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Sacred Heart University

College of Arts and Sciences

Volume IX - Issue 1

September 2005

Claire J. Paolini, Ph.D.

Dean

Frances E. Wasilnak

Assistant to the Dean

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to all for the new academic year. I trust that you have had a productive yet restful summer and that you are prepared to face the excitement of the start of the new school year!

Please join me in welcoming **eleven new full-time faculty members** to the College of Arts and Sciences.

Let us also congratulate **three additional faculty members** whose status has changed from non-tenure-track to tenure-track.

So that you may become acquainted with our new faculty, their brief biographical sketches have been included in this Newsletter.

REMINDER TO ALL FULL-TIME FACULTY MEMBERS:

Please submit your Faculty Development/Travel Request Forms by September 16th. Preliminary decisions on requests will be made by the beginning of October. Although the necessary forms and guidelines were recently sent to you via e-mail, the requests must be submitted in hardcopy. Be reminded that your



Chair must sign the forms before they are submitted to the Dean. Also be reminded that to be honored for reimbursement, receipts must be submitted to the Dean's office no later than two weeks from the date of your return.

FACULTY CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Dr. Michael Ventimiglia** for having been selected to receive the University's Teaching Excellence Award.

Congratulations to **Dr. Gerald Reid** for having been selected to receive the University's Faculty Scholarship Award.

Congratulations to **Dr. Jennifer Mattei** for having been selected to receive the 2005-2006 "Heroes of the Sea" award, a recognition that was created as part of the Wildlife Trust's Heroes of the Sea Memorial Fund and that carries a financial reward by the Long Island Sound Futures Fund, part of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.



COLLEGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

As announced last spring, commencing this fall, the Department of History and Political Science has become two separate academic departments.

Dr. Thomas Curran will Chair the newly formed **Department of History** whose members include **Dr. R. Bryan Bademan, Dr. Charlotte Gradie, Prof. Jennifer McLaughlin, Dr. John Roney, and Dr. Paul Siff**.

Dr. Gary Rose and his faculty, consisting of **Prof. Christopher DeSanctis, Dr. John Kikoski, and Dr. Steven Michels**, will form the newly named **Department of Government and Politics**. The Department of Government and Politics believes that the new name more accurately captures the orientation and thrust of the political science program at Sacred Heart University.

All office assignments and phone numbers remain the same. **Mrs. Loretta Winter** will continue to serve as Academic Department Assistant to both departments as well as to the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies.

College Changes & News:

Dr. Michael Ventimiglia will serve as interim Chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies for the Fall semester.

Prof. Jon Walker assumes a three-year term as Chair of the Department of Art and Design.

Dr. Jennifer Mattei, returning from her year's Sabbatical, resumes the Chairmanship of the Department of Biology.

All other A&S Chairs continue their service.

Dr. Mark Jareb will serve as the new Director of the Pre-Med Program. I'd like to publicly thank **Drs. Carol Schofield** and **Marion Calabrese** for their tireless work in designing and implementing our innovative and successful Pre-Med Program. Both Carol and Bunny plan to retire at the conclusion of the full semester.



The Department of Sociology, Social Work and Criminal Justice is scheduled for a change in office space this fall from the HC Wing to the second floor of the Administration Building.

A&S RESEARCH GRANTS

Congratulations to those who were awarded the 2005-2006 A&S Release/Creativity Course Releases. They are:

- Suzanne Deschênes, Biology
- Peter Loth, Mathematics
- Christel Manning, Religious Studies
- Pilar Munday, Modern Foreign Languages
- Louise Spence, Media Studies
- Michael Ventimiglia, Philosophy

TENURE & PROMOTION

Congratulations to those who received tenure and/or promotion. They are:

- Jeffery Cain, English, tenure and promotion to Associate Professor
- Mark Mascia, Spanish, tenure and promotion to Associate Professor
- Mindy Miserendino, Psychology, tenure and promotion to Associate Professor
- Gerald Reid, Sociology, promotion to full Professor
- Marlina Slamet, Physics, tenure and promotion to Associate Professor
- Sandra Young, English, tenure and promotion to Associate Professor

SABBATICALS

Sabbaticals awarded for Fall 2005 to Brian Stiltner, Religious Studies, and for Spring 2006 to Sidney Gottlieb, Media Studies and Digital Culture, Frances Grodzinsky, Computer Science, and Gerald Reid, Sociology/Anthropology.



A&S GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Year 2004-2005 was characterized by the work of the **Ad Hoc Committee on A&S College Governance**: Special thanks to the subcommittee members who served such long and tedious hours: Hema Gopalakrishnan, Kathy LaFontana, Michelle Loris, Dom Pinto, and Gary Rose and to the larger *AD Hoc Committee* which consisted of all of the above plus Mike Bozzone, Shannon Brightman, Stefan Buda, Jim Castonguay, Nicole Cauvin, Maureen Conard, David Curtis, Rick Grigg, Dhia Habboush, Rose Marie Kinik, Claire Marrone, Amy Van Buren, and Al Wakin. The proposal recommended by the A&S Faculty last spring has been accepted by the President and The Board of Trustees. Therefore, 2005-2006 will be characterized by the implementation of the plan during the fall semester. I urge your participation, especially in the fall elections.

FACULTY EVALUATIONS

Year 2004-2005 was also characterized by the **Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Evaluation**. The *Ad Hoc Committee* currently consists of David Curtis, Rose Marie Kinik, Kathy LaFontana, and Dom Pinto. As you know we piloted the new format for last year's evaluation cycle with uneven success. The Ad Hoc Committee has been working over the summer in improving the format based on last year's pilot experience. Revisions will be brought to the College Council and Hearings for the faculty will be held during the early fall semester so that faculty may have input into the process.

COLLEGE COMMITTEES

We will continue our successful A&S programs: Communications Across the Curriculum (**CXC**), Undergraduate Research/Internships (**URI**), The Center for Catholic Thought, Ethics, and Culture (**CCTEC**), Involvement of Departments in Engaged and Active Learning (**IDEAL**), Faculty Scholarship Seminar Series (**FS^3**), the A&S

Lecture Series, and the **New Advising Program for Newcomers**. If you would like to volunteer your services on any of these College Committees, please e-mail the Dean.

New A&S Faculty



Joseph Audie: Joining the Department of Chemistry as an Instructor is Joseph Audie. Prof. Audie, a Ph.D. candidate in biophysics at SUNY Stony Brook, holds an M.S. degree in biomedical engineering from the University of Connecticut and a B.S. in bioengineering from Hofstra University. He has published abstracts in scientific journals. His research interests are in bioinformatics and computer modeling of protein structure and function. He has been an adjunct here at Sacred Heart University for the past several years, and he will be teaching basic chemistry and biochemistry.

Mark Beekey: Joining the Department of Biology as a tenure-track Assistant Professor is Dr. Mark Beekey. Dr. Beekey earned his Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from the University of Delaware and a B.S. in Ecology from Juniata College. He has been a Post-Doctoral Associate at the Rubenstein School for the Environment and Natural Resources of the University of Vermont. His teaching experience includes the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Vermont, and the University of Delaware. He is the recipient of several grants and awards, including his being Co-P.I. for a large grant from the National Sea Grant Aquatic Nuisance Species Program. He has numerous publications and scientific abstracts to his credit, including publications in the Canadian Journal of Zoology and Freshwater Biology. His research interests include aquatic population/community ecology, life-history evolution, invertebrates, and invasive species.

Joel Block: Long-time Sacred Heart University adjunct Joel Block joins our Physics Program as a Visiting Assistant Professor. Dr. Block holds an Ed.D. degree from City University Los Angeles, a 6th year certificate from Wesleyan University, an M.S. from Southern Connecticut State University, and a B.S. from the Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina. He brings with him 41 years of teaching experience at SHU, the University of Connecticut, Wesleyan University, Southern Connecticut State University, Brien McMahon High School, and Benjamin Franklin Junior High School, both in Norwalk. Among his many recognitions is the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching from the National Academy of Science and the White House in 1984. He has twenty publications

in international, national, and state journals and served as co-editor of the Connecticut Journal of Science Teaching. He has led groups of students on geological field investigations in Italy, France, Switzerland, Bermuda, and the United States. Of special interest to Dr. Block is the study of religion and science. He will be teaching courses in astronomy and geology.

Charles Boyd: The Department of Biology welcomes Dr. Charles Boyd as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Cell/Molecular Biology. Dr. Boyd earned a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley. He also completed a Postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Cell Biology, Yale School of Medicine. He was a Teaching Assistant in Chemistry at UCLA. He has published four articles in scientific journals, including the Journal of Cell Biology and The Journal of Bacteriology, as well as several abstracts. His research interests focus on the molecular biology of flagellar biogenesis in the Gram-negative bacterium *Caulobacter crescentus*.

Rosemary Danaher: Prof. Rosemary Danaher joins the Department of Mathematics as an Instructor. She is currently completing her M.S. in Mathematics at Fairfield University. She holds an M.B.A from the University of New Haven and a B.S. in Mathematics from Fairfield University. Prof. Danaher left a 25-year career as a systems analyst and quality leader with General Electric to pursue her lifelong dream of a career in the teaching Mathematics. At GE, Prof. Danaher, as a certified Black Belt in Six Sigma quality, worked with senior management teams to identify opportunities for process improvements. She completed 25 Six Sigma projects yielding \$300K annual savings. Prof. Danaher served as an adjunct at SHU last fall.

Christopher DeSanctis: Prof. Christopher DeSanctis, after having served as an adjunct at Sacred Heart University, joins the Department of Government and Politics as an Instructor. Prof. DeSanctis holds an M.A. in Public Policy from Regent University in Virginia and a B.S. in Education from Grand Canyon University in Arizona. He has extensive expertise in practical politics, including his work as Policy and Communications Aid to the Mayor of Jersey City, and as campaign manager for a New Jersey gubernatorial race.

George Goss: Prof. George Goss joins the Department of Mathematics as an Instructor after having taught at SHU for many years as an adjunct. He holds an M.A. in Mathematics from Wesleyan University, an M.S. in Mathematics from Michigan State University in East Lansing, and a B.S. in Mathematics from Southern

Connecticut University. He owns and operates Audio Video Lab, Inc., servicing home theater, home and industrial laser disc players, DVD, and plasma monitors. In addition to having taught Mathematics here at SHU, he has served as instructor in computer electronics at Porter and Chester Institute in Stratford. Last year he was elected by the A&S Council of Chairs as the adjunct representative to the Council of the University Academic Assembly.

Armen Kaladjian: Dr. Armen Kaladjian becomes a member of the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology. Dr. Kaladjian holds a Ph.D. from the Graduate School of Social Service, Fordham University, a M.S.W. from New York University, an M.A. in Sociology from New School University, and a B.A. in Sociology from Queens College, CUNY. He has taught as an adjunct at Sacred Heart University, St. Basil College, and Fordham University. His research areas of interest include professionalism and meaningful implications behind being in a profession as well as worker burnout. He participated in a project for the Bureau of Motor Equipment in NYC which led to the company's receiving a Harvard, Kennedy School of Government Innovations Award. He has served as managing editor of the Journal of Children and Poverty.

Patrick Morris, Jr.: Joining the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice as an Instructor of Criminal Justice is Prof. Patrick Morris, Jr. Prof. Morris is currently a doctoral candidate at The City University of New York Graduate Center, John Jay College of Criminal Justice. He holds an M.P.A. (Master of Public Administration) from the University of New Haven and a B.S. in Criminal Justice from the University of Delaware. His area of research interest is the law enforcement response to domestic violence. After 26 years of service as a law enforcement officer in the city of Norwalk, with supervisory responsibilities in divisions such as detective, juvenile, narcotics, community services, and community policing, Prof. Morris took a position at Norwalk Community College as the coordinator of the Public Safety Academy. He is a certified police instructor and has taught both at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and at Norwalk Community College.

Nina Tarner: Dr. Nina Tarner joins the Department of Psychology as a tenure-track Assistant Professor. Dr. Tarner holds a Ph.D. in Psychology from Kansas State University and both an M.S. and a B.A. in Psychology from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania. Most recently she was a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She has served as an adjunct at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Towson State University, Central Penn College,

Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, as well as others. She was Visiting Assistant Professor at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania. She has made presentations at international and regional conferences, has published in Learning and Motivation, and is recipient of several research grants. Her areas of research interest include the ingestive behaviors in rats and conditioned flavor preferences. She has had considerable experience in supervising undergraduate and graduate research students.

Mary Treschitta: Prof. Mary Treschitta joins the Department of Art and Design as an Instructor of graphic design. She holds a dual Masters Degree in Art and Teaching from the University of New Hampshire and a B.A. in Studio Art from St. Michael's College in Vermont. Her teaching experience includes serving as adjunct at Gibbs College. She has been President of Visual Connection, a graphic design studio that creates promotional/marketing and presentation materials for such clients as Merck Pharmaceuticals and Dermal Science. She served as design director for The Minuteman Newspaper and art director for American Iron Magazine and for Grafiko, a design studio in Stamford.



Changes In Status:

John Michniewicz: Dr. John Michniewicz moves from the position of Visiting Assistant Professor to tenure-track Assistant Professor of Music and Director of the Academic Music Program. As you may recall, Dr. Michniewicz holds a Doctor of Musical Arts from Manhattan School of Music, a Master of Music in Church Music from the same institution, and a Bachelor of Music from Cornerstone University in Michigan. A commissioned composer, John's contemporary styled music is published by the Chorister's Guild of Dallas, Texas. An accomplished solo organist, John has performed both in Europe and America, and has given recitals, for example, both in Vienna and on the great organ at St. Patrick's Cathedral in NYC.

Barbara Pierce: Dr. Barbara Pierce moves from the position of Visiting Assistant Professor to tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology. She earned a Ph.D. in Ecology from the Department of Natural Resources, University of Rhode Island, an M.A. in Ecology from Central Connecticut State University, and a B.S. in Biology and Evolutionary Ecology from Eastern Connecticut State University. She completed a postdoctoral appointment at the University of Rhode Island. She is recipient of several grants and fellowships, is author of a variety of conference presentations, and has some

publication to her credit. Her areas of specialization are the behavior, physiology, and ecology of individuals and how these determine population patterns of resource use.

Matthew Semel: Prof. Matthew Semel moves from the position of Instructor of Criminal Justice to tenure-track Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice. He is currently completing his Ph.D. in Criminal Justice at the City University of New York. He holds a J.D. degree from New York Law School, an M.S. in Journalism from Northwestern University, and a B.A. in English from Colgate University. He is a member of the Bar for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York, the United States Supreme Court, Federal District Court in New Jersey, and the New York and New Jersey Bars. He has been Of Counsel to the Civil Rights Law Clinic at Touro Law School and Senior Staff Attorney for the Legal Aid Society in the Bronx.

Faculty Development

Drs. Kirk Bartholomew and Suzanne Deschênes, Assistant Professors of Biology, attended a grant writing workshop given by the Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, at the beginning of the summer.

Dr. Angela DiPace, Associate Professor of English, presented her paper, "A Panic Reading of Bailey's Café: From Apocalypse and Redemption" at the conference "Writing in between Apocalypse and Redemption: Gloria Naylor's Fiction" at the University François-Rabelais, Tours this summer.

Dr. June-Ann Greeley, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, attended the International Congress of Medieval Studies at Western Michigan State and gave a paper entitled, "Passionate Faith and Faithful Passion: The 12th-Century Heloise and Alexander Pope's Eloisa." She also sponsored two special sessions for the Society for Comparative Medieval Spirituality: "The Passion of Christ and Passionate Christianities," and "The Suffering Body as Locus for Medieval Spirituality."

Dr. Sidney Gottlieb, Professor of Media Studies, chaired the "Perspectives on Hitchcock" session at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference and presented his paper, "Hitchcock's Horns and Claxons to Scare the Anglo Saxons." Dr. Gottlieb was also a

respondent at two panels on George Herbert for the Renaissance Society of America Conference. Both events were held in England.

Dr. Frances Grodzinsky, Professor of Computer Science, was a conference co-director for the Conference of Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry and co-presented a paper entitled, "P2P Networks and the Verizon vs. RIAA Case: implications for personal privacy and intellectual property" held at the University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands.

Keith Johnston, Director of Bands and Affiliate Faculty in Music, and **Charles Bennedum,** Assistant Director of Bands and Affiliate Faculty in Computer Science, gave a presentation entitled "Recruitment and Retention: Balancing Educational, Musical, and Institutional Needs in the Small College Band" at the National Association of Collegiate Athletic Bands Symposium at the University of Illinois in June.

Dr. John Michniewicz, Assistant Professor of Music and Director of the Academic Music Program, recently directed Morten Lauredson's "Lux Aeterna" and John Rutter's "Requiem" at the Trinity and Fairfield County Chorale's Summer Sing program at Trinity Church in Southport.



Dr. Jason Molitierno, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, attended the Mathematical Association of America Meeting of the Northeast Section and presented a paper entitled, "Applied Projects in Linear Algebra" at MathFest this summer. Dr. Molitierno's paper, "The spectral radius of submatrices of Laplacian matrices for trees and its comparison to the fiedler vector" appears in *Linear Algebra and Its Applications* vol. 406 (2005) pg. 253-271.

Professors Domenick Pinto, Sandra Honda, Associate Professors, and **Dr. Robert McCloud,** Assistant Professor of Computer Science, attended the Flash Forward Conference in New York City in July.

Dr. John Roney, Professor of History, presented his paper, "The Divided Lion: Searching for National Identity in the Nineteenth-Century Grand Duchy of Luxembourg" at the New England Historical Association.

Prof. Johannes Somary, Affiliate Faculty of Music, directed the Fairfield County Chorale in performances in Great Britain, including St. James Church in London and at Canterbury Cathedral.

Dr. Louise Spence, Associate Professor of Media Studies, participated in the Robert Flaherty Film Seminar as a moderator and discussant during several of the screenings held in June.

Prof. Elizabeth Sutton, Music Affiliate Voice Faculty, performed in Verdi's "La Traviata" in July at the Caramoor International Music Festival. She was also called in as a last minute replacement to sing the role of Susanna with New Jersey Opera Theater's production of Mozart's "Le Nozze di Figaro" which opened August 12th. In addition to her teaching assignments at Sacred Heart, she will be teaching voice at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey.

Dr. Anahit Ter Stepanian, Affiliate Faculty of Art, presented her paper, "Russian Constructivist Stage Design" at the Seventh Annual Conference of "Space Between: Culture of 1914-1945" Society, held at McGill University in Montreal, Canada in June.

Dr. Amy VanBuren, Associate Professor of Psychology, presented a paper at the Oxford Round Table entitled, "It's Written All Over Your Face! Children's Ability to Identify Emotion Using Nonverbal Cues" in England this summer.

Dr. Michael Ventimiglia, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, presented a paper, "The Science and Religion Dialogue: Are Philosophical Foundations Necessary?" at the Metanexus Institute's Conference, Science and Religion: Global Perspectives.

Dr. Alisha Walker, Assistant Professor of Psychology, accompanied two research students to the Meeting of the American Psychological Association in Washington D.C. in August.

Dr. Richard Weidlich, Music affiliate voice faculty member and adjunct professor, performed over the last two weeks of July, the role of Max in the Summer Theatre of New Canaan's Production of "The Sound of Music."

Other College Activities:

ART & DESIGN

Congratulations to student Liz Gillian whose design ad will appear for one year on 55 buses as part of the Connecticut non-smoking campaign.

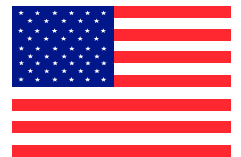


Plagiarism

IT IS IMPORTANT TO REVIEW the SHU policy on Academic Integrity. The policy appears on-line in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog. Please refer to this policy in your syllabi and in your in-class discussion on this matter.



Please direct newsletter items to Frances Wasilnak
(wasilnakf@sacredheart.edu).



*Best wishes
to all
for a
successful
academic
year!*

