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ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Gold & Blue

SUMMER 2011



St. Mary's Earns Fourth National Service Recognition in a Year



PUSHING STUDENTS TO THE LIGHT

RAISING THE BAR... AND THEN SOME

ON THE FRONT COVER:

Students volunteering to improve the neighborhoods around the University is one reason cited for St. Mary's selection as a Presidential Award winner on the 2010 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. This marks four national awards for St. Mary's in the last year alone. *(Read more about this honor in News From Around the Grove on page 3.)*

ON THE BACK COVER:

For more than a half century, V.J. Keefe Field has been home to the St. Mary's baseball team. Several hundred fans witnessed the end of an era when, on April 26, 2011, the final regular-season game was played there. Fittingly, the Rattler squad was victorious.

Connecting to the Community

Stay up-to-date on University news and reconnect with old classmates: St. Mary's is on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Flickr. www.stmarytx.edu/socialmedia



Keep the St. Mary's community at your fingertips: Download the St. Mary's University official mobile app for iPhone, Droid and, soon, Blackberry.

www.stmarytx.edu/app



E-Talk, St. Mary's electronic newsletter, is another way to stay connected. Sent monthly during the academic year, this feature-filled newsletter helps us to keep you current on what's happening on campus. E-Talk is mailed electronically to your preferred e-mail address, as long as we have it on file.

Need to update your e-mail or other pertinent information about yourself? Go to www.stmarytx.edu/alumni and click on Alumni Update Form. Here you can also provide updates about new jobs, marriages, recent accomplishments and more.

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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

The most recent national recognition St. Mary's has garnered in this past year alone is being named as a Presidential Award winner on the 2010 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. St. Mary's is one of just six schools in the United States to receive the highest federal recognition for the University's commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement (*see President Cotrell's message on the next page*).

Alumna Cynthia Le Monds' story is a terrific example of why St. Mary's continues to receive these kinds of accolades. Although she came from a tough background herself, her volunteer service while a student at St. Mary's led her to a career in which improving the human condition is at the heart of what she does each day. And Physics Professor Richard Cardenas' outreach into the community illustrates that service and community engagement are part of St. Mary's institutional culture.

On a personal note, I've been thinking a lot about civic engagement—and specifically civic duty—lately. For one reason, it's an important part of the St. Mary's mission and our University community carries that mission forward in many ways every day. But, it's been on my mind because I just finished serving on a jury that heard a capital murder case. What I found out during my experience is that being an engaged citizen isn't always easy—it can be messy and complicated—but it's essential to our democracy and to our society.

In our last issue of *Gold & Blue*, we ran an interview with President Cotrell about St. Mary's receiving The Carnegie Foundation's Community Engagement Classification, a designation that reflects and applauds the efforts of the entire University community. In that story, we mistakenly stated that St. Mary's is the only school in South Texas to have received this honor. Congratulations to the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College, whose alumni, students, faculty and staff are justifiably proud for receiving the same designation in 2010.

When you hear from us in the fall, we will have a lot to catch up on with regard to changes on campus. Until then, stay safe and have a great summer.

— Candy Kuebker



president's message

DRAMATIC ACHIEVEMENTS IN TUNE WITH VISION



President Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D.

Last month, we saluted our latest graduates during the 159th Spring Commencement Exercises for students receiving bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees, and at the 77th Commencement Exercises for the School of Law. These exceptional women and men now begin a new chapter in their individual histories. Mary will join the

workforce and others will attend graduate and professional schools, confident in the knowledge they've amassed while at St. Mary's. We applaud their achievements and wish them success and happiness. During these ceremonies, numerous awards and honorary degrees were conferred, as well. (Read about them in *News From Around the Grove*.) The end of an academic year is also a time to reflect on our accomplishments as an institution.

Throughout this past year, St. Mary's joined Marianists worldwide to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the birth of Society of Mary Founder Blessed William Joseph Chaminade. An end-of-year high note on campus came with notification that St. Mary's was one of only six institutions in the nation to receive the Presidential Award, the top recognition on the annual President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. This follows St. Mary's selection in January by The Carnegie Foundation for its Community Engagement Classification.

Another presidential recognition went to Physics Professor Richard Cardenas, Ph.D., who was honored at the White House in January by President Obama with the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring. And the

school year started with a bang last September when *Washington Monthly* magazine ranked St. Mary's first in the nation for service to country, research and social mobility. We all can take pride in these acknowledgments that confirm our steadfast commitment to civic engagement, service and accessibility.

There have been numerous notable faculty and staff achievements this year. For example, International Relations Professor Larry Hufford, Ph.D., has been selected for a Fulbright Specialist Grant in Peace and Conflict Resolution and will travel to Bahrain this summer, and Biological Sciences Professor Ted Macrini, Ph.D., had an article published in *Science* (see page 16).

Among student accomplishments, St. Mary's law students comprise the only U.S. team selected to compete in the International Negotiation Competition in Poland this summer, and our Entrepreneurial Scholars continue with their winning ways, clinching four of the top 10 spots in the national 2011 E-Scholar Consortium Student Conference this past spring. Both our baseball and softball teams advanced to regional tournament play, continuing Rattler winning traditions.

Upon students' return in the fall, there will be several changes that reflect St. Mary's moving forward, including the completion of Assumption Chapel renovations, the beginning of the renovation of St. Louis Hall, and preparation and infrastructure work for the Outdoor Sports Complex.

While this has been a year of celebration and unparalleled achievement for St. Mary's, we are looking ahead. There is rapidly becoming a "new normal" in higher education in our country, and it is the responsibility of St. Mary's leadership to understand the dramatically changed environment for higher education and to identify the

characteristics associated with quality institutions and the challenges that face our University.

As you know, I will return to the classroom full-time when I complete my term at the end of May 2012. A Presidential Search Committee has been formed and is meeting regularly. In addition, in preparation for a new president, St. Mary's executive leadership is working to ensure that plans are in place for a seamless transition. We are discussing enrollment models that we can sustain in this new environment of reduced federal and state financial aid and that allow St. Mary's to remain a selective, high-quality institution. We are looking at innovative programs and delivery methods that maintain our integrated liberal arts and professional education, yet address the changing environment that is calling for more affordable and faster means to obtaining degrees.

With regard to finances, we are developing strategies for innovative cost controls and efficiencies that allow us to remain mission-driven and that reinvest in quality academics and facilities. Healthy alumni participation is important to future plans, and we are reviewing the best practices for alumni outreach and stewardship. On the co-curricular front, we are examining trends in residence life, new directions in career services, and the next chapter in civic engagement at St. Mary's. The values of a Catholic and Marianist liberal arts education serve as the framework for our planning.

Certainly, there remains much to do now and in the future. And while surely there are challenges, it is our responsibility—and our commitment as a Marianist institution—to meet these challenges for the benefit of our students. By working together I am confident we will continue our success.



news

FROM AROUND THE GROVE

Short Subjects

St. Mary's Adds Fourth National Accolade

For the fourth time in less than a year, St. Mary's University has been recognized as a national leader in combining educational excellence with a steadfast commitment to service learning and community engagement.

St. Mary's is one of just six colleges and universities nationwide to receive

the highest federal honor for service in higher education – the Presidential Award from the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.



St. Mary's was cited for

efforts to assist and improve the communities around the campus through its Neighborhood Revitalization Project, as well as for efforts to bridge the educational gaps often experienced by students in lower-income areas, through programs such as Upward Bound.

While St. Mary's has made the Honor Roll for the past five years, this is the first year the University has reached the highest level of recognition. Some 640 colleges and universities were recognized: 511 were named to the Honor Roll; 114 received the recognition of Honor Roll with Distinction; 11 were identified as Finalists; and six received the Presidential Award, including St. Mary's.

This month, Steve Nivin, Ph.D., director of the Neighborhood Revitalization Project, and Jacqueline Dansby, Ph.D., who leads the St. Mary's Upward Bound program, will travel to New Orleans to accept the award for the University.

All of these programs reflect St. Mary's deep commitment to public service on the part of the entire University community. Faculty service is a cultural and institutional expectation; student service requirements are a part of the core curriculum; and students often plan and execute their service work themselves, with assistance from the staff of the offices dedicated to service learning.

This is the fourth such national recognition for service. In January,

Mobile App Launched



In response to its students' suggestions, the University launched an official St. Mary's mobile app in April that is available for download from the iTunes Store and the Android Market. An app for Blackberry is in the works, as well.

his free app keeps you connected to University happenings by providing news and events, Rattler athletics scores and schedules, an interactive campus map, emergency information, a faculty and staff directory, and more. Students who are users of Sprint can also access current academic courses and Blackboard Learn.

The St. Mary's app offers social features that provide access to University content from YouTube, Flickr and iTunesU, as well as links to Twitter and Facebook.

Those who are not iPhone, iPad, Android or Blackberry users can still visit the m.stmarytx.edu mobile website using a web browser. Stay tuned for more features to be launched in the near future, and feedback about the new app can be shared with the Office of University Communications at (210) 436-3327 or ucomm@stmarytx.edu.

President Barack Obama singled out Physics Professor Richard Cardenas, Ph.D., for his outstanding work mentoring young students. (Read more about Cardenas' efforts on page 10.) Also in January, St. Mary's was selected for the Carnegie Foundation's Community Engagement Classification in recognition of its institutional culture of service. In September 2010, *Washington Monthly* magazine named St. Mary's first in the nation among master's universities for its commitment to service, research and social mobility.

Ambassador Addresses Spring Graduates

U.S. Ambassador to Argentina Vilma Martínez was the speaker for the 2011 Spring Commencement Ceremony last

month, during which 431 graduates picked up their diplomas.

In addition to Martínez's work as a private practice attorney, she served as president and general counsel for the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) and as a staff attorney with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

The ceremony, held on May 7 at the Alumni Athletics & Convocation Center, celebrated the achievements of 306 graduates who received bachelor's degrees, 121 who earned master's degrees and four who received doctorates.



MARTÍNEZ



WEB extras

Want more news?
Go online!

www.stmarytx.edu/summer_extras

St. Mary's Showcases New
Mentor Program

Hot Off the Presses

County Commissioners'
New Building Bears
Alum's Name

St. Louis Hall Renovation
Underway

The Rattler Reaps Awards

St. Mary's Encourages
Student Aid Support at
State Capitol

Marianist Jubilarians Tally
500+ Years of Service

Prominent Attorney,
Feinberg, Visits Campus



President Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D., and Board Chairman Robert Elizondo

University's Historical Significance Honored

On April 1, 2011, St. Mary's leadership joined dignitaries to unveil an Official Texas Historical Marker, granted by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) to the University in recognition of St. Mary's significance in the development of the City of San Antonio and the State of Texas. The THC subject marker, which acknowledges St. Mary's influence on the course of history in Texas, is permanently placed at the front of St. Louis Hall, the University's first building at its present campus. In part, the marker reads: "Since its early years, St. Mary's has maintained a rich tradition of academic excellence, civic engagement and service to others by helping the less fortunate. Today, the University continues to be a leading institution of higher learning, shaping men and women to serve as leaders throughout the world."

St. Mary's Wins Grant for Pilot Project

St. Mary's has been awarded \$100,000 in recognition of the University's successes in retaining and graduating students. St. Mary's was the only four-year private institution selected as part of a pilot project sponsored by Wal-Mart and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities whose funds are to be used, in part, to mentor another institution by sharing St. Mary's strategies for success.

At least half of the grant will support efforts at St. Mary's to develop strategies and programming to further improve the University's outcomes in retention and graduation.

Science Degree on the Horizon

The St. Mary's Environmental Science degree program is designed to address the demands of an ever increasing global population, which brings about urbanization issues and the depletion of natural resources. Developed using the input from numerous constituencies, this exciting new program will provide St. Mary's students with a broad foundation of scientific knowledge and professional skills that will enable them to assess a variety of environmental issues and develop and implement solutions.

Students may also gain experience in an area of specialization such as geosciences, environmental chemistry or ecology. The program will be formally launched in the spring.



Updates to the Combined Sciences Program

St. Mary's has updated its B.A. in Combined Sciences degree which, currently, is awarded to students who are accepted into the Dental Early Admission Program at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. The revisions will enable students participating in other early acceptance programs, including physical therapy, occupational therapy and physician's assistant, to also be eligible for the degree. Students who spend the formative years of their academic careers at St. Mary's will have an opportunity to be formally welcomed into the ranks of our alumni.

Newsmakers

College Board, Sembradores Pay Tribute to Cotrell

The College Board, during a national conference held in San Antonio this past March, presented President Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D., with its first Model of Community award, in recognition of his four decades of service at St. Mary's. The conference, *Prepárate: Educating Latinos for the Future of America*, attracted some 700 educators from across the country who are committed to improving education for Latino students.

In addition, Cotrell was honored in June by the Sembradores de Amistad de San Antonio as their 2011 Honoree of the Year. As the group's unanimous choice, Cotrell was cited for his significant contributions to higher education over the course of his career, his faithful service to San Antonio, and his consistent support of the Sembradores of San Antonio Educational Foundation. The nonprofit service organization has supported St. Mary's through scholarship assistance for some 25 years.

ABA Gold Key Awarded to St. Mary's Student

At its spring Board of Governors Meeting in New Orleans, the American Bar Association (ABA) presented



HALL

St. Mary's School of Law third-year student Trevor Hall with the Law Student Division Gold Key, the association's highest student honor.

According to the ABA, a Gold Key recipient has

demonstrated the highest degree of service, dedication and leadership along with conscientiously furthering the Law Student Division's purpose of achieving solutions for problems which confront today's society, strengthening law student participation in the programs and activities, and encouraging the educational and professional development of law students. Hall was the only one to win the Gold Key at the annual meeting.

A May 2011 graduate, Hall served as an ABA Law Student Division Governor for 2010-2011. At St. Mary's, he participated in the advocacy program as a

member of its moot court, negotiation and arbitration teams, and served as a research assistant for Professor Vincent Johnson.

Former Trustee to Chair National Review Board

Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York announced that former St. Mary's Trustee Al Notzon III (B.A. '60) has been



NOTZON

named chairman of the National Review Board. The board is a consultative body established in 2002 that collaborates with the U.S. Bishops in their efforts to address clerical sexual abuse.

Notzon, executive director of the Alamo Area Council of Governments from 1972-2007, has served the community as a board member of numerous organizations, including as



Bertrand's New Children's Book Praised

Diane G. Bertrand, writer-in-residence at St. Mary's and professor in the Department of English and Communication Arts, has been awarded the 2011 Austin Public Library Friends Foundation Award for her latest bilingual children's book.

The book, *The Party for Papá Luis/La fiesta para Papá Luis* (2010 Arte Publico Press), was previously named a finalist for the 2010-2011 Tejas Star Book Award. Bertrand has received many regional, state and national accolades for her children's fiction and nonfiction, which often reflect the issues and experiences of urban Latino children and their families.

president of the St. Mary's University Alumni Association, former president of the Texas and National Associations of Regional Councils, the Texas Conference of Churches, the Texas Catholic Conference, the San Antonio River Corridor Committee, and Target 90/Goals for San Antonio, and past chairman of the San Antonio Area Foundation.

Honors Abound at Graduation Ceremonies

Special honors were extended to several community leaders during Commencement Exercises held at St. Mary's. On May 7, honorary doctorates were presented to Ruben M. Escobedo (B.B.A. '60) and Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller, M.Sp.S., for representing the mission and goals of the University. Escobedo, a member of the Board of Trustees, received a Doctorate of Philosophy, *honoris causa*, for serving as a model of the Marianist commitment to education and service through his efforts at giving back and building community. San Antonio's sixth Archbishop, The Most Rev. Gustavo García-Siller, was presented a Doctorate of Philosophy, *honoris causa*, for his lifelong commitment and service to the Catholic faith and those in need, as well as his achievement of becoming one of the highest-ranking Mexican-American bishops in the U.S.

During the School of Law Commencement Exercises on May 14, Ricardo Cedillo (B.A. '74), who served as the commencement speaker, was presented a Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, for his outstanding professional achievements and his support of the School of Law.

Also honored during the law ceremony were 2007 Distinguished Law Graduate and Former Trustee Ronald J. Herrmann (B.A. '57, J.D. '59), who received the 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award; the Hon. Xavier Rodriguez, judge for the United States District Court in the Western District of Texas, who was presented the 2011 Rosewood Gavel Award in recognition of contributions to constitutional democracy; and the Hon.

Patrick E. Higgenbotham, judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, who was honored with the St. Thomas More Award in recognition of exceptional contributions to the legal profession.

Alumna Named Texas Principal of the Year

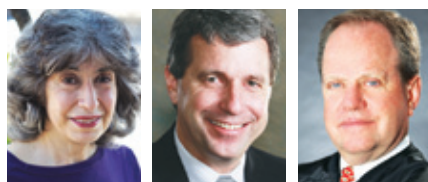
Geraldine "Geri" (Janysek) Berger, the fourth-year principal of Brandeis High School in San Antonio's Northside Independent School District, has been named the 2011 Texas High School Principal of the Year by the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals (TASSP). The award is based on four criteria: personal excellence (including professional growth, communication skills and model behavior), collaborative leadership, curriculum and personalization.

A San Antonio native who grew up on the city's south side, Berger received a full scholarship to attend St. Mary's to study accounting. By her junior year, she had decided that she wanted a career that allowed her to interact more with people. She changed her major and graduated from St. Mary's *summa cum laude* in 1990 with a degree in education.

Association Announces 2011 Distinguished Alumni

The St. Mary's Alumni Association will honor three distinguished graduates at its annual awards dinner in September. This year's honorees are Diane Abdo (B.A. '72), Col. Mark Bagg, M.D. (B.A. '81) and the Hon. David Berchermann Jr. (B.A. '70, J.D. '73).

Abdo is a lecturer for the English and Writing Program at the University of Texas at San Antonio. She is also former Alumni Association President and served on the St. Mary's Board of Trustees from 1988-1989 as the alumni representative.



ABDO

BAGG

BERCHELMANN

Bagg, who graduated *summa cum laude* from St. Mary's, attended the University on an Army ROTC scholarship. The retired Army orthopedic surgeon is credited with bringing the Center for the Intrepid to San Antonio. This \$50 million state-of-the-art physical rehabilitation facility at Fort Sam Houston serves soldiers wounded in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Admitted to the Texas Bar in 1973, Berchermann worked as an assistant criminal district attorney for Bexar County and in private practice before being appointed to his first judicial seat on the 290th District Court. Since then, he has held several different judicial positions and is currently the sitting judge of the 37th District Court.

Jaklich Leads District to Top Award

In a culmination of one of the biggest turnarounds of a school district in San Antonio, Harlandale Independent School District, led by Superintendent Robert Jaklich (B.A. '81), won H-E-B's Excellence in Education Award. At a ceremony held in Austin, former Secretary of State Colin Powell gave the keynote address before H-E-B staffers distributed nearly \$500,000 from the largest monetary rewards program for Texas educators.

Harlandale I.S.D. was presented with a \$100,000 prize, capping a run of accolades that have recognized the low-income district's success in overcoming academic and financial problems. Jaklich, who has been with the district since 1997, was picked for the district's top spot in 2008. Since then, the Texas Education Agency has rated 18 of the district's 19 schools as "recognized" or "exemplary" and the district gained "recognized" status for the first time in 2010.

Jaklich, from Racine, Wis., attended St. Mary's on a basketball scholarship and played point guard on the Rattler squad until an ankle injury sidelined him in his senior year.



Oysters and Pearls Gala Rakes in the Clams

The St. Mary's Alumni Association Oysters and Pearls Scholarship Gala held in February was attended by more than 400 people and raised nearly \$80,000 for scholarships. Former Association President and University Trustee Ed Boyle (B.B.A. '71) and his wife, Chris (B.A. '71), chaired the event. They, along with members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, created a wonderful evening of fun and entertainment, the proceeds from which will benefit student scholarships.

Big winners of the raffle's grand prize—a trip to New York City—were Trustee Doris Slay-Barber (B.A. '74) and her husband, Gene. During the live auction, Jim Tsakopoulos (B.B.A. '67) was the highest bidder for the dinner with President Charles and Mrs. Abbie Cotrell.

The Association plans to make the event an annual affair so that it can continue—and grow—its commitment to funding scholarships for St. Mary's students.

Good Deeds

Campaign Fundraising Goal Reached

The Extending the Tradition of Excellence Campaign has exceeded the overall goal of \$23 million by nearly \$70,000 as of the end of March. The \$10.5 million goal for Academic Excellence was surpassed and, while the \$12.5 goal for Athletic Excellence—the building of a new outdoor sports complex—has reached two-thirds of its target, fundraising for Athletic Excellence will continue. An official groundbreaking ceremony for the Outdoor Sports Complex is planned for Friday, Sept. 9, 2011, at V.J. Keefe Field.

Constance Jones Estate Leaves \$50,000

Constance "Connie" Jones Cruise, who died this past October, has left \$50,000 to St. Mary's which the University has designated for the St. Mary's Scholarship Fund. She also left several of her father's gold and diamond mathematics medals to the University.

A graduate of then Incarnate Word College, Jones was a longtime St. Mary's benefactor and, until recent years, frequented favorite University events, including the annual President's Dinner and especially the Fiesta Oyster Bake

President's Reception. Unbeknownst to many, Jones was a retired commander in the United States Navy. She was admired for her teaching career in mathematics and chemistry, her work as a pharmaceutical chemist, and her pioneering work in the development of radar systems at the Boston Navy Yard Radar Laboratories during World War II.

Marianist Trust Allocates Annual Gift

In early April, the Board of Trustees of the Marianist Trust of St. Mary's University met to award scholarships and financial grants to St. Mary's students. The Trust is funded by professed Marianists working at the University who have donated a portion of their salaries, and it functions to support students and programs that instill the Marianist heritage into the life of the University.

During the 2011-2012 year, the Trust has allocated nearly \$360,000, almost two-thirds of which will go to undergraduates in the form of grants. In addition, the Trust is providing financial support to the Marianist Leadership Program, freshmen enrolling at St. Mary's from Marianist high schools, graduate student grants, Greiner-Treadaway Scholarships and Campus Ministry scholarships.

Sports Corner

Fields Wins 600th Game

Already the first Rattler to win national championships as a player (NAIA, 1986) and as a coach (NCAA Division II, 2002), St. Mary's softball coach Donna Fields (B.A. '87, M.A. '01) hit another career high point in April. She earned win No. 600.

Fields, in her 14th year as head softball coach, hit the milestone number with a 6-3 victory over Tarleton State in Stephenville on April 12. With the victory, Fields improved to 600-244 in her 14 years at St. Mary's.



Cotrell awards Fields with a plaque commemorating her 600th win.

Coaches, Athletes Earn Regional Recognition

Charlie Migl and Donna Fields were named the Heartland Conference Coach of the Year in baseball and softball, respectively, after leading their teams to deep playoff runs.

Baseball players Tyler Migl, Sammy Rivas and Matt Holland won major awards, with Migl named the conference Player of the Year, and Rivas and Holland sharing Co-Pitcher of the Year honors. Softball's Emily Brittain was also named the Freshman and Pitcher of the Year, and Jared Gonzalez was named softball's Co-Newcomer of the Year.

For the baseball team, eight Rattlers earned conference first-team honors and two more were named to the second team. In addition, Holland, Rivas and Greg



HOLLAND, MIGL, RIVAS, HERBST

Herbst made the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association's All-Region Team, and Jason Garcia joined the trio on the Daktronics All-Region Team. Charlie Migl was named the NCBWA's Coach of the Year. Rivas was also a semifinalist for the Tino Martinez Award in addition to being named to a national All-Star team by College Baseball Lineup.

Softball's Gonzalez also made a pair of All-Region teams: Second-Team All-Region by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association and First-Team All-Region by Daktronics. Brittain was named to Daktronics' Second-Team.

Men's golfer Matt Vela was named the conference's Player of the Year, while teammates Jeff Rein (first team) and Sam Jernigan (second team) were named All-Heartland Conference. Tennis players Marcin Marczewski, Andrej Klipa, Guy Rutten, Mimi Soy and Huong Huynh also received all-conference recognition.

Softball Player Throws No-Hitter

Softball freshman pitcher Maricela Bissaro grew up around greatness. Her mother is Leticia Morales-Bissaro (B.A. '86), the legendary St. Mary's Hall of Famer whose No. 24 was retired.

The jersey number has since been unretired for her daughter to wear, and the younger Bissaro didn't take long to give the number new life...she threw a no-hitter against the cross-town-rival Incarnate Word Cardinals in a 5-0 victory at home on March 29.

"I'm just trying to do my own thing, make my own name," said Bissaro, who struck out seven in the game.



Bissaro signs a softball for her grandmother after the game.



TYLER AND CHARLIE MIGL

Father and Son Hit Baseball Milestones

On March 20, Charlie Migl (B.A. '78) notched his 900th victory as baseball head coach at St. Mary's when the Rattlers beat Angelo State 4-0. Migl, with an overall record of 921-421 (as of May 1) in 25 years at the helm, became just the 15th NCAA Division II baseball coach to clip the 900 mark, and is the fifth most winning active coach in Division II baseball. Migl was presented a plaque commemorating the milestone at the

Rattlers' final regular-season game on April 26.

One reason the Rattlers were able to give Migl this milestone victory this season is his son. Tyler Migl, a junior first baseman, was named the National Hitter of the Week by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association, the first time a Rattler has been so recognized. Migl led the Heartland Conference with a .528 batting average at the time of winning the award in March.



St. Mary's second baseman Weston Baros storms toward home plate in a conference contest against Texas A&M International.

Sports Teams Enjoy Regional-Tournament Runs

As Reagan Moczygemba's bat made contact with the ball in a must-win game of the South Central Regional Baseball Championship, the St. Mary's senior third baseman never doubted what would happen next.

With the Rattlers down to their final out and trailing by three with two runners on, Moczygemba knew the ball would find its way through the gap to spark a run. After all, it had worked that way all year. "All year long, there was no panic," he said.

Only this time, the result was different. The Rattlers, ranked No. 3 in the nation, saw their magical run end in a 5-2 defeat to No. 4 Central Missouri in the regional tournament. St. Mary's, winners of the Heartland Conference, finished with a .825 winning percentage, the highest in coach Charlie Migl's 25 years leading the program.

Meanwhile, the Lady Rattlers' softball team also saw its tremendous run end in the regional tournament. St. Mary's upset the top-seeded West Texas A&M Lady Buffs in the opening round, but then fell in a 13-inning marathon to Nebraska-Omaha before being eliminated by West Texas A&M in the double-elimination tournament.

Led by standouts Matt Vela and Jeff Rein, the men's golf team also qualified for regionals, marking the ninth straight time coach Wes Skidmore's team has advanced that far. The Rattlers finished 13th at the regional tournament.



IF EVER, OH EVER, A *Wiz* THERE WAS

by Candace Kuebker, Executive Editor

In 1900, L. Frank Baum published the children's novel, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. Adapted into the wildly popular film of 1939, this classic still resonates with children of all ages. In the story, it is revealed that the Wizard isn't an all-powerful master as others believe; he's just a man behind a curtain, pulling levers to create an illusion of majesty.

San Antonio has its own wizard in John Santikos who, much like the fabled Wizard of Oz, "provides certain things that people want and satisfies their needs." Santikos' motivation for building and operating theatres is that it "makes [people] feel good, stimulates thought, and contributes to an appreciation of something a movie is trying to express."

Santikos Theatres, an outgrowth of a business that his Greek-immigrant father started in Waco in 1911, is celebrating its centennial. To honor the milestone, Santikos has given 50 scholarships to next fall's St. Mary's freshmen. (Another 50 awards will go to the University of Texas at San Antonio.)

Why? Because it was "St. Mary's that gave me my start," he said during the scholarship presentation at The Palladium, a Greek-style theatre that pays homage to Santikos' heritage.

John's father returned to Greece to marry in 1924. In June 1946, he sent his son to San Antonio to escape Athens, where a civil war followed the World War II German occupation. By boat and train, John made his way to San Antonio where his father had friends. Santikos recalls, "The consensus of opinion was that St. Mary's was a good boys' school and that I would be in good company." The rest of his family—parents and a brother and sister—had joined him in San Antonio by 1949.

Santikos enrolled at St. Mary's in 1947. He worked hard to learn English (which he knew very little of), and found many helpful teachers. He sought to emulate Brother Paul Goelz, S.M. "I liked the way he talked, his handling of the English language, his ability to articulate things in an interesting way," he said. Santikos credits Goelz as well as Brothers Anthony Frederick, Joseph Schmitz, and George Kohnen for helping and challenging him.

John Santikos is nothing if not determined. He mastered English and graduated from St. Mary's within two and a half years, earning a marketing degree in 1949. And he took some life lessons with him. "I learned [the Marianists] were people of good character and good ethics, and that permeated into my being. I have tried to live my life in a very honorable and just and fair way...I was taught that character matters."

In 1950, John started learning the movie business from the ground up at his father's new Olmos Theatre. Whether it was taking tickets, working at the concession stand, or booking films, Santikos learned by doing. When his parents decided to return to their native Greece in 1958, he was ready to take over the business, establishing Santikos Theatres.

One hundred years after his father opened a small cinema in Waco, San Antonio's theatre wizard John Santikos orchestrates the success of his seven major theatres, pulling levers from behind the curtain, shirking the limelight, more interested in fine-tuning all of those small details that make a business successful and giving his patrons what they want.

PHYSICS PROFESSOR KEEPS TO THE SHADOWS WHILE PUSHING STUDENTS TO THE

Light

by Gina Farrell, Media Relations Director



KIPP Aspire Academy teacher Manny Barrera (B.S. '06) and his students with St. Mary's Professor Cardenas



Cardenas visits the White House to accept the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring from President Barack Obama

Plenty of people can tell you about the work that St. Mary's University Physics Professor Richard Cardenas, Ph.D., is doing on the campus and in the community. His dean is eager to talk about the prestigious award Cardenas recently received from the President of the United States for mentoring; his students are happy to talk about the transformational influence Cardenas has been on their college experience; and former students quickly recall their own positive interactions with the professor.

Just don't ask Cardenas to talk about these things.

Once word came from the White House earlier this year that he would be one of just 11 individuals honored with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring, Cardenas became scarce. The more reporters called wanting to talk about his accomplishment, the harder he was to find. Finally tracked down weeks later for an interview with a



St. Mary's senior Jessica Esquivel prepares a demonstration for KIPP Aspire Academy students.

local reporter, Cardenas admitted that while he was honored to be recognized, he was just not comfortable stepping into the spotlight.

But, between his success in growing the St. Mary's Physics Department and national recognition for his work preparing the next generation of scientists, Cardenas may have to get used to the attention.

BUILDING A FOUNDATION

When Cardenas came to the St. Mary's campus in 2000, there were only two students majoring in physics, most advanced physics classes had not been taught in years, and the degree plan on record was outdated. The next year, the degree program was revamped (it has since been updated again) and a biophysics option was introduced, quickly becoming a popular option among the growing number of physics majors.

But where Cardenas has really stood out is in his work mentoring both local public school students and St. Mary's students alike. For public school students, Cardenas is the energy behind Fiesta of Physics, a program he started in 2003 with a colleague as a way to spark interest in science while giving back to the community. It began as a one-time event, where hundreds of local elementary students were invited to campus to see fun and exciting science experiments performed by members of St. Mary's Society of Physics. The program was so successful that Fiesta of Physics has become a traveling show as well, with

numerous trips throughout the academic year to elementary and middle schools around San Antonio.

FIESTA OF LEARNING

During a Fiesta of Physics demonstration this spring at the KIPP Aspire Academy, a charter school focused on preparing inner-city students for college, Cardenas brought 10 St. Mary's students to show about 90 eighth-graders that science can be fun. The visit came at the request of Emmanuel Barrera, a 2006 graduate of St. Mary's, who is now teaching integrated physics and chemistry at the academy, and wanted to show his students what Fiesta of Physics offered.

"When I was at St. Mary's, I was a part of Fiesta of Physics, and I know what it can do," Barrera said. "I want to make sure these students get excited about science, and I want them to know that St. Mary's is just right down the street."

Since Fiesta of Physics began, thousands of local elementary, middle and high school students have participated. The visits include hands-on demonstrations of science principles, such as Newton's third law of action and reaction (air is pumped into balloons before they are released, loudly squeaking and streaking across the gymnasium) and the effects of solidified carbon dioxide on a squishy blue racquet ball (it transforms into a solid rock, and shatters like glass when it hits the ground).

Jessica Esquivel, a senior electrical engineering and applied physics major, has been volunteering with Fiesta of Physics since she was a freshman. She

loves seeing the students' eyes light up when they see something surprising happen in a science demo. "They can see that what they are learning in the classroom is real and that it matters," Esquivel said.

BROADENING HORIZONS

Cardenas is passionate about getting future college students interested in science, but he's also passionate about mentoring current St. Mary's students. He requires his physics majors to apply to at least four summer research programs, with the hopes that it will help them realize their own options. As a result, Cardenas has had many students accepted to programs at top-tier research schools, including Columbia University, the University of Notre Dame, and Texas A&M University.

He understands the impact mentoring can make in a student's life because he didn't get that kind of push from his own college professors. "Because a significant percentage of St. Mary's students are the first in their families to attend college, showing them all the options available is vital to their success," Cardenas said.

But he doesn't just tell them to go find opportunities; Cardenas combs the Internet and listserv groups for openings that might appeal to his students, and then encourages students to apply. "To see them do well—that's what this is about. It's not enough to get them to come to St. Mary's. They have to have a variety of experiences and exposure to any field that might appeal to them."



Raising the Bar



...and Then Some

CEO'S PASSION FOR EDUCATION BUYS A TICKET OUT OF POVERTY

by Rosemary Segura, Coordinator for Web and Print Communications

Cynthia had the courage to listen to her calling.

The saying goes that “Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them.” Often, when circumstances are stacked against them, we’re tempted to set the bar too low. We then watch as they slip into poverty or delinquency, somehow believing their fate was inevitable. Fortunately, among those children are some who beat the odds, rising well above expectations. Case in point: Cynthia Le Monds (B.A. ’96, M.P.A. ’08), CEO of SA Youth. If she’d only lived up to what others believed her capabilities to be, she would have never graduated from high school, let alone accomplish much else. Instead, she helps thousands of children in San Antonio live up to their own potential and avoid falling victim to the same unfortunate outcome predicted for her.

POOR, BUT DETERMINED

A child of the Mississippi Delta, Le Monds grew up extremely poor. The daughter of migrant farmhands, she was eight years old when she worked her first field. “The Delta is a farming community,” she says. “We moved from town to town looking for work; when it was available, my father would load all of us up to go work with him.” When there wasn’t any work to be found, her father—who Le Monds says never even set foot in a classroom—toiled as a woodcutter or sold the skins of game he would hunt. “He would do whatever it took to survive. Many times we didn’t have electricity or even running water. For a time, the only food we had to live on was the rice and cheese provided by the government. It was no way to live,” she says.

In the same way that Le Monds grew accustomed to enduring economic hardship, she and her seven siblings—who eventually dropped out of school—got used to being ridiculed by others.

School administrators and educators labeled them “disadvantaged,” a term that, for Le Monds, implied she and her siblings didn’t have anything going for them and, ultimately, were destined to fail.

Despite this humiliation, a few teachers took a vested interest in Le Monds’ learning. Collecting books and buying school supplies for her, those beacons of encouragement fueled her desire to pursue her education.

HAVE TRUNK, WILL TRAVEL

Le Monds’ teenage years were just as challenging as her childhood. At 14 years of age, she separated from her family, bounced between relatives’ homes, worked two part-time jobs, and had her entire savings stolen from her. At 16, with nothing more than a travel trunk, a few belongings and a bit of determination, she arrived on the campus of the University of Arkansas. Of that day, Le Monds says, “It was my last year of high school and I was desperate for a way out of the Delta. I called the university’s Chancellor and told him my story. He invited me to his office, telling me that he would enroll me personally and give me a full scholarship that would allow me to finish high school courses through correspondence during my first year of college.”

A few semesters later, Le Monds packed up her trunk once more, heading for San Antonio where she was accepted into St. Mary’s to complete her undergraduate studies in political science. It was then that she met Professor Steve Neiheisel, Ph.D., whom she calls her “lifetime mentor” and the person whom she credits as having the most significant impact on her life’s direction.

In Neiheisel, Le Monds found a rare and welcome

source of support who took her under his wing and exposed her to the nonprofit world. He recommended that she complete community service hours at the Downtown Youth Drop-in Center—now SA Youth—and she soon found that she was in for quite a learning experience.

ANSWERING A CALL

After the Mississippi Delta, San Antonio looked like the land of prosperity to Le Monds. But at the Center, she soon learned that poverty wasn't confined to a single geographic location. There was an enormous amount of work she'd have to do to help the Center's children. Calling to mind her own childhood, Le Monds says, "I was driven to provide a better place for the kids. The Center was run down, but those kids deserved better. They lived in poverty every day—they didn't need to come here to be reminded of it. I may not have known that day what being nonprofit meant, but I knew that the Center was struggling, and I knew that there was money in the city. We just had to ask for and get it."

Within months, the Center began building momentum, securing additional funding and gaining attention from the media. As things began to improve, Le Monds left for law school. But she couldn't ignore the Center's pull. After a successful first year, she left law school and returned, quickly working her way into the Center's chief executive position. At just 24, she became the youngest CEO in the Center's history.

At that time, the Center had an operating budget of \$80,000. Under Le Monds' leadership, it has grown to more than \$4.8 million and the agency now operates nine

centers throughout San Antonio—with a tenth in the works—serving 1,600 youth a year. Through SA Youth's dropout prevention and recovery programs, the agency has helped countless children, ones that society might ordinarily deem wasted lives. Many have earned their high school diploma; others have finished college or acquired professional job training. SA Youth graduates are contributing members of society. They are young people of good character, who are beating the odds and realizing their dreams, all because someone believed they could be more than what was expected of them.

Motivated by passion and the belief that education is the ticket out of poverty, it is Le Monds' hope that more children will overcome their circumstances and stop family cycles of dropping out of school. She and the agency are succeeding. As Neiheisel puts it, "Cynthia had the courage to listen to her calling and as a result, has helped save and change thousands of young, at-risk lives. San Antonio is a more caring city because of her."

Despite her modesty about her accomplishments, Le Monds, who often returns to St. Mary's to share her experiences with current students, says she is by no means finished. "There's the story of a young boy who came across a vast number of starfish stranded on the shore. He began tossing them back into the ocean, one by one, making a difference for one starfish at a time. I want the ocean to stop throwing them out. And until that happens, I'm not done. I can do more. And I owe a lot of what I have been able to do thus far to St. Mary's. There were many people who helped me and I feel I have a responsibility to continue sharing that with others."



Le Monds takes time out to read to children at SA Youth.



graduating professionals for 50 years

ENGINEERING AT ST. MARY'S

by Bahman Rezaie, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Engineering

When the first graduates of the St. Mary's engineering program were inducted into the Heritage Club during Homecoming Weekend this past spring, the Department of Engineering marked 50 years of providing high quality engineering education at the University and to the San Antonio community and beyond.

Thoughts of creating an engineering program at St. Mary's date back to 1928, when the University's leadership was exploring ways to contribute to the economic development of the greater San Antonio area. In collaboration with public officials, the Marianists concluded that the creation of an engineering program at St. Mary's would help to supply the city with a technically skilled labor force. In the spirit of service to the community and the desire to contribute to San Antonio's development, St. Mary's decided to extend into professional programs and, in the late 1950s, to expand

its professional degree offerings by creating an engineering program that would provide local companies with competent graduates, whose training integrated a strong liberal arts foundation with current and relevant technical knowledge and skills in engineering.

OZAN FORGES ENGINEERING EDUCATION AT ST. MARY'S

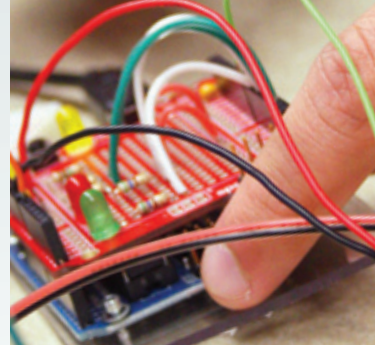
In 1958, Turgut Ozan, Ph.D., with a newly minted doctorate, was hired with the charge to start an industrial engineering program. Ozan was the only full-time faculty member in the early undergraduate program, but he quickly hired highly qualified faculty from Southwest Research Institute, beginning his tradition of high standards in the department. Stories and memories from early engineering graduates reveal an obvious fondness of Ozan. They are especially appreciative of his dedication to his

students and his profession, and the positive influence he has had on their lives as a lifelong adviser and mentor.

Ozan's former students often attribute their professional success to his guidance long after graduation. They aren't surprised to hear that, at age 92, Ozan still frequents the department to interact with faculty and students. He laid the foundation for all the successes that the department has enjoyed during the past 50 years, and his culture of teaching excellence is carried on today by the next generation of St. Mary's engineering faculty. Several years ago, the University created an engineering scholarship endowment in the name of Ozan as a testament to his service and dedication, and, through contributions from alumni and engineering faculty, the first Turgut Ozan Scholarship will be awarded to an incoming freshman this fall.

1 Nathan Churchwell, Stephanie Crowell and Supratim Srinivasan present their mobile power station, their yearlong senior design project.

2 Engineering Chair Bahman Rezaie, Ph.D., Board of Trustees Chair Robert Elizondo (B.S. '67), Professor Emeritus Turgut Ozan, Ph.D., one of St. Mary's first engineering graduates Matthew Wueste (B.S. '61), and School of Science, Engineering and Technology Dean Winston Erevelles, Ph.D.



PROGRAMS PREPARE GRADUATES FOR THE WORKPLACE

From its modest beginnings 50 years ago, the Department of Engineering has grown to offer six vibrant undergraduate programs. Since its first, industrial engineering, the department has added computer engineering, electrical engineering, software engineering, engineering systems management, and engineering science, plus five master's degrees. While the industrial and electrical programs were the first in San Antonio to be accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) in the early 1980s, computer engineering has since been accredited as well.

Many of our graduates further their education at prominent universities such as Georgia Tech, Purdue, Notre Dame, Rice, Stanford, and the University of Texas at Austin. And they are well prepared, completing their graduate programs with flying colors. Those who opt to join the workforce are also successful, reporting that the education they received has served them well in their careers. They attribute their success to the exemplary teaching and mentoring they received from our faculty, and to the balanced curriculum that integrates their professional studies with the liberal arts.

The engineering faculty utilizes its personal contacts in industry and an extensive alumni network to place students in summer internships or at local companies while they work on their senior projects. This allows them to gain practical experience in their areas of study and become familiar with workforce expectations and demands.

A teacher is only as good as his student, and when that teacher has imbued his student with the thirst to [succeed], then he hasn't given the world another engineer, he's given it the future.

BRIAN SERRATO (B.S. '11)

DESIGN PROJECTS IMPACT ENERGY, EFFICIENCY

All students are required to complete a yearlong senior design project that serves as the capstone for their education. The project is intended to instill a thorough understanding of the engineering design process, including writing a project proposal, defining system requirements and objectives, designing a solution, implementing the design, and troubleshooting the system.

Industry-University cooperation on senior design projects is highly encouraged and, often, students find meaningful projects with companies that hosted their internships.

During their final semester, students deliver formal oral presentations and demonstrations of their design. Each project is evaluated by all faculty members in the program, in addition to a panel of at least five professionals from industry.

This past May, the Department of Engineering graduated its largest class ever, and its members' senior design projects were often inspiring. Electrical engineering students Nathan Churchwell, Stephanie Crowell and Supratim Srinivasan, in collaboration with alumni-owned Corbo Electric, designed and implemented the "1.48 kW Solar Trailer with a Single Axis Sun Tracker." The team created a mobile power station capable of powering a full line of communication systems in the event of loss of power in an area. The power station was used at Fiesta Oyster Bake in 2010, helping promote San Antonio's goal of a green Fiesta.

Another team, industrial engineering students Roberto Fierro, Rodolfo Ramirez, Esmerelda McKinney and Guy Rutten, produced the "Optimization for the Brush and Bulk Collection for the City of San Antonio," applying the techniques of operations research, simulation, ergonomics, and cost benefit analysis to achieve a million dollar yearly savings for San Antonio. City officials have embraced parts of their solution, and the students' efforts resulted in a feature article in the San Antonio Express-News.

FULFILLING ST. MARY'S MISSION

The most important work the Department of Engineering carries out is helping our students master the knowledge and skills necessary to become thriving and successful professionals, and encouraging their efforts to practice their profession in ways that will make society better. It is our mission as an institution; it is Turgut Ozan's legacy. For the first half century of engineering at St. Mary's, we have been successful.

The Nose Knows

WHY MAMMALS DEVELOPED LARGE BRAINS

by Gina Farrell, Director of Media Relations



Scientists have wondered for decades why mammals' brains are so large relative to their body size, but for the most part all they could do was guess. The fossils that could give paleontologists clues to the earliest development of the mammalian brain are hard to come by, and the in-depth study that would offer better clues meant destroying 190 million-year-old fossils from China. It wasn't worth the cost, so researchers were left to guess, relying primarily on comparative studies of living mammals.

However, advances in technology—in particular the use of computed tomography (CT) technology similar to medical scanners—have for the first time allowed scientists to reconstruct the Jurassic-era fossils, giving them a glimpse—literally—into the brains of these early mammals, and giving up some of the secrets of their earliest brain development.

TECHNOLOGY LENDS NEW PERSPECTIVE

According to a research article published last month in the prestigious journal *Science*, an improved sense of smell was the main factor in the development of mammals' large brains. This is extraordinary news for the scientists trying to learn more about the development of mammals, and extraordinary news for St. Mary's University. As it turns out, one of the three authors in this monumental scientific breakthrough is St. Mary's Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences Thomas E. "Ted" Macrini, Ph.D., who joined the St. Mary's faculty in 2009.

The *Science* article is born of Macrini's doctoral dissertation work, which he conducted along with Tim Rowe, Ph.D., professor in the Jackson School of Geosciences and director of the Vertebrate Paleontology Laboratory at the University of Texas, and Zhe-Xi Luo, Ph.D., curator and associate director for Research and Collections at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Their work on the article, "Fossil Evidence on Origin of the Mammalian Brain," was published in the May 20, 2011 issue of *Science*, a major accomplishment in and of itself.

"The heart and real strength of an academic program is its faculty whose members continue to excel in the classroom, in research, and in service to the University and to the community," said Winston Erevelles, Ph.D., dean of the School of Science, Engineering and Technology. "I am proud that Dr. Macrini's co-authored paper has been selected to appear in *Science*—a very competitive journal with significant impact and prestige."

While mammals first emerged about 200 million years ago, the oldest mammal fossils are mostly small jaws and teeth, and only the occasional skull. Even then, these tiny fossils are only a few centimeters long, providing no way to take a closer look without destroying them, according to Macrini. The CT technology allowed Macrini and his colleagues

to not only look inside the paperclip-sized skull without harming it, but also produce three-dimensional negatives of the skull's interior, giving researchers a new perspective.

SENSE OF SMELL DETERMINES BRAIN SIZE

"This is the most comprehensive study yet undertaken using computed tomography to study the evolution of mammalian skulls," said Macrini. "And it's exciting to see these new insights emerging from years of intense labor."

For the study, the team CT-scanned more than a dozen early mammal fossils and more than 200 living species over the course of a decade, using the High-Resolution X-ray Computed Tomography Facility at the University of Texas at Austin, which is a national shared facility supported by the National Science Foundation. The scans are archived online and freely available to the public and other researchers, allowing this technology to be widely available.

So, if smell was the primary catalyst in mammals developing large brains, why do some animals, such as dogs, have far superior olfactory ability than, say, humans? Rowe explains it this way: "When you make one sense better, it is usually at the expense of something else." In the case of humans, smell may be less prominent to make room for more developed vision and hearing abilities. Similarly, birds have traded better olfactory for improved vision, whales for better hearing, and bats for echolocation (the sense bats use to navigate in the dark while hunting).

PROFESSOR ENGAGES STUDENTS IN NEW STUDIES

While this article in *Science* has brought Macrini and his colleagues international attention for their pioneering research, it's not what Macrini does on a daily basis at St. Mary's. In addition to the biology classes he teaches, Macrini also leads a group of St. Mary's students in some groundbreaking research in another field altogether: looking for causes to the pain caused by osteoarthritis. His work looks at baboons at the Texas Biomedical Research Institute, attempting to learn more about what can be done to ease the pain experienced by humans with osteoarthritis.

The unassuming Macrini doesn't say much about the magnitude of authoring an article in *Science*, but he knows it's a major accomplishment. "This is a monumental event in my career," he said, but quickly pointed out that he is not a scholar who intends to follow only one course. "I like the direction that my current research on osteoarthritis is going. It is going to help a lot of people if we are able to learn more about this disease and help them. And that's important to me because it is within the mission of the University as well."

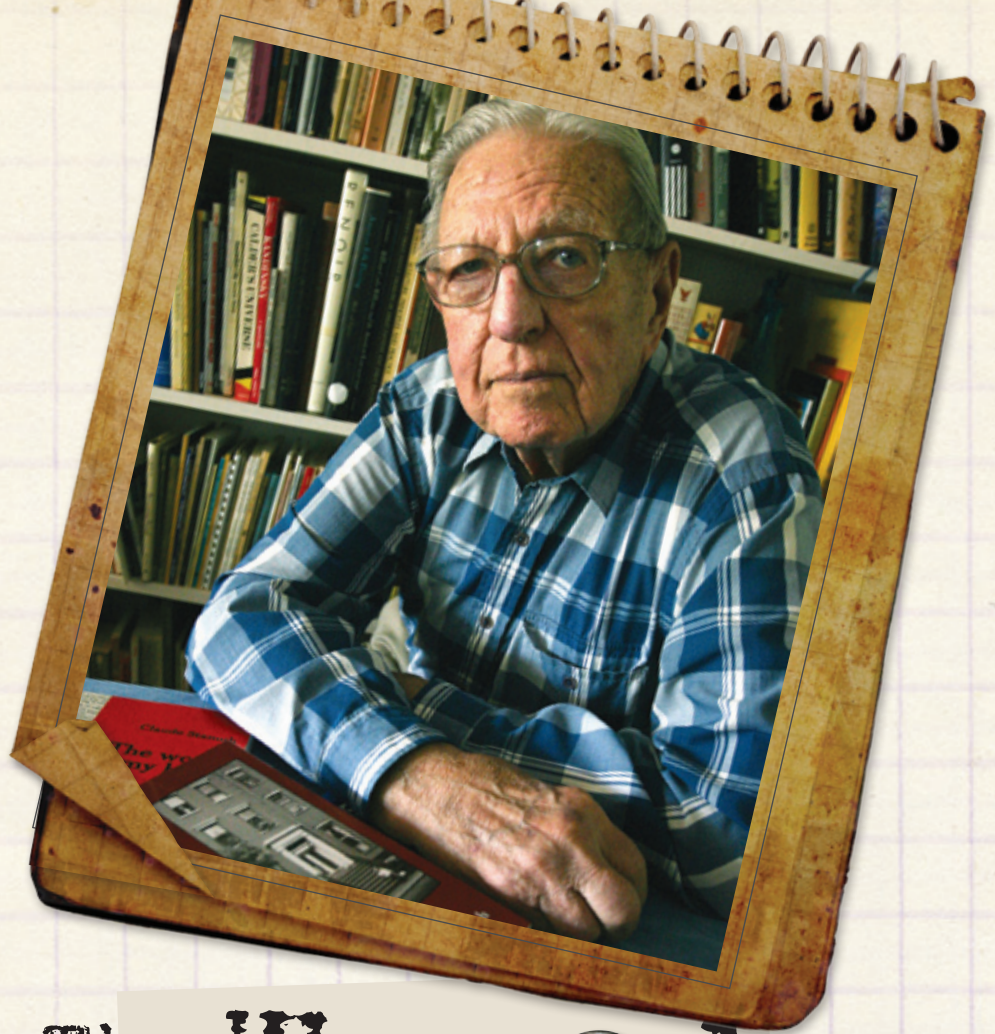


The cover of the Journal of Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics features Daubner's figures.

This has been an eventful semester for St. Mary's biological sciences faculty. S. Colette Daubner, Ph.D., associate professor of biological sciences, recently authored a review of a decade's worth of research on the enzymes involved in human diseases such as Parkinson's and high blood pressure. Her article was published in the April 2, 2011 issue of the *Journal of Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics*. Her figure showing a protein structure, tyrosine hydroxylase, was selected as the journal's cover art.

Winston Erevelles, Ph.D., dean of the School of Science, Engineering and Technology, said having two professors recognized by prestigious journals this spring is a positive indicator. "These are indicative of the caliber of the faculty in the Department of Biological Sciences and the school at large. Drs. Macrini and Daubner exemplify our community of teacher scholars and have a profound and lasting impact on our students," Erevelles said.

Of note, Daubner's co-author on the article was then-St. Mary's student Tiffany Le (B.S. '10), who is now a medical student at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

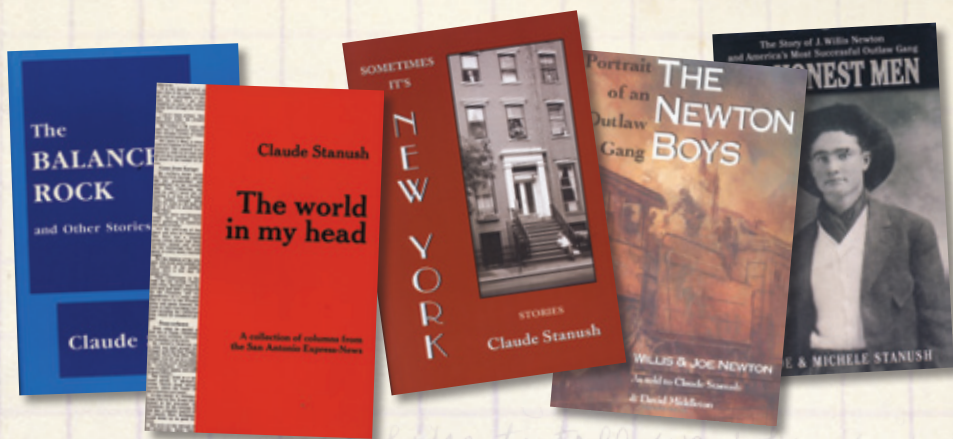


The World in My Head

A TRIBUTE TO WRITER CLAUDE STANUSH (B.A. '39)

by Cary Clack (B.A. '85), Columnist, *San Antonio Express-News*

Of the books that Claude Stanush wrote, the one whose title best described him was a collection of his *San Antonio Express-News* columns titled, *The World in My Head*. Not only was there hardly anything in the world that didn't capture his fertile imagination and capacious mind, there appeared to be little in the world, especially when it came to literature, theology, philosophy, history and ethics, that he didn't know.



His elegant and prolific pen was a mirror to his mind to reflect to the world his knowledge, passions, fears, loves, whimsies and dreams through articles, essays, novels and short stories.

Stanush, one of the greatest writers to come out of Texas, died in his sleep in his San Antonio home on March 26 at the age of 92. He was born in San Antonio on June 18, 1918, just 50 feet from where the Tower of the Americas now stands. After graduating from Central Catholic High School at the age of 15, he went to St. Mary's University from which he graduated in 1939 *summa cum laude* with a degree in English.

After starting off at the San Antonio Light, Stanush made his way to New York and, through much persistence, landed a job as a staff writer for *Life* magazine. It was one of the premier magazines in the nation, and Stanush's journalism career took off. He became one of *Life's* stars and eventually became the magazine's religion editor and wrote deep and searching pieces on religion and evil.

In New York his life was forever changed when he met Barbara Lee Evans who became his wife and who gifted him with three daughters who became the other great loves of his life.

Life magazine would have given Stanush just about anything to keep him, but in 1962, feeling the pull of home and wanting to do some other kinds of writing, Stanush moved his young family to San Antonio. For four years, while doing some freelance writing, he engaged in intensive reading and reflection, poring over the classics he already knew so well.

Among the work he would produce

over the years was his superb 2007 collection of short stories titled, *Sometimes It's New York*. Stanush was a brilliant writer with the ability to move easily from fiction to nonfiction. He was a superb storyteller whose work was deepened by his rich moral imagination and humanity.

As committed as he was to the ideal of a story well-told with integrity, he was even more committed to a life well-lived with integrity.

Grace defined not only his beautifully crafted sentences but also his beautifully lived life. He wrote so well, not simply because of his mastery of the technical parts of writing but because his was an expansive soul that felt and cared deeply about people, this world and their futures.

In a wonderful column on the short story, he wrote, "Writing stories is, of course, an art, requiring practice and development. But it is first of all a feeling, a sense of the story's importance; and if one wants to tell a story well, effectively, one has to internalize language, to feel it as one feels anger or love or despair, to be so at home with it that one instinctively chooses the right word – or, if the right word does not exist as the writer feels it, to invent it. Some of our greatest short story writers – Poe, Chekhov, Tolstoy – never saw a creative writing class. Most were self-taught."

This wonderful, generous and loving man was a marvelous example of what it meant to live the life of the mind as well as the life of the heart.

When he closed his eyes for good, on this earth, in late March, Stanush was still working on several projects. Till the end, he had the world in his head.

I

had the good fortune of meeting Claude Stanush in 1991 and, over the next 20 years, our friendship blossomed. We would catch up at various University events and occasionally meet at a favorite local restaurant for long, leisurely lunches during which I would hear about, and marvel at, his vast interests, passions and projects. He was a writer to his very core so, not surprisingly, we occasionally exchanged letters, something not done all that often anymore and especially not by people living in the same city.

One letter written by Stanush in 2008 (not to me but to several Marianists) was shared by Brother John Totten, S.M., one of its recipients. Always when Stanush and I met, he spoke appreciatively of the Marianists and what they had given him. His letter, in part, read:

"I have had an incredible life, a witness to history, science, art, religion, war, crime and other important aspects of human life and behavior, experiences that I could never even have imagined when I was a young student at St. Mary's back in the 1930s, nor could I ever have had them if I had not been prepared for them by the education, the values and the love I received from the priests and brothers at St. Mary's."

The letter from him that I cherish the most is his last. He'd taken a fall several months before it arrived, and was just beginning to venture out after a lengthy rehabilitation. It came before Christmas and in it, a tentative date for our next lunch was made. We hadn't met for that lunch when I heard of his death, his letter still at the top of a pile of papers on my desk to "get to soon." He wrote:

"I am just now beginning to write again... I am now 92 and there are at least three more books I want to write before I die. One, with [daughter] Michele's help, is almost finished. It's called 'A Piece of Cheese,' and it's about a young artist trying to survive in New York in the turbulent 1960s when just about everybody was revolting against something, even artists revolting against art, or at least traditional art painted on an easel. The other two books are 'Good and Evil,' and 'A Life in Time and Eternity.' I'll tell you more about them and why they're so important for me when I see you."

Claude, I can't tell you how much I'm looking forward to our conversation.

—Candy Kuebker, Editor

THE BUSINESS SCHOOL WITH A BUSINESS PLAN

In 2006, the Bill Greehey School of Business received a transformational gift from its namesake benefactor, giving legs to the vision present all along. Two years into the new leadership by Dean Tanuja Singh, Ph.D., numbers for service, scholarships, and financial support for faculty and students are stacking up, signaling that the groundwork is laid for great things to come.



6,000 global volunteer hours

are just part of the Greehey Scholars' résumés. The scholars have also met senior Wall Street executives, traveled to Dubai, Belize and the U.K., and been inducted into the "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges."

50+ senior business leaders

from companies such as H-E-B, Rackspace, USAA and Valero Energy Corp. engage St. Mary's students in high-level dialogues about ethics and corporate social responsibility, thanks to St. Mary's Greehey Chair of Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility.

80 micro-entrepreneurs

and small businesses received income tax preparation help from St. Mary's business and law students and faculty this spring, resulting in more than \$100,000 in refunds, much of which returned to businesses near campus.

57

OUTCOMES



\$2.2 million

NuStar awards, outstanding research and teaching stipends, have been given to business faculty members between 2008 and 2010

in scholarships has gone to 46 students in the Greehey Scholars Program



FUNDING AND FINANCIALS

Financial assistance lets students participate in research symposia, and study abroad in Dubai, Innsbruck and Bordeaux



GET TECH SUPPORT

Accounting students learn on Bloomberg Terminals, just like professional CPAs



LEVERAGE YOUR EXPERTISE

Seven nationally prominent faculty members joined the school, receiving substantial salary support



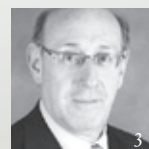
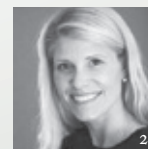
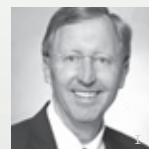
THANK YOUR MENTORS

Faculty members receive merit rewards, travel allowances, professional training, and memberships to national and international organizations



CALL IN THE EXPERTS

Nationally prominent speakers visit campus throughout the year, engaging students about issues facing the nation



1 Pat Frost, President of Frost Bank 2 Shannon Schuyler, Leader of corporate responsibility at PricewaterhouseCoopers 3 Kenneth R. Feinberg, Victim compensation fund administrator for those affected by 9/11 and the BP oil spill 4 Armando Falcon (B.A. '83), The top Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac regulator from 1999-2005



OPTIMISM: A WAR HERO REBUILDS HIS LIFE

James Ford III, Class of 2014

There aren't many (if any) St. Mary's students with two Purple Hearts. But James Ford III is special, and not just because he's a war hero. More so, he's a shining example of what can be overcome with perseverance and optimism. He's been places and seen things one can hardly imagine, but he doesn't lament his military experience.

"I don't have any regrets," he says. "The military was a profound experience. It makes me and other people thankful for what we have."

Shortly after Sept. 11, 2001, Ford, then a teenager, felt the patriotic tug to enlist in the Army. Several deployments followed, the second of which was to Iraq, where he was shot twice during gunfire following a suicide-bombing incident. During Ford's third deployment—this time to Afghanistan—a roadside improvised explosive device (IED) went off, completely shattering his right leg, which had to be amputated.

Facing a formidable leg injury and battling a traumatic brain injury, and with memories of experiences no one should go through, one might think Ford would be discouraged about his future. But nothing could be further from the truth for this 26 year old.

After Afghanistan, Ford rehabbed at San Antonio's Brooke Army Medical Center, but it was a rough road. When he enlisted, Ford says he learned a great deal at the Army's Sapper School—think Army Ranger training, except more prestigious—but

due to his injury, he lost a lot of that knowledge. "It felt like it completely went away," he says.

Ford began going to the Fort Sam Houston Education Center where instructors helped him in relearning many skills, such as basic algebra and reading concepts. In the process, he was able to "rehabilitate his brain back to a more functional level," enough so that he could land a job.

It didn't take long for Ford to start thinking about college, and St. Mary's seemed like a good match. "It's a small community, and the personal time and attention we students get from our teachers means a lot," he says. According to Ford, his professors go out of their way for him, allowing him to take tests in quieter environments such as the library, or even to take a verbal exam instead of a written one.

Now retired from the Army, Ford traverses the campus easily on his prosthetic leg as he pursues a forensic science degree. He might add a minor in international relations, which he sees as a good combination to satisfy his goal of working for the FBI.

Ford said he is glad that he served in the military before pursuing higher education, noting that he wasn't ready after high school. "[The military] gave me the basic life essentials—the understanding of life. It helped me grow."

— by Becky Jacobs,
Communications Coordinator
for Social Media and Online News



Zapata (left) with President Cotrell during the 2011 Presidential Awards Ceremony

A Passion ALL HIS OWN

David Zapata, B.A. '10, M.P.A. '11

From a very young age, Hector "David" Zapata has had a heart for politics and for service.

A citizen of the United States, Zapata spent most of his childhood living in Allende—a modest municipality in Coahuila, Mexico, near the Texas border town of Eagle Pass. There, his family members served their community through their work in the government and in the church: his grandfather as police chief, his older brother as a member of a prominent political party, and his father as a pastor. But when he arrived at St. Mary's University, David soon discovered a passion all his own.

"I'm not sure what made me visit St. Mary's initially," recalls Zapata, "but once I was here, I appreciated the Marianist ideals. I found professors and mentors who fostered my love for politics and who taught me the value of servant leadership."

He took that love and coupled it with a drive to inspire fellow students to participate in the political process. He became involved with the Student Government Association, President's Ambassadors, the President's Peace Commission, and other organizations including Pi Sigma Alpha and Phi Alpha Delta—quickly becoming a respected leader within the student body. "I see my involvement in

student organizations as a way to fulfill my calling to serve others and to apply lessons learned in the classroom," he says.

In 2008, Zapata was selected for the McNair Scholars Program which prepares first-generation, high financial need minority college students for graduate school. The program helped him focus his research on younger voters' involvement in the political process.

He had observed that his peers had only limited involvement in politics, and his findings led him to only one conclusion: he had to wake a dormant constituency. In 2009, he tenaciously coordinated a successful on-campus forum for then-mayoral candidates Julian Castro and Trish DeBerry-Mejia to discuss with students their visions for San Antonio. He also created opportunities for college Republicans and Democrats to debate top political issues, and has mentored underclassmen who want to take the reigns now that he has graduated.

As he looks ahead, David hopes to attend law school and work as a public servant in order to address the needs of his fellow citizens and to motivate those who are indifferent to the political process.

— by Rosemary Segura,
Coordinator for Web
and Print Communications

The PRESIDENTIAL AWARD makes

4



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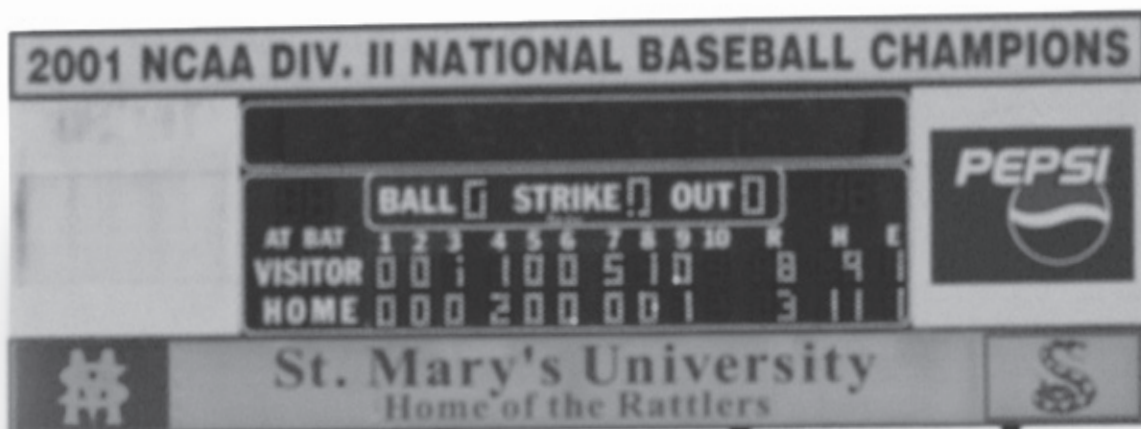
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