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Sacred Heart University

College of Arts and Sciences

Volume XI- Issue 1

FALL 2007

Claire J. Paolini, Ph.D.
Dean

Frances E. Wasilnak
Assistant to the Dean

WELCOME BACK TO ALL!

Without a doubt, all of you, have had a very productive yet restful summer, and you are prepared to face the excitement of the start of the new school year!

New A&S Faculty

Please join me in welcoming nine NEW FACULTY MEMBERS to the College of Arts and Sciences. So that you may become acquainted with our new colleagues, brief biographical sketches are included below:

Dr. Claire Davis joins the Department of Psychology as a Lecturer for academic year 2007-2008. Dr. Davis earned a Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology from the University of Oxford, UK, and both an M.A. in Child Development and a B.A. in Psychology from Sarah Lawrence College. She has just completed postdoctoral studies at Haskins Laboratories in New Haven, CT. She has served as a research mentor at Haskins Laboratories and as teaching assistant at the University of Oxford. She has made several professional conference presentations and has had an article published in a professional journal. Her research interests include reading and spelling skills and development, individual differences, and literacy instruction and intervention research

Joining the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages as a tenure-track Assistant Professor is **Dr. Jennie-Rebecca Falcetta**. Dr. Falcetta holds a Ph.D. in English from University of Connecticut, an M.A. in English from Baylor University, and a B.A. in English from Gordon College. Her teaching experience both in basic writing and literature includes adjunct work at the University of Connecticut, Gordon College, and Northern Essex Community College in Massachusetts. She brings to the position extensive research and teaching experience in the field of modern British, Irish, and American literature, enhanced by an interdisciplinary dissertation in transatlantic modernism. Dr. Falcetta has a variety of publications to her credit, including an article in the journal *Christianity and Literature*. Among her teaching duties at Sacred Heart University will be courses in the University's new Common Core: *The Human Journey*.

More A&S New Faculty:

The Department of Media Studies and Digital Culture welcomes **Dr. Tricia Jenkins** as a tenure-track Assistant Professor. Dr. Jenkins holds a Ph.D. in American Cultural Studies from Michigan State University, an M.A. in English Literature from Western Michigan University, a Secondary School Teaching Certificate from the University of Texas at Tyler, and a B.A. in English Literature from Ambassador University in Big Sandy, Texas. Her qualifications include a primary research specialization in mass media history and criticism and professional experience in journalism and multimedia software development. She has taught at Michigan State University, Western Michigan University, Kellogg Community College Battle Creek, Benedict Technical School in Duisburg, Germany, and Kesinee International School in Bangkok, Thailand. Dr. Jenkins' active research agenda has resulted in the publication of several articles, book chapters, reference articles, and book reviews in her field.

Joining the Department of Art and Design as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of studio art is **Prof. Nathan Lewis**. Prof. Lewis holds an M.F.A. from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and Tufts University and a B.F.A. from Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts in Old Lyme, CT. He has also studied painting and drawing at the Florence Academy of Art in Florence, Italy and painting and printmaking in St. Petersburg, Russia. He brings to the position extensive experience both as a teacher and practitioner of the fine arts as well as traditional and contemporary approaches to drawing and painting which incorporate the history of images and typography. He has taught as an adjunct faculty member at a variety of institutions including Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT, Southern Connecticut State University, Paier College of Art, Albertus Magnus College, and the Boston Center for Adult Education. He has publications and reviews to his credit, and he has exhibited his works both in solo and group exhibitions.

The Department of Mathematics welcomes **Dr. Ryan Mullen** as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Mathematics. Dr. Mullen has earned a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Connecticut, a M.S. in mathematics and a B.S. in applied mathematics from the University of Idaho. His teaching experience includes teaching assistantships at the University of Connecticut, the University of Missouri, and the University of Idaho. His area of research interest is Banach Algebras. He is recipient of a teaching excellence award and has made presentations at professional conferences.

Jessica Pfeil: In January 2007, **Prof. Jessica Pfeil** joined the Department of Mathematics as an Instructor. Prof. Pfeil is currently completing her Ph.D. in Mathematics Education at Columbia University Teachers College. She earned a M.A. in Mathematics Education at New York University and a B.S. in Mathematics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. She had previously served as an adjunct at Sacred Heart University. Her prior teaching positions include secondary Mathematics Instructor at West Orange High School in New Jersey and at Sydney Russell Comprehensive School in London. She has presented workshops on mathematics applications and served on school committees. She was awarded the Dale Seymore Scholarship by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics to continue to improve her content knowledge in mathematics.

More A&S New Faculty:

Joining the department of Biology as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in Developmental Biology is **Dr. Nicole Marie Roy**. Dr. Roy earned her Ph.D. in Developmental Neurobiology from the University of Massachusetts Medical Center and her B.S. in Chemistry from Assumption College. Her postdoctoral work includes service as a Postdoctoral Scientist at Phylonis Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge, MA and as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Molecular Genetics and Microbiology at Duke University Medical Center. She has been lab instructor or teaching assistant at Duke University and Assumption College. Her research program utilizes the zebrafish as a model for studying adult effects of challenges to the embryonic nervous system. She has several publications to her credit as well as a series of conference presentations.

The newly formed Department of Criminal Justice welcomes **Dr. Dennis Stevens** as a tenure-track Associate Professor of Criminal Justice. Dr. Stevens received a Ph.D. in Sociology/Organizations/Organizational Crime from Loyola University of Chicago, an M.A. in Social Science and a B.S. in Sociology both from Northeastern Illinois University. Dr. Stevens rich teaching and administrative experience includes positions at the University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast, the University of Massachusetts Boston and Salem State College, Mount Olive College in NC, the North Carolina Justice Academy in Salemburg, and the University of South Carolina. He has also served as instructor or group facilitator in penitentiary settings, including a variety of prisons in Massachusetts, North Carolina, New York, South Carolina, and Illinois. His publication list is extensive and includes eight books on corrections and policing as well as over eighty articles in professional journals or on-line. He has made many and varied presentations at professional meetings and has served as reviewer for many professional journals. And in his spare time he has authored two novels! His future research agenda includes law enforcement performance and violent offenders. He just finished a textbook for Prentice Hall entitled *Police Officer Stress: Origins and Resolutions*.

After a semester's service as an adjunct at Sacred Heart University, **Dr. Gregory Viggiano** joins the Department of History as tenure-track Assistant Professor. Dr. Viggiano earned a Ph.D. in Classical Philology from Yale University, an M.A. in Classics from the University of Texas at Austin, and a B.A. in Philosophy and Economics from the University of Montana at Missoula. In addition, he attended the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. He recently completed postdoctoral work as a research assistant with Yale's Instructional Technology Group to improve the teaching of Ancient Greek history through use of technology. His teaching experience includes a teaching fellowship at Yale where he taught both ancient history and Greek and Latin language courses. He is currently working on a college textbook with a Yale professor that will soon be published by Prentice Hall. His teaching and research interests include Greek and Roman history and historiography, Greek and Roman political and moral thought, Greek literature, and Greek law. He will be heavily involved in the teaching of the new Common Core course, HICC 101.

Change in faculty status: **Dr. Joseph Audie** has moved from Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry to tenure-track Assistant Professor of Chemistry. Dr. Audie received his Ph.D. in Physiology and Biophysics from SUNY Stony Brook.

College Announcements!

Dr. Steven Michels (Government and Politics) has been named Director of the University's THOMAS MORE HONORS PROGRAM. Steve will be responsible for the program's management and further development into an

even more intellectually rigorous and exciting program for our students. Of particular importance will be his leadership in the incorporation of the *Common Core: The Human Journey*, with its essential focus on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, into the Honors curriculum. He will also be responsible for leading an Honors committee composed of faculty members from across the University, Student Affairs personnel, and student representatives from the program.

Dean Michal Bozzone (Assistant Dean CAS) and **Dr. Sandra Young** (English) will serve as Co-Directors of the AIP Program. Mike will handle the advising assignments while Sandy will oversee the placement and academic class portions of the program.

NEWLY FORMED CAS DEPARTMENTS: The Department of Sociology, Social Work and Criminal Justice became two separate departments in July, 2007. Dr. Pearl Jacobs will serve as Chair of the newly formed Department of Criminal Justice. She will oversee both the undergraduate and graduate programs in CJ. Dr. Nicole Cauvin will serve as Chair of the newly formed Department of Sociology and Social Work. The Department of Criminal Justice has moved to HC 219.

UPDATE ON THE CORE CURRICULUM (prepared by **Michelle Loris**, Associate Dean CAS): This Fall semester marks the official implementation of our new core curriculum – in particular our common core: *The Human Journey*. All of our Freshmen students will be enrolled in either HICC101 or ENCC102 throughout the Fall and Spring Semesters. In addition, assessment, including learning outcomes, rubrics, and artifacts are being developed for both HICC101 and ENCC102.

The colloquia component of *The Human Journey* is also underway. A group of fifteen faculty from History, English, Psychology, Biology, Chemistry and Religious Studies participated in a week long summer ITC seminar and produced ten multidisciplinary colloquia which these faculty will offer to our Freshman throughout the Fall and Spring semesters. The modules for these colloquia will also be available on Blackboard.

Each module focuses on one or more of the four common core questions of human meaning and value and includes: learning outcomes, readings, artwork, rubrics, and questions for thought and discussion.

Further, an essay describing our common core: *The Human Journey* was published in the International Journal of the Humanities. Copies of the essay are available in my office.

This coming year we will continue the development of *The Human Journey* by completing the curriculum and syllabus development as well as assessment methodology for CC103 a and b and for CC104, the capstone. Our work on *The Human Journey* this year will also include the development of a reader/resource as well as discussion of pedagogy for intentional learning, rigor and academic excellence.

This coming year we will also begin the next stage of implementation of the Core by examining the goals and learning objectives iterated in the Core Curriculum Document and applying them to curriculum and course development as well as assessment in the foundational and elective components of the core curriculum. Our collaborative work on the development and implementation of the core curriculum will mark another milestone for Sacred Heart University.

AAC&U NEWS

AAC&U NEWS (prepared by **Michelle Loris**, Associate Dean CAS): The Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) has chosen Sacred Heart University (SHU) as one of

25 institutions to participate in the national initiative, Core Commitments: Educating Students for Personal and Social Responsibility. The initiative seeks to embed personal and social responsibility objectives pervasively across the institution as key educational outcomes for students and measure the impact of campus efforts to foster such learning.

Sacred Heart University's Core Team attended an immersive week long Summer Institute at the University of Vermont. During this very intense week, teams from the twenty five institutions met to learn about and discuss the many programs and projects these institutions were developing and implementing on their campuses to embed the Five Dimensions of the Core Commitments initiative across the curriculum and co-curriculum. The Team at Sacred Heart University includes: Dr. Thomas Forget, Dr. Michelle Loris, Dean Larry Wielk, Dr. Nicole Cauvin, Dr. Kathryn LaFontana, Dr. Valerie Wherley, Associate Dean Denise Tiberio, Dr. Mark Jareb, Dr. Mary Jo Mason, Dr. June-Ann Greeley, Assistant Dean Mike Bozzone, and Director of Institutional Research Xiaomei Feng.

Sacred Heart University will create campus-specific plans to implement one of the key recommendations articulated in AAC&U's recent report from its campaign, Liberal Education and America's Promise – to foster civic, intercultural, and ethical learning as part of a comprehensive liberal education. The report can be read online in full at www.aacu.org/lep.

The five key dimensions of personal and social responsibility that for the core of this initiative and that will focus the work on campuses:

1. Striving for excellence: developing a strong work ethic and consciously doing one's very best in all aspects of college;
2. Cultivating personal and academic integrity: recognizing and acting on a sense of honor ranging from honesty in relationships to principled engagement with a formal academic honors code;
3. Contributing to a larger community: recognizing and acting on one's responsibility to the educational community (classroom, campus life), the local community, and the wider society, both national and global;
4. Taking seriously the perspectives of others: recognizing and acting on the obligation to inform one's own judgment; engaging diverse and competing perspectives as a resource for learning, for citizenship, and for work.
5. Development competence in ethical and moral reasoning: developing ethical and moral reasoning in ways that incorporate the other four responsibilities; using such reasoning in learning and in life.

As part of the initiative, all 25 campuses participating in Core Commitments Leadership Consortium will administer AAC&U's Personal and Social Responsibility Institutional inventory in the fall of 2007 to students, faculty, student affairs administrators, and academic administrators. The inventory is designed to identify where different groups on campus see opportunities exist to foster learning about personal and social responsibility and to serve as a catalyst for dialogues across the institution about ways to make such learning more pervasive.

New Staff in CAS:

- Deanna Bradshaw is the new staff assistant in the CAS Dean's Office.
- Maggie McCranor will serve as Academic Department Assistant to Criminal Justice.
- Eileen Solomito is Frances Collazo's new assistant in the Office of Academic Advising.

Promotions and Tenure:

Heartiest congratulations to our colleagues who were awarded promotion and/or tenure

Claire Marrone (MFL), promotion to Professor

Jason Moliterno (Mathematics), tenure and promotion to Associate Professor

Michael Ventimiglia (Philosophy), tenure and promotion to Associate Professor

Sabbatical Awards

- Fall 2007:** ~Peter Loth (Mathematics),
~Robert McCloud (Computer Science & Information Technology)
- Spring 2008:** ~Debbie Danowski (MSDC), ~Stephen Lilley (Sociology),
~Marlina Slamet (Physics)
- AY 08-09:** ~Amy Van Buren (Psychology)

Space Report:

The newly created site for the College of Education and Health Professions at Cambridge Drive in Trumbull results in the need to carefully rethink the usage of the Academic/Student Union Building. As Dr. Cernera has indicated in his recent memo these moves will provide necessary space for new faculty offices and some additional general purpose classrooms to meet our immediate needs as we begin the fall semester.

During the fall term, the University will undertake a process to plan the best use of the Academic Center/Student Union building. Sasaki Associates have been engaged to assist in this process with the involvement of the various stakeholders. The University plans to proceed with high quality renovation that will require careful planning and time.

A multi-year implementation plan will be put into effect with some space in the building remaining unoccupied for use as "swing space" as the implementation continues. It is anticipated that the first renovations can begin in spring 2008.

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.

GRANTS:

Sacred Heart University was awarded a \$119,000 grant through the highly competitive Course Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement Program of the National Science Foundation. The project, "From ILAP to iLabAP—Linking Investigative Biology Laboratories to the Mathematics Curriculum," was developed as a joint project by faculty of the departments of Biology and Mathematics. Lead faculty members in the grant were **Kirk Bartholomew** and **Jennifer Mattei** (Biology) and **Rose Marie Kinik** and **Hema Gopalakrishnan** (Mathematics).

Robert McCloud (Computer Science and Information Technology) received a Fulbright Fellowship to teach digital animation and web design at the American University in Kosovo, a small European nation in the former Yugoslavia.

The A&S Research/Creativity Course Releases for 2007-2008 were awarded to Dr. Jeff Cain (English), Dr. Jennifer Mattei (Biology), and Dr. Kirk Bartholomew (Biology).

Faculty Awards:

Thomas D. Curran (History) received the University's 2006-2007 Scholarly Achievement Award.

Anne Doherty (Biology), **Gary Rose** (Government and Politics), and **Nina Turner** (Psychology) were among the Final 4 nominees for the Dr. Marian Calabrese Outstanding Faculty Award sponsored by Student Government and Student Activities.

Gregory Golda (MSDC) received the University's 2006-2007 Joseph Grau "Action for Justice" Award. He was nominated for the 2007 Connecticut Higher Education Community Service Award for his documentary *Pushing Back the Wave*, a documentary created with his students about the work of the SHU delegation to Mississippi in the Spring and Summer of 2006.

Brian Stiltner (Religious Studies) and **Val Buckley** (Religious Studies adjunct) were awarded the University College Faculty Excellence Awards, Stiltner for the full-time faculty award and Buckley for the adjunct faculty award.

More Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Lesley De Nardis** and her husband on the birth of their baby girl, Claire Amanda.

Rachel Bowman and her husband recently welcomed baby Lila Rose.

Participation in IDEAL:

Involvement of Departments in Engaged and Active Learning Workshops:

- **M.A.S.T.E.R. IDEAL:**
MEEETING WITH ADJUNCTS TO SHARE TECHNIQUES AND ENCOURAGE REFLECTION ON IDEAL...

Joanne Kabak (MSDC)
John Kikoski (Government and Politics)
Joan Pollack (Social Work)
Matthew Semel (Criminal Justice)
Timothy Speicher (Athletic Training)

- **USING POPULAR CULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM**

Debbie Danowski (MSDC)
Richard Grigg (Religious Studies)
Michael Ventimiglia (Philosophy)
Jon Walker (Art and Design)

- **CORE TEACHING SKILLS; AN INFORMAL CONVERSATION ABOUT WAYS TO ENGAGE THE CATHOLIC INTELLECTUAL TRADITION IN ANY DISCIPLINE**

June-Ann Greeley (Religious Studies)
Mark Jareb (Biology)
Michelle Loris (English)
John Michniewicz (Music)

FS&A Presentations: FS-3 Presentations:

Frances Grodzinsky (Computer Science and Information Technology): "P2P Networks and the *Verizon v. RIAA* Case: Implications for Personal Privacy and Intellectual Property"

Mona Garcia (History): "Twentieth-Century Catholic Historians and Apologists and the Legacy of John Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*"

Gerald Reid (Anthropology/Sociology): "Renew Our Fire: Iroquois Identity and Politics in the Modern Era"

Suzanne Deschenes (Biology): "Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, and DNA Spell-checkers"

Other Faculty Activities:

Jason Moliterno (Mathematics) served as Chair for the Northeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America Fall 2006 Meeting held at Sacred Heart University.

Rose Marie Kinik and **Hema Gopalakrishnan** (Mathematics) served on the Local Arrangements Committee.