It seems that spring was very slow getting here this year. We were all looking forward to the end of winter and the beginning of the new season long before it arrived. But it finally arrived, and we all feel better for it.

However, change does not always produce a feeling of joy and hopefulness. Sometimes it produces anxiety and apprehension in the face of the unknown. If we are not careful it can produce in us a failure of nerve, or what the existential philosophers refer to as angst.

The religious person has his faith as the antidote to angst or dread. It is faith that tells us that change faced with courage and resolution is the source of hope that the future will be better and that problems are God’s way of providing us with opportunities to grow and improve.

Sacred Heart faces many changes in the year ahead. Let us look upon them as God-sent opportunities to renew our efforts for improvement both within ourselves and within the institution that we serve.

Robert A. Preston
President

Professor Daté Discusses Personalism at SHU

"Choose an academic field you like and most probably, you will excel in it," advises Shashi Daté, professor of Management and acting dean of the College of Business and Professional Studies. "But in order to find out what your likings are," he tells students, "keep an open mind...don't start specializing too soon."

A Renaissance man, Dr. Daté has degrees from the Universities of Bombay and Rajasthan in India, and Oklahoma, Yale and Sacred Heart, touching upon the fields of engineering, chemistry, mathematics, physics, marketing, communications and philosophy.

A native of India, he was reared in an atmosphere of learning, his father a professor of Indian and Western philosophy at the University of Rajasthan. "The names of Hegel and Kant were everyday words as I grew up," he says.

His interests include listening to music, especially classical Indian, and playing the harmonium. He also enjoys Indian cooking, travel, reading and studying the Old Testament, as he prepares the manuscripts of his late father for publication.

The Daté children are Nitin, a May '88 graduate of Penn State University; Hari, a sophomore at SHU; and Ravi, a sophomore at Trumbull High. They were born in America and their roots are here. "But they know about their Indian heritage," says Dr. Daté.

Dr. Daté came to Sacred Heart in 1977 as a graduate business student and the following semester joined the MBA faculty as an adjunct. "I feel lucky to have had that double exposure," he says, "because having been on both sides of the classroom, I can relate to the needs of the students here."

In 1979, when he received his MBA degree, his wife Shaila was awarded an SHU bachelor's degree in Psychology. "Our sons were sitting in the audience," says Dr. Daté. "It was an exciting time for us."
SHU BROTHER AND SISTER ARE ROLE MODELS

Brother and sister Hernan and Ana Yepes of Norwalk emigrated with their parents from Columbia in 1972.

Hernan, assistant dean of Admissions, was 18 years old when he arrived in America. He recalls, "It was not easy to move from a third world country to Fairfield County, Connecticut. Not knowing English we had to start from scratch, but we were lucky to have parents who encouraged us, who regarded higher education as the most powerful tool for advancement.

"I try to transmit that same philosophy to the students I meet at SHU and in the area high schools," he adds. "I tell them, 'If I could do it, so can you'."

Ana, director of the SHU foreign language lab, also realizes that she is a role model. "It's important for us to show the new students that they can succeed, too. I didn't know English... I struggled... I learned. I know about the economic hurdles, too. It's not easy. But I tell the students to try to find a way. If you are educated, you can do a lot."

Schooled in French and Italian as well as Spanish, Ana says, "I love languages," and laughingly relates how some people during her undergraduate years would ask, "Ana, why are you taking Spanish, you are from a Spanish-speaking family?" She earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish at SHU in 1986.

"I reminded them of American students at SHU who choose English as a major. Even though I am of Hispanic descent, there is much about Spanish literature, history, culture and the grammar and structure of the language that I want to learn." She plans to pursue a doctorate in Spanish.

Hernan traces his interest in the guidance field to his student days at Norwalk Community College, where he served as a peer counselor. He earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology at SHU and a master's in Psychology and Counseling at Fairfield University.

For relaxation, Hernan and Ana enjoy music and play the guitar. "Music is a big part of my life," Hernan says, "especially South American music, both classical and folk." He has performed solo and in groups. Ana loves the Brazilian beat, jazz, classical... "all kinds, actually," she says.

PAUL SIFF -- FASCINATED WITH HISTORY

"In the words of Arlo Guthrie, 'I'm an all American kid from New York City'." jokes Dr. Paul Siff, chairperson of the department of History.

A Native of Brooklyn, New York and a depression baby, Dr. Siff grew up in a pro-New Deal, FDR-loving household. "As a small child, I distinctly remember wearing an FDR button." Dr. Siff recalls, "and I was always fascinated with the history of the United States."

Traveling cross-country to Berkeley in 1979, living in the midwest (Missouri), riding through the South, seeing the Pacific-Northwest, Texas, and Chicago, and visiting Europe twice has sharpened Dr. Siff's sense of history. He holds his doctorate in American History from the University of Rochester.

He's stood in the footsteps marked where the Archduke Francis Ferdinand's assassin stood in Sarajevo, traveled to Bunker Hill, Washington's Crossing, and flew to Belgium in 1985 to prepare for a course he was to teach that included the study of medieval Bruges.

"There is nothing like visiting a historical site to enhance one's ability to sense history. It is fantastic to immerse yourself in the atmosphere... be where great events took place... and try to relate those feelings to your students," he explains.

"I also try to bring some humor into the classroom. I think that one has to be something of an entertainer to be an effective instructor, and even a bit of a ham to be a good teacher," Dr. Siff says.

An aficionado of folk music, he has been known to sing folk songs by the Weavers, Pete Seeger, or Woody Guthrie to his history (Continued on page 4)
A BUSY SPRING AT SHU — FORUMS, LECTURES, ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

Celebrating SHU’s 25 years at the Trumbull Marriott are Dean Louise Summa, her husband Robert, and Dave Bike.

Rondell Bulls and Barbara Licurisi attend the festivities at the 25th anniversary reception held in the Hawley Lounge.

Library staff Dorothy Kijanka, director, and Mary Rogers, head of Public Services, enjoy the post-symposium reception held in the Hawley Lounge.

Father William Sangiovanni, Sister Anne-Louise Nadeau, Rabbi Jerome Wallin, and the Reverend George Rowe sing We Shall Overcome during the closing of the 25th anniversary ecumenical service held March 22.

Judi Rice, president of the Psychology Club; Arline Massey, Psychology Department secretary; Dr. Connie Patrono, clinical psychologist; Alice Weissman, director, Animal Therapy Volunteer Program at the Jewish Home for the Elderly; and Dr. Christina Taylor pose with a canine friend, Poco Más, during the Psychology Department lecture on Pet Therapy, held April 5.

Dr. Barry Herman and Dr. Tom Corrigan attend the welcoming reception held for the State Department of Education visiting committee for the reaccreditation of all the Education Department’s programs.
SHU welcomes new staff and administrators who have joined us since March 1.

They include Patrick Carlson of Fairfield, mailroom/duplicating clerk, Mailroom; Alma Haluch of Trumbull, library assistant-periodicals, Library; Daniel Olex of Bridgeport, mailroom/duplicating clerk, Mailroom; and Roderic Ross of Fairfield, announcer, WSHU-FM.

Congratulations to the following full-time faculty members who received the 15-and 16-Year Service Award last month at our Founders Day Celebration. They are: Dr. Roberta Staples, who joined SHU in January 1972; Dr. Christina Taylor, September 1972; Dr. Rosemary Green, November 1972; Camille P. Reale, January 1973; Dr. William Gnewuch, September 1973; Dr. Christ J. Verses, September 1973; Dr. Donald E. Coonley, September 1973; and Dr. Grant Walker, September 1973.

Congratulations to Michael Valovcin, adjunct associate professor, who joined Sacred Heart in July 1972.

The following administrators and staff members received the 15-and 16-Year Service Award: Alvin Clinkscales, September 1972; Frank Hutvagner, July 1973; and Monica Roberts, May 1972.

Sabbatical leaves have been granted for the 1988-89 academic year to the following: Dr. Paul Siff of Trumbull, associate professor, chairperson, department of History, fall 1988; Dr. Joseph Grau of Milford, professor, department of Religious Studies, spring 1989; Dr. John Jaltbert of Brookfield, associate professor, department of Philosophy, 1989-90; and Dr. Christina Taylor of Fairfield, associate professor, department of Psychology, 1989-90.

Congratulations to Gary Rose and his wife Laura, who just welcomed a new seven-pound 10-ounce baby girl, Meredith, into their home.

Paul Siff
(Continued from page 2)

classes when the songs are pertinent to his subject. "I sing songs about work, the unions, wars, or disasters, even though I can't carry a tune," he smiles.

"In a prior age folk musicians created songs about the topics of the day. One of the few contemporary musicians who comes close to that is Billy Joel with his song 'Allentown.'"

Dr. Siff has always worked for non-profit institutions. "That wasn't necessarily planned," he muses. Prominently placed on his office wall is a large poster of the Marx Brothers. "I like Groucho's zany, cynical sense of humor — his walk, voice, leers — he's my kind of guy."