match made in heaven

This unique opportunity was the fruit of a University-wide effort that began with David Dinehart, PhD, professor and assistant chair, Civil and Environmental Engineering. Dr. Dinehart has a habit of finding ways to pair engineering and the University’s mission. In 2000, he and fellow faculty created a relationship with an orphanage in Honduras, and for 10 years, Villanova students designed and helped to build a school, chapel and other structures to meet the children’s needs. Three years ago, Dr. Dinehart and his students launched NovaCANE, an outreach program that gets middle schoolers excited about engineering.

In 2010, he hit upon an idea that incorporated not only Villanova’s Augustinian heritage but also its robust study-abroad program. To realize his vision, Dr. Dinehart needed the help and expertise of two partners. The first was the Rev. Joseph Farrell, OSA, STD, associate vice president, Mission and Ministry.
Father Farrell had done his doctoral studies in Rome and had been leading Augustinian pilgrimages in Italy for five years. Dr. Dinehart made his pitch: What if Villanovans were to create a summer study in Tuscany that combined a 3-credit technical elective on Italian engineering and architecture with a 3-credit theology course on the history of Augustinian thought and the Augustinian Order? Father Farrell’s reaction was unequivocal: Sweet.

That same year, while he was in Italy for a conference on timber engineering, Dr. Dinehart scouted one of the venues that could serve as a base for the summer study: the Augustinian monastery in San Gimignano. After he met the friars and toured the medieval building, which now serves as an international house of prayer and pilgrimage, any doubts about its suitability as a learning center and residence for the students vanished. “The location was so beautiful, and the town so quintessentially Tuscan, that it was almost too perfect—better than I ever imagined!”

Having identified the what, where and why, Dr. Dinehart and Father Farrell needed to figure out the how. Enter the final partner: the Office of International Studies (OIS), which oversees all for-credit international experiences and supports faculty in creating and implementing summer programs.

As soon as OIS staff heard the plan, their faces lit up. In recent years they had been working with College of Engineering faculty to make it easier for their students to study abroad. The proposal on the table was the latest testimony to the success of that collaboration.

But the Tuscany proposal wasn’t just exciting. It was groundbreaking. “Not only was it the first Villanova summer program to offer engineering, but it tied that discipline to the most fun—breaking. “Not only was it the first Villanova summer program to offer engineering, but it tied that discipline to the most fun-breaking. “Not only was it the first Villanova summer program to offer engineering, but it tied that discipline to the most fun-breaking.

After days of prep work—reading texts and listening to Dr. Dinehart’s e-learning lectures on such topics as seismic damage, forensic engineering and retrofits to Pisa’s Leaning Tower—eight engineering students departed for Siena in early June. OIS, which has had a presence in that city for 20 years, had arranged for a professor at the local university to teach the students the history of Tuscan art and architecture.

Over the course of two weeks, students immersed themselves in the study of sculptures, paintings, piazzas and cathedrals. Sometimes they’d close the books and hit the streets to see, in person, the structures and styles they had been reading about. Such outings made the task of distinguishing naves from apse and Romanesque from Gothic more meaningful and fun.

For Kayla Spitzer ’14, the experiential learning was one of the highlights of the group’s time in Siena. “I enjoyed learning in the classroom about different architectural styles and then going with our professor to look at examples in the city’s infrastructure.”

This pattern of mixing class time with field trips continued after the students moved on to San Gimignano to meet Father Farrell and Dr. Dinehart. It was during their two-week stay in the Augustinian monastery that the engineering and theological aspects of the program began to coalesce.

Course “load”

A small but radiant jewel in the Tuscan crown, San Gimignano boasts an array of structural delights and a centuries-old connection to the Augustinians. Villanovans lost no time in exploring both.

In their morning engineering classes, students learned to identify load paths and to analyze elements of historic Italian structures. Then they related those lessons to their surroundings. For example, after discussing the medieval towers for which San Gimignano is famous, they went up inside one of them, anticipating where cracks in the unreinforced masonry would be and looking at how the structure had been stabilized.

The group also conducted a structural evaluation of the monastery. They inspected every inch of the building, including its eerie, labyrinthine underground. They took photos, documented deformations and noted the thicknesses, lengths and locations of cracks. Their report will provide baseline data for subsequent trips.

Other excursions took them farther afield. Having read Brunelleschi’s Dome, the students traveled to Florence’s famed Basilica of Santa Maria del Fiore (known popularly as the Duomo) to behold this architectural wonder.

“From an engineering perspective, I thought the dome was amazing,” says Michael Battaglia ’13. “It was great to study the history of the engineering behind it and then be able not only to see it but to climb up and walk between the inner and outer shells.”

Students were just as enthusiastic about their theology classes—as was Dr. Dinehart, who sat in on most of them. After all, the locale and conditions for learning about Augustine, his rule for community living and its impact on the 13th-century Tuscan hermits couldn’t have been more ideal. But what completed the picture was Father Farrell himself.

“Because of his background and experience, he was able to tie everything together and make it so interesting,” says Sarah Walker ’14. “He is passionate about theology and was able to get us access to the coolest places.”

Father Farrell led them to the overgrown ruins of an original Tuscan hermitage (reached via a Roman bridge mentioned in Dante’s Purgatorio) and gained them admittance to an Augustinian cloister. There they joined in midday prayer with the sisters and received a private tour of the building’s frescoes. And thanks to Father Farrell, the guide at Florence’s Basilica of Santa Maria del Santo Spirito gave students an up-close view of a wooden crucifix sculpted by Michelangelo.

“Christians do not make a house of God until they are one in charity. The timber and stone must fit together in an orderly plan, must be joined in perfect harmony and must give each other the support, as it were, of love.”

—ST. AUGUSTINE, SERMON 336
Above: Students spend a free weekend in the coastal region of the Cinque Terre. Below: After learning about the retrofit techniques used to stabilize the Leaning Tower of Pisa, students visit what is one of the world’s most famous engineering failures.

Life with friars

Through their classes, travels and, above all, extended stay in San Gimignano, students were exposed to a new experience of the Augustinian way of life—and to a more holistic perspective of community within the group. "I especially loved evening prayer," says Kayla. "We would all sit on the tower at sunset, surrounded by rolling hills, thinking about how fortunate we were to be there."

Such Augustinian moments blur the artificial boundaries that often delimit theology and engineering—or any other set of code words for faith and reason. Fortunately, Villanova is committed to a model of education that strives to integrate the two, and Dr. Dinehart was happy to do his part in Italy to promote that integration.

"From the students’ viewpoint, I think having their engineering professor pray with them, share experiences with them and talk about how important faith is gave the theology piece even more credibility."

Rome, then home

Before returning to the States, the travelers spent three days in Rome. The grand finale planned by Dr. Dinehart and Father Farrell featured the Eternal City’s most spectacular engineering and spiritual attractions, including the Pantheon, the Colosseum, the Sistine Chapel and St. Peter’s Basilica.

Once again, the students had Father Farrell to thank for their entry to certain sites and events. They got into a special Mass at St. Peter’s at which Pope Benedict XVI conferred the pallium, a white woolen band symbolizing pastoral responsibility, on 44 archbishops from around the world, including Philadelphia’s Most Rev. Charles Chaput, OFM Cap. Afterward, they were able to tour the Vatican Necropolis and see the tomb of St. Peter. They also visited Father Farrell’s former residence, St. Monica College, the order’s international house of studies near St. Peter’s Square.

The students couldn’t get enough. Even on the final day, when Dr. Dinehart and Father Farrell told them they were free to do what they wanted, all eight chose to go with the two men to see, yes, more churches.

Once home, the students gave this inaugural program rave reviews. Organizers hope that the next installment will take place in 2014. In the meantime, they are grateful to have accomplished what they set out to do: bring together different offices and disciplines on campus into one shared experience. But they did something more, Father Farrell has come to realize. They helped to clarify and strengthen the University’s distinctive identity.

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RELUCTANT HERO

Try as he might, the man now remembered as Blessed Agostino Novello, OSA, could not avoid having greatness thrust upon him. Born in Sicily of Spanish noble lineage, Matteo Di Termini seemed destined for fame and glory. After studying civil and canon law at the University of Bologna, he distinguished himself as a brilliant and learned lawyer, rising through the ranks of the Sicilian magistracy to become a counselor to the king.

But after being left for dead on the battlefield in 1266, Matteo had a change of heart. He renounced worldly honor, became a lay brother in the Order of St. Augustine and entered a Tuscan convent—having decided not to mention his professional past. With a new name and a new vocation, Agostino looked forward to loving God and neighbor in pious obscurity.

But his secret did not last. A property dispute prompted him to write a document defending his conferees’ rights, and his expert legal argument betrayed him. His superiors knew a good thing when they saw it. Contrary to his wishes, Agostino was ordained and, over time, appointed confessor to Pope Nicholas IV and named general of the Augustinian Order. In his retirement, he returned to the convent, where he devoted himself to prayer and good works of extraordinary measure. He was beatified in 1761.

While in Siena, the students visited the Pinacoteca Nazionale and saw painter Simone Martini’s 14th-century altarpiece honoring Agostino. But he also is memorialized on Villanova’s campus. His stained-glass depiction in the Law School Chapel may be a gentle reminder to future attorneys of just how fine is the line between humility and hiding one’s light under a bushel.
A Reason to Smile for Coca-Cola Scholars

A $500,000 Grant from The Coca-Cola Foundation Benefits First Generation College Students

Ibrahim Kargbo ’16 COE emigrated from Sierra Leone to Philadelphia at the age of six. The United States represented a fresh start for the Kargbo family, whose native land had been torn apart by a decade-long civil war. Today, the Villanova freshman is studying to become an electrical engineer. He is the first member of his family to attend college.

By Jennifer Schu
In 2012, The Coca-Cola Foundation, the philanthropic arm of The Coca-Cola Company, awarded Villanova University $500,000 as part of its Coca-Cola First Generation Scholarship Program. Villanova is the first single-site location in the Northeast Region to receive this funding, which provides financial assistance for students who are the first in their immediate families to attend college. “My desire for a college education comes from the desire to open doors for my siblings, cousins, and family and to make them proud,” Ibrahim says.

“I believe there’s no problem that can’t be resolved with education, and I want to motivate others to pursue their dream of education as well,” he says. The Coca-Cola Foundation grant is in addition to an ongoing partnership with The Coca-Cola Company that has been facilitating financial assistance for students who are the first in their family to attend college. “My desire for a college education comes from the desire to open doors for my siblings, cousins, and family and to make them proud,” Ibrahim says.

“We value our ongoing partnership with The Coca-Cola Company, and thank The Coca-Cola Foundation for providing Villanova students with this generous support,” says the Rev. Peter M. Donohue OSA, PhD, ’75 A&S. “The establishment of the Coca-Cola First Generation Scholarship Program at Villanova builds upon our longstanding commitment to attract an increasingly diverse applicant pool, educate under-served students and serve first generation college students.”

“Villanova helps shape my life and make me successful at Coke, and now we’re making dreams a little more attainable for some worthy and talented young people,” he says. For Ashley Bell ’16 CON, the scholarship will bring her one step closer to her goal of becoming either an obstetric or pediatric nurse. She plans to get involved with the Student Nurses’ Association of Pennsylvania. “As I think about my future at Villanova, I am filled with a sense of hope for the numerous possibilities and the great experiences that lie ahead.”

Indeed, this year’s scholarship recipients are dreaming big. Kargbo is excited to be at the College of Engineering. “It’s highly ranked, and I know I’ll be in high demand and have a great chance of getting hired after graduation,” he says. “To my family it means the world. They see this as an example of hard work paying off, which they can show my siblings and cousins.”

Neil Patel ’16 A&S aspires to become a highly regarded scientist and writer. “The key to unlocking my future is within me, and college is necessary to mold that key into shape,” he says. Neil Patel ’16 A&S aspires to become a highly regarded scientist and writer. “The key to unlocking my future is within me, and college is necessary to mold that key into shape,” he says.

Scholarship recipient Ibrahim Kargbo ’16 COE and his mother, Haja Koroma

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The multi-year award will benefit 20 Villanova students—five each year—from the five counties in the Greater Philadelphia area. Recipients will each receive $6,250 per year, provided the student maintains eligibility requirements.

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An important part of Villanova University’s original mission was to educate immigrants who were first generation college students,” says Brian Wynne, ’86 A&S, president and general manager of Still Beverages, The Coca-Cola Company. “Villanova helped shape my life and make me successful at Coke, and now we’re making dreams a little more attainable for some worthy and talented young people,” he says. For Ashley Bell ’16 CON, the scholarship will bring her one step closer to her goal of becoming either an obstetric or pediatric nurse. She plans to get involved with the Student Nurses’ Association of Pennsylvania. “As I think about my future at Villanova, I am filled with a sense of hope for the numerous possibilities and the great experiences that lie ahead.”

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Robert W. and Audrey J. Luckow have a passion for education and the doors it can open in life. They also have a deep appreciation for the educational experience their daughter Stefanie ’06 A&S received at Villanova.

Over the past few years the Luckow family has provided critical resources to the University, including the Luckow Family Endowed Chair in English Literature and the Luckow Family Endowed Fund for Scholarships. They also support the University’s Annual Fund, which impacts many students and programs in significant ways. Now they’re helping Villanova achieve one of the most important imperatives of the University’s Strategic Plan—to increase enrollment of high-achieving students. Financial aid plays a huge role in the latter’s college choices. To help bridge the gap for students who need a little more financial assistance to attend Villanova, the Luckows have established The Luckow Family Scholarship Challenge, which will make it easier for potential donors to help endow scholarships.

“Scholarships have been a very fulfilling part of our Villanova giving,” says Audrey Luckow. Adds Robert Luckow, “Each thank-you note from a student shows us what a difference our gift is making.”

For more details on the Challenge, please contact Patricia McGoldrick director, Parents Program, at patricia.mcgoldrick@villanova.edu.
The Alexandria, Va., native began developing her journalistic talents with The Villanovan. She joined the student newspaper and got her first taste of interviewing, writing, and eventually putting in late nights as editor.

Being a reporter had intrigued Sullivan since childhood. The daughter of University of Michigan alumni, she would listen, spellbound, as her parents’ college friend, distinguished journalist Robin Wright, described her life’s work. Sullivan knew she wanted to pursue a similar path.

What was surprising was her decision to pursue it at Villanova. Sullivan was not only Wolverine-born but Hoyabred. It never occurred to the die-hard Georgetown fan that she would attend a BIG EAST rival—until the day she and her parents made an unplanned stop at Villanova.

“I immediately felt comfortable,” she recalls. “Villanova is a special place with a great reputation and strong sense of community. My parents kept saying, ‘These will be the best four years of your life.’ Had I realized they were right, I would have taken longer to get through college!”

Sullivan made the most of those years, impressing classmates with her warmth, humor and intelligence. “Eileen has always been dedicated and passionate,” says Brian Murphy, JD, ’99 A&S, a senior advisor at the US Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C. “She knows what she wants, and she goes after it.”

LOCAL AND NATIONAL SCENE

Armed with an English degree, Sullivan “went after” the chance to do real-world reporting. Covering a local beat for the Courier-Post attuned her to citizens’ concerns and taught her a valuable lesson. “What happens in Washington matters, but at the end of the day, if people’s garbage isn’t getting picked up, that’s the biggest problem in their life.”

During her tenure with the paper, the 9/11 tragedy occurred. Sullivan wrote about victims and families from southern New Jersey, including Danielle Kousoulis ’93 VSB. She also kept up with homeland-security issues as they related to law enforcement and other local agencies.

Farsighting her new knowledge and skills, Sullivan moved to Washington, D.C., in 2003 and began reporting on the Department of Homeland Security, first for Federal Times and then for Congressional Quarterly. She became a master student of government bureaucracy and legislative procedures.

“Covering DHS on Capitol Hill was my graduate education,” Sullivan says. “When AP hired her in 2007, Sullivan knew more about DHS than anyone else in the newsroom. Her expertise broadened to include counterterrorism and domestic radicalization—which is why, four years later, she was pulled into an AP probe into the New York Police Department’s intelligence operations.”

BREAKING THE STORY

“Ever heard of rakers and mosque crawlers?” asked Sullivan’s AP colleagues, who were doing stories related to the CIA. The terms had come up in reference to the NYPD’s intelligence division. Sullivan shook her head.

Further digging revealed that the NYPD was engaged in a counterterrorism mission like no other. Soon Sullivan was helping colleagues to break a story describing how the NYPD, working outside its jurisdiction and with CIA help, was spying on Muslim communities. As part of a human mapping program, undercover officers infiltrated neighborhoods, “raking the coals” for “hot spots” of suspicious activity. In addition, informants attended mosques and reported on the content of sermons. In some cases, individuals watched had been publicly labeled for being partners against terrorism.

“Such tactics, Sullivan says, undermine the trust that should exist between police and local communities and, if used by a federal agency, would violate privacy laws.

Provoking murky questions such as the balance between civil liberties and public safety is, says Sullivan, a reporter’s job. “We write to get facts out into the open so that the public can have a say in the debate.”

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AP colleagues were undivided. The “V” on her T-shirt says it all. The Alexandria, Va., native began developing her journalistic talents with The Villanovan. She joined the student newspaper and got her first taste of interviewing, writing, and eventually putting in late nights as editor.

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EILEEN SULLIVAN ’99 A&S admits she has a terrible sense of direction. Miraculously, the one time she had to reach her destination, her navigational skills did not disappoint. She arrived punctually at the offices of the Courier-Post, in Cherry Hill, N.J., and interviewed for a reporter position.

The job launched a professional career that hit a milestone in May, when she and Associated Press colleagues Matt Apuzzo, Adam Goldman and Chris Hawley received the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting.

Sullivan’s success arises from a different, and spot-on, sense of direction: knowing where a good story lies and which roads to take to pull it together. Of course, instinct isn’t enough. Her work requires sweat, sleuthing, moxie and an epic resolve not to be deterred by the word “no.”

“Deadline reporting is scrappy,” Sullivan says. “You have to figure out who has which piece of information. If someone won’t take your call, you need to be creative about finding other ways to collect the facts.”

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—Eileen Sullivan

AP colleagues were undivided. The “V” on her T-shirt says it all.
In June 2006, “John” (a pseudonym) came to America as a man without a country. He had fled his native Iraq to seek asylum from the violence and terror he experienced as a Chaldean, a practicing Catholic, in a region torn by war and religious strife. A religious minority, Chaldeans were often harassed by the Islamic majority who associated them with Americans. Their mere presence planted the seeds of democracy and freedom in the country, threatening insurgents who would do almost anything to maintain control.

“It is because of this persecution that thousands of my family and fellow Chaldeans have fled Iraq, making Christianity virtually extinct in the country,” he says. John was also targeted because he was contracted by a company to drive trucks to deliver water to American soldiers’ service camps. Even though he was beaten and kidnapped, he refused to stop aiding the soldiers. “Islamic terrorist groups...knew my name and threatened that if I did not leave the country, I would be killed,” he told the Immigration Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee in a 2007 hearing. “They promised me they would kidnap and slaughter my entire family.”

A LONG JOURNEY TO FREEDOM

Traveling across five countries and four continents, John and his family made their way to the U.S. where they were detained in a family detention center in Berks County, Pennsylvania in 2006. They spoke no English. They had no hope of navigating the complex legal system in order to argue their case. Yet he needed to tell his story, about the beating that permanently damaged his jaw and left his son with a broken arm. He needed to make them understand how the men kidnapped him then, at gunpoint, threatened to kidnap and murder his family if he did not leave right before beating him unconscious. John had risked his own life to help the American soldiers. His family, in turn, risked everything in their flight from danger.

"Charity is no substitute for justice withheld.”
—ST. AUGUSTINE

Students in Villanova School of Law’s Clinic for Asylum Refugee and Emigrant Services Aid Families Fleeing Human Rights Abuses

By Shawn Proctor

A LESSON IN JUSTICE

Law students and professors fight for justice for children such as this boy through the CARES Clinic.
Inside the bathed wire and fences of the detention center, they still faced an uncertain future—asylum in the United States, continued detention or exile.

Asylum is an immigration status that the U.S. government confers on people who have fled persecution or have a well-founded fear of persecution in their home countries because of who they are (their race or nationality), what they believe (their religion or political opinion) or their social group. Throughout its history, the U.S. has provided sanctuary for people in these extraordinary circumstances.

John is just one example of the clients Villanova Law School’s (VLS) Clinic for Asylum Refugee and Emigrant Services (CARES), an international human rights and immigration clinic, represent over the 14-week class. The second- and third-year law students act as the lawyers, documenting the client’s story and connecting him or her with resources like translators and social workers. Ultimately the students will take everything they learned and argue the case before an immigration judge who will render a verdict.

By the students working the case from beginning to end they gain a familiarity with asylum law as it is handled in the real world and serve a vulnerable group fleecing persecution. In the past, CARES has represented and won asylum for refugees from countries as disparate as Afghanistan, Belarus, Cameroon, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, The Ivory Coast, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The clinic’s efforts reunite families and, as in John’s case, save lives. Now 53 years old, he was granted asylum in 2006 due to the screening process for cases and excellent work of the students. Typically asylum cases are won 30 percent of the time, granting refugees the ability to stay and work in the country.

VLS’ asylum clinic clients win about 90 percent of the cases, partly due to the screening process for cases and excellent work of the students.

“Working with Chaldeans from Iraq, I’ve seen a virtual chain of migration. After one family travels to the United States and begins to settle in, another family will come, and then another,” Pistone says.

John’s journey led him across the world, from Batnaya, Mosul, Iraq to Capitol Hill in 2007, where he testified before late Senators Ted Kennedy and Arlen Specter about the need for a refugee program for Iraqis fleeing to the U.S. “Two years ago yesterday, I was fleeing Iraq in the back of a bus, just starting my long journey to America,” John said that day. “My future was unknown. But now, thanks to the help of many people and my family, I have been blessed with asylum in this country.”

Senator Kennedy thanked the VLS CARES Clinic for representing the clients who attended the hearing and would have otherwise been without an advocate. “These law students...have just performed nobly and they deserve the highest commendation in terms of legal profession. They have made an extraordinary difference,” he said.

As part of the course, students attended a human trafficking lecture focused on the streets of Philadelphia with Special Agents Rosemarie Vesci and Michael Goodhue from the FBI and Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Michelle Morgan, JD, ’97 VLS, adjunct professor of Law at Villanova.

“When I first started working this I didn’t really understand what they meant by ‘juvenile prostitution,’” Vesci says. “To me this was something that happened in Thailand, not in the United States.”

“The idea of being taken care of is staying in a trashy hotel room and eating fast food occasionally,” Goodhue says. “But for a lot of these girls, the alternative is staying with [family] that abuses or molests them and not eating at all.”

In turn, the interdisciplinary course participants spread the wisdom gained from the curriculum to the University and local community. Students spoke on campus about human trafficking in a panel discussion on trafficking people with disabilities or with a criminal background.

The course helped raise awareness of this critical issue for future Villanova nurses and other interested students from different academic disciplines who will be able to go into the community and make a difference in lives impacted by trafficking.
IGNITING CHANGE

Villanovans contributing to the community

Before she started the college rounds, Erika Rech knew she wanted to attend a prestigious business school. Sure, it was a “must” for a career in finance, but Erika’s motivation was more than professional. Atop her list of priorities was an item that few teens ever have to address: How do I grow the nonprofit organization I’ve co-founded?

And atop her list of schools was one that could empower her to answer that question: the Villanova School of Business. Besides being a top-ranked school, VSB enjoyed the seal of approval of a foundation that would provide crisis intervention, she heard a pause on the other end of the phone. “How old are you?”

By tour’s end, the caliber of Villanova hires worked on Wall Street and raved about the Villanova School of Business that could empower her to answer that question: the Villanova School of Business that few teens ever have to address: How do I grow the nonprofit organization I’ve co-founded?

Villanova empowers visionary Erika Rech ’14 VSB to take her cause to a new level

By Suzanne Wentzel

Room to Grow

Villanova empowers visionary Erika Rech ’14 VSB to take her cause to a new level

By Suzanne Wentzel

Villanova has enabled Erika to advance a project she started at 15, after she received news no child wants to hear: her mother had stage 3 breast cancer. Six months later, one of her aunts learned she had stage 2. As Erika and her cousin Mike Ruane became involved in fundraisers that support cancer research, they couldn’t help wondering what was being done to assist breast cancer patients facing financial hardship. Erika and Mike caught the look in each other’s eyes. What are we waiting for?

However, when Erika called a lawyer to find out how to get 501(c)(3) status for a foundation that would provide crisis intervention, she heard a pause on the other end of the phone. “How old are you?”

Because they were minors, Erika and Mike appointed a board of directors to oversee the charity now known as Breast Intentions. They worked to get the nonprofit off the ground, waiting for the day they could legally share in the leadership of the cause that had become their passion.

Power building at Villanova

Heading up a nonprofit is no easy job, but Erika’s Villanova education has proved to be invaluable in helping her to grow into that role. Courses in financial management and reporting, competitive effectiveness and corporate responsibility have given her the skills to manage funds, develop marketing campaigns and solicit grants and donations.

“My classes have opened up a new world to me,” Erika says. “I’ve applied in real time the accounting principles, marketing tools and managerial techniques I’ve learned, which has helped us to grow the charity and operate it more efficiently.”

The outcomes have been impressive. Breast Intentions now has chapters in five states and has raised more than $750,000. Recently, Erika and Mike launched the Pink Pact Initiative to educate high schoolers about breast health.

A seize-the-day thinker, Erika credited Villanova with giving her the freedom to map out her future—and a plethora of avenues by which to do it. In her first two years, she studied for a summer in Italy; interned at Tullett Prebon; traveled to Silicon Valley; and managed investments for the Villanova Equity Society. Because the University has both challenged and equipped her to pursue her dreams, Erika has become more confident in her ability to think independently and create positive change.

“What I love about Villanova is that it never puts you into a mold,” she says. “You have the opportunity to do what you want to do, be who you want to be and take the path you want to take. No one forces you to achieve your goals. You have to make it happen.”

Pitch of a lifetime

Erika and Mike have received a slew of awards and been featured in national publications. In May, Erika was selected as the New York Yankees’ 2012 Honorary Bat Girl, a contest sponsored by Major League Baseball’s Going to Bat Against Breast Cancer initiative. On Mother’s Day, she pitched the ceremonial first pitch in Yankee Stadium on Mother’s Day, and above, on Villanova’s campus.

“I feel overwhelmed,” she says. “They’ve inspired me to persevere, especially when I feel overwhelmed,” she says. “They’ve taught me that my troubles are only a nuisance compared to those of other people. Villanova’s efforts to open students’ eyes to the importance of truth, unity and love have greatly impacted my work with the charity.”

For more information, visit www.breast-intentions.org.

“What I love about Villanova is that it never puts you into a mold.”
— Erika Rech

Left, 2012 Honorary Bat Girl Erika Rech ’14 VSB throws the first pitch in Yankee Stadium on Mother’s Day, and above, on Villanova’s campus.
When Ron Cruse first arrived on campus as a Villanova freshman in the fall of 1973, “I was a rarity,” he laughs. “I had an Oklahoma drawl and said ‘y’all’ a lot. My buddies from Long Island and North Jersey were fascinated.”

Leaving Oklahoma for the East Coast was the first step in what has become a career of successfully navigating new waters. The founder, president and CEO of Logenix International, a global logistics provider, has had a front row seat for nearly every world crisis since 1987.

The global entrepreneur has conducted business in more than 80 countries around the world—often at critical times in their histories. In 1992 he entered Russia just months after the collapse of the former Soviet Union, organizing one of the very first US-Russian joint venture companies—which quickly became the largest privately held freight forwarding operation in the new independent republics.

Logenix has assisted in the rebuilding of Afghanistan and reconstruction of Iraq and served as an integral facilitator supporting health and humanitarian assistance efforts across Africa and Asia.

Now Cruse is sharing those experiences with Villanova students. “He is a dedicated advocate of global business education who has contributed enormously to the programs and initiatives at VSB, and his personal involvement and experiences have been eye-opening for our students,” says Jonathan Doh, PhD, the Rammrath Chair in International Business and director of the Center for Global Leadership in the Villanova School of Business (VSB).

INTERNATIONAL ROOTS

Cruse gravitated toward a career that would take him out into the world. His mother was a Scottish war bride and member of the Women’s Royal Naval Service; his father an American captain of a landing craft that delivered Allied troops onto Omaha Beach on D-Day. People from all over the world visited the Cruse home. Cruse attended Cascia Hall, an Augustinian preparatory school in Tulsa, Okla., and “I liked it so much that Villanova seemed a natural extension of that experience.” He quickly felt he’d made the right choice. “My memories of Villanova are fabulous,” he says. “I strongly related to the Augustinian way—to be ambitious but at the same time down to earth, to enjoy life and do unto others as you’d like them to do unto you.”

At Villanova he honed his communication skills. “Nobody is successful in today’s world without learning how to interact well with others. Effective communication—especially when doing business in a different culture—is key to getting things done.”

He also learned organizational skills, according to good friend William Donnell ’77 VSB. “Ron became treasurer of our fraternity, and as an 18- or 19-year-old was managing a budget of $100,000 a year. He did a great job then—and he’s doing the same today, just on an international global scale.”

After graduation Cruse landed a job in the international shipping industry. Over the next 25 years he traveled the world and eventually built three successful multimillion-dollar companies.

HELPING VILLANOVA STUDENTS

During that time he realized how important it was for young people to gain international experience. (His son Alex “Bo” Cruse ’12 A&S studied in Greece this summer.)

He has written a book, Lies, Bribes and Peril: Lessons for the Real Challenges of International Business, and established The Cruse Endowed International Fellowships at Villanova, which enable undergraduates in VSB and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to participate in nontraditional global work and study opportunities, with an emphasis on destinations in the developing and emerging regions of the world. This year’s recipient, Casey Richards ’14 A&S, spent the summer with the State Department’s Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Cruse says, “It’s an international marketplace—we’re all tied together now. To help students understand that is meaningful to me.”

“I strongly related to the Augustinian way—to be ambitious but at the same time down to earth, to enjoy life and do unto others as you’d like them to do unto you.”

— RON CRUSE

By Jennifer Schu
From a young age, Philip Burnham ’13 A&S recognized that the true value of education was not simply acquiring knowledge, rather the pursuit of the bigger questions. But it was at Villanova that he learned the true benefit of a liberal arts education: helping the world. That’s what transforms knowledge into rare insight. “We not only need to seek knowledge to attain it, but find a way to use that knowledge to aid people in some way, especially those who don’t have resources to do so themselves,” says Philip.

He traces his passion for science back to a visit to Stonehenge with his family. Philip was six years old and, like so many before him, wondered how the massive stones had come to rest there. Unlike many tourists, Philip didn’t simply move on to the next landmark. He bought armloads of books about Stonehenge and spent the rest of the vacation pondering the wonders of the world, places where culture and science intersect.

“It was my first experience as a scientist researching, and after that day I knew that was what I wanted to do in life,” says Philip, a double major in Mathematics and Physics whose family lives in Minnesota.

CHAIN REACTION
His stepfather is president of the Science Museum of Minnesota and shares Philip’s love of culture and science. A Cherokee national storyteller, his stepfather spins traditional creation myths for audiences while weaving baskets, and as the craft and story take shape, he explains the geometry of the basket.

“It really hits the nail on the head that higher math concepts are integral, even in cultures not exposed to Western thought,” Philip says. He believes it provides a model for how to introduce math and science into a culture without undercutting the traditions essential to the people.

Villanova’s emphasis on professor-student relationships and the atmosphere of social justice has also provided a fertile ground for Philip. Under the guidance of faculty like Georgia Papaefthymiou-Davis, PhD, professor of Physics, he has embarked on a path in scientific inquiry and research that he was so eager to explore during his undergraduate education.

“Despite a busy class schedule he always found time to pursue independent work, even if that meant starting his day very early in the morning or working late in the evening or over the weekend,” she says.

EUREKA EFFECT
Philip started a new experimental area in Dr. Papaefthymiou-Davis’ laboratory involving the synthesis and characterization of magnetic nanoparticles for applications in biotechnology and bio-medicine. In August, he presented the results at the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society. As lofty as that research sounds, Philip also has the gift to distill complex scientific information to simple fundamental principles and tailor his presentation to a target audience.

While working in the physics lab, he noticed that many things are used once, even though they could be used again. He hopes to create an organization to allow labs around the country to donate gently used lab equipment to underfunded schools to increase science literacy. Ultimately, it could inspire students to seek further education in science and engineering, and they will, in turn, inspire others to follow their path into science.

He believes it is a model that can be expanded internationally. “If we bring them into the 21st century and help them with tools and resources, they can be agents of change in their own countries,” he says.

“‘We not only need to seek knowledge to attain it, but find a way to use that knowledge to aid people in some way, especially those who don’t have resources to do so themselves.’”

—PHILIP BURNHAM

BY
SHAWN PROCTOR
BACKING THE BEST

University medal honors extraordinary contributors to Catholic intellectual tradition

>> By Suzanne Wentzel

Medals are powerful, lump-in-the-throat symbols. It doesn’t matter if they’re gold or tin, handcrafted or sold in bulk, presented in the Oval Office or at a 5K finish. Medals acknowledge those whose deeds set them apart, and once they’re pinned to a lapel, they announce to the world: Here is greatness. But medals also say something about the giver. They reveal what the institution believes in and stands for. More than that, they point to the institution’s credibility. A medal has value because its backer has value, not to mention authority and expertise.

CORNERSTONE OF THE COMMUNITY

It’s only natural, then, that Villanova is the creator and giver of the new Civitas Dei (“City of God”) Medal. Conceived of by Barbara Wall, PhD, vice president for Mission and Ministry, the medal is intended to recognize Catholics who through their life’s work have made extraordinary contributions to the Catholic intellectual tradition and the pursuit of truth, beauty and goodness.

The University applauds these traits in others because it demands them of itself. For 170 years, Villanova has upheld and advanced the Catholic intellectual tradition—a tradition that encompasses the work of theologians and philosophers, poets and painters, dreamers and dissidents.

“Over the centuries, Catholics have reflected their relationship with God through their thought, writings and artistry,” Dr. Wall explains. “Their work helps us to understand God’s presence and activity in the world.”

Not surprisingly, Augustine looms large within this illustrious crowd. In his search for truth, Augustine wrestled with the culture of his day. He articulated his commitment to this engagement between Church and world in his massive work The City of God (hence, the medal’s name).

In fact, the Catholic intellectual tradition bears a distinctively Augustinian stamp. It emphasizes that faith and reason can engage in significant, fruitful conversations. As an Augustinian university, Villanova has made Augustine’s vision the cornerstone of its academic community.

“We use the lens of faith to see how the world can be improved, ennobled and humanized,” says Thomas Smith, PhD, professor, Political Science and Humanities, and the Anne Quinn Welsh Endowed Chair and Director of the Honors Program. “We ask, ‘How can we convey a sense of the meaning and purpose of human life and of the world in a way that lifts the world up?’”

AND THE WINNER IS...

Once the medal’s criteria were approved, a Mission and Ministry subcommittee identified possible recipients. One name rose to the top: Alasdair Maclntyre, professor emeritus, University of Notre Dame. His may not be a household name, but the Scottish-born convert to Catholicism is a towering figure in modern moral philosophy and political theory. Maclntyre’s thought has influenced thousands of scholars and affirmed Catholic universities as places where faculty and students have the freedom and resources to seek the fullness of truth.

“I can’t think of a better recipient for this medal,” says Peter Wicks, PhD, Catherine of Siena Fellow in the Ethics Program. “He has not only contributed to the Catholic intellectual tradition, but he has also helped many of us to think about what that tradition is.”

Dr. Wicks and Smith were among the Notre Dame-educated Villanova faculty who spoke at the inaugural presentation of the Civitas Dei Medal Sept. 27 in the Connelly Center. Michael Moreland, JD, PhD, vice dean, Villanova University School of Law, and John Doody, PhD, Robert M. Birminghame a lecture titled “Catholic Rather Than What?” At a reception following the ceremony, guests had the chance to speak with the honoree.

GROWING THE TRADITION

This latest innovation by Mission and Ministry typifies the creative ways in which the office retrieves and renews the University’s Augustinian heritage. Through conferences, workshops, lectures, service break experiences, retreats and special events, Villanovans have the opportunity to learn about the tradition and, more important, become bearers of it.

We try to make it impossible for someone on this campus not to know the Catholic intellectual tradition,” Dr. Wall says. “We believe it has the power to make a difference in the world, even today.”
Villanova’s women’s swimming program brings an international touch to campus.  By Jennifer Schu

Du Plessis ’12 A&S will never forget her first swim practice at Villanova. Neither will her coach.

She had arrived on campus the previous night after a grueling 30-hour trip from her hometown of Boksburg, South Africa. Barely able to keep her eyes open, she stood on the pool deck at 6 a.m., ready for a two-hour workout. Immediately afterwards she was off to five hours of classes.

“Today the day I told her, ‘I don’t know how you just did that,’” recalls Villanova men’s and women’s head swim coach Rick Simpson.

“I had to fall into the routine. That’s how I felt when I was homesick or had trouble with schoolwork.”

Du Plessis adds, “There are a lot of cultural differences, so you take it one step at a time. You have to be willing to open up to new things.”

**Wildcat pride**

For Roxanne “Roxy” Timmidge ’13 A&S, who earned All BIG-EAST accolades in 2012, coming to Villanova meant an opportunity to keep swimming competitively while getting an education: “In South Africa, you can’t swim for a university because we don’t have a club team,” she explains. “My South African coach had come to America to swim back in the 80s, and said it was an opportunity I should consider.”

She says she chose Villanova for its size, academics, up-and-coming swim team and strong middle distance/distance program. In addition to swimming for Villanova, Roxy has competed in the World University Games and—with Villanova teammate Natalie Elphick ’13 A&S—the All-Africa Games.

“I love so much about this school. The professors here are amazing and truly care about you as a person,” Roxy says. “The team truly becomes your family. It’s so exciting. You’re no longer swimming for yourself but for your school, and that’s a real motivator.”

Indeed, school pride means a lot to the swimmers. “I love being part of the greater Villanova community, because we aren’t just athletes—we’re student-athletes,” Erin says. “When we represent Nova Nation as Wildcats, we also represent Villanova as a university. Embracing the values of the school has become very important to me.”

In addition to doing well in both athletic and academic endeavors, “our athletes become very involved in the Villanova community,” Simpson says. They participate in service initiatives like the St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service. Du Plessis was active with Back on My Feet, going on regular runs with people experiencing homelessness. Erin is a founding member of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences’ BRIDGE society, which builds relationships among students and alumni in the Arts and Sciences.

On that very first day, Du Plessis set the tone for a successful career at Villanova that included breaking a 19-year-old school record in the 100-meter backstroke. She also made her mark on campus as a double major in Political Science and Global Interdisciplinary Studies, a Candidates’ Day speaker and co-president of the International Students’ Association. Today she works near New York’s Rockefeller Center Manhattan, from which NBC’s Today show is broadcast. And she has big plans for highlighting her alma mater.

“One day soon I’m going to stand outside that big glass window where people hold up signs so they’ll show up on camera,” she laughs. “And I’m going to hold up a Villanova Swim Team sign!”

Yolana Du Plessis shattered the Wildcats’ record in the 100 backstroke. She is one of the international swimmers who have made an impact in and out of the pool.
No matter how many years you’ve been out of college, you never quite forget the frenzy of those last days before finals. Sleep-deprived, over-caffeinated students keep company through the night in Falvey Memorial Library. Professors scramble to grade papers and projects. Staff members redouble their efforts to pilot the University to a safe landing.

It is during this stretch that folks on campus especially need a reason to pause, still their hearts and refocus. And the Christmas tree that lights up the center of campus each December evening gives them the excuse to do that.

Its multicolored nimbus arrests even the most distracted passersby, drawing their gazes, and their thoughts, heavenward. Aah. Life is more than calculus and Shakespeare.

No matter what their faith tradition or cultural background is, Villanovans cherish the custom of having a decorated tree on campus—and the festivities that surround it. At the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 3, the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 A&S, University president, and other Villanovans gathered around the tree to fill the night air with carols.

Planted outside the Connelly Center two years ago, the latest tree to serve this noble purpose is a young fir that stands a modest 15 feet tall. Nonetheless, its youthfulness promises greatness. Green with life, afire with light, the tree is a herald of hope. It reminds students to be what Villanova alumni already are: light for a world that too often slumbers in darkness—the light that is the Christ Child.

He Who fills the world lay in a manger, great in the form of God but tiny in the form of a servant; this was in such a way that neither was His greatness diminished by His tininess, nor was His tininess overcome by His greatness.

—St. Augustine, Sermon 187
Brian Muscarella ’80 VSB, president of the Charlotte Chapter of the Villanova University Alumni Association always wore his Villanova spirit proudly. But when he needed it most, he learned just how strong those Villanova ties really are.

March 23, 2011 began like so many other days for Muscarella and his wife, Carol, and their two daughters, Leigh and Laura. But a spinal stroke—described by the doctor as a “freak act of nature”—rendered Muscarella, then 53, paralyzed from his neck down. Suddenly a man who had competed in four New York City Marathons could no longer sit up or move his legs.

“It was a very devastating injury. My mind was reeling from the diagnosis,” he recalls. “My life went from traveling every day as managing director for New York Life and balancing a busy family life in Charlotte to fighting every day to do tasks we take for granted.”

It was a challenging time for the Muscarella family, but he saw an overwhelming rush of support from friends, family and the Villanova community. They visited him in the hospital every day. Once he had been discharged from the hospital, they drove him for the next year to outpatient services and physical rehabilitation at Carolinas Rehabilitation Center. Others provided meals or care packages to the family. Many more sent emails and texts to bolster his spirit while he worked on repairing his body.

“At Villanova I was part of a community. I still am,” he says. “I will never give up and never surrender because of the support I have gotten from the network of Villanovans.”

STRONG VILLANOVA BONDS
In the past 21 months, Muscarella has made significant progress. He has recovered muscle movement, but is still numb from the paralysis. He plays wheelchair rugby and participated in a 180-mile bike ride to raise funds for the Adaptive Sports and Adventures Programs at the rehab facility he attends. The minimum fundraising goal was $1,000; Muscarella and “Team Freak” raised more than $20,000.

“For me, it’s never been a choice. It has only been when I will walk again, not if. My family and dear friends have selflessly given their time and energy to my cause: I bring it every day to honor them,” he says.

That attitude reflects the same dedication that Muscarella displayed as a leadership council member of the Charlotte Chapter of the Alumni Association for 12 years where he raises money for student scholarships, hosts students on trips with Habitat for Humanity, welcomes new members of the Villanova community at New Student Receptions and engages alumni in his region as well in New York, where he worked.

It also reflects the strong marketing skills he learned at the Villanova School of Business as well as the spirit of service he developed as a Villanova student.

“It has been and continues to be a humbling yet rewarding experience,” he says. “No matter the obstacles ahead, I will never be alone. My heart is full, my eyes are clear and my faith is resolute.”

The Power of Community
Brian Muscarella ’80 VSB Finds – and GIVES – Strength in Villanova Community
THOUSANDS OF UNIVERSITY ALUMNI, FAMILY AND FRIENDS RETURNED TO CAMPUS FOR HOMECOMING 2012, HELD OCT. 23-27, CONTINUING A TRADITION OF VILLANOVIANS COMING TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THEIR CONNECTION TO THE SCHOOL AND ONE ANOTHER THROUGH FOOD, DRINK AND ENTERTAINMENT.

“I HAD A FANTASTIC COLLEGE EXPERIENCE AND LOVE TO COME BACK,” SAYS LUCILLE BELL ’11 COE, A PHARMACEUTICAL ENGINEER IN UPSTATE NEW YORK. “IT’S A PERFECT CHANCE TO SEE EVERYONE WHO I BONDED WITH OVER MY YEARS AT VILLANOVA.”

And for some, it was an opportunity to share a connection to their treasured past. Sarah Klein-Harris ’09 CON, who works as an oncology nurse in Baltimore, came to homecoming to introduce her boyfriend to her alma mater. “It has opened many doors for my career. It laid a solid foundation as I work toward getting my master’s,” she says. “I am proud to be a Villanova alumna, part of a proud Villanova family.”

At the Homecoming Festival, Villanovans celebrated their cherished college memories and created new ones.

VILLANOVA: A PLACE WE CALL HOME

BY SHAWN PROCTOR

Remember to save the date for next year’s Homecoming, which will be held Oct. 25-27, 2013. Visit alumni.villanova.edu for more information.
Villanova Reflects on “Back & Black” Homecoming Highlights

President’s Club Reception Celebrates Villanova as International Community

Villanova impacted the world directly as a result of the support provided to campus, and at the President’s Club Reception, held Oct. 26 in the Connelly Center, that international impact was on display.

Attendees were invited to enjoy international cuisine and view a special collection of icons from around the world as curated by the Rev. Richard Cannuli, OSA, MFA, ’73 A&S. Afterward, they watched a video highlighting the University’s positive global influence.

In keeping with the spirit of the evening Mike O’Neill, vice president for University Advancement, announced a $1 million gift had been given to the College of Nursing, in support of education.  

Volunteer Leader Awards 2012

Alumni volunteers received the red carpet treatment at the 2012 “NOVA Awards” held Oct. 27 at the Radnor Valley Country Club. The awards ceremony followed the Volunteer Leaders Conference to recognize the outstanding contributions of Villanova’s alumni.

The Chapter President Recognition was awarded to Joe Troy ’82 VSB, president of the Tampa Bay Chapter, Mike Gigliotti ’70 A&S (2011) and Beth ’61 VSB (2011) earned the Reunion Chairman Awards; Rick Stieber ’60 COE from the Philadelphia Chapter, and Ed Neville ’65 A&S, president of the Orange County Chapter, and Ed Neville ’65 A&S, president of the Houston Chapter. The Chicago Chapter was awarded the Rev. Owen “Ray” Jackson, OSA, ’61 Community Service Award; Mike Gigliotti ’70 A&S (2011) and Beth Toolen ’87 VSB (2012) earned the Goodwill Ambassador Award; Jerry Quinn ’87, Greater D.C. Chapter co-president, earned the Leadership Award; Rick Steiber ’60 COE from the Charlotte Chapter garnered the Distinguished Service Award; and Joe Martini ’61 VSB (2011) and Jim McMonagle ’62 COE (2012) earned the Reunion Volunteer Service Award.

“Villanova thanks you for your contributions, hard work and dedication,” Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 A&S told attendees.

The keynote address was given by Brian Musacchia ’80 VSB, Charlotte Chapter president.

The awards ceremony followed the VLC where alumni volunteer leaders attended workshops on event planning, among other topics.

The Alumni Board Directors held their quarterly meeting and alumni leaders shared best practices and creative ideas.

1950s

CLASS OF 1953
60th Reunion
June 6-9, 2013
CLASS OF 1958
55th Reunion
June 6-9, 2013
Robert Natiello ’52 A&S has published a book of collected fiction and nonfiction stories, The Almost Perfect Crime and Other Award Winning Stories of New York. Four of the stories have been nominated for national Pushcart Prizes. “Dog Fight” won first prize in Manhattan Media’s Summer Fiction Contest.

1960s

CLASS OF 1963
50th Reunion
June 6-9, 2013
CLASS OF 1968
45th Reunion
June 6-9, 2013
James O’Donnell ’63 VSB has joined the board of DSLV Inc. and will serve on the technology committee. He is a member of the Villanova University Board of Trustees.

Wally Jones ’64 VSB was inducted into the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame Nov. 8, 2012. He started for the Wild-cats from 1961-1964 and is a member of the Philadelphia Big Five Hall of Fame. Jones’ number 24 jersey was retired in 1995 and hangs in the rafters of the Pavilion at Villanova University.

Charles Buechel Jr., Esq., ’69 VSB led the White and Case LLP office in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Jerome Curtis, PE, ’75 COE has retired from the US Environmental Protection Agency after 32 years of federal service as an environmental engineer.


Jean Ruttenberg ’76 MA has been elected to the Pennsylvania Association for Justice and was a delegate representing the state entity for AAJ from 1997 until 2012. He is a partner at Locks Law Firm in Philadelphia.

William Liedesti ’77 VSB was named senior vice president, director of Operations and Technology at Chelsea Groton Bank in Groton, Conn.

CLASS OF 1978
35th Reunion
June 6-9, 2013
Richard Dyer, Esq., ’70 COE, ’74 VLS was honored by the 2012 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business for his excellence in the field of construction law. He is a partner at the Duane Morris LLP office in New York.

Richard W. Cohen, MD, ’72 MA was inducted into the Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame May 21, 2012.

Gerald Hemphost ’72 A&S was ordained to the order of the Permanent Diaconate for the Diocese of Orlando by Bishop John Gerald Noonan at St. James Cathedral in Orlando, Fla. Hemphost received a Masters of Theology from Saint Leo Univer-sity in May 2012.

Herbert Sufleck Jr., Esq., ’73 A&S was named partner at the Curtin & Heather LLP office in Morrisville, Pa.

Marc P. Weingarten ’76 VLS has been elected to the American Association for Justice (AAJ) Board of Governors for a three-year term. He also served on the Board of Governors for the Pennsylvania Association for Justice and was a delegate representing the state entity for AAJ from 1997 until 2012. He is a partner at Locks Law Firm in Philadelphia.

Irvin Schorsch ’77 VSB is a regular contributor to The Dr. Oz Show and The Huffington Post.

Joseph Viscuso, PE, PLS, ’77 MCE accepted a position as vice president and chief operating officer of the West Chester, Pa. office of Pennoni Associates.

James Kunard, PE, ’79 COE was promoted to director of facilities services for the school district of Palm Beach County in Florida.

CLASS OF 1983
25th Reunion
June 6-9, 2013
George Kroculik, Esq., ’80 A&S, ’83 VLS was honored by...
CLASS NOTES

the 2012 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business for his excellence in the field of real estate law. Krueckel is a partner at the Duane Morris LLP office in Philadelphia.

Susan Stableh-Haas ’80 CON, ’85 MSN published the book, Fast Facts for the Student Nurse: Nursing Student Success in a Nutshell. Stableh-Haas is an adjunct instructor at the Villanova University School of Nursing.


Brendan Canavan ’82 VLS has been promoted to president of the UPS Asia Pacific region.

Annemarie Urbaino Schieber ’82 A&S accepted a position as senior investigative analyst at the MuckRock Center for Public Policy in Michigan.

Geeta Dabir ’83 MS has been named Business Insider’s 25 Most Powerful Women in State College, Pa.


Jennifer O’Rourke Tiffen, PhD, ’95 A&S, ’98 VLS was selected as a Connecticut Super Lawyer for Business Litigation in 2011 and 2012.

Krueckel says, “We carry Villanova’s sense of community in our business practices by supporting local charities and events.”
2012. Gianetti was elected to the board of directors for the Legal Aid Section of the New Jersey School Board Association.

Eileen Kelly Keefe, Esq., ’00 A&S, ’04 VLS has been named to the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers—Rising Stars list as one of the top up-and-coming attorneys in Pennsylvania. In 2012, Keefe is an associate at Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel, LLP in Philadelphia.

Amaryl Kaye Blake ’00 A&S was named the employee of the year by the Colorado Association of State Transit Agencies. She is the multi-modal transportation director for the City of Aurora.

Elizabeth Schaefer McClave ’00 VSB and Chris McClave ’01 VSB welcomed a girl.

Marionne Connolly Lauber ’01 A&S, ’07 MS welcomed a girl.

Marissa Deitch ’01 MS was promoted to senior manager of community relations and employment at the Maryland Pottawatomie Tribe.

Kristin Suga Heres ’01 A&S welcomed a girl.

Jennifer Lukach Bradley ’99 A&S, ’09 A&S, ’06 MS was awared a Doctorate of Nursing Practice from Florida Atlantic University.


Mary Nell Lacivita Murphy ’99 A&S has been named to the executive advisory board of the Greater Wildwood Tourism Improvement and Development Authority as a business representative for Wildwood Crest, N.J. She is the marketing and finance director for the Adventurer Oceanfront Inn in Wildwood Crest.

Peter Oliver, Esq., ’98 VSB welcomed a boy.

Michael W. Cardamone, Esq., ’99 VLS has been named to the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers—Rising Star for the fourth year in a row. He is an attorney and manager of the Blue Bell, Pa., office for Krasno, Orey, Osborn & Maley.

Traci Hawkins ’00 A&S welcomed a boy.

Leah MacKenzie Patterson ’00 A&S and Frank Paasch ’02 A&S welcomed a girl.

Michael Stonehouse ’00 A&S welcomed a boy.

John Iannozzi, Esq., ’01 A&S, ’04 VLS promoted to director of Business Development at Broadstreet Gourmet in Boston.

Jennifer Montgomery ’01 A&S welcomed a girl.

Joshua L. Gayl ’06 VLS accepted a position as an attorney at the law firm of Burns White, LLC in Chester Springs, Pa.

Michael Danko ’00 VSB welcomed a boy.

Kristin DeRuggerio Molavacque, Esq., ’00 A&S has been named to the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers—Rising Stars list as one of the top up-and-coming attorneys for 2012. Molavacque is an attorney at McElree Harvey in Chester County, Pa.

Craig Gianetti, Esq., ’00 VSB was selected as a Rising Star in the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers—Rising Star for 2012. Gianetti was elected to the board of directors for the Legal Aid Section of the New Jersey School Board Association.

Eileen Kelly Keefe, Esq., ’00 A&S, ’04 VLS has been named to the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers—Rising Stars list as one of the top up-and-coming attorneys in Pennsylvania. In 2012, Keefe is an associate at Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel, LLP in Philadelphia.

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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 to alumni@villanova.edu, via Nova Network (www.alumniconnections.com/villanova) or by mail to Kate Wechsler, Villanova Magazine, Alumni Office, Garey Hall, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085. Digital photos should be 300 dpi jpeg or tiff format, and at least 3 x 5 inches. (Please note that we are no longer accepting handwritten.) Villanova University reserves complete editorial rights to all content submitted for Class Notes, and posts and publishes listings in as timely a fashion as possible at our discretion. All Class Notes may also be posted on Nova Network. Reasonable steps are taken to verify the accuracy of the information submitted, but the University cannot guarantee the accuracy of all submissions. Publication of achievements or milestones does not constitute endorsement by Villanova University.

Class Notes

In Memoriam

1940s


Joseph W. Parker ’42 COE, July 26, 2012.


Albert E. "Bert" Wareikis ’64 CON, July 4, 2012.


Elizabeth S. Wallace ’69 MS, Sept. 5, 2012.

Murray was a for-
Tell us about your charity, Brian’s blessings. Our goal is to build a community center that serves as a hub for athletics and schoolwork and is a place where kids can learn a trade so they can be successful in life. I’ve been blessed to have people to help me along the way. It would be disappointing if I didn’t give back.

Did Villanova inspire you to give back? Coach Andy Talley always told us: “It’s nice to be important, but more important to be nice.” Villanova compels you to do more and to find some way of giving back. Being involved with Special Olympics became a highlight of my time at Villanova.

How did Villanova shape your character? At Villanova, you are held to a higher standard. That builds character. Being around professors, coaches, students, your character develops into something better. There is a saying about the older you get, the more your parents know. It’s the same thing with education. The further you get from your school days, the more you realize how much you gained in college. My Villanova experience continues to help me to grow, and I appreciate it more and more.

How does being an alumnus make you feel? Very proud! When people ask me what college I attended and I say Villanova, some are surprised that student athletes—with the emphasis on students—come from here. It shows the high academic regard people hold Villanova in. Villanova has a tradition that you leave things better than you found them—a tradition of people like Brian Finneran and Howie Long. That tradition is important to me. When I talk about Villanova, I say I enjoyed it, met great people and received the foundation I needed to be successful in life.

What was your proudest Villanova moment? Winning the Payton Award my senior year. It was a culmination of everything I’d learned about hard work, discipline, dedication, study—all those lessons from family and coaches. It was a great feeling as an individual award, but so many teammates, coaches, teachers and other people contributed to that success.

What was most rewarding about the NFL? Being able to fulfill a lifetime dream. Any time that you get to the highest level of whatever you do, it’s rewarding. It was a blessing and honor to do for nine years.

Describe the transition to TV analyst. When I was playing, I focused on playing. I put every minute into being successful. Now that I am in media, I put all my effort into becoming better at that craft. I am excited to have the opportunity to be on TV and use my Villanova education to explain the game and express myself.

SNAPSHOT

Legendary running back Brian Westbrook’s philosophy that hard work, dedication and self-discipline lead to success has served him on the gridiron and in philanthropy.

WILDCATS CAREER

Years: 1997-2001; Records at graduation: 41 school records, 19 conference records, 5 NCAA records

Accomplishments: Walter Payton Award, first team All-American honors (three seasons), jersey retired

NFL CAREER

Seasons: 9; Eagles franchise records: Leader in total yards from scrimmage (9,785) and touchdowns (1,734)

Accomplishments: Two-time Pro Bowl selection, 2007 NFL Alumni Running Back of the Year

To read more of Brian’s interview, visit gtichangegonova.com

THE VILLANOVA ATHLETIC FUND IS CALLING ON WILDCAT FANS TO SUPPORT THEIR FAVORITE TEAM.

Make a minimum gift of $50 ($25 for young alumni: 2008-12) to help your favorite Villanova athletic program win a $10,000 gift.

Gifts will be awarded to the programs with the highest percentage increase in the number of overall donors and the highest percentage increase in dollars.

Make your gift at SupportVillanovaAthletics.com
1. Catch up at Class Parties.
2. Enjoy activities for all ages at the Family Picnic.
3. Learn to cook like a pro from a Villanova chef.
4. Celebrate with receptions for classes ending in 3 or 8.
5. Revel at the Supernova dinner dance.
6. Go back to class at Reunion University.
7. Tour the campus.
8. Reconnect with friends.
10. Ignite memories!

JUNE 6–9, 2013

Come back to campus for Reunion 2013 from June 6 to 9. Everyone is welcome - so tell your friends and see who’s coming on class Facebook pages and the NovaNetwork.

Visit alumni.villanova.edu