Notes

Unless indicated otherwise, all memos, letters, proposals, and other such communications cited below are Sacred Heart University documents, housed in the office of the person who sent or received the item referenced. The location of all class talks, addresses, lectures, and other such events cited below was Sacred Heart University unless indicated otherwise.

Chapter 1

2. John A. Rycenga, “Project Innovation” (Bridgeport: Sacred Heart University, 1968), 18. “Early in 1967,” Dr. Rycenga explained, “as plans were being made for Sacred Heart’s first graduation ceremony, the President of the University, Dr. William H. Conley, announced that members of the faculty would undertake, during the 1967-68 academic year, a comprehensive self-study. In the first stages, the study would concern itself with the gathering of data on every facet of the University’s operation, past and current. The data, and the analysis which it was to engender, were to provide, finally, a basis for proposals relating to future development and operation of the school. . . . Dr. Conley saw in the self-study a valuable and necessary aid in the accreditation process which the school would shortly be undergoing. . . . Project Innovation is that final report, embodying the findings and recommendations produced by a year of work” (1-2). The work of seven faculty committees and Rycenga’s report formed the basis for the Sacred Heart University Self-Evaluation Report for the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education-New England Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, Inc., August 1969.
4. John Croffy, personal interview with Dr. Herbert Clish, n.d. Dr. Clish, appointed dean of the College on February 1, 1969, interviewed several of the school’s founding administrators and faculty, seeking to preserve recollections of the University’s beginnings. The typed transcripts are listed under “History” in the Public Relations files.
5. For an overview of the efforts of these two administrators to found the school, see Rycenga, “Project Innovation,” 22-25.


7. Lisa von York, “Social Action Society Initiates Work in Area,” Obelisk, 9 November 1966, 4. In the same article she wrote: “To become really involved has been the project of two Sacred Heart students who rented an apartment in the city’s West Side last summer. . . . When they moved in they were besieged by small neighborhood children who would drop in at unexpected moments. When it was realized that these children often had nowhere to go due to crowded or troubled home circumstances, and that school would be starting soon, a study center was conceptualized as at least a partial answer to their ‘where to go’ problems. The store-front library and study center at Our Lady of Providence is now a reality on the West Side. Hundreds of books have been donated and there are volunteers on hand every school day to supervise and help the children.” Then von York ended the article by naming several student activists: “Sacred Heart students who may be found at the center on different days of the week are Norma Morales, Keith Nelson, Maureen Dursi, Jan Muldoon, Jack Antedominico, Jack Devine, Jeannie Carpenter, Lucy Spitz, Jay Andrasi, Diane McMahon, and Rich Gookin” (6).


15. Douglas Bohn, personal interview, 19 April 2001. HECUS programs, said Bohn, included a cross-registration agreement among the schools; a program that pooled the resources of participating institutions to allow students to enroll in less popular foreign language studies; a faculty exchange program; and, in one instance, the purchase of a boat to facilitate the study of the Bridgeport harbor by Dr. Joseph Moran, chair of the Biology Department.

20. Charles Eby and Paul Siff, History of the First Twenty-Five Years of Sacred Heart University (Fairfield: Sacred Heart University, 1988), 11.
21. “Introduction,” Sacred Heart University Catalog (1972). The catalog was published under the general supervision of Dr. Charles Ford, the Academic Vice-President.
23. Sampling of volunteer efforts and sites culled from several issues of the Prologue in the 1960s and early 1970s.
27. “In Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of The Thomas Merton Center” (Bridgeport: Thomas Merton Center, n.d.).
30. “The Thomas Merton Center” (Bridgeport: Thomas Merton Center, n.d.).
33. “The Thomas Merton Center.”
35. See Prologue (1968).
40. Brodeur, personal interview.
47. Felipe Reinoso was awarded the “President’s Service Award” in Washington, D.C. by President Clinton in October 1999. This is the highest honor given by the President for volunteer service.

Chapter 2

4. “Sacred Heart University 1993 Self-Study,” 1, no. 1 (1993). Years later in a talk to undergraduates, Cerner reflected on the significance of the mission statement and his role in making it central to the life of the University: “One of the most important things that a president of an organization does—the president of a college or university—is to articulate the mission and the vision, and then the goals and objectives of the institution. And to remind the institution about where we are going, and about how we are going to get there, and to keep putting in front of us our highest ideals” (class talk, 23 March 1999).
5. Sacred Heart University Undergraduate Catalog (1989-91), 7.
7. Dodge, campus e-mail.
8. Dodge, campus e-mail.
10. Anthony J. Cerner, class talk.
11. Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero, quoted in Rubén Zamora,
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22. Robin McAllister, “Searching for Truth in a World of Lies,” Sacred Heart University Review 12, nos. 1 & 2 (fall 1991/spring-1992): 35-36. To add a personal note, the murder of the UCA professors that Professor McAllister described later as unthinkable on the Sacred Heart University campus was a recurring nightmare for me after returning from El Salvador in 1992, suggesting the impressions that a visit to the UCA campus and the site of the murders make on a person’s psyche. In this dream faculty and administrators were marched out to the center of the quad, then executed with machine guns in front of the assembled students.
25. “Citation” for His Excellency the Most Reverend Arturo Rivera Damas, S.D.B., 17 May 1990.

Chapter 3

2. A more complete story of the first and subsequent trips to El
Salvador, what transpired, and the effects of those trips on the participants, remains to be told.

3. Gerald Reid, campus e-mail, 15 August 2000.

4. Bertsch, class talk.

5. Fr. David Blanchard, group talk at Casa Clementina, San Salvador, El Salvador, 14 June 1992. A communiqué released on October 22 by the Brigada Maximiliano Hernández Martínez death squad suggests the tense situation at that time: “Since the signing of the nefarious and unconstitutional Mexico accords with the terrorists of the FMLN, inconceivable acts have occurred in our beloved country. . . . The country has been invaded by pseudo-communist foreigners. . . . Come October 31 we will proceed to accomplish a death sentence on all the terrorists. . . . Also we state that the white pestilence of ONUSAL must leave, and so too the foreign journalists . . . and all those who collaborate with the terrorists” (“El Salvador,” Centroamerica: The Month in Review 7, no. 11 [November 1992]: 2).


15. Anaya, meeting with SHU delegation.


23. Jean Stokan, "Who Are the Terrorists?," Sacred Heart University Review 16, nos. 1 & 2 (fall 1995/spring 1996): 31. Jean is the wife of Scott Wright from EPICA, who led a delegation of faculty and administrators to El Salvador in 1996. She offered to submit her poems to be published along with the reflections of other members of the group.

24. Bertsch, class talk. In 1995, Shelley Lyford, a Global Studies major at SHU who participated in student delegations to El Salvador and who studied in that country with Augsburg College, spoke about that same difficulty with understanding the role of the U.S. in the war. "Everyday I learn more about the role the United States plays in this country," she wrote home to her mother. "This is one of the hardest things for me to deal with. We gave the government $6 billion dollars to destroy the lives of innocent compesinos who were fighting for basic rights and justice" (fax to Dr. Katherine Kidd, Global Studies Department, 16 October 1995, 1).


30. "Citation," Sacred Heart University Special Academic Convocation, 8 March 1993.


32. Louise Spence and Rebecca Abbott, memo to Dr. Anthony Cernera, 1 July 1992.

33. "Delegation Visits SHU," Connecticut Post, 8 March 1994, B4. Over the ensuing years, the plan to create a mutually beneficial student and faculty exchange with the UES failed to materialize. While faculty delegations continue to visit the UES campus, our main focus shifted to sending student and faculty groups to help with community building in Tierra Blanca (see "Spring Breaks in El Salvador" in chapter 6, particularly note 40).

34. The part of the UCA experience that follows, in keeping with the
thrust of this report, concentrates on Fr. Brackley’s discussion of a university education and the role of service. But mention should be made of the impact on the group of the UCA experience—particularly the visit to the Jesuit museum and the photo album detailing the assassinations, the rose garden where the Jesuits fell, and the chapel where life-size artwork celebrates the martyrs. Visiting these sites was wrenching and awe-inspiring, leaving the visitor feeling a numbing physical agony, yet at the same time a sense of extraordinary hope (much like the feelings evoked at the Chapel of the Divine Providence, where Archbishop Romero fell). Eileen Bertsch said it best: “On that brilliant, sunny afternoon at UCA, I was not prepared for the colored photographs of the bruised and mutilated bodies of the eight victims of atrocity. I was not prepared to defend all sensibility against the Michelangelo-like, life-sized drawings of the dead on the walls of the campus chapel. And I began to despair... But I know despair cannot be attributed to the Salvadoran people with whom we met, for their stories do not end in death. Their journey began in the suffering born of ages of injustice, but they have passed through death and destruction to emerge again with renewed faith in God and hope for the future” (“Beyond Death and Destruction,” 7).

35. Bertsch, class talk.


40. Bertsch, class talk.

Chapter 4


7. “Summary of meeting on February 11, 1993 Regarding Thirtieth Anniversary,” 1.


11. Bertsch, personal interview.


19. Mike Campo, “Thirty Thousand Hours.”

20. The following agencies participated in the Service Fair: Boys/Girls Club of Bridgeport, MAACS, Bridge House, YMCA of Bridgeport, Junior Achievement, Danbury Volunteer Bureau, Project Learn, Child Health Project, Mercy Learning Center, Lower Fairfield Center, Literacy Volunteers of America, Habitat for Humanity, Thomas Merton House, McKinney Foundation, Lord Chamberlain Nursing Home, Bread and Roses, Ella Grasso Center, and the March of Dimes.


27. See “Computer Printout of 30,000 Hours Logged,” 9.
28. Sarah Gauthier, “El Salvador Changes Student’s Perspective,” 
Spectrum, 7 October 1993, 7.
30. “30,000 Hours,” flyer, 1993. A second, more comprehensive flyer 
with the title “Keeping the Promise,” featured the service statement from 
the school’s mission statement, a note from the President, several on-site 
volunteer possibilities, a note from Halapin, and a clip off section for the 
volunteer to list service preferences.
31. Sarah Gauthier, “Students Participate in Habitat for Humanity,” 
Spectrum, 7 October 1993, 7.
32. Anthony J. Cernera, letter to Catherine R. Stimpson, 16 
November 1993.
33. Also honored at the event were The Most Rev. Walter W. Curtis, 
retired Bishop of Bridgeport; John Croffy, the school’s first dean of 
students; James R. Kerr, one of the school’s original trustees; and Ralph 
L. Rossi, a trustee.
34. “Gala marks SHU’s 30th Anniversary,” Fairfield Citizen-News, 13 
October 1993, 34.
35. Nancy Mandell, memo, “Community Service Update,” State of 
36. Sarah Gauthier, “Saturday Bike-a-thon Part of 30,000 Hours 
Program,” Spectrum, 21 October 1993, 7. The trip logged a modest 
ninety-three hours for the program.
37. Halapin, personal interview.
38. Marian Calabrese, personal interview, 26 April 2001. “So as not to 
put pressure on anybody,” Calabrese said, “we encouraged the students 
to go as far as they wanted to go. Each person must do it in his or her 
own way. The only thing I insisted on was that anyone who worked on 
a quilt—whether cutting, sewing, basting, or hemming—signed the back. 
Every quilt that went out was signed. And as it went along, sayings and 
 writings were incorporated. Whatever the students wanted to put on the 
quilts, they could.”
39. “Sacred Heart’s Leader Geared to Social Responsibility,” Westport 
4 November 1993, 12.
41. Martha Miller Byrnes, “Countdown to 30,000 Hours: University 
43. Sarah Gauthier, “30,000 Hour Project Serves Silent Voices,”
Spectrum, 9 December 1993, 11. Halapin reported that the Holiday season
helped the cause. "We were stalled at 4,000 hours in November and
30,000 seemed far away," said Halapin. "But during the holidays people
do a lot more giving and the volunteers started giving more of their time"
("Sacred Heart University Nears its 30th Anniversary Goal," news release,
27 January 1994, 1).

44. Mark Nacinovich, "SHU Celebrates Anniversary by Giving,"
Catholic Transcript, 11 March 1994, 8.

years earlier, the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization honored Scott
Colvin, a Sacred Heart University professor of accounting, naming him
Fairfield County's Big Brother of the Year for his work with a
Bridgeport youth.

46. Justin Maffeo, "University of El Salvador Delegates Visit Campus,"
Spectrum, 3 March 1994, 1.

47. Bertsch, personal interview.

48. "University Exceeds Goal for Community Service," Fairfield

49. "Sacred Heart Displays its Volunteer Heart," Connecticut Post, 26

50. Halapin, personal interview.

51. "Sacred Heart Athletes Volunteer Time to Community," Fairfield

52. Andrew G. De Rocco, "Dear Award Nominees in Connecticut

53. Also at the ceremonies, Sacred Heart University senior Peter
Rosasina was among the nominees for an "Individual Student Award."

54. One of Halapin's last tasks as the 30,000-hour coordinator was to
put together a sourcebook listing a "broad array of service organizations,
activities, and resources." The directory was designed "to encourage the
student's interest in and access to the social, cultural, and educational
offerings of service in our area" (Community Service Sourcebook, June 1994).

55. See "Sacred Heart Athletes Volunteer Time to Community."

Chapter 5

1. Eilene Bertsch, "Proposal Abstract: Learning and Service at Sacred
Heart University," 27 January 1994. (Forwarded to the Learning and
Service Alliance, Council of Independent Colleges, Washington, D.C. The
CIC is an international association of colleges and universities that serves
as a resource of ideas for educational reform.)
6. Thomas J. Trebon, letter to Dr. Allen P. Splete.
12. Eilene Bertsch, campus e-mail, 24 October 2000.
16. The task force was divided into two groups: the "Academic" included John Berkman, Marian Calabrese, Nicole Cauvin, Ralph Corrigan, Lauren Kempton, Claire Marrone and John Roney; and the "Nature and Composition" with Alvin Clinkscales, Elaine Davis, Mike Devine, Steve Harrison, Gerald Reid, Barbara Tulley, plus two student groups and a resident assistant.
23. Machledt, personal interview.
30. The following service-learning courses were offered in the spring: Multi-Cultural Education; Intermediate Spanish; Princes to Peasants; Methods of Teaching Sciences, Social Sciences, and Health; Business Communications; Latin American Twentieth Century History; Rhetoric: the Longer Forms; Newspaper Production; American Sign Language; and Effective Communications. At the same time, one student worked on a Global Studies Internship, and a Media Studies student completed a video on “Youth Rebuild.”
35. That goal became a reality August 7, 1995 when Machledt was hired by the University under the new title of Director of Service-Learning and Volunteer Services.
36. The delegation included administrators Donna Dodge, Eilene Bertsch, and Phyllis Machledt; community agency representative Beverly Salzman; SHU student Valerie Vancza; and faculty members Pilar Munday and Ralph Corrigan.
39. As part of this story, it should be noted that Eilene Bertsch was asked to fill in for Ralph Nader, who was to deliver the closing address at the conference on Saturday. Nader was experiencing travel difficulties. Bertsch stayed up all night preparing a closing speech only to have Nader arrive at the last moment.
40. See “Preliminary Planning Worksheet: Sacred Heart University.” The worksheet also called for several improvements. For example, it noted many faculty lacked awareness of the possibilities of service-learning, and issues of faculty feeling overburdened needed to be addressed. It also recommended that faculty needed to be more directly involved with the agencies where their students worked. On the administrative side, service-learning courses needed to be designated early in the registration process. As for the agencies, they could develop more
realistic expectations of what students might be expected to accomplish in a semester.


Chapter 6

7. Although the group was told that the gunfire in the streets had calmed down, that night around the corner from St. Charles several gunshots rang out.
9. Karen Daden, personal testimony, St. Charles Urban Center, 23 September 1995. Daden, a former military intelligence officer, was instrumental in organizing the community fight to regain control of the streets.
11. Jorge Jaiman, personal testimony, St. Charles Urban Center, 23 September 1995. Jaiman and Karen Daden shared the stories of their involvement with the rebirth of East Side at length with the delegation. Jaiman talked about how in the beginning they saw "total devastation. People were afraid to talk to us. They were afraid to communicate with each other. And they were definitely afraid of retaliation from the gangs." He said, "Karen was threatened by the gangs. Her house was machine-gunned. Death notices were put out for Karen, officers Mike Sample and Jorge Reyes, and myself." Daden added, "First let me say that you have
entered the Third World. . . . Look in your own backyard ladies and gentlemen. This is the Third World." Jaiman then noted, "What we are doing is perpetrating a system that consistently abuses and uses people. And I don't think, at this point, that what we need is money. I think what we need is resources to educate, to train, and to mobilize people. Human resources."


13. Dodge, memo to participants in Operation Bridgeport.


15. Two of the proposed projects were implemented during the spring semester. The first, a four-part series of leadership seminars hosted by Cernera at the University, brought area grassroots leaders together with Sacred Heart presenters who shared strategies for organizing effective community organizations, developing mission statements, writing grant proposals, and developing leadership communication skills. The second project, under the guidance of Jack de Graffenried, brought a select group of promising urban high school artists to campus for a summer drawing workshop, where student artists received intensive instruction, culminating in an art competition. "I offered to teach drawing to a group of students from the three Bridgeport high schools," said de Graffenried, "and that subsequently led to an art exhibit. We also invited the other schools in the immediate Greater Bridgeport area. We had grant money for awards, and for pieces of the art work to be framed that got accepted by an outside jury of professional artists. In the last three years students from Shelton, Trumbull, and Fairfield have been invited to sit in on the class, so the class became naturally integrated from both urban and suburban schools. It's been flying for five years" (Jack de Graffenried, personal interview, 30 November 2000).


22. John Roney, campus e-mail, 4 December 2000.


24. Sarah Hanna and Jessica York, "Students extend help in
Baltimore,” *Spectrum*, 20 March 1997, 2. The first group to travel to Baltimore included Campus Habitat officers Lourdes González, President; Wayne Kruger, Vice-President; Sean Otterspool, Secretary; Patricia Kurowski, Treasurer; and members Shawn Avery, Josue Chevalier, Bill Cyr, Matt Flood, Cori Kiley, Julia Torpey, Debbie Ventunelli, Dementred Young; and advisors John Roney and Phyllis Machledt.

25. Machledt, personal interview, 30 November 2000. ("Fr. Mike" refers to Fr. Michael McLennon, campus chaplain at the time.)


31. Harrison, “Habitat Home,” 7. More recently, at the 16th Annual Meeting of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Bridgeport held on January 21, 2001, Otterspool was further honored for his volunteer efforts with Habitat’s Second Mile award. Then, at the Inn at Longshore on February 10, 2001, Otterspool and fellow-student Patricia Kurowski, along with members from the Community Builders group and seven other coalitions, were honored with Hearts and Hammers awards for their “commitment to help Habitat meet its aggressive goals to build at least 25 houses this year” (*Habitat for Humanity of Greater Bridgeport*, issue 1, 2001, 6).

32. The group was composed of students Angela Bowden, Brian Bunnell, Sean Otterspool, and Anne Marie D’Amore; alumna Patricia Kurowski; and Otterspool’s mother Suzanne, and sister Jacqueline.


34. “Habitat Group Builds Hope in Philippines,” 22.

35. Angel Bowden, personal interview, 10 January 2001.


37. Phyllis Machledt, campus e-mail, 5 December 2000.


40. The group of faculty and administrators consisted of Ricardo Cordova, Charlotte Gradie, Katherine Kidd, and Robin McAllister. The report, reflecting the thinking of the group at that time, was entitled “Proposal for Work in El Salvador,” and was submitted January 4, 1996.
It stated: "While our involvement in El Salvador to the present time has been very fruitful, it is still peripheral to the primary mission of the University—teaching, writing and research, and service. We believe the three pragmatic components of this proposal would clearly link our involvement in El Salvador to the University's mission and would institutionalize that involvement making it a regular, on-going part of the program of the University." The three components were: "1. Sacred Heart University Internally Funded Program for El Salvador"; "2. Biennial Interdisciplinary Conference on Central America"; and "3. Academic Year Study Abroad Program in El Salvador." The authors of the proposal, which was forwarded to "El Salvador Related Faculty and Administrators," asked for "substantive suggestions and critiques." Charlotte Gradie, referring to the fate of the proposal, said recently, "We felt that SHU could play a role in providing a place for scholars to continue to discuss Central American issues, since to our knowledge no such forum exists in the U.S. My recollection is that our administration was not interested in supporting this, preferring instead to approach the problem of promoting peace and democracy in Central America through student service-learning efforts and faculty tours of El Salvador" (campus e-mail, 12 September 2000). As it turned out, the University decided to continue to fund faculty trips and support the student work delegations that started during the 1996 Spring Break.

54. Terry Neu, campus e-mail, 10 January 2001.

Chapter 7

2. Eilene Bertsch, class talk, 9 November 1999.
10. "CURTIS Week Information."
13. "CURTIS Week Information."
15. Machledt, personal interview.
16. "CURTIS Week Information."
19. Angela Bowden, personal interview, 10 January 2001.
20. Machledt, personal interview.
21. Machledt, personal interview.
23. Fr. Joseph John Saba, Jr., letter to Michelle D. Gilliard, Executive
Director of the Consortium for the Advancement of Private Higher Education, 3 October 2000.
28. Emery, personal interview.
29. Emery, personal interview.
33. Emery, personal interview.
34. Emery, personal interview. An initial ribbon cutting ceremony for the new center was held at St. Charles on March 24, 2001; a more formal opening ceremony and blessing, that included parish, city, and University officials, was held April 27, 2001.
36. CIC Proposal, 1
37. Emery, personal interview.
38. Dodge, personal interview.
40. Emery, personal interview.
42. Minor, personal interview.
43. Minor, personal interview.

Chapter 8

4. Reid, personal interview.
5. Reid, personal interview.
8. Reid, personal interview. The first group of students accepted as potential candidates for the program included the following freshmen and sophomores: Dorian Aguilar, Jamie Bell, William Borrelli, Jr., Kathleen Crounse, Christine DePierro, Katherine Dervan, Kimberly Farinelli, Christopher Ginty, Michelle Hubbard, Craig Joly, Peter Kuczynski, Taryn Mahoney, Keri Nastri, Susan Pawlishen, Kelly Thurber, Danielle Tumbarello, and Jennifer Underhill.
12. Machledt, personal interview.
15. Reid, personal interview.
17. Palliser, personal interview.
19. "The night of the first earthquake in El Salvador—January 13, 2001—and for days afterwards," wrote Lauren Kempton, "our phone did not stop ringing. Hank Parkinson, Melissa Hensley, Heather Heath, Kelly Libby . . . many, many former participants in the student delegations who had traveled to El Salvador in previous years called. 'Have you heard about the earthquake?' . . . 'Have you spoken with Elena?' . . . 'How is she?' . . . 'How are the villagers?' . . . 'How's the church?' . . . 'How can we get more information?' Everyone needed to know, and they knew that if anyone would have the answers to their questions, it would be Brooks and Lauren. It felt so right to be information central for these bright and concerned young SHU graduates, who still clearly feel themselves linked in important ways to the people of the villages we have visited in Usulutan" (campus e-mail, 17 March 2001).
20. Kathy A. Ogle, co-ordinator of EPICA, writes: "The crisis is of much greater proportion than was first thought, and the response has been far from sufficient. Once again the poor have been the hardest hit by the disaster because of the precarious conditions in which they are forced to live" (letter to "Dear Friends," EPICA: Washington, D.C., 20 February 2001).
26. Muñoz, "Fighting the Enduring Earthquake," 2
27. Neu, personal interview.
29. Neu, personal interview.
31. Neu, personal interview.
32. McAllister, "El Salvador Journal."
34. McAllister, personal interview.
35. McAllister, "El Salvador Journal."
36. Lauren Kempton, campus e-mail.
38. Dodge and Bertsch, personal interview.
39. Bertsch, personal interview.
44. Machledt, personal interview.
45. Machledt, personal interview.
47. Machledt, personal interview.