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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SPECIAL SECTION

4-9  • The Road to Tomorrow

“*It is no good to try to stop knowledge from going forward. Ignorance is never better than knowledge.*” — ENRICO FERMI

“Only by good example can you change the world.” — PADRE PIO

“The thing always happens that you really believe in; and the belief in a thing makes it happen.”      — FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

Front cover: Campus rendering courtesy of DLR Group.
During the first week of March, Benedictine University celebrates “Founders’ Week,” a time to stop and to reflect on the legacy of our predecessors. In this reflection, we discover something very interesting: an institution like Benedictine is not founded once and then grows untended. Rather, if an institution is to survive, it requires a constant “founding.”

Just as surely as the early monks founded St. Procopius College (now Benedictine University) in 1887 and moved it to Lisle in 1896, each successive generation of monks, and the lay people who augmented their ranks as the institution grew, must be viewed as “founders.”

A particularly important development in this notion of modern day founders occurred in 1968. At that time, the monks of St. Procopius Abbey, under the leadership of Abbot Daniel Kucera, O.S.B., established a lay board to oversee the operation of the college. This began a gradual separation between the Abbey and the school such that today the day-to-day operations of the University are separate and distinct from the Abbey. Another pivotal event developed in 1997. The University’s enrollment was dwindling, buildings were in need of repair and it was necessary to take a long, hard look at the future of the school.

The institution had clearly come to a fork in the road. Should we close the place with honor, or do we vote on its future by rebuilding the campus and establishing “a vision for tomorrow?” The situation was presented to the Board and they were asked to decide the institution’s future. The Board voted unanimously to grow the institution into a better tomorrow. The first step was to rebuild the physical infrastructure; the second step was to grow the campus. And grow it has.

Will Gillett, the current chairman of the Benedictine University Board of Trustees, encouraged the Board at that time run the school as a business. Gillett admits that he did not know much about education, but he did know how to run a business. He has always believed in small, values-oriented Catholic institutions, for they “have a special place in the world of education.” In addition to running the institution as a business, he encouraged the University to review and to renew its programs. As part of this process, the Board requested that the University develop a special emphasis on the sciences as it had early during its history.

These actions energized the Board. Trustees took “ownership” in new and exciting ways; they became a real working Board. The caliber of the Trustees makes things possible, for the 34 men and women who comprise the Board today are experts in various areas of business and industry. The Board continually makes some tough decisions.

Benedictine’s Board is comprised of leaders who are well-known locally and throughout the Chicago area. Eleven members are either CEOs or presidents of their companies, and the rest represent diverse industries. Gillett, in addition to chairing Benedictine’s Board, is chairman of the board at Springfield College in Illinois, First DuPage Bank and Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital and Clinic. Past Benedictine University chairs include Michael J. Birck, chairman and CEO of Tellabs, Inc.; and Joseph Kindlon, former owner of Commander Packaging.

“IT is no good to try to stop knowledge from going forward. Ignorance is never better than knowledge.” — ENRICO FERMI

by William J. Carroll, President
The partnership with Springfield College in Illinois (SCI) was a decision made by the current Board. When members of the Board heard that the Catholic community college founded by the Ursuline Sisters was experiencing financial difficulty, it began discussions on what it could do to help. They were motivated by Fr. Kevin Sheeran, O.S.B., a Benedictine monk and member of the University’s Board, who reminded them that if one Catholic institution is in trouble, it is the responsibility of another to reach out and help. In fact, Fr. Kevin’s burning question still registers today: “Doesn’t one Catholic institution have a moral responsibility to help another one in trouble?”

A partnership was established between Benedictine and SCI, and the latter institution has astounded the city of Springfield with its increased enrollment, expansion of evening and adult programs, an extension of Benedictine’s First Responders program that makes college degrees available to Springfield fire and police personnel, and plans to expand its campus. That partnership has catapulted Benedictine University into the realm of a regional university.

Benedictine continues to reach out with the Margaret and Harold Moser Center for Adult and Professional Studies on Diehl Road in Naperville; First Responders programs for fire and police personnel in 43 public service organizations stretching across northern Illinois; a partnership between the College of Science and Brookfield Zoo, Fermi Lab, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, the Morton Arboretum and the Golden Apple Foundation through which K-8 science teachers can earn a Master of Science in Science Content and Process; and a partnership with the College of DuPage and Triton College for students who wish to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

The University has also become global. There is a Benedictine presence in Copenhagen, Denmark; at Shenyang University of Technology and Shenyang Jianzu University in China; and at Le Groupe Montpelier, France.

The members of the Board, modern-day “founders,” were forced to choose between two paths in 1997 — one that would lead to the demise of the institution, and one that would lead the University into the future. I am reminded of Robert Frost’s famous poem, “The Road Not Taken:”

“I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.”

Thank you Benedictine University Board of Trustees, our modern-day founders, for choosing the road to tomorrow. †
An interesting element on which the author focused is his criticism that frequently as people, “we fail to see that our success by the old formula is like a map that has guided us to the edge of known territory. We cross a line into new territory and when we try to apply our old map there, strange and frustrating things happen. We get into a vicious cycle. We continue to explore our new and problematic territory with an old map, and that makes our problem worse.”

Along the same lines, Monsignor M. Francis Mannion, who has written much on the Benedictine charism, has suggested “that the tradition of Christian monasticism, particularly the Rule of St. Benedict, remains an unexplored source of Catholic wisdom both for diagnosing the cultural crisis of our time and for advancing concrete directions for genuine renewal.” Interestingly, a number of contemporary authors see St. Benedict’s stress on stability in the community as an essential value and even the object of a special vow. One does not need to look very far to see examples of modern society and its difficulties with stable relationships. Christian Norberg-Schulz, an architectural anthropologist, has suggested that “modern man has become ‘worldless,’ and thus loses his own identity, as well as sense of community and participation.”

It is precisely here in this matter of a “sense of community” that Benedictine University’s cultural heritage courses are directed. Having “Person in Community” as its unifying theme, the First-Year Seminar, Mediterranean World, Baptism of Europe, Converging Hemispheres and Contemporary World courses hope to provide for the contemporary student this sense of “rootedness” and stability that can be found and lived in such a way as to affect what many regard as the cultural crisis of our world. The courses hope to help students understand how they belong to this world and have responsibilities in it and for it.

It would seem that the greatest success might well be found in the contributions that can be made through individual institutions and what they can offer those whose lives they influence. Our world continues to emphasize the importance of education, and Benedictine University would not stay in the business if it did not see some real contributions being made by its faculty, students, staff and alumni.

We have welcomed Quinn on the Benedictine campus on a few occasions when he has offered courses of study directed to our graduate students, emphasizing “deep change.” Quinn maintains that “deep change at the collective level requires deep change at the personal level. Organizational change cannot occur unless we accept the pain of personal change.”

St. Benedict’s call for personal conversion, along with the sacrifices individuals are willing to make so that change can take place, are foundational stones that our University can set before the crises affecting our world. Pope Paul VI declared St. Benedict a primary patron of Europe because of the changes his monks were able to see coming forth from their dedicated work. Through our “monastic perspective” we hope to support all our readers in touching the leader within and from there the world can see and experience the resources for true renewal of our culture.
The Benedictine University campus has come a long way in the last 10 years. Initial goals have been realized. New goals are now in sight.

The Road to Tomorrow
These are the new challenges the University faces and the solutions we hope to achieve.

The University’s master plan has always included a third building to be used as a center for the College of Business. It is time we build it to further the goals of the fast-growing College, and to house a necessary 500-seat multi-purpose meeting/performing space. The new building will free up space in Scholl Hall, allowing more offices to relocate there. This will make Scholl a major administrative center in a central location.

The development of “Procopius Plaza” will not only beautify the campus, it will foster community between students and employees. New pathways will not just lead to buildings, but to friendships.
Our campus is fortunate to have a lake within its border. Lake St. Benedict holds memories for alumni throughout the history of the school. With some clean-up and restoration, this lake can regain its full beauty and be used as an outdoor environmental classroom. Benches have been erected already, and with the addition of gazebos, students will be encouraged to spend time there to study, socialize or reflect.

The University looks forward to a free-standing church to serve the growing population of students as well as alumni. The Krasa Center chapel does not meet the needs for high attendance masses, sacraments, funerals and other campus ministry services. This new church will truly solidify our Catholic tradition.

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We owe our student-athletes a safe, clean and attractive building in which to compete. With some updates and repairs, the Rice Center can be restored to the fine facility it has been to serve University sports.

As our University grows, we look at the whole campus. The northern section and outside access roads need improvements and repairs. Attention to these details will improve access and overall appearance.
The successful Village of Lisle-Benedictine University Sports Complex has attracted national teams to our campus. The softball field needs completion to continue bringing high-caliber teams to the complex. It will also give our own student-athletes the facility they deserve.

The basements of the Birck Hall of Science and the Kindlon Hall of Learning need completion in order to accommodate our increased science enrollment. Additional labs and classrooms will put students in a more comfortable environment.
The addition of Founders’ Woods apartments has given students a different, friendlier environment. We have redesigned Neuzil, and are in the process of reevaluating Ondrak, for we often discuss the quality-of-life issues for our resident students. We strive to give them the best possible environment in which to live and attend school.

Past successes have enriched the University for students, faculty and staff. Those successes lead us to the ‘road to tomorrow’ where we reevaluate, redesign and rethink the future of the campus and the needs of the students as we head into the future of higher education.

Solutions outlined here can be achieved with fund-raising activities. Our current goals will continue campus revitalization and restoration efforts that will keep Benedictine at the top of the game. Our path to being a global leader in quality education starts right here at home.

If you are interested in learning how you can help the University achieve these goals, please contact the following:

FOR THE RICE CENTER OR COLLEGE OF BUSINESS: Bill Carroll at (630) 829-6004, wcarroll@ben.edu or Charlie Gregory at (630) 829-6076, cgregory@ben.edu

FOR THE CHURCH: Abbot Hugh Anderson, O.S.B. at (630) 829-6029, handerson@ben.edu

FOR THE BIRCK HALL BASEMENT: Don Taylor at (630) 829-6532, dtaylor@ben.edu

FOR ALL OTHER PROJECTS: Brad Carlson at (630) 829-6362, bcarlson@ben.edu

Students lost “The Pub” — the only informal after-hours gathering place on campus — in past construction projects. In gratitude to a generous contribution from the monks of St. Procopius Abbey, “The Coal Ben,” in the old power plant, will be the new gathering place for students to unwind, relax, obtain food and socialize. It is scheduled to be in operation in the fall.

(Read about the history of this building on page 23.)
Zderad Gift Reflects Pleasant Memories of University

Josef Zderad was known by friends and family as a man of strong faith. “I think he was a really good role model because his faith was so strong,” said Benedictine library co-worker Joan Hopkins. “That’s what people remember most about him.”

In addition to his faith, he had dedication to his Czech heritage and a strong belief in Benedictine University. After his death this past August at age 82, Zderad left money to the University in his estate plans. His unrestricted bequest will be used to help create a new laboratory classroom in the Birck Hall of Science.

Zderad didn’t graduate from Benedictine, but he spent years living and breathing the college life. Zderad, a reference librarian, taught a writing class and lived in a residence hall.

“If you didn’t catch him in the dorm, you caught him in the library or in class,” Hopkins said. “You don’t find many people who are willing to give their life to a place like that.”

Hopkins worked with Zderad at the University library in the 1970s. “He went to mass daily,” Hopkins said. “He even brought some of his students with him.”

His sister, Loretta, said her brother looked back on the University with happy memories. “I think he was just fond of the place,” she said. “It was a good time in his life.”

Zderad did attend Benedictine, then called St. Procopius College, for one year as a pre-medicine student in the 1940s before being drafted into World War II. He later graduated from St. Norbert College in Wisconsin, and earned a master’s degree in English literature from the University of Notre Dame and a master’s degree in library science from the University of Illinois.

Gifts like the one Zderad left to Benedictine help improve educational programs for students and can provide a means of permanent recognition or memorial to the donor or a family member.

To learn more about planned giving, contact Brad Carlson at (630) 829-6362 or bcarlson@ben.edu. ♦

Safari – an Education Expedition

42nd Annual Educare Scholarship Ball

November 3, 2007

Do something “wild”

Cocktails 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner 7:30 p.m.  
Dancing 9:00 p.m.  
Silent Auction 5:30-9:30 p.m.  
Coffee Bar 9:00 p.m. to midnight

For more information call
(630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.
While Jim Ryan, C68, was still active as an elected public official, he knew that one day he wanted to teach. He wanted to mentor young student leaders and help them navigate the tumultuous, yet very important, world of public service.

Ryan, a Distinguished Fellow at Benedictine University, founded the Center for Civic Leadership and Public Service last spring to achieve two goals. One goal was to prepare undergraduates to be responsible citizens and the other was to identify students with leadership potential and encourage them to go into public service either as an appointed or elected official.

Funding also is needed to bring national speakers to the University as part of the Jim Ryan Symposium on Public Affairs and the Annual Civic Leadership Conference. In April 2007, the Center brought author and assistant managing editor of Newsweek, Evan Thomas, to campus to discuss the importance of civic leadership with students. Many other speakers are planned for future events.

In another effort to expose students to the real connections between school and the world, the Center is sending 10 Benedictine students to Springfield as part of a Model Illinois Government program where they will go to the capitol and debate bills and work on legislation.

“We have all seen a lot of corruption and misconduct in public life, and we want our students to change that and to make a real difference in our cities, our states and our nation,” said Ryan.

To achieve its goals, the Center is dependent on private funding. For instance, monies are needed for the three to four Fellows scholarships awarded per year of $3,000 each. These awards are given to students who are nominated by faculty for their leadership skills, academic record and interest in public service.

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Many people agree with Ryan’s assessment and have contributed financially and/or given commitments to help the Center move forward. For instance, Fred Krehbiel, CEO of the Molex Corporation, has donated $50,000 to the Center. Joseph Kindlon, a member of the Board of Trustees at Benedictine, has contributed $100,000. William Pollard, chairman emeritus of ServiceMaster, has committed $20,000. Jim Hughes, Sr., of Wiseman-Hughes Builders, has donated $15,000. The Center has also received two McCormick-Tribune Foundation grants totaling $45,000 in the last two years.

Other contributors have agreed to fund the student awards for the Fellows program: Robert Fioretti, partner at Fioretti & Lower, Ltd., Peter and Carole Doris of Downers Grove and Lester McKeever have all committed $3,000 per year for three years.

These contributions have a huge impact on the success of the Center. Without them, programs and national exposure are limited and fewer opportunities are available to students.

“We are very lucky that so many good people believe in the vision of the Center,” said Ryan. “These generous individuals believe it is important to encourage young people to be involved and to facilitate positive change. Their financial commitment has helped to guarantee the Center’s success.”

The Center means a lot to Ryan personally because it is housed at his alma mater. “Benedictine University believes strongly in active citizenship and leadership training for all students. The Center is putting a focus on this goal and I’m proud to be a part of it.”

To learn more about how you can contribute to the Center’s success, contact Ryan at (630) 829-6127 or jryan@ben.edu.
Generous Donations Add Precious Pieces to University Art Collection
by Rita A. Dougherty

The walls and halls of Benedictine University are covered with artwork that is truly unique and beautiful. The pieces represent donations from many art lovers and collectors. In 1975, Fr. Daniel Kucera, O.S.B., president of, then, Illinois Benedictine College, sent Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B., to study art in Milwaukee. The intent was to increase the offering of art classes at the school and also so Fr. Michael could meet other artists and begin acquiring an art collection to beautify the campus.

Now a well-known figure in the art world, Fr. Michael keeps in contact with artists and collectors across the country. He believes that art enriches the campus, is a teaching tool, and allows everyone who takes note of it to enjoy the beauty around them.

Here are some examples of people who have helped to enrich the University’s collection.

James Arient, M.D., and his wife, Beth, of Naperville, have donated 25 folk art pieces annually to the University. They are pioneers in collecting American Folk Art (produced by people without formal academic training) and began pursuing this art form in 1976. Using vacation time, they traveled to flea markets, art shows, auctions and small towns, discovering incredible sculptures, paintings and unique art pieces. They even met the first generation of folk artists, 70- and 80-year old men and women who made art pieces out of any object and with any medium they were inspired to use.

It was a historical time in art history, and the Arients, along with their son, fostered long-standing relationships with the artists. In the early ’90s, the Arients began loaning and giving parts of their collection to museums, galleries, art institutes and Benedictine University.

Fr. Joseph M. Kelchak, O.S.B., St. Procopius ’45, began collecting art while a young seminarian at St. Procopius. He has donated more than 200 etchings, sculptures, paintings and pieces of artwork to the University. When looking for pieces to add to his collection, Fr. Joseph looks for a spirituality expressed by the artist. He spends time each year in Scottsdale, Ariz. and Santa Fe, N.M. where he enjoys finding unusual pieces to add to his collection. He also has a unique collection of Roman coins commemorating all the Roman Emperors, as well as coins made during the time Jesus lived.

Anne Baruch is the only American dealer, with her late husband Jacques, to represent Czech, Slovak, Yugoslav and Polish artists. A Holocaust survivor, Jacques was well aware of art treasures prominent in Poland prior to the Holocaust. The Baruchs donated 100 original prints and art posters by Eastern European artists to the University. The Baruchs were pioneers in this area. They also protected these artists when their countries were ruled by a Communist regime. They opened their Chicago gallery at a time when there were only about 10 galleries in the city. Baruch’s interest in art was fostered as a child on the West Side of Chicago when her mother took the family to museums, galleries and art institutes around the city. She affirms that once you are exposed to the arts, you never lose the attraction nor move away from it. She believes that people need visual art to stimulate the imagination.

Howard and Donna Stone donated 38 pieces of sculpture and paintings to Benedictine. They agree that they could not think of a better place for their artwork than Benedictine University under Fr. Michael, for they know that it will be well cared for. A good part of their collection is contemporary art, with much of it depicting Chicago in the ’80s.

Many pieces of artwork throughout the campus have been donated by artists and collectors who have been generous to the University. Benedictine is indebted to all the donors who have graced the campus with this beauty.

The University’s art collection contains 3,300 original works of art. For more information on the collection, or on how you can donate to it, contact Fr. Michael at (630) 829-6270 or mkomechak@ben.edu.
Sam and Rosemary Pancotto of Oak Brook, donated a collection of 57 animals to the Jurica Nature Museum. The collection has been valued at more than $2.3 million.

“This collection will provide a vehicle for thinking about our attitudes toward wildlife,” said Mary Mickus, the education coordinator for the Museum which houses more than 10,000 species of mammals, birds, reptiles, plants and insects. “There are a lot of questions that these animals will raise that go beyond just looking and appreciating.”

Pancotto is a retired contractor who has built homes throughout the Chicago area. He and his wife wanted to donate the collection to an educational institution on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

The Jurica Nature Museum, located on the second floor of the Birck Hall of Science, features thousands of specimens and a number of special exhibits including an African savanna, a recently renovated Illinois Prairie display and a cast of the head of Stan, a tyrannosaurus rex.

The museum hosts more than 5,000 visitors annually including many students from neighboring elementary schools and junior highs.

For more information about the Museum, contact Mickus at (630) 829-6546.
John McGuinn, SPC ’62, Literature

After graduation, I attended the University of Illinois College of Law in Champaign-Urbana. I then practiced law for a couple of years in Elgin until I moved to San Francisco, Calif., where I joined Bechtel Corporation’s legal department. Bechtel is the largest engineering-construction company in the United States, and one of the largest in the world.

I worked on projects all over the world for Bechtel, while living in such places as Montreal, Canada; London, England; Paris, France; Kuwait City, Kuwait; Washington, D.C. and San Francisco. When I retired in 2000, my title was senior vice president and assistant general counsel. I was also the corporate ethics officer.

Benedictine helped prepare me for law school with the broad liberal arts education I received as well as helping to prepare me to work with people and to solve problems. The curriculum was very flexible, and I was able to take courses in a number of different disciplines. While I think that this diversity may have contributed to my career development, I know that it certainly enriched my life. Second, the intimate size of the school allowed me to experiment with different extra-curricular events to see which ones I enjoyed. For example, in my freshman year, I had the lead in the school play, even though I had never acted previously (Fr. Mathias Kucera, O.S.B., the director of the drama program, lured us to try-outs by telling us that the school plays were the only school-sponsored activities involving women, quite an enticement in an all-male school). Finally, although I don’t think I appreciated or fully practiced this at the time, the school environment strengthened me in living a life guided by moral values and a strong sense of ethics.

I played varsity basketball as a freshman (well, I was the 16th man on a 15-man squad), wrote a column for the school newspaper for a couple of years (titled, appropriately, “The Benchwarmer”), was Hell Week judge, senior class officer and lots of other things that I can’t remember any more. Undoubtedly my fondest memory is the time spent with classmates and friends outside the classroom, particularly among those of us who lived in the dorms. I thought that the class of 1962 had a terrific school spirit, and we certainly had a lot of fun. I planned our 40th class reunion and we had such a great time that we are now planning our 45th reunion.

I am also very active in the Episcopal Charities organization, serving on the board and several of its committees. I help raise money, and then I help to give it away – very satisfying.

My wife, Karen, and I are also financial supporters and volunteers for various Democratic candidates for federal office. We are supporters of the arts in our community, particularly dance, theater, museums and lecture series. We are also active members of our local church, St. John’s Episcopal Church in Oakland, Calif.

As retirees, we travel extensively, with an emphasis on educational travel, largely with the Smithsonian. For example, we toured the Baltic lands last year. This year we will go on a tour of the Black Sea and Turkey. We also travel to spend time with family and friends.

My wife and I met in San Francisco, and were married in 1969. We have lived in Berkeley for the last 12 years, and have two wire hair fox terriers, Dante and Beatrice, but no children.

Michael E. Herrmann, M.D., C71, Biochemistry

I am in private practice obstetrics and gynecology in Belleville, Ill. My practice is mostly oriented toward obstetrics, which is what I love to do. I have a Web site for my practice, www.herrmannobgyn.com.

My wife, Linda, is a nurse practitioner and ultrasonographer. She works with me at my office. We have four children, Dave, 24; Joe, 20; Sally, 16 and Tom, 13. We have one granddaughter. I am also involved with nursing education and risk management at Belleville Memorial Hospital.

Dr. [David] Rausch and Fr. Edmund [Jurica] were my mentors and best teachers while I attended the University. Their courses prepared me well for the basic science courses in medical school at Northwestern.

I loved going to all the sports events on campus, especially football games and hockey games, and just hanging out with classmates at Barnaby’s Pizza. I later became a chemistry lab instructor for freshman general chemistry. It was great to see some of my classmates again, as well as Dr. Rausch, Fr. Mike [Komechak] and Fr. Ted [Suchy]. I also have five brothers who graduated from Benedictine after me.

Craig Adams was my roommate and best friend at Neuzil Hall my junior and senior years at Benedictine. We were both pre-medicine majors. We drove to St. Louis together for interviews at St. Louis Medical School. We both got accepted there, but Craig ended up going to Loyola and I went to Northwestern, where I became roommates for two years with fellow alumnus, Tom Danaher, before he married a Benedictine graduate, Trish Gaida.
Craig is now a pulmonary care and critical care specialist in Palos Hills and Tom is an orthopedic surgeon in Rockford. One of my favorite events on campus was the “Ugly Man” contest. I also remember Dr. Rausch and Dr. [James] Hazdra hanging out with the students. We had a great time celebrating our acceptances to medical school. Tom Kluzac was also a fellow chemistry major who changed to pre-medicine and is now a pathologist in Wichita, Kan. It was great to attend our 35-year class reunion to catch up with everyone.

Lisa Airan, M.D., C87, Biochemistry
Cosmetic dermatologist in New York City. Member of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery, American Academy of Dermatology and the Women’s Dermatologic Society.

In November 2005, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery published my paper titled “Nonsurgical Lower Eyelid Lift.” The technique was featured on “The Oprah Winfrey Show” in February 2005. Oprah then recruited me to perform the technique on her makeup artist, Reggie Wells, and his results were revealed on a subsequent episode of the show in May 2005, where Oprah declared that Reggie “looked 10 years younger.” I am honored and grateful to be highly regarded in my field, to have published papers and book chapters and to have lectured at many prestigious meetings.

I really enjoy helping people to look and feel better about themselves. Patients just want to look as young as they feel and it is great to be able to use everything from Botox® to Restylane® to Thermage® or a combination of many treatments to help patients look better without surgery.

On September 21, 2006, I married Dr. Trevor Born at my friend Enrico Marone Cinzano’s estate in the Maremma region of Italy. My wedding was featured in the December 2006 issue of Vogue magazine.

St. Clare’s Adoration Monastery in Tamilnadu, India is an important component in my life. I support St. Clare’s because they are a cloistered community who depend on outside support. They pray for the world and during this time in history, I think the selfless service they perform is invaluable to the world at large.

Lisa Airan, M.D., left, and Omer Sultan, below.

Omer Sultan, C97, Biology
I am currently working as a strategy consultant for a boutique health care consulting firm in Chicago. My work involves helping hospitals and health systems plan their business and financial strategy. Recently, I completed work at Edward Hospital in Naperville, which is where I completed my health science practicum while I was a student at Benedictine.

My classes in the sciences come in handy when I’m working with hospitals to solve clinical issues. I was first exposed to hospital administration in my junior year through the health science practicum offered at Benedictine. This was how I became interested in my career.

At Benedictine, I was a member of the tennis team my freshman and sophomore years. I was also the president of the Muslim Students Association. I even became the first Benedictine University intramural table tennis champion!

My fondest memories of my time at Benedictine are of the Krasa Center (Fireside Lounge), where I remember having a great time with friends.

A close personal friend and fellow alumnus, Aheed Siddiqi, M.D., C98, and I began the Muslim Alumni Endowed Scholarship at Benedictine almost four years ago. This has allowed us to stay in touch with the University as well as network with our fellow alumni year-to-year as we seek their help to expand the size of the endowment.

Another alumni connection is that I met my wife, Shazia, at my friend Wasay Humayun’s, C98, wedding. †
One Nail at a Time

Martin J. Bernard III, Ph.D., SPA ’62, C66, Physics and Mathematics

Marty Bernard worked for 40 years as a systems engineer on transportation, energy and environmental issues as an analyst, project manager and program director of a multi-million-dollar program at the Chicago Regional Transportation Authority, the Department of Energy’s Argonne National Laboratory outside of Chicago, and as a private consultant in California. He earned his doctorate from Northwestern University in Transportation System Engineering and Policy Planning. He has also done significant teaching and international consulting work.

Bernard observed, “I was extremely fortunate to work with many excellent scientists and engineers attempting to research, develop and implement solutions to the disastrous land-use, energy and ecosystem impacts of our modern transportation systems. With some exaggeration, our work mainly produced tons of reports, and I hope most of them have been recycled into something useful.”

Bernard now volunteers his time in the south in winter and in the north in summer. He is currently in Mobile County, Alabama helping the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate construct homes for families displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Here he tells his story:

“I spent my career trying to assist society through research, assessment and program management. I now continue that effort but with a ‘one nail at a time’ philosophy. For example, pounding nails, raising walls, rolling paint and caulking siding has instant payback. Research and assessment reports may sit on the shelf forever.

I now build homes, not houses. Families will celebrate Christmas, Thanksgiving, the 4th of July and bringing home newborn babies. Families will gather in these homes to work through rough times. Someday a parent will point out to their child, ‘This is where I grew up,’ and it will be a home I helped build. We are not talking one family per house, but 200-year worth of families, God willing.

Owners of Habitat for Humanity homes have to put ‘sweat equity’ into these houses. That is how I met Jean who will own a house we raised last week. She now lives in a house trailer about 10 miles from her new home. She has been flooded out five times since Hurricane Katrina. She invited four of the volunteers over for dinner a couple of Saturdays ago. Thus building her home is doubly rewarding. Her home sits in a subdivision of what will eventually be 38 houses the Habitat affiliate down here is building. They will build 100 houses in the next year.

For Jean’s home, I directed the building of the interior walls on the street out front with about 15 volunteers, while another 15 volunteers built the exterior walls on the concrete slab and raised them. Then we put the house together. The next day about 10 volunteers helped me lift the 11 trusses onto the roof.

Habitat for Humanity International is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian organization dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide. It is supported by a large number of churches (and just as importantly, for-profit corporations). We often pray as a group before we start the day’s work. I have 16 years of education in Catholic institutions. That experience has taught me to be a scientist working for the betterment of society and never to stop.

I am now free to go anywhere when I want to, and do what I feel like, which includes volunteering at museums, national and state parks and for Habitat. This gives me great satisfaction. Working outdoors makes sleeping quite peaceful. I am unencumbered with only a cargo van with all my tools in it and a travel trailer in which to live. Here on the Gulf Coast, the seafood (fried, of course) is the best I've ever had and I love it without weight gain given my high level of activity. I have the greatest freedom in my life.

I could never be a couch potato or hang out at the club or a local bar. I'm too motivated. Simply, I have found a way to do something useful and be satisfied and tired at the end of each day. It does not get any better than that when you are 62. I have four siblings with children and grandchildren, three offspring and four of the best things in the world, my grandchildren. Crisscrossing the country like I’ve started doing allows me to visit them.”

Having volunteered for Habitat, do you believe you have made a difference in the lives of families?

“I am sure we have made a difference in the lives of the families we have been able to help. I work with people in their own homes where they need help, and we have a chance to talk with them, see how they are doing and understand their needs.”

Do you have any advice for others who want to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity?

“Volunteer! It is the best form of charity. Many people are looking for ways to give back and making a difference. Habitat for Humanity is a great way to do that.”

For those who would like to volunteer, Habitat for Humanity can be accessed at www.habitat.org.

It is hoped that the stories of those who give back help inspire others to go forward and help those in need.

If you know someone who has given of him or herself to help others in the Benedictine spirit of giving back, please e-mail lhale@ben.edu.
Men’s and Women’s Basketball Reunion

Nearly 100 alumni, parents and basketball players were present at receptions following the Benedictine basketball games on January 20. The women’s team was victorious over Edgewood College and the men played a hard-fought battle against Edgewood as well. The day was dedicated to alumni basketball players, in particular the 1997 basketball teams and former Benedictine University athletic director and long-time coach Tony LaScala.

During the reception, LaScala was honored with the presentation of the Anthony LaScala Endowed Scholarship which will be awarded for the first time during the 2007-08 school year. Alumni from near and far came to remember the glory days of Benedictine basketball. LaScala was particularly touched by Edward Dickson, C79, coming from Washington, D.C. to join in the celebration. There were several reunions of alumni who had not seen each other in many years. In addition to reliving memories, alumni heard Benedictine President William Carroll discuss the future plans for renovating the Rice Center. This event was hosted by Coach Paul Nelson, women’s basketball; Coach Keith Bunenburg, men’s basketball; Joan Henchek, development director and Deb Smith, assistant alumni relations director.

Alumni and Friends Gather in Naples Florida

On January 29 President William Carroll, chairman of the Board Willis Gillett and Abbot Hugh Anderson, O.S.B., C61, hosted a gathering of alumni and friends in Naples, Florida. Twenty people were in attendance to hear the latest news from campus including the new capital campaigns, expansion plans and a State of the University address. Participants had a wonderful time networking and renewing relationships. The Office of Alumni Relations plans to make this an annual event.

Wine Tasting Mixer

Thirty alumni and senior-year students gathered together in meeting rooms in the Krasa Center on February 27 to enjoy a wonderful wine tasting event with six different wines and excellent appetizers. Everyone had a great time not only tasting some good wine, but networking with one another as well. This was a great opportunity for future alumni to mingle with current alumni and form relationships. We are hoping to hold this event again in the fall, so check for more details at www.ben.edu/alumni.

Communications Arts Reunion

The Krasa Center Fireside Lounge was the site for the Communication Arts reunion on February 23. More than 50 alumni and friends gathered for this event. After much conversation, food and good times, everyone moved to the Presentation Room to view the film “Perilous Ties.”

This film was written and produced by fellow alumna, Melissa Kosar, C05 (more details in class notes). The film started as a script for Kosar’s senior project and blossomed into a fully-completed film after graduation. All in attendance enjoyed the film as well as the evening spent together. We are looking forward to next year’s gathering.
Sweetheart Club

While the temperature was below zero outside, inside the Krasa Center the Alumni Sweethearts of Benedictine University were enjoying a night in “Hawaii.” Fr. David Turner, O.S.B., C58, offered the blessing for the food and marriages at the annual Sweetheart Club’s Dinner and Dance. Dinner consisted of kabobs of fish and steak along with rice and traditional drinks of the islands. Afterward, entertainment was provided by Anytime DJ, VJ & Lighting. They had everyone dancing with their sweethearts. It was a wonderful night with many alumni renewing old friendships from as long ago as 20 years.

If you are an alumnus married to or even dating another alumnus from Benedictine University, please mark your calendars for February 2, 2008. You and your sweetheart will enjoy a wonderful evening of dinner, dancing and friends right here on campus. For more information, contact Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.

Alumni/Student Mixer

On February 2nd a group of Benedictine University seniors gathered at a cocktail reception held in the Fireside Lounge, to learn what it means to be an alumnus. Nick Scipione, C04, spoke to the group about how being an alumnus of Benedictine has benefited him and what it has meant to him. He stressed the positive effect of the University alumni network and the importance of staying involved and using this network. In addition to Scipione, several 2006 graduates were on hand echoing his networking advice and describing the advantages of Benedictine’s excellent reputation in the business world.

The seniors also were introduced to the many opportunities available to them to meet with alumni through events and reunions. In addition, they learned about some of the many benefits of alumni status, such as the Liberty Mutual group insurance program and the MBNA credit card, both excellent ways to give back to the University as well.

Annual Alumni Mixer at Fitz’s Pub

It was a bit of an early St. Patrick’s Day celebration with alumni at Fitz’s Pub in Elmhurst on March 7. This alumni-owned pub hosted 25 alumni (not all of them Irish) from the area for food, drink and lots o’ fun. Located in downtown Elmhurst, Fitz’s Pub is owned by Terry Fitzharris, C67, and Jim Friel, C82. It’s a great place to enjoy anytime of the year and we thank them again for hosting this once-a-year Benedictine celebration. Please watch the mail for your invitation for next year.

Jeanette DeLaRosa, C98, Social Science, and Griselda DeLaRosa, C94, Political Science, M.A.E.D. ’96, M.E.D. ’04.

Career Workshop

On January 29, the Office of Student Life and the Office of Alumni Relations hosted a workshop for students and alumni on career searching, networking and marketing of yourself. Author, speaker, trainer and career coach Rob Sullivan presented a seminar titled “Getting Your Foot in the Door When You Don’t Have a Leg to Stand On.” More than 25 people were in attendance to listen to topics such as resume writing, interviewing, salary, networking and teaching real-life skills that will assist in the job search. Sullivan challenged the crowd to think about what it is that they really wanted to do, and if feasible, to pursue their dream.

All in attendance were pleased with the information received and suggested we offer another workshop with Sullivan in the near future. For more information on his work, go to www.careercraftsman.com.
Class Notes Winners from Winter 2007

David Zager, C84; Karri Uhlarik, C93; Amanda Miller, C03

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 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 June 29 to collect your prize. Good luck and keep sending in those class notes! ✝

2007 Alumni Picnic

Help to Revive this Benedictine Tradition!

Join in the fun. Be a part of this great day on campus with fellow alumni. Plans are set for the return of the Alumni Picnic — mark your calendar for an afternoon of fun family activities on campus.

Sunday, June 24, 2007

Schedule of Events

11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Procopius Abbey

Noon Food and refreshments available for purchase or you can bring your own food/grill

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Games, family activities, Rice Center open for swimming, basketball, tennis

For more information, go to www.ben.edu/alumni or contact Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.

Stay Connected

Upcoming University Events

MAY 20
Commencement/Golden Eagles Reunion

JUNE 14
African-American Alumni Reunion

JUNE 24
Alumni Mass/Picnic

JULY 8
Alumni Day at the White Sox

JULY 16
President’s Invitational Golf Outing*

AUGUST 18
Football Team Reunion

AUGUST 19
Women’s and Men’s Soccer Alumni Reunion

SEPTEMBER 29
Homecoming

NOVEMBER 3
42nd Annual Educare Scholarship Ball*

* University fundraising opportunity

For updates on alumni events, go to our Web site at www.ben.edu/alumni or call (630) 829-6077.
Large corporations have contributed to the world’s environmental problems. "Businesses run on electricity, and most electricity comes from burning coal," he said. "We’ve got to change. The question is how?"

Change won’t come from governments or even large groups of citizens, Senge said. Ironically, the source of many of the world’s environmental problems is also the best hope for its salvation. "The source of innovation in modern society is business," he said. "Business is really important in how things change in society."

Some companies lead and others don’t," Senge said. "Companies have learned that by getting there first, they have an advantage. It all comes down to organization. Now the question is, ‘How does a company get proactive?’ ”

Change must begin with approaches by businesses to solve environmental problems.

Environmental problems are not proprietary to the United States, however. "Glaciers that feed rivers in northern India are disappearing, creating wide areas of drought," Senge said. "In Africa and Asia, people who used to farm and produce their own food are being chased off their land."

He is the founding chair of the society for organizational learning and the author of several books. Senge and his research associate, George L. Roth, shared their ideas with more than 140 people at the Tellabs lecture hall.

"What we are doing is looking at different approaches to change," Senge said. "In particular, the importance of systems thinking and looking more broadly at systems."

Systems thinking is based on system dynamics. It provides a way of understanding practical business issues, looks at systems in terms of particular types of cycles (archetypes), and includes an explicit system modeling of complex issues. Also, systems thinking sees interrelationships rather than linear cause-effect chains and sees processes of change rather than snapshots.

"Companies have aggressively changed the way they do business. Automobile manufacturers like British Motor Works in Great Britain have learned to literally recycle their cars. Others have moved to eliminate lead and mercury from their products."
The Business Management Institute in the College of Business hosted 80 regional business leaders, faculty, students and staff at its November 14 breakfast seminar, “Immigration Today: Crisis and Opportunity.” The event was moderated by Jim Ryan, J.D., C68, Distinguished Fellow. Panelists included Roberto Ramirez and Don Garner, J.D. The general tone of the dialogue centered on recommended immigration policy changes and education on this complex issue.

Ramirez is a member of the University’s Board of Trustees and President of Tidy International. He described his challenges as an undocumented worker to achieve legal status. With $120, he started his own janitorial firm always taking care of his employees before himself. From that initial investment, with determination and confidence, Ramirez has expanded his business and established a foundation to provide educational assistance to minority students.

Garner is an immigration lawyer with LL.M. Law Group in Chicago and is fluent in five languages. Garner created LL.M. Law Group to promote a global legal community that will help facilitate immigration issues and business opportunities in the United States and abroad. He advocated for more opportunity for legalization and access to visas.

Ramkrishnan Tenkasi, Ph.D., a professor in the Organization Development program at Benedictine University, has been awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Research Award for his work on the explosive growth of the software industry in India.

Tenkasi’s project, “Key Institutional and Entrepreneurial Determinants of the Founding Rates of Indian Software Firms 1966-2005: An Empirical Analysis,” explores the $17.5 billion software industry in India, which only a few years ago involved a handful of companies that produced an annual revenue of a meager $1.3 million.

This study will contribute to knowledge about the institutional and entrepreneurial dynamics underlying the evolution and rapid growth of new industries.

The Fulbright award will allow Tenkasi to visit and collaborate with scholars at the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, India. Bangalore is considered the software capital of India, and the Indian Institute of Management is regarded as the premier management school for research and practice in the Indian software industry.

Created through the efforts of the late U.S. Senator J. William Fulbright (1905-1995) of Arkansas, the Fulbright Program has been promoting peace and understanding through educational exchange for more than 50 years. It is one of the most prestigious award programs worldwide, operating in 144 countries and with 51 commissions.

Recipients of Fulbright senior scholar research awards are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. Fulbright research awards are prestigious, career-enhancing awards. They also confer special status on winners as outstanding, officially-recognized representatives of their country.

More Fulbright research award alumni have won Nobel Prizes than those of any other research fellowship programs.
Reflections by Fr. James Flint, O.S.B.

When the “Coal Ben” Was a “Coal Bin”

As the campus prepares for the unveiling of the new student gathering place, the “Coal Ben,” a glance at the history of the building might be in order. It might also explain why some of those who knew the building in its “youth” are a wee bit amazed at the transformation about to take place.

As early as 1910, the monks bought property alongside the Burlington railroad tracks where coal could be unloaded and then transported to the College campus. Back then, the “power house” was in the basement of Benedictine Hall.

That location, however, proved unsatisfactory when in 1926 the campus’ first free-standing gymnasium was built at the western end of what is now the Krasa Center parking lot. The present powerhouse was also constructed at this time between Benedictine Hall and the gymnasium to provide heat to both (and later, other buildings as well) by means of tunnels.

What was not yet built was the coal bin in the form that we see it now. Instead, a 10-foot-deep pit was excavated on the spot and provided with a concrete floor and sides, plus two ramps down on which trucks could carry the coal brought from the railway. From this primeval coal bin, a hopper would then bring the coal to the furnaces in the powerhouse.

Only in the fall of 1945 was the present above-ground structure erected. The monastery’s great mechanic, Br. Andrew Havlik, O.S.B., had devised an electric crane to move the coal from the bin to the furnaces, and this machine needed protection from the elements. So Br. Andrew and the Abbey’s stonemason, Br. Procopius Koukal, O.S.B., collaborated in designing and overseeing the construction of the walls and ceiling as they are today. The windows were taken from one of the many shipments of war surplus material that Fr. William Shonka, O.S.B., (of math and physics fame) and Br. Andrew obtained during those years.

For another decade, the “coal bin” retained its original use. Ten-ton Buick trucks (also war surplus) would make trips when necessary to the rail siding, taking half a day to move 45 tons of coal to the campus.

Then in 1955, the decision was made to convert the campus’ heating from coal to more efficient oil. No longer was the vast space of the bin needed for coal reserves, and the building was modified into a general storage site. At this time the redwood floor was laid down.

Ironically, for 50 of its 80 years (if one goes back to the concrete pit) the “coal bin” was used for purposes other than the storage of coal. But the old name was preserved, a happy circumstance that permits now a new use in a new century.

Thanks are offered to Br. Joseph Vesely, O.S.B., and Br. Raphael Kezel, O.S.B., for their memories, generously shared, of an earlier era in the coal bin’s history.

PDF issues of The Candor from the 2006-2007 academic year are downloadable at www.ben.edu/candor. For more information about The Candor at ICPA, please contact faculty adviser Edna Bautista, Ph.D., at ebautista@ben.edu.

Congratulations to the Benedictine student newspaper, The Candor, for earning recognition at the Illinois College Press Association (ICPA) convention February 16-17 in Chicago. The awards included:

- Third place, general sports page design.
- Editor-in-chief Noorjabeen Naseer’s digital photo submission also placed in the top 10 of the “Shoot Chicago” photo contest sponsored by The Chicago Tribune.
The Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) program has announced a new “for credit” certificate program in Project Management. Anyone involved in the management or supervision of projects or systems changes within an organization will find the skills and knowledge in this certificate useful in their day-to-day responsibilities, and an important addition to their professional credentials.

Participants will explore the latest tools and techniques for work planning, control and evaluation, and learn the value of aligning a project’s objectives with the organization’s strategies and stakeholders’ interests. Theories for effective motivation and leadership are also discussed, and aspects of financial decision making and group dynamics complete the certificate.

Robert S. Janek, quality manager, Alcatel-Lucent Technologies in Lisle says, “Project management brings the activities of a project together in a cohesive, well-orchestrated manner to create something that has previously never existed. It is vital to winning in the marketplace.”

Alexandra Herrera, manager, New Products, U.S. Supply Chain Management in Oak Brook agrees, “This...is already making a difference for me in my way of approaching projects.” Victoria Owens-Rinn, IMS LCP and IMS NLT Project Management, Alcatel-Lucent Technologies, Lisle, concurs, “Having good project management skills brings focus, discipline and the ability to produce repeatable, quality, efficient on-time delivery of products and services. Without project management, the scope of your deliveries is unclear, your quality is inconsistent, your schedule is a guesstimate and your costs are high due to rework.”

According to Terri Guldan, system administrator, ER EMS, Loyola Medical in Maywood, “Even an environment as reactive as a hospital emergency department can develop a proactive style through the practice of project management.” Anne Scharm, director of organizational development, Delnor-Community Hospital in Geneva, agrees, “Project management methodology and tools have allowed me to have a more focused discussion on what can be accomplished by when, and how many people will be needed to meet our goals and deadlines.”

The Project Management Certificate is the newest certificate program offered by the M.B.A. program in the College of Business at Benedictine. It joins certificates in Accounting, Advanced Accounting, Business Administration, Entrepreneurship and Management Innovation, Financial Management, Marketing, and Operations Management and Logistics.

Contact Debbie Check at (630) 829-6205 or dcheck@ben.edu for more information.
New Interdisciplinary Global Studies Major

PREPARING STUDENTS TO LIVE AS RESPONSIBLE GLOBAL CITIZENS

The new Interdisciplinary Global Studies major will combine Benedictine University’s unique cultural heritage sequence with classes from many disciplines to provide students with a broad Liberal Arts background that will prepare them to act as responsible global citizens in the 21st century.

The major allows students to choose one of four areas of concentration: Latin American, American, Mediterranean or Middle East Studies. Two lower division courses will introduce the theoretical and research tools needed to pursue interdisciplinary global studies, and two upper division courses will focus on select global issues such as AIDS, poverty and terrorism. Finally, the senior thesis will provide the research tool for students to address significant issues in global studies through a semester-long research project.

Students will be encouraged to view their area of concentration from a global perspective so they will relate their knowledge to the larger trends and issues that affect the contemporary world. Such trends and issues include the transnational interactions of peoples, cultures, economies and politics; the globalizing processes of communications; technological and environmental changes; the search for world order, law and human rights; and the sometimes violent ethnic and religious response to what is perceived as cultural and economic homogenization on a global scale. Students are encouraged to focus on the transnational processes and interactions that are bringing the world together across traditional national boundaries.

The development of a transnational and global world in the 21st century has created a need for the re-education of students to prepare them to live as global citizens. The successful citizens of the interdependent world of the future will understand their own particular location as well as the relationships, connections and responsibilities to constantly changing “others” and locations as a prerequisite to preserving the planet for all.

In the Core Curriculum and Cultural Heritage courses, students in the Global Studies major will be required to take all four of the Benedictine Cultural Heritage Courses. The Global Studies courses will be taught in tandem with the era-specific Cultural Heritage course that the student is taking with the objective of establishing both points of intersection and interrogation of the subject matter of each.

For example, the Cultural Heritage course, “The Mediterranean World” will be taught in conjunction with the Global Studies area of specialization in the corresponding time period to see how the cultural heritage of that area is in conjunction to, or in conflict with, the cultural heritage of the Mediterranean World.

The Global Studies major will provide graduates with the skills to know the world in which they live and to become active leaders in shaping and transforming the world of the future. †

Something both unexpected and fascinating was found while reading hundreds of student essays written in response to a prompt about community service and involvement through the Core theme of “Person in Community.” The essays were read and graded according to a numerical rubric, but a qualitative difference was noticed as well. It seems a significant number of students over the course of the first semester had undergone what they sometimes described as a “conversion experience” regarding community service. Though many students had expected to hate service learning and resisted the requirement, many of them had come to see its value in the end. It is one thing to hear that community service is a central value of a Benedictine education; it’s entirely different to experience service first-hand.

At the end of the semester, the writings of the student body collectively seemed more cohesive, better informed and more in tune with the Benedictine mission. For some students, the writing of this essay at the beginning and again at the end of their first semester appeared to function as a kind of self-evaluation and capstone. They reported positive changes in their views of the University and of the educational project itself. Though previously there was occasional feedback from students on service learning, it was not clear if comments were representative. The assessment essay, however, was required of every student who took the course and it was found that it provided a great deal of information beyond gauging writing ability.

Although from now on there will be limited information that the permanent assessment tools provide, the fuller snapshot taken in the first year of the program instilled greater confidence in the permanent measures as indicative of student progress since they corresponded to the overall outcome of qualitative measures.

In the end goals were met. It was proven that the first-semester combined course performed as well as, or better than, the First-Year Seminar/Composition courses separately, and there were statistically significant differences between the Writing Intensive contemporary Core course and the standard version. †
Benedictine University has taken steps to bring conservation awareness to campus, in part through the student environmental group, Conservation Coalition. The group recently showed the Academy Award-winning documentary, “An Inconvenient Truth,” about the serious effects of man-made global warming.

The University also hosted the fourth annual DuPage Environmental Summit. The theme “How to Save on Energy Costs and Help the Environment,” was addressed by a variety of speakers who proposed diverse ways to conserve natural resources, to change the configuration of one’s house to save on energy, to help us breathe, and to retrofit energy conservation into existing buildings. Seven speakers talked about green buildings and green roofs, solar energy and sustainable living.

Suggestions fired up imaginations as attendees tried to figure out how to improve their own homes. It was learned that even specific grasses grown in a garden or yard improve the environment and that peak energy consumption occurs mid-day, so washing clothes or dishes should be an evening task.

One member of the faculty who raised the awareness flag on conservation several years ago is John Mickus, Ph.D., professor of Anatomy and Physiology. He is particularly interested in new buildings and campus plantings. He hopes that future buildings on campus can incorporate green architecture and materials so the University can truly become a green, forward-thinking establishment that leads by example. ✝

Benedictine University volleyball coach Jennifer Wildes was contacted by former Sterling Newman Catholic High School basketball teammate Rachel Hermes, it came as no surprise. Wildes knew Hermes had served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Togo, West Africa, and was always looking for ways to help others.

“She contacted all of us … her former teammates, friends, family,” Wildes said. “She asked for funds to help build a basketball court for the villagers and for any old uniforms or jerseys we might have. Many of these people have never been exposed to the game of basketball. They received jerseys from all over the world.”

In the Benedictine spirit of giving back, Wildes put forth efforts to find used Benedictine jerseys she could donate to this cause.

Wildes recently received a photograph from Hermes featuring the members of the “Benedictine” basketball team in Togo proudly wearing their red Benedictine jerseys.

“It was so great,” Wildes said.

No word on how the “Benedictine” team fared. ✝
Environmental Outlook:  
PROFESSOR Q & A

What do you see as the biggest environmental issue facing this country and/or world today?

Aldrich: Making the connection between our local actions and the global consequences.

Runck: The availability of “clean” fresh water for domestic, industrial, agricultural and recreational uses, as well as for the protection and propagation of native flora and fauna (both terrestrial and aquatic). As human population increases and is increasingly concentrated in large urban areas, coupled with the projected effects of climate change on freshwater resources, the demands that will be placed on freshwater systems by humans will become the factor that limits size, health and quality of life of human populations.

Heinz: One look at a graph of how much carbon was in the atmosphere each year over the past 50 or so years leads one to no choice but to say climate change/global warming is the biggest issue. It impacts everyone, and is not as simple as everywhere on Earth increasing by a degree or so per year. On average, yes, the Earth is warming — but it’s not at all even. The poles are warming much faster than the equator. And climate effects are non-linear: we see more severe weather (both cold and hot) more often as a result of increased temperatures.

What is something individuals can do to help make positive change happen?

Aldrich: Be informed, both with respect to scientific and environmental matters, but also politics.

Runck: (1) Model good stewardship behavior to children. Since children are the future, they are the ones that will have the greatest potential to make positive change. Get them started early on the three R’s: reduce, reuse and recycle.

(2) Get kids outdoors, i.e., the “No Child Left Indoors” campaign. Unless kids have opportunities to interact with nature (not “virtual” interaction through TV, movies or computer games/programs) and learn the names of the flora and fauna native to their area, they will not make any lifelong relationship with nature and they will be less likely to care what happens to their natural environment. For example, are you more likely to help or care about someone you know or a stranger? All parents and elementary and secondary science educators should read the book by Richard Louv, “Last Child In the Woods — Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder” (Algonquin Books, 2005).

Heinz: There are many simple changes to help reduce your own impact. Compact fluorescent bulbs are much more energy efficient than are incandescent bulbs, and they’re now readily available at reasonable prices at stores like IKEA and Costco. Try to choose vehicles with good fuel economy, and push for better fuel economy for the future. Try to make your home as efficient as possible with energy efficient appliances and more efficient insulation.

Is there anything you are currently doing/working on in this area?

Aldrich: One thing I study is the biology of invasive plant species. This is the second most critical threat to native plant species after habitat conversion and loss. Many invasive plants have an aggressive lifestyle in which they grow rapidly and reproduce profusely, often swamping out the local vegetation numerically. As for the species I study, Ailanthus altissima (common name “Stinking Ash” or “Tree-of-Heaven”), a single large tree can produce a million seeds in a single season. Moreover, once the plants become established, it is often the case that none of the local insects will eat them due to their unique chemistry. Ailanthus is native to China and the Old World Tropics where it is regularly eaten by local insects and therefore is not invasive there. Here in the U.S., nothing seems to eat it on a regular basis as it does have a novel chemistry that has been shown to have various antimicrobial (bacteria, amoebas, fungi) and possibly anti-cancer properties, as well as anti-plant (or allelopathic) properties. Since nothing eats it, the seedlings persist and grow to shade out native plants and soon the local area is over-grown with Ailanthus. Fortunately, this species is still predominantly an urban weed though it is increasing making its way into forested areas especially in the eastern US. Part of what I am studying is the genetic structure of the species to determine if the species is changing and adapting to its environment, in which case it might become a more severe pest. Results of the study will be used to help control the spread and understand the biology behind the invasion.

Runck: I have given presentations to local community organizations on the possible effects of climate change on the Great Lakes region. My research interests at this time are focused on developing relatively simple and inexpensive chemical techniques that can be used by citizen, community and conservation groups for monitoring water quality.

Heinz: I am personally trying to make a difference through my daily life choices. †
Show Your School Spirit!

Mark your calendars for Homecoming 2007 scheduled for Saturday, September 29, 2007. This year’s theme, “Paint the Campus Red” will get you excited about when you were a student here and about the growth the campus will experience in the next five years.

Bring your grills and food because tailgating will begin at 11:00 a.m. in the Krasa Center Parking Lot. At 1:00 p.m., the Benedictine Eagles will meet the Lakeland College Muskies in what should be a thriller. After the game, reunions will take place for those classes ending in either 7 or 2. Many other activities are being planned as well.

For more information and updates, go to www.ben.edu/alumni/homecoming or contact Julie Nelligan, alumni relations director, at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.

2008 Distinguished Alumni Recognition Awards

Nominees Needed:

The Alumni Association is accepting nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Recognition Awards for 2008:

- distinguished alumni award
- alumni service award
- benedictine spirit award

Submit nominations to the Office of Alumni Relations, Benedictine University, 5700 College Rd. Lisle, IL 60532 or at www.ben.edu/alumni/awards.

Class of 1957
Donald Lapa, SPA, and his wife, Diane, reside in the Los Angeles area where for the past 20 years Lapa has owned a pool service business. The Lapas became grandparents in May 2006 and celebrated their 37th wedding anniversary in September 2006.

Class of 1970
Bob Jesski, English Language and Literature, was re-elected to the Board of Directors of the Tampa Bay Builder’s Association and elected president of the Child Abuse Council of Hillsborough County, FL. Jesski is director of sales and marketing for Lenner Homes. He and his wife, Leslie, reside in Brandon, FL.

Class of 1972
Earl Charles, Mathematics, taught math and coached soccer at Phoenix South Mountain from 1984 until he retired four years ago. He was then offered the coaching position for the Phoenix Camelbacks, an inner city school where he is about to make history. He took an undisciplined soccer group and coached them to the semifinals last year. This year his team is 15-0 and readying themselves for the quarterfinals.

Class of 1973

Valerie (Clawson) Feld, Philosophy, was recently promoted to the rank of lieutenant with the Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District. She also teaches EMT-B’s part-time at College of DuPage.

Class of 1974
Tim Courtney, English, recently earned his doctorate in curriculum and instruction at Northern Illinois University. Courtney teaches English at West Chicago High School and lives with his wife, Gretchen, and children, Tyler and Caitlin, in St. Charles.

Class of 1976
Timothy Wingert, M.D., Biology, is the first optometrist to be named a Fulbright Scholar by the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars and the U.S. State Department. As a Fulbright Scholar, Wingert spent five months teaching and lecturing at the University of Medical Sciences in

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Maurice Bell, C87

Bell has been named to the President’s Associates Council (PAC) at the University. He is a resident of Wheaton and the area manager for Gatorade. He and his wife, Sarah, recently served as chairpersons at the 41st annual Educare Scholarship Ball, which raised more than $160,000 for student scholarships.

“Maurice’s motivation and broad-based knowledge will be a great addition to the President’s Associates Council,” said Arthur Littlefield, chairman of the membership committee of the PAC and member of the Board of Trustees at Benedictine.

The members of the PAC provide leadership, time, resources and service to the University. Council membership is by invitation of the president and is extended to individuals who are committed to the University and willing to serve as its ambassadors.
The usual suspects or your former classmates? 
If you know, contact us at alumni@ben.edu.

Hennessy & Simmons LLC. DeShazer is also a Microsoft Certified Professional.

Class of 2001
Ira Royann Luehrs, Organizational Leadership. After flying for United Airlines for 24 years, Luehrs earned her M.A. in School Counseling in May 2007 and will be changing careers. She resides in LaGrange with her daughters Bridget, 19 and Keara, 16.

Class of 2002
Patrick Maliszewski, Marketing. Is currently a principal and executive director of investor relations for the Cinterra Group in Chicago. Along with three partners, he has started a privately held real estate fund.

Salman Choudhry, Communications. Currently works for the Family Flavors and Beverage Company. Choudhry was also recently married.


Class of 2003
Meghan Hobein, M.P.H., works as a professional research assistant at the Colorado Cancer Center and resides in Highlands Ranch, CO.

Nicole Johnson, M.P.H., was recently promoted to media spokesperson for the Butterball Turkey Talk-Line Expert. Johnson provides help to anyone with questions and/or problems preparing the traditional turkey holiday meal. She previously worked at Wilton Industries creating nutritional labels and ingredient panels. She has participated in several local and regional interviews as a nutritionist and turkey preparation expert.

Class of 2005
John Reynolds, Mathematics. Has accepted a position as an algebra teacher at Klein Oaks High School in Spring, TX.

Marriages
Christy (Zullo) Pias, Molecular Biology C00, was married to Thomas Scott Pias in November 2006. She is a technical support scientist at Abbott Laboratories and resides in Pleasant Prairie, WI.

Katie (Summers) Schmitt, English and Literature C02, married Doug Schmitt (attended Benedictine from 2000 – 2002) in July 2006. She works as an English teacher at Oswego High School and he is a surveyor at Stettner and Associates. They reside in Aurora.

Heidi (Frey) Schwarze, M.B.A.'99, recently married Bjoern Schwarze, M.B.A.'99, in October 2006 in Bremen, Germany. The couple met at Benedictine University while M.B.A. exchange students. In 2001, Bjoern opened his own IT and telecommunications company and Heidi works as an accountant. They live in Kiel, Germany.

What was your favorite Benedictine University activity while on campus? 
Do you have a favorite memory of your time on campus? 
Send your memories to lhale@ben.edu.

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 . . .

Please clip and mail to:
Benedictine University
Debbie Smith/Alumni Association
5700 College Road, Lisle, Illinois 60532

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

Benedictine Voices 30
Births

Cecilia (Salazar) Broderick, Biology C01, and her husband, Damon, welcomed their first child, Calvin, in February 2006. The family is at home in Corpus Christi, TX.

Rebecca (Mueller) Brueggemann, Health Science C98, and her husband, Martin Brueggemann, M.B.A. ’00, welcomed a daughter, Lauren Nicole, in November 2006. Lauren joins her brother, Jason, in their Central, AZ home. Rebecca earned her M.S. in Physical Therapy from the University of New Mexico in 2003.

Mary (Costello) Carde, Sociology C99, and her husband, Joe Costino, Sociology C88, and her husband, Brian, recently welcomed their fifth child, Daniel Joseph, in October 2006. Daniel joins Kaylie, Michael, Steven and Alyssa in their Naperville home.

Mary (Benesch) Jendra, Accounting C87, and her husband, Glenn Jendra, Accounting C87, celebrated the birth of a daughter, Katie Marie, in November 2006. She was welcomed to their Wheaton home by siblings Emily, Kevin, Megan and Christopher.

David Kendregan, Sociology C92, and his wife, Regan, welcomed a son, Andrew Thomas, in May 2006. The family resides in their Naperville home.

Andrea Coscino, Health Science C88, and her husband, Joe Coscino, M.D., Biology C87, welcomed their first child, Calvin, in February 2006. The family is at home in Corpus Christi, TX. Andrea earned her M.S. in Physical Therapy from the University of New Mexico in 2003.

Mary (Costello) Carde, Sociology C99, and her husband, Jonathan, welcomed their first child, Antonio Eugene, in December 2006. The couple resides in Augusta, GA.

Kevin Sommerfield, Mathematics C93, and his wife, Tara Dirst, welcomed their first child, Kiera Jaye, in April 2006. Sommerfield is an assistant mathematics professor at Sauk Valley Community College and they live in DeKalb, IL.

Elyse (Muller) Weber, Molecular Biology C98, and her husband, Bryan, recently celebrated the birth of a son, Aidan James. Weber works as a genetics counselor at the University of Chicago Hospitals and the family resides in Aurora.

in memory


Aloysius Gajniak, 35, passed away in April 2006.

Leonard A. Kutilek, SPA C43, Physics C49, passed away in October 2006.

Eugene Meluch, Philosophy C54, passed away on January 8, 2007.

Julian Minarich, Business and Economics C83, passed away recently.


Thomas Raidy, Ph.D., Chemistry C68, passed away in June 2006. 🌹

Zubair S. Amir (Language and Literature) presented a paper titled “‘Drawn Almost into Frightful Neighborhood’: England, France and the Problem of National Identity in Wordsworth’s ‘Sonnets’” that was selected for inclusion on a panel titled “British Border Crossing: Romantic and Victorian (Inter) Textuality and the Destabilization of Boundaries (Boundaries of Empire and Nation)” at the 2006 Midwest Modern Language Association Convention held in Chicago.

Sharon Borowicz (M.B.A.) presented her paper titled “How Online M.B.A. Programs Help Students Develop Virtual Team Skills Necessary in the Workplace” at the World Conference on E-Learning. This is an international conference organized by the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE).

Craig Broeder (M.C.E.P.) has been elected president of the Midwest Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine for the term beginning in Spring 2008. Broeder also presented “Year One – Lessons Learned Operating an Activities of Daily Living Performance Enhancement Research Center in a Senior Independent Living Community” at the Southeast American College of Sports Medicine’s annual meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina. Broeder was joined by Benedictine University Master of Science in Clinical Exercise Physiology candidates Regina Schurman and Jeff LaPorta.

Timothy D. Comar (Mathematics) is the principal investigator on the three-year project titled “Biocalculus: Text Development, Dialog and Assessment” funded by the Course Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and conducted in collaboration with the College of DuPage (COD). The project consists of three elements: the development of a new textbook and laboratory manual, the establishment of a quarterly seminar series that will bring outside researchers in biomathematics to speak to Benedictine University and COD students, and an assessment component. Other faculty members from Benedictine University involved in the project include: Lisa G. Townsley, Ph.D., professor of Mathematics; Jeremy B. Nadolski, Ph.D., assistant professor of Mathematics; Preston R. Aldrich, Ph.D., assistant professor of Biology; Cheryl A. Heinz, Ph.D., assistant professor of Biology; and Alfred R. Martin, Ph.D., professor of Biology.


Mardelle Fortier (English) published two poems in Volume 23 of Kalliope: A Journal of Women’s Literature and Art, published by Florida Community College in Jacksonville. The poems were titled, “The End of the Lake” and “The Young Girl Reads.” Fortier published 16 poems and five stories in 2006. Fortier received three awards in the 2006 Poets and Patrons of Chicago contest. She won a second prize in formal verse, a second prize in free verse and a first honorable mention in experimental verse. Fortier ➤

Get Your Alumni Gear

Select Benedictine alumni items are available on the bookstore Web site at ben.bkstore.com. For a greater selection visit the store in the Krasa Student Center.
In Memoriam: 1920 - 2007

Rose Carney, Ph.D., former professor of Physics and Mathematics

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of a pillar of the Benedictine community. Rose Carney, Ph.D., began her long career at Benedictine University, then St. Procopius College, in 1948. She was the first female faculty member. During her 42 years on campus she was a professor of Physics and Mathematics and served as the head of the Department of Mathematics for 21 years. She was also the chairperson of the Natural Sciences Division for 11 years.

Carney grew up in Chicago and earned her undergraduate degree in physics from DePaul University and her Ph.D. in physics from the Illinois Institute of Technology, where she was a National Science Foundation Faculty Fellow. She also worked as a research assistant at the University of Chicago as part of the Manhattan Project.

While at Benedictine, Carney worked as a research associate for 10 summers at Argonne National Laboratory. She was highly regarded in her field, especially by colleagues and students.

Carney resided at Villa St. Benedict in Lisle since 2004. She died at the age of 86 on February 21, 2007. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Upon her retirement from Benedictine, the Rose Carney Scholarship was established in her honor. Her request was that any memorials for her be sent to this fund.

Many alumni, upon hearing of Carney’s passing, sent an outpouring of love, memories and condolences. Here is a

Chuck Gahala (Undergraduate Business) had an article published in the Fall 2006 issue of *Blueprints* titled “Establishing Payment Arrangements to Support Export Sales.” Gahala also made a presentation at the National Paper Packaging Industry meeting held at the Merchandise Mart in Chicago during which he surveyed the credit managers in attendance to identify the tasks essential for job advancement in business credit management in the industry. Gahala authored an article that appears in the February 2007 edition of *Business Credit*, titled “Paper Packaging Industry.” The article is a quantitative focus upon the credit management tasks performed at various companies across the country in the industry.

Sandra Gill (College of Business) and Provost Dan Julius reviewed the accomplishments of the College of Business at the Fall Faculty and Staff Dinner. Fifty-five adjunct and full-time faculty and staff members attended the event. Associate Provost David Sonnenberger demonstrated the use of online grading, class rosters and early warning notices with additional suggestions to enhance the faculty and student experience.

Dee Handu (Nutrition) was awarded a $10,000 grant by the Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children to study the impact of nutrition education on obesity prevalence in three Chicago Public Schools. The study will examine the impact of nutrition education and mindfulness (relaxation techniques) on student’s knowledge of nutrition, food preferences and stress coping skills. Tracking of anthropometric measurements will also be conducted. Handu is working in collaboration with a non-government organization “Organic School Project” to make this project a success. Two Benedictine University Master of Science in Nutrition and Wellness students are assisting Handu.

Cheryl Heinz (Biology) attended the Gordon Research Conference on Plant Herbivore Interactions in Ventura, Calif. Heinz presented a poster titled “Comparing chemistry of and preferences for a native versus three common introduced host plants for a swallowtail butterfly.” Heinz also co-authored an article with Daniel R. Papaj and Heather S. Mallory titled “Extreme weather change and the dynamics of oviposition behavior in the pipevine swallowtail, Battus philenor” that appeared in the online version of *Ecologia*, a peer-reviewed journal that publishes ecological research of international interest.

Ted Hogan (Disaster Management) was the featured speaker at the Chicago Metropolitan Healthcare Center (MCHC) seminar in Chicago on toxicology titled “How Industrial Hygienists Can Help Toxicologists Evaluate Exposures.” Hogan reviewed a number of case studies where he has worked with toxicologists to uncover and control exposures to environmental agents including acute and chronic exposure situations, dermal exposures and isocyanates.

Nona Jones (Undergraduate Business) wrote two papers that were accepted for presentation during the 2007 Midwest Business Administration Association international conference in Chicago. The papers, “Two Voices: Reflections on Being a Manager and a Woman in Corporate America” and “When Market Success Demands Organizational Change,” are based on research Jones completed during spring and summer 2006. Both papers were also published in the conference proceedings. Jones also presented a paper, “African-American Women’s Attitudes Toward Ethnic-Specific Skin Care Products and the Companies that Market Them,” at the 2006 annual conference of the Association for Global Business (AGB) held in Newport Beach, Calif. Jones’ paper, based on research she conducted during the summer, was voted “Best Paper” of the session during which it was presented.

Mannohan Kaur (Mathematics) presented a paper titled “Cryptography: A Fertile Ground for Undergraduate Research” at the American Mathematical Society (AMS) Special Session on Education at the joint meetings of the AMS, Mathematical Association of America, Association for Women in Mathematics and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics held in New Orleans, La.
sampling. To see them in their entirety, go to www.ben.edu/alumni/carney.asp.

“I was studying like crazy for the final in a small research lab when there was a knock on the door. It was Rose. She politely asked if I was planning on taking the final she was giving downstairs. I hadn’t fallen asleep, just studied right past the exam. That’s the kind of person she was and the kind of teacher I hope I have become.”

Wayne Wesolowski, C67

“Apart from my immediate family, there is a pretty short list of individuals who have deeply influenced the direction and quality of my life. Rose is near the top of that list.”

Mike Meier, C62

“Our class time and training were enhanced by her dedication and vision as to what constituted a solid foundation in mathematics, the language of science.”

Albert J. Froelich, C62

“We still exchanged Christmas cards. She was one of the greatest people that I have ever known and she will be greatly missed.”

Frank J. Benedix, Jr., C63 ✝

Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B. (Benedictine art collection curator) presented an illustrated program about the early life of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the St. Peter and Paul Pastoral Center. Fr. Michael projected 12 scenes of the birth and childhood of Mary painted on the walls of the Arena Chapel in Padua, Italy by Giotto in 1309. Remarkably preserved, Giotto’s frescoes are based on the 2nd century Book of James in which Mary’s parents are named Joachim and Anne. Mary’s husband Joseph is described as a widower with children. Fr. Michael also presented “Famous Images of Jesus,” a lecture and photographic presentation of famous images of Jesus throughout history, including Warner Sallman’s “Head of Christ,” at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Naperville. A first century image and the Shroud of Turin are other images Fr. Michael discussed. Fr. Michael also interpreted six scenes from the life of St. John the Baptist by 15th century Siennese master Giovanni di Paolo displayed at the Art Institute of Chicago at St. John the Baptist Church in Glen Ellyn.

Luis Loubriel (Music) published a book titled “Lasting Change for Trumpeters” edited by M. Lauriano (Principal Trumpet of the Minnesota Orchestra) and revised by V. Cichowicz (Professor Emeritus, Northwestern University) and W. Scarlett (former assistant principal trumpet of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra). The book is required text at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign and it is used at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis and at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Denmark. He also published three articles in the International Trumpet Guild Journal, “The Evolution of the Pedagogical Approach Developed by Arnold Jacobs,” “The Teaching of Vincent Cichowicz,” and “William Scarlett on Arnold Jacobs” (ISSN 0353-2845). Loubriel performed more than 50 concerts in Illinois during the 2005-2006 season and completed research (including interviews with brass players from the Boston Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Chicago Symphony, Pittsburg Symphony and faculty members from various universities) for his upcoming book “Back to Basics for Trumpeters.” His paper titled “The Marriage of Two Opposing Cultures: Science and Art” was selected for presentation at the upcoming Oxford Round Table titled “Balancing Two Cultures: Critical Choices” at the Harris Manchester College in Oxford, England. Loubriel presented a lecture at the School of Music at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign that traced the musical development in applied music teaching and performance using system theories and the “Spiral Dynamics” as developed by Beck and Cowan. Loubriel was also invited to give a lecture on the “The Teaching Methodologies of Arnold Jacobs: Learning to Achieve Lasting Change” at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Tim Marin (Chemistry) published an article in the January 11 issue of the Journal of Physical Chemistry titled “Reaction of O2 with the Hydrogen Atom in Water up to 350 °C.”

Julie Moreschi (Nutrition) received a $75,000 grant from “WeGo Together for Kids/Safe Schools/Healthy Students” funded by the Department of Health and Human Services. It is a three-year, $25,000 per year grant. This grant provides funding for one-quarter time salary, benefit coverage and supplies for Moreschi to conduct, supervise and evaluate community-based nutrition and fitness research activities at the West Chicago schools.

Daniel Nohl (Computer Science and Information Systems) took a team of three students to participate in the annual Associated Colleges of the Chicago Area (ACCA) Computer Programming Contest at Olivet Nazarene University. The team of Jeffrey Scelze, Frank Sikorski and Russel Zagorski finished fourth out of seven teams by solving four of the six problems over a four-hour period. Nohl served as one of four judges.

Teresa Parker (Art) held an exhibition of her drawings of Madonna figures in the lower level of the Krasa Center in December.

Ethel Ragland (Nursing and Health) was awarded an Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Nurse Educator Fellowship. The purpose of the Nurse Educator Fellowship Program is to ensure the retention of well-qualified nursing faculty at institutions of higher learning that award degrees in nursing. The program was created on July 11, 2006 when Public Act 94-1020 was signed into law establishing several new nursing initiatives in Illinois. Ragland, one of 15 fellows in Illinois, received the fellowship award of $10,000 on the basis of her significant contributions to the nursing program. As a fellow she will be actively involved in statewide nursing advocacy activities including collaborating with the IBHE and the Illinois Center for Nursing. Ragland is leading the program’s latest initiative of offering an accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing Completion program for registered nurses in partnership with the College of DuPage. Ragland also wrote an article, “Life Initiates Art: Learning Through Poetry,” that was published in the October 2006 issue of Chart, Journal of Illinois Nursing.

Niina Ronkainen (Chemistry) wrote an invited chapter, “Electrochemical immunoassays and immunosensors,” for a professional reference book published by the CRC Press. The book that was published on December 19, 2006 is titled “Immunoassay and Other Bioanalytical Techniques,” ISBN: 0849339421. The research for the chapter and writing was done ➪
also published a case study in the Benedictine Voices. Four papers were presented by Ph.D. faculty and students. Two papers were titled "The Art and Music of David Bowie: Forty Years of Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes." The presentation was part of Lewis's Arts and Ideas Series. Peter Seely (Communication Arts) made a presentation at Lewis University titled "The Art and Music of David Bowie: Forty Years of Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes." The first was held in Wheaton at Monroe Middle School and the second at Hinsdale Middle School at a Parent University organized by Downers Grove Township. These Saturday parent support programs are hosted by area schools and social service organizations. Salyer presented two workshops at each event—one on the subject of anger management and the other on how to build healthy relationships with children. More than 100 parents enjoyed her workshops. For the past six years, Salyer has been invited to speak at these events where parents of grammar school and high school students have the opportunity to improve their parenting skills and enjoy the support of other parents and professionals.

Margie Salyer (M.C.P.) presented seminars at two Parent University Events this school year. The first was held in Wheaton at Monroe Middle School and the second at Hinsdale Middle School at a Parent University organized by Downers Grove Township. These Saturday parent support programs are hosted by area schools and social service organizations. Salyer presented two workshops at each event—one on the subject of anger management and the other on how to build healthy relationships with children. More than 100 parents enjoyed her workshops. For the past six years, Salyer has been invited to speak at these events where parents of grammar school and high school students have the opportunity to improve their parenting skills and enjoy the support of other parents and professionals.

Peter Sorensen (Organization Development) and other members of the Benedictine University Ph.D. program faculty attended the recent global forum, "Business as an Agent of World Benefit: Management Knowledge Leading Positive Change," sponsored by the Academy of Management, the United Nations Global Compact and the Case Weatherhead School of Management held at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Four papers were presented by Ph.D. faculty and students. Two papers were presented by Guy Vaccaro and James Ludema. The first paper reported on their research in the general area of organizations and the natural environment and the specific area of sustainable development and enterprises. The second paper presented on PolyBrite International, Inc., a leading producer of environmentally-friendly products. A third paper was presented by Therese Yaeger, Sorensen and Thomas Head. The paper, "Thirty Years of International Research on Organizational Change: Implications for Positive Organizational Change Theory," reported on 30 years of international research undertaken as part of the Master of Science in Management and Organizational Behavior/Ph.D. program. The fourth paper by Head and Sorensen, "Walking the Fine Line: Can O.D. Techniques Assist In Bringing About A Peaceful Culture Transformation Due To Economic Development?" presented a discussion of economic growth, cultural values and the role of Organization Development.

Sorensen and Yaeger (Organization Development) have been invited to be co-chairs for the Organization Development Track for the 30th Anniversary of the Midwest Academy of Management. The Midwest Academy of Management is the regional association for the National Academy of Management, the largest international and major academic association for Management. Yaeger also has served on the Executive Committee for the Midwest Academy of Management for the last five years.

Yaeger and Sorensen also participated in a symposium on the topic "Scandinavian/Nordic Management for the National Academy of Management." The invitation was based on 20 years of work on Scandinavian Organization Development (O.D.) including research projects, teaching, a series of articles and papers and panels, as well as additional collaborative activities with faculty, students and Scandinavian O.D. practitioners. Yaeger was formerly a keynote speaker during the 10th anniversary of the Human Resources graduate program at the Copenhagen Business School. The continued work with the Copenhagen Business School is a part of the fifth decade of the O.D./Management and Organizational Behavior department focusing on global O.D. and furthering the department’s initiative on the Academic Alliance, an initiative for bringing together an alliance of international and national O.D. programs. Yaeger and Sorensen also published a case study in the OD Practitioner, the national journal for the OD Network. The case study, titled "Leveraging OD: Strategies for Limited Resources," deals with strategies for coping with OD’s success. OD executives and academics contributing to the case included Dr. Ghazala Ovaice from Abbott Laboratories; Jim Dunn, the national vice president for the American Cancer Society; and Vince Pellettiere, Ph.D., from Aurora University.

Carol Swett (International Programs) received a $50,000 grant from the Institute for Study Abroad Foundation, which was founded to assist the continuing advancement of international education through direct and indirect support of study abroad by undergraduate students from U.S. colleges and universities. This grant provides $25,000 per year for two years in the form of scholarships for Benedictine University students who want to study abroad at an international partnership institution.

Swett and Joellen Crider (International Programs) presented a seminar and results of a campus-wide survey titled, "Building Bridges Across Campus: Strategies for Internationalizing the Campus," at the NAFSA conference in Madison, Wis. This was the regional conference for the Association of International Educators involving the tri-state colleges and universities of Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin.

Ramkrishnan Tenkasi (Organization Development) was an invited member of the Innovation Committee of the National Cancer Institute sponsored program on “Implementing a Systems Initiative (ISIS) for Tobacco Control.” He collaborated with researchers from several other universities including Cornell, Harvard, University of Arizona, University of Illinois and the University of British Columbia, and federal agencies such as the Center for Disease Control to develop innovative policy and programmatic approaches to the problem of tobacco control in the United States and Canada. The results of the Innovation committee’s work since 2003 were published in a National Cancer Institute commissioned monograph titled “Greater Than the Sum: Systems Thinking in Tobacco Control” released last fall.

Martin Tracey (Philosophy) had an article accepted for publication in the anthology Virtue Ethics in the Middle Ages: Commentaries on Aristotle’s Nicomachean Ethics, 1200-1500. His article, “Virtus in the Naples Nicomachean Ethics, 1200-1500.”

Alandra Weller-Clarke (Education) presented an article titled “A Critical Analysis of the Child and Adolescent Wellness Scale (CAWS)” at Oxford University. The article was published in the Forum on Public Policy: A Journal of the Oxford Round Table, which exists to disseminate knowledge with regard to salient issues in public affairs. This includes research and policy advancement in both the public and private sectors that address government issues at state, national and international levels of discourse.

Andrew Wig (Physics) published an article in the January 2007 issue of Applied Physics Letters (Vol. 90, No. 1) titled “In vivo real-time ethanol vapor detection in the interstitial fluid of a Wistar rat using piezoresistive microcantilevers.” The article was also selected for inclusion in the January 15, 2007 issue of Virtual Journal of Biological Physics Research.
Spring 2007

Eagles Make Big Splash for Swimming

What the 2006-07 swimming team roster may have lacked in size, it more than made up for in heart and determination under first-year Benedictine Head Coach Sue Templeman. Nowhere was that more evident than in the efforts of junior Erik Morales.

Morales led the men’s program once again and was the team’s top place winner at the prestigious Liberal Arts Meet at season’s end. Morales swam his way to a ninth-place finish in the men’s 100-yard freestyle (55.17), winning the Pool B final race. He also earned a 12th place finish in the 200-yard individual medley (2:06.92). Freshman teammate James Pelletiere made the final cut in the men’s 100-yard breaststroke, where he finished 15th (1:09.42).

Benedictine players have received seven All-America awards and 47 all-region/all-district honors during Ostrowski’s tenure. He has coached three Major League Baseball (MLB) draft choices, one player who signed an MLB free-agent contract and five players who signed contracts with independent professional teams.

The NIIC Coach of the Year in 2001, 2003 and 2004, Ostrowski also was inducted into the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame and named College Coach of the Year by the Pitch and Hit Club of Chicago in 2003.

In addition to his baseball duties at Benedictine, Ostrowski has served as assistant football coach, assistant director of athletics and acting director of athletics during his tenure.

Eagles Make Big Splash for Swimming

Benedictine University head baseball coach John Ostrowski was inducted into the Lewis University Athletic Hall of Fame in February 2007.

During three years (1968-70) as a student assistant baseball coach at Lewis, Ostrowski learned his craft from one of the best – all-time collegiate baseball victories leader Gordie Gillespie. Almost four decades later, Ostrowski himself has earned the right to be called one of the best.

Now in his 35th year at Benedictine, Ostrowski begins the 2007 season with 788 career wins (788-622-15, .558). He stands ninth among active NCAA Division III coaches and 12th all-time among Division III coaches in victories.

Under Ostrowski’s guidance, Benedictine has captured 15 Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) titles; finished first or second in the conference standings 29 times in 33 seasons; made seven NCAA tournament appearances, finishing among the top three in regional play in 1991, 1995 and 2003; and posted 20 or more victories 26 times, including three seasons of 30 or more wins.

Ostrowski made an immediate and lasting impact after arriving at Benedictine in 1973, leading the Eagles to the NIIC title in each of his first eight seasons. The 1980 team made the program’s first-ever NCAA tournament appearance.

Ostrowski’s teams enjoyed more success in the 1990s, averaging nearly 25 victories per season and winning 64 percent of their games (248-138-4). The 1991 club registered a 31-9-1 record, finished atop the NIIC standings and placed third in the NCAA regional. The 1995 squad reached the 30-win plateau as well (30-14) and led the nation with a 2.49 earned run average.

Benedictine has averaged nearly 25 wins per season since 2000, including a school-record 32 victories by the 2000 team that qualified for the NCAA tournament. Ostrowski’s Eagles won the NIIC regular-season crown in 2004 and 2005 and made their most recent NCAA appearance in 2003.

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Coach Ostrowski Inducted into Hall of Fame

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Curtis Named Player of the Year; Klecan Top Rookie in Inaugural NAC Hoop Awards

The Benedictine University women’s and men’s basketball teams were well-represented on the Northern Athletics Conference’s (NAC) list of post-season awards for 2006-07. This was the first season for the NAC, which combined the bulk of the teams from the former Northern Illinois-Iowa Conference (NIIC) and the Lake Michigan Conference.

The Eagles finished the 2006-07 season with a 20-8 overall record, placing second in both the NAC regular season race and the league’s post-season tournament. The 20 wins are the most in a single season in the history of women’s basketball at the school. Third-year head coach Paul Nelson, C93, now has a record of 45-35 at Benedictine, having never finished lower than third place in league play.

Two players received conference honors. Junior center Tamika Curtis was named NAC Player of the Year and was recognized as the first team all-conference selection. Curtis was a dominant force in the NAC averaging a double-double of 18.8 points and 11.1 rebounds per game and tallying in double figures in 18 of her team’s 19 NAC regular season games. Curtis ranked 1st in total rebounds (11.1 r.p.g.), 3rd in scoring (18.8 p.p.g.), 4th in field goal percentage (56.0), 7th in steals (2.1 s.p.g.), 4th in blocked shots (2.1 b.p.g.), 3rd in offensive rebounds (4.1 p.g.), 1st in defensive rebounds (7.0 p.g.), 15th in assists (2.4 a.p.g.) and 1st in double-double games (nine). In the NAC tournament, she averaged 14.7 points, 13.3 rebounds, 2.3 assists, 3.3 steals and 2.3 blocks per game in the Eagles’ three games.

Curtis was a four-time winner of the NAC “Student-Athlete of the Week” award, and was named twice to the D3Hoops.com national “Team of the Week” for her efforts.

It is the third consecutive first team all-conference award for Curtis. She has won two consecutive Player of the Year honors, as well as, NIIC “Rookie of the Year” in 2004-05.

Guard Amanda Burditt had a stellar senior campaign to close out her career and was named to the All-NAC honorable mention list. Burditt did a little bit of everything for the Eagles, as she ranked among the NAC leaders in scoring (288/9.3 p.p.g.), assists (56/3.9 a.p.g.), free-throw percentage (100/72.0), steals (76/2.1 s.p.g.) and assist/turnover ratio (64/1.25 p.g.). She was also on the All-NIC honorable mention choice as a junior in 2005-06.

Also closing out their careers for the Eagles in 2006-07 were forward Lauren Zaro, forward Tryanna Mays and guard Tim Swanson was named first team All-NAC.

Freshman Dan Klecan was named to the NAC All-Rookie Team — reserved for true freshmen only — and was the co-Rookie of the Year within the division. In NAC games, Klecan averaged 12.3 points per game (20th in the NAC) and 3.9 boards per game. Klecan was 13th in assists, averaging 2.11 a.p.g., and was 7th in three-point field goals made per game (2.06).

Second-year freshman Jacob Carwell — who missed most of last season after a shoulder injury — was named All-NAC honorable mention. The 6’7” Carwell was 3rd on the NAC rebounding list (7.9 r.p.g.), 27th in scoring (10.9 p.p.g.) and 16th in free throw percentage (70.3/45-64). +

Dana Sullivan. All four seniors were four-year players for the program.

The men’s basketball team finished the year 12-14 overall and were the No. 6 seed in the NAC post-season tournament, despite a roster that contained no seniors and just three juniors.

Head Coach Keith Bunkenburg, C89, is now 192-120 in his 12-year tenure at the Benedictine helm.

Three players received honors. Junior guard Tim Swanson was named first team All-NAC after averaging 14.1 points and 3.3 rebounds per game in the league.

Swanson ranked 11th in scoring and 8th in field goal percentage at 55.2 (79-143). He was also the 3rd ranked free throw shooter in the NAC at 82.6 (38-46), as well as 4th in three-point shooting with a percentage of 46.2 (30-65).

Indoor Track and Field Hits New Record

From day one of the indoor track and field season until the very last meet, the efforts of junior thrower Matt Wilkin kept the Eagles watchful of meet results each week. That’s because Wilkin — a specialist in the 35-pound weight throw — set school records in the event no less than three times during the season.

Wilkin bested Nathan Palmer’s 2001 mark of 50’ 2”, adding 7 ½ inches and raising the standard to 50’ 9 ½”.

He was also twice-honored by the Northern Athletics Conference (NAC) with its “Student-Athlete of the Week” award for his accomplishments. Wilkin culminated his indoor season by winning the title in the weight throw at the very first NAC indoor championship meet held in Kenosha, Wis., on February 24. He also placed third in the men’s shot put at the NAC indoor meet.

On the women’s side of things at the NAC championships, junior sprinter/hurdler Stacey Sara was a double winner. She won the 55-meter hurdles and then joined the Eagles’ 4x400-meter relay quartet that scored a mild upset by winning that event.

Sara was teamed with sophomores Hannah Miller and Jennifer Murphy, along with freshman Nora Becker, as a part of the winning 4x400 team. +

Matt Wilkin

Junior guard
Tim Swanson was named first team All-NAC.
Challenge other Benedictine alumni teams for the Alumni Cup!

13th Annual President’s Invitational

Golf Outing

Joseph and Bess Kindlon, Event Sponsors

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<tr>
<td>Registration and Lunch</td>
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Upcoming Events

Stay Connected.

May 20  Commencement/Golden Eagles
June 14  African-American Alumni Reunion
June 24  Alumni Mass/Picnic
July 8   Alumni Day at the White Sox
July 16  President’s Invitational Golf Outing
August 18 Football Team Reunion
August 19 Women’s and Men’s Soccer Alumni Reunion
September 29 Homecoming
November 3 42nd Annual Educare Scholarship Ball

For more information about these and other University events, visit Benedictine’s Web site today.

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