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ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Gold & Blue



**A Lab for the Future Church?
In the Footsteps of William Joseph Chaminade
Candia Selected as Fulbright Scholar
PPC: Promoting World Peace for More Than 20 Years**

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Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D. (B.A. '62, M.A. '64)

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**CHIEF OF STAFF
AND COMMUNICATIONS**
Dianne Pipes

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
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ASSOCIATE EDITORS
Anastasia Cisneros-Lunsford (B.A. '92)
Rob Leibold (M.A. '03)

PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR
Steve Weed

PHOTOGRAPHY
Melanie Rush Davis
Tommy Hultgren

CONTRIBUTORS
Tim Bowman
Karen Persyn
Melissa Valek (M.A. '02)

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On the Covers

On the front cover: St. Mary's students, from left, freshman Alyssa Cornejo (Chicago Heights, Ill.), junior Rachel Smith (San Antonio) and freshman Sean Stilson (Beavercreek, Ohio), along with Peggy Burford Chavez, a career development specialist in the Office of Career Services, clear brush at the Seton Home during Continue the Heritage, a half day of service that celebrates the Catholic and Marianist heritage of St. Mary's University. The tradition of service takes place at the beginning of every academic year when students, faculty and staff together work at nonprofit, charitable agencies around the city.

On the back cover: Marianists and students alike gain new perspectives by participating in the Student Marianist Friends (SM Friends) program that pairs students with retired brothers and priests of the Society of Mary.

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY



MISSION

St. Mary's University,
as a Catholic Marianist University,
fosters the formation of people in faith
and educates leaders for the common good
through community,
integrated liberal arts and professional education,
and academic excellence.

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From the Editor

School is back in session and that means the campus is again humming with activity. Not that things stood still over the summer...several New Student Orientation programs helped a class of almost 550 freshmen and 140 transfer students get comfortable with their new surroundings. And as a result of interest generated in recent years, a parent association has been formed to involve parents of current students more actively in their sons' and daughters' St. Mary's experience. You'll read a story about that new organization in this issue written by Jessica Rodriguez, a senior majoring in English-communication arts.

You may have noticed over the past couple of years that more of our profiles and stories are being written by students. They have excellent skills, and writing for the Gold & Blue allows them to get some experience while providing a valuable teaching and learning opportunity.

Conversation and consensus-building continues on the University's five-year strategic plan—you'll read more about that in President Cotrell's message.

Daniel S. Thompson, Ph.D., has written a feature on the Catholic intellectual tradition and challenges readers to consider its implications and possibilities for St. Mary's today. Steve Neiheisel shares his experiences of visiting the birthplace of the Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, as well as other important places that influenced the founder of the Society of Mary. You'll also read about E-Scholars, a relatively new program that benefits students with entrepreneurial aspirations, and about the reemergence of the part-time evening law school program which will be reinstated next year to meet the needs that exist in South Texas today.

On the back cover of the last issue of Gold & Blue, we heralded the accomplishments of Jamie Amoretti, one being his selection as St. Mary's first NCAA First Team All-American golfer. Golf coach Wes Skidmore has set the record straight. Luke Antonelli was the first in St. Mary's golf program history to earn that honor in 2004.

Keep in touch and be sure to visit the St. Mary's Web site (www.stmarytx.edu) often to keep up on events and news.

—Candace Kuebker

Community-driven Process Shapes St. Mary's Future

by Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D., President

For more than a year, our community has joined together to evaluate our past successes, meet the challenges ahead and form the future for St. Mary's University with a new strategic plan that will lead our institution and our students to success over the next five years.

Vision 2012 is nearly ready for implementation later this year. The process that has led us to a formidable draft plan at this point has been a transformative and illuminating experience.

A successful future rests in our own hands. Thus, last year we began our planning with an environmental scan, a document that outlined the University's strengths and the opportunities and challenges facing St. Mary's. After consultations with the Board of Trustees, Executive and Academic councils, and presidents of the Faculty Senate, Alumni Association and Student Government Association, as well as other key faculty, staff and students, the

... nurturing a vibrant Catholic and Marianist culture is the draft plan's first goal.

environmental scan emerged and illustrated for us an image of where we've been, where we need to go and where we need to improve.

What then followed was a series of more than 20 meetings that engaged some 500 enthusiastic participants from all constituent groups within our campus boundaries and beyond. These sessions were invaluable, bringing forth unique perspectives to the process. The Marianists were clear about continuing the legacy of



providing a strong Catholic liberal arts education in the Marianist tradition; nurturing a vibrant Catholic and Marianist culture is the draft plan's first goal. The draft plan also highlights the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, which is a practice that, through spirituality and Catholicism, embraces the liberal arts experience and the ideal of educating the whole person. *Read more about Catholic Intellectual Tradition on pg. 8.*

Goals Will Transform Students, University

The draft plan of *Vision 2012* also addresses progressive and innovative teaching, which, coupled with current and complementary information technology and creative and meaningful student life, will ensure St. Mary's remains an institution of choice.

Besides presenting deliberate efforts to recruit a talented student body and conceiving a plan to compensate for decreasing student aid from governmental sources, the draft plan seeks to attract and maintain a quality faculty, innovative curricula and programs, as well as modern facilities and infrastructure.

What transpires outside the classroom is equally as important as what occurs in it. Hence, the University must consider all elements on campus to enhance the quality of the University environment and overall experience. Increasing the scope of curricular and co-curricular programs, extending the role of technology beyond the classroom and enhancing the intellectual ambience of campus life through conferences, symposia, lectures, Web casts and other events, will positively affect student retention and success at St. Mary's.

There also is overwhelming support for addressing the surrounding neighborhood and transforming it into a community that is more inviting and vibrant to the collegiate population. St. Mary's will undertake this responsibility as an educational institution that is founded on the principles of service and community building.

Implementing the Plan

The key points of the draft plan have been presented to the Board of Trustees in consultation with the University community. Upon adoption by the Board in November, the plan will immediately be implemented.

Vision 2012 will continue St. Mary's legacy as a Catholic and Marianist liberal arts institution and emphasizes a culture of excellence that proudly distinguishes our University.

Indeed, the execution of *Vision 2012* will propel St. Mary's into a time of transformation and foundational change. It makes real our desire to approach what lies ahead with a shared sense of confidence and excitement. ■

NEWS

FROM AROUND THE GROVE



■ Short Subjects



Law Students Win TYLA Moot Court Competition at State Bar Convention

St. Mary's law students won the Texas Young Lawyers Association Moot Court Competition at the State Bar Convention in Dallas, the most prestigious advocacy competition in the state. The law school recognized the winning student team with a school-wide celebration in September. TYLA President Karin Crump (front, right), with the law firm of Martin, Disiere, Jefferson & Wisdom, LLP in Austin, was on hand to present the trophy. Pictured are (left to right): Ricky Poole, a 1990 St. Mary's School of Law graduate and coach of the winning team; Halina Radchenko and Kimberly Phillips (named best advocate at the competition), both third-year students; Alison Hicks, a 2006 graduate; and Bill Piatt, dean.

U.S. Rep. McCaul Helps Dedicate Center for Terrorism Law

U.S. Rep. Michael McCaul (J.D. '87) helped dedicate the new offices of the Center for Terrorism Law in the

Ernest A. Raba Building at the School of Law in August. The center is dedicated to the study of legal issues associated with terrorism with particular emphasis on cyberspace and information assurance technologies. Created in October 2003, the center received a \$1 million anonymous gift to construct the new facilities which include office space, a classroom, a conference area and multimedia room.

Business and Law Schools Listed Among Nation's Best

The Bill Greehey School of Business has been rated as an outstanding business school by The



U.S. Rep. Michael McCaul

Princeton Review, and was listed among the best in the nation in the 2007 edition of The Princeton Review's "Best 282 Business Schools," available in October.

The Princeton Review surveys programs annually, and three main criteria are considered for selection: academic programs, institutional data collected, and enrolled students' opinions.

The St. Mary's School of Law is one of the country's best law schools and its students are among the most competitive in the nation, according to the 2007 edition of The Princeton Review's "Best 170 Law Schools." St. Mary's ranks seventh nationally for "most competitive students."

The ranking was compiled over the past three years and is based on surveys of 17,000 students attending the 170 listed schools.

Accelerated MBA Program Now Offered

Beginning fall 2006, promising business professionals can earn a master's of business administration (MBA) degree at St. Mary's in less than half the time of a traditional program.

The accelerated program will take 12 months to complete and offers concentrations in general management, professional accountancy, and financial planning.

Qualifying students must meet higher standards, including pertinent work experience and increased GMAT requirements. A unique aspect of the one-year MBA is the Greehey Scholars program, which offers full scholarships and research assistantships to qualifying students. Complete information can be found on the Web site at www.stmarytx.edu/greehey_scholars/.

Forum on Entrepreneurship Announces Speakers for 2006-2007

St. Mary's Distinguished Alumnus Bill Greehey (B.B.A. '60), chairman of the board of Valero Energy Corp. and member of the St. Mary's Board of Trustees, kicked off the Forum on Entrepreneurship Breakfast Series on Sept. 7. Other speakers scheduled to discuss their inspiring stories of entrepreneurship at the series this academic year include:

- Oct. 26, Colleen C. Barrett, president and corporate secretary, Southwest Airlines Co.
- Feb. 15, Dennert "Denny" O. Ware, president and chief executive officer, Kinetic Concepts Inc.
- April 3, Alan W. Dreeben, vice chairman of Block Distributing and Republic Beverage Co.

All programs are held at the Pearl Brewery's Pearl Stable in San Antonio. For ticket information, call Pamela Duffy at the Algor H. Meadows Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at the Bill Greehey School of Business, at (210) 436-3124.

Lin Series Focuses on Health Care

Health care is a political and social hot-button issue being addressed in this year's Lin Great Speakers Series. "Three Health Care Paradoxes" was the Oct. 5 lecture topic of Henry J. Aaron, Ph.D., the Bruce and Virginia MacLaury Senior Fellow in Economic Studies at The Brookings Institution in Washington. Aaron is a renowned expert in health care cost, financing and rationing.

Ezekiel Emanuel, M.D., Ph.D., an internationally known bioethicist, will present "Rethinking National Health Care Reform: Universal Health Care Vouchers" at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2007, in the University Center. For more information, visit the St. Mary's University calendar Web site at www.stmarytx.edu/calendar.



Henry J. Aaron



Ezekiel Emanuel

Graduate Symposium Showcases Student Research

Dozens of students from St. Mary's graduate programs participated in the first Graduate Symposium of Research and Scholarly Work on Sept. 14. The Graduate Symposium, similar to the Undergraduate Research Symposium and Creative Activities Exhibition, gave graduate students and faculty an opportunity to showcase empirical investigations, analytical reviews or projects, innovations and inventions, and other scholarly projects. A panel discussion concluded the program.

Roamin' Rattlers Prepare for Next Travel Season

The Roamin' Rattlers Travel Program is beginning to take reservations for the next trek of exciting educational and religious pilgrimages around the world. Travel service recommences in the spring with trips to London, Europe, Greece, China, Mongolia and Alaska, among others. For more details, visit the Roamin' Rattlers Web site at www.stmarytx.edu/travel.

■ Newsmakers



Martin Beirne



Helen H. Berridge



Renée McElhaney



Doris A. Slay-Barber

New Trustees Join Board

Three new members were elected to the St. Mary's University Board of Trustees at its September meeting. Each will serve two-year terms.

Martin Beirne (J.D. '69) is a founding and managing partner of the Houston and Dallas law firm, Beirne, Maynard & Parsons LLP. He is a former partner at Fulbright & Jaworski and a former military officer. Beirne was the founding editor in chief of the

St. Mary's Law Journal, and in 2004 he was named a Distinguished Law Graduate. He also serves as a director of the St. Mary's Law Alumni Association.

Helen H. Berridge (B.B.A. '86, M.B.A./J.D. '90) is of counsel to Columbia 300 Inc. and related family companies. She is a former San Antonio assistant city attorney. She also previously served as a briefing attorney for the Hon. Bill White of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, where she contributed to the research and writing of opinions which later became state law.

Renée McElhaney (J.D. '93) leads the litigation section of the Cox Smith Matthews Appellate Practice Group. She was named in 2005 as one of the top 50 lawyers in the Central and West Texas region by Texas Monthly magazine, and for three years that magazine has given her its Super Lawyer (Appellate) designation. McElhaney has received the San Antonio Bar Association President's Award for Service to the Bar.

Doris A. Slay-Barber (B.A. '74), immediate past president of the St. Mary's University Alumni Association, will join the board in November for a two-year term. Slay-Barber has spent her professional life

in education, beginning her career as a teacher at East Central High School. Currently she serves as district coordinator for attendance, grade reporting and scheduling for the Northside Independent School District in San Antonio.

Cotrell, Cantú Celebrate 40 Years of Service, Cotrell Appointed to Third Term

St. Mary's President Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D., and School of Law professor Charles Cantú both were recognized this fall by the University community for 40 years of service.

Cotrell, St. Mary's first lay president and a tenured professor of political science, has served the University in areas of increasing responsibility since he began teaching in 1966. He has served as department chairman, director of the graduate programs, dean of Arts and Sciences and its successor, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and assistant to the president for planning and institutional research. He also was academic vice president from 1986 to 1999 before becoming president.

Under his leadership and direction as president, the St. Mary's campus has been vastly improved, including the dedications and openings of several buildings, including the Alumni Athletics & Convocation Center and AT&T Center for Information Technology.

In support of his leadership and accomplishments, the Board of Trustees at its September meeting appointed Cotrell to another three-year term as president, effective June 1, 2007.

Cantú, St. Mary's University Distinguished South Texas Professor of Law, began teaching at the law school the same year Cotrell started. He is the longest-tenured Hispanic law professor in the country.

Over the years Cantú, a Fulbright Scholar, has influenced thousands of young lawyers. His steadfast dedication to students and his involvement in many social and civic causes throughout the region characterize his commitment to South Texas and the School of Law.

Violett Elected to Marianists' General Council

Brother Ed Violett, S.M., Ph.D. (B.B.A. '82), assistant professor of international relations at St. Mary's, has been elected to the Society of Mary General Council in Rome. He will serve as assistant for temporalities for the order for a six-year period. Violett spent 12 years in the District of India as managing trustee and chief operating and financial officer of the Marianist Trust in Bangalore before joining the St. Mary's faculty in 2004.

The Rev. Manuel Cortés, S.M., of the Province of Zaragoza, was elected as superior general of the Society, replacing the Rev. David J. Fleming, S.M., Ph.D. (B.A. '59), who has served as the Marianists' superior general for the past 10 years.

Casseb, Green Honored as 2006 Distinguished Law Graduates

Attorney Joe Casseb and Texas Supreme Court Justice Paul Green, both 1977 graduates of the law school, were honored as this year's Distinguished Law Graduates. Casseb is a partner with Goode Casseb Jones Riklin Choate & Watson in San Antonio, and Green joined the court in 2004.

Casseb was an assistant district attorney in Bexar County and an assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Texas before going into private practice. He served as president of the St. Mary's Law Alumni Association and on the University's Board of Trustees.

Green served 10 years as a justice on Texas' Fourth District Court of Appeals in San Antonio prior to his election to the Texas Supreme Court. He previously practiced law for 17 years with the firm of Green McReynolds & Green in San Antonio.



Henry Flores

Flores Lends Expertise to Supreme Court Case

Graduate School Dean Henry Flores, Ph.D., lent his extensive



Progress on the Barrett Memorial Bell Tower is approaching its final phase. After the tower's apex was set in place in late July, the construction team began exterior masonry work which is nearing completion. Also under construction is the plaza which encircles the tower. The St. Mary's community anticipates the Barrett Memorial Bell Tower and its surrounding environs will become a central gathering place on campus.

experience with voting rights cases to a winning argument before the U.S. Supreme Court when he served as an expert witness for the plaintiffs in *League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), et al v Governor Perry of Texas, et al*. The Supreme Court decision found that the portion of the controversial 2003 Texas redistricting plan dealing with redrawing District 23 in South Texas violated the rights of Latino voters.

Flores used a test designed to show that Latinos were denied the right to vote in District 23, and the Supreme Court agreed with him. Witnesses do not physically testify before the nation's highest court; instead, attorneys argue the case based on testimony given to lower courts and reports submitted by experts. In this case, the attorney's arguments were based on Flores' testimony in the summer of 2004 before the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.



More than 700 students graduated from St. Mary's in May during two commencement exercises. On May 13, some 500 bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. candidates shared their special day with thousands of well-wishers at historic Freeman Coliseum. A week later, nearly 200 law school graduates walked the stage at Bill Greehey Arena on the St. Mary's campus amid 3,500 family members and friends.

■ Good Deeds

AT&T Foundation Grants \$250,000 for Technology, Modernization

The AT&T Foundation awarded St. Mary's a \$250,000 grant that will be used to update classroom and distance-learning technology, as well as assist with efforts to modernize historic St. Louis Hall.

Of the grant, \$150,000 will purchase an upgrade of the University's Blackboard Web-based software system, which is used to facilitate and enhance both classroom and distance learning. The remainder will be directed to St. Louis Hall renovations and modernizations.

The Blackboard system offers faculty online course management, communication and collaboration. It is the foundation of all online and distance learning efforts at St. Mary's, as well as a majority of on-campus courses.

Courtroom Enters 21st Century

The School of Law courtroom that has served as a training ground for more than 40 years to many distinguished St. Mary's graduates, including jurists on the state's highest courts, has been transformed into a 21st century courtroom and learning facility with state-of-the-art technology.

More than \$1.6 million in contributions from corporations, foundations, alumni, friends, faculty and staff, were raised during the campaign to modernize the facility. It

will allow current and future law students to get practical hands-on experience with the most up-to-date voice, data and video technology that is rapidly becoming commonplace in courtrooms across the nation.

St. Louis Hall Renovations Garner Support

Three Texas foundations have committed their support to the renovations of St. Louis Hall, the University's historic administration building. The Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation pledged \$200,000 and the Scanlan Foundation has committed \$50,000 to renovation efforts, which include aesthetic as well as safety enhancements.

In addition, the Herrmann Family Charitable Foundation has pledged \$50,000 to the project. The foundation has supported numerous University initiatives including the Barrett Memorial Bell Tower and the annual St. Mary's Fund.

Service Organization Continues to Grow Endowment

In June, Club Sembradores de Amistad made yet another contribution to their endowed scholarship at St. Mary's. Thanks to their continued and most generous support that endowment has grown to more than \$170,000. Funds from the endowment provide scholarships for students who have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours and have an overall GPA of 3.0.

Partnership With Local Foundation Spans 43 Years

The George W. Brackenridge Foundation has committed \$37,500 in support of scholarships for full time undergraduate students and for students enrolled at St. Mary's School of Law. All students are selected based upon their commitment to academic excellence and a demonstrated need for financial assistance.

Music Majors Hit High Note With Endowed Scholarship

The James E. Jenney Endowed Music Scholarship was established on June 13, 2006, with a gift of \$49,000 from the James E. Jenney Trust. The endowed fund will provide financial assistance to students pursuing a bachelor's degree with a major in music. Jenney graduated from St. Mary's in 1965 with a mathematics degree. The joy of performing and music were important parts of his life – he spent nearly 30 years singing in Barbershop choruses.

La Prensa Foundation Supports Scholarship

Tino (B.A. '63, M.S. '77) and Amelia Duran, through La Prensa Foundation, presented a \$10,000 check to President Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D., in support of the Jessica Garcia Memorial Scholarship at a private reception in early August. The scholarship was established by family and friends to encourage the exploration of international cultures with preference given to students participating in academic international programs requiring travel.

Marianists Support University Initiatives

The Marianist Province made a \$212,000 gift in support of various initiatives at St. Mary's University. Programs that enhance the school's Marianist and Catholic nature, scholarships for Marianist Religious to attend the University and for students from Marianist high schools will receive funds.

Other initiatives supported by the province include immersion and field study experiences in the graduate program in international relations and the Institute for the Study of Asian Development.

Alumni Association Continues Legacy of Support

The St. Mary's University Alumni Association gave \$100,000 in support of their endowed scholarship fund at the University. The fund provides scholarship support to about 70 students each year.

■ Sports Corner

Rattlers Aim High in Fall Sports

The St. Mary's volleyball, women's and men's soccer, and cross country teams all are expecting great things this fall.

In volleyball, the Rattlers are vying for a Heartland Conference title. Six returning players—led by last year's leading offensive player Mallary Moehrig and top setter Courtney Matula—are joined by seven newcomers. Offensive specialist transfers Samantha Weber and Laura Sudano have made an immediate impact.

The women's soccer team is striving to improve on its second-place Heartland Conference finish last year. Top returning starters include Heartland All-Conference Team selections, San Antonio senior forward Kyle Hyslop and El Paso junior midfielder Deann Lopez.

After playing in the American Southwest Conference in men's soccer the past two years, the Rattlers will compete in the Heartland Conference this season. Leading the team will be midfielder Jonathan Gray, and freshman goalkeeper Brett Collier, who was impressive in opening weeks of play.

The women's cross country team returns three letter winners from the 2005 team, including Cibolo junior Tara Wicketts, who has earned all-conference recognition the last two years.

Volleyball Team Honored for Work in the Classroom

The St. Mary's volleyball team has been awarded the prestigious American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Team Academic Award for student-athlete excellence.

The award honors college and high school teams that maintain at least a 3.30 cumulative team GPA on a 4.0 scale during the school year. St. Mary's posted a cumulative GPA of 3.36 for the 2005-06 academic year.

Of 265 teams in the NCAA Division II, only 31 teams were honored with the AVCA award. The Rattlers first earned the AVCA Team Academic Award during the 2003-2004 academic year by posting the best team GPA in Division II.



Jason Martens

Martens Named Women's Basketball Coach

Jason Martens has been named head coach of the Rattler women's basketball program for the 2006-07 season.

As assistant coach for the past three years, Martens oversaw recruiting and assisted with scheduling and scouting while helping the program produce 46 wins, a Heartland Conference Championship and a berth in the NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Tournament.

Prior to his arrival at St. Mary's, Martens was assistant women's

basketball coach at Lamar University in Beaumont. He also was an assistant men's basketball coach at Bethel College in North Newton, Kan.

Rattler Broadcasts

For a third consecutive year, Rattler sports are being broadcast live on the Internet. Home games for volleyball, men's and women's basketball, baseball and softball can be heard at www.rattlerathletics.com (click on Broadcasts).

St. Mary's Tops for Golf

St. Mary's has been named one of the top schools in the nation to play both women's and men's NCAA Division II golf, according to Golf Digest magazine's September issue.

The magazine listed St. Mary's as the fifth best school to play women's golf, and the 11th best for men's golf.

St. Mary's was the only school in Texas to make the top 10 and the only Heartland Conference school to appear in the rankings.

Rankings were determined using a formula that incorporated team adjusted scoring average, player growth, academics, climate, coaches and facilities.



Golf Coach Wes Skidmore, Jamie Amoretti, Greg McAuley

America (GCAA). Only juniors and seniors with at least a 3.2 cumulative GPA and under a 78.0 stroke average are eligible for consideration. Thirty-two student-athletes were honored by Cleveland Golf for the 2005-2006 academic year, and St. Mary's was one of only five schools to have multiple players make the list. Amoretti became the Rattlers first-ever national champion in men's golf last season, taking the title in Daniels, W.Va., on May 22.

Golfers Named Academic All-American Scholars

St. Mary's men's golfers Jamie Amoretti and Greg McAuley were named Cleveland Golf All-American Scholars for NCAA Division II by the Golf Coaches Association of



A Lab for the Future Church?

St. Mary's University and Catholic Intellectual Traditions in the New Millennium

by Daniel Speed Thompson, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Theology

In early June, faculty, staff, administrators and students from the three Marianist universities (St. Mary's, Dayton and Chaminade) met on Chaminade's campus in Hawaii for the annual Marianist Universities Meeting (MUM). Held for the past 12 years, MUM offers the opportunity for the Marianist family to reflect together on the challenges and opportunities facing it in the task of bringing Catholic higher education to a new generation of students in the new millennium. The theme for this year's meeting was "The Catholic Intellectual Tradition and Marianist Universities." What follows are my reflections on this theme, particularly as it applies to St. Mary's.

Let me begin with a suggestive metaphor: To live out the Catholic intellectual tradition in the future, St. Mary's should see itself as a *laboratory for the future Church*.

To flesh out this image more fully, first let me explain in more detail just what the "Catholic intellectual tradition" is, before looking more carefully at the context in which St. Mary's will be educating students in the future.

What is the Catholic Intellectual Tradition?

The task of any university is intellectual exploration; the Catholic university's task is particularly tied to

the Catholic intellectual tradition, a name given to the complex collection of ways in which Catholics have attempted to reasonably articulate their faith and view of the world, and the ways in which this faith and view of the world have shaped Catholic thinking in every area of human learning.

More specific definitions abound, but for brevity's sake, I will use the categories articulated by Mark Roche in his work "The Intellectual Appeal of Catholicism and the Idea of a Catholic University." There he suggests four principles marking the Catholic intellectual tradition. First is *universality*, Catholicism's emphasis on principles and ideas which span



cultures and times, and which create a sense of personal identity embedded in the community of Catholics, both contemporary and ancient. Second is a *sacramental vision*, a way of seeing ourselves and the world as places where God's presence can be really mediated. Third is *the unity of faith and reason*, the conviction that all truth is ultimately one and ultimately God's, and so the rigorous exercise of reason can never ultimately contradict the deepest convictions of faith. Fourth is *the unity of knowledge*, the view that the various areas of human learning can be integrated into a unified vision for the shape of Christian living now and in the future.

Before, behind, and beyond these principles stands the living person of Christ, whose incarnate life in the past and presence in the Spirit now are the grounds for this optimistic intellectual tradition. Yet this tradition is also well aware that the living Christ is not directly present to us now, but only comes both mediated and veiled in the persons, texts, symbols and events of our lives.

Thus, the Catholic intellectual tradition both rests on the living Christ and also searches for the divine presence in the often murky circumstances of everyday life. The tools of this intellectual tradition are no different in this sense than any other: examination, question, conversation, claim, argument, decision. Yet its object and goal are different, as it seeks by these examinations, questions, conversations and arguments, to build on the reality of Christ present in the world and to engage in the difficult task of discovering that very presence.

The Contemporary Context: A World Church in an Uncertain Age

Following the Catholic intellectual tradition has been a challenge for Catholic universities in the past. What makes the task of the Catholic university different and even more difficult now?

More than 30 years ago, Jesuit theologian Karl Rahner wrote that the Catholic Church in the wake of the Second Vatican Council was entering into a new, third period of its existence. According to Rahner, the first period was the relatively short time when Christianity developed in its Jewish matrix, from which it eventually separated. The second period, lasting for centuries down until the 20th, saw the Church closely tied with Greco-Roman civilization and its later European descendants. The third period, just now beginning and given impetus by Vatican II, is the emergence of Catholicism as truly a world church, not just a European or North American Church with offshoots in the other parts of the world. Catholicism, Rahner suggested, now faced the opportunity and task of creating a worldwide community of churches which both reflected Catholic

unity and also took real root in the native soils of the many places where the Church found itself. The Church was to be both one, and with many centers.

As this world Church has struggled to emerge, larger cultural shifts have challenged for many the sureness with which our predecessors, both recent and remote, saw the world that they lived in. Prominent American theologian David Tracy has written that "we live in an age that cannot name itself." What he means is that for many, both the pre-modern and the modern, Enlightenment narratives for understanding ourselves have been called in question as a new, multi-centered and often confusing world has emerged in the last decades.

Younger people particularly have come forth from the unified narratives and the "thick" subcultures of the past to an open, pluralist, globalized world. Here, old boundaries are submerged in the tide of images and information available through new technology, but often no new markers for self-understanding and decision-making have appeared. Tracy suggests that this new, "postmodern" landscape is contested territory. We are striving, debating, and even battling over how to name ourselves now in a way that seems authentic both to the best of our past traditions, but also in full recognition of the possibilities of the new era that we are living in.

This "contested territory" also includes the Church. Whether conservative, moderate or progressive, vehemently or vaguely committed, cradle Catholic or convert, we search for a faith in God grounding our lives and resonating with our deepest experiences. We draw on the rich, complex and yet often ambiguous tradition of our ancestors to name ourselves as Catholic; but as any extended conversation with Catholics in any parish will show, how we name ourselves as Catholic varies tremendously.

Put positively, this contest over our identity means that we are consciously appropriating our faith; except in the rarest of cases, we no longer live in the relatively closed Catholic narratives of the past where such identity came much more automatically. Put negatively, this contest means that we

live in a Church often marked by division, confusion, hesitancy or disillusionment.

Using the language of French philosopher Paul Ricoeur, we as a community have lost our “first naiveté,” where our self-understanding was taken for granted and our community’s texts assumed to be timeless representations of God’s truth. We as a community still seek what Ricoeur calls the “second naiveté,” where we return to the texts and traditions of our past aware both of how God speaks to us through them and how they are also human and fragmentary responses to the divine presence in the lives of our ancestors.

In this age that cannot name itself, in this Church that strives and struggles to name itself, what can a Catholic university like St. Mary’s do?

St. Mary’s as a Lab for the Future Church

We are but one Catholic university out of hundreds, but I believe that our specific location enables us to make a significant contribution to serving both the world and the Church. As I suggested, I believe that St. Mary’s should see itself as a *laboratory for the future Church*. More than just a new brand name for the University, the metaphor indicates that we already are, as students, faculty, administrators, staff, alumni and friends, the stuff from which the future Church is being made.

Located at the confluence of Latino, European and other world cultures, at the junction of North and South, in the space between the local and global community, we already represent the face of this Church to come. Our complex, multi-centered, and sometimes confusing lives in our Church and world are the very subjects that we must put under the microscope, so to speak, in order to examine their shape and structure. But more than a dispassionate analysis from a distance, as a university in the Catholic intellectual tradition our task is also to engage and confront these lives with the rigors of Catholic thought, and to let these lives in turn challenge the limits of Catholic reflection from our ancestors.

For the laboratory is not only for dissection but also for experimentation and creation of the new, not indeed for novelty’s sake, but for the sake of the very Christ who stands before, behind and beyond us and who, I believe, is leading us to a new reality for the Church. Neither retreating to some sanitized version of the pre-modern past, nor embracing a naïve progressive optimism, the Church in the postmodern world will have a configuration different from the earlier eras of the Church’s life, a configuration which, I confess, is quite unclear to me.

What does seem clear is that this situation will demand much from the Catholic intellectual tradition, and indeed will ask us at St. Mary’s, as a Catholic university, to apply, revise and rethink our own intellectual traditions if we are to make an appropriate intellectual response to this unprecedented situation.

What, for example, would *the universality* of Catholic intellectual tradition look like if we at St. Mary’s seriously reflected on both the opportunities and challenges of being a microcosm of the future world church? How do we perform the exceptionally difficult task, in our own multi-cultural context, of finding principles that speak to all cultures and times?

What would *the sacramental vision* of Catholic intellectual life look like if we at St. Mary’s confronted the pluralism of ways in which we today claim to experience God? What would it mean to face head-on the disasters of our own past where what was thought to be a mediation of the divine turned out to have destructive consequences for both the Church and the wider world?

What would *the unity of faith and reason* look like if we at St. Mary’s seriously reflected on the great variety of ways that we as believers have expressed our deepest convictions of faith? How shall we as a university address the differences in the ways that people in the world church understand reason itself?

What would *the unity of knowledge* look like if we at St. Mary’s seriously reflected on the dizzying complexity and abundance of knowledge available to people today? What does it mean that we live in a world where seemingly no one person or group can

master the knowledge necessary to create a unified vision, and where the dross of ignorance, distortion, propaganda and error fills up much more mental bandwidth, so to speak, than the glimmers of truth?

If I may add to Roche’s list, what will be the *self-critical principle* in this intellectual tradition in this new configuration? The real standard, the living Christ, is before, behind and beyond us as we reflect, but always both mediated and veiled. Hence, what is the principle of *intellectual self-correction* that we at St. Mary’s will use in our reflection that is not a fundamentalist appeal to an oracular church authority (always a danger for Catholics), nor a simple importation of intellectual standards from our own particular fields of knowledge or culture (always a danger for academics)?

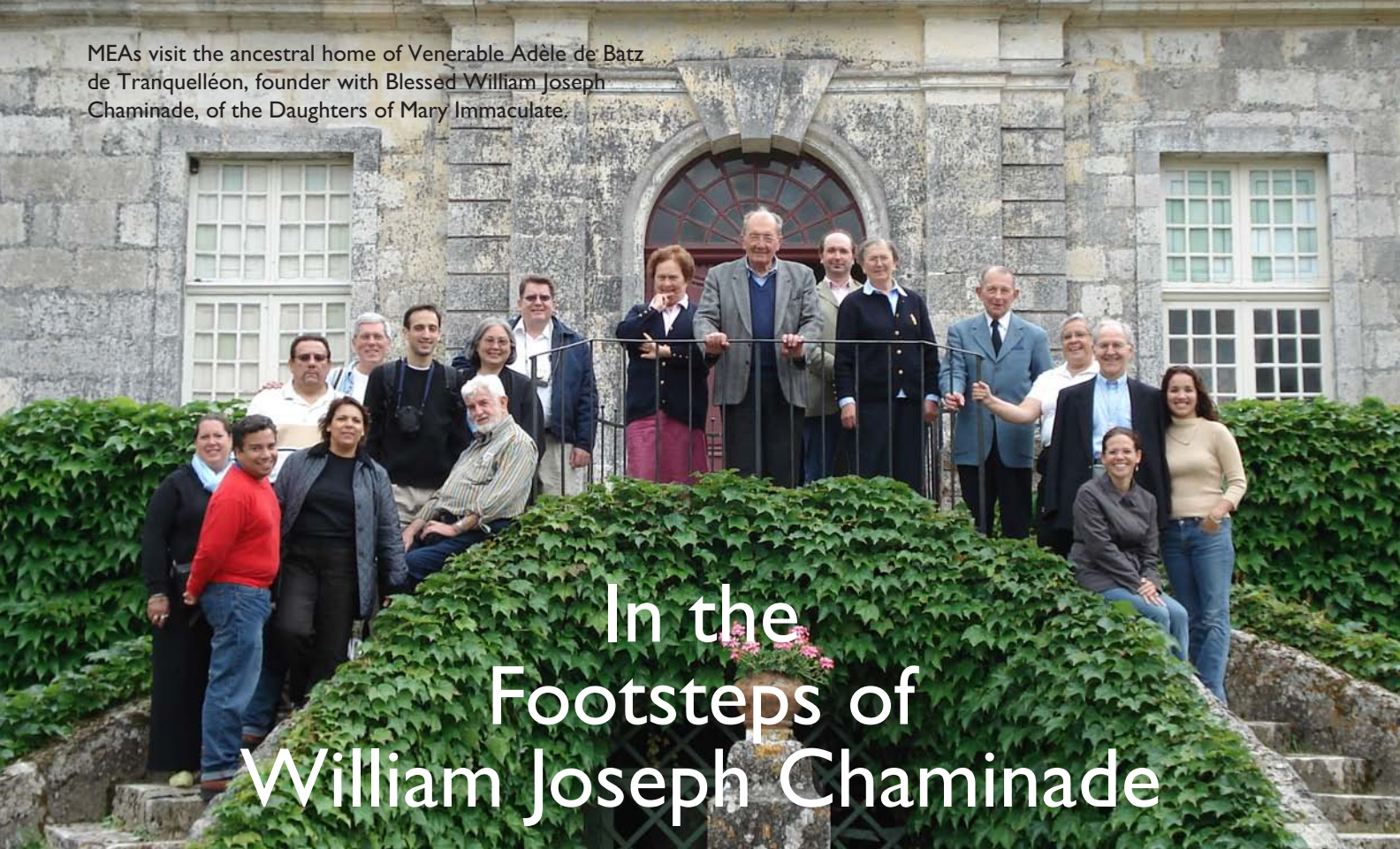
A tall order for us indeed. But if we consciously see ourselves as this laboratory for the future church, the place where we engage critically and imaginatively with the “thought experiment” of our own lives, St. Mary’s can then make a powerful contribution to the global conversation about naming ourselves in this third era of the Church. By so doing we can also aid in discerning the direction that God in Christ, who “makes all things new,” is leading us. (Rev 21:5) ■



Daniel Speed Thompson, Ph.D., joined the St. Mary’s theology department faculty in August of 2005. Prior to his arrival he

served as a faculty member in the theology department at Fordham University in New York City. Thompson, who received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Notre Dame, earned both his master’s degree and doctorate from The Divinity School of The University of Chicago.

MEAs visit the ancestral home of Venerable Adèle de Batz de Tranquelléon, founder with Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate.



In the Footsteps of William Joseph Chaminade

by Steve Neiheisel, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science

To walk the pathways once walked by an historical figure such as William Joseph Chaminade, to enter and exit his former spaces, to see, touch and honor the artifacts of his life, is to take the measure of the man who is the founder of the Society of Mary.

Pilgrimage Leads to Understanding

That is what a group of 12 Marianist Educational Associates – faculty, staff, administrators – from Chaminade, St. Mary’s and Dayton universities did this summer on a 14-day pilgrimage to France and Spain.

During that amazing experience we learned about and came to understand

the origins of the Marianist Family through the places and historical events that shaped Chaminade’s life and vision. Chaminade, like all transformational historical figures, was shaped by and then lived on to shape his day and age.

We came to know and appreciate Chaminade as an ordinary person of extraordinary vision, who reacted to the convulsing world around him and did what he had to do and was called to do in the circumstances of his life. The Chaminade we learned about is not the Chaminade of statues, portraits and holy cards, but the Chaminade that, at times, was confused, disenchanted and fearful, as well as determined, hopeful and courageous.

Chaminade’s mission was formed in the crucible of the French Revolution, where anti-Christian forces attempted to so thoroughly secularize French society that religious people, particularly clergy, were under constant threat of death. Seeing and

feeling the physical closeness of the guillotine station at the town square to La Madeleine Chapel where he and other priests served brought that point home during a walking tour of Bordeaux.

Mission Begins to Take Shape

“Here is where it all began,” said the Rev. Bernard Lee, S.M., Th.D., vice president of Mission and Identity at St. Mary’s, as we stepped into the chapel. It is a sober, prayerful place, with ancient grey stone walls and low lighting providing an atmosphere that encourages prayer. It was here that William Joseph Chaminade began his work and began building the Marianist Family after his return from exile in Zaragoza, Spain.

It was here, in the sacristy, on Dec. 11, 1817, that the first candidates of the Society of Mary pronounced their first private vows.





Within the Chapel of The Madeleine is the smaller Chaminade Chapel. A bust of Chaminade, carved by Marianist artist Henri Vabre, sits at the entrance. Near the small, modernist altar is a crucifix symbolizing both death and resurrection. Enclosed within the altar itself is a relic of Chaminade – his skull – removed from his burial spot and placed in the altar at the time of his beatification in 2000.

Celebrating Eucharist together in Chaminade’s room with Lee presiding was the most moving event of the pilgrimage. In that room, where Chaminade worked and slept from 1820 to 1850, is, among other artifacts of his life, a kitchen table from the home of Mlle de Lamourous at Pian-Medoc that Chaminade used as an altar. During the French Revolution an altar stone was inserted into it and Chaminade said Mass on it in secret. A lectern near the table is made of wood panels from Chaminade’s wardrobe and was used during his life at the noviate for reading during meals.

After visiting Chaminade’s tomb on the outskirts of Bordeaux, we went to the nearby towns of Mussidan, Agen, and Perigeux where Chaminade was born. He attended school in Mussidan and later became priest and teacher at his former school. Agen is the ancestral home of Adele de Batz de Trenquellion who with Chaminade founded the Marianist sisters, the Daughters of Mary Immaculate. We visited the rural Chateau where Adele grew up that is still occupied by her descendents. Later, we visited Adele’s tomb at the nearby convent where the hospitality by the Marianist sisters was warm and gracious.

Chaminade’s Vision Promotes Lay Leadership

Central to understanding Chaminade’s inspiration is the dramatic, 10-spired Cathedral of Our Lady of the Pillar—Nuestra Señora del Pilar—in Zaragoza, Spain, where he and some fellow priests went into exile from 1797 until 1800 to escape religious persecution in revolutionary France. Within this ancient site of pilgrimage is the statue of Our Lady of the Pillar, only about 12 inches tall. The statue served as the spiritual, meditative focal point for Chaminade as he prayed before it and gained insight, wisdom and courage.

Celebrating Eucharist together in a side chapel, the rococo Chapel of San Antonio, with the Rev. Gene Contadino, S.M., from the University of Dayton presiding, was an inspiration for our group.

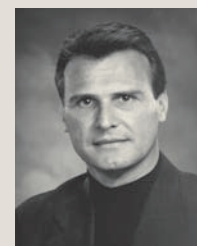
While in Zaragoza we also spent time with the Rev. Eduardo Benlloch, S.M., author of “Chaminade’s Message Today,” whose teaching and scholarly writing is instrumental in promoting the idea that Chaminade’s central mission was the formation of lay communities and lay leadership.

The genius of William Joseph Chaminade was that from the crucible of social revolution he envisioned and actualized a new apostolic model of Christian leadership, community and organization based on increased involvement by the laity.

For the 12 Marianist Educational Associates, this walk with the founder of the Society of Mary educated, inspired and animated our commitment to promoting the mission and identity of our respective universities and established a model of lay leadership for all three Marianist universities. ■

Marianist Educational Associates...

...are members of a community intentionally committed to strengthening and developing the Catholic and Marianist mission of Marianist universities. Marianist Educational Associates support one another in growing in the knowledge and appreciation of the Catholic and Marianist educational traditions. They also work together to incorporate these traditions into the culture of our universities and to adapt and transform these traditions so they are responsive to the challenges facing Marianist universities today. Marianist Educational Associates at St. Mary’s, Dayton, and Chaminade universities represent all sectors of university life.



Steve Neiheisel, Ph.D., is a Marianist Educational Associate and political science professor at St. Mary’s

University. After earning both bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Xavier University in Cincinnati, he completed his doctorate at Washington University in St. Louis. On the faculty at St. Mary’s since 1991, Neiheisel directs the University’s graduate program in public administration.



From South Texas to Spain: Professor Candia Selected as Fulbright Scholar

by Gina Farrell, Director of Media Relations

Ruben Araiza Candia, Ph.D., remembers the first time he heard someone introduced as a Fulbright Scholar. At the time, Candia was a young Army officer who had worked his way through seven years of night school to earn his bachelor's degree. "I was in awe," he said.

This spring, Candia will be the Fulbright Scholar after his proposal to teach American Studies with an emphasis on Mexican American/Chicano culture and literature was accepted by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

The St. Mary's language professor will guide students at University of Barcelona and Autonomous University of Barcelona through the Mexican American experience, including the struggle for equality, justice and civil rights. He will focus on how Mexican Americans have matured as an ethnic group and contributed to American culture.

Candia brings a personal perspective to the teaching of the Mexican American experience. The oldest of 11 children, he was born to immigrant parents and spent the first half of his childhood in the small border farming community of Clint, Texas. After World War II, his parents Victoria and Longino relocated the family to El Paso.

Candia's military career started when he joined Junior ROTC at El Paso's Jefferson High School. After

graduation, he wanted to continue his education, but in 1955 his choices were limited. "At that time there were no scholarships or financial aid. If you had the money for college, you went. If not, you didn't," he said. The military offered educational opportunities, so Candia enlisted. A few years later, he completed officer training school, becoming a Foreign Area Specialist for Latin America and Spain. His assignments included Panama, Colombia, Vietnam, Korea and Germany.

Never one to let an opportunity pass, Candia applied for a teaching position at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., thinking it would be a good way to get a master's degree. He was right; West Point officials wanted him at the academy but first sent him to Middlebury College Graduate School of Spanish in Madrid, Spain. When he returned, Candia spent three years teaching language and literature to cadets.

His long military career ultimately led Candia to St. Mary's. For years the Candia family had moved wherever the military took them, but now the family was ready for some stability. To Candia and his wife Linda, that meant getting back to Texas and closer to family. He requested an assignment as an ROTC instructor and from 1977 to 1981 he was a professor of military science at St. Mary's and the University of Texas at San Antonio.

After 27 years on active duty, Candia retired in 1981 as a lieutenant colonel. Since then, he has built his second career at St. Mary's as assistant professor and then full professor, serving as the chair of the languages department until last year. His family is part of St. Mary's as well: his children Ruth, John and Bruce are all St. Mary's alumni.

From his first days on campus, the Marianists of St. Mary's made Candia feel part of the community. "From the time I came on board, so many of them were strong supporters and role models

"At that time there were no scholarships or financial aid. If you had the money for college, you went. If not, you didn't."

for me," Candia said. The Marianists he counts as close friends are numerous, however one stands out. "Father Charles Miller was a boss, mentor and friend to me. In fact, he was one of my sponsors for my Fulbright application."

In 2002, Candia was inducted into the Army OCS Hall of Fame, an honor he considers the highlight of his military career. Now, he counts his selection as a Fulbright scholar as the "crowning achievement" of his academic career. ■

Transcending Common Barriers to Learning

It's not every day that college business students are able to rub elbows with captains of industry – unless you are a student enrolled in the Entrepreneur Scholars Program at St. Mary's University's Bill Greehey School of Business.

Students in this cutting-edge program, better known simply as 'E-Scholars,' are offered these kinds of opportunities on a regular basis. Whether the students are visiting business leaders in the field or learning from executives serving as guest lecturers in the classroom, St. Mary's E-Scholars are experiencing a truly unique learning environment. Already this semester, the students have had the opportunity to meet and hear the personal success stories of a variety of executives, including Bill Greehey, chairman of the board of Valero Energy Corp.; Red McCombs, CEO of McCombs Enterprises; and Ed Kelley, retired president and CEO of USAA Real Estate Co.

The study of entrepreneurship is about learning how to create and act on the opportunities and challenges that arise every day in business. It is not a business school discipline, and most schools do not offer university-wide entrepreneurship education, so St. Mary's is ahead of the trend.

Since its inception three years ago, the program has drawn participants from across the University, including students majoring in accounting, electrical engineering, multinational organization studies in Spanish, biochemistry, psychology and international relations. This year's E-Scholars include: Rosa Galvan, a senior, and Alejandra Zertuche, a junior, both industrial engineering

The Entrepreneur Scholars Program Promotes Students' Passion, Courage, Vision

by Brooke R. Envick, Ph.D., Director, Algur H. Meadows Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, Founder and Director of the E-Scholars Program

majors; Isabel Rodriguez, a senior majoring in English-communication arts; Armando Sanchez, a junior studying international business; and Chelsea Scecina and Marcos Urias, seniors pursuing degrees in entrepreneurial studies.

In a more traditional business course, students might have access only to the expertise of the professor. The E-Scholars Program, however, exposes students to much more, as they are able to interact with a variety of experts, get advice and hear success stories from entrepreneurs and other business executives.

More Opportunities for Learning

"The program allowed me to meet many people who have succeeded as entrepreneurs and offered useful information on how to get started and what it takes to sustain a business," said Patricia Garcia, who participated in the program last year.

The E-Scholars Program overcomes five common barriers to learning: isolation, time, limited expertise, rapid globalization and cost. A traditional classroom setting may isolate students from other useful learning environments, such as local business seminars and workshops or national conferences. However, this program actually provides funds to students so they can attend local business events and travel to the annual national conference of the Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization.

The E-Scholars Program provides six hours of credit spanning the entire academic year, which allows for more experiential learning opportunities. For example, during spring break, Prasad Padmanabhan, Ph.D., escorts the E-Scholars on an international business trip as part of the global entrepreneurship course he teaches. He has traveled with E-Scholars to China and Russia and is planning a trip to

Taiwan in the spring.

The spring trip, a highlight of the students' year, gives first-person access to the rapidly changing global environment. The trip focuses on three key elements: developing local business contacts, taking students out of their comfort zone, and allowing them to test their business ideas in an international environment. After the trip to China, the 2004-2005 E-Scholars told Padmanabhan that the trip to Beijing was worth a hundred hours in the classroom.

Because there are added costs associated with these opportunities, we seek sponsorships from individuals and businesses to pay for business events that require registration fees, and for learning materials such as textbooks and software. Participants pay an additional program fee beyond their regular tuition, but the benefits provide a good return on their investment.

Giving Back Through Social Entrepreneurship Initiatives

Along with the outstanding opportunities students receive as program participants, they also are required to participate in a social entrepreneurship initiative that allows them to apply what they have learned by reaching out to the community.

Last year, the program partnered with City Year Corps to develop a business plan for a spring break camp for children of low-income families. In previous years, enrollment and attendance at the camp were very low. The E-Scholars and City Year members took a fresh look at the camp by applying entrepreneurial thinking and skills to analyze the problems and generate solutions. The result yielded a camp enrollment of 120 children—an increase of more than 70 percent, and had an equally dramatic rise in daily attendance.



B.J. "Red" McCombs, CEO of McCombs Enterprises, greets San Antonio freshman and Greehey Scholar Shannon Lowry after sharing his experiences with St. Mary's business students. The new course offering, "Exploring Entrepreneurship: Profiles of Successful Entrepreneurs and Senior Executives," features San Antonio leaders in business and government, whose participation was secured by Ed Kelley (B.B.A. '64), retired president and CEO of USAA Real Estate Co. and former St. Mary's Board of Trustees Chairman.



The 2005-2006 class of E-Scholars traveled to Russia last spring. In Moscow they visited the site of a famous statue of Karl Marx, the German-born philosopher, economist and revolutionary who, along with Friedrich Engels, wrote *The Communist Manifesto* and *Das Kapital*.

The reward of knowing that the work of our E-Scholars provided these children a fun and safe place to spend spring break is immeasurable, and it gave the children's parents a sense of security, too.

Most importantly, the E-Scholars Program makes significant differences in the lives of student participants such as Gerardo Aranda-Claussen, an E-Scholar last year.

"This program expanded my horizons to a level that now allows me to look at a problem and see not only a solution, but an opportunity," he said.

And creating opportunities is what the program is all about. ■



Brooke Envick, Ph.D., an associate professor of management and director of the Meadows Center for

Entrepreneurial Studies, joined the St. Mary's faculty in 1996. This past April, Envick, along with Prasad

Padmanabhan, Ph.D., professor of finance and the Myra Stafford Pryor Chair of Free Enterprise, received the Distinguished Research Award at the Academy of Entrepreneurship's international conference for a pedagogical paper they co-authored about the program, and which the

Journal of Entrepreneurship Education subsequently accepted for publication. They also received the Douglass Award for Innovative Teaching during St. Mary's Business Week last year in recognition of the program.

Sponsors Make the Program a Reality

The generosity of our sponsors is what truly provides students in the E-Scholars Program the valuable opportunities and experiences achieved in and out of the classroom. It is with the deepest gratitude that we recognize our sponsors.

E-Scholars Program Sponsors

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The President's Peace Commission

Promoting World Peace for More Than 20 Years

by Richard S. Pressman, Ph.D., Professor of English

What's the best-attended activity on campus? It may surprise many to know that, second only to men's basketball, attracting the largest crowds on the St. Mary's University campus are events sponsored by the President's Peace Commission (PPC). Yes, peace and justice programs consistently draw more than 1,500 participants to its semi-annual series.

Now in its 21st year, and still putting on three-day programs each semester, the popularity of the PPC continues to grow.

Another surprise is these programs that explore myriad issues of global concern are orchestrated entirely by

St. Mary's volunteers: five members each from the faculty and staff, and five students, all with equal responsibility, working together with a minimal budget.

The PPC Responds to World Events

The concept of the PPC grew out of our shared concerns. During the long Cold War period, we all lived under a mushroom cloud of fear. The world was divided—or we were dividing it—into two armed camps, and we feared that at any moment nuclear war might end all life on Earth.

Massive, and to some, obscene expenditures on military preparations were using up our precious resources, buying our best scientific minds and destroying hope for our children's future.

And many, including an array of Catholic priests, argued that defense expenditures were a major cause of worldwide poverty. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops took an extraordinary stand by issuing pastoral letters on the nuclear arms race, on poverty and on race relations. From such events arose an extraordinary St. Mary's group—the President's Peace Commission.

Success Grows from Early Failed Efforts

The PPC actually stemmed from the failure in the early 1980s of two student groups I tried to organize to arouse consciousness of the danger of nuclear war. The first was the Human Rights Coalition, formed with the assistance of Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D., then dean of Arts and Sciences. The second, for which I had help from the late, beloved sociology professor Alice Franzke, Ph.D., was a chapter of the United Campuses to Prevent Nuclear War. When neither group took hold, Dr. Franzke and I arranged a few programs on our own. While most faculty members were cautious with their support, a few were enthusiastic. So in the fall of 1984, I proposed that the Faculty Senate recommend formation of a peace commission under the banner of the University president.

On Dec. 21, 1984, then-St. Mary's president Rev. David Paul, S.M., approved the proposal and provided our fledgling organization with a modest annual budget of \$1,000. The purpose of the PPC, as stated in its constitution, is "to foster ethical commitment to participate in the establishment of world peace. That purpose recognizes that a respect for human rights and the dignity of all people is essential to any such commitment."

More than 20 years later, some 200 people have served on the PPC, many saying they have found it to be an invaluable educational experience, one that serves as an expression of St. Mary's mission to extend justice and dignity to all people.

Series Focuses on Contentious Issues

By the late 1980s, the PPC had become well known and appreciated for its timely and thoughtful programs. Our activities over the years have covered many thought-provoking, often contentious subjects. For example, during the commission's first decade, series topics included South Africa's apartheid struggle, the legacy of Hiroshima (featuring testimony by Japanese survivors), Latinos in today's society, destruction of the

PPC Ponders Five Years Since 9/11

"Five Years After" was the theme of this fall's President's Peace Commission, marking the five-year anniversary of the tragic events that occurred on Sept. 11, 2001. Panel discussions during the three-day symposium considered the major policies and initiatives—local, national and international—of the past five years, recognizing accomplishments as well as identifying continuing challenges. The fall program of the President's Peace Commission was held Oct. 24–26 in the University Center on campus.

environment, the increase in domestic violence, and women's issues. More recently, the series has addressed a range of issues, including children's rights, the state of education in America, bioethics, and human trafficking.

Throughout its history, the PPC has striven to cover every possible facet of the human dilemma with thoughtful speakers and full audience participation.

In the early 1990s we began staging our annual Peace Concert. Initiated by John Moore, associate professor of music, the programs present compositions from throughout the world. Introduced soon after was the annual Art of Peace Award, whose recipients are regional artists, in any medium, whose work has promoted peace, justice and understanding. Among the winners have been poet and author Naomi Shihab Nye, San Antonio Express-News political cartoonist John Branch, Marianist artist Brother Cletus Behlmann, S.M.,

and filmmaker and author John Phillip Santos.

And although our program has attracted dozens of extraordinary presenters and panelists over the years, perhaps the PPC hit its high point on April 3, 2002. Funded by dedicated alumni and community friends, Jehan Sadat, Ph.D., women's rights activist and wife of the assassinated pro-peace president of Egypt, Anwar Sadat, electrified an audience of some 2,000 in Bill Greehey Arena with her presentation, "Sadat's Lasting Example of Peace."

Commission Welcomes Contributions

To enable the PPC to bring to the St. Mary's community speakers of Sadat's status, some years ago we launched a capital campaign to give the PPC an autonomous, credible budget. The goal is an endowment of \$250,000. We fervently hope that alumni and friends, aware of the precarious state of world peace, will help us continue our mission.

Our world still faces oppression, graft, greed, poverty, hunger, ignorance, hatred and often appalling contempt for human rights. We remain steadfast in our conviction that the work of the St. Mary's University President's Peace Commission is needed more than ever. ■



Richard S. Pressman, Ph.D., the key founder of the PPC, has been a member of the Department of English and Communications

Studies faculty since 1978, for which he has been assistant chair for about 10 years. Of special interest to him are the novels of women and minorities. He holds a Distinguished Faculty Award from the Alumni Association, has been a Fulbright Teaching Fellow in Peru and associate field director of the St. Mary's program at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Puebla, Mexico.



Law School Set to Reinstate Evening Program

by Rob Leibold, Associate Editor


The School of Law will reinstate the evening law program – after a 36-year hiatus – beginning in the fall of 2007 in a move that is expected to attract professionals and others who might not be able to attend day classes.

Restarting the evening program, which received official approval from the American Bar Association this past summer, makes good business sense and extends the school’s mission of serving the broader community, says Bill Piatt, dean.

Interest High in South Texas

“Over the last several years, we have received numerous inquiries about the possibility of bringing back the evening program. There are many people out there in the communities we serve who would like to get a legal education but can’t because they have to work or for other reasons,” he said. “We anticipate enrolling people with substantial work and life experiences, creating career advancement opportunities for many who otherwise would not be able to pursue a legal education.”

There has been tremendous interest from many people about an evening law program in South Texas. Currently, the nearest evening law programs are in Dallas and Houston. In



the past year alone, school administrators have received more than 400 inquiries from a variety of potential students, including doctors, soldiers, homemakers and employees of some of San Antonio’s largest employers.

“The law school is one of St. Mary’s University’s and San Antonio’s greatest assets,” added St. Mary’s President Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D. “We are committed to a law school of the highest quality, accessible to working men and women and others who are not able to attend day classes for a variety of reasons. This move will make that possible.”

Increase in Academic Profile Expected

When the program is launched, some 75 part-time students will be enrolled in the evening program. At the same time, the number of first-year students will be reduced to about 200 from the current level of 260 first-year students.

“That will enable us to improve the academic program at the law school by raising the academic profile of our

student body,” Piatt said, adding that he expects bar exam results will see a corresponding rise in the years to come.

It will take evening students about four years to complete their education instead of three years for full-time students. Students will attend classes Monday through Thursday during early evening hours. Law professors will teach both day and evening classes. All programs and offices, including the clinical program, will be available to evening students as well.

Acceptance and graduation requirements will be the same for students in both programs.

The law school was founded in October 1927 as the San Antonio School of Law by the San Antonio Bar Association. In 1934, it was officially transferred to St. Mary’s University and housed at the downtown campus at 112 College St. Originally offering only evening classes, the law school’s day division was not established until 1936. The law school moved to the main University campus in 1968, and in 1971 the evening program was discontinued. ■

Circa 1950s

Parent Association is New Powerful Program

by Jessica M. Rodriguez
St. Mary's University Senior English-Communication Arts major

Most students might never have imagined their parents getting involved in an on-campus organization. After all, it's the students who are going to college, not the parents. Although they might not hang out in the Quad between classes or at movie night in the Outback, with the newly established Parent Association at St. Mary's, parental involvement in their child's college education is higher than ever before.

Established in May, the association acts as liaison to encourage positive relationships and experiences among parents and families and the University, and works to enhance students' lives while on campus. Through the association, parents can learn about the University, its policies, procedures, programs and opportunities, and they are encouraged to join as soon as their students enroll at St. Mary's.

More than 140 families already are signed up. The group sponsored its first function during freshman orientation programs in June when members took new-student parents to eat on the Riverwalk.

Luis Luis, president of the association, is himself a parent of two St. Mary's students, Jason and Erik, both of whom are pursuing degrees in business. He believes in a proactive style of leadership, and reflects the level of involvement with their sons' and daughters' colleges that parents today expect.

"We want parents to understand the association is going to take action on any issue that comes up with their students," he said, adding his goal is to respond quickly to all queries from parents. He and other association officers and committee members "have made a commitment to this organization and to work closely with St. Mary's."



The association hopes to educate parents concerning available resources to help their students adapt to collegiate life, which ultimately forms the building blocks of their professional lives.

Organizing parent networks in areas outside San Antonio is another focus. The association will partner out-of-area students with local parents who will serve as "next-door neighbor" parents, Luis said. If questions or

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concerns arise, both parents and students are encouraged to contact association board members for assistance.

The association had been discussed for many years, but its inception was only made formal this spring, says Rosalind Alderman, associate dean of students and the University's representative on the association.

"Even though talk of such an organization had surfaced in the 1980s and early 1990s, nothing to this extent has ever existed," she said. "Establishing the association was largely a community activity." Bylaws were passed and officers were elected this past spring.

Alderman credits other University staff members, including Ben Hart in University Advancement and Rebecca Rutledge in Career Services, as vital members of the committee. "They have really helped us navigate and have been a major force in us getting started," she added.

Luis has big plans for the future and if the current parents who are active are any indication, more and more parents will get involved in their children's college careers.

"We hope to keep this tradition going. We officers are working real hard at making this work because this is something we feel is long overdue," Luis said. ■



Summer in Thailand is ‘Last Ride’ for Jones

Matt Jones

If determination had a sound, for Matt Jones it would be a wrench twisting on the nuts and bolts of the broken transmission in his Jeep—his first car and what he had deemed as a “symbol of his youth.”

Jones, an international relations major, spent this past summer in Bangkok working as an intern in the U.S. Embassy’s Narcotics Affairs section. After receiving security clearance and travel authorization in June, Jones left behind the days of his youth with optimism, holding the travel money he made from selling the Jeep.

A native of San Antonio, Jones appreciates that the students at St. Mary’s are “not just a number.” He says professors, like the Rev. Norbert Brockman, S.M., Ph.D., Celine Jacquemin, Ph.D., and Larry Hufford, Ph.D. (whom Jones says students endearingly refer to as “Yoda”), are passionate about equipping students so they can affect the world. They channel their energy to students who wish to succeed.

Hufford in particular left his mark on Jones. “If you walk across that stage, take your degree, and go out into the world and become part of the problem and not the solution, then you have completely missed the point of your education here at St. Mary’s,” Jones quotes Hufford as telling his students. Jones admits that it is difficult to leave class and not think about others.

He adds that he also is very “thankful for all of the English courses” he has taken because much of his internship involved written communication that needed to be “clear, concise and correct.” Jones credits his ability to operate within the group dynamic at the Embassy to his participation in student organizations, most notably his role as president of the Student Government Association last year.

While in Bangkok he gained a better understanding and respect for the culture. “It is not difficult to see the similarities (between Thai culture and the Marianist tradition) ... service, harmony, community and respect,” he says.

As for his Jeep, selling it was a necessary sacrifice. “I considered the whole experience in Thailand as the last ride in the Jeep anyway.”

Jones will graduate this December. He plans to spend some time working with a small non-governmental organization in Latin America to gain more experience while he goes through the foreign service selection process in his quest to eventually earn a position with the State Department as a Foreign Service Officer.

*by Rosemary Fonseca Segura,
University Communications*



Young Legislator Is Inspired to Lead

Delia Garcia

Moments after winning her first election to the Kansas House of Representatives in 2004 as the first Latina and youngest female legislator at age 27, a reporter asked Delia Garcia (M.A. '04) how she managed the victory as a young Hispanic, Democrat woman.

“(The reporter) said those were four strikes,” Garcia says. “But I said those weren’t strikes. I consider them four assets and coupled with my education, I can bring the people what they need.”

Garcia’s assets connect her to the constituents that reside in her native Wichita, Kan., hometown.

“I think I have the ability to draw people to the table, and ask them, ‘What are your ideas?’” she says, relating to her voters woman-to-woman and Spanish-speaker-to-Spanish-speaker. She also has developed a strong relationship with many Vietnamese residents in her area.

At a young age Garcia heard Henry Cisneros, former U.S. Housing and Urban Development secretary and one-time San Antonio mayor, speak. Garcia

began following his career, and became inspired to lead. In 1994, she received an Outstanding Youth Community Service Award from President Clinton. While at Wichita State University for her undergraduate degree, she was president of the Hispanic American Leadership Organization, and a founding member of the school’s first Latina service sorority.

Garcia eventually moved to San Antonio. Here she was exposed to San Antonio’s political arena and some influential professors at St. Mary’s University, including Andy Hernandez and Henry Flores, Ph.D., for whom she served as a graduate research assistant.

St. Mary’s continues to be Garcia’s strong support system. “St. Mary’s was phenomenal. During my master’s program, I saw professors in the trenches, integrating, training my mind to be analytical at all times,” she says.

In the midst of her first campaign, Garcia earned a master’s degree in political science. In her recent re-election bid, she captured 75 percent of the vote in her district.

Besides being a crusader for health care in Kansas, Garcia also is a strong supporter of small businesses. That’s because she grew up around family-owned Connie’s Mexican Café, Wichita’s equivalent to San Antonio’s own Mí Tierra, which her family opened in 1961.

“I’ve seen how small business impacts the economy. I can take what I’ve learned from personal experience and turn it into legislation and policy,” she says.

Garcia aspires to run for the Kansas State Senate and plans to pursue a doctorate in organizational leadership.

“I’m ahead of schedule,” she says. “But I leave all of that in God’s hands.”

*by Anastasia Cisneros-Lunsford,
Associate Editor*

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The Student Marianist Friends (SM Friends) is a program at St. Mary's that brings together students with retired members of the Society of Mary. Both groups benefit as students learn more about St. Mary's and its Marianist charism, and professed religious keep in touch with what's new and happening on campus today. Pictured from left are: Jessica Aguilera, a sophomore biology major from Mission; Brother Jim McCaffrey, S.M.; Ruben Hernandez, a graduate student from San Antonio studying computer information systems; Mercedes Garza-Ramos, a senior biology major from San Antonio; Brother Isak Ige, S.M. (seated, center); Brother Jim Pieper, S.M.; Gabriela Morales, a sophomore from San Antonio studying criminology; Ruben Carrete (seated, right), a Brownsville junior philosophy major; and Diego Gonzalez, a sophomore transfer student studying electrical engineering.