St. Benedict’s Rule for Monks begins with a powerful imperative: Listen. And at Benedictine University, we believe in the importance of listening to one another. We therefore have named our magazine Benedictine Voices. We pledge that within these pages, members of the Benedictine community will speak with candor about issues facing our University and our world. We cordially invite you to enter into dialogue with us.

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New Five College System
Better Serves Student Needs

Last summer the beginnings of an academic reorganization took place at Benedictine University. This reorganization was implemented to facilitate growth, stimulate programmatic creativity and better serve student needs.

The University’s new structure is in full swing for the Fall 2006 semester and includes the College of Business, the College of Education and Health Services, the College of Liberal Arts, the College of Science and the Margaret and Harold Moser College of Adult and Professional Studies.

This “big university” model of a separate college system suits Benedictine’s continued goal for superior academic programming, as well as its commitment to continually strive for the best experience and opportunities for their students.

"With the reorganization we are moving to an organizational model where academic programs will essentially be driven by the colleges. This will result in additional programmatic and curricular opportunities for students in Lisle, Naperville, Bellwood and Springfield and with our international partners. We envision a future where individual colleges will have endowed opportunities to encourage faculty and staff to work on programs that meet student demand, reflect the creative scholarship of a wonderful faculty, and of course, continue to maintain excellence in the traditional disciplines," stated Dan Julius, Ph.D., vice president and provost for academic affairs. Julius oversees the academic administration at the University while working closely with the faculty, deans and the administrators.

"The new college system will benefit students in many ways, one of which is improved program growth and opportunities. One factor for continued growth is the availability of resources. The idea is to enable the colleges to obtain more resources and flexibility to use certain resources, ultimately making it easier to develop new curriculum and improve others. In addition, prospective students will benefit because each college may have certain degree and admission requirements that will be unique to that college,” he added.

This academic reorganization is part of a University-wide strategic plan that will ensure and advance the quality of higher education at Benedictine University.

Sincerely,

William J. Carroll
President
The College of Business

Dean: Sandra L. Gill, Ph.D.

The rigorous academic curricula in the College of Business prepare students for professional excellence, grounded in Benedictine values, for leadership in a global environment.

The College of Business offers seven undergraduate majors, three graduate degree programs, one Ph.D. program and 22 business certificate programs. The College serves a diverse student body with traditional and Web-supported course delivery options. Programs are designed for traditional aged and adult students since the majority of students work in corporate and not-for-profit organizations. Our programs enrich work experience with quantitative and qualitative business disciplines to build confidence and performance expected of leaders and managers in a global world.

More than 8,000 alumni have advanced their careers and lives from the Benedictine University business degree, with active alumni in International Business and Economics (I.B.E.), Management and Organizational Behavior (M.O.B.), Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) and Ph.D. programs. The Business Management Advisory Board, composed of area business leaders, advises the Dean on strategic direction and hosts professional programs on business ethics. In the past year alone, College of Business fund-raising achieved almost $100,000 in gifts for scholarships and academic program innovations. A long term capital campaign is focused on a new College of Business building in this decade.

The College of Business is among the largest academic business programs in the Western suburbs with more than 1,500 student enrollments in Fall 2005. In addition to a solid reputation, the College has innovative class schedules and multiple degree delivery options for traditional aged students and working adults. College of Business student course evaluations exceeded national norms in 2005 for excellence of courses, teacher excellence, improved student attitude and achieving course objectives. Programs are offered on the Lisle campus, at Springfield College in Illinois — a Benedictine University partner — and in Shenyang, China. The College of Business uses both asynchronous and synchronous instructional technology, supporting students across the globe with WebCT and iLinc course communication tools, especially important for professionals who travel. Extensive University library resources bring world-class resources to students over four continents — North and South America, Asia and Europe.

More than a dozen guest lecturers from world-renowned universities and companies interact with students and alumni each year. In addition, the College of Business conducts several regional executive events for professional networking and development through the Business Management Institute, which hosts national experts on business ethics and related topics. College of Business programs offer a personal student-to-faculty ratio of 14-to-1, enhancing more interactive learning. All College of Business curricula emphasize team-based learning and leadership, as required in corporate and not-for-profit organizations.
Undergraduate degrees in the College of Business are customized for traditional and adult students. Undergraduate Business offers a Bachelor of Science degree in five majors: Accounting, Business and Economics, Finance, M.O.B. and Marketing. In addition, the I.B.E. department offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in two majors, Economics and International Business and Economics. I.B.E. majors integrate international Study Abroad trips within their degrees, with exceptional impact on student preparation for a global environment.

Undergraduate business students, in our traditional, semester-long classes, participate in many service learning and business clubs including the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, Investment Club and Business Club. Corporate internships are available with a variety of area businesses including Abbott Laboratories, Dun and Bradstreet, First Investors, McDonald's Corporation, Molex Corporation, Merrill Lynch, Packaging Corporation of America, Unilever, banks and service sector businesses. Early morning, day and Web-enhanced class sections are available for students who work part- or full-time while earning their business degree.

Adult program undergraduate curricula provide course sections dedicated to the adult student aged 24 or older with work experience. Some courses are cross-listed with M.B.A. students for more advanced student interactions. Students have an option to combine courses offered in five-and 10-week sessions, including evening and weekend classes, for a flexible schedule they can customize to fit their life. In addition, some of these classes may be applied to graduate degrees. This is a very flexible degree-completion option for working adults.

College of Business graduate degree programs include the Master of Science in Management and Organizational Behavior (M.S.M.O.B.), M.B.A. and Master of Science in Management Information Systems (M.S.M.I.S.) programs.

The College’s doctoral degree — Ph.D. in Organization Development — is internationally recognized as among the top programs in the U.S. Designed for scholar-practitioners, this program draws highly-experienced executives from throughout the world. Every other year two groups of 25 students begin their three-year program which includes international conference leadership and research with global corporations. Under the leadership of Peter Sorensen, Ph.D. for 40 years, the Ph.D. and graduate M.O.B. programs incorporate world-class guest speakers and alumni. Ph.D. and M.O.B. program alumni from Benedictine are in leadership roles throughout the region’s major corporations and academic programs. The M.O.B. Lecture Series, Contemporary Trends in Change Management, attracts more than 1,000 students and alumni each year to global experts on managing organizational change.

The M.B.A. program was the University’s first graduate program. It was established by Abbot Dismas Kalcic, O.S.B. who taught economics. Almost 3,000 M.B.A. alumni later, Abbot Dismas claims that the program has far exceeded his imagination. Ethical issues and international business demands are woven throughout the curriculum. The M.B.A./M.I.S. programs offered in Shenyang, China have expanded rapidly. M.B.A. students have opportunities to complete intensive M.B.A. classes in China and in Copenhagen, Denmark for international learning. The newly redesigned Executive M.B.A. (E.M.B.A.) program offers an intensive, accelerated weekend model for completion in 16 months. The M.B.A. curriculum is offered in four formats: evening classes that meet once each week, weekend classes, the executive weekend classes and internship.

The graduate program in M.I.S. launched new courses and certificates this year, addressing demands for security and innovation in the “flat world” of Web-based business. The new M.I.S. curriculum and certificates combine information technology with business courses to achieve the alignment businesses require for global competitive advantage.


College of Business students and alumni are employed by a vast array of global and domestic companies, in every business sector, including health and human services. Their success is our success.
The College of Education and Health Services programs are built around a highly qualified core of faculty. The programs are augmented by leading practitioners in the various professions who serve as adjuncts. Students, therefore, are taught a balance of theory and practice. This gives them a depth and breadth of knowledge for long term professional progress, as well as relevant skills and information that can be applied and practiced immediately. There is a close and committed bond between faculty and students with an emphasis on professional responsibility.

A diverse population of students drawn from many countries, cultures and socio-economic groups is served by the College of Education and Health Services. They are one community as future professionals. Graduates are culturally competent to practice their professions among the widest spectrum of people in need of their services. In turn, they will serve the tapestry of populations that is America today.

The conceptual framework of the School of Education states, “Benedictine University educators are effective practitioners, committed to scholarship, lifelong inquiry, leadership and social responsibility.”

Concern for the physical and spiritual lives of students, graduates and those they serve is evident in the balance of courses offered in the School of Health Services. These courses in nutrition, public health and nursing center on how to improve lives through knowledge, therapies and health practices, and enlightened policies.

The College enjoys excellent relationships with schools, hospitals, government agencies, voluntary organizations and businesses in the surrounding communities. Its best recruitment tool is the network of graduates who refer their friends to Benedictine and who welcome graduates into their workplace.

The College is on the ascendant in many ways. The College will be expanding its faculty so that each area of expertise essential for the various professions is represented by full-time faculty members who excel in research and teaching, and who represent the current best practices of their professions. All College of Education and Health Services programs are Illinois and regionally accredited. The nursing and nutrition programs are nationally accredited. The College is working to achieve recognized excellence and national recognition in all of its professional programs. The College also has plans to increase its community outreach projects.

The College of Education and Health Services has an alumni outreach program and the School of Education recently had its first, and very successful, alumni program.

The graduate degrees offered in the College are: Master of Education (M.Ed.); Master of Arts in Education (M.A.Ed.); Master of Public Health (M.P.H.); and Doctor of Higher Education and Organizational Change (Ed.D.).
Margaret and Harold Moser College of Adult and Professional Studies

Dean: Eileen Kolich, Ph.D.

The mission of the Margaret and Harold Moser College of Adult and Professional Studies is to address the educational needs of non-traditional aged students by providing engaging, relevant and accelerated academic degree and non-degree programs that are designed to enhance leadership skills and promote lifelong inquiry and learning.

The Moser College focuses on becoming the premier venue at Benedictine University for creating and offering high-quality, easily-accessible educational opportunities for adult learners. The Moser College provides an extended and efficient university experience designed to meet the specific educational needs of adult students; to enable adults to earn an associate, bachelor, master or doctoral degree while maintaining their personal and professional commitments; and to establish successful marketing, recruitment and retention plans and processes that significantly enhance enrollments and revenues.

The Moser College offers accelerated programs that include classroom-based and online course formats. Classroom-based programs include: Associate of Arts in Business Administration (A.A.B.A.); Bachelor of Arts in Management (B.A.M.); business certificate programs (fully online beginning in September 2006) at the undergraduate levels (Human Resources Management, Sales Management and Project Management); Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.); Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Reading and Literacy, and Leadership and Administration; and an education certificate program at the graduate level for Alternative Teacher Certification in grades 6-12 in Science or Mathematics. Online graduate programs include M.B.A. and Master of Public Health (M.P.H.).

There are also additional adult degree and non-degree programs to be determined and added in the 2006-07 academic year. For example, it is anticipated that the Moser College will provide the following:

- Customized workplace training, which includes credit and noncredit certificates and seminars to corporations, school districts and professional organizations;
- Credit certificates and seminars on- and off-site that address state-of-the-art, professional skill sets expected of leaders and change agents in the business and educational sectors;
- Opportunities for educational interactions through the Center for Spirituality and Christian Living, which promotes Benedictine values and beliefs.

The Moser College offers classes in convenient locations to support the work schedules of firemen enrolled in the First Responder degree programs (A.A.B.A., B.A.M. and M.B.A.). The Moser College also provides access to the University’s library resources and online information and community-based studies that include high-interest educational opportunities such as career counseling, job search assistance, resume writing techniques, etc.

- Incorporate a cohort model format which allows for the completion of one course at a time;
- Offer a specially adjusted tuition rate for adult students enrolled in accelerated, cohort degree programs;
- Utilize adjunct faculty practitioners who are dedicated to teaching and learning with adults;
- Incorporate a sequential curriculum with clearly defined learning outcomes that ensure quality and consistency;
- Integrate theory and practice;
- Enable immediate application of what is learned;
- Offer programs at off-campus sites within a five mile radius of the Lisle campus including the new Margaret and Harold Moser center for Adult and Professional Studies in Naperville;
- Provide convenient, dedicated student support services and resources designed to facilitate the registration process, financial aid applications and Web access to career planning and assistance, textbook purchases and academic records via BenUConnect;
- Provide individual and on-going academic advising and student support;
- Promote on-going alumni networking comprised of professionals in the public and private sectors;
- Provide opportunities to earn additional elective credit at the undergraduate level through CLEP exams and relevant work experience.
The mission of the College of Science at Benedictine University is to provide instruction in the area of natural sciences, academic advising, research opportunities and life experience that facilitates the acquisition of knowledge and helps students understand content, methodology and interrelationships of the various areas of study.

College of Science

Dean: Donald Taylor, Ph.D.

The programs in the College are designed to provide students — of all majors — with an understanding of and appreciation for the physical world, to develop the students’ problem-solving skills and their ability to reason from physical evidence, and to expose students to the current problems related to the biomedical/life and physical sciences within a liberal arts context.

The University has a long tradition of excellence in the undergraduate science programs and is highly regarded. From the 1970s through the 1990s, the University received national recognition from the U.S. Congress Office of Technology and Assessment, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Science Foundation (NSF) as being among the most productive schools in the country for the rate of graduates who go on to earn doctorates in all fields of study, but especially in the fields of science and engineering. Benedictine has been ranked at or near the top in Illinois for the percentage of graduates who earn degrees in sciences.

The College has received funding over the years from many renowned science-based organizations such as the NSF, the Department of Energy and The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). In fact, Benedictine University has the longest continuous record of undergraduate funding from HHMI of any predominantly undergraduate institution in Illinois.

The 70,000 square-foot Birck Hall of Science houses interdisciplinary laboratories and classrooms, large instrumentation, research and general science labs, as well as the Jurica Nature Museum, one of the finest natural history museums in the Midwest. For more than 10 years, the Museum has developed “hands-on” science curricula for elementary schools and offers outreach programs and training for more than 300 teachers and 5,000 students annually.

The science programs also feature a strong collaborative, interdisciplinary student and faculty research program that builds on shared research interests among faculty from biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics and physics to enable students from a range of programs to work with faculty on collaborative research problems. The objectives of this program are to strengthen interdisciplinary connections, enhance student understanding of science by allowing for sustained involvement in an ongoing research project, and increase their ability to communicate effectively in a scientific community. During the past five years, more than 250 students have been engaged in undergraduate research projects during the academic year and summer months. Ninety percent of participants in our Summer Undergraduate Research Program have matriculated to doctoral programs in the sciences.

During a recent 10-year span, 75 percent of graduates in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology have matriculated to doctoral programs. Our science graduates have been accepted to graduate and professional school at such prestigious institutions as Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Duke, Johns Hopkins, Mayo Clinic, Vanderbilt, Case Western, University of Chicago, Northwestern, Illinois, Michigan, Michigan State, Iowa, Wisconsin and Purdue.

Graduates of the College are well prepared for graduate study in the traditional disciplines of life sciences, physical sciences, computer science and mathematics, for professional school in medicine and other related health careers, for careers in industry and research, for careers in hospital-based cardiac-pulmonary rehabilitation centers, health prevention centers, or work in the corporate wellness fitness area as well as careers as high school teachers.

The College of Science offers 10 undergraduate degree programs housed in the departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Computer Science and Information Systems, Mathematics and Physics/Engineering. The College has five allied health
The College of Liberal Arts houses the undergraduate programs in the humanities and social sciences. The College also offers a graduate program in clinical psychology.

The International Programs, Scholars Program and Core Curriculum are the responsibility of the College.

College of Liberal Arts

Dean: Maria de la Cámara, Ph.D.

The College of Liberal Arts strives to instill in students the knowledge and cultural appreciation needed for life-long intellectual and aesthetic enrichment. The College intends to impart an appreciation of the human condition in all its diversity and an understanding of society, government and ethics needed for responsible citizenship in a global society. In pursuit of the goal of the advancement of knowledge, the College of Liberal Arts encourages quality research, scholarship and creative production among all of its faculty members and students under the mentorship of the faculty.

The following departments are found in the College of Liberal Arts: the Department of Communication offers degrees in Communication Arts, Fine Arts, Studio Art and Writing and Publishing; the Department of Music offers degrees in Arts Administration and Music; the Department of History, Philosophy and Religious Studies offers degrees in History, Philosophy, Religious Studies and Social Science; the Department of Political Science offers degrees in International Studies and Political Science; the Department of Language and Literature offers degrees in English Language and Literature and Spanish; and the Department of Psychology and Sociology offers degrees in Organizational Leadership, Psychology, Sociology and a Master of Science Degree in Clinical Psychology. The interdisciplinary programs housed in the College are the Core Curriculum, Scholars Program, Gender Studies, Latin American Studies and Film Studies.
During the last two years, the College has been integral in the establishment of a Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) program. This Fall, Benedictine moves from the pilot phase to a fully integrated WAC program by combining the First-Year Seminar and Argumentative Writing into one course along with an introduction to the Benedictine heritage.

The Scholars Program aims to form exceptionally promising undergraduate students into intellectual, cultural and moral leaders. The heart of the Scholars Program is a curriculum of honors seminars that is reading and writing intensive along with a focus on “world citizenship” and an emphasis on service.

Some examples of the initiatives in progress in the College of Liberal Arts include interdisciplinary programs such as Mediterranean Studies and Global Studies; an integrated Pre-Law program; and a cross-cultural education project with the South African Government.

The following are some interesting developments in the different departments in the College. The Department of Music’s revised curriculum focuses on the departmental strengths in chamber music and small ensembles. Combining musicianship with a liberal arts education will provide graduates a base for artistic and intellectual growth in a manner in which the student can understand, experience and articulate musical artistry within a variety of perspectives. The program will emphasize a newly designed Chamber Music curriculum, a Mini-Residencies Program and a Music Outreach Program that is a collaborative effort with Diocese of Joliet.

Faculty in the Communication Arts Department are presently designing a joint curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art with faculty at the College of DuPage. Through a very generous grant from an anonymous benefactor, the department has been able to establish a state-of-the-art Macintosh lab for art and graphic design-related courses. It also launched the Sports Communication concentration in 2005-06.

The Political Science program offers students an understanding of key areas of the political world, including knowledge about politics in the United States and across the world, and preparation in significant areas of the law. The Mock Trial and Model United Nations programs sponsored by the department have garnered awards in regional and national competitions.

The Department of Political Science is also the home of the new Center for Civic Leadership and Public Service, a program that centers on public service and features interesting conferences and guest speakers. It was founded by Jim Ryan, former Illinois Attorney General and Benedictine alumnus. In addition, the Department of Political Science earned a three year grant from the U.S. Department of State to host leadership training for students from the Middle East.

A student may pursue one of three undergraduate majors in the Department of Psychology and Sociology, including a major in Psychology (traditional program and adult weekend accelerated program), Sociology (traditional program) and Organizational Leadership (adult weekend accelerated program). They may also pursue a Master of Science in Clinical Psychology (M.C.P.) degree.

The Department of Languages and Literature is in the process of revising its programs to reflect an increased emphasis on cultural studies, an approach that emphasizes the relationships among literature, literacy and the larger world in which we use and enjoy language. In keeping with the Benedictine values of community and stewardship, these programs build the skills and knowledge base students will need for professional success and requires both students and faculty to participate in a learning community that emphasizes the larger ideals and issues of 21st century global citizenship. The Department’s programs also now offer updated and redesigned courses and curricula for Secondary Education students, with changes providing all students more opportunity to develop literacy and presentation skills and take the lead in the classroom.

At Benedictine University, at the heart of the College of Liberal Arts is the Core Curriculum Program, and at the center of the Core is the Cultural Heritage Sequence. Students take a sequence of five historically-oriented, primary-text based, reading and writing intensive, seminar-conducted courses.

One particular feature that makes the Core Program distinctive is its reliance on the resources of the Catholic and Benedictine traditions, and the relationship of these traditions to the development both of human culture and civilization. An overall aim of the program is to offer students a particular vision of the individual in community, a vision which respects and promotes personal freedom and social harmony while providing an understanding of the means necessary to secure both. The overall goal is to prepare students for a lifetime of continued learning, a holistic understanding of human knowledge, and active and responsible citizenship. †
Benedictine Education Over the Centuries

Recently, President Carroll was challenged relative to a remark he made about the Benedictines “inventing the classroom.” His response to the challenger was a combined effort of the two writers of this article. We hope through this issue’s feature to think a bit about Benedictine education over the centuries and what we might see as today’s challenge as we continue to grow as a Benedictine University.

First of all, we need to be clear that the phrase “invention” of the classroom is not to be understood in the way one would speak of the invention of the light bulb. It is much more of a conclusion to a movement that lasted several centuries and ultimately found root in the establishment of the universities in the 11th century and beyond. The development of the universities in major cities such as Paris, Bologna, Krakow and Prague also brought into existence the friars, groups of religious who did not want the “stability” of the Benedictine monastery but rather the freedom to travel from place to place. Thus we have the foundations of the Dominicans, Franciscans, Carmelites and others, along with their scholars: for example St. Albert the Great, St. Thomas Aquinas, John Duns Scotus and St. Bonaventure.

While her book is now out of print, Patricia Quinn’s doctoral dissertation was published as Better Than the Sons of Kings. Her study of the education of the “Boy Oblates” from St. Benedict’s time looks at the educational system through the 13th century and the rise of the universities. We had Quinn on our campus for a discussion that she titled “Growing Wisdom, Toiling in the Gardens of St. Benedict.”

We also welcomed Professor John Contreni (Purdue University) whose scholarly paper “From Benedict’s Rule to Charlemagne’s Renaissance: How Monastic Education Evolved in the Early Middle Ages” covered much relative to the beginnings of formal “classroom education” within the monastic schools. Contreni translated Pierre Riché’s book Education and Culture in the Barbarian West from the 6th Through the 8th Centuries, a complete examination of the interactions in the monastic classroom.

Quinn’s work focuses on Benedictine students and educators when the monasteries and convents of the Benedictine monks and nuns provided the most important (and in many regions the only) educational institutions in Western Europe. The organizational culture of the early monastic schools was carefully examined by Quinn through her research with manuscripts (i.e., hand lettered books). It was here in the monastic school where the likes of Thomas Aquinas received elementary and what today would be high school education based on the Trivium (Logic, Grammar and Rhetoric) and Quadrivium (Geometry, Arithmetic, Music and Astronomy).

The monastic school/classroom was developed by:
- The careful selection of the masters of the children (teachers);
- The students witnessing the masters’ behaviors;
- Observing carefully designed protocols that governed interactions among age peers as well as between students and teachers;
• Masters and students discussing together the contents of texts being studied;
• Students imitating a moderated version of the monks’ daily routine (to teach balance in the day);
• Students and teachers residing in a carefully planned architectural setting that reinforced community and allowed for interactive study; and
• Having the student discover the sources of academic knowledge, the value of texts and meaningful academic work.

Riché and Contreni maintain that until the establishment of the monastic school and classroom, education was primarily conducted by students sitting at the feet of the master and engaging in the dialogue relative to the philosophical questions. Benedict left Rome and this sort of education, most probably being prepared at home with the reading and writing skills needed for success. However, he left this structure and after his three years as a hermit in the cave of Subiaco established the education that truly was for those who received something “better” than did the “sons of kings.”

Another helpful Benedictine providing us with a vision of the education during the “Benedictine Centuries” is Fr. Hillary Thimmesh, O.S.B., president emeritus of St. John’s University in Collegeville, Minnesota, who explains:

“That monasteries would provide schooling at least for their own candidates who entered as children or illiterate adults is implied by the important place of reading in monastic observance. Perhaps this is why a stylus and writing tablets are among the personal articles regarded as necessities. The monastery is to have a collection of books large enough to issue every brother his own reading matter for Lent. Meditative reading, lectio divina, is accorded a generous three to four hours a day throughout the year, with more for those who prefer reading to a siesta. From the start, then, Benedictine life required a certain level of disciplined intellectual activity. It assumed familiarity with a sizable body of sacred literature and by implication knowledge of the classical authors whose study provided a foundation in grammar. Remember that grammar had a larger meaning for the ancients than it has for us. In Lecreq’s words grammar was the first stage and the foundation of general culture, and the two terms grammaticus and litteratus designate one who knows how to read — that is, not only how to decipher the letters, but to understand the texts.

“Given this orientation to the world of letters, it is not surprising that in the centuries following Benedict, monasteries became centers of literacy culture, preserving the ancient texts in new copies and composing a body of liturgical texts, homilies, commentaries and chronicles of their times. Nor is it surprising that schools became attached to well-established monastic communities, particularly as a result of the Carolingian renaissance in the 9th century. Without drawing up guidelines for education under monastic auspices, Benedict had provided for a style of religious life that lent itself to teaching children by drawing on the monks’ own foundation in the liberal arts, forming them morally and religiously at the same time, and fostering the literary and theological interests of individual monks. We know the names of the most illustrious Bede, Anselm, Bernard and medieval historians single out many others in the Benedictine centuries, roughly the 7th to the 12th, when it can be said that monastic teachers were the schoolmasters of Europe (emphasis ours). It is from those centuries that we derive the tradition of Benedictine education.”

Such communities as the Abbey of St. Victor, or Ste. Geneviève became celebrated seats of learning, and along with the cathedral school of Notre-Dame, were the cradle of the University of Paris. The very fabric of our higher educational system today can be linked to the early monasteries — from the garb we wear at graduation to the faculty ranks abundantly in use today. Although each of these schools (monasteries) had a master, he was not the only teacher there as had been the case in many of the earlier cathedral and monastery schools. Qualified teachers could apply to the chancellor or an abbot for membership in their institutions and, having been granted that membership, they formed part of the faculty of that institution’s school. Some instructors resided in the monastery itself and some outside, providing the basis for a distinction that persists in the professor and associate professor. The professors hired assistants (assistant professors) who might someday become professors themselves, while particularly able students might be hired to teach basic subjects in the grammar school as instructors. The professors usually offered a course or series of lectures in which they would read from a text, a work generally accepted as being important to know, so the students could copy down the words. The lecturer would then offer explanations of the text while the students made notes in the wide margins they had left for that purpose (marginalia). As an aside, it was customary for notes referring to other works relevant to the passage to be put at the bottom, or foot, of the page, a practice that has survived as the modern footnote.

When the course of lectures was completed, the student would have finished copying the text and his notes of the lecturer’s commentaries in his textbook. When the student felt ready, he could appear before the chancellor to be examined. If approved, he was given a diploma, an official document that permitted him to preach or teach in the diocese of Paris.

It seems clear, we believe, that the transition to the university in the 11th century and later was a transition rather than an invention. Many of the ingredients of the university (even today’s universities) had their birth in the monastic school with the masters who passed knowledge from one generation to the next. At Benedictine University, we truly hope to continue to do the same and continue the work begun by the master teachers of our own past. Through our campus, our buildings, our classrooms and other places, we continue to remember the Frs. Cosmas, Cyprian, Hilary, Edmund, John, Basil, William, Richard, Leo, Luke and all those masters who have gone before us. In the genealogy of the masters, we know that some of us now living will find our names as our institution grows and flourishes. †
The men’s first place winning team honors went to John Bernatowicz, David Blake, Patrick Nash and Joe Proctor of JEP Communications.

The first place winning mixed team was Marcy DeFalco, Kurt Hall, Jeff Krey and Lou Varchetto of Mulherin, Rehfeldt & Varchetto. Winners of course contests were John Perteet of UPS, men’s closest to the pin; Krystal Himes of Benedictine University, women’s closest to the pin; Jim Hasten of Merrill Lynch, men’s longest drive; and Deb Smilsky of Sodexho, women’s longest drive.

Values
“If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.” — John F. Kennedy

Join Us November 4 for a Night to Remember

Time is almost here for the Benedictine event of the year – The Educare Scholarship Ball.

The theme is Sweet Home Chicago: The Magnificent Miles from Pilsen to Lisle. The event will pay tribute to the University’s humble beginnings as St. Procopius Academy/College to the international source of higher education it is today as Benedictine University.

This annual black-tie event raises much needed money for student scholarships so that more dreams can be achieved. Do your part in giving the world more educated, value-based people by coming to the Ball for a wonderful evening with purpose.

Updated information about the Ball is available at www.ben.edu/alumni/events/ball.asp or by calling Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6070. Reserve your spot today!

A Hole in One for Scholarship Fund:
Twelfth Annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing

It was close to being the hottest day on record for the annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing at Cress Creek Country Club in Naperville on July 17, 2006. But the golfers stayed cool with plenty of fun and excitement.

The men’s first place winning team honors went to John Bernatowicz, David Blake, Patrick Nash and Joe Proctor of JEP Communications. The first place winning mixed team was Marcy DeFalco, Kurt Hall, Jeff Krey and Lou Varchetto of Mulherin, Rehfeldt & Varchetto. Winners of course contests were John Perteet of UPS, men’s closest to the pin; Krystal Himes of Benedictine University, women’s closest to the pin; Jim Hasten of Merrill Lynch, men’s longest drive; and Deb Smilsky of Sodexho, women’s longest drive.

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Thank You: Donations
Make a Difference

Benedictine University expresses its condolences and appreciation to the family and friends of Bernard Kurtin, C34, Richard Remijas, D.D.S., C43, Fr. Joseph Shimaneck, C54, Mary Lynn Tomer and Marie Zabelka. Each of these individuals passed away during the past academic year and generously provided for the University and its students in their planned gifts.

Bernard Kurtin was a physics major at St. Procopius College. His belief in the importance of proficiency of the sciences and math was notably demonstrated with a bequest he provided to establish the Bernard J. Kurtin Endowed Scholarship for Physics and Math. It is the third largest scholarship fund created by an individual at Benedictine University.

Richard Remijas was a pre-dental major at St. Procopius College and had been a long-time and consistent supporter of Benedictine. He provided a very substantial gift by naming Benedictine as the beneficiary of his IRA account. The funds were used to establish an endowed scholarship for science majors (the fourth largest of any scholarship established by an individual) and for the naming of the Organic Chemistry Lab in his memory.

Fr. Joseph Shimaneck earned a degree from the College of Arts and Sciences. He provided an unrestricted gift funded by means of a charitable remainder unitrust that he established in 1993. At the time of his passing, the trust then provided annual income for his sister. She died this spring. It was Fr. Joseph’s desire that the assets remaining in the unitrust at the time of her death be given to the University.

Mary Lynn Tomer was a friend of Benedictine and the niece of an alumnus, Jack Miles. Miles was a graduate of the class of 1937 and majored in engineering. Tomer included Benedictine in her will to establish an endowed scholarship, The Jack Miles Endowed Scholarship for Engineering, to serve as a permanent memorial honoring him.

Marie Zabelka provided a gift to establish the Benedictine University Endowed Scholarship for the Natural Sciences. The scholarship provides funds for students majoring in any of the sciences. Zabelka had two sisters who were Benedictine nuns and she had a strong affinity with the Benedictine order. Zabelka’s gift was provided by means of a gift annuity that she had established in 1995.

All these gifts will greatly add to the quality of the University and to help students earn their degrees and prepare them to better the world.
You Can Leave a Legacy at Benedictine

Often alumni like to establish their legacy at Benedictine University. This is easily done and many times can be accomplished in a way that generates additional personal income with tax deductions.

Gifts can be “deferred” or “planned.” These gifts refer to situations where Benedictine does not receive full use of the gift until the time of the donor’s passing.

The most common type of deferred gift is by inclusion as a bequest in a will. This often lessens the tax burden on the estate.

Other deferred gifts may generate income for the donor while the donor is still alive. Gift annuities are very simple. They provide guaranteed, fixed annual income for the donor for the remainder of his/her lifetime as well as a tax deduction at the time that the gift annuity is established. Gift annuities may be especially attractive for people who want extra income and have valuable assets that generate little or no income (such as CDs or stocks).

Charitable remainder trusts can provide greater annual income with greater flexibility than gift annuities, but are more complex. They, unlike gift annuities, require the assistance of an attorney to establish, a trustee to manage the trust and a larger initial gift.

Gifts of paid-up life insurance policies can yield both a tax deduction and income by converting them to gift annuities. The surrender value of the policy is used to fund the gift annuity.

Some assets may be prone to heavy taxation at the time of an individual’s passing. Traditional IRA, 401 (k), and 403 (b) accounts are good examples. The taxes of these can usually be avoided entirely if they are donated to the University. In this way, assets are passed on to a worthy cause rather than being significantly depleted by taxes.

If any of these ideas are of interest to you and/or you would like to become a member of Benedictine University’s Heritage Society, please call Brad Carlson at (630) 829-6362 for additional information with no obligation. 

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Many Benedictine University alumni have provided support to Benedictine. One of those who has done so consistently and over a long period of time is Joseph E. Siebert, M.D., C69.

Siebert has been the University’s physician for the past 25 years. He has made himself available to students every Monday. He began his service at the request of the school nurse, who needed him to see the students and to be available for consultation.

His professional services enable students to get convenient care without having to find another physician or go to the emergency room. According to Siebert, the most common care students need is for infections or muscle strains.

One of the more memorable cases he had was when a group of students, not from the continental U.S., all came down with chicken pox simultaneously. The disease was not common where they came from, so exposure to it here became an unfortunate experience.

“I like to help at Benedictine because I’m dedicated to higher education, and because the University is dedicated to making higher education available to deserving students. I am glad to see the diversity of the student body that is currently on campus. When I was here, all the students were male and almost all were Caucasian,” said Siebert.

Siebert was in the first generation of his family to earn an undergraduate degree. His father was a janitor during the depression and never had the opportunity to go on to higher education. He is pleased to know that many students attending Benedictine today have been given an opportunity to be the first in their families to earn degrees.

His fondest memories and feelings for Benedictine stem from being given the education and support he needed to become a doctor, which had been his goal since he was in sixth grade. The friendships and camaraderie he experienced while at the University had a life-long impact on him as well.
Maurice Bell, Political Science, C87

A Mission to Uganda

Alumnus Maurice Bell spent two weeks giving back to others in Uganda, Africa on a volunteer mission. He recounts his experiences here.

Tell us what your trip to Africa involved?
A group of people from Water’s Edge Church (WEC) located in Carol Stream have partnered with a church named “Light the World Church” in Uganda. One of their ministries is named “Mercy Ministries” which takes children from the streets and brings them into orphanage homes run by the church. This trip was the second year that WEC had taken a trip there. Light the World Church hosts a week-long prayer conference every year and invites many Christian leaders from all over Uganda to come and lead worship and share God’s message.

In what activities did you participate while there?
We were able to see first-hand how six young men (Pastors Wilson and Wilfred, Phillip, Deo, David and Ben) have been using support money from WEC to grow Light the World Church from just a shell more than one year ago to a thriving, vibrant church. They were also able to strengthen two functioning homes that house more than 50 children.

I met and spent considerable time with my family’s sponsored children Eve, 9, and Ali, 10, to develop a deeper relationship with them.

We attended an authentic African wedding where our group was honored as “special guests” and were treated as part of the wedding party.

We delivered two young men from their church to New Hope, which is a training facility for people who run orphanages. Our church raised funds to sponsor them for the four-month training session.

We ran a children’s camp to share the gospel for 800 children — it was supposed to be only 200. We witnessed a modern day miracle — we purchased food to feed 300 people and we fed all 800 children.

We visited a hospital and delivered coloring books, crayons and candy to the various children’s wards and prayed over them for God’s healing and protection.

We also visited the village of Busandha, where one of the boy leaders grew up, to visit his family. His mother had just birthed twin girls. They do not have a lot of money as they must pay the older children’s school fees. We brought them rice, beans, baby formula, baby clothes, powder and soap. We also held a dedication service for the twins asking God to watch over them.

The money that was left from our trip was used to purchase a triple-deck bunk bed, mattresses and sheets for the children’s home for six boys who had been sleeping on the floor of the garage. In addition, we purchased a play apparatus for the front yard.

How did you decide to become involved?
I was invited to go on the first trip the church put together, but I declined because I felt there was much for me to do in the United States. However, God moved my heart to affect people globally with this opportunity. I feel very blessed to have spent two weeks in Uganda.

What was the hardest thing about the trip?
The hardest thing about the trip was being able to let go of my western ways and to go with the flow of the African culture. We, Americans, have deadlines to meet and schedule our days with something and/or make you want to work harder on something?

My eyes have been opened to how another country struggles for existence and how children need to be loved. We are working hard to garner support for the orphanages. We have started an organization named “Ugandan Orphanage Relief Fund” (UORF), which is partnered with Mercy Ministries. There is a Web site, www.uorf.org, where people can contribute $15 per month for a food and healthcare sponsorship to support the orphanage homes. People also have the opportunity to sponsor a specific child with an education sponsorship to pay their school fees. We have a copy of the child’s report card sent directly to the sponsor as a way to stay connected.

What would you like people to know about the benefits of volunteering to help others?

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What would you like people to know about the benefits of volunteering to help others?
God put us on earth to help those less fortunate than ourselves and we should always be looking for ways to give back.

**What are you involved with at Benedictine?**
I am involved with the Alumni Association Board, African American Alumni Association, Educare Ball and other fund-raising and alumni events.

**Why have you decided to become so involved at Benedictine?**
Many people came before me at Benedictine and paved the way for me to attend. I believe that it is my responsibility to help those coming after me, so they have the same opportunities at a wonderful institution.

**Tell us about your family?**
My wife, Sarah, and my children, Benjamin, 10, and Olivia, 7, were gracious enough to let me be away for two weeks and are very supportive of my involvement at Benedictine. We are looking forward to having Pastors Wilson and Wilfred from the Light the World Church in Uganda, visit the United States this September to share their message and ministry. We are hoping to have an event at Benedictine for them.

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**Alumni Reflections:**

**A Year After Graduation with Daniel J. Bartgen, C05**

It was a safe assumption that the old Mayan woman approaching us was in constant pain. Years of degenerative arthritis hobbled her gait and knotted her hands; yet, she returned to the clinic wearing the largest smile in Guatemala and carrying a gigantic box of mangos. Each mango that she gave us was accompanied with a heartfelt hug as she thanked us for the care, medicine and time that we gave to her and her people.

This tiny drama seemed surreal to me, for it was only a year ago that I graduated from Benedictine University, and now I was seeing patients in Guatemala as a Loyola medical student. I consider myself lucky to have enjoyed the opportunities afforded to me, but I also realize that my current accomplishments are largely dependent on my college experiences. My years at Benedictine helped prepare me for the challenges that I encountered in my first year after graduation.

Benedictine provided the foundation for me to succeed in both the classroom and clinic during my first year of medical school. Many lectures at Loyola seemed like review to me because of the strength of Benedictine’s science program, which prepared me well. My undergraduate background allowed me to spend more time in Loyola’s hospital and less time reviewing material that I had already learned at Benedictine. In fact, I was already comfortable in a hospital environment as a result of the medical rotations that Benedictine’s health science department arranged for me as an undergraduate.

Despite the importance of the solid academic and clinical education that I gained at Benedictine, I am most grateful for the character development that occurred as a member of Benedictine’s Scholars Program, as a Wingspread fellow and while playing football for the Benedictine Eagles. The confidence, compassion and understanding that I developed through these programs have ultimately benefited my ability to help others as a student doctor. The following example occurred late one evening.

After an exhausting day of caring for an endless stream of patients in a remote village, our team was eager to return home. We closed the clinic, packed our supplies and began to leave. I was halfway into our truck when I noticed an old man clutching his stomach and beckoning for help. Groggily, I reversed my momentum and put both feet on the ground. My team questioned, “What’s wrong?” I sighed, “Just one more patient, I’ll be right back.” As I was talking with my patient about his pain, I noticed my colleagues unpacking the medicine in order to treat other approaching Guatemalans requesting help. We didn’t leave until every patient was cared for. At that moment, I could not have been more proud of our efforts in Guatemala. The experience that I garnered from my time at Benedictine provided me the knowledge and empathy to help those in need during my medical mission in Guatemala. For this and much more, I am grateful.
First Annual Baseball Alumni Reunion

On April 30 the first annual baseball alumni reunion was held. Although the weather did not cooperate and the Benedictine baseball game was rained out, inside the Krasa Center there was nothing but sunshine.

Participants in one of the largest alumni gatherings came together to relive their “glory days” and to witness the announcement of the newly founded John Ostrowski Leadership Endowed Scholarship. The scholarship was established by alumni who wanted to recognize the many student lives that were touched and changed by Coach Ostrowski. He represents leadership, perseverance, endurance, commitment and loyalty to students and alumni alike. The scholarship will be awarded to a full-time male student who has demonstrated leadership qualities both in and out of the classroom and who has devoted significant time to Benedictine sponsored extra-curricular activity. Nearly $5,000 has been raised to date, but an additional $5,000 is needed before the scholarship can become operational and awarded to a qualified student.

The evening was filled with stories from trips to Florida, van rides and other famous Coach “O” stories. The coach was given a copy of the scholarship along with a jersey that was signed by all the alumni in attendance. He was truly overwhelmed by the gesture and the outpouring of support shown by all.

If you would like to make a donation to the John Ostrowski Leadership Endowed Scholarship, please contact Joan Henehan, development director, Benedictine University, 5700 College Road, Lisle, IL 60532 or call (630) 829-6074.

Music Department Recognition Dinner

Benedictine hosted a marvelous group of well-educated and talented individuals in the Department of Music on May 18. These individuals, as well as many of those who have supported the program, were honored at the first annual Awards and Recognition Dinner held in the Krasa Student Center. It was an evening of music, merriment and honor for the program and the people who make up “music” at the University.

Honored at the event were alumni Christine Paryl, B.A. Music, C73, M.A.’03, Ron Paryl, B.A. Music, C73, M.B.A. ’83 and Mark Lee, B.M., C76. Others who were honored included student musician Alexandra Rose, C06, who was given the Performance Award; faculty members Maryann Flock, Br. Augustine Mallak, O.S.B., Victoria VerHoven, John Moulder and Luis Loubriel; and Friends of the Arts honorees, John Mickus, Ph.D., professor in the College of Science and James Baker, Ph.D., professor emeritus.

Alumni awards were given to former students who continue to contribute to the program through their assistance financially, their departmental visibility and work in the program. The faculty members were honored for their teaching excellence, professional integrity and commitment to the program. The Performance Award was given to a graduating senior who performed at an exceptional level throughout his/her educational tenure at the University. The Friends of the Arts awards were presented for recognition of particular assistance or influence to the department and its success.

Benedictine University “Loop” Alumni Cocktail Reception

The Union League Club was the site of the fourth annual “Loop” Alumni Cocktail Reception held on April 18. Alumni stopped by on their way home for cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and an opportunity to network with their fellow alumni. There were a variety of professions represented including accounting, banking, government and medicine. This was a great venue for business card swapping and many connections were made. If you live or work in the Chicago “Loop” area make plans to join us at our next “Loop” Alumni Cocktail Reception in April 2007. Check the alumni Web site for specific details.

Senior Ball Cocktail Hour

The Office of Alumni Relations hosted the cocktail hour for the annual Senior Ball for graduating seniors on April 29. The event was held in the Fireside Lounge of the Krasa Center. Approximately 40 seniors were in attendance and enjoyed time with one another before heading to the Naperville Country Club for dinner and dancing. The Senior Ball is the last social event prior to the students graduating and it always provides a lot of fun.

Golden Eagles Reunion

This year’s Golden Eagles Reunion was held on May 21 immediately following the 113th Commencement Convocation. This year, graduates from the classes of 1956 through 1959 were honored with a luncheon. Great stories and memories were shared before going on a tour of the campus. Plans are underway for next year’s reunion and if you are interested in being involved, please contact Julie Nelligan, alumni relations director, at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.
School of Education Symposium

The Krasa Center was the site for the first School of Education Symposium featuring Dominic Belmonte, director of teacher preparation, Golden Apple Foundation. Belmonte addressed the education alumni as well as current education students with free flowing conversation discussing the career path that teachers make, the effect they are capable of having on others and the opportunities for growth. Belmonte, a powerful speaker, brought his listeners from laughter to tears in less than five minutes. Christina Argianas, C07, summarized her experience, “Sitting in the audience myself, I wish more students had been present. It was such an honor to have Mr. Belmonte on our campus. Through his involvement with the Golden Apple Foundation, he has had numerous opportunities to assist students in achieving their dreams and goals in the field of education.”

Belmonte was available to sign his latest two books: *Teaching from the Deep End* and *Teaching on Solid Ground*. Belmonte took the time during the wine and cheese reception to speak personally with each of the nearly 40 students and alumni in attendance.

St. Procopius Academy Class of 1956 Reunion

On the weekend of June 23-24, 15 members of the St. Procopius Academy Class of 1956 gathered to celebrate their 50th class reunion. The event started with a pizza party in the home of Don Pins on Friday evening. Saturday was a beautiful day to spend touring the campus and the new Sports Complex. The day was completed with mass in the Krasa Center Chapel celebrated by Fr. Jude Randall, O.S.B., C55. The real fun was just beginning as the alumni and their wives gathered in the Krasa Center for a wonderful meal and shared many stories and memories evoked by the pictures the men had put together into a presentation. They told stories of each other and remembered those who were unable to be with them. The weekend ended with breakfast Sunday and promises to plan for another get-together very soon.

If your class would like to plan a special weekend similar to the Class of 1956, please contact the alumni relations office at (630) 829-6080 or alumni@ben.edu. We would be happy to help you coordinate such an event.

African-American Alumni Reunion

It was a beautiful summer night in the garden of Scholl Hall where approximately 20 alumni attended an after-hours cocktail reception on June 22. Everyone had a great time rekindling friendships, networking and talking with representatives from the African-American Student Association. This group is in need of support from our alumni and many in attendance volunteered to help. Their meetings will be held in the evenings and alumni are welcome to join. The group discussed other opportunities to get together on a regular basis and to offer opportunities to recruit and mentor students.

For more information on getting involved, please contact Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.
Online Directory Coming Soon

Thanks to a lead gift by the Benedictine University Alumni Board, we are excited to announce that you will be able to connect and network with fellow alumni via an online directory. Look for more information in the mail and on the alumni Web site.

Alumni Director is an Official Alumna

At the Commencement Convocation on May 21, Julie Nelligan, alumni relations director, earned her Master of Science in Management and Organizational Behavior degree. “Next to the birth of my son, it was the greatest moment in my life,” said Nelligan. “It was three years of intense work along with my hectic schedule, but so worth the time I spent. I learned a lot, made great friends and most important, I’m proud to say I’m a Benedictine University alumna.”

Alumni Yellow Pages has Arrived

The first edition of the Alumni Yellow Pages is available for you to pick up or to have mailed to your home FREE of charge. This directory contains more than 1,000 Benedictine University alumni from the Illinois area who are listed by their business contact information. Get a copy today and the next time you are in need of service of any kind, pick up the Alumni Yellow Pages first before you go online or look elsewhere. Participants are listed three ways — alphabetically, by location and by occupation. Support your fellow classmates.

Our goal is to produce the Yellow Pages annually. We will be contacting alumni in early January for the second edition. For more information or to get a copy of the Yellow Pages, contact Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.

Spa Night for Alumni

On October 16 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the Krasa Center, alumni and students can relax with massages, manicures and more. Call (630) 829-6657 to R.S.V.P. for this event.

An Alumni Tour of Italy with a Benedictine Focus

Attention alumni and families — we have set up a tour of Italy, with a Benedictine focus, for June 2007 with Fr. David Turner, O.S.B. as your spiritual director.

You will leave Chicago O’Hare on June 13 and arrive in Milan, Italy on June 14. There you will enjoy all the sites including religious landmarks. You then go on to Padova, Venice, Florence, Siena, Assisi, Norcia and finally Rome.

June 22. Fr. David will show you such areas as the birthplace of St. Benedict, tomb of St. Francis, hold mass at several historical sites, see a working olive farm and much more.

Cost is $3,500 per person and includes air travel, hotel, breakfast every morning, all ground transportation and baggage handling. For reservations, contact Bill Carroll, C73, M.B.A. ’80, at Blue Island Travel, (708) 388-3933 or bcarroll@blueislandtravel.com. For additional information on this trip, contact Julie Nelligan.

Distinguished Alumni Award

MaryEllen Giger, Ph.D.,
B.S. Mathematics, 1978

Benedictine Service Award

Emil M. (Mike) Banas, Ph.D.,
St. Procopius Academy, 1939
B.S. Physics, 1943

Alumni Spirit Award

Joseph C. Dalpiaz, Ph.D.,
B.S. Chemistry, 1961

Accepting Nominations

Class Notes Winners from Spring 2006

Paul Sergio, C84; Beth (Hamilton) Martin, C98
Michelle Lynn (Minch) Martinez, C95

If your name is listed here, then you have won a prize from the Office of Alumni Relations. Congratulations!

In upcoming issues of Voices, three people who appear in the class notes section of the alumni magazine will be randomly chosen to win an alumni prize. (One win per person during duration of promotion.)

If you are one of these lucky winners, please contact Julie Nelligan BEFORE October 31 to collect your prize. Good luck and keep sending in those class notes! †
2006 ALUMNI AWARDS
We are proud to announce this year’s alumni award winners who were recognized at the 2006 Commencement Convocation.

In recognition of outstanding achievement in a career field or personal endeavor, the 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award goes to MaryEllen Giger. Giger credits her career success in part to the time she spent at Benedictine University and her math instructor, Rose Carney, professor emeritus. “Dr. Carney was instrumental in my pursuit of math and physics as well as assisting in obtaining a research summer internship at Fermilab and a Rotary fellowship for graduate study in physics,” said Giger. These experiences piqued her interest and help formed some important personal relationships that furthered both Giger’s future education and career in radiology medical physics.

Currently, Giger is professor of radiology at the University of Chicago where she also earned her Ph.D. in 1985. She is the director of Graduate Programs in Medical Physics and serves as chair of the Ph.D. degree granting committee on Medical Physics. She serves as chief of radiological sciences and associate chair for research in the Department of Radiology at the University of Chicago. Giger is considered one of the pioneers in the development of computer-aided diagnosis with her work to improve mammograms helping patients get more accurate and life-saving diagnoses.

Given to alumni who serve and have served the University with their time and talent, the 2006 Alumni Service Award goes to Emil (Mike) Banas. Banas was very involved while in attendance at St. Procopius Academy and College. From his high school through college, he became involved in many student activities including service projects with Professors Hazdra and Rausch. His friends remember that he was always around when they were serving the college and the community through various projects. Banas is the recipient of the St. Benedict Medal in recognition of his service to the University.

After graduation, he spent most of his career as a research physicist with Standard Oil/Amoco/BP. He gave back to his alma mater as an alumnus volunteer, member and president of the Alumni Board and member of the President’s Advisory Council. Banas also volunteered for various service projects with the Naval Reserves, Boy Scouts and taught religious education at St. John the Baptist Church in Indiana. Banas currently lives in Pullman, Washington and due to ill health was unable to attend the ceremony. He stated, “I will be with you in my spirit and prayers.” He is the parent of Mary Katherine Banas, Chemistry, C78.

The Benedictine Spirit Award is given to an alumnus who exemplifies the Benedictine values of service, hospitality and dedication to their personal and/or professional life. The 2006 award is given to Joe Dalpiaz.

After Dalpiaz earned his degree at then St. Procopius College where he lettered in both baseball and tennis, he went on to earn his Master of Natural Science degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1966. He earned his Doctorate in Educational Administration and Supervision from the University of Illinois in 1975 and then earned a Master of Pastoral Studies from Loyola University in 2000.

His teaching career began in 1961 when he taught math and chemistry at Cardinal Newman High School, then at Immaculate Conception High School. He became department chairman of the science department at Hinsdale South High School and moved on to assistant principal for curriculum and instruction. In 1974, he became principal of the high school until his retirement in 1994.

Dalpiaz has served his community well. He was ordained a deacon for the Diocese of Joliet in 1985 and has served at St. Joan of Arc parish in Lisle since that time. In 2004, he was named Director for the Diaconate program for the Diocese of Joliet.

Dalpiaz’s fondest memories of Benedictine were the great Benedictine monks who were the backbone of the professional staff, their dedication, their towering intellects and their humble spirit of service to the school and to the Church.

He resides in Lisle with his wife, Carolyn, whom he has been married for 44 years. They are the proud parents of two children and four grandchildren. †
Commencement 2006

Benedictine University awarded 367 associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees this past May during the 113th Commencement Convocation at the Village of Lisle – Benedictine University Sports Complex on campus.

Procopian Award — Anjali Dorothy Alva (League City, Texas)
The Procopian Award — the highest honor the University can bestow upon a graduating senior — is given for consistently outstanding curricular and extracurricular activities while at Benedictine University. The award signifies that scholarship (a minimum 3.5 cumulative grade point average) and service are exemplified by the student.

“Always bear in mind, that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any one thing.” — ABRAHAM LINCOLN
The recipients of the Awards in Academic Honors included:

— Bradley J. Weyer (Oak Lawn), College of Business
— Jordan R. Gage (Prophetstown, Ill.), College of Education and Health Services
— David R. Bisterfeldt (St. Charles), College of Science
— Delin Wang (South Elgin), College of Science

Lincoln Laureate Award
— Victoria E. Jennings (Glen Ellyn)

The Lincoln Laureate Award recognizes excellence in both curricular and extracurricular activities. The Lincoln Academy of Illinois is a not-for-profit, nonpartisan organization governed by a board of regents appointed by the governor. The governor serves as the academy’s president.

Thomas J. Dyba Leadership Award
— Nathaniel Thomas Rebeck (Kansas City, Kan.)

The Thomas J. Dyba Leadership Award is awarded to a student for outstanding ability to initiate and organize worthwhile activities, to encourage and direct the cooperative efforts of others and to command respect as a campus leader. This award also requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average.

Service Award
— Nour H. Shehadeh (Lombard)

The Service Award is awarded for outstanding service to the University in general and to fellow students in particular.

Community Service Award
— Farah A. Meah (Glen Ellyn)

The Community Service Award is awarded for outstanding service in religious, educational, social or political activities.

The Awards in Academic Honors are conferred upon students who have distinguished themselves by positive achievement in their field of study. These students have achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or better and have either completed research of consequence or have been published in their field.

Benedictine’s Center for Civic Leadership Makes Successful Debut

by Katie Gregory

Former Illinois gubernatorial candidate Jim Ryan, G68, champions getting more young people involved in their local communities and in the broader political process. That is why he founded the Center for Civic Leadership and Public Service at his alma mater, Benedictine University.

The Center’s inaugural two-day conference in late April featured large, enthusiastic crowds, a riveting panel discussion headlined by Chicago Tribune editorial page editor Cornelia Grumman and an insightful presentation by Washington Post syndicated columnist David S. Broder.

Broder’s keynote address, “Democracy in Modern America: Are Citizens Really in Charge? A Washington Perspective,” filled the University’s Scholl Hall lecture hall and set the tone for the highly successful conference.

“All in all, it was a successful two days and a great way to kick off the opening of the Center,” said Ryan, who was named a Distinguished Fellow at Benedictine University in January 2003. “The keynote address not only gave students a chance to engage with Broder, but it also provided them with a very valuable learning experience.”

Funding for the two-day conference was provided by the McCormick-Tribune Foundation.

The Center for Civic Leadership and Public Service is comprised of two main components — the Civic Education Program and the Public Service Fellows Program.

Civic Education Program

The Civic Education Program includes the Jim Ryan Symposium on Public Affairs, a semiannual forum which will feature state and national leaders debating issues important to civic and political life, and the Visiting Scholar Program, which will bring scholars in the fields of law, politics and government to Benedictine University.

Students who engage in this program will be part of simulations including Mock Trial, Model U.N. and Model Illinois Government. These students may also qualify for Public Service Scholarships during their third and fourth year of academic study.

Major contributors for the establishment of the Center include Joseph Kindlon, a member of the Board of Trustees at Benedictine University; Fred KrehbIEL, CEO of the Molex Corporation; and Jim Hughes, Sr. of Wise-Hughes Builders in Wheaton.

Major contributors for the Public Service Scholarships include Robert W. Fioretti, partner in the Chicago loop law firm of Fioretti & Lower Ltd., and Carol Doris.

“Jim Ryan is a person of vision and integrity, and I agree with him that we must encourage and nurture our student-citizens to become the leaders of tomorrow,” Fioretti said. “By giving to the scholarship fund, we are not just making an investment for a few, but we are making an investment for all of us.”

Public Service Fellows Program

The second component of the Center is the Public Service Fellows Program, which is open to highly motivated students nominated by faculty based on their academic record and leadership potential. This curriculum is designed to prepare students for careers in public service.

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Designated students who wish to learn more about their rights and responsibilities as citizens.
Welcomed by a thunderous ovation, Gen. Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.) addressed more than 2,000 people on May 11 at Benedictine University’s Dan and Ada Rice Center.

Powell’s appearance was part of the University’s Richard C. Becker Great Issues – Great Ideas lecture series and was sponsored by Benedictine University in association with Calamos Investments of Naperville and Sun Publications.

During his presentation, titled “Diplomacy: Persuasion, Trust and Values,” Powell spoke of his days as national security advisor to former President Ronald Reagan and as Secretary of State under President George W. Bush. He also spoke of the transition he has made from one of the most powerful men in the world to John Q. Public.

“I tell them, one day you’re consulting with foreign ministers all over world, everybody is following every word you say, one day you’re the center of attention . . . and the next day you ain’t.”

Powell told the overflow audience that he does not miss the power, the recognition and the adulation that came with his political position. But he does miss one of the perks.

“I never miss anything I used to do,” Powell said. “I like to look through the windshield, not through the rear-view mirror. The only thing I miss is my airplane. It was soooo cool. My own 757. I would walk out of the VIP section of some airport, stroll down a red carpet, and there would be my 757 with ‘United States of America’ on both sides.

“I’d walk up to the stairs and the pilot would start the right engine,” he added. “I’d reach the top of the stairs and he’d start the left engine. I’d reach my seat and there would be my Diet Coke waiting for me. Then they took my plane away and gave it to Condee (current Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice).”

Powell also spoke seriously on such topics as terrorism, the socioeconomic ties that bind nations and the political realities of a world “made flatter” by information.

“Information technology is making the world flatter,” he said. “You can move information and knowledge to any place in the world instantly. That has fundamentally changed our ability to do business anywhere in the world. Information is reshaping the world…basically for the better.”

He said that terrorists will never win as long as Americans remain true to the ideals that have shaped this nation.

“They can kill our fellow citizens, and we’ll be mad and go after them and we will mourn. But what they can’t do, what they can never do, is change the nature of society, change who we are as a people. Only we can do that to ourselves.

“We must remain an open, welcoming, generous, considerate society,” Gen. Powell said. “If we do that, terrorists will lose.”

Gen. Powell also spoke of forging and retaining alliances with countries throughout the world, how those alliances are based on friendship and trust, and how we “must remain steadfast with our friends.”

He also spoke of the challenges America faces in the future and the three “E’s” — economics, energy and education.

“One of our greatest challenges is that none of our kids is lost along the way,” Gen. Powell said. “We cannot afford to lose a single child, especially with the competition we have with the rest of the world.”

Great Issues – Great Ideas

Gen. Powell Espouses Friendship, Trust During Appearance at Benedictine
In earlier centuries, a Renaissance man was defined as one well versed in the arts and sciences. Today’s Renaissance man is an entrepreneur who also has power, purpose and is concerned about improving social issues. I doubt that Will Gillett, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Benedictine University, would agree with his power, but he definitely has purpose, concern and is a philanthropist.

Gillett is a modern Renaissance man no matter the environment. Dressed in a business suit, he chairs the Boards of four institutions; in a tuxedo, he frequently attends fund-raising and social events, and in blue jeans and a sweatshirt he has acted with Team Benedictine to beautify the Benedictine University campus.

When asked how he became involved at Benedictine and other philanthropic endeavors, Gillett smiles and replies — Joe Kindlon. Their friendship began years ago when they were members of the Naperville Country Club. Gillett has adopted Kindlon’s oft-repeated phrase: “It’s important to give back to the community when you’ve been blessed.”

Raised on a Wisconsin dairy farm near Rosendale that has been in the family for 125 years, Gillett attended grade school and high school in town and matriculated at the University of Wisconsin in Madison for a degree in agriculture. After a short time, he decided to go into the business side of agriculture.

After graduation and two years in the Army, he worked for 14 years in management and food service positions with Wilson & Co., Inc., a major meat company. He left Wilson in 1974 to become vice president of Interstate Foods, a company that supplied shortening to McDonalds. In 1982, he became president of Interstate.

With several partners in 1988, he bought and became president and CEO of Fresh Start Foods, a food manufacturer that provided bakery and shortening for McDonalds. In 1994, Fresh Start sold the McDonald’s bakery unit to Campbell Soup Co. and the shortening division to Cargill, Inc. In January of that year, he took a position as vice president of Cargill’s, McDonald’s business unit that provides shortening and other products to McDonalds.

In 1998, he supposedly “retired,” but as Chairman of four Boards, he is hardly retired. Gillett is Chairman of the Boards of Benedictine University, Benedictine’s partner Springfield College in Illinois, Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital and Clinic, and the First DuPage Bank in Westmont. He sometimes defines himself as a “Business Executive.” but he is more than that.

Kindlon and Gillett often talked of ways of “giving back” to the community. In the early 1980s, Kindlon approached Gillett about Benedictine and asked him to consider membership on the President’s Advisory Council (PAC). Gillett was a PAC member from 1987 until 1991, when he became a Trustee.

In 1995, “the school was at a Y in the road,” said Gillett. “One way would lead to closing the school, while the other way was to develop a Capital Campaign to provide funds for a new Birk Hall of Sciences and Kindlon Hall of Learning.” Gillett helped develop the Capital Campaign that led to the expansion of Benedictine.

He became Chairman of the Board in 1999, and instilled a philosophy that we have to run the school as a business or the doors will close. “We need to recognize that we cannot be all things to all people, and we need to specialize,” said Gillett. “So we started concentrating on our core curriculum to remain financially solvent and increase enrollment.” Gillett admits that he did not know much about education, but he did know how to run a business. Since most Trustees are experts in their field, he encouraged the Board Committees to resolve major issues by using the Trustees’ expertise.

When Benedictine Hall was headed for demolition in 2001, there was concern about the 14 stained-glass windows in the Benedictine Hall chapel. Will and Dayle Gillett assumed the expense for removal, repairing, cleaning and re-installation of the windows in the Krasa Chapel, Kindlon and Scholl buildings. Dedication of the re-blessed windows took place in the Krasa Center chapel on August 12, 2003.

After 9/11, when University President William Carroll conceived the idea of a “First Responders” program, Gillett was instrumental in helping him obtain a federal grant in February 2004 to establish a program for police and firemen. First Responders pay no tuition, but pay for their textbooks. There are currently 43 public service organizations in the program, from Oswego to Crystal Lake in the suburbs, and east in Skokie and Oak Park.

Gillett also promoted and encouraged the permanent partnership of Benedictine with Springfield College in Illinois, which has been very successful.

“I have always believed in small, value-oriented Catholic institutions, for they have a special place in the world of education, and Benedictine is a place of hospitality, friendship and camaraderie. With several religions represented on campus, the Benedictine and Catholic values are instilled in all students.”
Redefining Spring Break

This year, the typical Spring Break ritual was broken by Benedictine University students who wanted to make a difference and view the world through the reality that is life-experience. The first trip was a work trip to help rebuild a Louisiana town destroyed by hurricanes, the second a learning trip to see the poor living and working conditions suffered by people in Tijuana, Mexico.

Pecan Island, Louisiana: Rebuilding Hope

Twenty-eight students and five Benedictine staff members went on a work trip to Pecan Island, Louisiana to help the town rebuild after the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The students had coordinated and raised funds for this unique way to spend their vacation. They took a 19-hour bus trip toward the heat and humidity of southwest Louisiana. When they arrived, they powered-washed buildings, bleached interior walls of homes, pulled out rotting flooring, hauled debris and just about anything else that needed to be done during their time there. At night, they slept on floors, cots or pews in the old church they were calling home for the week.

Here is what some of the participants recounted about this life-changing trip.

Flora Liu, sophomore studying pre-pharmacy (now at Midwestern University, pharmacy school)

Pecan Island is a small town that was hit very badly by Hurricane Rita and did not receive much aid, so I wanted to be able to help in the hurricane relief effort. As secretary of Conservation Coalition, Benedictine’s Earth Club, I was eager to help in the efforts to plan the mission trip with University Ministry. I had a great experience at Pecan Island. Our group of 33 Benedictine students and staff was large enough to be divided into groups to work on several projects including power-washing and painting buildings, picking up debris scattered in people’s yards, pulling up carpet, sanding and varnishing kitchen cabinets, and giving donations that had been collected by Benedictine students and faculty. Each day we woke up early and had a simple breakfast and packed sandwiches, snacks and drinks for lunch. We worked about eight hours at our assigned worksite. The rest of our day was shower-time and free-time until dinner was ready. We all had to adjust to a simple lifestyle including quick showers, simple foods and sleeping on cots and church pews. Every night we also had group activities which were great ways to get to know each other and bond. By the end of the week, we had all grown closer and made new friends.

It was an incredible feeling to know that the residents were so touched by us and our willingness to help. They were pleasantly surprised that such a large group, especially of young students, were happy to come all the way from Illinois just to lend a hand in helping them rebuild.

We were able to get a $5,000 grant from Benedictine. The grant allowed us to cover most costs so that all participants only needed to do some fundraising and pay a $20 fee to go on the trip. We also received many donations from generous businesses, Benedictine students and faculty during our Tools Drive. Thanks to all the contributions, we were able to have a successful trip to this devastated region.

Giving to others is also a way of giving to yourself. You feel a sense of gratification from helping others. Spreading the love and compassion from one human to another is something one can only experience herself — not through hearing about or reading another person’s experience.

Shefy Alexander, history, C08

As an individual I felt compelled to do something, not just donate money and go back to my daily routine while people suffered, but rather reach out and lend my helping hands. Many of the people devastated by the Hurricanes literally lost everything and really couldn’t be compensated for it. At least if a few of us could tell them that we cared for their loss, it might brighten up their day a little.

The experience was probably one of the best feelings I’ve ever felt — granted we woke up early, lived very simply and did construction work — but seeing people smile, sharing memories with strangers who became some of my closest friends, learning about the Island from one resident’s childhood memories, experiencing the tears of others, really you have no words, you had to just be there.

I want to share even the tiniest bit of pure happiness and love I experienced on that little island with the rest of the world.

It was important to have the school behind us. Our club’s advisor, professor Jean-Marie Kauth, set us up with Rev. Linda Owens and everything just flowed from there. Our dean, Marco Masini; school nurse, Barbara Allanach; associate dean, Jon Miller; and the director of community development, Barbara Dwyer, showed that the Benedictine staff supported our cause by physically coming along on the trip with us.

In addition, the University allowed us to conduct a Box Project Sleep-Out to raise money. Frank Budig, from
Tijuana, Mexico: Seeing the Reality of the Underprivileged

Seedy bars that attract underage drinkers from across the border. Street merchants hawking inexpensive wares to naive tourists. People living in cardboard boxes underneath bridges. A city where the rate of HIV infection is nearly three times the national average. Rampant drug traffic.

There is a side of Tijuana, Mexico that is as far from the resort towns of Cancun and Puerto Vallarta as Chicago’s near West Side housing projects are from the Gold Coast. A side where workers struggle to exist, earning subsistence wages and receiving few or no benefits while laboring in factories (“maquiladoras”) unfettered by even minimal safety standards.

This is where 11 students from Benedictine University spent their 2006 spring break, meeting with Mexican U.S. representatives, talking to residents of a shelter for deported laborers, visiting schools, health clinics and women’s centers, interviewing factory workers and touring the border with the Mexican counterparts to the U.S. Border Patrol.

The tour was arranged by the International Business Department at Benedictine through “Global Exchange,” a San Francisco-based non-profit company that specializes in what are called “reality tours.” Eleven Benedictine students (joined by a student from the University of Wisconsin and one from San Diego State) spent four days in Mexico.

“We wanted to show students the consequences of business decisions made far away and which were generally focused on the bottom line, and how the search for cheap labor means that people work hard for low pay and few if any benefits,” said John Thornburg, Ph.D. associate professor of International Business and Economics at Benedictine University.

The Benedictine students who participated in the tour were: Alex Sosenko, Joliet; Andrew Glogowski, Addison; Anjali Alva, League City, Texas; Billy Prystash, Downers Grove; and Clarisa Gomez, Melrose Park; Karina Cabrales, Schaumburg; Lucia Jimenez, Aurora; Mitchell Davis, Glen Ellyn; Robert Maestas, Los Alamos, N.M.; Tiffany Rickelman, Roselle; and John Broussard of Baton Rouge, La.

Among the sites visited by the students were Casa del Migrante, a shelter for workers deported from the United States and run by a Catholic religious order from Italy (the Scalabrinian Missionaries); and the community of Maclovio Rojas, where poor workers band together to provide basic services for residents.

“I don’t think anybody could have expected to see what we saw,” Alva said.

“It was truly humbling to see people live the way they do. It makes you think about the privileges we enjoy at the cost of the lives of the less fortunate.”

The group also met with a foreign business investment promoter with the Secrataria de Desarrollo Economico, who discussed the business climate for foreign investors in Baja California and Tijuana; and an urban researcher at the Colegio de Frontiera Norte, who made a presentation on the relationship between urban space, income poverty, retail centers and industrial parks.

“In all cases, the best way to understand these issues is through direct, face-to-face contact and experience,” Thornburg said.

“As an anthropologist, this is the method that works best for understanding other people who seem to have little relationship to us.

“There is nothing like being cold, wet and muddy as you huddle talking to a member of a poor community — who really can’t get out of the rain — to understand their reality,” he said.

Carmel O’Farrell, nuclear medicine technology, COB

The trip was amazing. We had such a wonderful time doing many different tasks. The best part of the trip for me was meeting all the people of Pecan Island.

I got a wonderful sense of community from this trip. It has expanded my Benedictine family by allowing me an opportunity to get to know people from Benedictine that I had never even spoken to before.

Not only has this trip inspired me to help people more in the future, it has made me want to get others involved more as well. I really want others to experience the amazing benefit of helping others. When you go somewhere where you are truly needed, and you see the difference you can make in someone’s life, it is a very powerful and spiritual experience.

I was able to get help from all areas of the school and everyone was willing to do what they could to help us reach our goals.

Rev. Linda Owens,

University Ministry

The purpose of our trip was to help rebuild homes in the New Orleans area. It was also an opportunity to ‘rebuild’ a Spring Break for the students. Because of the positive experience we had on this trip, we are looking into continuing this as a Spring Break trip. We were told that it will take at least 10 years to rebuild the Gulf area.

My experience in Pecan Island was two-fold. As one of the coordinators, I wanted to make sure everything went smooth and that everyone would gain something from the trip. I was also concerned about the finance end of it because we didn’t want eager students to be turned down because of lack of funds. I can say that by far, this was absolutely the best mission trip I have encountered. The community I saw among our students and staff was beyond compare. To see the excitement in our students eyes after a full day of hard work, well I don’t have the words for it. The families accepted us with open arms and we saw and felt community in the truest of forms.

I believe that in helping others we help ourselves. We become better citizens which makes a better world. As a non-Catholic, I have come to understand the values in the Rule of St. Benedict. Those values are the reason it’s important for our students to participate in outreach/volunteer opportunities. By investing in our students, we live out those values: A Search for God, Hospitality, Living life in balance, Stewardship of the earth, Living and working in community and Concern for the development of each person. That’s six of the seven values that are fulfilled through a trip of this nature.

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Faculty Insight

What is the biggest issue facing this country in the next five years?

College of Science

Alfred R. Martin, Ph.D.,
professor of biological sciences

The relatively new and exciting field of molecular biology is the new great frontier in science. In fact, the late 20th and the 21st centuries are sometimes dubbed “The Age of Molecular Biology,” just as the atomic age of the early 20th century was the “Age of Physics.” Molecular biology has given us powerful new tools in medicine and agriculture, as well as insights into the character of the gene and into the nature of life itself. It has allowed us to make new and more effective medicines, and to better understand the process of cancer and genetic disorders. But it has also given us profound knowledge of how the evolutionary process works. The evidence clearly shows for example, that genes that control embryonic development, called hox genes, can trigger major evolutionary change. Thus, our understanding of molecular biology, and a burgeoning fossil record (including the human fossil record) have left no doubt among biologists that evolution is a very real and vital biological process.

The most immediate crisis we presently face is that the great insights into the working of nature which biologists have gleaned from their studies are often out-of-sync with the understanding, knowledge and beliefs of average American citizens who have very little understanding of modern biology. Many recent polls have shown that more than half of Americans do not accept evolution but believe humans were created in their present form just a few thousand years ago. For example, a CBS News poll taken in November 2004, (online report) reveals that 55 percent of all Americans believe that humans were created in their present form. Sixty-five percent believe that evolution and creationism should both be taught in public school science classes (even though creationism is not considered a science) and 37 percent prefer to teach creationism instead of evolution in science classes. Pseudoscientific creationism is often clothed in the guise of “Intelligent Design” (ID) which insists, again against the evidence, that natural processes cannot cause complexity in biological systems. Part of the problem is that most people do not seem to understand what science is and how it operates and part of the problem derives from the fact that the issue is often presented as a false dichotomy; one can believe in either a creator God or in evolution, but not both. This is despite the fact that mainline churches, religious organizations and leaders including His Holiness John Paul II, Catholic Bishops, Catholic scholars and many Protestant groups, seeing no conflict between evolution and religion, have spoken out eloquently in favor of evolutionary science and against teaching literal six-day creationism and ID as science.

College of Liberal Arts

Roger Rose, Ph.D., associate professor of political science

Over the next five years there are, of course, many critical issues that should be addressed. From the world of politics and political science, the biggest issue will remain the war in Iraq. Unlike an issue like immigration, in which a thoughtful compromise is possible and would remove the issue from the front burner, the war is not going away.

Iraq may slowly fade from the public’s concern as American troops will continue to die — maybe even at a high level of 50-75 a month for another year — and the tax payer will continue to fund a war that is far more expensive than most people realize. ($60-$80 billion a year is just the direct cost and doesn’t include the long-term cost of Veteran health care, interest on the debt borrowed, replacement of equipment, etc. A real estimate that includes short- and long-term costs would be approximately $1.2 to 2 trillion, assuming we don’t leave fully until at least 2010.)

The cost in terms of Iraqi lives will remain enormous and we can only pray that the current civil war (I use the standard political science definition of civil war) does not explode into an all-out conflict in a failed state. I expect that most, or all, American troops will be removed from Iraq before five years is up, but the effects of the war will be felt powerfully for at least five years.

After five years, no one can be sure what may happen. Only one thing is for certain — our nation cannot afford the level of current spending. But send me an e-mail in five years and we’ll see.
College of Business
Charles Gabala, Ph.D.,
professor of finance;
chair, undergraduate
business department

One key issue that will matter in
the next five years is the emphasis
on cash flow management.

Managing cash flow will be the most significant issue driving business decisions during the next five years. Coming from a finance professor, how can you be surprised? Yet cash flow will shape most important decisions made in both the public and private sectors. Cash flow will drive investment decisions, bank lending decisions and many types of personal decisions.

Cash flow is a focus upon generating revenue streams while simultaneously containing expenses. The focus upon generating cash flow will affect the private sector because the key goal for most businesses is to maximize shareholder wealth. In the public sector a focus upon revenue generation and cost containment will continue to cause managers to introduce business practices that can be useful to run government and non-profit entities.

The one constant in a capitalistic economy is change. Because of the desire to maintain international competitiveness, businesses will change their focus almost overnight. The result of the emphasis placed upon increasing cash flow can range from personal enrichment to job displacement. There will be significant pressures on the behavior of the employees to navigate their way through the change.

The emphasis upon cash flow can create pressure. A recent article in the Wall Street Journal reported that many employees are calling in sick; the trend has hit a five-year high. Employees may feel that they are entitled to an occasional day off. Complexities that result from multitasking in a world driven by e-mail and cell phones can rob employees of the time that is essential to think. Moreover, pressure can undermine the integrity of decisions.

The complexity of life brought about by the acceleration in the rate of change could be contributing to both an increase in employee stress and a potential to compromise ethical standards. This is where the hallmark of a good liberal arts education can really pay off. Individuals who are capable of thinking through issues have the potential to be more adept at recognizing the side effects of the high priority being placed upon cash flow management.†

The next speaker in the Visiting Scholar program is Sister Carol Keehan, D.C., president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association of the United States. The topic for her visit will be “Catholic Perspectives on Health Care.”

If you are interested in attending, or need more information, please contact Fr. Philip Timko, O.S.B., at (630) 829-6266 or ptimko@ben.edu.
Teachers Can Become Better Science Teachers by Learning at the Source

and the Golden Apple Foundation to offer a Master of Science in Science Content and Process (M.S.S.C.P.).

The M.S.S.C.P. program is designed for elementary and middle school teachers and those employed as informal science educators at parks, zoos and museums who want to increase their science knowledge and confidence in science teaching.

“Many teachers are underprepared to teach science,” said John Mickus, professor, College of Science and program director. “Some teachers have taken only the minimum science credit for certification and these are generally chosen from a list of nonrelated science courses.

“Teachers can use additional high-quality courses to improve their content knowledge and the tools to help them use technology in their classrooms,” he said.

Students in the program will learn inquiry-based teaching concepts at Benedictine and study science content at the educational sites of the partner organizations. Students will take courses in zoology at Brookfield Zoo, botany at Morton Arboretum, physics and astronomy at Fermilab and ecology and environmental science at various forest preserve sites.

The program will be taught in a “cohort” model — a group of no more than 24 students who progress through the program at the same pace — that meets evenings and some weekends during the academic year. Day courses will take place during the summer. Teachers can manage full-time employment yet still complete the program in two years.

The program will be taught by Golden Apple Fellows, research scientists, naturalists and others who teach in the education programs of the partner organizations. Applicants must hold a valid teacher’s certificate or a position in an informal education program. The first cohort will begin in June 2007.

Mickus added that the goal of the program is to inspire lifelong enthusiasm for science among grade-school students.

“A teacher who is competent in science and comfortable teaching it will create greater interest in science among students,” he said.

For additional information, contact Mickus at jmickus@ben.edu.

Future efforts include rejuvenating the Peer Tutoring program. Many students believe that only those who have difficulty writing should seek help; in fact, most writers solicit feedback before revising.

A full-time writing director, Jean-Marie Kauth, Ph.D., manages the program, conducts faculty workshops and seminars, and works directly with faculty members to integrate the teaching of writing into the rest of the curriculum, and particularly the WI courses. Her weekly Writing Tips have proved popular with faculty and students. Visit www.ben.edu/programs/centers_institutes/writing/ for more information.

Writing Across the Curriculum at Benedictine University

This fall, Benedictine University launches a new Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) program. The new program combines the First-Year-Seminar and Argumentative Writing into one course that provides students with the complete toolkit for their first year at Benedictine: critical thinking, academic writing and the Benedictine heritage. The new program retains a second writing course on research in the disciplines. Key to the new program are the Writing Intensive (WI) courses, one in the Core and one in the major field of study. A simultaneous curricular change remedies a gap in the Cultural Heritage sequence of the Core; now students take all four courses in the sequence: ancient, medieval, modern and contemporary. Faculty members collaborated to preserve the best parts of both first-semester courses and to teach writing not only in the first year, but at all levels of study.

Students take the new Writing Assessment as they enter Benedictine, at the end of the first year and as seniors. Comparing pre- and post-tests gives one measure of the success of our students, as well as the Writing Program itself. The pilot courses, which ran fall 2005, included additional modes of evaluation: course essays, final exams, evaluations and focus groups. By all measures, the pilot courses performed well.

Future efforts include rejuvenating the Peer Tutoring program. Many students believe that only those who have difficulty writing should seek help; in fact, most writers solicit feedback before revising.

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In an era characterized by ambiguity, risk and uncertainty, today’s organizational managers must continuously innovate, manage change as a matter of routine, elicit the best cooperative efforts from employees and help their organizations deal with a changing business environment.

The Benedictine University Executive Master of Business Administration (E.M.B.A.) program provides business leaders with a collaborative educational experience that imparts superior, practical management skills, orients learners to best business practices and instills a sense of personal and lifelong commitment to improving the leadership within organizations.

“I learned to think completely differently than I had ever done before,” said Ed Garrity, M.D., professor of medicine, vice chair, clinical operations, The University of Chicago Hospitals. “I also learned at Benedictine that business ethics is not an oxymoron. Those who are concerned with justice and fairness can have a huge impact on the business world.

“I know my education from Benedictine will serve me very well,” he added. “This program worked for me and met my needs.”

Founded a decade ago, the E.M.B.A. program was initially designed to help physicians and senior health care executives acquire the management skills necessary to deal with the revolution in the health care industry. However, inquiries by other executives prompted Benedictine administrators to extend the program to all business professionals.

“The cohort model was essential to the learning experience, drawing on the knowledge and experience of many talented people in the cohort,” Hanselmann added. “The instructors are top-notch, knowledgeable and supportive. I highly recommend the Benedictine E.M.B.A. program for anyone desiring a quality, flexible graduate program.”

This adult learning model has proved to be enormously successful with highly self-motivated adults because it affords intense learning opportunities within a group of peers.

“Benedictine’s E.M.B.A. program empowered me to receive my M.B.A. in 16 months while working a full-time job, raising a family and maintaining my sanity,” said Susan Hanselmann, R.N., B.S.N., M.B.A., case manager, transition care coordinator.

Successful applicants have a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited university and substantial managerial experience at the executive level. Academic performance, personal and professional goals, leadership experience and other factors are assessed during the admissions process.

For more information about the program, call the Enrollment Center at (630) 829-6300, e-mail admissions@ben.edu or visit www.ben.edu.

Get Your Benedictine Alumni Items Today

Select items are available on the bookstore Web site at ben bkstore.com. For a greater selection visit the store in the Krasa Student Center.

ben bkstore.com

Attention Alumni: Refer a Student

If you know someone who would make a good addition to the Benedictine student community, help them complete the alumni-referred prospect student form online at www.ben.edu/referral and their application fee will be waived.

For more information, contact the Enrollment Center at (630) 829-6300 or admissions@ben.edu.

Voluntary Subscriptions Support Magazine

The cost of publishing and mailing Benedictine Voices, the alumni magazine, continues to increase. Your tax-deductible gift of $15 helps defray these mounting costs during difficult budget times. This is strictly voluntarily. You can enclose your donation in the attached contribution envelope.
Class of 1936
Mike Krak was honored posthumously by his high school, Benedictine High School, in Cleveland, OH. Krak was inducted into the school’s Athletic Hall of Fame. The program reflects, “There’s no football player in Benedictine history who holds more milestone ‘firsts’ than Mike Krak.” Krak passed away April 1984 in his hometown of Cohoes, NY.

Class of 1943
Bishop Michael J. Dudick, Philosophy, retired Bishop of the Eparchy of Passaic, celebrated his 90th birthday surrounded by the presence of clergy representing the Eparchy including Bishop Andrew, Fr. Gerald Dino, Protosyncellus, and the synneli representing the six syncelettes which comprise the eparchy. The day began with an official Eparchial proclamation read by Bishop Andrew commemoarating Bishop Michael’s 90th birthday and recognizing all of his years of devotion and service as Bishop of Passaic. The celebration was held at Holy Annunciation Monastery, Sugarloaf, PA, where the Bishop has been in residence for the last several years as a special guest of the Carmelite nuns.

Class of 1965
Steve Duerst, English, recently retired as an industrial engineer and company safety manager from Wahl Clipper Corporation. Duerst, his wife, Debbie, and their three children reside in Sterling, IL.

Class of 1966
Glen Gabert, Political Science, was awarded the 2006 Community Service Award from the Rotary Club of Jersey City – Daybreak. Gabert has been president of the Hudson County Community College since 1992 and is the longest serving president of the College.

Class of 1972
Thomas W. Christiansen, History, and his wife, Janice, are currently living in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates where Christiansen is working for the State Department.

Class of 1976
Darlene Castelvecchi, Psychology, has been honored as a member of the Who’s Who Among American Teachers 2005-2006. Castelvecchi and her husband, Jaime Arias, reside in Elgin.

Donald B. Pope-Davis, Ph.D., Psychology, associate vice president for graduate studies and professor of psychology at the University of Notre Dame, has been appointed chair of the University’s Faculty Board on Athletics and its NCAA faculty athletics representative. “As a member of both the Faculty Board on Athletics since 2002 and the Provost Advisory Council since 2004, Don has a distinct understanding of and appreciation for the blend of athletic and academic excellence that we seek at Notre Dame,” said Fr. John Jenkins, C.S.C., President, University of Notre Dame. Pope-Davis is also the author of three books, “Multicultural Counseling Competencies: Assessment, Education, and Supervision,” The Intersections of Race, Class and Gender in Multicultural Counseling,” and, his most recent, “Handbook of Multicultural Competencies in Counseling and Psychology.”

Class of 1984
Dave Dunlay, Ph.D., M.B.A., has successfully defended his dissertation and earned his Ph.D. in Business Administration/Information Systems from Argosy University. Dunlay is an assistant professor at Aurora University Dunham School of Business.

Class of 1985
Jerome (Larry) Bettag, Communication Arts, is vice president with Cherry Creek Mortgage in St. Charles. He and his wife, Michelle, also make their home in St. Charles.

Class of 1986
Fr. Patrick Mulchay, Religious Studies, was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Joliet by Bishop Joseph Imesch on June 3, 2006. Fr. Mulchay has been assigned to St. Raphael Parish in Naperville.

Class of 1987
Maurice Bell, Political Science, has recently been promoted to the position of MDFS for the Central Division of PepsiCo. Bell has been with Quaker/PepsiCo for eight years and was a recipient of the 2002 PepsiCo Ring of Honor Award. Bell and his wife, Sarah, are the proud parents of two children, Benjamin and Olivia. They reside in Wheaton.

Fr. Andrew Skrobout, Chemistry, was recently ordained on May 20, 2006. Fr. Skrobout is assigned to the Diocese of Rockford.

Class of 1988
Richard Anderson, M.D., Biochemistry, was named the recipient of the Outstanding Physician and House Staff Angel Award at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, IL.

Class of 1990
David Soviak, M.B.A., is the president of the firm Soviak & Associates, Inc., a manufacturer’s representative firm. Soviak and his wife, Cindy, reside in Plainfield.

Class of 1993
Scott P. Mitchell, M.B.A., has recently been named president of Think Partnership Inc., a publicly traded interactive advertising company based in Northbrook, IL. Mitchell and his wife, Kristi, reside in Palm Harbor, FL.

Class of 1996
Nicolle Pavisic, International Business and Economics, is the director of development for Europe with American Invsco. Pavisic oversees business expansion in the U.K., Irish and European markets with relation to their overseas investors purchasing real estate in key markets such as Chicago, Florida and Nevada.

Class of 1997
Amy Zerkle, Business and Economics, has recently accepted the position of cross-country coach at Holy Cross College in Notre Dame, IN. This will be the first year for cross-country and the first varsity sport for Holy Cross. Zerkle looks forward to attending the Benedictine Invite in the fall.

Class of 1998
Brian Kerrins, Finance, is the assistant vice president for Financial Federal Credit Inc. located in Lisle.

Class of 2002
Demetrius Ford, Communications, recently became the assistant director of admission at the Fort Worth campus of Westwood College. He currently resides in Dallas and is working on his M.B.A. in Global Management from the University of Phoenix.

What was your favorite Benedictine University activity while on campus?
E-mail lhale@ben.edu.
Class of 2004

Rex R. Mudge, M.S.M.O.B., is the vice president of human resources with Strack & Van Til in Highland, IN.

Saara Patel, Finance, has been appointed an Islamic Banking Consultant with University Islamic Financial Corporation (UIFC). UFC delivers faith-based home acquisition and deposit products to adherents of the Islamic faith and others who for religious reasons must avoid the receipt or payment of interest. Patel is a resident of Bensenville, IL.

Nicholas Scipione, Biology, has been appointed head baseball coach at Glenbard East High School in Lombard. He is also a chemistry teacher there.

Marriages

David E. Do, Health Science ’08, was recently married. Do and his wife, Jonelle, reside in Arlington Heights. Do has opened his own law firm, Law Office of David E. Do, in Rolling Meadows.

Aubrene (Knott) Fiore, Psychology ’99, was married in July 2005 to Eric Krantz. The couple resides in Downers Grove.

Diane M. (Weis) Krantz, Psychology ’01, was married in October 2005 to Eric Krantz. The couple resides in Montgomery, IL.

Michael A. Liss, M.D., Biology ’02, was married in May 2006 to Sarah Croskey. The couple was married in Milwaukee two days after they both earned their Doctor of Medicine degrees from the Medical College of Wisconsin. The newlyweds will relocate to the University of California at Irvine where Liss will begin a residency in urology and Sarah in pediatrics.

Kimberly (Kuzma) Moyer, Elementary Education ’03, and David Mayer, Psychology ’03, were married in July 2005. The couple met at orientation weekend at Benedictine University freshman year. Kimberly is a middle school math and science teacher at St. Dennis Catholic School in Lockport. She is also the co-chair of the Joliet Diocesan Science Teacher’s Association Region 11 Project Session which deals with heading up the project session for all science fair projects in Will, Kankakee, Grundy, DuPage and Kendall counties. David is an Internet manager. The couple resides in Joliet.

James Mihalik, Sociology ’01, was married to Sharyn (Kaczmarek) Mihalik in May 2006. The couple resides in Downers Grove.

Elizabeth (Blankenship) Nelson, Mathematics ’05, and Brian Nelson, Finance ’04, were married in December 2005. Brian works as an equity analyst for Morningstar and is pursuing his M.B.A. at the University of Chicago while Elizabeth is pursuing an M.L.I.S. at Dominican University. The couple resides in Aurora, IL.

Births

Janine (O’Connor) Augustyn, Business and Economics ’88, and her husband, James Augustyn, Biology ’89, welcomed a child, Jonah Francis, in August 2005. Jonah joins Madeline, 10 years; Bernadette, 8 years; Sam, 6 years; Veronica, 5 years; and Gabriel, 3 years. The family resides in North Aurora, IL.

Caroline (Blazowski) Revak, Writing and Publishing ’01, and her husband, Nick, welcomed their first child, Sarah Marie, in March. The family is at home in Shorewood, IL.

Carrieann (Fischer) Roth, Elementary Education ’98, and her husband, Joseph Wagner III, Elementary Education ’97, welcomed their second child, Joseph Edward, in April 2006. He joins big sister, Kathryn Marie. The family is at home in Carol Stream.


Dennis M. Motyka, Political Science ’71, passed away in March 2006.


Stanley F. Skawinski, Jr., ’62, passed away on October 1, 2005.

Mira Sremcevic, M.C.P. ’04, passed away in April 2006.†

Your Class Notes Can Win You A Prize

The Office of Alumni Relations and your fellow alumni want to know what is new in your life. Tell us what you have been up to; what you do in your career; interesting travel; a new job, promotion or award; family news; and more.

Please contact: Debbie Smith/Alumni Association fax (630) 829-6313 or e-mail alumni@ben.edu

Remember, even after you graduate, you are still connected here.
Receiving Duplicate Issues of *Voices* Magazine?

If you are receiving more than one issue of *Voices* per mailing, please let us know so we can reduce the cost of our mailings, as well as to eliminate any inconvenience to you. Please take a moment and call (630) 829-6099 to correct the problem.

Thank you for helping us to be more efficient and economical!

Do you have a favorite memory of your time on campus? Send one of your memories to lhale@ben.edu.

**receiving duplicate issues of voices magazine?**

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The photo (above) — found in an antique store in Florida — of the St. Procopius orchestra is from June 1919 or before. The center seated figure (behind the drum) is Fr. Ambrose Ondrak, O.S.B., later Abbot (1946-1961). To his right is Fr. Anselm Fleissig, O.S.B. To his right is Edward Hrdlicka, still a student, obviously, but who entered the Abbey in July 1919 and became Fr. Adolph, long-time librarian and the president of the college from 1956-1959.

— Fr. James Flint, O.S.B.

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**do you have a favorite memory of your time on campus?**

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**we want your class notes**

What's new in your life? A marriage or a child? A new job or promotion? Have you been published or honored? Let us know!

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Tell my classmates that...

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Please clip and mail to:
Benedictine University
Debbie Smith/Alumni Association
5700 College Road, Lisle, Illinois 60522

☐ Check here if you are interested in mentoring students or helping fellow alumni through the Alumnet program.

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**let us know**

Are these your classmates?

If you know, contact us at alumni@ben.edu.
New College of Liberal Arts Dean

Maria de la Cámara, Ph.D., formerly the dean of the School of Arts and Humanities at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, N.Y., is the new Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Benedictine University. De la Cámara was educated at Lake Erie College in Painesville, Ohio and Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland where she earned degrees in English and Spanish literature. She later served as Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences and Director of the International Studies Program at Lake Erie College. De la Cámara succeeds John Mickus, Ph.D., who was serving as the University’s interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts since the University reorganized into five colleges last spring. Mickus rejoined the faculty this summer to teach biology.

Sharon Borowiec (Business Administration) will present a paper, “How Online M.B.A. Programs Help Students Develop Virtual Team Skills Necessary in the Workplace,” at the Association for Advancement of Computing in Education’s 2006 E-Learn Conference this October in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Jane Crabtree (Undergraduate Business) presented the paper “U.S. and Chinese Labor Laws” and the case study “But They Never Told Me...” at the Midwest Business Administration Association conference in March at the Palmer House in Chicago. She also presented an entrepreneurship case study, “A Sporting Adventure: How to Retire in Style,” with a choice of ventures for students to select and develop a business plan at an academic conference in Fall 2005. Crabtree’s case study was later used in a case analysis and business plan competition that involved student teams from Ukraine and the State University of New York-Potsdam.

Jim Crissman (Psychology/Sociology) wrote an article titled “Death Lore” that was published in the Encyclopedia of Appalachia, a publication of the University of Tennessee Press in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Crissman and Sandy Chmelir (Sociology/Philosophy) presented a paper titled “The Women in the B-Western Movie” in April at the 86th annual meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association in San Antonio, Texas.


Barbara Dwyer (Community Development) presented to the Illinois Safety Council’s annual conference in May. Her program, “Hurricane Katrina: The Long Road Home” was delivered during two break-out sessions. Dwyer discussed the importance of volunteer management and service delivery during a disaster. She also served as a regional judge for the President’s Commission on White House Fellowships for a second year.

Benedictine University was the sponsor of the 12th Annual Association for Core Texts and Courses Conference held in Chicago April 6-9. Co-sponsors were Shimer College and the Great Books Foundation.


Mardelle Fortier (English) published a mystery story in Woman’s World, a national magazine produced by Bauer Publishing in Englewood Cliffs, NJ. The story appeared in the April 25, 2006 issue. Fortier won third prize in a poetry contest through Rambunctious Review, a literary journal in Chicago. The theme of the contest was “MIRROR,” and Fortier’s winning poem was titled, “Mr. Mirror.” She also had two poems published in the Spring 2006 edition of Prairie Lights Review published through College of DuPage. The poems were titled “Life of Eyes” and “The Fields.”

College of Business faculty and Ph.D. students presented more than 12 peer-reviewed papers at the National Academy of Management Conference in Atlanta in August. Presenters included Sandra Gill, Jim Ludema, Peter Sorensen, Ram Tenkasi and Therese Vaeger along with Organization Development students Jimmy Brown, Marie Daviglio, Darlene Lewis, Michael Murphy, Kathy Reno and Vince Sperduto.

Founded in 1936 by two professors, the Academy of Management is the oldest and largest scholarly management association in the world. Today, the Academy is the professional home for 15,951 members from 94 nations.

Ted Hogan (Disaster Management Certificate Program) was featured in an article appearing in the Chicago Tribune on March 9. Hogan was hired by the Will County Board to assess potential health threats caused by radioactive tritium spills at the Braidwood Nuclear Power Generating Station. Hogan worked for ComEd as superintendent of safety and industrial hygiene before founding his own consulting firm and joining Benedictine University as the director of the Disaster Management Certificate Program.

Jim Iaccino (Psychology) presented a paper on his Jungian archetypal research and its applicability to contemporary television series. The paper specifically examined “Battlestar Galactica’s Cylons: The Human Face Behind the Jungian Shadow.” Iaccino delivered the presentation at the 36th Annual Popular Culture Association (PCA) Conference held in Atlanta, Ga. on April 12-15. He was also the moderator for another panel examining the “Modern Realities of War as Reflected in the Battlestar Galactica Teleplay — ‘Resurrection Ship.’” Finally, Iaccino reviewed papers from nine other Galactica panels for possible inclusion in his edited text, Battlestar Galactica: A Successful Reimaging of the Classic Series (forthcoming from McFarland Press in 2007). The text will take a multidisciplinary approach to the series covering fields such as sociology, psychology, political science, gender studies, literature, communications and religion.

Nona Jones (Undergraduate Business) presented a case study titled “Upheaval in an Organization” at the Midwest Business Administration Association (MBAA) conference held in March at the Palmer House in Chicago. Jones also served as a discussant for three cases in a separate session of the conference.

Manu Kaur (Mathematics) published a paper titled “Use of Technology to Develop Student Intuition in Multivariable Calculus” in the March 2006 issue of PRIMUS (Problems, Resources, and Issues in Mathematics Undergraduate Studies). PRIMUS is a prestigious journal devoted to mathematics pedagogy and is supported by the United States Military Academy. ▶
Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B. (Curator of Benedictine art collection) gave a photographic slide presentation regarding Leonardo da Vinci’s famous painting, “The Last Supper,” at St. James Catholic Church in Glen Ellyn in May. Fr. Michael discussed how four paintings of the Last Supper displayed in Florence influenced Leonardo while he did an apprenticeship there. Leonardo’s version, painted between 1495 and 1498, was commissioned by the Dominican friars in Milan. Fr. Michael will investigate the hidden messages in the painting as proposed by Dan Brown in The Da Vinci Code and Javier Sierra’s The Secret Supper. Fr. Michael also gave this presentation at St. John the Apostle Parish in Villa Park and St. Mary of Gostyn Parish in Downers Grove.

Jonathan Lewis (Sociology/Psychology) presented a paper on map tattoos at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers. In April, he presented a paper at the Association for Core Texts and Courses describing the impact of Prokne’s “Geographia” on concepts of race.

Sharon Nelson and Grettel Stock-Kupperman (Library) presented “E-reserves with Voyager & EZProxy: Fast, Cheap & Good!” at the annual Enduser Conference in Des Plaines in April. Enduser is the conference of the Voyager Users Group. Voyager is the shared system Benedictine uses to provide access to library resources from our own collection and the collections of 64 other member libraries in Illinois.

Fifty College of Business full-time and adjunct faculty, along with administrative staff members, attended the College dinner in April to celebrate accomplishments during the 2005-06 academic year. Sue Peterson (Library) provided updates including recent book purchases from the Benedictine University Library. David Sonnenberger (associate provost) demonstrated the virtual private network (VPN) available to faculty as well as online grading and class roster procedures. Sandra Gill (Dean of the College of Business) provided an annual report on the College’s 2005-06 goals and future challenges. Jeff Madura (Undergraduate Business), Jim Zoda (M.B.A.) and Greg Sellers (M.B.A. adjunct faculty) each won a Benedictine picnic chair as part of the evening’s events. This was the first of semi-annual College of Business dinner meetings to further communication and community-building among all faculty and staff.

Niina Ronkainen (Chemistry) served as a vice-chair and evaluator of Marie Curie European Reintegration Grants funded by the Research Directorate of the European Commission. The grants assist the professional reintegration of the researcher in his/her country of origin after doing research for more than two years in another European Union or associated country. The evaluation process and consensus meetings took place in Brussels, Belgium in May 2006. She also gave two presentations at the 232nd National Meeting of the American Chemical Society held in March in Atlanta, Ga. Her undergraduate research student also presented his research results in the Analytical Chemistry division in a poster presentation titled “Amperometric Detection of l-D-glucose Using a Glucose Oxidase-modified Rotating Disk Electrode.” Ronkainen also organized and presided over a symposium titled “Recent Advances in Teaching Analytical Chemistry,” a part of the programming by the Chemical Education division of the ACS.

Roger P. Rose (Political Science) and Tammy Sarver (Political Science) attended the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association held in Chicago April 20-23. Sarver, along with Political Science senior Andrea Dillman, presented a paper titled “Predicting Successful Political Science Internships.” Rose presented a paper by himself, Keith Carroll (Psychology/Sociology) and Jessica Herrich (Political Science senior) titled, “Religious Beliefs, Practice and Student Interest in Public Service: Can Religious Activism Spark a New Generation of Government Workers?” Rose also served as a section head for the “Teaching Political Science” section of the conference, overseeing several panels and roundtables as well as poster sessions for “Undergraduate Research.”

Beverly Smith (Athletics) walked 39 miles as part of the annual Avon Walk for Breast Cancer in June. More than 3,500 participants in the event, which raised $8.2 million for access to care and finding a cure for breast cancer, made it the largest event and the most ever raised at any Avon Walk and the series launched in 2003. Smith described the walk as “an experience of a lifetime.”

Peter Sorensen and Therese Yaeger (Organization Development) were among the key presenters at two recent conferences which will help shape the future of the O.D. field. Program directors from 18 of the leading O.D. programs in the United States met April 7-8 at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, Pa. Yaeger and Sorensen were invited to present as representatives of one of the four founding programs and the oldest program in the field. Sorensen addressed the conference on the current state of and challenges for the future while Yaeger spoke on the future of O.D. in terms of global strategy and international O.D. doctoral education. The second event was the first international doctoral conference held in Lyon, France, in April. More than 40 Benedictine O.D. students and alumni, representing four generations of students, participated in the conference which attracted representatives of 56 schools from 18 countries. Yaeger, who played a major role in the development of the conference, addressed the conference on the topic of the contribution of the scholar/practitioner doctoral student to the understanding of international and global O.D. and the future of the field. Sorensen addressed the conference on the future of doctoral education in terms of organization and design. The Benedictine entourage at Lyon included students and alumni from each of the Ph.D. cohorts, as well as students and graduates of the Master of Science in Management and Organizational Behavior (M.S.M.O.B.) program. Yaeger and Sorensen are working with the University of Lyon and the Academy of Management in developing and implementing a transatlantic alliance in O.D. doctoral education.

Yaeger, who has authored a chapter on “The History and Current Application of Action Research in the United States” in a forthcoming book on international action research, will also be chairing a session on Global Strategic O.D. at the National Academy of Management. The session includes leading international scholars and global corporation O.D. executives.

They also received the Annual Silver Bowl Award from the O.D. Institute for Outstanding O.D. Project of the Year at the 36th Annual Information Exchange on “What is New in Organization Development and Human Resource Development” on May 15-19 at the Marriott Springhill Suites in Warrenville. Yaeger and Sorensen were honored for their work with Philip Anderson, Ph.D., Director of Global O.D. at Abbott Laboratories and a Benedictine University alumnus, as part of a culture change effort at Abbott.

Carol Swett (International Programs) presented a paper and case study, “Building Bridges Across Campus: Strategies for Internationalizing the Campus,” at the International Educators Association (NAFSA) Illinois/Wisconsin Conference held in April at the Grand Geneva in Lake Geneva, Wis. She was asked to present it at the Regional Conference in November 2006.

Lisa Townsley (Mathematics) chaired the recent Illinois Section of the Mathematical Association of America (ISMAA) annual conference at North Central College. The ISMAA met in April with record attendance exceeding 250. The conference featured four super plenary speakers, contributed papers, a minicourse and banquet, with entertainment by a “math band.” The entire Benedictine mathematics department assisted Townsley as session chairs and math club supervisors. The Benedictine Math Club, led by Pablo Marquez, Debbie Witzczak, Brad Callard, Amanda Studnicka, Musli Shihadi and Ken Miller, also hosted a very popular “Math Trail” for the undergraduate student participants. There were 25 undergraduate student presentations featuring 15 by Benedictine students. The faculty mentors were Mannmohan Kaur (talks by Delin Wang, Ivana Stefovska, Shakil Hafiz, Aimee Paran and Russel Zagorski), Tim Comar (Minjie Yang, Robert Maynard, Eugene Eyerson, Ken Miller, Debbie Witzczak and Jennifer Muskovin), Jeremy Nadolski (Pablo Marquez) and Lisa Townsley (Christine Martin). Christina Wichmann (Languages, Literature and Communication Arts) will have an article titled “The Street of Forty Doors: Alta Vista Terrace” appearing in the June issue of Historic Illinois.

Three Benedictine students, Lina Agha (Molecular Biology), Matt Moy (Molecular Biology) and Kathryn Tormos (Biology) presented their research findings at the Experimental Biology Meeting April 1-5 in San Francisco, Calif. Agha and Tormos investigated the expression of cry61 in osteoblastic and pre-osteoclastic cells exposed to cadmium. Both Agha and Tormos worked with Allison Wilson (Biologist) and Lee Ann Smith (Biologist). Tormos was awarded a fellowship from the American Physiology Society that funded her summer research and trip to the national conference. Agha and Moy were funded from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute student research fund. Moy’s research with Smith focused on the effects of ethanol on A-to-I RNA editing in fruit flies. +
Draws Rave Reviews

The NCAA Division III Men’s and Women’s Outdoor Track and Field Championships at the Village of Lisle-Benedictine University Sports Complex May 25-27 were characterized as an overwhelming success by local business owners, University and NCAA track and field officials.

More than 3,000 fans, friends and family members attended the three-day event, which featured nearly 700 competitors representing more than 325 colleges and universities. People came from as far away as California, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, New Hampshire and Ontario, Canada to enjoy the sportsmanship, spirited competition and Midwestern hospitality.

“This was a win-win for everybody,” said Richard Brink, general manager of the Lisle Hilton. “And we couldn’t have asked for nicer people. I wish we could have that weekend every weekend.”

The Lisle Hilton, Wyndham, Hyatt and Hickory Ridge Resort reported a three-day total of 1,595 room/nights, representing bookings in excess of $130,000, according the Larry Slade of the Lisle Convention and Visitors Bureau. Fans also booked rooms in hotels in nearby Oak Brook, Naperville, Glen Ellyn, Oakbrook Terrace and Downners Grove.

University officials reported that attendance at the event exceeded NCAA forecasts, setting a new record in the process.

The NCAA expected about 125 three-day passes to be needed for the event, but 500 were sold.

More than 1,100 spectator tickets were sold for Thursday’s preliminary events, about 1,300 were sold for Friday’s events and 1,600 were sold for Saturday. Combined with the number of competitors, coaches and NCAA officials, the venue hosted between 2,200 and 2,800 people each of the three days.

The event was also marked by a number of record-breaking efforts by participants.

The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, which won the women’s team title, will host the event in 2007 and 2008. But Benedictine University officials said they will make a push to bring these championships back to the western suburbs in 2009 and 2010.

New Women’s Soccer Coach:
Serge Eager to Infuse Electricity into Program

Robyn Serge, Benedictine University’s new head coach for women’s soccer, can hardly wait for the 2006 season to begin. Serge came to the Eagles’ program after two years as the head coach at Rockford (Ill.) College, which was also a member of the Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference with Benedictine.

“My goal is to make sure the returning players — as well as new recruits — keep looking forward toward the great things we can accomplish as a team. I want the student-athletes to be able to perform at the highest level of competition and yet still take time to enjoy their college experience. That ‘balance’ is what it’s all about, especially at the Division III level.”

Prior to joining the Rockford College staff, Serge was the head women’s soccer coach at Beloit (Wis.) College in 2002 and 2003. She was a graduate assistant women’s soccer coach at Rockford for three years (1999-2001).

Serge played semi-professional soccer for the United Systems Independent Women’s Soccer League (USIWSL). In 2005, Serge received her national diploma from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

MacPhee Leads Eagles’ Track and Field in NIIC Championship Meet

Senior thrower Mike MacPhee won three events — and placed fifth in another — highlighting the Eagles’ efforts at the Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) Outdoor Track and Field Championships. The winners of each event are considered to be All-Conference, while the runners-up are honorable mention.

MacPhee was tabbed as the NIIC’s field event “Performer of the Year” for his efforts. He was also a four-time winner of the NIIC’s “Player of the Week” award during the 2006 season.

Part of McPhee’s accomplishments in the NIIC meet was a then school-record hammer toss effort, logging a distance of 160’ 4”. Two weeks later, at the North Central Invitational, MacPhee made the most out of his last competition as an Eagle by heaving the hammer a new school record 161’ 1” to close out his career.

In the discus throw at the NIIC meet, MacPhee won the competition with a mark of 131’ 9”. He also took top honors in the javelin with an effort of 155’ 10”.

Teammate Matt Wilkin earned runner-up finishes in the hammer and discus. Pete Sgnabboss completed an Eagles’ sweep in the hammer by placing third. Ryan Chartrand was second in the men’s 110 meter hurdles. Chris Check and Rick Burke went 1-2 in the men’s 3000-meter steeplechase.

For the women, Stacey Sara won the 100 meters and was second in the 200 meters. She was also second in the 100 meter hurdles.

Freshman Hannah Aller was the runner-up in the women’s 800 meters. Teammate Michelle White was the second-place finisher in the 5000 meters.

As a team, the Eagles’ men were second among the league’s six teams. The Benedictine women’s team finished third.
Six Benedictine University student-athletes were named to the 2005-06 Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) All-Scholastic Team. The All-Scholastic Team considers a student-athlete’s accomplishments in the classroom, on the field of competition and in campus/community involvement.

Heading the women’s honorees is graduate student Mandy Semenik, who participated in both cross country and women’s tennis in the fall. She finished 18th at the 2005 NIIC cross country championships, running a personal best.

Among Semenik’s non-athletics activities are involvement in her church, participation in societies and campus clubs, as well as membership in several pre-professional organizations.

Jennifer Cox, a junior women’s basketball standout, was once again one of the premiere three-point field goal shooters in the NIIC and ranked among the NCAA All-NIIC first team after posting a record second-consecutive appearance on the conference standings, while softball conference standings, while softball were the trio of Steve Sadowski, Melissa Kennedy, and Kristin Bonk.

Sadowski, a senior pitcher, had a .401 on-base average as the Eagles’ leadoff man, scoring 22 runs and driving in 11 more. For the softball team, four of the Eagles’ players — Melissa Kennedy, Kristin Bank, Nikki Schlagel and Shannon Walker — were first-team selections. Wilkin was named honorable mention. For the baseball team, Tim Swanson was a two-sport starter (basketball and baseball) for the Eagles.

Junior volleyball player Liz Fredlund was the third female NIIC All-Scholastic award winner. An All-NIIC first team selection in 2005, Fredlund helped Benedictine to a second-consecutive NIIC championship in volleyball last fall. Fredlund ranked second in the NIIC in hitting percentage and fifth in kills per game.

She works as a campus recreation assistant. She is the volleyball team’s representative on SAAC and was a 2005 NCAA Leadership Conference participant. She was also named to the Dean’s List.

On the men’s side, sophomore Tim Swanson was a two-sport starter (basketball and baseball) for the Eagles. In NIIC hoops, Swanson ranked among the league leaders in scoring (11th), field goal percentage (.456), three-point field goal percentage (14th) and free throw percentage (10th).

Swanson was recognized on the NIIC All-Academic Teams for both basketball and baseball. He was also on the Benedictine Dean’s List and Athletics Honor Roll.

Sophomore track and field member Matt Wilkin rounds out the NIIC All-Scholastic first team award winners. Wilkin specialized in throwing events for the Eagles.

He earned two honorable mention awards at the 2006 NIIC Track and Field Championship meet by placing second in both the discus and the hammer.

Senior basketball guard Matt Harrison, biology major, was recognized as NIIC All-Scholastic honorable mention. Harrison closed out his Benedictine career as the 12th-ranked scorer in Eagles’ history with 1,364 points.

In the 2005-06 basketball season, Harrison was named NIIC honorable mention and was “Player of the Week” twice during the course of the year.

He was also a member of the Athletics Honor Roll.

**Eagles Land Six Student-Athletes on NIIC All-Scholastic Squad**

Benedictine University’s baseball and softball teams both had five individuals named All-Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (All-NIIC) for the 2006 season. The Eagles’ baseball team was third in the final conference standings, while softball finished fourth.

Named to the All-NIIC first team for baseball were the trio of Steve Sadowski, Carlos Soto and Tim Swanson. Honorable mention honorees included Scott Martin and Teddy Ostrouski.

Sadowski, a senior pitcher, made his second-consecutive appearance on the All-NIIC first team after posting a record of 5-4 with a 3.84 earned run average. Sadowski threw 75.0 innings and registered 48 strikeouts. He also led the Benedictine staff in starts (11) and complete games (7). Opponents hit just .236 against him.

Soto, also a senior pitcher, was 5-3 with a 4.48 ERA in 2006, tossing 62.1 innings on the hill. He appeared in 10 games with 49 strikeouts. Soto’s opponent batting average was .263 on his way to a 5-3 record.

Swanson appeared in the most games for the Eagles among position players, making 40 starts (out of 41 games played by Benedictine). The sophomore first baseman led the team in at-bats (149), hits (44), triples (4), RBI (36) and steals (11). Swanson’s batting average was .297 with 29 runs scored. He had a .379 fielding percentage in 233 chances.

Senior outfielder Scott Martin hit .286 with 23 runs and 27 RBI in his final collegiate season. He hit four doubles and was 10 for 15 in stolen base attempts.

Sophomore outfielder Teddy Ostrouski had a .268 batting average with six doubles and a triple. He had a .401 on-base average as the Eagles’ leadoff man, scoring 22 runs and driving in 11 more.

For the softball team, four of the Eagles’ players — Melissa Kennedy, Kristin Bank, Nikki Schlagel and Shannon Walker — were first-team selections, while Katie Bellrich was named honorable mention.

Kennedy earned her third All-NIIC first team accolades by leading the Eagles from the pitching circle as well as producing with the bat. Kennedy was 12-12 overall with a 2.13 earned run average. She threw 147.2 of a possible 280.2 innings. She started 24 games and completed 19, making 26 appearances.

Bank, a freshman designated player/catcher, led the team in batting with a .360 average in 86 at-bats. Bank led the squad in doubles (7), triples (3), home runs (4), runs batted in (30) and slugging percentage (.651).

Schlagel picked up a second-consecutive All-NIIC first team award. The sophomore third baseman hit .297 in a team-leading 128 at-bats. She also led Benedictine with 24 runs, as well as hitting six doubles and three triples. Schlagel was 7-for-8 in steal attempts and had a team-leading 16 walks.

Shannon Walker, a senior baserunner, had a career year by batting .408 with a team-high 40 hits. Walker scored 15 runs and drove in 14 more.

Bellrich, a junior catcher, had a .273 batting average and scored nine runs. She threw out four runners in 23 attempts and sported a .983 fielding percentage (in 345 chances).
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2006

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**Upcoming Events**

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