Sacred Heart University formally dedicated its new Chapel of the Holy Spirit, inaugurating a year of special events to mark this important milestone. The Chapel is a pivotal campus landmark celebrating the University’s Catholic identity. It has attracted widespread attention and praise for its unique architecture, dazzling mosaics and hand-crafted bells.
Dear Friends,

This year, we celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the apostolic constitution, *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*, in which Pope John Paul II laid out his vision of the Catholic university. Since the creation of that inspirational document, we have seen major growth at Sacred Heart University—in curriculum, students, resources, and facilities—as we seek to answer the same fundamental question that John Paul did in his document: What does it mean to be a Catholic institution of higher learning?

We answer that question every day—not just with words, but through our actions. At the heart of everything we do is our belief that a Catholic university is meant to be the primary steward of the Catholic intellectual tradition. At Sacred Heart, we therefore combine rigorous intellectual achievement and public service as we educate students to enjoy productive, spiritual lives while making the world a better place.

In this issue of our Magazine, we include many stories about the achievements of our stellar professors, who push the boundaries of scholarship around the world and define great teaching; of our students, who regularly win awards for their outstanding academic, artistic and athletic achievements; and of our staff members, who strive hard to make Sacred Heart one of the finest Catholic universities in the world. We hope you will find time to read all of their stories.

I particularly recommend turning to our features section to find out how well Sacred Heart upholds the Catholic intellectual tradition.

One of these features describes the opening of the University’s extraordinary new Chapel, a building that serves as a bold affirmation of our Catholicity. The second covers Sacred Heart’s 44th commencement, where we describe our recognition of graduating senior John Vales as the first SHU student to receive the Bishop Walter W. Curtis Medal of Honor. John received this medal for donating part of his liver to a student he had never met, risking his life to save hers. John embodies all of the ideals of Sacred Heart, and gives us every reason to affirm our faith in this institution.

Thank you for your ongoing confidence and generous support. We owe our success—and our hopes for a better world—to all of the members of Sacred Heart’s community.

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D.
The Year in Service

The SHU community once again devoted time, energy and passion to service. Learn about our highly successful Best Buddies program, what happened when we immersed our freshmen in Bridgeport community service efforts, how nursing students reached out to bring hope to Jamaica, and more.

Chapel of the Holy Spirit Dedication

Sacred Heart University formally blessed its new sanctuary, the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. What followed was a year of festivities to celebrate. Read about the dedication ceremony and what people around the world are saying about this unique Chapel.

Commencement 2010

Highlights of Sacred Heart University’s 44th Commencement ceremonies included a keynote speech by Dick Ebersol, Chairman of NBC Universal Sports and Olympics, and the first-ever student recipient of the Bishop Walter W. Curtis Medal of Honor for donating part of his liver to a fellow student to save her life.

Departments

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Rev. David Tracy Awarded the SHU Medal

Rev. David Tracy was presented the inaugural Sacred Heart University Medal on March 24 by University President Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D. Father Tracy, a long-time friend to Sacred Heart University and renowned scholar of the Catholic intellectual tradition, was first honored by the University in 2008 with a Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Father Tracy is professor emeritus of theology and the philosophy of religion at the University of Chicago Divinity School. He is also the author of scores of articles and several published books. A native of Yonkers, NY, Father Tracy earned his licentiate in 1964 and his doctorate in 1969, both at Rome’s Gregorian University. In 1982, he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is a priest of the Diocese of Bridgeport.

Freezin’ for a Reason

In March, members of the Sacred Heart University community braved the freezing temperatures of Long Island Sound and dove right in for a good cause. The “Freezin’ for a Reason” event benefited the Burroughs Community Center in Bridgeport, CT, which offers programs and activities to local students. The members of SHU’s “Brave Souls” team raised over $1,500 for this worthy cause.

Screening of The Calling and Panel Discussion on Campus

A screening of the documentary film The Calling by Director David Ranghelli took place on campus on December 2. The film was followed by a panel discussion about the call to a liturgical life with the director, Religious Studies Associate Professor and Director of the Center for Catholic Thought, Ethics and Culture (CCTEC) Dr. Brian Stiltner; associate professor and chair of psychology, Dr. Kathryn LaFontana; and Father Robert M. Kinnally, director of vocations for the Diocese of Bridgeport and SHU trustee. The event was sponsored by Campus Ministry; CCTEC; Center for Spirituality and Ministry; Department of Religious Studies, University College; and the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Bridgeport.

In Memoriam

Deacon Hans J. Gram

Sacred Heart University Trustee Emeritus Hans J. Gram died on May 23, 2010. He was 69 years old. Mr. Gram leaves behind his wife Ingela and their four children: Karin, Thomas, Cecilia and Jacob.

Mr. Gram was a valued member of the University’s Board of Trustees since 2005, served on several University committees, and received an honorary degree from SHU in 2008.

A native of Norway, Mr. Gram was the son of a ship broker. In 1936, his father became a founding partner of R.S. Platou a.s., an international brokering company that serves the shipping and offshore industry worldwide. Mr. Gram began his professional association with that company in 1959, eventually serving as president and CEO of the company from 1977 until 1986.

Mr. Gram then headed an independent ship-owning company, which he sold when he moved with his family to the U.S. He founded and directed an affiliated brokerage and consultancy business in offshore oil production in Houston. In 2000, he became a citizen of the United States.

Perhaps it is fitting that Mr. Gram’s passing occurred on Pentecost Sunday, which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Christ, because it was his gift that made the Bell Tower for the University’s new Chapel of the Holy Spirit possible. Mr. Gram’s influence will continue to resonate across campus, as the rich harmony of the Chapel bells serves as a constant reminder of his service to Sacred Heart University.
WSHU Wins Multiple Awards

Naomi Starobin, news director of WSHU, the NPR radio affiliate housed at Sacred Heart University, announced that the station’s news department has won an impressive array of awards this year. Reporters won a total of six Connecticut Associated Press Broadcast Awards for covering various local stories. On Long Island, reporter Charles Lane was awarded three FOLIO (Focus on Long Island) awards for investigative reporting, economic/business/consumer issues, and enterprise reporting. In addition, Mr. Lane won a regional Edward R. Murrow Award for his ongoing coverage last year of the murder of Marcelo Lucero, as well as a 2009 Sigma Delta Chi Award, a prestigious national award from the Society of Professional Journalists for Excellence in Journalism.

Welch College of Business Establishes Partnership with Stamford CFA Society

The Department of Economics and Finance in the John F. Welch College of Business has partnered with the Stamford Chartered Financial Analyst Society (SCFAS) to offer a unique program designed for aspiring investment professionals. The new program, called the Investment Management Program (IMP), is offered at only a few universities at the undergraduate level. It prepares students who plan careers in finance and money management to successfully complete the level one exam of the CFA program. The CFA designation is the standard of excellence in the investment community, and many investment firms require entry-level employees to pursue the CFA designation.

New Game Design Program Named “Top 50” by Princeton Review

Compute this—The Princeton Review, in partnership with GamePro magazine, has recognized Sacred Heart University’s game design program as one of the best in the United States and Canada on its “Top 50 Undergraduate Game Design Programs” list. The recognition by The Princeton Review comes as the program is in its inaugural year. Sacred Heart’s Game Design & Development program was launched following the tremendous surge in interactive computer games for both learning and entertainment. The need for developers has risen and the industry is experiencing a severe shortage of game programmers. The program equips students with skills in game design, development, storyboarding, animation, creation of objects, programming languages and action scripting.

Israel Defense Force Soldiers Visit Campus

Uniformed military personnel from the Israel Defense Force were on campus April 27 for a cultural exchange with their American peers. Seven members of Israel’s army and air force, five males and two females ranging in age from 21 to 23, met individually with dozens of Sacred Heart students and professors. Later, they gave a presentation on their lives in the military to the SHU community. The soldiers’ visit to campus was sponsored by SHU’s Middle Eastern Studies Program.
Candidates’ Day Draws Local Politicians

The Department of Government and Politics and two student organizations, College Democrats and College Republicans, hosted Candidates’ Day on April 13. The event, which was open to the community, drew an array of political candidates to campus, from those running for the gubernatorial and senatorial races to those running for the U.S. House of Representatives, constitutional offices and the state legislature.

Online Program Offerings Expand

Sacred Heart University now offers one undergraduate and two graduate degree programs online as an alternative to its traditional, campus-based offerings. The University will initially offer two degrees from the school’s respected nursing program, an RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN-BSN) and a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN). In addition, the John F. Welch College of Business—named for GE’s legendary former Chairman and CEO, Jack Welch—is bringing its innovative AACSB-accredited MBA program online.

Icon indicates there is more content on the article that can be viewed by visiting: www.sacredheart.edu/magazine.cfm

Smart! Skilled! Motivated! Creative! Grounded! Ethical! Prepared! Enthusiastic! The Welch Experience!

We could go on, but you get the idea: As one of the Northeast’s top-ranked Catholic universities, Sacred Heart offers a pool of exceptional students from our John F. Welch College of Business who are eager to gain career experience. Through The Welch Experience, we educate business students about developing market trends, technological innovations, the global environment, and the adoption of best business practices. Sacred Heart students are also solidly grounded in the liberal arts to help them hone critical thinking and communication skills.

Students chosen for The Welch Experience must complete at least one resume-building internship or service-learning experience for academic credit. If you can offer a paid (or unpaid) student internship this year, let us know. We’ll do the rest.

For more information, contact Rick DelVecchio, director of Career Placement, at 203-365-4736 or delvecchio@ sacredheart.edu.
Dr. Seamus Carey Named New Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Seamus Carey has been named dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Sacred Heart University. Dr. Carey has served in a number of leadership positions in his academic career, including the chairmanship of the Philosophy Department at Manhattan College, where he also served as chair of the School of Arts curriculum committee and directed the Center for Professional Ethics.

The new dean earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Vassar College and his master’s degree and doctorate in philosophy from Fordham University. He also did post-graduate study in philosophy at University College, Dublin, Ireland. Author of numerous articles and books, his work focuses on the intersection between philosophy, parenting and family life. His latest book, Growing Up with Your Children: 7 Turning Points in the Lives of Parents, was released in January 2010.

SHU President Dr. Anthony J. Cernera noted Dr. Carey’s strong academic credentials, matched by very practical concerns. “Dr. Carey embodies the best of liberal learning in the intersection of his scholarly pursuit of philosophy with the important issues surrounding parenting and family life. His approach to educational leadership also captures the University’s commitment to educating students to make important social contributions.”

The Human Journey Colloquia Series

“The Human Journey” is the central track of Sacred Heart’s award-winning core curriculum. According to Dr. Michelle Loris, who helped guide the process of creating the curriculum, the Human Journey invites students and the larger University community to consider four big questions, both in the classroom and beyond: What does it mean to be human? What does it mean to live a life of meaning and purpose? What does it mean to understand and appreciate the natural world? And what does it mean to form a more just society for the common good?

The series of more than 20 lectures and public forums each semester explores a wide variety of themes. Some are offered exclusively by faculty members, while others call upon noted experts in their fields. The breadth of the program is quickly realized when surveying recent colloquia offerings, which included:

**COLLOQUIA LECTURE SERIES**

- Promoting Human Rights in a Diverse World
- Human Nature: Good or Evil?
- Pray the Devil Back to Hell
- State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda
- Us and Them
- A Restorative Justice
- A World of Difference
- Genocide and the Bystander
- Making Ethical Decisions
- On Galileo: Faith, Reason and the Church
- Being Your Best Self Now
- Homer: The Odyssey, the Iliad and the Human Journey
- Racing Odysseus
- SHU in El Salvador
- Being a Successful Freshman
New Online Emergency Management Plan Earns Top Marks

On September 17, Sacred Heart University hosted representatives from local, state and federal emergency services for a conference to demonstrate its new emergency web-based Comprehensive All-Hazard and Business Continuity Plan.

“We’ve worked diligently to create an emergency plan that is readily available to the University community by moving away from a static written document,” says Paul Healy, SHU’s Executive Director for Emergency Management and Public Safety.

After researching available software for posting SHU’s emergency plans online, Healy noted their cost range of $40,000 to $140,000. He consulted with the University’s Department of Information Technology and learned that SHU already had the resources to create its own proprietary system. The result is a living document utilizing Microsoft SharePoint software that makes the emergency plan accessible 24 hours a day, every day of the year, to all of SHU’s municipal, state and federal emergency services partners.

In June, the plan won the National Association of College and University Business Officers’ (NACUBO) Innovation Award.

Gloria Naylor, a celebrated author who has earned a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Guggenheim Fellowship and many other literary honors, has donated her archives to Sacred Heart University. They will reside in a specially designated room in the Ryan-Matura Library and be available for student use and scholarly research.

The University presented Naylor with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in 1994.

Happy Birthday to SHU

Founder’s Day represents the anniversary of the signing of the charter that established Sacred Heart University in 1963. On March 17, faculty and staff were recognized on Founder’s Day for their significant years of service during a special Mass, followed by a ceremony and reception. This year, 55 members of the SHU community were honored for 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service. Happy 47th Birthday, Sacred Heart!

President Anthony J. Cernera, right, presented Dr. Edward Malin, chair of the Education Department, with a gift for his 40 years of service to the University.

Award-Winning Author Gloria Naylor Donates Archives to SHU

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The University presented Naylor with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in 1994.

Author Gloria Naylor, right, presents a signed book to Ruth Cernera, wife of University President Anthony Cernera as he looks on.
Sacred Heart University will launch a new Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program in September 2010 that combines practice with innovation, practical clinical research and scholarship. It is designed to serve academically talented nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, midwives, nurse anesthetists, nurse executives, and educators. Only the second such program in Connecticut, this offering solidifies the University’s prominent position in the development of health care leadership. The DNP is the University’s second doctoral-level curriculum since SHU opened the state’s first Doctor of Physical Therapy program in Fall 2004, which has been ranked by U.S. News & World Report as the state’s best program and one of the best in the nation.

This cohort program is designed to be completed part-time in three calendar years. The curriculum offers two different career tracks: The Doctoral Clinical Practice in Health Care track is designed for the advanced practice nurse who wants to remain in clinical practice and have influence on health care outcomes at multiple levels. The Doctoral Leadership in Health Care track is for the graduate who wants a career in executive nursing management, but who still prefers a nursing doctorate with a connection to clinical practice. Students in this track may take nursing education electives if they aspire to have a career in an academic setting.

DISCOVER the Future with Robotics at SHU

The scene inside of University Commons wasn’t typical for a college campus. On February 12, approximately 90 eager and attentive students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades from Bridgeport’s Hall School and Region 16, which is composed of students from the towns of Beacon Falls and Prospect, were on the floor, focused on small electronic robots and performing robotics-themed lessons and activities.

The field trip to Sacred Heart was part of DISCOVER the Future with Robotics, a state-funded grant that aims to foster collaboration between students from urban and suburban schools and is being conducted by Isabelle Farrington School of Education professors Maria Lizano-DiMare, Ed.D., and Antoinette Bruciati, Ph.D., in conjunction with educators from the Hall School and Region 16’s Laurel Ledge and Community schools. The students from the respective schools were divided into two groups of 90, with the first group making their visit to campus on February 5.

In creative partnerships, students designed, built and programmed their own working robots. The activities and assessments are based on the Robots Teach Math Curriculum® developed by Dr. Bruciati, who is a recognized expert in the field of educational robotics and has been a recipient of numerous international awards and grants.

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Local Scientists Participate in Program to Improve Genetics Education

Sacred Heart University genetic scientist Dr. Suzanne Deschenes and Marilyn Pearson, a science teacher at Central High School in Bridgeport, CT, joined a collaborative network of scientist/teacher teams working to improve genetics education for high school students around the country. The two were selected last fall by the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) to be partners in the Geneticist-Educator Network of Alliances Project (GENA). The GENA Project—funded by a $1.1 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and sponsored by the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) and the National Science Resources Center (NSRC)—was established to develop a nation-wide network of 70 partnerships between geneticists and educators. Each pair designs teaching plans that address state science curriculum standards, misconceptions in genetics, and effective teaching methods. Some of the partnerships also involve students in educational research about genetics.

Education Professor Waters Contributes to New Literacy Textbook

Karen C. Waters, clinical assistant professor in the Isabelle Farrington School of Education and director of the Connecticut Literacy Specialist Program, has contributed three chapters to a new textbook, *Building Struggling Students’ Higher Level Literacy: Practical Ideas, Powerful Solutions* (IRA 2009). The chapters are based on clinical work she did in a seventh grade classroom three years ago through a University partnership with Bridgeport Public Schools.

Art Professor Lewis Receives Connecticut Grant

Sacred Heart University art professor Nathan Lewis has received a $2,500 grant from the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism through the Artist Fellowship Grant Program to support his painting.

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Dr. Anca Micu, assistant professor of marketing, presented research at the annual conference of the European Advertising Academy in Klagenfurt, Austria, last summer. The data for her presentation, “I’ll Keep You in Mind: The Passive Shopping Stage,” was provided by Millward Brown, a multi-national marketing research company with U.S. headquarters in Fairfield, CT. The research, which covered five countries and 24 product categories, showed how consumers are influenced by promotional messages. Dr. Micu presented a follow-up marketing research piece at this year’s American Academy of Advertising European conference in Italy.

Dr. Deirdre Yeater, assistant professor of psychology, is working under a grant from the U.S. Navy on a research project to determine the diving patterns of select marine mammals. The research will be used to protect the animals from the possible side effects of naval technology. She employed three SHU undergraduate psychology majors to help compile the data. In addition to her professorship at SHU, Dr. Yeater serves as a lieutenant in the Navy Reserve.

Economics professor Dr. Lucjan Orlowski has returned from sabbatical, during which he was invited by the European Commission’s Directorate General Economics and Financial Affairs Division for a research visit in September and appointed an Associate Fellow of Saybrook College, Yale University, in October. During his sabbatical, Dr. Orlowski also became the first foreign Visiting Professor of Finance at the renowned Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, where he presented a series of doctoral level seminars.
Student Profile

Stephen Gerhard ’10
Finance and Sports Management Major, Spanish Minor

Favorite Courses
My two favorite courses were definitely International Finance and Investments. In both of those classes, I learned important things that will be critical to succeeding in my business career and in my life.

Proudest Accomplishments
I’m proud of earning the Jack Welch scholarship, because the scholarship is such a holistic thing. Your teachers nominate you, you must have a certain grade point average, and you experience an intensive interview process. It made me feel like everything I’d done up until that point had come together. That scholarship money really saved my life, too, making it possible for me to come to Sacred Heart. I’m also proud of the work I’ve done with the Executive Board of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, which I joined as a freshman. We worked hard to raise money for scholarships. We also managed to fund lights for the campus fields. As a Division 1 lacrosse player, that success meant a lot to me, because it allowed us to start playing night games.

Biggest Surprise
In high school, I really had my heart set on going to a large university. I wasn’t certain how well I’d adapt to a community the size of Sacred Heart’s. It turns out that the close-knit community here has been one of the best assets for me as a student.

What’s Next
I’ve been learning a lot at my internship in MasterCard’s finance division this summer. After that, I plan to travel to Spain and become more fluent in Spanish before pursuing my MBA through Sacred Heart’s accelerated program. With my MBA, a second language, and relevant work experience, I’ll be ready to take on the world.

John F. Welch Scholar
Funded through the generous support of Jack Welch, undergraduate scholarships are given to academically talented business students with a financial need.
Dr. Anthony J. Cernera Re-Elected to Lead International Federation of Catholic Universities

The International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU), the oldest and largest association of Catholic universities in the world, has elected SHU President Dr. Anthony J. Cernera to his second term as IFCU president. At the group’s 23rd international forum, at the Pontifical Gregorian University (PGU) in Rome, delegates from Africa, North America, South America, Asia, Europe and Australia voted to return the second lay president in the federation’s history to office. The formal election took place on November 20 and the week-long assembly included an audience with Pope Benedict XVI. Dr. Cernera served as one of IFCU’s three international vice presidents from 2000 until his election to the presidency in 2006. He is the second American to head the Federation.

IFCU provides as comprehensive and authoritative a representation of Catholic higher education as possible. Its general assembly meets every three years, providing international members of the Catholic academic community an opportunity to exchange ideas, debate issues related to Catholic education and share their visions.

A three-time graduate of Fordham University, where he earned his doctorate in Theology, Dr. Cernera teaches Religious Studies every semester at Sacred Heart as a tenured professor. “True to its name,” he says, “the International Federation of Catholic Universities welcomes voices from all over the world where Catholic higher education is making a positive difference in people’s lives. What unites these centers of learning, no matter their location or the host culture, is the Catholic intellectual tradition. It’s a tradition that enlivens and enriches those who are touched by it.”

To commemorate his reelection, the Gregorian’s rector, Father Gianfranco Ghirlanda, S.J., awarded President Cernera the official medal of the University as a personal acknowledgment and to underline the strong relationship between IFCU and PGU. The hand-crafted bronze medal is given to important authorities of the academic, cultural and institutional worlds.

President Cernera presents a book to Pope Benedict XVI marking the 60th anniversary of the Holy See’s formal approval of the International Federation of Catholic Universities.

Undergrads Present Research at Annual Poster Session

The 11th Annual Undergraduate Research Poster and Showcase Session on April 30 featured about 70 students presenting more than three dozen projects, many with tongue-twisting titles and concepts that were all clarified by the enthusiastic student presenters. Students were judged on the quality of their posters and on their ability to answer questions related to their research and findings. Visit our website for a detailed list of award-winning presentations.

Career Fair Presents Opportunities for Students

Hundreds of students gathered on February 17 in the William H. Pitt Center for the annual Spring Career and Internship Fair. The annual fair is sponsored by the University’s Office of Career Development. This year, representatives from nearly 100 companies and organizations were on hand, ranging from federal agencies such as the Secret Service to technology companies to nonprofit organizations.

Kerry Armstrong ’11 of Bridgeport, CT, right, spoke with Danielle Buccola and Maren Mercado of the McGladrey & Pullen CPA firm during annual Spring Career and Internship Fair.
**Undergraduate Program Redesigned into The Welch Experience**

Beginning in fall 2010, Sacred Heart University students in the John F. Welch College of Business will participate in The Welch Experience. This new initiative combines research opportunities, mentoring programs, service learning and volunteer programs, enhanced career development services, global study opportunities and co-curricular activities in a deliberate sequence to create the well-rounded business leaders of tomorrow through integrating professional and academic experiences.

According to Dr. John Petillo, dean of the Welch College of Business, this novel approach to undergraduate education provides students with a competitive edge even before they seek to join the workforce. “We offer students the necessary knowledge and skills, but in today’s business climate, that’s not enough,” he noted. “We have to take them beyond the confines of the classroom to develop global awareness and prepare them to compete and excel in a rapidly changing business environment.”

The Welch Experience builds on SHU’s current business education model and involves the University’s alumni, employer partners and professional organizations. The curriculum incorporates the “Giving Voice to Values” approach to business decision making, provides an introduction to business etiquette and requires participation in co-curricular activities designed specifically to increase networking opportunities and strengthen professional development. An electronic portfolio will help students and faculty track projects, presentations, extra-curricular involvement and career development activities.


For more information on The Welch Experience, visit www.sacredheart.edu/welchexperience.cfm
On the eve of the anniversary of Kristallnacht, the November 9, 1938, night when the Nazis carried out the largest pogrom in the history of the world, Sacred Heart University aided Connecticut teachers in Holocaust education with an Echoes and Reflections workshop for 30 graduate and pre-service teachers of the University’s Isabelle Farrington School of Education. Echoes and Reflections is an innovative Holocaust education curriculum developed by the Anti-Defamation League in conjunction with the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation and Israel’s Yad Vashem. The program was sponsored by the Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding (CCJU) and the Isabelle Farrington School of Education in collaboration with the Connecticut ADL and the Jewish Federation of Connecticut.

Echoes and Reflections Workshop Aids Teachers in Holocaust Education

Luxembourg Conferences on Contemporary Issues

The John F. Welch College of Business and Sacred Heart University Luxembourg organized two conferences to help participants grasp changes in the international business climate. The first, “Recent Challenges to Economic Growth and Financial Stability in Central and Eastern Europe,” was held October 15 and featured Economics professor Lucjan T. Orłowski, Ph.D, a former adviser to the Finance Minister of Poland and the National Bank of Poland, speaking about the financial crisis and the economic downturn in Central and East European countries. During the second conference, “Re-regulation of the Financial Sector and What It Means for Luxembourg” on December 1, SHU professors John Gerlach, Alfred Steinherr and Thomas Schröder joined guest speakers Paul Chambers, partner and Keith O’Donnell, managing partner from Atoz Luxembourg. Atoz is an independent advisory firm offering comprehensive tax and corporate finance services.

Where We Get Our News, and What We Think of It

What’s on America’s mind? Sacred Heart University’s Polling Institute has its finger on the nation’s pulse. Go online to view a roundup of recent polls based on a national survey of 800 Americans in September 2009 and reported widely in national media outlets. The survey was the third in a series called “Trust and Satisfaction with the National News Media.”
With a name like Sacred Heart University, it cannot come as a surprise that there are so many big-hearted people on campus, including thousands of students who participate in countless charitable causes, organizations, and activities.
Despite rigorous academic schedules, these students find time to give of themselves; sharing their talents, showing their compassion and working to improve the lives of others close to home and on foreign soil. Their efforts go on throughout the academic year, and some even give up their winter and spring breaks to engage in community service.

“Giving back is not just something to do in your free time. It is a responsibility and a duty to this community and this world. Community service provides an understanding that we’re in this together; we’re all connected. Other people are just as deserving of achieving their hopes and dreams for their life as we are,” said Monica Leisner, 22, of Rochester, NY, a fourth-year student in the three-plus-three physical therapy doctorate program, who is president of the SHU Habitat for Humanity chapter.

Leisner is also a student leader for Sunshine Kids, a collaborative effort between the Office of Campus Ministry and the Evergreen Network, an organization that works with people affected by and/or infected with HIV/AIDS, and their families. Sunshine Kids matches SHU students and children ages 5-13. SHU mentors become role models and make a real difference in the children’s lives, Leisner said.

Throughout the last year, SHU students have prepared and served hundreds of meals at senior centers, churches and homeless shelters, built houses for Habitat for Humanity, befriended people with special needs from the Best Buddies program and the RISE program at the Kennedy Center. They traveled to the Gulf Coast to help with on-going efforts to rebuild in that area of the United States still ravaged by Hurricane Katrina five years later. They went to El Salvador, Jamaica and Guatemala to help build roads, clear land and provide medical assistance.

Most students come to SHU with a wealth of volunteer experiences and that continues with Community Connections, an urban outreach program that teaches incoming freshmen the value of leadership and giving back to the community.

In September, SHU opened a new Thrift Store, a non-profit project designed to reduce waste and raise funds for community organizations. The Thrift Store features a large selection of gently used clothing, electronics, books, and other college essentials. All proceeds from the store are donated to a different beneficiary each month.

Jamaica was the destination last October for 10 senior nursing students and two graduate students in the University’s Family Nurse Practitioner program. The SHU contingent saw more than a thousand patients at two separate Kingston clinics and instructed local leaders how to take vital signs, tend to their medications, and change wound dressings.
The Office of Volunteer Programs’ annual Thanksgiving Food Drive fed over 200 needy families in the Bridgeport area. Students filled the empty shelves at St. Charles Parish’s food pantry in Bridgeport, collected monetary donations for more than 225 turkeys, and distributed food and warm clothing at the Bridgeport Rescue Mission.

During SHU’s annual Community Understanding and Reflection Through Inner-city Service, or CURTIS Week, in January, 19 students resided at the St. Charles Urban Center and explored issues including poverty, prejudice and immigration, and volunteered throughout the community.

Also in January, SHU sent its sixth delegation to Mississippi to work with Habitat framing homes, installing sheetrock, painting interiors and shingling roofs. On SHU’s 18th mission to El Salvador, students engaged in manual labor to help impoverished people.

In March, the SHU nursing department sent a group of 25 to Guatemala laden with 24 suitcases of donated medication, medical supplies, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and bags of Beanie Babies. SHU undergraduate and graduate nursing students organized and operated a medical clinic focusing their attention on pregnant patients and newborn care.

The SHU chapter of Habitat for Humanity hosted Habitat families from the Bridgeport community as part of the annual week-long Act! Speak! Build!, an effort to raise awareness about poverty, homelessness and substandard housing, and raise money for the chapter’s HOME Fund. The Habitat campus chapter also sent five different delegations, which included over 90 students, faculty and staff, throughout the country for an alternative spring break to build homes for those in need.

Students involved in Best Buddies, an international non-profit organization that provides opportunities for friendship between people with and without intellectual disabilities, held monthly events, including a carnival, fiesta, Thanksgiving dinner, and a prom.

The Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC) took an active role in an inner-city academic program, sending 10-15 student-athletes to Bridgeport’s Dunbar School every school day to assist K-8th grade students with reading, math, and one-on-one tutoring. More than 50 student-athletes volunteered in the MOTIVATE (Meaningful Opportunities to Inspire Vision and Achieving Total Excellence) Project.

“We are extremely lucky to have so many committed students,” said Emilie Latiner, the chapter leader of the campus’s Best Buddies program.

“Service in the community is an integral part of the mission of Sacred Heart University. Students are exposed to the idea of service during all of their four years here, and hopefully giving to the community becomes an integral part of them when they continue on after college,” said Dawn Doucette-Kaplan, coordinator of Volunteer Programs at SHU.

From left are Amanda Stone ’11, Best Buddies client Bessie, Aurora Appel ’10, Best Buddies client Matthew, Steve Antonson ’10 and Shannon Rush ’11.
University College launched a new class at its Stamford campus to teach Haitian Creole to volunteers and relief workers headed to aid the earthquake-hit island-nation. The seven-week course, which ran between March 22 and May 7, included information about Haitian customs and communication styles. Sacred Heart University also offered workshops to meet specific needs for those interested in the areas of medicine, nutrition, hygiene, religion, children, construction and rebuilding. The workshops featured Sacred Heart University volunteers who had recently returned from Haiti as guest speakers. 

SHU Offers Haitian Creole Class to Volunteers and Relief Workers
Sacred Heart University’s new Theatre Arts Program (TAP) made its mainstage performance debut in April with the Tony Award-winning musical, “Rent.” The talented cast, entirely made up of students, brought to life the full Broadway version of Jonathan Larson’s rock musical on the Edgerton Center stage. Based on Giacomo Puccini’s 1896 opera, “La Bohème,” “Rent” takes place in the gritty, bohemian streets of New York City’s East Village. The dynamic characters cope with HIV/AIDS, addiction, love and loss while singing some of Broadway’s best known songs, including “Seasons of Love,” “Another Day” and “La Vie Bohème.”

Concert Band Performs Spring Concert

During their 2010 Spring Concert in March, the Concert Band featured selections such as The Planets by Gustav Holst; Weber Concertino for Clarinet, performed by Dr. Justin Stanley; various Haitian folk songs; and a reading of Casey at the Bat narrated by University Chaplain Father Jerry Ryle.

Brass Quintet Performs at Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel

The Sacred Heart University Brass Quintet performed at the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel in Loretto, PA on March 7. The ensemble, made up of Mark Lee ’13 of Naugatuck, CT, Andrew Natalizio ’13 of Washington, NJ, Zack Lane ’11 of Hicksville, NY, and graduate student Joe Brown of Norwalk, CT, provided prelude and postlude music for morning Mass and accompanied the choir and congregation. The church, which was consecrated in 1901, was built by Loretto native and U.S. Steel Corporation President Charles M. Schwab.

Icon indicates there is more content on the article that can be viewed by visiting: www.sacredheart.edu/magazine.cfm
First Annual Elements Concert

Sacred Heart University’s Performing Arts department held its first annual Elements Concert on February 28, featuring performances from the University’s Choral, Theater and Band programs in a variety of musical styles.

“Botanical Dreams & Nightmares” on Display

The opposite of a dream is a nightmare. Both were represented during an art exhibit at Sacred Heart University’s Gallery of Contemporary Art. Opening April 25 with a reception, “Botanical Dreams & Nightmares” featured 32 artists selected by Cynthia Roznoy, Ph.D., a curator at the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury, Connecticut. The selected artists were working with photography, light boxes, embroidered felt, monotypes, silkscreen, and clay.

New Haven Symphony Orchestra Brings Ritual Incantations to Campus

The New Haven Symphony Orchestra performed Ritual Incantations at Sacred Heart University’s Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts on October 13. William Boughton conducted the concert, which was sponsored by the League of American Orchestras, Meet the Composer and WSHU Public Radio.

Choral Groups Present “Requiem” and Other Lenten Pieces

In honor of Holy Week, members of the Sacred Heart University community enjoyed a concert in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit on March 27 featuring John Rutter’s “Requiem” and other works. The University’s Concert Choir, Liturgical Choir, 4 Heart Harmony, Women’s Quartet and SHU Love and Chamber Orchestra performed under the direction of Dr. John Michniewicz and Galen Tate.

GALLERY’S 20TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

Off the Wall

Sacred Heart University’s Gallery of Contemporary Art celebrated its 20th anniversary this fall with a gala event called “Off the Wall.” Local artists who have exhibited in the gallery over the last two decades donated works for guests to bid on, and attendees were invited to view the new mosaics hanging in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. A faculty art exhibit also helped mark the milestone year.

RIGHT: Gallery of Contemporary Art Director Sophia Gevas, left, with artist Jeffery Smith who donated a piece of his work to the Off the Wall event, a celebration for the gallery’s 20th anniversary. BELOW: Curator Deborah Frizzell, Ph.D., left, and artist Barbara Rothenberg enjoy the event.

1. “Posy” by artist Roxanne Faber Savage of Fairfield, CT 30” x 22” Paper lithograph with monoprint; 2. “Mechanical Botanical 3” by artist Francine Funke of Stamford, CT 24” x 30” Photographic combine inkjet print on paper
Sacred Heart University Art & Design students Paul Galipeau, Kelly Gilleran, Sam Touch and Amanda Wenger had their Illustration I pieces accepted into WEST48, the annual nationally juried exhibition of the Society of Illustrators of Los Angeles.

In March of 2009, Sacred Heart University Director of Bands Keith Johnston brought Haitian oboist Jean Gerald to Sacred Heart to present a performance-lecture demonstration entitled “Haitian Culture and Western Music.” During the visit, Jean had the opportunity to play for renowned teachers from the Yale School of Music and the New Haven Symphony Orchestra and attracted the attention of Alex Klein, oboe professor at Oberlin Conservatory. Klein helped Jean secure a full-time opportunity to study oboe in Brazil’s largest music conservatory. Everything seemed set. Then, on January 12, a massive earthquake struck Haiti. The school of music was destroyed and countless lives were lost, but Jean Gerald survived—and his friends from the United States once again stepped in to help.

“Financial donations are desperately needed to help Haiti right now,” said Johnston. “But with Jean Gerald there was an opportunity for SHU students to directly help an individual whom they have met and heard play. I have no doubt that Jean Gerald will develop and grow into a world-class oboist. And I couldn’t be prouder of SHU’s Kappa Kappa Psi chapter for their selfless and rapid response.”

Student Artwork Accepted into Nationally Juried Exhibition ‘West48’

Sacred Heart University Art & Design students Paul Galipeau, Kelly Gilleran, Sam Touch and Amanda Wenger had their Illustration I pieces accepted into WEST48, the annual nationally juried exhibition of the Society of Illustrators of Los Angeles.

Fraternity Helps Haitian Musician’s Dream Come True

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Lisa Mariani ’10
Psychology Major, Italian Minor

Favorite Courses
My favorite courses were those that inspired and challenged me to view the world from different perspectives. My psychology courses were especially amazing, because the professors helped me develop a new appreciation for diverse human behaviors. I loved my Italian courses, too, because the professors didn’t just teach me another language—they helped me use that language to discuss and analyze relevant global topics.

Proudest Accomplishments
Graduating summa cum laude and earning places in several honor societies, including the Catholic National Honor Society and Psychology Honor Society, meant a lot to me. My mom wasn’t able to attend college, so doing well was my way of honoring her. Of my other accomplishments, I’m proudest of learning to speak in public. It’s easy to be good at what you love if it comes naturally, but public speaking never did for me. I gradually became more comfortable speaking in front of large groups because of my experiences at Sacred Heart. I’m also proud of the Light the Night Walks I’ve done to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society after my uncle died of leukemia. I completed my first 5K for them in June and now I am working my way up to a half marathon.

Biggest Surprise
I can’t believe how fast everything has gone by! It seems like one minute I was moving into my freshman dorm, and the next I was in a cap and gown.

Isabelle Farrington Scholar
Established in 2002 by Mrs. Isabelle Farrington, this scholarship is available to a student in the junior or senior class who, during the previous year, demonstrated superior academic performance and potential by ranking in the top 10 percent of his or her class, and a sincere interest in, and practice of, the principles of citizenship and religion for which Sacred Heart University has been established as a Catholic university.

What’s Next
I absolutely adore kids, and I’ve known that I wanted to be a teacher from the time I was in first grade. I’m so excited to be in graduate school at Sacred Heart. I expect to earn my master’s degree in elementary education by May 2011, and after that I hope to teach in New York or Connecticut.
Boccuzzi Award Goes to Senior

Marissa G. Noel ’10, a graduate of the Nursing program, is the first recipient of a newly established award honoring Carole E. Boccuzzi.

The Carole E. Boccuzzi Memorial Award in Nursing was created this year by the Boccuzzi family to remember the Fairfield woman who died in May 2009. The award commemorates Mrs. Boccuzzi’s life and recognizes her life-long commitment to the education of nurses and her work to advance the discipline of the nursing profession.

Ms. Noel, 20, of Windham, Maine, said she is honored to be the Boccuzzi Award’s first recipient. "To be recognized for this award makes me realize I can make a bigger difference than I thought previously,” said Ms. Noel, who will pursue a career in pediatrics. ⚫

Graduate Student Named Assistant Principal of the Year

Jeffrey Provost, assistant principal of East Lyme High School, was named the 2010 High School Assistant Principal of the Year by the Connecticut Association of Schools. Provost, now in his seventh year as assistant principal of ELHS, was a student in the Isabelle Farrington School of Education and completed his Certificate of Advanced Study in Administration this spring.

K of C Members Bear Cross in Honor of Holy Week

On March 29, the start of Holy Week, Sam Dowd ’11 of SHU’s Knights of Columbus Council 9251 began a remarkable journey, bearing an 11’ x 5’ wooden cross with members of Quinnipiac University’s Council 14277 as they walked from the University’s Fairfield campus to Hamden, CT. This year’s expedition was interrupted due to damaging winds and rain but resumed once the weather had cleared. ⚫

Connecticut’s K of C College Councils Convene at SHU

Knights of Columbus from Connecticut’s three college councils assembled for a special Mass at Sacred Heart University’s Chapel of the Holy Spirit on December 2. Principal celebrant was the Most Rev. William E. Lori, the Bishop of Bridgeport and the Supreme Chaplain of the international Catholic fraternal order. Founded in 1882 in New Haven, the K of C has 1.7 million members worldwide and more than 21,000 college knights. This is the first time that the state has had three active college councils. ⚫

Senior Earns Second Annual McCaughey Scholarship

Victoria Gagliardi of Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, a graduate of the Athletic Training program, received the second annual Patrick McCaughey Scholarship this past spring. The scholarship, open to students in the University’s Human Movement and Sports Science program who plan to pursue careers as athletic trainers, is funded in memory of Patrick McCaughey, a member of the Class of 1997, who developed a specific career direction and real love for the athletic training profession in his senior year. ⚫
Composer Michael Joncas Premieres New Music in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit

The world premiere of “A Time of Jubilee,” a liturgical hymn by Father Jan Michael Joncas, was performed in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit in the presence of the composer. Fr. Joncas, a prolific composer of many church hymns, including “On Eagles’ Wings,” wrote the piece for Pentecost. “What better place (for its debut) than in a chapel of the Holy Spirit,” he said.

Fr. Joncas, an associate professor of Catholic Studies and Theology at the University of St. Thomas, praised John Michniewicz, director of the Academic Music Program, for his additional instrumentation of the hymn to include flute and brass, which Joncas called “absolutely glorious” and “spectacular.” An audience of about 350 people, including members of the Sacred Heart community and the general public, gathered in the Chapel for Vespers for the musical debut, and to hear Fr. Joncas lecture about the history of Catholic music. A night prayer service, Compline, which included the singing of “On Eagles’ Wings,” was followed by his talk, titled “Sing a New Song: Composing for Roman Catholic Worship since Vatican II.” Earlier in the day, University President Anthony Cernera presented Fr. Joncas with an honorary doctorate at a special academic convocation.

SHELI Program Launched

A pioneering program is preparing non-native speakers of English to improve their ability to read, write and converse in English. The Sacred Heart English Language Institute (SHELI), launched in September, focuses on English as a second language for students from around the world. The Institute uses a variety of contemporary approaches to ease the transition of non-native speakers to college, graduate school and other life pursuits in an English-speaking environment.

New to the program this year are full-time ESL summer programs, ESL classes on the Stamford campus and our Haitian Creole and Culture class as a mission-related response to the Hearts for Haiti initiative, launched to bring awareness and aid to those affected by the Haitian earthquake in January. “At the Institute, we customize the educational program for each student so that they are only required to take only the classes they need,” says SHELI’s Director Madeleine Monaghan. “We pride ourselves on being sensitive to the educational needs of such adult learners.”

SHU Hosts 2nd Annual Communion Breakfast for Educators

Educators from throughout the Diocese of Bridgeport, area public schools and members of the Sacred Heart University community gathered on March 7 for the second annual Communion breakfast.

The event began with Mass in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit celebrated by the Most Rev. William Edward Lori, S.T.D., of Bridgeport followed by breakfast and a lecture on “Catholic Schools, Public Schools, and the Common Good.” The event was sponsored by Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice (CAPP) of Fairfield County along with Sacred Heart University’s Isabelle Farrington School of Education.
Dr. Michael Higgins Named as Vice President for Mission and Catholic Identity

Dr. Michael W. Higgins has been named the vice president for Mission and Catholic Identity. The distinguished Canadian educator, writer and journalist has been with Sacred Heart since January as a visiting senior executive in residence assisting the University in a variety of roles and teaching. The vice president for Mission and Catholic Identity will lead initiatives that preserve, promote and integrate Catholic mission, vision and values throughout the University. 

Father Jerry Ryle Named as Director of Campus Ministry

Rev. Gerald J. Ryle has been named director of Campus Ministry. A native of Sacramento, he spent close to 40 years in the parishes of northern California.

Father Ryle attended St. Joseph’s Seminary in Mountain View, CA, and St. Patrick’s Major Seminary in Menlo Park, CA. He received his master’s degree in theology there in 1968, the year of his ordination to the Catholic priesthood. He has pursued additional studies at the University of California at Berkeley and the University of San Francisco, and took part in an immersion program in Spanish language and culture in Mexico.

For the past 30 years, Father Ryle has been a leader in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, which works to bring people into full communion with the Catholic Church, and he is a popular presenter on liturgical renewal. He has taught full time in Catholic schools and served as a chaplain for prisoners and even the members of an ashram in rural New York.

Dr. Jonas Zdanys Named Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

Professor of English Dr. Jonas Zdanys of North Haven, CT, has been named as the associate vice president for Academic Affairs. Prior to joining SHU, Dr. Zdanys was the chief academic officer and associate commissioner of higher education for the State of Connecticut and spent 18 years at Yale University, where he was associate dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and, for seven years, assistant to the president. Dr. Zdanys is an award-winning author who has published 38 books. As associate vice president, he joins the University’s senior academic leadership with special responsibility for strategic academic planning, University College, the library and learning services for students.

Dr. David Coppola Named Vice President for Strategic Planning and Administration

Sacred Heart University has named Dr. David L. Coppola the vice president for Strategic Planning and Administration. In this expanded role, he will help implement the University’s strategic plan, and will coordinate master space planning, asset and property acquisition, capital projects and renovations, management and coordination of all external use of University property, as well as maintenance and infrastructure replacement. He will also oversee institutional research and the Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding, and will assist the President with special projects.

Dr. Coppola joined SHU in 1998 as Director of Conferences and Publications in the Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding. He assumed the additional role of Executive Assistant to the President two years later and helped manage the University’s Mission and Strategic Plan. He has been Assistant Vice President for Administration since 2006.

Welch College of Business Names Two New Deans

Sacred Heart University’s John F. Welch College of Business has named Dr. Rupendra Paliwal (at left) associate dean for Academic Affairs and Professor Michael D. Larobina as the new associate dean for Programs and Corporate Development.

An assistant professor of finance, Dr. Paliwal has been with the University for six years. His new responsibilities include overseeing re-accreditation by the AACSB, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business; serving on the University’s steering committee for accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges; and assisting the dean in the management and governance of the College. Dr. Paliwal earned his undergraduate degree in engineering and an MBA in his native India. He worked on the National Stock Exchange of India before earning his Ph.D. in finance from the University of Connecticut. He has presented his research at national and international conferences and published in the area of Mergers and Acquisitions.

A professor in the Welch College of Business since 1990, he will develop new degree programs and expanding corporate relationships. An honors graduate of Pace University, Larobina earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Bridgeport School of Law. He is active in public service in his hometown of Stamford, CT, and has published widely in professional journals.
Charles Curry ’10  Finance Major, Business Management Minor

William H. Pitt Foundation Scholar
The William H. Pitt Foundation Scholars Program is an educational opportunity program for full-time undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need, documented academic promise and demonstrated good character.

GE Foundation Scholar
A scholarship and retention program for full-time minority students with demonstrated interest and ability in the fields of mathematics, science, information science, and the quantitative business disciplines. In addition to an annual scholarship award, participating students receive academic, social and career counseling.

Favorite Courses
My finance classes have been instrumental in helping me develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the complexities of doing business in a global economy. These classes have also given me the basic skills to work in the field of finance after graduation, whether I end up managing investments for a small company, working on the floor of the stock exchange, or pursuing a career in international banking.

Proudest Accomplishments
I got a scholarship to play football at Sacred Heart. I was blessed to get an academic scholarship on top of that, because that made it possible for me to spend a semester studying at the American University of Rome. I learned a lot about being self-reliant in Italy. I even had the opportunity to attend Christmas Mass in the Vatican. Those are the kinds of experiences you never forget. I’m also proud of the volunteer work I did at the John Winthrop School tutoring kids, and of the day I started the football game in Pennsylvania when my mom and sister surprised me by coming to watch.

Biggest Surprise
When I was in high school, I imagined that college professors would be aloof. I thought they would just lecture, hand out assignments, give you exams, and leave you to sink or swim on your own. One of my biggest surprises at Sacred Heart was how invested the professors are in helping you understand challenging concepts, set your own goals, and achieve them.

What’s Next
Eventually, I hope to start my own business in the sporting industry, perhaps creating an investment company that specializes in helping professional athletes manage their money wisely.
2009-2010 SPEAKERS

**SEPTEMBER 2009**


- **Rep. Jim Himes** discussed the U.S. Constitution from the perspective of a freshman member of Congress at Sacred Heart University’s fifth annual celebration of Constitution Day on September 17. Part of WSHU’s “Join the Conversation” series.

**OCTOBER 2009**

- **Personal money manager Julie Jason** of Jackson, Grant Investment Advisors, Inc. of Stamford, CT, author of *The AARP Retirement Survival Guide* and a weekly columnist for the *Stamford Advocate*, spoke and did a book signing on October 7. Sponsored by the Ryan-Matura Library and the Center for Financial Education.

- **Middle East expert and historian Dr. Juan Cole**, a professor at the University of Michigan and author of numerous books, discussed “Engaging the Muslim World” on October 19. Sponsored by the Ryan-Matura Library as part of The Human Journey Colloquia Series.

- **Coach Bill Cowher** of the CBS News program, “NFL Today,” who led the Pittsburgh Steelers to a 2005 Super Bowl victory, shared his tips on “The Blueprint for a Winning Team” on October 26. Part of the Student Affairs Lecture Series.

**NOVEMBER 2009**


- **Theologian, educator and author Elizabeth Johnson**, Distinguished Professor of Theology at Fordham University, explored “The Search for the Living God” on October 27. Part of a series of special events celebrating the Chapel of the Holy Spirit’s inaugural year.


**DECEMBER 2009**


**JANUARY 2010**

Art historian Dr. Evelyn Cohen spoke about “Art as Mirror of the Jewish-Christian Encounter” on February 3. Part of a series of special events celebrating the Chapel of the Holy Spirit’s inaugural year, and an offering of the Human Journey Colloquia Series.


Father Patrick Kelly, S.J., an assistant professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Seattle University, presented a forum on “Sports and the Spiritual Life” on March 1. Part of the Human Journey Colloquia Series and the Chapel of the Holy Spirit’s inaugural year of events, this lecture was sponsored by the Center for Catholic Thought, Ethics and Culture.

Duncan Stroik, University of Notre Dame professor and renowned practitioner of Catholic architecture, addressed the question “Is There a Sacred Architecture?” on March 4. The event was part of Notre Dame’s annual Hesburgh Alumni Lecture, named for Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, past president of Notre Dame. Sponsored by the University of Notre Dame’s Alumni Association in conjunction with University College.

Documentary film maker and writer Brenda Ni Shúilleabháin described the lives of last generation Irish-speaking women through their oral histories on March 23. Sponsored by the departments of Sociology, Women’s Studies, History, Media Studies and Digital Culture and The Center for Irish Cultural Studies.


Award-winning journalist Linda Greenhouse, a Knight Distinguished Journalist-in-Residence and Joseph Goldstein Lecturer at Yale Law School, spoke about “Truth in Journalism” on April 7. Part of a lecture series dedicated to the memory of Daniel Friedman Gottlieb, Max Dickstein, and Ned and Tina Gottlieb.

Professor and poet Jonas Zdanys, author of The Thin Blue Light of Winter, and novelist Greg Ellis, author of Ride the Buffalo’s Back, read from their new books on April 27 during “A Literary Afternoon at Sacred Heart University.” Sponsored by the Ryan-Matura Library.

Ted Kennedy, Jr., talked about his late father, Edward Kennedy, and the Senator’s bestselling memoir, True Compass, on May 10. Part of WSHU’s “Join the Conversation” series.

Papal biographer, documentary film maker and award-winning religious journalist David Gibson discussed “From Controversy to Crisis: The Tumultuous Papacy of Benedict XVI Five Years On” on May 12.
Sacred Heart University honorary alumnus and long-time friend, Tomás Cardinal Špidlík, S.J., died on April 16, 2010. He was 90 years old.

For over fifty years, Cardinal Špidlík was a towering presence within Roman Catholicism and well beyond. Through a deep spirituality, acute theological vision and extensive learning, this gifted Jesuit scholar left his mark on both the Western and Eastern “branches” of Christianity. His humanity and rich sense of humor were a gift to all who knew him.

Last December, Pope Benedict XVI hailed the Czech-born Cardinal Špidlík for his global leadership in theological dialogue between the East and the West and offered a Mass in honor of the cardinal’s 90th birthday. The special Liturgy in honor of the cardinal was celebrated in the Redemptoris Mater Chapel in the Apostolic Palace, which was designed under the supervision of Cardinal Špidlík with renowned Jesuit artist Father Marko Ivan Rupnik, whose original mosaics are among the special features at SHU’s new Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

Cardinal Špidlík dedicated his life to pursuing dialogue and greater union between the Western and Eastern traditions of Christianity. He was decorated with the medal of the Masaryk Order, one of the highest honors of the Czech State, by President Václav Havel, and was created a cardinal by Pope John Paul II, whom he served as theologian, in the consistory of October 21, 2003. In 2006, the cardinal was presented with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree by Sacred Heart at Italy’s Parliament in Rome.

In the same year, the Špidlík Center for Ecumenical Understanding at Sacred Heart University was inaugurated and warmly named after Cardinal Špidlík. The Institute is dedicated to promoting greater ecumenical understanding and cooperation through dialogue, research, education, publications and artistic collaboration among the Western and Eastern Churches. The Špidlík Center shares its home on the campuses of Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, and Pontificio Istituto Orientale Centro Studi e Ricerche “Ezio Aletti,” or “Centro Aletti,” in Rome, a center for study and research attached to the mission of the Society of Jesus at the Vatican’s Pontifical Oriental Institute.

SHU Featured in The Chronicle of Higher Education

In a November 1, 2009, article entitled “A Growing Roman Catholic College Puts Its Faith in a Broadened Mission,” The Chronicle of Higher Education highlighted the new Chapel of the Holy Spirit as a demonstration that Sacred Heart is a place where students “can grow their faith.” The article noted that the $17 million Chapel is also a reminder of just how much the University has grown in the past 20 years, from a small commuter college to a residential college with a total enrollment of over 6,000 undergraduate and graduate students. The article noted Sacred Heart’s expanded student-life offerings, its move to Division I in athletics in 1999, SHU’s plans for a new student center and increasing graduate student enrollments as it adds certificates and degrees.

“Hearts For Haiti” Initiative Is Launched

In January 2010, a Sacred Heart University task force launched a special initiative called “Hearts for Haiti” in response to the devastating earthquake. The task force held a prayer vigil in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit and hosted an “all-nighter” with Haitian food and music, informational lectures and fund raising to benefit victims of the earthquake. To show support for this new initiative, SHU introduced the “Hearts for Haiti” website, a central location for information about Haitian events on campus, Haitian news related to SHU and various ways to give. Visit “Hearts of Haiti” at www.sacredheart.edu/HeartsForHaiti.cfm.
Jon Corto Living His Dream with the Buffalo Bills

Jon Corto is living out the kind of dream every young football fan imagines as a child: playing for the hometown professional team. Corto, 25, a native of Orchard Park, New York, grew up in the shadow of Ralph Wilson Stadium, home of the National Football League’s Buffalo Bills, the only team to win four consecutive American Football Conference Championships and the only team ever to play in four consecutive Super Bowl games. The 6’1”, 210 pound player started with the Bills in 2007 as a linebacker and was just transferred to the position of safety.

“It’s really amazing. There are 32 teams out there. Ever since I was three years old I wanted to play in the NFL. I grew up five minutes from the stadium. It’s kind of surreal,” said Corto, who played linebacker for Sacred Heart University’s football team for four years, wearing jersey #19. Now he wears #33.

“He’s definitely an incredible athlete. He’s fearless,” said Sacred Heart University Head Football Coach Paul Gorham.

Shawn Bennett (’10), of Jamaica, Queens, New York, who played four years of football for SHU as a wide receiver, said Corto always played at a high level, inspiring all around him to up their game. “He made the offense play better because of his intensity,” Bennett said.

“He started every single game from his freshman year through his senior year,” said Mark Nofri, SHU’s assistant football coach and Corto’s position coach. “He was probably the best athlete we’ve ever had here in our football program. He’s that good of an athlete so he is able to play linebacker and safety,” said Nofri, who has stayed in touch with Corto since the player left SHU right after the 2006 football season.

Corto didn’t finish his senior year because he got an opportunity to work with a football trainer in Florida to prepare for a try-out with the pros several months later.

“I wasn’t getting heavily recruited by the NFL. It’s a very long road to make a team as a free agent,” he said. “I’ve always had to work hard for everything. I appreciate the path that I took and making the NFL from a smaller school. It’s not often that it does happen,” Corto said.

Only one other SHU football player ever made the pros. Deveron Johnson was drafted by the Dallas Cowboys in the sixth round in 2002, and played for two years before he was cut. Corto is going into his third season with the Bills, and his move to safety is a vote of confidence from the Bills’ coaches and a message that they see him as a valuable member of the team, experts say.

“It’s not a surprise if you knew Jon and his drive and his work ethic,” Nofri said. Corto said SHU was a great influence on him as an athlete and person.

“Sacred Heart was a great school for me. It developed me spiritually and it developed me athletically. Mark Nofri taught me a lot about the game,” he said. “I always believed in God but I never made it my own. Professor (June-Ann) Greeley’s class really opened my eyes and changed my life,” Corto said.

Greeley said it is “gratifying and humbling” to know that she had made such a difference in a student’s life.

Corto said SHU and his religion will have a lasting influence on his life and, hopefully, on the lives of young people to whom he speaks about the importance of living with purpose.

“If you just think that success is about money, wealth and fame, you’re mistaken. Those things have an expiration date on them. Fame is a misguided representation of what brings true joy and fulfillment,” said Corto.
Scout Platoon Leader Michael Dipietro ’02 Talks About Life in Iraq

As a student at Sacred Heart University, Mike DiPietro ’02 played lacrosse for four years, serving as team captain for two of them. A founding father of the Alpha Sigma Psi fraternity, he was also active in community service with projects like Hope for the Future ministries and Sunshine Kids.

“The opportunity to lead on the playing field as well as in my fraternity makes me a successful Platoon Leader today,” he says. “I learned how to deal with different personalities, how to motivate people, and how to make good decisions.” He considered law school, but, after working for five years as a paralegal, he put law school on hold, deciding that “the way I could make the most direct impact on the toughest situations was by joining the military.”

Mike, or “DP” as he’s known to friends, graduated from Airborne, Ranger and Pathfinder School and currently serves as the Scout Platoon Leader for the 2-14 IN Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) out of Ft. Drum, NY. His team’s primary job is to provide battlefield intelligence for his unit. “I’m responsible for 25 soldiers and a portion of Eastern Baghdad, about half the size of Bridgeport. Right now we’re partnered with an Iraqi Army and Police unit. We patrol our area with our Iraqi partners, meet the people that live here, hand out candy to the kids playing soccer, set up public works projects, etc.”

Despite the obvious challenges, DP says that joining the Army is the best thing he’s ever done. “It’s all about the soldiers,” he explains. “They’ve volunteered to serve their country during a time of war, and they’re 100 percent committed to it. I learn from them every day, and I like to think that I’ve helped them become better men.”

His biggest goal at the moment? “To redeploy back to Ft. Drum with every man we took over here,” DP says, “so that they can get back to their families.”

IN MEMORIAM

Patricia Hemenway Cook ’72

Patricia Hemenway Cook died on November 17, 2009. She was the wife of C. Donald Cook, SHU director of intercollegiate athletics. As a Sacred Heart University undergraduate, she was among a handful of students (and a faculty member, Claude McNeal) who founded the Cabaret Theatre in 1970. After earning a bachelor’s degree in English in 1972, she continued to perform at the Cabaret, both on campus and following its move to downtown Bridgeport in 1976. Within a year, she found herself auditioning for the national tour of “Evita”. She had not one but two parts in the show—an aristocrat in the evening performances and the starring role of “Evita” in the matinees. The road show was a smash around the country. Within months, she was called to New York to star as Eva Peron in the Broadway production’s matinee performances, soon taking the title role in the evening. In later years, she added “entrepreneur” to her list of credits when she formed Hemenway Productions LLC. Her company presented the highly acclaimed Missoula Children’s Theatre Camp at five locations in Fairfield County, including SHU’s William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center.

Friends and family have begun accepting contributions for what will be called the Patricia Hemenway Cook Endowed Scholarship Fund in the Performing Arts. According to her husband, Don Cook, when fully funded, the endowment will assist deserving students with a unique and special commitment to the performing arts. It will be open to students from a variety of backgrounds. “Patty never played an instrument, to speak of,” he recalls, “but she pursued a wide range of theatrical interests. We hope this fund will be open to students just like her.” Those interested in further information should contact Julie Savino, dean of University Financial Assistance, at 203-371-7984 or at savinoj@sacredheart.edu.
The Office of Alumni Relations hosted over 300 graduates and their families at the Alumni Mass in the new Chapel of the Holy Spirit on October 4. Alumni served as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, greeters and gift-bearers. The Office of Alumni Relations, in conjunction with University College, the College of Arts & Sciences and the College of Education & Health Professions, hosted the annual Alumni Awards Brunch following the Mass.

Alumni Mass and Awards

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Homecoming Weekend—October 1-3, 2010

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1
Welcome Reception: Trumbull Marriott Lobby ............................................................. 7:00pm – 9:00pm

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2
Alumni Awards Breakfast: University Commons ............................................................. 9:30am – 11:00am
Alumni Tailgate: Staff/Faculty Lot ................................... 11:00am – (tailgating will end 30 min. after the game ends)
Football Game: Campus Field (Pioneers vs. CCSU) ................................................................... 1:00pm

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2 (continued)
Alumni BBQ/Family Area: Campus Field Picnic Area ........................................................ 1:00pm – 3:00pm
Class Year Reunions ..................................................................................................TBD

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3
Alumni Breakfast: Dining Hall ............................................................................. 9:00am – 10:30am
Alumni Mass: Chapel of the Holy Spirit .............................................................................. 11:00am

CONTACT: Alumni Relations at 203.365.7671 or alumni@sacredheart.edu
Visitors from as far away as Canada and Europe filled the Chapel of the Holy Spirit on Sunday, September 27, 2009, as Sacred Heart University formally dedicated its new sanctuary. The Most Rev. William E. Lori, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Bridgeport, presided at the Rite of Dedication. He began his homily by inspiring congregants to “Rejoice!” as they admired the gleaming mosaics on the walls around them with these words: “Let us allow the Word of God, the rite itself and these beautiful mosaics to speak to us in these moments before we dedicate the Chapel’s altars and its walls.”
Sacred Heart’s new Chapel of the Holy Spirit was designed by Sasaki Associates, a world-class architectural firm that specializes in university projects. It is now a pivotal campus landmark, enhancing student life while serving as a powerful symbol of Sacred Heart’s Catholic identity. According to University President Dr. Anthony J. Cernera, “It is only fitting that an institution so deeply rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition create a space of great beauty, solely dedicated to the pursuit and expression of faith.”

During the dedication, the ancient liturgy lasted over two hours. It began with a ceremonial greeting in the spacious narthex from Dr. Cernera to Bishop Lori. Dr. Cernera presented the Bishop, who also chairs the University’s Board of Trustees, with the architectural plans for the new Chapel. The day’s concelebrants included the Most Rev. Basil Losten, Bishop Emeritus of the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Stamford.

Music from Sacred Heart’s 50-member student choir, the Chapel’s new 2,000-pipe tracker organ and other musicians enriched the ceremony, which included sprinkling the walls and the congregation with holy water, anointing the altar and the interior walls with sacred oil, and incensing the altar and celebrants. Midway through the service, Bishop Lori offered this prayer: “Light of Christ, shine forth in the Church and bring all nations to the fullness of truth.”

At that moment, the lights in the new sanctuary illuminated and the giant mosaics behind the altar were bathed in dazzling light. That heralded a weekend of festivities and a year of special events to celebrate the new Chapel, the opening of which is truly a milestone for the Sacred Heart community. In concluding his homily, Bishop Lori said, “Finally, may this Chapel become ever more the heart of this University campus, so that the love streaming from the Sacred Heart of Jesus may inspire and shape this University in all of its diverse aspects and each of us who are part of this community of faith and learning.”
The Chapel of the Holy Spirit has attracted widespread attention and praise. The Fairfield County Catholic said its “dazzling mosaics will inspire all,” and the influential Catholic weekly, America, asserted that walking into the Daily Chapel was like “stepping into a dazzling icon.” In announcing the dedication in a piece that appeared in the September 25, 2009 edition of the New York Times, writer Peter Steinfels had this to say: “It is hard to decide what is most remarkable about the new chapel at Sacred Heart University... the art, the architecture or the idea of such a chapel in the first place.”

Steinfels went on to observe that the Chapel’s art is “overtly dramatic,” while “its architecture is subtle,” noting how the roof and one wall use different tones of copper to suggest the folds and fabric of a nomadic tent, the finely detailed panels of the exterior walls echo the stacks in the library across the central quadrangle, and the Chapel’s windows are angled so that at night the buttery limestone is washed with both a warm glow from within and the colors of the stained glass.

The very creation of the new Chapel makes a powerful statement about Sacred Heart. “By devoting such a visible, central location to the Chapel, the University makes a proud, strong statement about the role of faith in the life of the University community,” sums up Dr. Cernera. “It invites all of the members of our community to deepen their relationship with God and their dedication to the service of others.”

“It is hard to decide what is most remarkable about the new chapel at Sacred Heart University... the art, the architecture or the idea of such a chapel in the first place.”

PETER STEINFELS, THE NEW YORK TIMES
Did You Know?

- Sacred Heart's new Chapel was named for the Holy Spirit as a way of calling on the Spirit of God to enlighten the life of the University. It is also an echo of the University's origins in 1963 during the Second Vatican Council. At that time, the Council reaffirmed the vocation of all the baptized to participate in the Church's work.

- The Chapel's bell tower holds four unique bronze bells cast by hand in the Netherlands. The largest one weighs 1,500 pounds and measures 41 inches in diameter; the smallest weighs 447 pounds and is 27 inches in diameter.

- The principal sanctuary of the Chapel of the Holy Spirit seats 500 people, with a smaller Chapel of the Nativity for daily Mass and private prayer that seats 50.

- Among the Chapel's unique features are original mosaics and stained glass made by the world-famous Jesuit artist, Father Marko Ivan Rupnik. Renowned as an artist, theologian, author and spiritual director, Father Rupnik was chosen by Pope John Paul II to design his personal chapel at the Vatican dedicated to the Mother of the Redeemer. Among his other international commissions are major works in Fatima and Lourdes. The most prominent mosaics in the Chapel depict the Incarnation, the Resurrection and Pentecost, central themes of Christian belief.

- The Chapel's building and grounds are designed to suggest one of the defining themes of the Second Vatican Council: the Church as the Pilgrim People of God. The Chapel roof consists of copper folds that suggest a nomadic tent, and the narthex has glass walls to demonstrate the intersection between daily and spiritual life.

- The magnificent pipe organ in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit was hand-crafted in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, by the Casavant Frères organization, one of the world's oldest and most respected organ builders. Didier Grassin, director of the Mechanical Action Workshop at Casavant Frères, and Pablo Nistal of Sasaki Associates, the architectural firm responsible for designing the Chapel, created the organ's facade to harmonize with the Chapel's unique architecture and the stunning mosaic behind the main altar. The organ stands over 28 feet high and occupies a prominent position immediately to the right of the main altar. The Chapels roof consists of 1,261 pipes with room for an additional 628 to be installed later.

For more information about the Chapel’s Dedication Year, including additional stories, slideshows and video, please visit: www.sacredheart.edu/magazine.cfm

Ways to Give

Sacred Heart University's new Chapel of the Holy Spirit is a stunning achievement: the proud fulfillment of a dream that is as old as our University. Together, we have raised a House of God that is a never-ending gift to the generations to follow. Its "living stones" were made possible by the prayers and generous support of countless members of our community, and we are more grateful than we can say.

There are many ways to be a part of this historic effort. If you would like to join us in supporting our Chapel of the Holy Spirit, please contact:

The Office of Institutional Advancement
5151 Park Avenue  t: 203-371-7860
Fairfield, CT 06825-1000  f: 203-365-7512
advancement@sacredheart.edu

To learn more, visit: www.sacredheart.edu/chapel.cfm
Monica Leisner ’10
Exercise Science Major, PT Doctoral Program

Kelly Leather ’11
Political Science and Religious Studies Major

Favorite Courses
Both of us really enjoyed our sociology and religion courses. No matter what major you are at Sacred Heart, those courses help you see other aspects of life and become better at thinking about people and social issues. The professors who teach these classes open up conversations in the classroom you wouldn’t expect.

Proudest Accomplishments
We’re proud of our active involvement in our Habitat for Humanity chapter as president (Monica) and fund-raising chair (Kelly). Together, we’ve experienced multiple spring break trips to Florida and Texas to build more homes, and we led a group of 21 people on a service trip to Mississippi this past January. We had both previously worked on relief efforts there, and we were determined to go back because so many people still need help after Hurricane Katrina. We’re also proud of our work with Sunshine Kids, an outreach organization for kids with family members suffering from HIV/AIDS and other serious illnesses. For the past four years, we’ve grown that effort to include 50 Sacred Heart students who work with about 30 children, bringing them on campus to see what college life is like or tutoring them at a local church in Bridgeport. It’s been a great way to see service at work and to learn what a difference you can make in the lives of children.

 Biggest Surprise
We’re continually surprised and impressed by the dedication of so many students and faculty at Sacred Heart to service and by their generosity. We always say that Sacred Heart is like no other place in the world when it comes to how committed the people here are to making the world a better place.

What’s Next
We’ll always be best friends and share ideas. We hope to stay involved in our communities, and we’ll continue to help other people become involved in service efforts as we finish our education and start our careers.

Trustee Scholar
The merit-based Trustee Scholarship is awarded to entering full-time first-year students and is renewed for those who maintain a 3.2 grade point average.

Catholic Social Thought Scholar
The Catholic Social Thought Program is an interdisciplinary learning experience combining study of the Catholic Church’s social teachings with community service, culminating in a capstone project designed to address a particular social justice issue. Students who are academically strong and proven leaders in community service are accepted into the program and receive financial aid.
CELEBRATING
SHU’S FORTY-FOURTH
COMMENCEMENT
More than 1,500 Sacred Heart University graduates were sent out into the world on May 16, armed with diplomas and words of wisdom from corporate, sports and education leaders, as Sacred Heart University celebrated its 44th commencement. For the first time this year, students and their families celebrated their achievements at two separate Liturgies: The Mass for graduate students was held in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, and for undergraduates, in the Pitt Center.

Dick Ebersol, chairman of NBC Universal Sports and Olympics, delivered the commencement address. He told this year’s degree recipients not to be victimized by business disappointments and personal tragedies. “Dust yourself off. You get up and move on. If you allow yourself to become a victim it’s like taking poison... no pity parties,” said Ebersol. He underscored this point with anecdotes about the early criticism of Saturday Night Live, which he co-created, and tales of his battle to convince Olympics officials to have Mohammed Ali light the torch at the 1996 Summer Games in Atlanta. He also mentioned the painful loss of his son Teddy in a 2004 plane crash.

“Even the worst of human brokenness can be overcome,” said University President Anthony Cernera. “Hope is forged not when things are at their best; hope comes about when things are at their worst.”

During the ceremony, President Cernera bestowed the Bishop Walter W. Curtis Medal of Honor upon John Vales, 21. The first student to receive the Curtis Medal in SHU history, Vales, of Somers, NY, donated part of his liver last October to a fellow student he didn’t even know. Nursing student Alison Cubbelotti, 20, of Trumbull, recipient of Vales’ generosity, was in the front row with her family to cheer as Vales received his degree in business administration.

The University bestowed a total of 1,535 degrees this year, including 48 Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degrees, 551 master’s degrees, 848 bachelor’s degrees, 13 associate’s degrees and 75 professional certificates.

In addition to Ebersol, two others received Doctor of Humane Letters degrees at commencement on May 16—Sidney Callahan, an author and senior fellow at the Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory University, and Most Rev. Norberto Strotmann, M.S.C., Bishop of the Diocese of Chosica, Peru.

During the graduate commencement ceremony on May 15, SHU awarded 551 master’s degrees and 48 doctoral degrees. Retired General Electric executive and former SHU trustee Bill Conaty, long recognized as a world leader in human resources with a track record of innovation, received an honorary degree during that ceremony and delivered the commencement address. He emphasized to graduates that “taking shortcuts on integrity” is never the right path to any goal. Conaty also reminded graduates that they have a chance to influence the world for the better, and urged them to be passionate about their work, become better problem solvers, hang onto a sense of humor and show compassion to others.

At the graduate commencement ceremony, Dr. Thomas V. Forget, Sacred Heart University’s provost, praised Claire Paolini, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and said the University community was “eternally indebted” to her for 13 years of service. She retires this year.
Dick Ebersol, chairman of NBC Universal Sports and Olympics, has amassed awards and accomplishments that are hard to top. In his illustrious career, the Connecticut native has served as executive producer for nine Olympic Games, won an Emmy Award for Lifetime Achievement, co-created *Saturday Night Live* and produced eight of the top ten most-watched television events in history.

Yet, during his commencement address to the Sacred Heart University class of 2010 on May 16, Ebersol acknowledged someone in the crowd he felt deserved greater acclaim for his act of generosity and selflessness. Speaking to the 861 graduates and about 5,000 of their family and friends during the University’s 44th commencement on Campus Field, Ebersol singled out John A. Vales, who moments before became the first student recipient of the University’s Bishop Walter W. Curtis Medal of Honor.

“There’s nobody here today who was or is as impressive as your classmate, John Vales,” Ebersol said.

Vales, 21, of Somers, NY, who graduated with a degree in business administration, was honored for donating part of his liver last October to a fellow student who was gravely ill. Vales had never met nursing student Alison Cubbelotti, 20, of Trumbull, but responded to an email message her mother circulated through the SHU community about her daughter’s battle with a rare and deadly liver disease called primary sclerosing cholangitis and her desperate need for a transplant.

“My daughter’s here because of him. We really came that close (to losing her),” said Joseph Cubbelotti, Alison’s father.

“He gave me my entire life back,” said Alison, who lost a year of school to her illness and will graduate in 2012. “In his senior year of college, he decided to take time and do such a selfless act to give me a gift that he doesn’t want to be thanked for. He is the most amazing person I’ve ever met and I don’t know how else to express my love and thanks to him.”

Vales’ selfless act led to four surgeries and weeks in the hospital. “We honor John for his commitment to living out the best ideals of this University,” said University President Anthony J. Cernera in giving Vales the medal.

“We’ve met some great people, especially Alison,” John Vales, the award recipient’s father, said of his son’s act, adding that he is also proud of SHU and Dr. Cernera, who visited John in Yale-New Haven Hospital and helped him with his studies. “Dr. Cernera was instrumental in getting him back on track academically and getting him the help he needed to be here today graduating with his class,” Vales said.

John Vales, the recent SHU graduate, said receiving the Curtis Medal of Honor means a great deal to him and his family. “My family is really happy and proud.” He gave the medal to his mother for her birthday.
Women’s Lacrosse Team Snags Third Title

The Sacred Heart women’s lacrosse team won its third straight Northeast Conference Championship this year. “I am really proud of how this team stuck together,” said Laura Cook, who was honored with her second Coach of the Year award after leading the Pioneers to a school record 9-0 run through the NEC.

For the third-straight season, the Pioneers and Bobcats faced off for the league’s lacrosse championship, with SHU claiming the last two at home on Campus Field. SHU senior goalkeeper Chelsea Wagner (Aurora, CO) was named the 2010 NEC Tournament Most Valuable Player, as well as the league’s Goalkeeper of the Year. Joining Wagner on this year’s Northeast Conference All-Tournament team were senior teammates Carissa Hauser (East Northport, NY), who was named the 2010 Northeast Conference Women’s Lacrosse Player of the Year, Jackie Pierce (Cortlandt Manor, NY) and Farra Coppola (Wantagh, NY) and junior Elizabeth Drehwing (Wyckoff, NJ).

Marshall Represents SHU Swimming at National Championship

Sacred Heart University swimming was represented at the National Championship for the first time in program history. In December, junior Katie Marshall (Cumberland, RI) competed in the 200-yard butterfly at the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center. As the first National Qualifier from SHU, Marshall finished 65th out of 80 swimmers in the preliminary round of the 200 fly. Her time was a personal best at 2:08.85, nearly a two-second drop from her previous best. Head coach Richard Ludeman credits Marshall and his entire Pioneer swim team for their diligence and fortitude to vault the program to this level.
Steve Tedesco ’10 Rewrites the Record Books

Steve Tedesco ’10 (Mission Viejo, CA) rewrote the Pioneer record books during his four years as a wide receiver on the football field. His 11 receiving touchdowns last fall moved him into the top spot on the program’s all-time touchdowns list (37). He also owns school marks for career receptions (229), career receiving yards (2,848), career touchdowns scored (37), career receiving touchdowns (37), receptions in a season (77 in 2008), touchdown catches in a game (4 vs. Duquesne 11/14/09) and catches in a game (12 - 2x).

Tedesco’s jaw-dropping performances caused the two-time All-Northeast Conference player to be selected for the East Coast Bowl All-Star Game. He was also named to the CoSIDA ESPN Magazine Academic All-District football team. To these accolades, he added All-New England honors when he was named to the 2009 FCS All-New England team as selected by the New England Football Writers. He is only the second Pioneer in school history to garner All-New England honors.

SHU Wins Third-Straight NEC Commissioner’s Cup

On June 1, Sacred Heart University brought home the Brenda Weare Commissioner’s Cup for an astounding third year in a row.

Sacred Heart also concluded the 2009-10 athletic season as the Joan Martin Women’s Commissioner’s Cup champion for the fourth consecutive season, and finished second in the NEC Men’s Commissioner’s Cup race as Monmouth claimed the cup for the eighth time in the last nine years.

“Winning the Commissioner’s Cup is a special honor, especially when the achievement is matched against the efforts of so many quality institutions in the Northeast Conference,” said Don Cook, Sacred Heart executive director of Athletics. “Winning the overall Cup three consecutive years, with our women winning the last four, is a wonderful tribute to all who have had a stake in Sacred Heart’s success—the University administration, including Athletics, our coaches, and most of all the terrific student-athletes who sacrificed much on and off the field to make it happen. Adding the Commissioner’s Cup to the NCAA-SAAC Award of Excellence for community service work makes this year extra special because it symbolizes a balanced sense of perspective in that winning comes in many forms and shapes on the field and in the community. We’re proud of all of it.”

“Congratulations to the student-athletes, coaches and administrators at Sacred Heart University and Monmouth University for their Commissioner’s Cup awards this year,” said NEC Commissioner Noreen Morris. “Reaching this level of success requires tremendous dedication and commitment from all corners of campus. This recognition is especially significant this year, as the Commissioner’s Cup was named in honor of former NEC Commissioner Brenda Weare last May, just one month before she succumbed to her long and courageous battle with cancer.”

Northeast Conference Commissioner Noreen Morris, right, presents the 2009-10 Brenda Weare Commissioner’s Cup and Joan Martin Women’s Commissioner’s Cup awards to, from left, SHU’s Executive Director of Athletics C. Donald Cook, Senior Associate Athletics Director for Academic Support Lucy Cox and Senior Associate Athletics Director for NCAA Compliance/Senior Woman Administrator (SWA) Alicia Alford.
NEC Scholar-Athletes of the Year

Three athletes earned titles as Northeast Conference (NEC) scholar-athletes this year. Junior Kimberly DeLoreto (Hillsdale, NJ) was named the 2009 NEC Conference Women’s Cross Country Scholar-Athlete of the Year. She was also tabbed Most Outstanding Performer at the 2009 NEC Cross Country championships.

The Pioneers placed 19 student-athletes on the Winter Commissioner’s Honor Roll, which honors those with a 3.75 or better grade point average. Stand-out Alisa Apo (Freehold, NJ) received the 2009-10 NEC Scholar-Athlete award in basketball. Apo was the 14th player in school history to eclipse 1,000 career points. Senior Marissa Gagliardi was named the Most Valuable Performer at the 2010 NEC Bowling Championship after leading the Pioneers to their first league title this past March; she collected the coveted Northeast Conference Scholar-Athlete Award in that sport.

Kasynov Named NEC Tennis Player of the Year

Sacred Heart junior Kirill Kasynov (Yonkers, NY) was named the 2010 Northeast Conference Men’s Tennis Player of the Year. He also garnered All-NEC first team honors in singles and took home eight Northeast Conference Player of the Week awards this season, including six of the eight awarded during the spring portion of the schedule. The junior rang up a 25-10 singles record in 2009-10.
The Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC) took home the Spring 2010 SAAC Award of Excellence, an honor granted to the SAAC program demonstrating unique community service by student-athletes at Division I schools. SAAC was recognized for its extraordinary work at the Dunbar School, a K-8 school located on the east side of Bridgeport.

SAAC sent 10 to 15 student-athletes every school day to assist with reading, math and one-on-one tutoring. Over 50 student-athletes volunteered this semester.

Student-Athletes Receive National Award of Excellence

The Pioneer women’s bowling team pulled off a last-minute victory in the title match against defending champion Fairleigh Dickinson as they claimed the program’s first Northeast Conference crown. The final match of the tournament remained tied after seven games, forcing a five-frame roll-off to determine a winner. Sacred Heart had a 118-106 edge after the tie breaker to finish an undefeated weekend and bring the championship to Fairfield. SHU was ranked 13th in the nation before its 4-0 weekend and conference championship.

Women’s Bowling Captures 2010 NEC Crown

From left: Executive Director of Athletics Don Cook with SAAC members Kalani Efstathiou, Cristina Soares, Mary Beth Reuche, Gregg Rodriguez, Stephen Gerhard, Evan Mladenoff and Anne Archer.

Hall of Fame Honors

Four Sacred Heart University athletes earned Hall of Fame honors this past year.

Former women’s basketball standout Amanda Pape ’07 was inducted into the Connecticut Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame as part of the 2010 Class for her success at Trinity Catholic High School. Pape was SHU’s all-time leading scorer with 2,045 points in 2007 leading the Pioneers to their first Northeast Conference championship. Head women’s basketball coach Ed Swanson, who just finished his 20th season at SHU and led the Pioneers to their second Northeast Conference Championship, was inducted into the New England Basketball Hall of Fame in August 2009.

Also in August, SHU softball coach Elizabeth Luckie, who had one of the greatest softball careers in school history as a student at Sacred Heart, was inducted into the Jefferson Community College Athletic Hall of Fame. She has guided five SHU teams to New England Collegiate Conference championships and coached six All-Americans during her tenure here. In spring 2009, Luckie guided the Pioneers to their best season ever, winning the Northeast Conference Championship and earning the first NCAA tournament berth in school history.

Pioneer assistant track and field coach Kenny Franklin was inducted into the Sumter Sports Hall of Fame in November. Franklin was a standout student-athlete at Sumter High School in South Carolina; he joined the Pioneer track and field team in 2003 and has helped lead the program to three Northeast Conference Championships.
Nearly 100 golfers swung their clubs under picture-perfect skies Monday, June 7, in support of Sacred Heart University's Scholarship Fund during the 21st Annual Pioneer Open. The tournament, which raised over $150,000 for scholarships, took place at the Rockrimmon Country Club in Stamford, CT, where golfers enjoyed dinner, camaraderie and an awards presentation. The event this year was co-chaired by University Trustees Larry Foley of Southport, CT, and Jim Morley of Newtown, CT.

The tournament’s winning low-gross team, Bill Mitchell of Westport, CT, Chris Mitchell of Huntington, NY, and Dennis Poster of Westport, CT, scored 63.

Neil Garland of Enfield, CT, James Lynch of East Hampton, CT, Chris Elsberry of Bridgeport, CT, and Jared Groneman of Stamford, CT, were the foursome with the winning low-net score, finishing the day with a 48. Second low-net went to Leonard DiCostanzo of Fairfield, CT, Sal Fratino of Wilton, CT, Sloane Googin of Stamford, CT, and Syd Gordon of Wilton, CT. The longest drive of the day, a distance of 285 yards, was hit by Sloane Googin.

Official tournament sponsors included Trustee Jim Morley, who sponsored the $100,000 Hole in One competition; Enviroguard, which sponsored the Power Drive competition; Eastern Land Management, Ram Building Group and Pavarini Construction, corporate sponsors; and Abbey Tent and Party Rentals and Chartwells, the dinner sponsors. Other sponsors included All American Waste and Neopost USA, beverage carts; Keating Associates, driving range; MacKenzie Service Corp., putting green; and Ashley Roemer ‘11, rule sheets.

The Pioneer Open golf tournament raises valuable scholarship funds for deserving SHU students; proceeds from the tournament directly support the University’s Scholarship Fund. Nearly 90% of SHU students receive some form of financial assistance, without which the Sacred Heart experience would not be possible.

Honor Roll Is Now Online!

We are happy to present the Honor Roll of Donors online. Thousands of friends stepped forward in record numbers to help support our students in this particularly challenging year both for them and their families. We are more grateful than we can say, and on their behalf we offer our sincerest thanks.

Please visit online to see your partners in giving. While the need has been greater than ever this year, your response is truly heart-warming. You are helping a new generation of scholars prepare for lives of learning, leadership and service. We thank you.

STAY INFORMED AT: www.sacredheart.edu/honorrollofdonors.cfm
Esteban Rosales ’13

Favorite Courses
I have thoroughly enjoyed taking the Common Core courses this year. Those classes helped me understand who I am and what I believe in, because the interesting classroom discussions sparked my desire to further explore and articulate my beliefs. As a result, I’m now leaning toward majoring in theology or philosophy.

Proudest Accomplishments
I love working with others to help solve both individual and community problems, so I ran for a seat as student government senator for the Class of 2013. I’m proud of winning that election and of the work I’ve done to make the campus a better place for everyone. I’m also proud of the tutoring I’ve been doing with the Sunshine Kids, a foundation that helps support children who are battling cancer. To make even a small difference in a kid’s life is pretty powerful because it teaches you to see yourself as a mentor as well as a student.

Biggest Surprise
What surprised me most about Sacred Heart is that there are so many students here who inspire, motivate and learn from each other. We’re encouraged to be creative and involved in activities that will make the world a better place. That’s important, because as you grow up, your parents mold you, but the relationships you make in college really form you.

What’s Next
I plan to participate in Newday, the global Christian youth event being held in England in August, as well as doing mission work. My view is that, if you have ideas that can change the world and make it a better place for everyone, why not start doing it now? When I return to Sacred Heart, I plan to continue pursuing my studies in philosophy and theology, exploring my career goals, and staying active in campus activities and community service.

William H. Pitt Foundation Scholar
The William H. Pitt Foundation Scholars Program is an educational opportunity program for full-time undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need, documented academic promise and demonstrated good character.

Discovery Scholarship
The Discovery Scholars Program is a tuition-free plan for first year, full-time undergraduate students from Fairfield County who have demonstrated annual family income at or below $50,000.
Two titans of cable television business news and a locally influential religious leader were honored at the 21st Annual Discovery Awards and Scholarship Dinner at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Old Greenwich, on April 21.

CNBC’s Larry Kudlow, host of The Kudlow Report and a respected analyst of the economic climate; Charles Gasparino, a senior correspondent for Fox Business Network and a bestselling business writer; and Monsignor Kevin Wallin, the pastor of Bridgeport’s Cathedral Parish of St. Augustine and a long-serving member of the Sacred Heart University Board of Trustees, were recognized as distinguished members of the community with the Discovery Award.

The gala honors notable individuals while raising funds for the Discovery Scholar Grants program, which provides a tuition-free education to low-income students in Fairfield County. The Discovery Scholar Grants, established in 2008, allow Sacred Heart University to make financial assistance available to students who reside within Fairfield County and have an annual family income at or below $50,000. The plan provides each qualified student with 100 percent tuition coverage.

Making his eighth consecutive appearance as the Master of Ceremonies was CBS News’ “The Early Show” Weatherman Dave Price, who offered a sunny forecast for the Discovery Scholar Grants as a result of the $550,000 raised at the dinner. In its 21-year history, the Discovery Dinner has raised millions of dollars to provide financial assistance to deserving students.

“Because of what we do here tonight, a new generation of leaders will share the advantage of an extraordinary education in the Catholic intellectual tradition. Every participant in our special scholarship appeal gets to shape the future and help transform the lives of students with intelligence and drive who might be excluded from the dream of a college education without your assistance,” Price told the audience.

Price’s sentiments were echoed by current students Kelly Leather ’11, vice president of the Student Body, and Taariq Cayne ’10, as well as alumnus Michael Pascuma ’03.

“Your contributions are not just going to another university that provides an exceptional education with some prestigious name and accreditation to flaunt around on a resume,” said Pascuma, “but to an exceptional school that truly cares about its students; a school where professors and staff are always willing to go above and beyond to help students succeed at attaining their goals, and a university with strong morals and an incredible support system.”

That system he spoke of goes beyond financial assistance, said Pascuma, who graduated with a dual major in Finance and Business. He talked about the support he got from the University community after his father, Michael J. Pascuma, Jr., was killed at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. “I will never be able to fully express in words my appreciation and gratitude for what Sacred Heart did for me during that time in my life, but I can say that even before 9-11, I knew what kind of a place Sacred Heart was,” said Pascuma, who works for Nomura International in a trading role, helping to build the company’s credit franchise.

The audience was also treated to a performance of “The Prayer,” sung by junior Allegra DeVita of Trumbull. Serving as co-chairs of the event were SHU Trustees Mark Freitas (Greenwich), Nancy Lambert (Westport), Linda McMahon (Greenwich) and Bill Mitchell (Westport).

To read more, visit www.sacredheart.edu/magazine.cfm
Bank of America Charitable Foundation Aids Students

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation has awarded a $25,000 grant to Sacred Heart University’s Business Ed Tech-Prep (BET) program, which helps Bridgeport high school students earn college credits. Marking its 13th year, BET, a community outreach program, allows upperclassmen from Bassick, Bridgeport Central and Warren Harding High Schools to kick-start their college educations by enrolling in college courses through SHU. The students can earn up to nine college credits in business, accounting and computer science, with the classes also counting toward their high school diplomas.

For more on this story, visit www.sacredheart.edu/magazine.cfm

Enterprise Holdings Foundation Supports Curtis Week

The Enterprise Holdings Foundation provided $2,500 in support of SHU’s annual C.U.R.T.I.S. Week service-learning immersion program. From left are Enterprise Rent-A-Car representatives Audra Paganelli, human resources supervisor; Tammy Petrucelli, regional recruiting manager; Eric D. Stone, regional vice president; and Sacred Heart University’s Vice President for Institutional Advancement Mary P. Young and Executive Director of Foundations and Grants Dr. Virginia Harris.
Since 1984, the William H. Pitt Foundation has offered financial assistance and general support to thousands of students in Fairfield County and beyond, including a total of 20 Sacred Heart University students each school year. The Norwalk-based nonprofit organization provides scholarships to the students beginning in their freshman year, and continues that financial support through their four-year college experience.

“It’s a way to keep Bill Pitt’s legacy alive. The students get to know who Bill Pitt was, why he started this foundation, what he was trying to accomplish,” said Debra Hertz, executive director of the William H. Pitt Foundation. “The people at the William Pitt Foundation have an enormous passion for what we do. We know education is so important to our students. It is, in essence, the great equalizer. Their lives are going to be different, and their children’s lives are going to be different, and their siblings’ lives are going to be different because they have an education,” Hertz said.

Members of the foundation’s board of directors meet with the Sacred Heart University students at a luncheon every fall, allowing both groups a chance to get to know each other. Scholars are asked to provide additional personal information through a poster presentation reflecting their work on an undergraduate research project, community service, extracurricular activities or personal interests.

“Our philosophy really is that we don’t just give money. We try very hard to give time. Our goal is to try to establish relationships. We believe very strongly that healthy relationships are what make the world go ‘round, and that we can be a resource for our students,” Hertz said. “We just try to help in the ways that we can,” she said.

Having a network of relationships can play an important role in the life of a student and often serve them well, she said, citing as an example the story of a Pitt scholar who graduated from SHU last year and was interested in pursuing a career in hotel management. One of the Pitt board members owns a hotel. “She is now working for him,” Hertz said.

The foundation provides scholarships to students at various education levels, including elementary, secondary and higher education. One student that the foundation has supported over the last four years of high school has chosen to continue her education at Sacred Heart University, where she will become a member of the class of 2014 in the fall and plans to apply to the William H. Pitt Scholars Program.

Pitt Scholars must meet certain criteria. They must demonstrate financial need, provide documentation of academic promise, be of good character and maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or better. They must also find a way to repay the Pitt Foundation for its support.

“This scholarship is, in fact, a loan. It is not a loan that they pay back to Sacred Heart or to the William Pitt Foundation. It is a loan that they pay forward by becoming strong, productive, meaningful members of their community,” Hertz said.

Kathleen McGillicuddy, who graduated in May with a degree in finance, called her Pitt Scholarship “a stepping stone into the next phase of my life,” which will include continuing on at Sacred Heart in the master’s of education program. McGillicuddy will pay it forward in her own classroom.

Michael Jalbert, who will graduate in May 2011 with a biology degree, said the Pitt scholarship allowed him to be “a first generation college student in my family.” He plans to pay it forward by helping pets and their families as a veterinarian. “It means so much that now I have the opportunity to reach my goal of being a vet, and someday having my own vet hospital,” Jalbert said.

In a letter to Pauline Pitt, William Pitt’s widow and a foundation trustee, Taarq Cayne (’10) thanked her for making an investment in his future and assured her, “I will make the most of the opportunity you have provided me.”

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1973
Bruce Tully retired from the U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service after 30 years of service. He was promoted to Senior Foreign Service, Flag Rank, by President George W. Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell. Bruce lives in Maryland with his wife Barbara of 30 years.

1974
Julie (Daly) Parker owns POSH Boutique in Flemington, NJ. She has two daughters and five grandchildren.

1976
Denise (Christopher) Plante recently returned from a “Toys for Thailand” humanitarian trip to Mae Hong Son. “Toys for Thailand” provides tangible goods and services for children living in remote villages of Thailand. Denise helped to distribute multiple types of materials as well as instructional supplies and shoes.

1982
Michael Alch accepted a position as vice president in the Special Assets Group of Fifth Third Bank in Chicago. Michael has spent the past 20 years with the CIT Group in both business development and risk management. Michael and his wife Debbie reside in Bannockburn, IL, and their son, Harrison, is a second-year student at Purdue University.

1983
John Croffy, Jr. retired from the Westport Police Department after 34 years of service. He was a Lieutenant in the Patrol Division and was in charge of traffic agents. He also represented the department for 23 years with the Westport Senior Center where he taught driver safety for the AARP Safe Driving Course.

1986
Armand J. Del Medico, CFP, CIMA is a senior vice president for investments and wealth advisor with the RMD Wealth Management Group at UBS Financial Services Inc. In this role, he works closely with senior-level executives, business owners, professionals and their families to not only navigate the complexities of their wealth, but also to preserve and grow their assets. Before joining UBS in 2009, Armand was a senior vice president and wealth advisor for Morgan Stanley for more than 10 years.

1987
Edward Zumaeta received a State of Connecticut General Assembly Official Citation for Community Service.

1989
Joe DeSantis recently accepted the position of vice president of operations for Standard Beverage Corporation in Lawrence, KS.

1990
Claudine Coba-Loh was promoted to chair of the Behavioral & Social Sciences Department at Housatonic Community College. She is a professor of Psychology and advisor to the Behavioral Health Care Certificate Programs. She resides in Shelton, CT, with her husband Andrew and two sons, Jason and Joshua.

1991
Susan (Chop) DeAcutis received her master’s degree from Mercy College in Elementary Education and is certified in both Elementary and Special Education.

1993
Kimberly Gallo was named principal of Shepaug High School in Washington, CT.

1995
Mark Zuccerella was assigned to head the Youth Section of the Greenwich Police Department in September 2009.

Tell us what you think.
The SHU magazine is created for your enjoyment and to keep you posted on all SHU happenings. We'd love to know what you think and what you'd like to see more or less of. Log on to take our short survey and give us your thoughts.

LOG ON TO: www.surveymonkey.com/SHUmagazine
1996

Marlon Blanco took a position with ServiceMaster South Shore, Inc. in Scituate, MA, as general manager.

1998

Joshua S. Cole, Esq. has been promoted to partner in the White Plains, NY office of May Crowe LLC, a Hartford, CT-based law firm. Joshua is a 2002 graduate of Syracuse University College of Law and practices in the areas of commercial finance and commercial real estate. Joshua resides in Wilton, CT, with his wife Melissa.

2000

Andrew Walsh was promoted to sergeant in the New Canaan Police Department in New Canaan, CT.

2003

Deja Kreutzberg stars in the movie To Save a Life, which debuted in theaters on January 22, 2010. Deja has also been seen on TV’s CSI: Miami and As the World Turns.

2004

Jennifer Shea was named 2010 Teacher of the Year for Derby High School. Jennifer is currently teaching biology, chemistry and forensic science.

Wayne Oakley of Pequannock, NJ, is the subject of a book series by Dr. Cristina Guarneri called Invincible, written to encourage children of all abilities to reach their full potential. Wayne’s true story as a talented wrestler was the inspiration for the series. He is currently a teacher in West Orange, NJ.

2005

Dr. Jennifer Volpe has completed medical school and is currently an emergency room physician at the Metropolitan Hospital Center in New York, NY.

Beth Coyne completed her MBA at SHU in ’09. She is currently the assistant director of curricular programs at Loyola University in New Orleans, LA.

2007

Jacqueline Boudria is currently pursuing dual master’s degrees at St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia, PA. She is studying instructional technology with specialist certification and criminal justice with a concentration in homeland security.

2008

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Connecticut Chapter, has named Fairfield resident Suzanne Ramsteck, a 2009 MS Corporate Achiever, as one of only 30 business leaders to be named this year. The United Nations Football Club (UNFC) was founded in June 2009 by alumni Raphael Rezende ’08 (president) and Gustavo Netto ’06 (vice-president). Their goal is to build a better future centered on leadership, teamwork, discipline and respect by teaching soccer to children. Their first community service opportunity brought them to La Gonave, Haiti in October 2009 where they hosted their first soccer camp in conjunction with the literacy foundation Haiti Lumiere de Demain (HLD), which is run by fellow SHU alumnus Louis Alneus ’95.

UNFC Founders, from right, Raphael Rezende ’08 and Gustavo Netto ’06 with fellow instructors at the soccer camp in Haiti.

Engagements

Loren Aversa (’06) and Frank Hackett (’05) are engaged to be married. A wedding is planned for December 2010.

Michelle Barretta (’02) will marry Michael O’Brien on December 31, 2010. Katie Semelrath Bertoldi (’02) and Dave Bertoldi (’02) will be in the wedding party.

Jessica Carriero (’09) is engaged to Jerome Agaran. A wedding is planned for August 6, 2011.

Caitlin DeMaria (’09) and Michael Abell (’09) were engaged on January 1, 2010. Erin Donohue (’05) is engaged to Steven George (’04). The couple will marry in New York City on September 17, 2010.

Kristian Finneran (’05) is engaged to Dan Kristan (’05). Stephanie M. Hajjar and David C. Billingslea (’91) are engaged. Their wedding will be September 25, 2010.

2009

Lisa Marie Harvey (’05, ’08 DPT) and Anthony Fazio (’05, ’08 DPT) are engaged. A spring wedding is planned for 2011.

Ashley-Lynn Laussier is engaged to Sean Amoruso (’06). A wedding is planned for October 10, 2010.

Elizabeth Maro (’05) and James Ashworth (’05) were recently engaged.

Danielle Tuscano (’00) is engaged to William Track. A destination wedding in Turks and Caicos is planned for the fall of 2010.

2010

Christopher Fray (’96 MAT) wed his partner, Chip Reed, on October 8, 2009 in Fairfield, CT. They met at the Burr Mansion on October 8, 1993 and returned there 16 years to the day to make it official.

Kellee George (’00) married Sam Abdelwahab on July 31, 2010. Annmarie Pennacchio (’00) attended as a bridesmaid.

Jacinda Felix Haro (MAT ’03) married Juan Haro on November 8, 2008. The wedding was attended by many SHU alumni and was photographed by SHU alumni Robert & Kathleen (Haughey) Trenske (both ’03) and Susan Magnano (’03). The couple resides in Boston.

Katie Leszczyynski (’04) and Brian Ross tied the knot in February 2010.
Mark Your Calendars
February 13, 2011

Pioneers to face UConn at the 2011 Whalers Hockey Fest
The Sacred Heart men’s ice hockey team will play the first outdoor game in program history at Rentschler Field in East Hartford, CT, on Sunday, February 13, 2011 as part of the “Whalers Hockey Fest.” The Pioneers will face off against UConn in an Atlantic Hockey Conference game during the historic event.

Alumni, watch your mailbox for more information on this special event!
Office of Alumni Relations: 203-365-7671 / alumni@sacredheart.edu

Laurie Campion Miller ('84) was married on January 11, 2009 to Jason Miller of Akron, OH. They were taken by helicopter into the Valley of Fire in Nevada and were married on a plateau.

Kristy Pacelli ('02) was married to Michael Cioffi on August 29, 2009. Karyn Sisson ('02), Danielle (Moreau) Pearles ('02) and Katie Rooney ('02) were members of the wedding party.

Kimberly Martinez and Michael Greb ('02) were married on January 1, 2010.

Julie Nevero ('99) married Brian Pepi on September 26, 2009.

Sarah Novotny ('08) and Gregory Vigliotta ('08) were married on July 31, 2010 on Long Island. Amanda McLaughlin ('08), Elizabeth Suermann ('08), Jaime Smith ('08) and Lauren Tilton ('09) were all in the wedding party.

Christina Rivera ('04) and Christopher Blankely were married on September 27, 2009. Christina is currently employed by a Manhattan law firm in human resources.

Katie Trindall ('04) was married on July 3, 2010 to Everett Minger of Allentown, PA. They were married in Maine surrounded by their loving family and friends.

Births
Lisa and Allan P. D’Amato ('94) welcomed their third son, John Francis, on December 27, 2009, weighing 9 lbs, 13 oz and 23.5 inches long. Big brothers Matthew and Anthony are happy that their little brother has joined the family.

Christina (Holmgren) Drury ('00) has added two to her family. Jakob Edward was born on June 7, 2005, and Sigfrid Albert on December 10, 2008. Christina has been a Midas franchise owner since July 2008.

Victoria Judson Hulse ('03) and Kenneth Hulse ('04) announce the birth of their first child, William Evan. William was born on July 29, 2009 and weighed 8 lbs, 13 oz.

Colleen (Browning) Laflamme ('00) and Chris Laflamme ('99) would like to announce the birth of their twin girls Ashlyn Marie and Rylie Christine on June 29, 2009.

Michelle (Peneda) Leonard ('02) and Adam Leonard ('02) welcomed their first child, Andrew Michael, on September 9, 2009.
Christina (Kastoulas) McCabe (‘99, ’01 MAT) and her husband Tom McCabe, Esq. (‘99) welcomed Collin James to their family on July 9, 2009. Tom, Chrissy, Collin and big brother Gavin (2 years) currently reside in Stratford, CT. Tom is an attorney with Tibbetts Keating & Butler, LLC in Darien, CT. Tom was recently elected as the SHU Alumni Council Chairman and can be reached at tmccabe@tkblaw.com with any ideas or suggestions.

Jill (Corrigan) Oakes (‘00) and Christopher Oakes had their first child, Sean Norman, on July 23, 2009. He weighed 8 lbs and was 21 inches long.

Elizabeth Rick and Geoffrey Rick (‘03) welcomed Bernadette Courtney on October 8, 2009. She weighed 6 lbs, 1 oz.

Renee (Shallis) Rosiak gave birth to twins, a boy and a girl, on April 8, 2009. Carter Christopher was born first, followed by Tiana Julia.

Sarah (Takacs) Sergeant (‘01) and husband Glen welcomed Alexis Victoria on January 7, 2009. Alexis was born weighing 7 lbs, 7 oz.

Kendra (Laptik) Shogren (‘99 BSN) is currently completing her 11th year as a Neonatal Intensive Care Nurse at Yale-New Haven Hospital. She was married to Bryan William Shogren on December 16, 2006 and they welcomed their first daughter, Lucy Marie Shogren, on October 26, 2008.

Mary (Lovelace) Terriberry (‘00) was married in 2008. She had her first child, a girl, in February 2009.

Marie (Lenz) Watson (‘00, ’06 MBA) and Jayme Watson (’97) welcomed their daughter Aaliyah Yvonne on November 13, 2009 at 8 lbs, 7 oz. She joins her big brother Mekhi.

Lauren (Honan) Watts (’03) and husband Dave are the proud parents of Matthew John, born on September 7, 2009. Matthew weighed 6 lbs, 10 oz.

Danielle (Wiederlight) (‘03) and Bill (‘03) welcomed their first baby boy, Tyler, on December 23, 2009. He was 7 lbs, 10 oz. and 20 inches.

**In Memoriam**

**Thomas Conwell (’71)** passed away on March 29, 2008. Thomas is deeply missed by his family and loved ones.

**Father Michael McLernon**, former chaplain at Sacred Heart University, died on Christmas Day 2009 in West Allis, WI. He was Associate Director of Spiritual and Human Formation at Sacred Heart School of Theology in Franklin, WI, since 2000, and headed SHU’s Campus Ministry programs prior to that assignment. He was 77 and had been a priest for 52 years. Father McLernon held a Master of Education degree and a Certified Addiction Specialist certification from Johns Hopkins University. Ordained in 1957, he was a priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg, PA. He had served as a parish priest in Pennsylvania and as a campus administrator in Virginia, New Jersey and Connecticut. He is survived by two sisters, a brother and a large extended family.

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### Alumni Online Community

By signing up for the Alumni Online Community and regularly updating your information, you will always stay connected to the University and your SHU friends. You’ll receive news and information about upcoming alumni events and will have easy access to Class Notes. Go to [www.sacredheart.edu/alumni.cfm](http://www.sacredheart.edu/alumni.cfm), click on **Alumni Online Community**, then click on **Member Log In**, and fill in the New Member Registration Form.

Once your new account is confirmed by the Office of Alumni Relations, you can always update your information by logging on and clicking on **My SHU**.

**Stay Connected At:** [www.sacredheart.edu/alumni.cfm](http://www.sacredheart.edu/alumni.cfm)
Now it’s your turn.

Amanda Rowe ‘10

Hometown: Wethersfield, CT
Major: BA in Psychology, minor in Spanish
Activities: National Residence Hall Honorary, Orientation Leader, Psychology Club, Resident Assistant, Student Ambassador, and Student Government Executive Board Secretary
Why Alumni Giving Is Important: “Sacred Heart University has helped to shape me into the leader I am today, and has allowed me to get involved in various aspects throughout the campus community. It was here that I discovered my passion and future goals in life. I want to give back to Sacred Heart to help others do the same, while continuing to give back through my Graduate Assistant position in the Student Life Office.”

Mike Fazzino ‘10

Hometown: Woodbury, CT
Major: Double Major: Political Science and Business Administration
Activities: Community Connections, Habitat for Humanity, The ONE Campaign, and Student Events Team
Why Alumni Giving Is Important: "As a freshman entering Sacred Heart, I was astounded by the improvements being made around me—from becoming a wireless campus to the countless classroom renovations. Sacred Heart has developed and evolved over my four years in ways I could hardly imagine, and it certainly facilitated my academic and personal life. Sacred Heart opened a lot of doors for me, and at the very least, my donation as a young alumnus will help another student have a similar experience. It’s the very least I could do.”

Morgan Kelly ‘10

Hometown: Naugatuck, CT
Major: Business Administration
Activities: Marketing Club Vice President of Finance, Career Peer, Juran Institute Scholars Program, Delta Epsilon Sigma National Honor Society, and Phi Eta Sigma Freshman Honor Society.
Why Alumni Giving Is Important: “My experience at Sacred Heart was made possible through the generosity of others. For me, being able to give back to the school is a way to say thank you to those who helped me and follow in their footsteps.”

Proud members of Sacred Heart University’s Pioneer Classes are continuing the tradition of reaching out to others that helped define their years at SHU. Knowing their gifts will assist future students, they are supporting the University’s Annual Fund. Their gifts, no matter what size, will work to provide the kinds of educational opportunities they enjoyed.

For Students: the Annual Fund provides direct scholarship assistance, supports improvements to campus facilities, enables academic and technology upgrades, and works to ensure a robust campus experience.

For Alumni: by making a gift today, you demonstrate your loyalty and show others—including important ranking organizations—the depth of commitment to your alma mater.

For Sacred Heart: the Annual Fund allows the University to direct funds wherever they are needed most.

For more information on Alumni Giving, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 203-371-7860 or advancement@sacredheart.edu.
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—U.S. News & World Report

"Best in the U.S."
—The Princeton Review

SHU’s core curriculum has been recognized nationally by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)

John F. Welch
College of Business