Lifetimes of Success

Grateful to Make a Difference

Plus:

ST. JOHN’S BREAD AND LIFE
DEAN MARY C. DALY
NEW ROME CAMPUS
11TH ANNUAL PRESIDENT’S DINNER
The Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf=Astoria was ablaze in St. John’s red as nearly 1,100 friends of the University gathered for the 11th Annual President’s Dinner, raising over $2.1 million for student scholarships.
Dear Friends,

By now you are well aware of the wide-ranging impact that the current economic downturn has had on nearly every segment of our society. Although St. John’s University has not been immune from the effects of this period of financial uncertainty, I would like to share some of the proactive initiatives that we have undertaken to minimize its effects on our University family.

To help alumni facing unemployment, St. John’s has instituted the Alumni Assistance Program, designed to offer graduates who have lost their jobs during the past six months an opportunity to enroll for a graduate degree at a 50% reduction in tuition. Accepted students will continue to receive the lower tuition rate until they have completed their degree or two years of their program, whichever comes first. Another component of the program offers career development assistance through the Career Center. Almost 200 alumni have inquired about the program to date, and many have attended the eight information/counseling sessions held in December and January. Additional information is available at www.stjohns.edu/alumni/assistance.

We have also embarked upon strategies to ensure that our financial position remains strong and we can maintain the highest excellence in the educational programs and services that we provide for students. We are monitoring the budget even more closely than usual. All units have reduced discretionary spending, several capital projects have been delayed, an additional review has been initiated for new hires so that only the most essential open positions are filled and recruitment and retention indicators are being watched so as to maximize enrollment opportunities.

I am happy to report that enrollment for the Spring 2009 semester is positive, with a slight increase in both undergraduate and graduate students over last year. Applications for Fall 2009 are up as well, and we will work diligently to convert as many of our most talented applicants into admitted students as possible.

Finally, as would be expected during a period of economic instability, our fundraising income is lower than in previous years. I am grateful to each of our loyal donors and special friends who have made a commitment to continue their support of alma mater during these trying times.

In summary, St. John’s remains stable and, more than ever before, committed to our mission of providing a quality education to those among us whose needs are great. Our future remains bright and I am certain that, working together, we will continue to turn our challenges into opportunities and our opportunities into success.

Donald J. Harrington, C.M.
President
FEATURES

Peter (’78MBA, ’06HON) and Margaret D’Angelo ’70Ed joyfully share their blessings with alma mater in a lasting legacy of love.

St. John’s Bread and Life offers hope to those among us whose needs are great.

The University mourns the passing of St. John’s School of Law Dean Mary C. Daly.

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Our students are grateful for what you do for them, and so are we.

For more information, visit www.stjohns.edu/annualcontributor
 Freshman Class Breaks Records

The Fall 2008 semester saw the University’s largest freshman class in its 138-year history. St. John’s enrolled an all time high of 3,268 new students, a 3.4% increase over the previous year. Applications increased by an unprecedented 47.6%, with 40,970 potential students applying compared to 27,754 in 2007.

University Provost Julia A. Upton, RSM, Ph.D. ’73G, ’75G said the numbers indicate the growing awareness of St. John’s as a premier institution of higher learning. “As a Catholic university in New York City, St. John’s offers opportunities to learn and grow that few universities can match,” Dr. Upton said. “Our students become ethical leaders through an education of remarkable academic breadth and quality, outstanding technological resources and a focus on service.”

Beth M. Evans, Associate Vice President and Executive Director of Enrollment Management, said St. John’s has done an exceptional job in getting the word out to potential students. “Without question, we have a wonderful message,” she said. “And we’re working harder than ever to share that message with college-bound students across the country and around the world.”

Evans said that the Office of Admission has worked hard to expand its outreach to the pool of potential students with mailings and increased participation in college fairs. The University also hosts Open Houses, an “overnight experience” in the Residence Halls and a “Student for a Day” program where participants spend an entire day attending classes, going to events and interacting with enrolled students over meals in campus dining halls.

Help During Trying Times

Mindful of the economic downturn, St. John’s University has launched the Alumni Assistance Program for those who have lost their jobs within the past six months.

“The Alumni are forever part of our St. John’s Community,” said St. John’s University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M. “Today we reach out to them in the spirit of caring and concern that has always been central to our University’s mission with what we trust will be meaningful assistance during these difficult times.”

The program offers alumni the opportunity to further their education with a 50% tuition discount for graduate programs, with the exception of the School of Law. Alumni who have been laid off within the past six months and enroll in a degree program in either the spring or summer of 2009 can obtain a graduate degree at half the cost. The discount is effective for up to two years and the University will waive the application fee.

Participants in the Alumni Assistance Program will also have access to the resources of the University’s Career Center, which provides a list of available jobs and will work with alumni in identifying their professional strengths and attributes to find the best fit and to succeed during the interview process. The Career Center also works with alumni who are in need of qualified employees in their own professional areas and provides networking tools, helping to connect more than 150,000 alumni with similar professional expertise. Career, Academic and Financial Aid counselors are also available to provide assistance in several key areas including: choosing a graduate program, identifying possible career changes, honing their interviewing skills and updating their resumes.

To learn more about career opportunities available to alumni, please visit the Career Center website (www.stjohns.edu/services/career/alumni) or contact Laura Smith at (718) 990-1322. Alumni interested in posting job opportunities should contact Jennifer Friary at (718) 990-1321, or by e-mail to friaryj@stjohns.edu
St. John’s University celebrated its 15th Annual Founder’s Week during the last week of January. Events throughout the week reflected the theme “Vincentian Transformation: Changing Hearts; Creating Peace” and stressed the importance of following in the footsteps of St. Vincent de Paul. The University community was urged to allow themselves to be transformed by God’s love while living lives of virtue to alleviate poverty and the sufferings of the poor.

This special week featured events on all campuses, including a commemorative Mass celebrating the founding of the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians) by St. Vincent de Paul in 1625.

During the commemorative Mass on the Queens campus, celebrated by Very Rev. Michael J. Carroll, C.M. ’09HON, Provincial Superior of the Eastern Province of the Congregation of the Mission and member of the University’s Board of Trustees, St. John’s President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M., recognized and blessed 240 students who embodied the University’s mission of service, respect and compassion during the past year.

Prominent lecturers who have devoted their lives to making a difference for others were featured in various presentations throughout the week. Major General Joseph A. McNeil, L.L.D visited both the Queens and Staten Island campuses to reflect on his experience as he and three other students staged a non-violent sit-in at the F.W. Woolworth’s “whites only” lunch counter in 1960 to protest racial segregation throughout the South.

Mary Halpin, President of World Youth Alliance, discussed her efforts to foster human rights and suggest ways in which today’s young people can be involved in shaping the future to include all segments of our society.

A traditional event of Founder’s Week is the Vincentian Chair of Social Justice Lecture. This year’s presentation was delivered to the University community by Patricia de Nava, past President of the Ladies of Charity/International Association of Charity and a member of the Vincentian Commission for Promoting Systemic Change. Ms. de Nava reminded everyone that “St. Vincent was a forerunner of lobbying for the poor. It is a Christian duty to create more just social structures.”

Founder’s Week concluded with the Vincentian Convocation, during which a number of exceptional individuals were honored for their outstanding work in the service of those upon whom society has turned its back. During his Convocation remarks Fr. Harrington stated that he had “reason for great hope. Vincent de Paul called us to believe and embody the gospel, and not just to think about service to the poor but to effect service to the poor. Tonight’s honorees are truly the faces of Vincent.”

This year’s Founder’s Week theme was an unquestionable reminder that change is indeed possible, but that if we are to transform others we must first be willing to transform ourselves by living zealously to embrace the Vincentian values of caring and compassion for the abandoned and marginalized among us.

Convocation Honorees
- Larry W. Boone, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Management, St. John’s The Peter J. Tobin College of Business
- Alexis Torres Fleming, Founder and Executive Director, Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice
- Jean Kelly, Executive Director, The Interfaith Nutrition Network
- Joseph Flannigan, National President, Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Midnight Run, Inc., accepted by Dale Williams, Executive Director
- Lisa Kurbiel, DPKO SMART, Programme Manager, UN Department of Field Support
- Patricia de Nava, Liaison from the Association of International Charity (AIC) to the Vincentian Family
- Very Rev. Michael J. Carroll, C.M. ’09HON, Provincial Superior, Eastern Province of the Congregation of the Mission
Another Successful Service Day

A St. John’s tradition continued to grow as the Seventh Annual Service Day held in September attracted about 1,500 volunteers who gave of their time in the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul.

Participants traveled throughout New York City, Nassau and Suffolk counties to volunteer at various locations including a hospital, senior center and early childhood development center. The groups included alumni, students, faculty, administrators and staff who all took time out of their busy schedules to give back. In keeping with St. John’s ever growing global presence, volunteers also served at sites in Rome, Paris, Dublin and Salamanca, Spain. “Our identity as one University community was celebrated in our common act of caring for others,” said Rev. Patrick Griffin, C.M., Executive Vice President for Mission and Branch Campuses at St. John’s. “And it is not just those whom we visit who profit from the efforts. We profit as well because the service brings to the surface that which is best within each of us—our generosity, our care, our patience, our understanding and our love.”

On the eve of Service Day, 200 students attended a prayer vigil held in St. Thomas More Church on the Queens campus where Rev. Griffin asked the students to reflect on ‘why we serve.’ Following the service, attendees signed the Vincentian Service Covenant, marking a commitment to include service in their lives, beginning with Service Day, but lasting a lifetime. On each campus, volunteers gathered together on the morning of Service Day for a Prayer Service before heading out to the pre-arranged service sites.

An alumni team who did not previously know each other, gathered at the Hindu Cultural Council Senior Center in Queens where they cleaned the closets and kitchen, trimmed hedges and painted the entire center. The group enjoyed meeting each other while helping others. “It was great to get the alumni involved with the rest of the University community on such an important day,” said volunteer Melissa Kuch ’03CPS. On Staten Island, more than 250 students, faculty and administrators visited with patients at several nursing homes, while others sorted clothes to distribute to the homeless during midnight runs. Some of the students participated in beautification tasks including graffiti removal and painting and cleaning at various centers and schools.

Service Day is a University-wide celebration scheduled each year on the fourth Saturday in September to coincide with the feast of St. Vincent de Paul and involves the campus community embodying the University’s core value of service and its Vincentian Mission.
By Everton Bailey ’10CPS

A special group of alumni took a trip down memory lane in October during the 51st Annual Lewis Avenue Reunion held on the Queens campus.

More than 50 alumni and family greeted old friends and reminisced about their time at the beloved former Brooklyn campus which closed more than 50 years ago. After a Mass held at St. Thomas More Church, the festivities continued in Bent Hall with dinner and cocktails for attendees.

Alumnus Walter C. Zimmermann ’58C was presented with the St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Legacy Award and graciously accepted the honor. “St. John’s has grown tremendously over the years, but they have not forgotten their Lewis Avenue roots,” he said during his speech. “St. John’s welcomed me and provided me with guidance and the people I have met over the years.”

After the presentation, a slideshow was shown filled with photos of familiar sites and memories for the Lewis Avenue alumni. Attendee Rev. James T. Smith ’52C credited the University with providing him with “a strong faith,” which he said he found through his interaction with the Vincentian priests. Smith said he enjoys attending the Lewis Avenue reunions as often as possible. “I come for the memories, seeing old friends and to see how life is treating them, because these are the friends you never lose,” he said.

Carmela Villani ’52Ed, Marilyn Kern ’52Ed and Joan Catapano ’52Ed first met and became lifelong friends at the Lewis Avenue campus. The group also cherish the yearly get-togethers as well as the memories they hold dear of their time as students. “It was just a wonderful place to be,” Kern said. “There was camaraderie among the students that you just can’t find nowadays,” Villani agreed. “I enjoyed my time there, it was a great place to learn and I probably made the best friends that I still keep in touch with today,” she said.

Bill Schaeffer ’73CBA, Director of Alumni Relations, said he believes the annual event is an important St. John’s tradition. “This event is a very vital one because it shows the Lewis Avenue alumni how important they are to the University,” he said. “They were the foundation of what we have grown to become today and it’s not only important for us not to forget that, but we also have to show them that they haven’t been forgotten either.”
| A Cadre of High Profile Speakers Visit STJ |

In its continuing effort to broaden the educational experience of its students, St. John’s University featured quite a few high profile and interesting speakers to its Queens and Staten Island campuses during the fall semester. The lectures covered a wide range of topics from politics to religion and attracted a variety of students. On the Queens campus, students were able to attend a lecture, reception and book signing for Krista Tippett, author of Speaking of Faith — Why Religion Matters and How to Talk About It. Tippett is the creator and host of the Peabody and Webby award-winning program, “Speaking of Faith,” which can be heard on more than 200 public radio stations across the United States and globally via podcast and Internet. Her book, which drew on her conversations with theologians and scientists, activists and artists, was of particular significance to freshmen who were asked to read it prior to attending New Student Orientation. Tippett’s appearance was part of the Academic Lecture Series.

On the Staten Island campus, Lee Brenner, Executive Producer of Political Programming and Director of Impact for MySpace.com, was the inaugural speaker for the Three College Lecture Series, a collaborative effort between the College of Staten Island, The City University of New York, Wagner College and St. John’s. More than 400 students, faculty and administrators attended Brenner’s talk which centered on internet campaigning strategies and the impact they have on the election process. The lecture was also a part of St. John’s “Participate in ’08” initiative, a collaborative effort between the student organizations College Democrats, College Republicans and Student Government, Inc. and supported by the University’s administration.

Some of the other speakers who also appeared on the campuses included:
- Don McPherson (Philanthropist) – “Fighting Sexual Violence On College Campuses”
- Bianca Alexander (Television Personality) – “Conscious Consumption: A Solution To Our Planetary Crisis”
- Michael Lu (Reporter) – “Reporting On The 2008 Presidential Election: An Insider’s View”
- Oliver Sacks, M.D. (Author) – “Musicophilia: Tales Of Music and the Brain”
- Gideon Yago (News Correspondent/ProDean Dallyducer, MTV) – “Making Politics Real and Relevant”
- Amir Dossal (United Nations Representative) – Wealth “Creation and Poverty Alleviation — Two Sides of the Same Coin”

| Election Energizes Students |

The historic nature of the 2008 Presidential Election was not at all lost on St. John’s University students who were active in the Participate in ’08 initiative. In the months leading up to the election in November, the Participate in ’08 campaign kicked off as a major student-driven initiative to encourage non-partisan voter registration while increasing civic education and engagement. St. John’s University’s College Democrats, College Republicans and Student Government Inc. were in the thick of history as millions turned out to vote. The College Democrats and College Republicans were responsible for registering more than 700 new voters.

Brian Browne ’93C, ’97G, Assistant Vice President for Government Relations at St. John’s, served as one of the University administrators that helped assist with the Participate in ’08 effort. He pointed out the importance of younger adults in the election and St. John’s initiative. “As predicted the turnout of young voters (ages 18-29) appears to have played a pivotal part in the outcome of this year’s Presidential election,” he said. “Clearly young voters made a difference and that was an early and consistent theme of the Participate in ’08 effort, which stressed the active participation of young voters who had the potential to make a real difference in our political process.”

Some of the major highlights of the initiative included a Young Republicans and Young Democrats Debate sponsored by St. John’s Office of the Provost, a St. John’s Local Candidates Forum held in September where officials and candidates running for office in Queens were invited to the University to speak out on their respective platforms before the student body. A Three College Lecture Series sponsored cooperatively by St. John’s University’s Staten Island campus, Wagner College and the College of Staten Island was also implemented and Lee Brenner, Executive Producer of Political Programming and Director of IMPACT for MySpace.com, led off the series in September where he spoke on internet campaigning strategies and the impact it has on the election process.

The initiative culminated in a crowd of more than 100 who gathered to watch live television network coverage at the Queens and Staten Island campuses. By the time Illinois Senator Barack Obama had been declared the winner and 44th President of the United States, a large throng of resident students from the Queens campus had taken seats in Council Hall to listen to his historic speech.
School of Law to Focus on Dispute Resolution

In response to changing trends within the legal profession and increased demands for additional skill sets for practicing attorneys, St. John’s School of Law recently announced the opening of The Hugh L. Carey Center for Dispute Resolution. Named for two-term New York Governor and noted St. John’s University alumnus Hugh L. Carey ’42C, ’51L, ’67HON, the Center is designed to reflect the Vincentian mission of caring and concern for others by seeking to ensure that individuals engaged in conflict have access to fair, just and expeditious dispute resolution processes.

While in office former Governor Carey was known for his willingness to tackle frequently unpopular and always difficult conflicts, including his advocacy for the developmentally disabled and mentally ill, his proposals to safeguard the environment of New York State and his efforts to secure peace in Northern Ireland. It is altogether fitting that this latest addition to the highly respected and innovative programs of the School of Law will both reflect his spirit and bear his name.

Traditionally, the dispute resolution process has been primarily adversarial, with attorneys for all parties engaged in litigation to resolve conflicts. Recently, many members of the legal profession and their clients have begun to recognize the limits of litigation as a dispute resolution mechanism, and have become more comfortable in seeking solutions outside of the courtroom.

The Hugh L. Carey Center for Dispute Resolution will seek ways to integrate conflict resolution as a value and practice throughout the School of Law’s curriculum, clinics, skills programs and co-curricular activities. It will create an organizational structure to coordinate a wide range of educational offerings in the processes of alternative dispute resolution.

The Center will serve as the umbrella for a variety of dispute resolution initiatives, including conferences, symposia, practicum programs, professional training and opportunities for international dispute resolution utilizing the resources of St. John’s Rome campus and the Kenneth Wang School of Law in China. It will also help to support the St. John’s Dispute Resolution Society, a student-run organization that conducts annual competitions in negotiation, mediation advocacy and/or arbitration.

Extrajudicial conflict resolution has become an important aspect of current legal practice, particularly in the areas of commercial transactions, international trade, securities law, family law, employment relations and landlord-tenant disputes. The Hugh L. Carey Center for Dispute Resolution will train both practicing and future attorneys to fill a vital role by providing a forum for the meticulous investigation of the issues surrounding this most recent aspect of legal education and practice.

Soccer Team Has Great Season

The Red Storm men’s soccer team made it to the NCAA College Cup Semifinals in December before falling to University of Maryland. St. John’s team lost 1-0 in double overtime during the game played in Frisco, TX. Goalkeeper Neal Kitson made nine saves for St. John’s to keep Maryland from scoring through regulation and the first overtime. Maryland team member Graham Zusi tallied the game-winner on a free kick in the 105th minute which gave Maryland the win.

St. John’s played well defensively and while Maryland had the first chance of the game St. John’s defense blocked a shot by Zusi in the 15th minute. In the 17th minute, goalkeeper Kitson was tested for the first time and made the save on a shot from Casey Townsend. Neither team scored in the first overtime, but in the second overtime the Maryland Terrapins capitalized on a scoring opportunity. In the 105th minute, St. John’s was whistled for a foul just outside of the box and Zusi lined up for the free kick as the Red Storm formed a wall. Zusi curled a shot over the wall, past a leaping Kitson and into the top left corner for the game-winning point.

Maryland went on to face North Carolina in the College Cup Finals and won the championship with a score of 1-0. St. John’s finished the season at 19-3-3 with the 19 wins the second most in school history. Kitson made 95 saves, the most for a St. John’s keeper since 1992 and the Red Storm is now 3-3-0 in its four College Cup appearances.
In December, the Queens campus ushered in the Christmas season in a spectacular way with a fireworks and light show.

A 37-foot Norway spruce, laser-light snowflakes and fireworks lit up the night at the University’s 18th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting held on the Great Lawn. The ceremony brought to a close the University’s Winter Carnival, a three-day celebration of the holiday season which included Christmas carolers, horse and carriage rides and toy soldiers. Students, faculty, alumni and friends turned out en masse to witness the unveiling of the tree, a gift from the Student Government Inc. and the Class of 2008. The Norway spruce was planted on the Great Lawn that will be used for tree lightings for years to come in observance of the University’s sustainability efforts. Also in keeping with the message of “going green” the light bulbs adorning the Christmas tree were 3,000 energy saving light-emitting-diode (LED) which use 79 percent less electricity than light bulbs.

Prior to the lighting ceremony, guests enjoyed a traditional Christmas Dinner in Montgomeri Dining Hall and attended Winter Carnival Mass at St. Thomas More Church. The event was embraced by students and alumni alike. “Winter Carnival has become a University-wide tradition. Student Government along with various other departments have worked with us to bring the University community together to share in the spirit of the holiday season. It was with their help that we were successful in taking Winter Carnival to the next level this year,” said Dana Lezama, President of Student Government Inc. “The light show and fireworks were amazing,” said Rosemary Cappello ’74C. “I was impressed! Please keep this tradition going!”

Michelle Martinez ’06 CPS summed it up best when she said, “It’s not Christmas until I see the tree with my friends at St. John’s.”

OFFICE of CONFERENCE SERVICES

Who Are We?
St. John’s University’s Office of Conference Services is a centralized source for all of your conference needs. We process requests and reservations for all events on campus. Our services are offered to educational groups, religious organizations, athletic teams, non-profit organizations, performing arts groups, corporations, interns, and many more.

What Do We Do?
We work with the community to provide a full range of services, which include housing accommodations, catering services, and meeting facilities.

When Do We Provide These Services?
Our conference rooms, classrooms and various meeting facilities are available for booking year-round. Our affordable overnight accommodations are available during the summer months from June 1 through mid-August of each year.

Where Do We Provide These Services?
Our office hosts events that occur on the Queens, Manhattan, and Staten Island campuses.

Why Do We Provide These Services?
To allow our affiliates to take advantage of the multi-million dollar construction projects on campus. We provide cutting edge conference facilities along with professional service for your planning needs.

How to contact us?
Simply e-mail us at csevents@stjohns.edu, call (718) 990-7300, or visit our Web site at: www.stjohns.edu/conferences
Alumni Insider’s View...offers students and alumni the opportunity to network as students learn about various career fields from alumni who graciously offer their time by participating. This illustrious program enables St. John’s students to obtain real-world knowledge about a chosen profession and/or field while drawing upon the myriad of experiences from some of our most accomplished alumni.

Day on Wall Street

A group of 40 students enjoyed learning from and mingling with alumni working in the financial industry during The Seventh Annual Alumni Insider’s View...Day on Wall Street held in November.

Fidelity Investments, The Depository Trust and Clearing Corporation and Standard & Poor’s played host throughout the day to the group who departed by bus from the Queens campus just after sunrise. The event — which is highly competitive and open to academically eligible students — began at the Manhattan campus with a breakfast where past Day on Wall Street participants Kanika Bhasin ’09MBA, Denise Duffy ’04TCB, ’06MBA and Jency Jones ’03TCB, ’06MBA gave the group a sense of what to expect from the day and tips on how to make the most of their experience. The students then visited Fidelity Investments, where speaker Michael Clark, President of Fidelity Institutional Products Group, answered a multitude of questions from the students on everything from the industry to his professional experiences. Alumni Bryan Carter ’07MBA, Michael Keenan ’97CBA and Joseph Kroczynski ’97CBA also discussed their careers at Fidelity and offered the students advice on how as interns they could impress their employers and possibly secure employment after graduation.

After lunch provided by Fidelity, the students traveled to The Depository Trust and Clearing Corporation (DTCC) where they were treated to a panel moderated by William Corrigan ’92SVC, ’02MBA, one of the DTCC managers, and included panelists James Femia ’83CBA, ’88MBA, Managing Director of Operations, and Technology Consultant Keri-Ann Fornito ’99C. One of the highlights of the day was an exclusive tour of the Securities Processing Area and Vault by Thomas Joyce ’73CBA, ’77MBA, the DTCC Director of Securities Processing.

The group didn’t have to go far to travel to Standard & Poor’s (S&P) where S&P’s Vice President and General Manager, Directory Services Thomas Lupo ’70Ed, ’75MBA welcomed them and introduced several guest speakers including Steven Murphy ’81CBA, Managing Director, Public Finance, and Owen Ruhnke ’89CBA, Vice President, Finance.

The highlight of the evening was a networking cocktail reception and dinner with alumni held at Bowne. Brian Manchester ’10TCB said he appreciated all the advice and guidance the alumni offered throughout the day including sharpening public speaking and writing skills. “It was a good opportunity to hear from people who are experiencing what I hope to one day,” he said. “You can only get so much out of the classroom so this made it more real.” Richard Baudo ’76MBA, S&P’s Vice President, Operations, echoed that sentiment. “I think it is an excellent way of demonstrating the inner workings of the financial markets to the students,” he said. “It’s a great experience for the students to spend time listening to those who work in the industry, day to day. I think it’s a great program.”

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business Dean Steven Papamarcos, Ph.D. offered an update during the dinner of some of the many exciting developments at the college. He proclaimed the event a great one. “A fantastic day,” Dean Papamarcos said. “During the “Day on Wall Street” the doors of New York’s financial district opened to Tobin College students. What a fabulous learning experience. And what a wonderful gesture by our alumni and corporate partners.”

Washington, DC

The 28th Annual Alumni Insider’s View of the Capital allowed more than 30 students to meet and learn from a group of premier alumni living and working in Washington, DC.

In October, the group traveled from the Queens campus to the nation’s capital for two days of panel discussions and presentations by alumni from various fields including law enforcement, government, the military, the non-profit sector and health care. Students were treated to visits at both the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Department of State where they heard from alumni working at both agencies.

There are more than 1,900 alumni living in and around Washington, DC and they were well represented by the many alumni in attendance.
speakers who joined other alumni in meeting with the St. John’s group at a reception and networking event. Laura Cranston R.Ph. ’84P is Chapter Leader for the Washington DC Alumni Chapter and participated in the program as a student. She says the program is richer now with the inclusion of graduate, undergraduate and students from the School of Law who get precious time with the numerous alumni. “The mix of students coming down from the various campuses in New York has continued to expand and the number of alumni here who are involved with the program has grown exponentially this year,” she said. “It’s always a little daunting to consider moving outside of New York but I think it makes it easier to know that there are people down here who are willing to help them.”

The students enjoyed the opportunity to hear from and ask questions of the alumni in the various fields. “It’s a pretty diverse group of alumni and I have enjoyed that,” said Rachel Carbonara ’09C. Samuel Withers ’09MBA said he was fascinated to learn about the many career paths available in DC. “There are a lot of opportunities available in the federal agencies,” he said. “Right now I am so bombarded with figuring out where I want to work and I never would have known about the jobs available at the SEC.” Five students were presented with the Joseph Addabbo ’46L, ’84HON and Arthur B. Carton ’25C, ’29L Scholarships.

For further information on the program, contact Andrea T. Papa ’88SVC, Director, Student Engagement and Regional Programs with the Office of Alumni Relations at (718) 990-5811 or via e-mail at papaa@stjohns.edu To view the photo gallery of this event, visit www.stjohns.edu/alumni/participate/happenings/08_09/october/insider_gallery.stj

Sports Management at Staten Island

Passion for sports was the common thread among the four prominent St. John’s alumni who gave students an insider’s view of the business of sports in October.

The Office of Institutional Advancement sponsored event was held in the Kiernan Suite on the Staten Island campus. Alumni offered their insights into various career paths within the sports industry. “The idea is that if you persevere, success is certain,” said Tom Cosentino ’83SVC, Founder and President of yellowlab Public Relations. “Do not limit your options. If you’re open, you will find yourselves a great career.”

Equally as motivating was Charlie Wonsowicz ’90SVC, Video Operations Coach for the New York Yankees. He urged those in attendance to have confidence in themselves. “Don’t sell yourself short,” he said. “Talk yourself up! Everyone gets their chance — their break. The key is recognizing it!” When it comes to getting a start in sport management, the general consensus among the alumni speakers is that any opportunity is a good one. Matt Mirchin ’82SVC is Senior Vice President of Sales for Under Armour and told the crowd that he began with an internship with the New Jersey Nets. After graduating, he became a Regional Sales Manager with the NBA. “Anything is possible,” he said. Enthusiasm for all-things sports is key said Mike Duffy ’04GEd, Athletic Director for Michael J. Petrides School in Staten Island. Duffy said he appreciated the opportunity to reach out to the students who he also touches as an adjunct professor. “It’s an honor to be back and part of STJ faculty,” he said. “My post-graduate experience was great and I’m happy to bring everything I learned at St. John’s to my profession and everything I’ve learned from my profession back to St. John’s.”

Pursuing Careers in Business

More than sixty students gathered in November at the Staten Island campus for the Alumni Insider’s View... Pursuing Careers in Business. The “speed networking” reception was held in the Kiernan Suite of the Kelleher Center and gave a group of freshmen the opportunity of engaging with seven alumni participants. Robert D’Amato ’96MBA, Vice President, Wealth Management Advisor, The Palumbo, Short & D’Amato Group; Joan Lacagnina ’86SVC, ’88MBA, Tax Director, Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts & Co.; Anthony Macchiariola ’95CBA, ’99MBA, Director, Relationship Manager, National Financial; Steve Maresca ’72CBA, Senior Financial Advisor, Penn Plaza Brokerage Ltd.; Pamela Peterson ’01TCB, CPA, Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts & Co.; Vincent Viguera ’03TCB,’06L, Trial Attorney Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co.; and Daniel Wheeler ’77CBA, Owner, Office Equipment Company of Staten Island, Inc. Student Ilya Goussev,’12TCB was impressed and said it was “very informative. It was time well spent and in fact I wish the sessions were even longer.”
St. John’s School of Education is in the midst of celebrating its centennial with a variety of events highlighting the exceptional school founded in 1908. Below are recaps of just a few of the events held this fall:

Centennial Gala Celebrates Past and Future

The School of Education held a Centennial Celebration Gala Dinner and Dance in September at the Grand Hyatt in New York City.

More than 600 attendees came together to pay tribute to the 100-year history of the School and its outstanding alumni, students, faculty, administrators and staff. St. John’s University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M. noted that the event was held on the same day as the Feast of St. Vincent de Paul on whose principles the University was founded. Fr. Harrington said he was convinced St. Vincent de Paul would be very proud of The School of Education as he was a man who realized and valued that “the greatest resource of our world is its people.” “For 100 years, this school has prepared teachers to develop that greatest of resources, our children,” he said. “Imagine how many lives have been impacted and imagine how different our society has become because of the graduates who have gone through our school.”

The sold out, black-tie affair also served to honor the accomplishments of a group of highly esteemed professionals in the field of education: Dr. John Brademas, President Emeritus, New York University; the Futures in Education Foundation as represented by Charles McQuade, Chairman of the Advisory Board and Rev. Msgr. John J. Bracken, Vicar General for Temporalities, Diocese of Brooklyn; Peter Gelb, General Manager, The Metropolitan Opera; Carol Gresser ’59Ed, Former President, New York City Board of Education; and the Inner-City Scholarship Fund as represented by Peter Grauer, President of the Inner-City Scholarship Board.

Dean of The School of Education Jerrold Ross, Ph.D. welcomed those present and reflected on the joyous evening of gathering to celebrate the landmark event. “Tonight is a wonderful and happy occasion for anyone who is or ever was a part of the first 100 years of our School,” he said. “It is only through an appreciation of our past that we can invoke an anticipation of our future.”

Attendees enjoyed the night which included a silent auction of sports and celebrity memorabilia. Peg D’Angelo ’70Ed served as Chair of the Centennial Leadership Committee and said a great deal of hard work went into making the evening a success. “I had a wonderful experience when I was at St. John’s,” she said. “I made lifelong friends at The School of Education and I had wonderful professors. I just had so many good experiences that it’s really a pleasure to give back.”

Dr. Barbara Peltzman ’69GEd, was a member of the Leadership Committee and said “This is a very fitting tribute to all the people who were involved in the founding of The School of Education. This type of event only happens once. I teach at the University and I have a sign on my door which says ‘Teach and touch the future.’ This is an investment in our future.”

That future shall be a bit brighter for some as $450,000 was raised toward an Endowed Centennial Scholarship Fund with the goal to collect in excess of $1 million to benefit St. John’s students.

Convocation

The School of Education honored four esteemed and exemplary women in November at its 100th Anniversary Convocation held on the Queens campus.

The night was a continued acknowledgement of the school’s centennial celebration as well as a nod to four extremely accomplished women who have made strides in bettering the field of education.
St. John’s University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M., awarded the President’s Medal to Margaret “Peg” D’Angelo ‘70ED, and conferred honorary Doctor of Pedagogy degrees to Carol A. Gresser ’59Ed, ’08HON, Shirley A. Griggs, Ed.D. ’08HON, and Josephine M. Pacini ’08HON. Gresser gave the evening’s Convocation Address and moved those present with her emotional remarks which included praising Fr. Harrington and current The School of Education Dean Jerrold Ross, Ph.D.

“This is probably the proudest moment of my life to be honored by the very institution that did so much to shape my life,” she said. “The School of Education has never lost sight of its core mission. Fr. Harrington and Jerrold Ross have established a vibrant learning atmosphere, dynamic programs and a marvelous sense of excitement. St. John’s taught me to think, to question, to strive, to serve and to give back and for that I am forever grateful.”

Fr. Harrington spoke fondly of the four honorees and of the importance of paying tribute to their contributions to the field of pedagogy. “I often say to honorees — they don’t need to be honored — we need to honor them, because we need to see the wonderful things that they have done each in their own way,” he said. “This certainly is the case tonight as we honor these fine educators for their remarkable accomplishments.”

Each of the women was selected for their remarkable achievements and diligent efforts. D’Angelo has served as Chair for The School of Education’s Centennial Leadership Committee and was honored with the President’s Medal for her humanitarian efforts. This medal is given to an individual who has achieved exceptional personal and professional success, and/or rendered outstanding service to the University or society.

The three other honorees were conferred Doctor of Pedagogy degrees. Gresser is a former President of the New York City Board of Education and Professor of Education at St. John’s University and namesake of The School of Education’s Carol Gresser Forum, which brings guest lecturers to campus twice each year to discuss the state of education in New York City Public Schools. Pacini is a distinguished educator whose exceptional career in teaching languages has included positions at various schools throughout New York City where she has made a significant difference in the lives of countless students. Griggs has been involved with The School of Education since 1969 and is Professor Emerita of Counselor Education as well as a passionate educator who has written several books that examine and investigate ways to improve teaching styles, research and education for teachers.

Catholics in New York

Alumni and friends of St. John’s University’s School of Education enjoyed a brunch and tour of the exhibit “Catholics in New York” held at the Museum of the City of New York in October.

Guests enjoyed a relaxing brunch in a private room at the museum and had the opportunity to reminisce about their time spent as students at the University. During the formal program,
The Red Continues To Go Green

In December, James P. Pellow, Ed.D., St. John’s Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Alan J. Steinberg, Regional Administrator of Region II for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to reduce the University’s environmental impacts by adopting sustainable practices and joining EPA partnership programs.

The move was the latest in St. John’s efforts to reduce its carbon footprint and be more environmentally friendly. Steinberg noted the historic nature of the signing and its significance. “Today marks the beginning of what promises to be a fruitful collaboration with St. John’s,” said Steinberg. “One thing we’ve learned long ago when it comes to improving the environment is that partnerships are the key. By partnerships I don’t mean just between federal and state governments, I mean partnerships with the greater community, the business community, the non-governmental agencies and above all the academic communities — because you are tasked with the mission of educating the next generation to improve environmental awareness and practices.”

St. John’s University has always placed value on good stewardship and nowhere is that more evident than with the University’s Sustainability Initiative. St. John’s Sustainability Initiative (STSI) was developed to advance the University’s efforts for a sustainable future. The STSI purports to do this by working with administration, staff, faculty and students to provide knowledge, skills and motivation that integrates sustainability responsibilities into construction of new facilities and operation of existing facilities as well as working and learning activities. STSI goals include lowering the University’s carbon footprint, conserving the natural resources of water, trees and energy, reduction of the use of paper and increased recycling.

In 2007, St. John’s University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M. signed the “Mayoral Challenge for 30 in 10” and the commitment was made for the school to do its part in the fight against global climate change by having a positive impact on students through educating and engaging them in responsible stewardship of their environment. St. John’s was one of 10 colleges and universities that accepted the Mayor’s invitation to join forces as a new “PlaNYC Challenge Partner.” PlaNYC was adopted on Earth Day in 2007 by Mayor Bloomberg and, with the help of a Sustainability Advisory Board comprised of leaders from the private, public and non-profit sectors, he developed strategies that focus on five key dimensions of the city’s environment: land, air, water, energy and transportation.

Those efforts are working and in October 2008 New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg praised St. John’s for its progress in the “PlaNYC 2030 Challenge,” a plan to reduce greenhouse emissions by 30 percent in 10 years, which St. John’s accepted in 2007. “And finally, the Gold Star,” Mayor Bloomberg said lauding the University’s progress and aggressive plan. “St. John’s goes to the head of the class, for accelerating its greenhouse gas reduction plan to reach its 30% decrease target by the year 2013.”

St. John’s very quickly embraced the challenge from the city and in January 2008 established an Office of Sustainability within the Department of Facilities Services, which aided in a carbon inventory. The following month, the University became the first in New York City to present an ambitious plan to meet and exceed the Mayoral Challenge to reduce carbon emissions by 30 percent for all campuses in half the time allotted. To that end, St. John’s has implemented strategic initiatives including incorporating hybrid vehicles in its fleet, establishing a Building Management System, installing a high efficiency chiller plant and actively engaging students and awareness program and coordination of carbon reduction on all campuses.

In October, a press conference was held to announce that four additional institutions had accepted Mayor Bloomberg’s invitation. Dr. Pellow and Brij Anand, Vice President for Facilities, were present and were pleased to hear the Mayor praise the University. “We feel proud and honored that Mayor Bloomberg declared St. John’s University the ‘head of the class,’” Anand said. “We will continue to provide the leadership in sustainability and carbon reduction, including sharing our best practices with other higher education institutions, as well as engaging our students, about the means and methods to achieve the 30% carbon reduction over the next five to seven years.”

In December, Dr. Pellow praised the MOU with the EPA. “We are excited to have been selected as the first private university in the country for this unique partnership,” he said. “This program will further help focus St. John’s in pursuing all avenues to make sustainability and carbon reduction a part of the student education and the student learning experience.”
St. John’s takes the world’s future very seriously.

From preparing our students for global leadership positions to engaging in life-altering service, we do things today with an eye toward tomorrow.

Because we’re committed to a sustainable future, we’re lowering our carbon footprint, conserving natural resources of water, trees and energy, increasing recycling and reducing the use of paper.

AND YOU CAN HELP.

We’re encouraging our alumni and friends to enjoy the St. John’s University Magazine online rather than in printed form.

Of course, if you prefer to continue to receive a printed version, that’s fine with us. It’s your choice. Just let us know.

You can e-mail: alumnimagazine@stjohns.edu or call (718) 990-7498.
Helping The Helpers

St. John’s Institute for Writing Studies (IWS) has entered into a unique collaboration with a Brooklyn high school that has resulted in their first student-staffed writing center. Nazareth Regional High School in Brooklyn now has student tutors helping their classmates become better writers as a result of training and assistance from the IWS. The pilot program evolved thanks to Kerri Mulqueen ’09D.A. who previously taught for five years at Nazareth. She says she was inspired to bring Mulqueen’s former professors, who advised her that it was a worthy project to pursue. Mulqueen researched some of the basic concepts of training tutors and realized the idea was as natural a fit at Nazareth as it has been at St. John’s. “Not only does it benefit someone who comes in to get help but it also benefits the student who is giving the help,” she says. “It helps [the tutors] better understand the work and to become better communicators themselves.”

The student tutors are recommended and recruited by the Nazareth teachers and a group of them initially came to the IWS on the Queens campus and met with the staff where they learned how to help their fellow students. Members of the IWS staff then visited the school for on site training where they engaged in an FAQ session where they worked out what types of challenges might arise and how to tutor without actually doing the work for the student. The Nazareth tutors receive elective credit for their participation. They have a faculty moderator and dedicated space in the building. The program is self sustaining because the students who participate as tutors and will be graduating can train other students to continue the work.

Chris Leary, Associate Director of the Staten Island campus Writing Center says St. John’s Writing Center consultants also benefit by working with the Nazareth tutors. “In the process of working with the Nazareth students, our students are also able to reflect on their own work,” he says. “And, it is so in keeping with the University’s Vincentian mission which we are trying to fulfill. Writing Centers in high schools aren’t that common especially in those schools that are under resourced. Now that we have trained them, they can carry it forward knowing that we are available to consult with them if needed.”

During the fall, a group of Nazareth tutors returned to the Queens campus for refresher training. The students brought their own papers for review by the IWS consultants and received support in their tutoring. Nazareth seniors Martin Evelyn and Tiana Walden had a session with St. John’s writing consultant Patrick Hester ’11C. Evelyn said his schoolmates are blossoming with the help of their writing center. “There’s a lot of intellect in these students that needs to come out,” he said. “We cajole it out of them and they realize their own potential.” Walden said she’s gained as much, if not more, as some of the students she has helped. “I’ve learned how to give constructive criticism,” she said. “I’ve also learned how to help people so they know how to help themselves.” Hester said the student tutors are to be commended and that more high schools should follow Nazareth’s lead. “It’s very impressive,” he said. “There’s a big difference between writing for high school and writing for college and it would help to better bridge the gap if this type of help was provided for them.”
Learning Through Doing

St. John’s Peter J. Tobin College of Business (TCB) has been experiencing great success with its Executive-in-Residence Program (EIRP).

EIRP is a unique program within TCB which enables students to engage in real-world consulting with businesses and non-profit organizations. The program is open to both graduate and undergraduate students and admission is competitive. Students must possess a grade point average of 3.4 or higher, be invited to participate and successfully complete an interview process.

Dr. Larry Boone is Director of EIRP and teaches the courses with Dr. Linda Sama, Associate Dean for Global Initiatives. The classes are conducted during the Fall and Spring semesters with 18 graduate students who participate during one semester and two groups of 18 undergrads who are in the program during their senior year. Boone explains that each class works with a company and a non-profit so that at any given time students are consulting with executives from three companies or non-profits. “The class is very project oriented,” he explains. “Since the graduate students only work with us for a semester, they do two projects with each project lasting for six weeks or half a semester. The undergraduate students do four projects with us over the Fall and Spring semesters.”

Students meet face-to-face with the executives every two weeks to gather information that will aid in their strategic projects. Those projects can involve everything from growing the business to addressing some current or future issue the business or non-profit might face.

Boone says that in keeping with the University’s mission of service, he and Sama instituted having students work with a non-profit organization. “We want the students to understand how not-for-profits operate and how they contribute to society,” Boone says. “We also want them to learn how they operate differently from the for-profit companies.”

Antonia Petkova ’09TCB is a management major who joined EIRP after hearing about the great experiences of a former participant. During her time in the program she has worked on projects with RR Donnelley, Cushman & Wakefield and Gensler Architects and says she has gained valuable experience. “The projects have been challenging and rewarding, allowing me to learn a lot — specifically how to attack a problem in fields that are entirely new to me, and how to tackle tight deadlines and fast-paced meetings,” she says. “I’ve also been fortunate to work with a group of talented and enthusiastic students.”

Students aren’t the only ones who derive benefit from EIRP. Boone says many of the companies involved have come into the fold thanks to alumni who participate. EIRP has worked on projects with National Grid, whose Chief Financial Officer of the Gas Division is Kenneth D. Daly ’92MBA. “Ken was in the first EIRP graduate class,” Boone says. “He’s invited us back to work with them every year for the last 16 years and the company has hired quite a few of our students.” Jency Jones ’03TCB, ’06MBA is also a past participant of EIRP and now works for Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. whose executives participate in the program. Jones says EIRP allows companies access to some of the talent at St. John’s. “Executive-in-Residence Program is a great source for strong candidates in any organization as these students not only have great academic records, but exceptional skills for future business success,” says Jones, whose company has hired management trainees who were EIRP students.

Spring semesters with 18 graduate students who participate during one semester and two groups of 18 undergrads who are in the program during their senior year. Boone explains that each class works with a company and a non-profit so that at any given time students are consulting with executives from three companies or non-profits. “The class is very project oriented,” he explains. “Since the graduate students only work with us for a semester, they do two projects with each project lasting for six weeks or half a semester. The undergraduate students do four projects with us over the Fall and Spring semesters.”

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Modeling St. Vincent

by Steve Vivona ‘92SVC

The path Christine Bentz ’09Ed has taken for the past four years has led her far from her home in Oregon to St. John’s University and then on to Bahir Dar in Ethiopia. Each step of the way she has simply let go and put herself in God’s hands. “I couldn’t plan things the way God has,” she says.

Much like St. Vincent de Paul, Bentz has accepted whatever God places in front of her and each important decision has been made with the knowledge that there is a greater plan for her. Like St. Vincent, she knows a sign when she sees one and she takes advantage of her opportunities — “grace has its moments,” as Vincent observed. “I’ve always followed a path to see where it leads,” Bentz says. “Nothing I’ve done has been arbitrary.”

With that in mind, she embarked on a remarkable journey that has enlivened her spiritually, brought her life into a sharper focus and given her the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others — even as they have enriched hers. Last summer, Christine, then approaching her senior year at St. John’s, joined several college students from around the country and journeyed to Ethiopia, as part of the Vincentian Lay Missionaries program.

An education major, Christine was to spend her days utilizing her skills as a teacher, but soon realized she was the one being taught. “The time I see God’s direction the most are in the things I’m not expecting,” she notes, adding that all her service experiences at St. John’s seemed to have built to this particular opportunity. She knew there was a reason she had to go on this trip, but she allowed God to unfold it, rather than try and discern it herself ahead of time.

The long journey to Ethiopia required several stops along the way, and Christine noted that each one represented a “peeling away” of the layers of western civilization, until she reached her final destination. “It was a two-day process of slowly leaving behind what we knew,” she recalls. “It was a gradual process of letting go and embracing what was coming.”

Christine was immediately struck by the gregarious and welcoming nature of the people of Bahar Adar. She took part in a “coffee ceremony,” a traditional welcoming ritual in which the community comes together to greet newcomers. During the ceremony, coffee beans are slowly roasted and bread is baked and eventually both are shared with the new arrivals. “It was really beautiful,” Christine says, adding that it was an opportunity for the group to immediately feel like they were part of the community.

And it was also very familiar. For Christine, the coffee ceremony was reminiscent of a Eucharistic celebration. The bread was cut in the shape of a cross, and the servers broke it up into smaller pieces until everyone had one. “It was very much a take and share experience,” she reflects. So many people wanted to meet the group that they participated in two ceremonies.

▲ Christine’s fifth grade class.

▲ A presentation by kindergarten students at their graduation from Ghebre Michael in Ethiopia.
Despite the poverty she found herself surrounded by, Christine observed that the people of Bahar Adar were among the happiest she had ever met. “The community’s openness to just spending time with people is one of the things that impacted me the most,” she says. “You walked into a room and there was a true, genuine joy in their smiles.” As they shared their gifts, Christine and her friends often reflected that they were the ones truly being served. “Having that experience made me understand the Vincentian charism better,” she now notes. “It’s reciprocal. It’s about being with people and having that relationship.”

Service was always integral to Christine’s life and St. John’s has given her many outlets to express her deep commitment to those Vincent loved. She has served as a retreat leader, a member of Students for Life, VITAL (the Vincentian Initiative to Advance Leadership) and the President’s Society as well as a participant of the inaugural Discover the World class.

Reflecting on her time at St. John’s, Christine is grateful for the wealth of opportunities provided. “Sometimes all you need is an invitation, but you have to be an integral part of your education,” she says. “You have to find resources, be self-motivated. Find the desire within yourself and see where it takes you.” Christine is a true reflection of the fact that Vincentian charism is alive and well, within her and students like her at St. John’s University.

Wounded Warriors

St. John’s Manhattan campus played host for part of a pilot program for some of our nation’s greatest heroes.

The School of Risk Management, Insurance and Actuarial Science (SRM) partnered with the Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation and several major insurance leaders to offer a three-day Warriors to Work Insurance Industry Workforce Development Program. About 11 veterans, most of whom were from the New York Metropolitan area, enjoyed the chance to learn about the many employment opportunities within the insurance industry. Companies such as American International Group, Inc., ACE, Benfield, Chubb and the Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation worked with St. John’s to make the experience an invaluable one for the veterans. Dr. Ellen Thrower, Executive Director of SRM, said the program was a “perfect fit given St. John’s Vincentian mission.” “This goes to the heart of what we do,” she said. Maureen Furlong Weber, SRM’s Director of Marketing and Industry Relations, echoed those sentiments. “We are so proud to have provided the educational element for the Warriors to Work program,” she said.

The Warriors to Work program is a part of the Wounded Warrior Project, a Washington, DC based organization dedicated to raising awareness and enlisting the public’s aid to support the needs of severely injured service men and women.
 Meet Your Regional Chapter Liaison
Andrea T. Papa ’88VC is Associate Director of Student Engagement and Regional Programs and serves as the Regional Chapter Liaison.

A fellow alumnus, she recognizes the value of remaining connected to alma mater and is a resource for you as a graduate of St. John’s University. The Office of Alumni Relations currently boasts several chapters across the country, as well as a chapter in Bermuda, which helps keep the St. John’s family connected. Chapters currently exist in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Mideast, Midwest, Southwest and Western regions of the country.

For more information about the chapters or for information on how to start a chapter in your area, contact Andrea Papa at (718) 990-5811 or (877) 758-ALUM, e-mail papaa@stjohns.edu, or visit www.stjohns.edu/alumni/community/chapters

 Insider’s View Reception

students from a variety of academic disciplines gathered in Washington, DC to gain firsthand experience about activities in both the government and private sectors.

 BBQ in DC
Frank Odeh ’93P hosted the Washington, DC Alumni Chapter for a barbeque held in Herndon, VA, in September.

The dinner included a delicious BBQ spread and attendees mingled while catching up with old friends and making new ones. A raffle drawing added to the excitement of the day and Patricia Grady ’71Ed won a St. John’s alumni sweatshirt; Art DeCelle ’78C, ’81G won a set of St. John’s coasters, and Joy (Cuttita) Grumbeyer ’65UC won a St. John’s alumni wine opener set.

Many commented on Odeh’s beautiful home and Grady said she enjoyed coming together with fellow graduates. “This kind of event created a warm and friendly setting where other alumni can get to know each other in a more intimate setting,” she said.
Basketball Pre-Game Receptions

Alumni and friends of St. John’s University showed their Red Storm pride at a number of men’s basketball pre-game receptions scheduled throughout the 2008-2009 season. These time-honored gatherings have become increasingly popular over the years and serve as an opportunity for St. John’s sports fans to get together in a social setting prior to attending selected home and away games.

For some alumni, these receptions are a regular part of their connection to alma mater. “I love St. John’s basketball,” noted Greg Bodkin ’76SVC as he chatted with friends prior to the game against UCONN at Madison Square Garden. “I’ve loved St. John’s basketball ever since I’ve been at [the University], and I want this program to be the best it can.”

For others, their first pre-game reception served as a prelude to additional gatherings in the future. “This is my first time back to an alumni event at Madison Square Garden but you know it may not be my last,” said John Woods ’85SVC. “It’s been a very enjoyable reception.”

Suffolk School of Law Gathering

In November the School of Law Suffolk Alumni Chapter held their Distinguished Alumni Dinner at the Irish Coffee Pub in East Islip, NY. The honoree for the evening was Honorable Arthur G. Pitts ’81L, New York State Supreme Court, Suffolk County. Chapter President Robert P. Sweeney ’84L and Acting Dean Andrew J. Simons ’65L, presented Judge Pitts with the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Judge Pitts reminisced about his days at the School of Law and his entering interview with Dean Simons. He also shared with those gathered how much he had enjoyed his educational experience at St. John’s.

Chicago Alumni Chapter Networking

Memories of St. John’s University were the topic of conversation in the Windy City as Chicago area alumni and friends gathered at the home of Bob (’70UC) and Christine Ryan in October. The event offered alumni an opportunity to socialize and network in a relaxed setting while reminiscing about the friends, faculty and experiences that were such an important part of their student days at St. John’s.

Alumni met Andrea T. Papa ‘88SVC, Associate Director, Student Engagement and Regional Programs, Office of Alumni Relations, who shared some of the recent developments at the University, including the construction of the recently completed Founders Village townhouse residences on the Queens campus, the improvements to Carnesecca Arena and the Global Studies program.

“The gathering was particularly special due to the warm camaraderie of the group that attended,” noted Papa. “Everyone was sharing such wonderful St. John’s memories. We’re particularly grateful to our hosts Bob and Christine Ryan for opening their beautiful home to us.”

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St. John’s has done so much for me.”

Suffolk School of Law Gathering

In November the School of Law Suffolk Alumni Chapter held their Distinguished Alumni Dinner at the Irish Coffee Pub in East Islip, NY. The honoree for the evening was Honorable Arthur G. Pitts ’81L, New York State Supreme Court, Suffolk County. Chapter President Robert P. Sweeney ’84L and Acting Dean Andrew J. Simons ’65L, presented Judge Pitts with the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Judge Pitts reminisced about his days at the School of Law and his entering interview with Dean Simons. He also shared with those gathered how much he had enjoyed his educational experience at St. John’s.

Basketball Pre-Game Receptions

Alumni and friends of St. John’s University showed their Red Storm pride at a number of men’s basketball pre-game receptions scheduled throughout the 2008-2009 season. These time-honored gatherings have become increasingly popular over the years and serve as an opportunity for St. John’s sports fans to get together in a social setting prior to attending selected home and away games.

For some alumni, these receptions are a regular part of their connection to alma mater. “I love St. John’s basketball,” noted Greg Bodkin ’76SVC as he chatted with friends prior to the game against UCONN at Madison Square Garden. “I’ve loved St. John’s basketball ever since I’ve been at [the University], and I want this program to be the best it can.”

For others, their first pre-game reception served as a prelude to additional gatherings in the future. “This is my first time back to an alumni event at Madison Square Garden but you know it may not be my last,” said John Woods ’85SVC. “It’s been a very enjoyable reception.”

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FOCUS ON FACULTY

Dr. Anna Martin

St. John’s University’s Peter J. Tobin College of Business has been extremely fortunate in having Dr. Anna Martin as its Alois J. Theis Endowed Chair in Global Finance.

She previously served for 10 years on the faculty at Fairfield University in Fairfield, CT, and for the past three years has taught at St. John’s. Her vast knowledge of global finance has been a benefit to her students. “One thing I really like to emphasize is that I don’t just do research for research’s sake,” she says. “For a school like St. John’s, there is a tremendous amount of benefit for faculty to conduct research. Not only do we add knowledge to our profession and enhance the reputation of the school, it is also important that we bring our expertise into the classroom and really make the classroom vibrant.”

Much of her recent work centers on the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 which introduced major changes to the regulation of financial practice and corporate governance. The federal law was enacted after scandals involving corporate giants like Enron and WorldCom. Martin’s research has investigated the effects of the law which was named for its architects, Maryland Senator Paul Sarbanes and Ohio Representative Michael G. Oxley. “This line of research has consumed a great deal of my research time,” she says. “I am also investigating financial distress and foreign exchange issues across various companies.” Her published articles have included such work as “Influence of Disclosure and Governance on Risk of U.S. Financial Services Firms Following Sarbanes-Oxley” and “Effect of Fed Policy Actions on the Default Likelihood of Commercial Banks,” published in the Journal of Banking and Finance and the Journal of Financial Research.

With the current turmoil in the financial markets Martin says there is “so much more to understand.” “I have an innate curiosity to know more,” she says. And there is always the desire to bring more to her students. “The courses can be more rigorous because I can prompt in-depth discussions into the classroom,” she says. “Yes, we want to move the discipline forward but ultimately it’s for the students.”

Prof. Leonard Baynes

This past election season was an exciting time for those residing in the United States and offered an interesting perspective to Len Baynes. The St. John’s University School of Law Professor and Director of The Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic Development bore witness to the effects on his students due to the excitement of the running and ultimate victory of the first African-American President of the United States. Such history has special significance to Baynes. “It was a very interesting time,” he observes. “Almost all of my research deals with people of color. I also look a great deal at the role of the media and so much was going on with the election.”

Baynes is a nationally recognized communications law scholar, specializing in race and media issues, having worked for the former Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman William E. Kennard as a Scholar-in-Residence where Baynes served as a member of the Opportunity Team and worked on minority
access and ownership issues. Some of his latest work has included a chapter on Race and Media in an upcoming book in which he has penned several key proposals for the incoming administration. He has also conducted research regarding the “Fairness Doctrine,” a FCC policy which attempted to ensure that all coverage of controversial issues by a broadcast station be balanced and fair. More than 20 years ago, the policy was eliminated and Baynes says during that time a great deal has changed. “Since then, there has been a lot of deregulation in the media,” he observes. “It’s become more consolidated and there are fewer owners who own more.”

Baynes believes such a landscape has contributed to the increase in tabloid journalism, the majority of which does not focus on people of color. “News has become much more about entertainment,” he says. “We find that the amount of tabloid coverage has increased tremendously.”

Such observations and the times in which we live have helped to further stimulate Baynes research, and by extension his teaching, he says. “My research allows me to provide my students with a different perspective,” he says. “It definitely enhances their classroom experience.”

Dr. Rene Parmar

No one knows better than Dr. Rene Parmar that language and math are connected.

Her continuing research into the development of mathematical literacy in children has dovetailed perfectly with her interest in the struggles of children with learning disabilities and expanded to include looking at some of the challenges of English language learners. “The student encounters problems with understanding mathematical text and is not able to comprehend it,” she says. “Therefore, they are not able to be successful in completing the work.”

With a background in special education, Parmar understands the value of providing students with every tool needed to be able to achieve and grow. Her doctoral work was in assessment and she presently serves on the faculty of The School of Education’s Department of Administrative and Instructional Leadership. She also teaches courses in research methodology and mentors doctoral candidates in the area of Instructional Leadership.

In her current position, she helps to guide and advise doctoral students in their research. Parmar says she was fortunate in her early years to have mentors, professors and colleagues who aided her along the way and she wants to do all she can for her students. “My first job was at SUNY Buffalo where I teamed up with some colleagues in assessing mathematical learning,” she remembers. “I began to incorporate literacy work into it and it helped to broaden my research.” That research helps to make her a better educator, she believes. “Conducting my own research helps me to expand my expertise,” Parmar says. “The research keeps me intellectually alert and learning new things.”

Parmar is also using her work to live the Vincentian mission. She has directed several sponsored projects in collaboration with local elementary and middle schools directed at aiding student performance. In 2005, she received the Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship Award from St. John’s, followed three years later by the 2008 Distinguished Faculty Award.
With all of the success Peter ('78MBA, '06HON) and Peg D’Angelo ’70Ed have enjoyed and their reputation as generous philanthropists, their grandchildren might be expected to be the benefactors of the latest and greatest toys currently on the market. But in the corner of the family room within their suburban Long Island home is a stack of playthings that belonged to the D’Angelo children themselves more than 25 years ago. “Our grandson just loves these old toys,” Mrs. D’Angelo explains. “He enjoys playing with the same things his mother and uncle played with.”

That love of tradition and family has clearly been passed on to the younger generation of the D’Angelo family. This is not at all surprising given the life Peter and Peg have lived, with its commitment to family and values and the firm foundation of love which they have nurtured during their more than 36 years of marriage. And while their hard work has brought them both personal successes, they find the most joy in the things they have done for others.

From the beginning, Peter and Peg were friends united in their love of family, learning and service. Growing up in Elmont, NY, they had similar, yet reversed family situations: she was the oldest of three and he the youngest of three. The pair dated on and off in high school and college. Peter attended Queens College after a stint serving in the Navy and working while Peg enrolled at St. John’s. “I always wanted to go to St. John’s,” she explains. “I was the oldest in my family and I wanted to stay home and be near them.

St. John’s was the perfect place and they gave me a scholarship.”

Times were different then and women were not able to apply to St. John’s College (in fact, women weren’t even allowed to wear pants unless the temperature dropped below 32 degrees) so Peg enrolled in the School of Education where she majored in Math and minored in Education. She planned on making her career as an educator until time spent as a student-teacher convinced her that classroom teaching was not the job for her. So instead she became a programmer for the New York Telephone Company. Peg says she loved her time at St. John’s where she played on the women's basketball team, was president of her sorority, Alpha Sigma Alpha (national chapter), a member of the President’s Society and a member of the Glee Club and its “10 Little Indians” group.

Peter's route to St. John's was a bit more circuitous. After majoring in economics at Queens College, he graduated in 1971 and entered the business realm working as a comptroller at a textile company. He soon secured employment with Marine Midland Bank and after a decade left as a Vice President and Lending Officer. Peg and Peter married in 1972 and he started an MBA program at New York University, but working all day and attending classes in the evening caused him to miss precious time with his family. St. John's MBA program at the time offered classes on Saturdays and he enrolled to take advantage of that more attractive schedule. His classroom training and his
work experience aided him when in 1983 he and Bruce Kovner founded Caxton Associates, L.L.C., one of the first and today one of the largest hedge fund operators in the United States.

While her husband climbed the corporate ladder, Peg worked hard as a stay-at-home mother to their children, Linda and Peter. She also invested her energies in philanthropy and today is on the Board of Trustees of Sacred Heart Academy, in Hempstead, NY, her high school alma mater. The couple served as chairs last year of the St. Francis Hospital Gala and has formed the D’Angelo Foundation which allows them to be active in a variety of charities including The Interfaith Nutrition Network (INN), which runs a network of soup kitchens and shelters in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

At St. John’s, they sponsor student participation in Habitat for Humanity, and Peter serves on the Board of Trustees and as Vice Chair of the Board of Governors. The D’Angelos say the Vincentian charism has kept them both firmly rooted in their love for St. John’s. “The University has not strayed from its mission,” Peg says. “It continues to educate often first generation college students and students who might otherwise be unable to go to college from a financial standpoint and we think that sets St. John’s apart. It’s not just because we went there, but it’s because we think that what the school does is unique and we really believe in it.”

They believe in the mission so much that they support a scholarship for math majors in The School of Education and have endowed a chair in the humanities within St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. With the endowed chair, the couple said they wanted St. John’s students to have access to world renowned professors who would join the already stellar faculty at the University as visiting professors. This year they have that in the person of Dr. John Haught, a theologian and a Professor Emeritus from Georgetown University whose work focuses on the intersection of science and religion. The D’Angelo’s commitment to St. John’s is a solid one. “We recognize we couldn’t have accomplished much without the education we have received,” Peter says. “You see so much poverty, even in a wealthy place like New York. I think our goal was to try and help that situation and we both very strongly believe that education is the path and St. John’s is a tremendous tool in creating that successful environment.”
The D'Angelos with former St. John's University Board of Trustees Chairman Denis P. Kelleher ’65CBA, ’91HON and University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M.

Demonstrating their global appreciation of St. John’s, the couple traveled to Rome for the dedication of the University’s new campus.

St. John’s University Provost Julia Upton, RSM, Ph.D. ’73G, ’75G praises the D'Angelos for their active involvement. “One of the things that really has impressed me about them from the beginning is the level of their involvement,” Dr. Upton says. “They don’t just write a check.” She points to the example that while the D'Angelos donated the funding for the organ in St. Thomas More Church, they also went to the factory in New Jersey where the organ was built and learned all about it. In creating the endowed chair, Dr. Upton said the couple really wanted someone of renown who would be able to interact with the students and faculty in a way that would enhance the educational experience. It has also been of benefit to Dr. Haught, she says. “He's working with the Philosophy Department, teaching undergraduates,” Dr. Upton says. “He hasn’t taught undergraduates in years and he’s loving it.”

The D'Angelo children say they are not surprised that their parents would go the extra mile for St. John’s. Peter J. D’Angelo says his mother and father have always been huge proponents of education and spread that message within the family. “They buy our cousins computers to take with them when they go away to school,” he says. “They are so encouraging to everyone in our family to get the best education they can and they let them know that they are there to help them if they need it.” Their daughter, Linda Kuczwaj, says the pair insisted that she and her brother focus on their studies when they were students. “They said ‘You are not getting an after school job, school is your job,’” says Linda, who married an alumnus and former Math major, Matthew (’91C, ’93G), who shared a professor or two with her mother. Linda says her parents are very proud of their affiliation with St. John’s. “I think it's exciting for them to see how the University has grown,” Linda says. “They enjoy bragging about the dorms and the new buildings.”

In November 2008, Peg was honored with the University’s President’s Medal at The School of Education’s 100th Anniversary Convocation. It was an exciting evening for her, though she admits to being uncomfortable in the spotlight. The award was the result of her countless hours of devotion to her family, philanthropy and The School of Education where she serves as Chair of the Centennial Leadership Committee. Peg says she and Peter are simply living out their purpose. “When you are blessed — and I think we are blessed with a lot not just in financial terms but also with family and friends and education — you have to not only look for the opportunities, but you have a responsibility to pay it forward,” she says. “We feel that we need to do that. You can’t just take, you always have to give back. We’ve been fortunate in finding organizations that need some help and places that are doing things that we really strongly believe in. It’s just part of who we are at this point.”
For many, “homeless” is simply a word. It’s used to describe others — people whom we don’t know and with whom we have very little in common.
Not so for Louis Marrero. He is 52 years old, has no job and spends many nights in a public shelter in Brooklyn. His every worldly possession fits into the backpack he carries with him wherever he goes. In the greatest city in the world, in the first decade of the most technologically advanced century in history, this gentle man’s very existence depends solely upon the kindness and generosity of others.

Louis Marrero is homeless.

His life was not always so. Formerly employed and living in an apartment in Brooklyn, a series of medical and other personal problems sent Marrero into a downward spiral which has lasted for more than 20 years. During that time he was hospitalized at Bellevue, lost his job and his apartment and finally became one of the urban victims of difficult times in a tough world. “It’s very hard to be homeless in New York,” Marrero says. “The government doesn’t really care. They push you to the side and don’t have time for you. The shelters kick you out at seven in the morning. Where can I go at that time? What can I do?”

Fortunately, there is a place where Louis Marrero and thousands like him can, and do, go to get a sense of hope back into their lives. One of the largest and most comprehensive social service facilities in New York, St. John’s Bread and Life provides a broad range of assistance to individuals with the greatest needs. Located in a sparkling new facility in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, St. John’s Bread and Life offers services that include a soup kitchen, mobile soup kitchen, food pantry, nutrition counseling, medical support, a legal clinic and a host of other single stop social services.
And maybe most important of all, it offers hope. “I come here and pray every day with one of the Sisters,” Marrero explains. “It gives me hope. If you truly believe in what you’re praying about things come to you, maybe not right away but in due time. I’ve seen it because I’m proof of it. I’m still alive. And because of these wonderful people here, there’s something for me to stay alive for.”

St. John’s University adopted the Bread and Life Program from the Diocese of Brooklyn in 2006 but the two have been bound for years. Bread and Life was founded in 1982 at 75 Lewis Avenue in the original building of St. John’s University. Throughout the years, members of the University community volunteered at Bread and Life and the ties between the two strengthened. Today, St. John’s Bread and Life serves as a unique service initiative and a model for the University’s Vincentian tradition and beliefs. Faculty, students, administrators, staff and alumni have taken advantage of the opportunity to learn more about poverty while being of service to those most in need.

Anthony Butler, Executive Director of St. John’s Bread and Life, believes that one of the most significant achievements of the organization is that it not only serves the immediate needs of the poor but also provides a source of emotional support that goes a long way towards allowing them to become re-integrated as a fully functioning member of society. “Our purpose isn’t just to meet a person’s emergency needs,” notes Butler. “We certainly do that, but our long-term goal is to move that person to independence. When you encounter the poor you encounter the
face of Christ. We’re always reminded of that, and it keeps us focused on why we’re here.”

Butler points out that the organization serves between 350,000 and 400,000 meals per year, and that number continues to grow. He also notes that the client population, whom he refers to as “our guests,” has increased by nearly 25% over the past few months. Through it all, he says he is proud of the way that the staff treats everyone who comes through the door in a dignified and caring way that seems to be rare in typical social service settings.

The fact that many of the staff were themselves former clients may have something to do with that reality. “About 75% of our staff are former recipients of our services,” Butler says. “That provides jobs, but it also provides an opportunity for that former client to take his or her life experiences and
translate them into a career of service to others. That's a very powerful experience, and one that gives hope to our clients that they can also achieve independence and get their lives back together."

Bearing witness to such a powerful experience has resulted in a wonderful and mutually beneficial relationship between St. John's University and the Bread and Life Program. Many St. John's students, particularly those in the highly selective Ozanam Scholars program that incorporates a service-learning requirement into every student's curriculum, spend time doing real world work with the clients. "We're rooted in the Vincentian faith and we go to perform different social service activities," says Robert Marrocco '12TCB. "We registered many homeless people to vote in the presidential election. We're right there with the poor, and that's a very rewarding and humbling experience for us as students." Helena Rodriguez '12CPS is an Ozanam Scholar engaged in helping St. John's Bread and Life research and compile a history of the program. By utilizing her academic skills in the service of the needy, Rodriguez strongly believes that there is great value to the St. John's students who choose this form of service-learning. "I may not be spooning out soup at lunchtime but I know that the work I'm doing here will eventually help these people have a better life for themselves," she says. "I feel like it helps me to have a better understanding of myself as well."

James P. Pellow, Ed.D., Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of St. John's University, is pleased with the way in which the University's students are engaging themselves with those in need. "For me, St. John's Bread and Life is important because it allows the University to extend its mission," Dr. Pellow says. "There's no better education than to take our students where they can learn not only to use their skills but to serve the poor and come to know others through serving the poor. They have a great opportunity to help themselves through helping others."

As expected, with the numbers of those in need increasing daily, support for St. John's Bread and Life is an ongoing and acute concern. According to Butler, 87% of the funding for this exceptional organization comes from private donations, and with the current economic uncertainty, continued funding becomes even more critical. For example, he dreams of installing solar panels on the roof of the facility to ease the cost of electricity, but hesitates to embark on this or any other projects without the certainty of additional funding.

Fortunately, there are many caring and compassionate individuals who have quietly embraced the mission. Retired New York State Court of Appeals Judge and St. John's University School of Law Dean Emeritus Hon. Joseph Bellacosa '59C, '61L, '87HON and his wife Mary were recently honored for their long-standing dedication and support at the Eleventh Annual St. John's Bread and Life Johnny's Angels Award Ceremony. Judge Bellacosa noted his roots in the community that has always been home to St. John's Bread and Life. "My grandparents and parents settled around the corner from the Bread and Life location in Brooklyn about 100 years ago," he said. "I was born and baptized and educated there [at the church where Bread and Life was originally located] until I was eight years old. To be able to go back and work at St. John's Bread and Life is an extraordinary gift to me. The new facility is so dignified and so welcoming, and really shows respect for the people who are our guests."

Sr. Madeline Kavanagh, D.C. has been a Daughter of Charity for 49 years and has worked among the poor in areas at home and around the world. As Spirituality Coordinator for St. John's Bread and Life, Sr. Madeline never fails to be impressed with the people who come seeking help. "The people who come here generate my energy," she says. "Their sufferings are terrible but they have an incredible inner strength that always amazes me. In the midst of their own great suffering they help each other out and protect each other. St. Vincent de Paul would say that Christ is in every one of
these people, and Vincent would be pleased.” Social Services Supervisor Janette Mercedes would like to see the concept of single stop services replicated in other areas where the needs of the poor are great. “I hope that the St. John’s Bread and Life model can multiply across the nation,” she says. “The idea that clients not only feel that they can get services but also feel welcome is a wonderful thing. We serve our clients with dignity, because this is home for them.”

Louis Marrero agrees. “Here it’s a family to me,” he says. “You feel that respect and pride as soon as you come in. The people here treat you like gold. They make you feel like you belong.”

For more information about St. John’s Bread and Life, please contact Anthony Butler, Executive Director at (718) 574-0058 or visit www.breadandlife.org
St. John’s University mourned the passing of School of Law Dean Mary C. Daly, who died in November.

Dean Daly was a greatly esteemed international scholar and an authority on legal ethics. She came to the University in 2004 to head the School of Law and serve as the John V. Brennan Professor of Law and Ethics. St. John’s University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M. praised her work at the University. “Her impact on the School of Law has been nothing short of transformative,” he said. “She established a global focus within the School through the creation of new academic programs and initiatives.”

Her career at St. John’s was the result of several years of hard work, drive and determination. The daughter of Irish immigrants, she earned her law degree at Fordham Law in 1972 and later studied at the University of Paris Law School as a Zichkla Fellow before completing her LL.M. at New York University Law School. She began her legal career as an associate at Rogers & Wells and left private practice to become an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York where she worked in the Civil Division until 1980. From 1980 to 1983, she served as Deputy Chief and Chief of the Civil Division.

In 1983, she joined the faculty at Fordham Law School and became the Director of the Graduate Program and Co-Associate Director of the Louis Stein Center for Law and Ethics. By the time she took the helm of St. John’s School of Law, she had already been published widely in law journals and authored several books. A strong advocate of the Roman Catholic social philosophy of St. Vincent de Paul on whose principles St. John’s University was founded, she reached out to alumni across the country and increased gifts to the School of Law substantially during her tenure.

A Funeral Mass was held at St. Thomas More Church on the Queens campus in December. Family members, colleagues from St. John’s and Fordham, friends, students and faculty joined together to remember Dean Daly and pay tribute to her extraordinary life and gifts. In his remarks, Fr. Harrington pointed out her kindness, peaceful nature and strong faith. He also noted that Dean Daly began her career at St. John’s a month before the first Mass was held at the church. And like the church, Dean Daly became a part of the fabric of St. John’s University. “As the church grew to become a vibrant part of us, so did Mary Daly grow to become a vibrant part of us,” he said. “It seems as though she was always a part of us and it’s difficult to remember a time when she wasn’t.”
New Rome Campus Blessed

A Eucharistic Celebration was held in October at the new St. John’s Rome campus. Members of the St. John’s family including Board of Trustees, Board of Governors and loyal supporters of the University held a gala celebration for the new campus location complete with a formal Blessing and Dedication Ceremony with principal celebrant His Eminence Franc Cardinal Rode, C.M. presiding.

Following the Mass, those present assembled in the courtyard of the new campus where St. John’s University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M., welcomed the crowd before Cardinal Rode and His Eminence John Cardinal Foley ’01HON offered the official blessing and dedication.

“We are especially blessed to celebrate our wonderful expansion today with Cardinal Rode and Cardinal Foley,” Fr. Harrington said. “These blessings come from God and we ask him to bless our students and look over them during their time here. St. John’s University has a presence in Paris, Spain and Ireland with our study abroad programs, but Rome remains the heart of our global efforts.”

St. John’s first established a presence in Rome in 1995 when it began offering graduate degrees there in the areas of Business Administration and Government and Politics. The new international location has historic

▲ Alumni and friends of St. John’s joined University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M. for the blessing of the new Rome Campus.
roots that trace back to the Vincentian Community — the same community which founded St. John’s in 1870 in the spirit and beliefs of St. Vincent de Paul. That same year, the Vincentian Community in Rome took residence in what is now the new Rome campus, a fact which Fr. Harrington viewed as no coincidence. “We as Vincentians have come full circle and returned home,” he said. “Our students will be able to study in a Vincentian environment and that’s very significant to us.”

The new campus is yet another example of the strength of St. John’s global presence. The four-story, 75,000 square foot facility includes nine classrooms, a student and faculty lounge, 200 resident beds, a chapel, library, courtyard, campus ministry office and administrative offices.

Joseph O’Connor ’82CBA and Antoinette (’82CBA), William Collins ’76C and Lesley (’83SVC) and Mary Tobin ’00HON traveled to Rome for the dedication.

Fr. Harrington is joined by Rev. David M. O’Connell, C.M., ’05HON, President of Catholic University of America.

St. John’s University Provost Dr. Julia A. Upton, RSM, ’73G, ’75G, Executive Vice President and COO James P. Pellow Ed.D., Board of Trustees Chairperson Thomas E. McInerney ’64UC, ’01HON and Paula G. McInerney applaud the new campus.

From l. Very Rev. Gregory Gay, C.M. ’05HON, Superior General, Congregation of the Mission; Franc Cardinal Rode, C.M. ’05HON, Prefect, Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies; John Cardinal Foley ’01HON, Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem; Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M., President, St. John’s University; Rev. David O’Connell, C.M. ’05HON, President, Catholic University of America and Member, St. John’s University Board of Trustees.
Insurance Leader of the Year

Gregory C. Case, President and CEO of Aon Corporation, was named 2008 Insurance Leader of the Year by St. John’s School of Risk Management (SRM), a school within St. John’s University’s The Peter J. Tobin College of Business. The award was conferred at the 14th Annual Award Dinner held at the Marriott Marquis in New York City.

Presented annually since 1995, the Insurance Leader of the Year Award recognizes the contributions of outstanding individuals whose leadership in the worldwide insurance and financial services industry sets them apart from their peers.

Dr. Ellen Thrower, Executive Director of the School of Risk Management, noted that the University was “…heartened and inspired by the tremendous turnout and generous support despite the nation’s current economic downturn.” Highly regarded within the insurance industry, this year’s event was attended by more than 1,300 guests and produced revenue in excess of $2 million to be used to fund programs within the SRM.

Upon receiving his award, Mr. Case remarked that “St. John’s is steeped in rich history. I feel humbled to play a small role in supporting a great cause to build the next generation of leaders [in the insurance industry] at St. John’s.”

Peter B. Walker, Director of McKinsey & Company (NY), served as Honorary Chairman of the dinner and was privileged to present the award to his long-time colleague and friend. “Greg was a star in our industry from the very beginning,” said Walker. “He is one of the all-time humble guys in our business who has truly made a difference with his enthusiasm, energy and incredibly high aspirations.”

“ST. JOHN’S IS STEEPED IN RICH HISTORY. I feel humbled to play a small role in supporting a great cause to build the next generation of leaders [in the insurance industry] at St. John’s.”

– Gregory C. Case, President and CEO of Aon Corporation and 2008 Insurance Leader of the Year Honoree

Dr. Thrower

St. John’s University President
Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M. shares a moment with guests at the Marriott Marquis.
More than 100 alumni and friends of St. John’s University enjoyed a day on the green in October at the Engineers Country Club in Roslyn Harbor, NY, for the annual Alumni Golf Outing, an event which raises funds to support the Long Island Alumni Golf Outing Scholarship Fund for St. John’s most deserving students.

Foursomes challenged each other in spirited competition throughout the day and following the completion of the 18 holes the golfers enjoyed a cocktail reception and buffet in the Club’s exclusive dining room. This year’s Alumni Golf Outing honoree was Michael Keenan ’77C, ’79MBA, Senior Vice President and Commercial Banking Director for Wachovia Bank, Long Island. Keenan said the event was a reflection of the University’s Vincentian mission in action. “It’s wonderful to see so many people who came out for such a good cause,” he said. “I’ll be involved with this event going forward, because at the bottom line we’re helping students get a great St. John’s education, and that’s fantastic.”

Bill Schaeffer ’73CBA, Director of Alumni Relations, declared the day a great success. “It’s wonderful to see so many St. John’s alumni and friends coming together to enjoy a great day of golf,” he said. “It’s even more gratifying to realize that they’re here to support the University’s students in a very real way.”
The University’s premier fundraising event had its most successful year to date as more than 1,000 alumni, friends, faculty and administrators enjoyed a special evening in October at the famed Waldorf=Astoria in New York City.

The 11th Annual President’s Dinner raised more than $2.15 million which will benefit deserving St. John's students. The success of the event was a testament to the hard work of the dinner committee and the generosity of the many supporters of St. John’s. Lesley H. Collins ’83SVC and William L. Collins ’76C, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Brencourt Advisors LLC, served as the 2008 Dinner Co-Chairs, and Mary P. Tobin ’06CBA, ’96HON served as Honorary Chairs for the former Spirit of Service Award honorees.

The evening also served to pay tribute to the well-deserving recipients of the University’s prestigious Spirit of Service Award, which is presented to those outstanding individuals who have lived their lives in accordance with the Vincentian ideals of serving the underserved in a spirit of caring and compassion.

The 2008 Spirit of Service Award honorees were Mary and Lou Carnesecca ’50C, ’60GEd, ’00HON, Assistant to the President and Hall of Fame Coach, Men’s Basketball, St. John’s University; George T. McDonald, Founder and President, The Doe Fund, Inc.; and Maria C. and Joseph H. Schwartz ’70C, ’72MBA, Retired Partner, Wellington Management Company.

Master of Ceremonies WNBC-TV Sportscaster Bruce Beck proclaimed the evening “magical” and guests enjoyed mingling during the cocktail reception held prior to the dinner. Poignant, video mini-biographies produced by A&E Television Networks moved many in the audience as they reflected on the generosity of each of the honorees. University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M. hailed the recipients of the Spirit of Service Award and thanked the black-tie gala attendees for their support of St. John’s. “It is very clear that you believe that St. John’s does make a difference in our world and that you believe in the hope that St. John’s offers to our students and to our society,” he said.

Many of those present said they drew inspiration from the event. Alumna Dina Scanlon ’84P was attending her first President’s Dinner and said she viewed it as an opportunity to reconnect with alma mater.

“St. John’s has contributed tremendously to where I am today, socially, emotionally, professionally and spiritually,” she said. “I received a really great education from St. John’s and a sound foundation for life.” As a student, Maggie Snyder ’09C said she was pleased to be able to witness the achievements and altruism of the alumni. “St. John’s emphasizes service as part of our college experience and it’s very inspiring for me to come and see people who really lead by example,” she said. “Everything that they do is so inspiring to us.”
Winter Bullpen Banquet

There was baseball fever in the air as more than 200 alumni and friends of St. John’s University gathered for the Third Annual Bullpen Winter Banquet in January at the New York Athletic Club. Designed to generate support for the highly touted Red Storm Division I Baseball Program, the event featured remarks from four-time Major League Baseball all-star John Franco. Franco led the National League in saves three times and his 424 career saves remain the most by a lefty in major league history.

Franco was a member of the St. John’s pitching staff from 1979-1981 and was instrumental in helping his team reach the NCAA College World Series in 1980. Franco credits Howie Gershberg, his pitching coach at St. John’s, for helping him to develop the skills that characterized his success at the professional level. “Howie was a mentor to me,” noted Franco. “When I came to St. John’s I was a thrower and Howie made me into a pitcher.”

Gershberg spent 12 years as St. John’s pitching coach before moving on to a similar position within the California Angels organization. This year’s dinner featured a moving video tribute acknowledging his impressive baseball legacy at the University. Following the video, Franco presented a framed St. John’s jersey to Gershberg’s wife, Terry.

“This was a great evening for everyone involved,” said Red Storm Head Baseball Coach Ed Blankmeyer. “John [Franco] really connected with the audience, the team and all of his former teammates in attendance. John is just another example of the great baseball tradition here at St. John’s.”

“It was a great evening honoring two outstanding individuals, both of whom epitomize not only what St. John’s baseball is all about but what the University is all about as well,” said Anthony J. Bonomo ’80C, ’84L. “St. John’s honored itself by recognizing Howie and John.”

Prior to Franco’s remarks St. John’s Athletic Director Emeritus and former baseball coach Jack Kaiser presented him with his St. John’s senior watch, a traditional gift given to graduating seniors. Drafted after his junior year at St. John’s, Franco elected to pursue his professional career and never received his watch.

“To be presented with the watch was a true honor and it really meant a lot to me,” remarked Franco.

Also in attendance were a number of special guests, including Hall of Fame Men’s Basketball Coach Lou Carnesecca ’50C, ’60GEd, ’00HON and former New York Mets pitcher Ron Darling.

“THIS WAS A GREAT EVENING for everyone involved. John [Franco] really connected with the audience, the team and all of his former teammates in attendance. John is just another example of the great baseball tradition here at St. John’s.” – Red Storm Head Baseball Coach Ed Blankmeyer

Franco poses with members of the 2009 Red Storm baseball team.

Franco poses with members of the 2009 Red Storm baseball team.

Former NY Mets pitcher Ron Darling (center) with Franco and some of his St. John’s baseball teammates.
An appearance by the former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Tony Blair energized attendees of The Loughlin Society Reception held in December.

Mr. Blair addressed the crowd of almost 300 generous supporters of the University who assembled at the Essex House in New York City. He drew big laughs when he opened his remarks by saying, “You’re probably wondering what I am doing here.” Mr. Blair was there at the invitation of his good friend, James J. Schiro ’67CBA, ’95HON, a member of St. John’s Board of Trustees and Chief Executive Officer of Zurich Financial Services. Mr. Blair said he felt “a real sense of honor and privilege” to be in attendance having learned from Mr. Schiro the important role St. John’s had played in his life and having listened to remarks from student Pedro Gomez ’09TCB who thanked those present for their generosity which had enabled him to study at St. John’s.

Mr. Blair spoke eloquently about the values that govern the global community and the human spirit that leads individuals to reach out to others. “The way that spirit comes about is actually through institutions like St. John’s,” he said. “Because each of these young people who are educated in an institution that was begun as an act, not just of education but actually of mercy and compassion, every young person that passes through those doors takes something of that spirit with them. As a result of that, they go into a world in which those values are more important than ever before in trying to define the global community in which we live.”

He praised the University, saying it plays a critical role, not just in New York and at its various campuses abroad, but also wherever its graduates venture. “Each of these students takes that special spirit out and gives it to the world,” Mr. Blair said. “Because the thing that the University teaches is that it is important that that spirit does not just stop in your immediate community but is actually related to the challenges, the difficulties, the problems and also the opportunities that beset our world at this time.”

St. John’s University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M. applauded Mr. Blair for his attendance and offered his appreciation of The Loughlin Society members whose support enables the University to be able to enroll students who might not otherwise have the opportunity to pursue their education at St. John’s. Fr. Harrington said he believes the University continues to be blessed. “And why are we blessed,” he said. “I believe we are blessed first and foremost because we are faithful to our mission. We are faithful to our mission of educating students with an education that is clearly value and faith based and we are faithful to our mission of serving the poor.”

This year’s The Loughlin Society reached an all time high of more than 1,900 members. Membership is available to those who make contributions totaling $1,000 or more during a fiscal year. The Loughlin Society Associate Program recognizes the significant contributions made by recent graduates and membership is based on charitable giving and the number of years since graduation.
Annual McCallen Society Recognition Mass and Luncheon

About 50 members of The McCallen Society gathered at St. Thomas More Church in November for the Annual Thanksgiving and Recognition Mass which was followed by a luncheon.

At the Mass, attendees were reminded by principal celebrant Rev. Kevin Creagh, C.M ’91SVC, ’04PD, Associate Vice President for International Sites and Alumni Chaplain, to be mindful of those in need. “Today we are called to be a people who are good and kind to each other,” he said “The poor are our keys to heaven. They will bring us to God.” Following Mass the members enjoyed lunch in the Faculty Dining Room of Sun Yat Sen Hall where they were thanked for their generosity over the past year. “Last year, gifts from planned giving totaled nearly $2.3 million, much of it from McCallen Society members,” said Robert Wile ’99SVC, Vice President and Chief of Staff, Office of the President and Chief Advancement Officer. “You need only to step outside at St. John’s during the past year, including the unprecedented increase in new student applications and enrollment, the globalization initiatives resulting in the expansion of the University’s Rome campus and the opening of a location in Paris, the new construction on campus and the tremendous success of the recent 11th Annual President’s Dinner. “I’m so encouraged to see how many people believe in the St. John’s story,” he said.

Guests expressed their affection for St. John’s and many said they were pleased to be members of The McCallen Society. “My father graduated from the College of Business Administration, which makes me a double son of St. John’s,” said John Bleimaier ’75L. “My father was an accountant and I’m a lawyer. St. John’s gave my father and me the training to enter these learned professions. I feel very privileged to be able to give back to this wonderful University.” Evelyn Paola ’57Ed, ’59GEd also credited the influence of her family with her lifetime association with alma mater. “I love St. John’s,” she said. “We have been a St. John’s family since my brothers attended in the 1940’s. I have just loved St. John’s for all those years and owe a debt of gratitude for my career in education and for the Vincentian values that I absorbed here.”

The event was just one of many events held during the fall and open to members of this prestigious society including a special visit to the Catholic in New York exhibit and a Romance of Italian Food and Wine gathering. The McCallen Society is the distinguished gift society whose members honor the St. John’s legacy by including the University in their estate and financial plans. For more information on The McCallen Society and its events, contact Susan Damiani ’87CBA at (718) 990-7562, e-mail damianis@stjohns.edu or visit www.stjohns.edu/giftplanning

“LAST YEAR, GIFTS FROM PLANNED GIVING totaled nearly $2.3 million, much of it from McCallen Society members. You need only to step outside onto campus to see what your support has accomplished. It’s in the faces of the students who wouldn’t be here without your help. It’s in the buildings that we couldn’t construct were it not for you.”

– Robert Wile ’99SVC, Vice President and Chief of Staff, Office of the President and Chief Advancement Officer

onto campus to see what your support has accomplished. It’s in the faces of the students who wouldn’t be here without your help. It’s in the buildings that we couldn’t construct were it not for you.”

St. John’s University President Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M. expressed his appreciation to the members for “…investing in the future of St. John’s.” “You believed in St. John’s and you have invested in our future,” he said. Fr. Harrington noted the many accomplishments that have taken place
Pre-Christmas Concert Reception

Hundreds of alumni and their families along with friends of the University enjoyed a reception held prior to St. John’s University’s 21st Annual Christmas Concert in December.

Attendees enjoyed a buffet of sandwiches, sweets and plenty of eggnog in a festively decorated Marillac Terrace, the site of the event that was graciously hosted by St. John’s Alumnae Association. The concert has become an annual tradition at the University where members of the community come together to celebrate the holiday season. This year’s reception included a raffle to benefit the Veronica Smith Scholarship Fund established to honor the memory of a former member of the Alumnae Association.

President of the Alumnae Association Carol Whyzmuzis ’73CBA, ’75GEd, introduced Keri Zachmann ’12P, the scholarship recipient. Zachmann attended the event with her parents and shared with the attendees the important role in which the scholarship has played in enabling her to pursue her education and future career as a Physician Assistant. “I’m honored to be a part of this event,” she said. “I feel so fortunate to have received the Veronica Smith Scholarship. This scholarship eases a huge part of the financial burden associated with my college education at St. John’s.”

Bill Schaeffer ’73CBA, Director of Alumni Relations, welcomed the crowd which was made up of participants of all ages. Rev. John A. Kettleberger, C.M., University Chaplin and Director of Campus Ministry for Residence Students, gave an update on St. John’s and offered the blessing. The crowd cheered the arrival of Santa Claus and one of his elves who handed out candy canes and posed for pictures with attendees.

Rosalie Marti is a member of The Loughlin Society and was a first time attendee. She and her husband, Roger, instituted a scholarship fund in honor of their son Michael Anthony Marti ’97CBA who was a victim of the attacks on September 11. Mrs. Marti said she enjoyed the reception and the opportunity to return to her son’s alma mater. “I thought it would be nice to come,” she said. Student James Pickel ’10C said he looked forward to returning for the event even after graduation. “I am getting closer to being an alumni and I love to see the great works the alumni do giving back to the University,” he said. “I hope to attend these events when I am an alumnus.”

St. John’s University 21st Annual Christmas Concert included performances from the St. John’s University Mixed Chorus and the Nassau Pops Symphony Orchestra, featuring John Easterlin, Tenor of Metropolitan Opera fame.
What a Character

The incomparable Lou Carnesecca ’50C, ’60GEd, ’00HON (c.) was one of three recipients of the inaugural Joe Lapchick Character Awards, presented at a luncheon at Madison Square Garden in New York City in November. He joined two other memorable college Hall of Fame coaches — Pat Summitt of Tennessee and Dean Smith of North Carolina — in receiving the award. The awards were presented by a committee started by Gus Alfieri ’59C, ’64GEd and honors those in college sports who have conducted themselves in a way Joe Lapchick did throughout his playing and coaching career. Lapchick played as a member of one of the “Original Celtics” basketball team, was coach of four national championship teams at St. John’s and the first coach of the New York Knicks. Carnesecca served as an assistant to Lapchick at St. John’s from 1957 through 1965.

A Star Is Born

Jerome Richards ’55UC is enjoying his time in the limelight. He has worked as a speech-language-hearing pathologist and as an adjunct professor at SUNY but he also has a passion for acting. A member of the Screen Actors Guild, the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists and the Actors’ Equity Association, he has performed in dozens of TV, film and stage performances including The Little Prince, The Miracle Worker and “The Late Show with David Letterman.”

Frank Mulzoff ’51CBA, ’57GEd was inducted into the St. Joseph’s College Inaugural Hall of Fame for his contribution to education and athletics in Patchogue, NY.

New Texas Tech Provost

Robert V. Smith ’63P has been named Provost and Senior Vice President of Texas Tech University. In his role of Provost he will be the chief academic officer of the university, with oversight responsibility for all of the institution’s educational components and activities, including research and academic personnel. “I feel deeply honored to have been chosen to serve Texas Tech University as Senior Vice President and Provost,” said Smith. “I pledge my best efforts to assist the Texas Tech community in meeting the teaching, research and outreach mission and goals of this great public research university.”

Prior to his appointment, Smith served as Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Emeritus at the University of Arkansas, where he also served as a Professor of chemistry.

Cathleen Krahe ’66UC is retired and traveled with Interfaith Peace-Builders of Washington, DC to Westbank, Jerusalem and Israel and met with un-official Israelis and Palestinians to hear and see both sides of their conflict.
Red and White Memories

Frank Palmieri ’68CBA was thrilled to attend a 40th reunion with some of his former 1968 baseball teammates from St. John’s. The group, along with their former coach and St. John’s Athletic Director Emeritus Jack Kaiser ’49C, returned to Omaha, NE and the Johnny Rosenblatt Stadium where they had played in the 1968 College World Series. Palmieri said the experience brought back quite a few memories. “It was great to be there again and we even had the opportunity to watch some of the home movies that had been taken in 1968,” he said. “We had a wonderful time.” The group is shown here on the field where they were announced and introduced to spectators during a game.

Robert Stanton ’67UC is an Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science at St. John’s University and was awarded an Outstanding Faculty Achievement Medal by the University.

Robert McCashin ’68CBA is a member of the Board of Directors at Imprivata, Inc., in Lexington, MA.

Matthew Mancuso ’71MBA is Chief Financial Officer with Yapstone, Inc., in San Francisco, CA.

Wolodymr Sulzynsky ’73L retired after 33 years of federal service as an Attorney-Adviser with the Office of the Legal Adviser United States Department of State in Washington, DC.

Robert Demar ’75Ed retired from the New York City Police Department as a Lieutenant in New York City.

Scott Lebowitz ’80CBA is Controller of Westchester Health Associates, PLLC in Katonah, NY.

Abu Serjuddin ’82Ph.D. is a Full Professor in Pharmaceutical Sciences for the College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions at St. John’s University.

Karen Tripodi ’82GEd received the New Jersey 2008 Governor’s Teacher of the Year Award and is a teacher at Milford Brook School in Manalapan, NJ.

Julie Black ’84SVC is a Clinical Assistant Professor and Senior Clinical Coordinator at SUNY Downstate Medical Center Physician Assistant Program in Brooklyn, NY. She is also the owner of Black Star Entertainment Group LLC in Brooklyn, NY.

Ellen Davitt-Lalwani ’85CBA is Senior Vice President, Director Retail Sales for Lakeland Bank in Oak Ridge, NJ.

Frances Gatto ’85P is Editor for the Italian American Pharmacist Society Newsletter and is a Controlled Substance Manager at St. Barnabas Hospital in Bronx, NY. She also completed her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Florida in Gainsville, FL.

Anthony Sorrentino ’85SVC is Investigations Manager for the New Jersey Market for the Bank of America, Investigative Services, Northeast Region in Bridgewater, NJ.

Teresa Grossane ’86Ed is Director of Mathematics for the Westbury Union Free School District in Westbury, NY.

Jean Devlin ’87G received the President’s Award for Ten Years of Service and the Excellence in Teaching Award from Molloy College, where she is an Adjunct Assistant Professor in Communication Arts in Rockville Centre, NY. She also teaches English and History and is Director of Student Special Services for North Shore Hebrew Academy High School in Great Neck, NY.

Jakeline Ramos-Calderon ’87SVC was recognized by Cambridge Who’s Who for showing dedication, leadership and excellence in all aspects of social service. She is an Encore Plus Director for the YWCA of White Plains and Central Westchester, NY.

Audrey Austin ’88CBA is Senior Director, Client Services for STC Associates in New York City.

Tanya Hobson-Williams ’89C was appointed by the Village of Hempstead Mayor as Village Justice in Hempstead, NY.

Deanna Zullo-Maietta ’89C is a Substance Abuse Prevention Intervention Specialist at The Louis Armstrong Middle School in East Elmhurst, NY.

Adina Carrel ’90C was inducted into Cambridge Who’s Who Executive, Professional and Entrepreneurial Registry in New York City and is currently a Dentist for Manhattan Dental Arts in New York City.

Stephanie Salsarulo ’90CBA, ’95GEd is a fourth grade teacher at P.S. 215 in Brooklyn, NY.
Rachel Lecoin Desrouleaux ’93CBA is Senior Auditor for Quest Diagnostics, Inc. in Palm Beach Gardens, FL.

Angela Wambugu Cobb ’94SVC is Director of Development for LaGuardia Community College in Long Island City, NY.

Anton Stubbs ’95CBA has left active duty in the United States Marine Corps after serving eight years. He is currently serving as a Task Leader for MKI Systems, Inc., a division of L-3 Communications in Dumfries, VA, as well as an Adjunct Professor for the Business Department at the College of Southern Maryland, La Plata, MD.

Michelle Narea-Popu ’99C is a Transactional Paralegal for Hunt & Gross, P.A. in Boca Raton, FL.

Stefanie Sommo ’05TCB is a Human Resources Administrator for Festo Corporation in Hauppauge, NY.

Melissa Gant ’06CPS is Assistant Photo Editor for the Everyday with Rachel Ray magazine in New York City.

Valeria D’Adamo ’01TCB, ’02MS is Assistant Vice President with Deutsche Bank in New York City.

Randy Kumar ’01CPS is a Special Agent with the United States Environmental Protection Agency Criminal Investigation Division in New York City.

Melissa Bilotti ’04C is a consultant with Merrill Lynch & Co. in New York City.

Eric Heindel ’05L is a writer for LawCareerAdvice.com in New York City.

Melissa Gant ’06CPS is Assistant Photo Editor for the Everyday with Rachel Ray magazine in New York City.

Raymond Devries ’07C is Project Coordinator with Bovis Lend Lease LMB, Inc. in New York City.

Lisa Procaccio ’07TCB is Account Manager with Insurance Solutions & Services Inc., in Fords, NJ.

Kristen Asciutto ’08GED is a mathematics teacher at St. Joseph by-the-Sea High School in Huguenot, NY.

We Need Your Help

We are looking to reconnect with alumni with whom we have lost touch. If you know of anyone with whom we have lost contact or have lost contact with us, we would like to hear from you. Please submit their contact information, including e-mails, to alumnotes@stjohns.edu and help us stay in touch with our alumni.

Staying True to Alma Mater

The Reading and Writing Education Center has attracted quite a few alumni who are committed to St. John’s Vincentian mission. The center provides diagnosis and one-to-one assistance for students grades one through twelfth who may be experiencing difficulty in reading and writing. The center employees are very active within the University community and in honor of Service Day many of the Center’s diagnosticians and clinicians volunteered their services to children by administering diagnostic evaluations and working with them on their on reading and math skills. Pictured from l. are Denise Tulley ’06Ed, ’07GED; Laura Guerrerio; Marianne Sladowski ’05GED; Dr. Richard Sinatra; Frances Stathis ’05CPS; Joann McCormack Eterno ’07GED; Danielle DiMarco ’01Ed, ’07GED; Stephanie Carrasco; and Jessica Guerrerio ’04Ed, ’07GED.
James J. Browne ’56UC is the author of Managing Your Life, Adapting Proving Methods of Science and Management (iUniverse, 2008), a self-help book based on methods from management and science.

Sal LaGumina ’56G, ’66Ph.D. latest book is The Great Earthquake: America Comes to Messina’s Rescue (Teneo Press, 2008) which focuses on one of the worst natural disaster in European history where about 200,000 Italians perished and hundreds of thousands were injured and homeless in the midst of winter.

Bro. Augustine Towey, C.M. ’58C, ’60G, ’89HON is the author The Poem You Asked For and Other Poems (Arthur McAllister, 2008) a collection of his major poetry which includes never before published work and an essay from Bro. Towey on his development as a poet.


James Ragonnet ’66C wrote Golf’s Three Noble Truths: The Fine Art of Playing Awake (New World Library, 2007) which applies the classic teachings of the Buddha to the game.
IN MEMORIAM

Submissions to In Memoriam must be received by letter, e-mail, as a printed obit, or using this form from a family member, guardian or legal executor to:
Lisa Capone, Division of Institutional Advancement, St. John’s University, 8000 Utopia Parkway, Queens, NY, 11439.
Via e-mail to caponel@stjohns.edu or via fax to (718) 990-6859.

Name of Deceased: ___________________________ School/Class Year: ___________________________

Date of Death (required): ___________________________ Contact Name: ___________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________ Relationship to Deceased (required):

Does the family of the deceased wish to continue receiving mail from St. John’s University? □ Yes  □ No

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We apologize for any errors of the data contained herein. St. John’s University has made every effort to verify the accuracy of the data contained herein. We apologize for any errors or omissions and ask that you bring them to our attention for subsequent correction.
Rev. Thomas V. Concagh, C.M. ‘55G, ‘61GEd

Rev. Thomas V. Concagh, C.M., longstanding member of the St. John’s University community, died on February 11, 2009 in Philadelphia, PA. He was 83 years old. A wake was held in St. Thomas More Church on the University’s Queens campus on Friday, February 13, 2009, followed by a funeral Mass on Saturday, February 14, 2009. Burial was at St. Joseph’s Seminary in Princeton, NJ.

Father Concagh was ordained in 1952 after earning a B.A. at Mary Immaculate Seminary and College. He then earned two graduate degrees at St. John’s University — a Master of Arts in History in 1955 and a Master of Science in Education in 1961.

His ministry was dedicated to education. Following ordination, he became Spiritual Director at St. John’s Preparatory High School in Brooklyn and subsequently at Niagara University. He joined St. John’s as a full-time faculty member in 1965 and was awarded tenure in 1972. When St. John’s acquired its Staten Island campus, Father Concagh left the faculty to serve as Administrative Vice President and Director of Student Affairs at our new campus. He returned to the Queens campus in 1982 when he was named Vice President for Alumni Relations. He retired from full-time service in 1995 with the title of Vice President Emeritus for Alumni Relations and remained a familiar and popular figure on campus and at alumni events.

In Holy Matrimony

Spouse’s Name: _____________________________
First Middle/Maiden Last: _____________________________
Year/School (if also an alum): _____________________________
Wedding date: _____________________________

In The Family Way

Child’s Name: _____________________________
Date of birth: _____________________________
Son □ Daughter □

We want to know what’s new with you since you left St. John’s. Have you been promoted? Changed jobs? Received an award? Moved? Started a family? Retired? Please use this form as a guide for submitting personal anecdotes and updated information.

Mail your submission to: St. John’s University, c/o Alumnotes Editor, St. John’s University Magazine, 8000 Utopia Parkway, Queens, NY, 11439, fax it to (718) 990-6873, e-mail alumnotes@stjohns.edu

I would like information on: □ Arts and Enrichment Series □ Annual Giving Opportunities □ Chapter Gatherings □ Other _____________________________

News submissions will be published in the order received. Submissions may be edited for space and style.
Family Ties

It is not an understatement to say that the Tomlinson family has a great deal of love for St. John’s University.

The Tomlinson brood includes brothers and sisters James Tomlinson ’82SVC, ‘91MBA; Anne Tomlinson ’88C, ’90GEd; Thomas Tomlinson ’91SVC; Ellen Tomlinson-Walsh ’91SVC, ’94MBA; and Kevin Tomlinson ’93MBA. All have great memories of alma mater and at one point, four of the siblings were attending classes at the University at the same time.

Jim Tomlinson is now Vice President of Production for A&E Television Networks and he says St. John’s is in the Tomlinson’s blood. “We all loved it there,” he recalls. “St. John’s really helped prepare me for my career.” Brother Kevin concurs, “St. John’s has meant a lot not just to my life, but my whole family’s lives. All of my siblings are proud graduates from St. John’s University and we have a connection and special memories of our times there.”

Those memories include many great basketball games which are especially poignant for sister Anne who served as an assistant to the legendary Coach Carnesecca. All of the Tomlins have a great deal of admiration for “Looie” but he and Anne share a special bond.

“I first met Coach Carnesecca in eighth grade at a Sport’s Award Night and later worked with him after I began at St. John’s,” Anne explains. “He has been a great influence on my life.”

Television and the entertainment industry also come naturally to the Tomlinson clan. Like Jim, several of them have found themselves toiling behind the scenes with Ellen serving as a Producer at Food Network and Tom working in the special effects industry. Their grandfather and uncles were in the business and when it came time to learn about television and film, St. John’s proved to be a great place. Tom says Jim recommended he look to STJ when he was ready for college. “I was pursuing a similar field and I figured he had such success there,” Tom says. “Since the TV department was expanding when I was enrolling, it seemed like the right choice.”

Like her brothers, Ellen says St. John’s helped to shape her creativity. “St. John’s taught me the fundamentals and importance of communicating thoughts and ideas,” she reflects. “To constantly look outside the box for answers and creative brainstorming and to give a 150% to everything that you do. Learning these skills has allowed me to grow personally and professionally throughout my career and I am grateful for the experience.”

And it doesn’t end there. A new generation of Tomlins is ready to carry forth the family tradition. This past fall, Jim’s son James Tomlinson ’12CPS began classes as a television and film major. “We are very excited about that,” the elder Tomlinson says.
Carol Ann Bubenik ’58Ed and Harold Loumeau ’58Ed

Carol and Harry Loumeau didn’t start out at St. John’s University together but they ended up together.

Carol began attending the Lewis Avenue campus as a student of The School of Education in 1954. Harry transferred to the campus the following year and the pair met in Dr. Salerno’s Saturday Philosophy class. Carol sat in front of the young Harry and despite her wearing bulky sweaters and no makeup, he was intrigued with her. He struck up a conversation and asked her to go out on a date with his brother. Her response was “I don’t know you and I don’t know your brother and I’m not going out with either one of you!”

The two met again on March 17, 1956 as they were both a part of a contingent of St. John’s who marched in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Carol casually mentioned where she might be later and Harry waited hours in the cold at that location with the hopes of seeing her. When Carol finally arrived, she was greeted by Harry’s huge grin and they proceeded on what would become their first date.

Both shared a love of education and they each taught in parochial schools during the day and attended classes at night. They filled their free time with participation in St. John’s activities, going out on dates and talking on the phone to each other for hours. After graduating in June 1958, they married in December of that year. In 1960 they moved to California before relocating to Tucson, AZ nine years later where they raised their four children.

Today they are the grandparents of two and the great-grandparents of one.

Carol and Harry Loumeau on their wedding day (above) and today.

Is this you?

» If St. John’s played a role as matchmaker in your life, we want to know about it.

» If there are several generations of St. John’s graduates in your family, we want to know that also.

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Mama Mio

Jenny Alonzo ’87SVC understands the value of hard work. From a college internship to her current role as Co-founder and Executive Vice President, Marketing and Communications of MIO.TV, Alonzo has always put her best foot forward, unafraid to take chances and do what needed to get done.

It is now paying off as she helps launch an exciting new venture in MIO.TV, an online multimedia entertainment, communications and social networking site whose targeted audience is the millions of acculturated Hispanics living in the United States.

A native of the Dominican Republic, she grew up in Queens and chose St. John’s University because she wanted to remain close to home as her father was ill. Once at the University, she flourished as a communications major, inspired by her experiences in a high school television production class where the students produced their own shows and gained experience both behind and in front of the camera. At St. John’s, she secured an internship her senior year working in advertising and promotion at WNBC in New York City.

That internship helped her secure a job at WNBC after graduation. After serving there as Manager of On-Air Promotions, she moved on to what was then the blossoming Lifetime Networks. After starting as Director of Promotions, she eventually rose to Senior Vice President, Production, Promotion Planning, and Multicultural Strategies. She is well respected in the industry and has served as President of the National Association of Multi-Ethnicity in Communications. In 2007, she came on board to launch MIO.TV, a free, fully interactive media, communications and entertainment platform that has been designed especially for the bilingual Latino market in the United States.

Why hasn’t there been a focus on that group? They consume general market media so why do we need to do anything special for them. They already watch ABC, FOX, MBC, CBS, HBO, blah, blah, blah. Those were some reasons and no one had really found the business reason for doing it.

And now? I think a lot has changed in the past couple of years. A lot of research has come back. This particular demographic has the highest average income of any demographic. When you take the 18 to 34 year old English speaking, acculturated Latino out of the Latino mix, the DNA is completely different. Out of about 50 million Latinos in the United States, this demographic represents about 17 million so it’s a huge demographic. There are 60,000 Latinos turning 18 every single month in the United States.

But in addition to the population rationale, there is the business rationale. If you want to grow your business, this is the market to go after. In technology, this is the demographic to go after. More downloads, more purchase of ringtones, more texting, more mobile usage than any other demographic in the U.S. It’s a demographic that is really changing the paradigm for U.S. brands.

So what does MIO.TV hope to offer that audience? It’s a desktop experience within an internet browser and we are offering several things. There is entertainment in the form of shows we are creating and shows we are buying. You can share videos with your friends. So you have a community, you have gaming and you also have communication. Users are able to call through their MIO account to their friends’ cell phones.

Where do you see MIO.TV going? MIO.TV will be the premier Latino brand in the world.
No matter where you are, you’ll always be a part of the St. John’s family, and the Office of Alumni Relations is here to keep you connected. We offer a full range of general and school-specific programs to bring you together with classmates, friends and professors who were such an important part of your student days.

Contact our staff to find out what’s happening:

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Contact Mark for information about Academic programming, events and other Constituency programs.

**Andrea T. Papa ’88SVC**  
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Contact Andrea for information on Alumni Regional Chapters and student engagement.

**Elisa S. Douglas ’05C**  
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**Denise Duffy ’04TCB, ’06MBA**  
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Contact Denise for information on College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions and St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences programming and events, as well as University Service Day and St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

**Bill Lipson**  
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Contact Bill for information on The School of Education and The Peter J. Tobin College of Business programming and events, as well as Schermerhorn Street Alumni.

**Deborah Perlitz**  
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Contact Susan for information on the Arts and Enrichment program and events.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit: www.stjohns.edu/alumni
Alumni Reunion 2009 IS ALMOST HERE.

All alumni are invited to come home to alma mater for a chance to rekindle old friendships, relive happy memories and share good times with the people who made your student days so special.

Saturday, MAY 30, 2009

Noon – 4 p.m.
BBQ and Family Fun Fair
Spellman Plaza
Staten Island campus

4 – 9 p.m.
Great Lawn Party and Concert
Great Lawn
Queens campus

5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
St. John’s Jubilarian* Candlelight Dinner with the President
Montgoris Dining Hall
Queens campus

Sunday, MAY 31, 2009

11 a.m.
Mass
St. Thomas More Church
Queens campus

Noon – 2 p.m.
Champagne Brunch
Montgoris Dining Hall
Queens campus

*St. John’s Jubilarians are our alumni that have celebrated their 50th anniversary of graduation from the University.

For complete details, including pricing, please visit: www.stjohns.edu/reunion