Benedictine Voices
The News From Benedictine University

Global Partnerships: China Institute
“Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might.”

ECCLESIASTES 9:10

Vision

“The greatest virtues are those which are most useful to others.”

ARISTOTLE

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Vitality

“After your busy life, you’re making the greatest contribution.”

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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.

My favorite place on campus is the grotto that sits in front of the cemetery. My son Adam helped to build it for his Eagle Scout Leadership project, but more important, it is a place of solitude and peace. When my day gets too busy and I feel overwhelmed, I walk up to the grotto, sit on the bench and let my mind drift. I feel like it’s a safe and prayerful place.

Julie Neilligan, Alumni Relations

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As I grow into the position of Benedictine University president, I am gaining a sense of how values can steer an institution. In addition to its Catholic tradition and heritage, the University is guided by seven Benedictine values: a search for God by oneself and with others; a tradition of hospitality; an appreciation for living and working in community; working with individuals to be all they can be; an emphasis on a life lived in balance; a dedication to responsible stewardship, and a commitment to academic excellence.

In recent months, with the economic crisis swirling around us, I have become more attuned to our value of stewardship. While this is traditionally associated with the environment (and we do strive to be a “green” campus), I have focused on another dimension to this centuries old value — one probably always present in our Benedictine predecessors.

To understand this dimension of stewardship, I ask you to think for a moment as to the role of a university president. Obviously we are fundraisers, always looking for new financial resources to keep the ship afloat and to move it to its destination. With trustees and the community, we set the vision for the institution. The University’s day-to-day operations are handled by able people who steer the ship almost flawlessly. As a matter of course, presidents should empower their employees, get out of their way and let them be all they can be (the Benedictine value of developing each person to be what they can be).

To move the University forward, and to be a life raft in an economic sea of turbulence, I challenged the Benedictine University Board of Trustees to steer the ship in a time of turmoil for many families. The Board accepted the challenge and took a major step toward helping families deal with the economic crisis at their meeting this past October. The trustees voted to freeze tuition at its current level through spring 2010 for students already attending Benedictine, and guaranteed that next year’s freshman class will not see a tuition increase through spring 2011. The Board felt that we must hold the line on the cost of college so as not to endanger the futures of so many promising young people.

While a higher education continues to be expensive, perhaps we can slow the escalating tide through this tuition freeze. Bolstered by the Benedictine value of community, stewardship, as I have learned to understand it, requires us to look out for one another. A rising tide raises all boats; a lowering tide, grounds some boats and destroys others. In being good stewards, the University must take into account the economic viability of its present constituents and future constituents. We must be flexible in our approach in these difficult economic times.

An institution like Benedictine is like a ship at sea. It functions quite well with little need for a captain until in the midst of troubled waters. In these times, the captain takes the controls and steers the ship. The recent economic crisis in this country is such a time when intervention in the daily operations of the University is required. When the captain takes the helm in troubled seas, charts, graphs and even modern day electronic devices might not be of much use. What is paramount is the ability of the captain to steer the ship out of troubled waters using the skills that have become innate through his many years at sea.

When universities are beset with raging seas, presidents and boards function much like a sea captain. In taking the helm, they must rely on the values of the institution as their compass and guide. But how do the values of the University help us in this economic storm? The answer is rather simple: our seven values point the direction in which we should go. They craft the policies to respond to the challenges at hand.

While all of the Benedictine values mentioned are pertinent, the value of stewardship views time as practically endless, with community pervasive throughout. Under stewardship’s mantel, we view the Benedictine community as all those who have come before us and will follow us. As part of this human chain, we have a monumental obligation to pass to them a better University than the one with which we began.

Using the value of stewardship as our compass and guide in these perplexing economic times, we must decide what options are the best for us today and for those who will come tomorrow. No matter what is happening in Washington regarding economic matters, families have been shaken to their core. Retirement funds have disappeared, savings are depleted and tomorrow seems guaranteed to no one.

For Benedictine to go on as if the recent economic crisis never happened is foolhardy. Given the economic depression being experienced by most Americans, the University needs to realize that doing business as usual would be unusual at best. When we hear that families’ “nest eggs” are being depleted, we know that these nest eggs are where families build funds for college education. If they are being depleted, so are the dreams and aspirations of the families who own them. The University needs to reach out to its community and to partner with it through these turbulent economic seas.

These are extremely difficult times for students and their families. Although most of our students receive some form of aid, we are committed to doing as much as possible to ensure that education is a life-long journey, not a life-long burden.

In Tough Economic Times — Benedictine University Freezes Tuition

by William J. Carroll, President
MONASTIC PERSPECTIVE

by Fr. David Turner, O.S.B., Ph.D., Assistant to the Provost for Institutional Mission

Benedictine Mission Call to China

With the recent establishment of Benedictine University on the Chinese mainland, a look at St. Procopius’ history with China seemed appropriate. While the United States was considered “mission territory” in its beginnings, within a short period of time Americans began to see their own role change as they were being challenged to bring the Gospel to other lands. Our own foundation as a Benedictine monastery came because of the “mission mindedness” of Fr. Boniface Wimmer, O.S.B., of St. Michael’s Abbey in Metten, Bavaria, who left his native land in 1846 to bring Benedictine life to our land.

In keeping with Abbot Boniface’s mission dream, St. Procopius Abbey was founded with the focus of being missionaries to Czech and Slovak immigrants. Sensitive to the missionary ideal, it was not surprising that in May of 1931 Fr. Procopius Neuzil, O.S.B., at that time prior of St. Procopius Abbey, was appointed to be a “promoter” of the Catholic University of Peking (now Fu Jen University) by soliciting funds. In addition, in 1931 Francis Shonka, Ph.D., a graduate of St. Procopius College and a brother of three monks in the Abbey (Fr. Emilian, William and Richard) went to Peking University as the dean of the physics department. During this period, the university was run by the monks of St. Vincent Archabbe, the founding community of St. Procopius Abbey.

When funds could not be found, the university was transferred to a mission congregation, The Society of the Divine Word, founded by St. Arnold Janssen from Holland.

When the Divine Word Missionaries took over the university, the St. Vincent monks secured an “apostolic indult” (permission) from Rome to remain in the mission territory. Frs. Ildephonse Brandstetter, Francis X. Clougherty and Oswald Baker established St. Benedict’s Monastery in Kaifeng, Honan Province, China. Their primary goal was to form a community of native Chinese as Benedictine priests and brothers. It was from this latter mission congregation that Rome chose the first Chinese Cardinal, Thomas Tien, S.V.D.

The monastery, established by the three Benedictines, encountered difficulty as it was not a formal dependency of any existing abbey, so Rome sought to recruit more monastic personnel. Rome made a formal request to the abbot of St. Procopius, the Rt. Rev. Valentine Kohlbeck, O.S.B., in 1936. It was on October 14, 1936, that the monastic chapter of St. Procopius Abbey formally agreed to take over the Kaifeng Chinese Mission and sent Fr. Cosmas Vesely, O.S.B., who was appointed the first prior, along with Frs. Richard Shonka, O.S.B., and Gerard Mach, O.S.B., to Asia.

The monks began to teach in the Kwang Yu Middle School, though very early on war tensions began to develop with the eventual occupation of Kaifeng by the Japanese army. During this time, Fr. Richard began to teach graduate mathematics at Honan University. Unfortunately, Frs. Cosmas and Richard both became seriously ill and returned to America. Fr. Cosmas died in a Seattle hospital on October 3, 1938.

Frs. Ildephonse, Francis and Gerard, along with Br. Alphonse worked at the Benedictine College in Manila and returned home in 1955.

The Benedictine Chinese mission work took on a new direction under Abbot Daniel W. Kucera as he sent Fr. Francis to arrange the eventual establishment of a priory in the city of Chiai, Taiwan. The monastery complex was dedicated in 1967 and has been served by two priors: Frs. Timothy Marceau and Alban Hrebic. Currently, there are two Benedictines in this small monastery, though the property now contains a large Catholic hospital directed by the Sisters of Our Lady of China.

As Benedictine University has now established itself as a formidable educational presence in China, we see the dream of the original missionaries coming to fruition. There is an opportunity for the Benedictine message to again be heard in China.

Fr. Francis served as a campus minister in Georgia; Fr. Sylvester served as chaplain of Sacred Heart Monastery; and Fr. Richard was well-known at Benedictine as a professor of mathematics and theology, along with his pioneering work in computer science. Fr. Gerard and Fr. Alphonse worked at the Benedictine College in Manila and returned home in 1955.

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After centuries of apparent seclusion, China seemed to burst into the World Trade Organization as its 143rd member in December 2001. Anticipating entrance into international business, it became apparent that many Chinese corporate employees and particularly students in higher education did not know the cultural differences between Eastern and Western business practices. The best place to insert this information was to add eight Benedictine courses to China’s Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) degree.

Chang Miao, one of Benedictine’s first professors in China, said that “with the advancement of Internet technology and globalization, Chinese students probably know more about Western business concepts than their previous generation. However, knowing concepts is one thing, understanding concepts is another, and that is what we bring to the students.”

At about the same time, through discussions with higher learning executives and awareness of globalization, Benedictine President William Carroll began to look into China’s educational situation. Several universities in northeast China initiated conversations with Benedictine which led to creation of Benedictine’s China Institute.

Carroll is an old hand at new beginnings and has encouraged many regional changes at the University. In the spring of 2002, he sought and received federal funding to establish a tuition-free First Responder education program for fire and police, and now veterans. In 2004, the University began discussions, and then designed and finalized plans to partner with Springfield College of Illinois in the state capital. Some of these educational learning teams (a group of 25-30 students who study the same courses together and graduate together after 16 months) programs moved off campus to other Illinois sites. Benedictine had become regional, so why not go global?

Benedictine representatives from the College of Business were sent to China to investigate the possibility of a partnership with two universities in northeast China: Shenyang University of Technology (SUT) and Shenyang Jianzhu University (SJZU), both situated in a city of 7.2 million people. Each university has more than 25,000 students. The University then applied to the United States Higher Learning Commission and the Ministry of Education of China to partner with these universities in their M.B.A. programs. Classes began in 2004. This was a unique educational opportunity for both Benedictine and China.

For centuries, China maintained a “lecture” teaching method, but Benedictine professors introduced an entirely different methodology by changing the classroom atmosphere. Miao teaches Project Management in the China M.B.A. program, and explains that “in our classes I found the key to break the old habit of learning and to stimulate more self-thinking was by introducing research and discussion. Business concepts are not just about the “what” of business, but also the “why” and “how.” Serious teaching concepts are delivered through innovative teaching methods and effectively learned by the students. Discussions and assignments are involved with much problem-solving.”

Chinese students Xiao Yu (Alex), a master’s degree student in Management Information Systems, and Bing Dai, a student in Benedictine’s Master of Science in Accountancy program, spoke of that difference in Chinese and American classrooms and both appreciate working in study groups. They said it helps them learn more about American culture and language.

Both students feel the most difficult part of their transition to America was in trying to gain credit, earn money, find an affordable apartment and discover ways of transportation. Recently, the China Institute held a dinner for Chinese students and host families interested in helping students gain a
Elsie Yuan, director of the Benedictine China Institute, met students and graduates of the program at SUT.

A grateful grandmother speaks with President Carroll at the SJZU 2008 graduation ceremony where her grandson received his diploma.

Benedictine’s Global Partnerships

As we continue to move toward life in a technologically-advanced, global society, it is necessary for our education system to respond to this growth. Global partnerships strengthen students’ personal and educational opportunities, and make them better global citizens in a world that is quickly demanding it.

• Vietnam: A new M.B.A. program partnership was formed in late 2008 with Binh Duong University (BDU) in Binh Duong, Vietnam. Established in 1997 with an enrollment of approximately 8,000 students, it is located in southeastern Vietnam north of Ho Chi Minh City. It is a private institution that offers undergraduate, graduate and vocational training programs at 25 sites. BDU plans to add two-to-four new campuses in the near future. A similar program is being developed at Vietnam National University.

Since 2000, Benedictine has established exchange student programs with the following universities around the globe:

• The Copenhagen Business School in Copenhagen, Denmark.
• The Universidad de Monterrey and the Instituto Tecnologico de Estudios

John Carroll, a Benedictine professor of Strategy and Marketing, is a retiree of the corporate world where for years he was based in Europe and conducted business with China. He was amazed when he returned to teach for Benedictine and observed China’s growth. “The cities have skyrocketed and Chinese students are like sponges,” he said. “They particularly want to learn everything American. I finally prepared a slide presentation of how I live and they often stay after class to watch it and ask questions. It’s like watching an awakening.

“As I walk down the streets, obviously an American, many people and small children smile and speak a few English words, welcoming me to their country. They are very curious and an American education is vital to them, so many of them send their children to study here. I wanted to give something back after I retired, particularly in education. Having done business with China in the past, I decided to teach there,” Carroll added.

At SUT, Benedictine professors teach half of the 16 M.B.A. courses, emphasizing cultural differences in Western practices including: Managing in a Complex Environment; Organizational Behavior; Organizational Development; Information Technology Management; Systems Analysis and Design; Human Resource Management; Marketing Management and Strategic Management.

At SJZU, Benedictine professors teach half of the 16 courses toward a Master of Science in Management Information Systems (M.S.M.I.S.) degree, including: Organizational Behavior; Organizational Development; Systems Analysis and Design; Human Resource Management; Knowledge-based Systems; Electronic Commerce; Enterprise-Wide Information Systems and Strategic Information Technology Management.

China-born Andy Sze, fluent in English, Cantonese, Mandarin and Shanghainese, needs no interpreter for his
Project Management classes here in the United States. “It’s exciting to share what I know of China, and merge Eastern and Western cultures by explaining Western terms and Western business to students. I have lived in the United States for 38 years, but I very vividly recall the first day I arrived in Chicago. It was truly another world. And this is another world for these students,” said Sze.

“China raised the bamboo curtain,” he continued, “when it welcomed President Nixon, the first American President to visit China. The people became more and more curious about Americans. The Chinese also have great respect for educators and education. They have always admired the American capacity to blaze new trails.”

Benedictine also has a relationship with Hohai University (HHU), located in Nanjing, China, a research and engineering university founded in 1915. Benedictine partnered with HHU in its M.B.A. program in 2007. Water resources are the university’s main focus with the education of engineers as its first priority. Courses coordinate the development of engineering, science, economics, management, arts and law. Nanjing is a city west of Shanghai and south of Beijing with a population of 6.2 million. The university consists of 13 colleges and offers 33 Ph.D. programs, 73 master’s degree programs, 18 engineering and M.B.A. programs and 46 undergraduate programs. More than 30,000 students are enrolled at the university.

As of June 2008, Peking University (PKU) in Beijing became another Benedictine partner in the M.B.A. program. It is a comprehensive and key university ranked by TIME magazine’s 2006 “Higher Education Supplement” as the 14th best university in the world. It consists of 30 colleges and 12 departments with 93 specialties for undergraduates, 199 specialties for master’s degree students and 173 specialties for doctoral candidates. PKU has approximately 30,000 students and 4,206 faculty members.

Two hundred and twenty two students have graduated from the Benedictine graduate business programs in China. Another 101 students plan to graduate in May 2009.

In an effort to “carry the light” to China, Benedictine’s faculty and staff raised and donated $6,000 to help the victims of Beijing’s earthquake. When President Carroll and Elsie Yuan, Director of the China Institute, went to China for several 2008 graduations, he presented the check to the Secretary of the Party, Fuchang Zhang, at SJZU. One of Benedictine’s graduate students then delivered it personally to the headquarters of the Red Cross in Beijing.

In June 2009, the Benedictine Abraham Lincoln English Language Institute and the China Institute will offer a summer program at Benedictine University-Springfield College in Illinois. Students not fluent in English are invited to morning class instruction by English as a Second Language (ESL) professionals as well as afternoon activities promoting cultural and communicative growth. These types of field trips give the students a first-hand experience in the way Americans live, work and play. The study will also give them the opportunity to practice communication strategies they learn in the classroom.

Through the expansion of this global presence, the Benedictine message is being heard in China and around the world. †
There’s No Place Like Home —

Your old college home that is — as many people found out at the 2008 Benedictine Homecoming Festival. Getting reconnected with old teammates, classmates, coaches, professors and administrators always provides a renewed appreciation for the time spent and the relationships made at the University.

“BU — you rock!” said Ken Carruthers, C76, summing up the weekend and the spirit from alumni and students this year. There was something for everyone during the three days of the Homecoming Festival, including some great family activities.

The fun started on Friday night with an alumni “Friday Afternoon Club” in the Coal Ben. While the bags tournament went on in the Alumni Tent, about 100 people enjoyed the Open Mic Night and Poetry Slam inside the Coal Ben. It turned out to be a perfect evening for the annual bonfire as well.

On Saturday, the weather was perfect for Homecoming activities like football and tailgating. Each of the Colleges, in addition to the Enrollment Center and Athletics, had their own tents serving up many delicious varieties of food. Children

See more photos of this event, including photos from the “Ben There, Done That — A Walk Down Memory Lane” display, at www.ben.edu/homecoming.
enjoyed the family activities, while parents spent time with college friends. And to top off this perfect day, the Benedictine Eagles defeated the Maranatha Baptist Crusaders by a score of 44-0.

One of the new additions to the itinerary this year was “Ben There, Done That — A Walk Down Memory Lane,” a collection of school memorabilia and photos in the Coal Ben. “It was rewarding to see the visitors commenting on the letter sweaters, pictures, artifacts, athletic equipment and so forth. The items that held the most interest and brought forth the most emotion were the yearbooks, some dating back to the 1920s. The “Walk” is a must-do event for 2009,” said Steve Grobl, C81, president of the President’s Society Council.

Also new to Homecoming this year was the addition of live bands. Dave Norman’s, C08, band “Hear You Me” played during tailgating and received rave reviews. After the game, the UPS Main Stage played host to the bands “Stellar Road” and “Final Say,” who both kept the audience dancing. A member of the Eagles football team, John Lemons, joined the fun after the game and commented, “I thought that the events on Saturday were really fun. BU had some really good bands playing. After our football game, it was great to have good live music and food in the quad.”

There were several classes celebrating reunions this year. The Class of 1965 celebrated in the Kindlon Atrium. Dan Tira, M.D., C65, attended the party and said, “I consider these occasions a blessing. Remember next year when we do this again, those who were here are compelled to either bring or convince another classmate to come!”

On Sunday, the special Alumni Mass was celebrated at the Abbey with Abbot Dismas Kalcic, O.S.B., C57. Several alumni and their families joined Abbot Dismas and Abbot Hugh Anderson, O.S.B., C61, for brunch in the Krasa Center. Another group of alumni and friends joined Benedictine President William Carroll and Executive Vice President Charles Gregory for brunch in the Kindlon Hall Library before departing to Chicago to see the musical “The Jersey Boys.”

The new activities at Homecoming were well-received by those in attendance. Kayleen (Newby) Ivers, C04, explained, “It is always great to return to campus. This year my husband and I were not able to make it for the tailgating and football game, but we were very happy that the festivities continued throughout the night. We enjoyed several bands, touring the Coal Ben and watching a soccer game. Since getting married, this was the first opportunity we had to walk around the campus together and reminisce about our dating memories. This is what a Homecoming should be.”

Mark your calendar now for Homecoming 2009 on September 18, 19 and 20. Watch the Web site for details. Don’t miss your opportunity to come back home. There will be more networking, friendship, family activities and great times...and we want you to be here to celebrate with us! 🎉
Retirement Dinner and Scholarship honor Coach Wolcott’s service to the University

Friends, family, staff and teammates gathered in the Krasa Center on August 13 to honor track and field and cross country coach Jon Wolcott for 18 years of service to the University. Surrounded by his family, Wolcott enjoyed an evening filled with good food, fun stories and renewed friendships.

Hosted by Coach Dave Swanson, the evening included a welcome from the Offices of Alumni Relations and Athletics, along with many introductions of past coaches and staff. The fun began when alumni and students were able to “roast” the coach. David Maze, M.D., C99, said, “There was always an ever optimistic attitude. We had some pretty bad teams and he always thought we were going to come in there and have a really good lead.” Stacey Sara, C08, stated, “He was always very friendly with us, like a grandpa, so he’d always give us a big hug when he saw us.” David Do, C98, said, “Coach always knew what we were up to. It’s a testament to who he is. More than a coach, he’s our friend.”

The evening wrapped up with a testament to Wolcott’s legacy. John Morris, associate director for Athletic Advancement and External Resources, announced that a scholarship has been established in Wolcott’s honor. A minimum of $10,000 must be raised for the scholarship to be endowed. Anyone interested in donating, or for more information, can contact Morris at jmorris@ben.edu or (630) 829-1812. In Wolcott’s thank-you address, he stated, “Benedictine University is a great place to get an education, a great place to work, and there are wonderful people here. I was here 18 years and loved every bit of it.”

45th Reunion for the Class of 1963

It was a fun-filled weekend on October 10-11 as the class of 1963 celebrated its 45th reunion as St. Procopius College graduates. Friday’s activities started with golf at River Bend Golf Course in Lisle, followed by socializing in the clubhouse. In the evening, classmates and significant others joined the group for dinner at the Wyndham Lisle, along with special guest Abbot Dismas Kalcic, O.S.B.

Saturday, the class enjoyed tailgating, watching the football game and afterward, a pasta dinner in the Krasa Center Fireside Lounge. About 25 classmates participated in the weekend’s activities. Many of these alumni had not been back to campus in 45 years and were quite surprised and pleased with all the changes.

If you would like to assist in planning your class reunion, contact Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu.

Celebration for Sorensen’s 75th Birthday Helps to Raise Funds

On October 10, approximately 150 students, staff, faculty and alumni gathered in the Krasa Center to celebrate the 75th birthday of Peter Sorensen, Ph.D., (Organization Development) and raise money for a global O.D. presence. Emceed by Therese Yaeger, Ph.D.’95 (Organization Development), many had the opportunity to “roast” Sorensen after a wonderful dinner and birthday cake. Some of the “roasters” included Tracey Cantarutti, Ph.D.’05; Joan Finley, Cohort 7; Darryl Franklin, Cohort 6; Paulo Goelzer, Ph.D.’03; Thomas Head; Bruce Mabee; Rex Mudge, M.S.M.O.B.’04; and Betty White-Zappa, Ph.D.’01. Fun stories about overhead projectors and slides, trips to Copenhagen, Sorensen’s many years of service to the
University and more were part of the night’s discussions.

The $11,000 proceeds from this event went toward the establishment of a Benedictine University Organizational Behavior/Organization Development Global Presence fund. For more information, or to donate, contact Meagan Daniel, associate director for Academic Advancement at (630) 829-1813 or mdaniel@ben.edu.

25th Reunion for Class of 1983

The Wyndham Lisle was the site for the 25th reunion for the class of 1983. Twenty-five alumni renewed old friendships they had first established at Illinois Benedictine College. Classmate Bruno Berszoner traveled from Massachusetts for the homecoming festivities. He ran into fellow classmate Al Nunez who was thrilled he was attending the reunion. The group enjoyed many activities throughout the weekend and encouraged even more classmates to try and make the 30th reunion.

30th Reunion for Class of 1978

It’s been 30 years since the class of 1978 graduated from Illinois Benedictine College. On Saturday, October 18, classmates returned to celebrate their big day. Some of the 26 alumni in attendance gather regularly to visit one another, while others had not seen each other for 30 years. The night included a Mass celebrated by Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B., then drinks and dinner and great stories from their days at IBC. A lot of laughs and hugs rounded out the night with promises to meet again for the 35th reunion.

Network with Benedictine through MySpace, Facebook and LinkedIn®

Students, alumni, faculty and staff can all stay in contact with Benedictine with one click of a button. MySpace, Facebook and LinkedIn® social networking sites are now being housed by the Offices of Alumni Relations and University Development. By adding Ernie Eagle as your friend, it is possible to see upcoming events, projects and most important a way to stay in touch with all of your friends.

For questions regarding Benedictine’s MySpace access, contact Eric Guthrie, coordinator of alumni relations, at eguthrie@ben.edu or (630) 829-6081; Facebook: Jessica Stillo, coordinator of alumni stewardship and philanthropy, at jstillo@ben.edu or (630)829-1811; and LinkedIn®: Lindsey Kasha, Office of the President and Executive Vice President, at lkasha@ben.edu or (630) 829-6008.

Class Notes Winners from Fall 2008

Diane Ogilea, Ph.D., C90
Christopher Mays, C97
Tracy Richards, C97

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

If you are one of these lucky winners, please contact Julie Nelligan at jnelligan@ben.edu before February 20, 2009 to collect your prize. Good luck and keep sending in those class notes! †
In the last issue of Voices, I wrote a letter introducing myself and explaining my role as the President of the Alumni Association. I feel this is an incredible responsibility and I am honored to have the privilege to represent the fine alumni from this institution.

In that letter I stated, “I want to open a line of communication between myself and the alumni community.” In order to help facilitate this, I will write a regular column in Voices updating you on our current and future initiatives to engage alumni, and suggest ways to give back in time, talent and treasure. I hope you will feel free to let me know your thoughts and suggestions on how we can make our ideas even better.

On October 17, we held the first of three meetings of the Alumni Association Board for 2008-09. We welcomed the following new board members: Brian McDaniel, B.A. Business and Economics, C08; Christopher Awalt, B.A. Political Science, C95; Torian Richardson, B.A. Finance, C99 and John McGuinn, B.A. Literature, C62. We offer a huge thank you to these new members for being willing to serve the alumni community.

At this meeting, we discussed starting up our national chapters. So far, we have added representatives from Florida and California. We are also looking into representation in other states such as Michigan, Wisconsin and Arizona.

We also discussed how to better communicate with our alumni through technology. The Offices of Alumni Relations presented a proposal for an online directory that all University alumni will be able to utilize. We hope the directory will be up and running in early 2009. Along with the directory, Facebook and MySpace are part of the plan. Look for more details on the alumni Web site.

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Upcoming alumni events were also on the meeting’s agenda. You can find information about them at www.ben.edu/alumni. If you missed the Homecoming Festival, you missed a great day! I participated in an alumni baseball game in the morning, then attended tailgating events throughout the Krasa Center parking lot, then the pig roast in the alumni tent and listened to three live bands. That was all just a small part of the weekend’s events. Please plan to attend Homecoming next year because it promises to be even bigger and better. I know you will really enjoy yourself.

One event we plan on giving even more alumni support to is the annual golf outing on Monday, June 29, 2009. The Alumni Association wants to take a more active role in this important fundraising event and we will need your support. Please watch for more details.

I am very excited about our future and want to thank you again for allowing me the privilege to represent you. I’m very interested in hearing your thoughts on ways to engage alumni and support our school.

John Parker, C01 Alumni Board President john_parker05@yahoo.com

Stay Connected
2009 Upcoming University Events

FEBRUARY 1
Super Bowl Party in the Coal Ben
FEBRUARY 5
Wine Tasting in the Coal Ben
FEBRUARY 7
Red & White Gala (formerly Sweetheart Club)
FEBRUARY 7
Men’s and Women’s Basketball Reunions
FEBRUARY 17
Alumni Board Meeting
FEBRUARY 20
College of Science Reunion and Re-dedication of The Jurica-Suchy Nature Museum
APRIL 30
Caribbean Night at the Coal Ben
MAY 17
Commencement/Golden Eagles Reunion
MAY 19
Alumni Board Meeting
JUNE 29
15th Annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing
SEPTEMBER 18-20
Homecoming Weekend

For updates on alumni events, go to www.ben.edu/alumni or call (630) 829-6077.

Look for the “Carry the Light” logo throughout this issue for examples of giving back in time, talent and treasure.

Mystery Photos
Can you guess where these images can be found on campus? Give it a try.
Answers on page 31.
What did you do after graduating?
After I graduated from Illinois Benedictine College I was accepted into the Rush Medical College. After earning my medical degree I did my residency in obstetrics and gynecology (OB/GYN) at the University of Michigan. I now run my private practice in OB/GYN services in Canton, Mich. I have been on the staff of the University of Michigan and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital since I finished my residency.

In 1994, I married Mark Ouimet and moved to a surrounding township with his son, Mark, and daughter, Courtney. I have been actively involved in the Department of OB/GYN at St. Joseph’s serving in roles as secretary, resident and student education. I often do community speaking on a variety of subjects related to my field. My husband and I also find time to actively fundraise for many foundations and not-for-profits in the community.

How have you stayed connected to your alma mater?
I have stayed connected with the University by being a member of the President’s Society Council (PSC) and by attending as many of the events sponsored by the University (Educare Ball, Golf Outing, etc.) that I can. These activities not only allow me to stay connected to the people involved at the University, but they help raise necessary funds to promote the University’s goals.

Why does your “Alma Matter” to you?
My “Alma Matters” to me because it provided me with the educational foundation to achieve my career in medicine; it gave me the opportunity to learn a new appreciation of my faith and to deepen my feelings about it in my life; and it introduced me to my closest and dearest friends who I value to this day.

How do you give back to the University in your time/talent/treasure?
I have been a member of the PSC for several years and have attended many fundraising events. With the help of the attendees of the Educare Ball over the last two years, I helped raise nearly $40,000 solely for scholarships! I have made a personal commitment to donate back the amount of scholarship funds made available to me so other students may also obtain a Benedictine University education. My husband and I have also had three alumni reunions of the Southeast Michigan region at our home.

What benefits do you receive by staying close to your alma mater?
Staying close to my alma mater means continuing to cultivate friendships I began in my undergraduate years. It also affords the opportunity to have interaction with students, which is always motivating, uplifting and inspiring. It is a community that you don’t grow out of just because you graduated. Everyone should try to stay connected. We all have different talents and interests — we never know when they may be appropriate to help one another (students or other alumni) — where better to start this type of networking than at Benedictine?

What was one of the most important experiences you had at Benedictine?
My acceptance to medical school was the most important event that happened to me while at the University. I could never have achieved this without the help of the many professors in the Department of Science who actively helped me throughout my four years there. Also, I received the Outstanding Alumni Award three years ago at commencement — how humbling and thrilling — it was a great moment.

How do you “Carry the Light” of the University in your life?
I “Carry the Light” by always trying to do my best for my family and my patients on a daily basis. I also try to give back through volunteering and raising funds for good causes.

Hrozencik remains active in Ann Arbor through her husband Mark’s extensive not-for-profit work. They also enjoy spending time with Mark’s grandson Troy. She often visits with her sister, Karen (Hrozencik), C96, her nephew Garret and niece Zoe in Georgia. Her brother, Dan Hrozencik, who once taught Calculus at Benedictine, teaches at Chicago State University and DePaul University. Her mother, Nancy, still lives in Chicago, but sadly her father, Rudy, passed away in 2003. Known as “the biggest Benedictine fan ever,” Rudy’s memory was honored by the family with a bench and tree near Lownik Hall on campus.

Carry the Light: The Alma Matters feature highlights alumni who have chosen to donate their time, talents and/or treasure to Benedictine in order to support the school’s goals and needs.
Nicholas Scipione, C04, M.E.D.’08
B.S. Biology (Secondary Education Minor), M.E.D. in Leadership and Administration

Nicholas Scipione feels he has been given so much in life that it is his duty to help others. He is sometimes questioned by friends as to why he is involved in so many activities. His answer is that he believes you should spend your spare time helping your fellow human beings. He credits his love of volunteering to the strong Catholic values concerning social welfare that were instilled in him throughout his life.

“My true passion in life is helping others. In fact, I have always said that is the true meaning of our life here on Earth.”

Scipione serves human kind in his day job as a chemistry and physical science teacher at Glenbard East High School in Lombard. He is also the head varsity baseball coach at the school and runs community baseball camps for ages five through high school. He spends some of his spare time as a Science Olympiad volunteer, a Freshman Academy Leader (working with students to achieve their highest potential), a participant in student leadership weekends, and by serving on committees for school restructuring and coach evaluations.

During his years at Benedictine University, Scipione enjoyed his involvement with the Knights of Columbus council on campus. He served as a Grand Knight and a trustee. He worked closely with Fr. David Turner, O.S.B., and aided him in semi-annual audits as well as many council events. He felt his time was well-spent because he was able to help bring many wonderful activities to campus and made a difference by volunteering for important fundraisers such as the annual Tootsie Roll Drive to benefit children with mental disabilities. He still remains active in this organization.

“It was my great fortune to become a Knight of Columbus at Benedictine and meet one of the kindest and most knowledgeable people I know, Fr. David. As a college student I watched Fr. David give back to the University and the community every chance he had. I always said that if everyone could give back a tenth as much as he does, this world would be a much better place. I am tremendously grateful for my friendship with Fr. David and the stewardship values that I learned from Benedictine,” said Scipione.

Academically, Scipione immersed himself in school and volunteered to be a teaching assistant in chemistry to Wayne Wesolowski, Ph.D. and Ted Jankowski, Ph.D. He also had the honor of being a Wingspread Fellow and participated in The Great Lakes Network Seminar.

In addition to running baseball camps in his community, Scipione volunteers at the local library, participates in many cancer and diabetes events and works on environmental campaigns that advocate green advancements.

“Every day, I recommend to my close friends and relatives that is vital that they give back to their community. The future of our great country and world is balanced on the backs of community organizers and volunteers. There should be no shame in being a community organizer. If a person truly wants to make a difference in this world, they can start small and give one day a month to their favorite charity or cause,” concluded Scipione.

It is hoped that these stories of those who give back will help inspire others to go forward and help those in need. If you know someone who is “Carrying the Light” in the Benedictine spirit of giving back, please let us know about them. E-mail lhale@ben.edu.

Nicholas Scipione, C04, M.E.D.’08
B.S. Biology (Secondary Education Minor), M.E.D. in Leadership and Administration

Each medallion is 1.5 inches in diameter and contains one ounce of .999 pure silver. The obverse side presents a portrait of St. Benedict and the reverse shows the shield of the College/University with the appropriate dates. These treasured medallions commemorate the history of Benedictine education and should prove to be a store of value.

Reminder: Order yours today!

Commemorative Silver Medallions
St. Procopius College, Illinois Benedictine College and Benedictine University

If you have not already done so, reserve your medallion today. Only 1,000 of each medallion will be made (a minimum order of 300 medals per school name must be placed before medals are made). Each medal is $100 plus shipping. Proceeds will be used for student scholarships. Consult your tax expert on what portion of this contribution is tax deductible.

For more information, call (630) 829-6072 or order directly from the Web site at www.ben.edu/medallions.

These medals will make great gifts for alumni, students or yourself!
Get Your Alumni Class Involved!

“Carry the Light” by using your time, talent and/or treasure.

Alumni Events
There are many great opportunities to get your alumni class involved with events on campus, foster long-time friendships and share your time and talent with others.

If you would like to spearhead a gathering or project for your alumni class, please contact Julie Nelligan at (630) 829-6077 or jnelligan@ben.edu. We will help you contact class members and aid in communication and organization efforts.

Fundraising Projects
Consider an alumni class giving idea. We will work with you to pull it all together and aid you in fundraising efforts through promoting your idea to fellow classmates.

If you have an idea for a fundraiser, would like suggestions for a gift or have already gathered together an interested group of classmates, please contact Jessica Stillo at (630) 829-1811 or jstillo@ben.edu. Let us help you pull it all together by aiding with announcements and fundraising efforts.

Remember: Even after you graduate, you are still connected here!

The Annual Scholar’s Society Dinner hosted more than 150 donors and students in October at the Krasa Center. This annual event for scholarship donors, student recipients and their families is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to get to know one another better and share thanks.

Scholarship donors are instrumental in helping fund education for Benedictine students. Donors are making a huge difference in the lives of these students and with this recipient/donor event they can see just how much their gifts are appreciated.

The donors love to meet the students and learn about their accomplishments, their goals and future plans. This is a special time for the students to put a face with the name and see up-close why “carrying the light” to others matters so much. It is also important to the students to be able to personally thank their donors.

Members of the Scholar’s Society have started scholarships at Benedictine in memory of loved ones who have passed away or for faculty members who have retired. Some are for specific majors and others are intended for students with financial need. Without these scholarship funds, many students would not be able to continue their education at Benedictine.

Some of the donors who attended this year were:

- Tim and Alisa Allen, and Tom and Beth Allen for the Ed and Mary Ann Allen Memorial Scholarship
- Richard, Ph.D., and Lynn Becker for the Arthur J. Schmitt Foundation Scholarships, Rose Becker Scholarship and Richard and Lynn Becker Scholarship
- Luz Marie Berd, Ph.D. for the Luz and Malcolm Berd Endowed Scholarship
- Richard (Trustee Emeritus) and Mary Locher for the John Locher Memorial Scholarship
- Omer Sultan, Abuzid Siddiqi, M.D., and Shama Ahmed Siddiqi for the Muslim Alumni Endowed Scholarship
- James Baker, Ph.D. for the President’s Scholarship
- Cheryl B. Richardson, Ph.D. for the Dr. Cheryl B. Richardson Scholarship Award
- Margarete, Ph.D., and Warren Roth, Ph.D. for the Dr. Margarete Roth Scholarship
- William Scarlato for the Fine Arts Award
- Richard and Carol Cline for the Kindlon Fellows Award
- James Ryan, C76, Benedictine Honorary Fellow

If you would like to help change the life of a student by starting a scholarship or helping to fund an existing one, please contact Jessica Stillo, University Development, at (630) 829-1811 or jstillo@ben.edu.
Scholarships are the life-blood of a college education for many students. At Benedictine, 87 percent of students receive financial help, and scholarships are a big part of filling that need. Now more than ever, with the economy trying to regain strength and higher education being a necessity for advancement, students need help in getting a college education without a life-long debt to repay.

Many Benedictine alumni have stepped up to this challenge and have started scholarships to aid a new generation of students. Two great examples are the African-American Alumni Endowed Scholarship started by Maurice Bell, Ken Carruthers and Darryl Boggs, and the Albert R. and Mary Rita Brusek Memorial Scholarship for Freshmen Students of Recognized Potential started by James Brusek.

These scholarships, and others like them, need help in being funded so that they can offer the greatest amount of help to students. Donations to these scholarships go directly to pay for the education of students. They are awarded to individuals who meet the criteria stated in the scholarship, and they forever change the life of that student. It is truly a rewarding experience to know that you have touched another person’s life with such positive affirmation.

Here’s a look at these two scholarships and the individuals involved in them.

African-American Alumni Endowed Scholarship*
Qualifications for Scholarship:
1. Student must be of African-American descent.
2. Student must be an incoming freshman with a second semester high school GPA of 3.0.
3. Student must demonstrate an active participation in one of the following areas: social, religious or civic organizations.
4. Scholarship is renewable for three consecutive years with a GPA of 3.0 and continued participation in extra-curricular organizations.

Founder: Maurice Bell, Political Science (Pre-Law), C87
Sales Management for PepsiCo. Past member of the Alumni Association Board, current member of President’s Society Council. Also involved in Ugandan Orphanage Relief Fund.

“Starting this scholarship was a way to give back as others have who went to Benedictine University before me. It was important for me to give other people the opportunity I had. In particular, this scholarship will afford an African-American a chance to attain a college education. This offers me the ability to help someone else and it is our obligation as alumni to support the institution that helped develop us.”

Supporter: Ken Carruthers, Sociology, C76
Vice President at Allure, a health improvement provider. Volunteers time at Benedictine for various events and activities. Also involved with the Vivian Pennymore Fellowship-Forest Park Alumni Association.

“Supporting this scholarship is important because it will provide financial relief to minority students in need of help. It will also provide recognition and acknowledgement that minorities have in fact achieved success while attending and being associated with the University. It’s important for alumni to be charitable gift-givers. For me, being involved in this scholarship recognizes the positive impact Benedictine had on my life during a time when I was juggling the college experience with expenses and financial issues. There is no better way to help continue the legacy of the University than by building on the solid tradition of excellence at Benedictine and reaching out to a new generation of students.”

Supporter: Darryl Boggs, Music Education, C81
Band Director, District 92, Broadview, Ill., and professional musician for more than 30 years.

Raises funds for Benedictine as a member of the Alumni Board for the past nine years. Setting up a mentoring program for African-American students.

Also involved with the United Negro College Fund and raises funds for VH1 program that buys instruments for children who cannot afford them.

“Many of us who went here years ago found it hard to afford the tuition. Yet many of us had great scholarships, therefore it is up to us who have been in this position to lead the effort to keep current students at Benedictine. Supporting this scholarship gives me the satisfaction that another student with a desire to work hard, in spite of their financial circumstances, will be given something to help them succeed in the world of academia and their future. I remember seeing how hard it was for my parents to come up with the remainder of the money after all of the grant, loan and small scholarship money had been received, and I want to help another student so they won’t have to go through as much hardship. It is also important to prepare our country for the future by giving it people who can compete in our global conduit. I heartily recommend that others start a scholarship for any interest they may have, or donate to an existing one, because it only contributes to the fabric that America needs at this time.”
The Albert R. and Mary Rita Brusek Memorial Scholarship for Freshmen Students of Recognized Potential*

This scholarship is to be awarded to incoming freshmen students who are considered “diamonds in the rough,” by their high school teachers, guidance counselors and principal.

1. Candidates must be first-year, full-time, incoming freshmen.
2. Minimum high school grade point average of 2.0 (4.0 scale).
3. Candidates must demonstrate financial need.
4. A minimum of three letters of recommendation is required.
5. Preference will be given to those candidates who can demonstrate active participation in any of the following areas: civic/social organizations, religious organizations, theatre/arts or athletics.
6. Preference will be given to those candidates who are “first generation” college/university applicants.
7. Candidate should demonstrate the “potential” for academic achievement, leadership, character and work ethic.

Founder: James M. Brusek, Psychology, C69
Employed in sales at 3M for 36 years. Retired from the Ill. Army National Guard/US Army Reserve as a LTC after almost 37 years of service. Also involved in the Sacred Heart Schools, Chicago, and the American Diabetes Association.

“I started this scholarship to honor my parents. Neither of my parents attended college and it was their desire to have their three children complete a college education. They saved, sacrificed and pushed us to earn a college degree. I also wanted to give back to the college that took a chance on me. I enjoyed the camaraderie, the “Esprit de Corps” of the student body — Hell Week, Dinty’s, Rat Pack and Friday Night Mixers. It is personally satisfying to me to know that I’m helping students. Since the first awardee, I have received letters of thanks which I share with my family. This scholarship requires more funds to continue serving students. Once people contribute they will have the satisfaction of knowing they have improved someone’s life. My wife, June R. Macciaverna, has been a source of love and support for me and helped grow this scholarship. I’m hoping more people can become involved and make a difference.”

President’s Society Council Helps Raise Funds for Proposed University Church

This past summer the donors from the President’s Society Council (PSC), formally known as the President’s Associates Council, were invited to the University for a buffet dinner and entertainment at the Abbey. Christian performer Paul Todd gave a wonderful performance singing and using his astonishing technique of playing six keyboards simultaneously.

PSC members donate $1,000 or more to the University annually and play a major role in supporting Benedictine’s goals and needs. This event served both as a “thank you” to the PSC members for their support and as a fundraiser for the proposed University Church and Ministry Center on campus. Once built, the church will offer a full array of services to support the spiritual growth of Benedictine’s diverse student body, provide resources to enhance outreach to the surrounding community, serve Benedictine’s alumni community and provide a place for moral grounding in today’s chaotic world.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the PSC, would like to know more about the proposed University Church or donate to this cause, please contact Denise West at (630) 829-6027 or dwest@ben.edu.

Help “carry the light” to a new generation of students by contributing to these and other scholarships.
Details about scholarships can be found online at www.ben.edu/scholarships. For more information, contact Jessica Stillo at (630) 829-1811 or jstillo@ben.edu.

* For full details about the two scholarships listed here, visit www.ben.edu/scholarships.
Long-time Art Donor Gives Etchings by Noted Artist

Fifty-one sensational etchings of European churches by noted American artist John Taylor Arms are on display indefinitely in the Krasa Center at Benedictine University thanks to the generosity of Fr. Joseph M. Kelchak, O.S.B., S.P.C.’45.

Fr. Joseph collected these detailed etchings over several decades. He had become fascinated with the precision with which Arms etched his subjects and had collected almost one-tenth of his work.

“The images are remarkable because of their spiritual quality, unusual design and exquisite detail,” said Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B., S.P.A.’50, S.P.C.’54, curator of the Benedictine University art collection. “One of them, titled ‘Cavendish Church, England,’ took the artist 290 hours to draw on a copper plate.”

Before he died in 1953 at age 66, Arms told his friend and chronicler, William Dolan Fletcher, that his best and most successful image of the nearly 500 he printed beginning in 1915 was his award-winning view of Stockholm in 1940. That etching is included in this incredible exhibit on campus.

Art collecting has been a lifelong hobby for Fr. Joseph, and he has donated parts of his vast collection to the University on a yearly basis. His more than 200 donations can be found all over campus. For instance, a large batik print of St. Michael the Archangel hangs in Lownik Hall, a six-foot high bronze sculpture of a Plains Indian Chief stands in the University Ministry office in the Krasa Center, a sculpture from of the Goddess of Love and Tranquility is on the third floor of the library in Kindlon Hall, and many other pieces can be found throughout campus in offices, hallways and public spaces.

Fr. Joseph plans on leaving his entire art collection to the University in his will. Fr. Joseph spent 40 years as a diocesan priest in northern Wisconsin. He is now retired and living in Indiana, but is still active in the Diocese of Gary.

The etchings are on display and open to the public for viewing. If you would like to learn more about the University’s art collection, contact Fr. Michael at mkomechak@ben.edu.

From left, Bill and Rosemary Zuraw and Fr. Joseph Kelchak, O.S.B.

Fr. Joseph Kelchak Honored for His Art Donations

The Office of Alumni Relations had the privilege to host a dinner in honor of the Very Rev. Joseph Kelchak, S.P.A. ’43 and S.P.C. ’45, to thank him for his many art donations to the University. Fr. Joseph has donated more than 300 pieces, at an undetermined value, to both the University and St. Procopius Abbey. His generosity over the years has given the University many beautiful pieces of art to add to its valuable collection, including his recent donation of John Taylor Arms etchings on display in the Krasa Center.

Some of the guests in attendance included: Rosemary and Bill Zuraw, friends of the University, who renovated the display cases that house the etchings collection; art professor Bill Scarlato; Ann Buczek, Fr. Joseph’s sister; University art curator Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B., S.P.A. ’50, S.P.C. ’54; Jason Leppin, University Development; Eric Guthrie, alumni relations coordinator, and Julie Nelligan, M.S.M.O.B.’06, alumni relations director.
Why do we call?
The Benedictine Phonathon is calling for several reasons and it only takes a few minutes to participate. The University wants to stay in contact with you, so we appreciate it when you take a moment to verify your information, such as address and e-mail. We also ask you about campus clubs, sports and activities in which you were involved while a student here. We then offer information about upcoming events that may interest you, and then we ask if you would like to make a gift to further the goals of the University.

Who are these callers?
The phonathon callers are real students who live and study here. They know many of the same campus landmarks that you remember and may be taking some of the same courses that you took. The callers are mainly freshmen and sophomores. They come from large families and small. Some aspire to be educators, doctors or in communications, and a few have not yet decided. They are young men and women who sing in the choir, work at campus jobs, participate in sports, write for the student newspaper, and are involved in other student activities that you too may have experienced.

The one thing that almost all the phonathon callers have in common is that they need and receive some form of financial aid in order to attend the University. They, like 87 percent of the students at Benedictine, could not attend without financial help. When they ask for a donation to the General Scholarship Fund, it has a lot of meaning for them.

This fall, the University announced a freeze on tuition. In addition to this action, students need more award and scholarship money to ease the financial burden on their families. By giving back to the University for a specific scholarship or to the General Scholarship Fund, you enable more students to afford a quality education at Benedictine.

So please answer our call and engage a student with your Benedictine experiences and generosity. †

We are Looking for Your Input:
The Educare Scholarship Ball is taking a hiatus. We are looking to either revitalize the concept of the Educare Ball or create a whole new event to replace it, either of which will serve the necessary function of raising the needed scholarship funds for our students.

Your thoughts and ideas are welcomed by Deb Smith, Director of University Events, at (630) 829-6080 or dsmith@ben.edu. †

Bequests, Trusts and Joint Contributions

Donation Options During Difficult Economic Times

As the current economic times make giving donations harder for individuals, it’s important to remember that there are ways to continue helping the University provide a necessary education to students.

One great idea is to participate in a bequest or trust donation. These are plans that you can implement now while hanging on to your cash assets. Another idea is to join in with friends and classmates to help fund a scholarship, start your own scholarship or just pool your resources for an Annual Fund donation that helps the University fund its day-to-day operations.

It is more important than ever to help students struggling to continue their education. We are all called on during these times to continue to “Carry the Light” and provide opportunities to those in need. The University has instituted a tuition freeze in an effort to help families in financial turmoil, and we ask that you do what you can to help as well. Even the smallest contribution can make a difference because “donations matter.” †
Former Papal Representative to UN Addresses Environmental Issues
by Danielle Swanson, C09

A champion of the environment, peace and disarmament, Sr. Marjorie Keenan, R.S.H.M., presented two lectures at Benedictine University as part of the Visiting Scholar in Catholic Thought program sponsored by the Department of Theology and the College of Liberal Arts.

Keenan earned a bachelor’s degree from Marymount College and a doctorate from the University of Paris (Sorbonne). She has worked on various church councils and served as Secretary General of the World Council on Religion and Peace in the United States from 1978 to 1986. She was also a senior staff member of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, concentrating on the questions of disarmament and the environment.

One of Keenan’s lectures was titled “From Belief to Action,” and discussed how people of all faiths may be able to put environmental theories into action to preserve the natural world. She placed emphasis on the unity required between leaders of different religions and nationalities. She called care for the environment “a sacred trust” placed into human hands by God, and added that we “have no right at all to damage the life of future generations.”

Living in harmony with the environment, Keenan noted, could be a step along the road to living in harmony with each other. Environmental issues have brought those of different faiths together, causing joint statements to be issued by the Catholic and Greek Orthodox churches, by Catholic and Jewish leaders and by world leaders at a summit held in Iran.

She said that not only should religions be united in their resolve to protect the natural world, scientists and religious leaders should also work in conjunction with each other. Keenan believes that religious organizations are in a unique position to “inform, inspire and instruct people” about environmental problems and would do well to advance scientific solutions among their followers.

Keenan spoke on the role of natural beauty as related to environmental protection. Humans are able to observe animals, plants and landscapes, and to “know their author, by analogy.” She quoted Pope John Paul II, who claimed that humankind “must learn the language of nature,” a difficult task in an increasingly urbanized and modern world. “How can children learn to care for nature that they rarely ever see?” Keenan asked, explaining that churches and parish committees need to work on a local level to educate parishioners.

The lecture ended with a personal story from Keenan’s youth. As a girl she rode on the train from New York to Connecticut, a track that ran at times between two cinder banks. She commented to her father that the cinder blocks were ugly. Her father told her that beauty could be found anywhere and pointed out a single daisy growing on the bank. “In the pursuit of beauty,” said Keenan, “we are also seeking to transform the world for all.”

New Program Assists Students and Alumni Facing Economic Hardship

Difficult economic times are creating financial challenges for students and their families. Benedictine University wants to ensure that its students do not find themselves unable to continue their education and that alumni have help finding jobs.

Beginning with the Spring 2009 semester, current students whose parents or guardian become unemployed or whose financial situation radically changes because of the current economic crisis will be able to take advantage of the University’s new “Displaced Earner Program.”

The “Displaced Earner Program” will provide financial assistance — which could include additional grant money, extended payment plans and student employment opportunities — to students affected by a deteriorating financial situation at home. The program will allow University staff to work with families to develop a creative and affordable college financing plan, and provide free career development services to students’ parents who have lost their jobs.

“No parent should have to tell their child that they cannot go to college because they can’t afford it,” said Benedictine President William Carroll. “Doing whatever we can to help our students is the right thing to do. It’s the Benedictine thing to do. We want to impact our students.
Years of the Environment

As part of a three-year, campus-wide effort to green Benedictine, the University has begun an array of courses, events, speakers, activities and campus changes that emphasize this environmental challenge. The University has examined its own carbon footprint and found ways to lessen its impact. One major way was in the dining services partnership with Sodexo.

On the first “Trayless Tuesday,” all meal trays disappeared from the serving line. Tuesday’s dish crew chief expressed his amazement to Frank Budig, director of Dining Services at Benedictine, telling him he couldn’t believe the reduction in waste. Not only have campuses that eliminate trays in waste. Not only have campuses that eliminate trays in waste. Not only have campuses that eliminate trays in waste.

Sodexo has implemented other green efforts as well, which include new detergents that are less harmful to the environment and to employees, refillable mugs on sale in the Coal Ben and Kindlon Hall Coffee Shop, and potato and corn-starch based disposable utensils and take-out containers. Sodexo also uses Green Mountain coffee, which is both organic and Fair Trade. Even the stir sticks are now wooden instead of plastic.

Budig emphasizes that education and familiarity are essential to integrating these new steps into campus culture. For instance, although the potato-starch utensils degrade within about six months if placed in a hot compost pile, they may never degrade if thrown in with regular trash. This is because landfills lack the oxygen to spur decomposition. Budig theorizes that green waste collection will be the next logical step. Sodexo also incorporates sustainability, making an effort to buy food regionally rather than having it shipped from distant states. Unfortunately, consumers are not ready to go without produce such as tomatoes in the winter, so it cannot be a year-round effort just yet.

Future efforts might include an on-campus herb garden and composting, or vermiculture. There is a huge portion of water, land and energy that goes into producing our food, so anything that can be grown on location is one step closer to treating the planet with more respect. Benedictine and its valuable partner, Sodexo, continue to look for ways to reduce waste and use of toxic chemicals. For more information, please visit www.ben.edu/yfte/.

in a positive way and help their parents.”

The “Displaced Earner Program” is a three-pronged plan to help current traditional undergraduate students whose financial situation has changed, alumni who have been unable to find employment, and adult undergraduate and graduate students who find it difficult to continue their degree program.

Traditional undergraduate students who are facing economic hardship will be able to meet with University personnel to explore alternative financing options. If their situation was the result of a parent or guardian becoming unemployed, free career development services — such as resume writing, interviewing and job search workshops — will be made available. These career development services will also be available to recent alumni with an undergraduate degree who have been unable to find work, and alumni who have recently become displaced because of the economic downturn.

University staff will also meet with these alumni to discuss a number of options such as continuing their education and deferring payment on student loans. They will also be eligible to enroll in one graduate class for free with registration in a class for which they are able to pay. Adult undergraduate and graduate students who are currently unemployed or find themselves unemployed while enrolled at Benedictine for the Winter and Spring 2009 terms will also be able to meet with financial aid counselors to discuss financing options.
Over the past year, the International Programs Office (IPO) has been making new and exciting changes to internationalize the academic careers of both international and domestic students. This fall, the University hosted more than 100 international students from more than 20 different countries. With the help of a $25,000 grant from the Institute for Study Abroad, the Office of Education Abroad sent four students (Alex Argianas, Nora Becker, Brittany Lawler and Sara Guice) to partnership universities in Spain, France and Semester at Sea. Education Abroad also sponsored two faculty-led trips in the summer of 2008 to Costa Rica, Spain and the annual mission trip to Sucre, Bolivia.

Benedictine’s students have many opportunities to travel abroad. Jane Crabtree, professor of undergraduate Business and Management, will lead a Spring Break trip to Montreal, Canada for the fourth consecutive year; Christine Fletcher, assistant professor of Theology, will lead a Spring Break trip to Israel; Timothy Goines, chair of International Business and Finance, will lead a summer trip to China, and Bill Scarlato will take students to study fine art in Florence, Italy.

The IPO is also proud to offer two opportunities for Benedictine alumni to travel the world in a meaningful way with mission trips to Sucre, Bolivia and Bacalod, Philippines. Missionaries in Sucre will work with many different sites in the “barrios,” helping members of the community by working with the homeless, day care centers and orphanages. Participants in Bacalod will build a house for a homeless family.

On another front, Benedictine hosted 17 college-age students from the Middle East and North Africa through the Middle Eastern Partnership Initiative (MEPI) again this past year. This is a prestigious grant from the Department of State given each year to only six universities in the nation. The program is designed to develop students in the areas of leadership, civic awareness and responsibility.

The IPO, in collaboration with the Language and Literature Department in the College of Liberal Arts, introduced the Academic English Language Program at Benedictine for English language learners. These are credit courses that are specifically designed for multi-lingual learners so that they continue to work on academic proficiency throughout their college career.

The University is also proud to introduce the new Abraham Lincoln English Language Institute program housed on the Springfield College/Benedictine University campus. The Institute was developed for international students who need to increase their English language proficiency in order to matriculate into the traditional academic programs at either the Springfield or Lisle campus.

As the IPO continues to grow, new opportunities will be made available to students, staff, faculty and alumni.

For more information on any of these programs, call (630) 829-6342 or e-mail intcenter@ben.edu.
Faculty Insight

What is the greatest challenge facing scientists today?

Alfred R. Martin, Ph.D.
Professor, Biological Sciences

Communicating the Value of Science

The biggest challenge facing scientists today in the United States is working within the present cultural and political climate, which often adversely affects science education and research funding. The United States has some of the best scientists, universities and research facilities in the world and is an undisputed world leader in science and technology. Yet we also have a very high rate of science and math illiteracy compared with many other countries. Many Americans just do not know enough basic science or about the process of science to distinguish science from popular pseudosciences.

There are strong opinions but there is often little understanding about topics like genetically-modified foods, stem cells, evolution and the value of pure research. Much of this comes from the mistaken belief that certain scientific ideas and religion must be in conflict, and I believe some of it comes from a distrust of scientists and their cabalistic language and ideas. A few recent studies have suggested some improvement, but the United States still has a long way to go to attain a respectable level of science literacy. As scientists and science educators, our greatest challenge then is to learn to communicate better with all Americans in order to convey to them not only the value of science, but also the sheer joy of science and the excitement of discovery. Though hands-on monitoring of the actual trends is paramount to the success of such models, much new fundamental physical and chemical data are required as well. With a greenhouse-enhanced atmosphere at hand, better knowledge of atmospheric chemistry and solar radiation-induced processes will undeniably prove paramount in ascertaining the crucial thermodynamic quantities required for successful climate change prediction. The amount of scientific work required to complete these tasks is simply incomprehensible, and thus the situation mandates immediate attention and action.

Timothy W. Marin, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Chemistry

Climate Change Forecasting

Now that the majority of the world has finally recognized that global climate change is a real and threatening problem to nearly all species on Earth, undoubtedly one of the biggest and most crucial challenges facing scientists is climate change forecasting. A multi-pronged attack is vital in confronting this daunting issue, requiring pooled contributions from scientists of all disciplines as well as mathematicians. The information necessary to understand and quantify the changes to be incurred includes seasonal and regional monitoring of weather patterns, annual mean temperature, extent of water evaporation in arid areas, cloud cover and changes to animal migration and plant growth cycles, to name a few items. With substantial data in hand, mathematical models can be improved to better predict future trends in both weather and regional ecology.

Peter H. Nelson, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Physics and Biophysics

Advancing Computational Biophysics

A major scientific triumph of the 20th century was the sequencing of the human genome. This fantastic achievement was just the beginning. One of the biggest challenges facing scientists today is to determine what the genome actually does. One of the primary functions of DNA in the genome is to code for the long chains of amino acids that make up proteins. However, knowing the sequence of the amino acids in the protein is not enough. For the protein to do its work, the long chain molecule must collapse in on itself to form a compact folded structure with the correct biological functioning. Determining a protein’s folded structure is extremely difficult and time-consuming, requiring careful crystallization of the purified protein (if this is even possible) and subsequent examination with X-rays.

An alternative to this X-ray crystallographic approach is to develop computer simulations of the protein and the surrounding molecules. The computer could then make the molecules move according to Newton’s laws of motion. In principle, we would then have a computer-generated movie of the protein spontaneously folding into its biologically active state and then observe its biological functioning in exquisite detail. This sounds fantastic, but unfortunately with current methods and technology, more than 30 years of supercomputer time would be required for a typical protein. Overcoming these obstacles is one of the biggest challenges in computational biophysics today.
Faith and Reason Symposium: Sustainability, Food Shortage

Benedictine University espouses the belief that religion and science — or faith and reason — do not exist at polar ends of the intellectual spectrum, but rather are both central to solving the world’s most urgent problems.

The Second Annual Faith and Reason Symposium in November sought to bring faith and reason to bear on the issues of sustainability and the global food crisis, “How Much is Enough: Sustainability, Environmental Ethics and the Global Food Crisis.” The symposium was sponsored by the Global Studies Forum and the Center for Mission and Identity at the University.

“As countries continue to put the planet in peril in the name of economic growth, we must ask ourselves if there can be economic growth that is also sustainable growth,” said Vincent Gaddis, Ph.D., chair of the Department of History, Philosophy and Religious Studies at Benedictine.

“Even here in the United States, food insecurity is rising. The symposium sought to determine if faith and reason can find common ground to find solutions to these issues and educate people to act in environmentally responsible ways.”

The first panel discussion “What is Sufficiency? Envisioning Sustainable, Ethical Growth in the 21st Century,” featured a cross-section of Benedictine faculty including John Mickus, Ph.D., professor of Biology; Martin Tracey, Ph.D., associate professor of Philosophy; Pat Flynn, Ph.D., associate professor of Philosophy; and Preston Aldrich, Ph.D., assistant professor of Biology.

In addition, Jim Ludema, Ph.D., one of the world’s leading experts in organization development and the Appreciative Inquiry method of assessing business effectiveness, presented “Why Values-Driven Leadership is the Solution to Sustainability and the Food Crisis.”

The second panel discussed “The Global Food Crisis: Causes, Consequences and What Our Community Can Do.” Panelists included Isabel Lobo, Ph.D., associate professor of International Business and Economics; Deepa Handu, Ph.D., assistant professor of Nutrition; Alan Gorr, Ph.D., dean of the College of Education and Health Services; Christine Fletcher, Ph.D., assistant professor of Theology; and Robin Rylaarsdam, Ph.D., associate professor of Biology.

Campus Ministers from Benedictine colleges and universities met at Benedictine University to attend the 2008 Campus Minister’s Conference this past year. “Campus Ministry Crisis Response” was the theme chosen as a result of the shootings at Northern Illinois University and Virginia Tech University. The event focused on how campus ministry workers should respond to a crisis on campus.


Bleich covered the areas of preparedness research, personal/family preparedness, workplace preparedness and Internet resources. The attendees were challenged to put measures in place not only in the workplace, but in homes and cars. Part of the disaster plan included identifying an escape route and a meet-up place, as well as having a 72-hour disaster supply kit for home and car.

Boumgarden presented the many levels of anxiety that take place during a crisis. Anxiety is experienced by parents, students and employees in a crisis because all are concerned about the safety of loved ones. She said the most important thing to do was remain calm and follow procedures.

Fr. Grace shared his experiences of the aftermath of the shootings at Virginia Tech where 33 lives were taken in April 2007. He noted that in the midst of all the pain, hurt and disbelief, God’s presence still reigned on the campus. The community held a Mass in memory of their fellow students and staff. The Mass had a great impact on the attendees and they made a CD of the music used at the service as a way to keep the victim’s memories alive. For many of the students, this was a way of healing and they found gratefulness in their own lives.

These conferences help campus ministry workers stay prepared to best serve the University community. Benedictine’s University Ministry offers many services to students, faculty and staff. To learn more, contact Linda Owens at lowens@ben.edu or Abbot Hugh Anderson at handerson@ben.edu.
A Look Inside Record-Breaking Freshman Class

Benedictine University has enrolled a record freshman class for the fourth consecutive year, and it’s filled with diversity, academic prowess and dreams to be fulfilled.

Four hundred twenty-seven freshmen began fall classes at the University, compared to 403 who started the fall term one year ago and the 261 who started the fall term as recently as 1999. Seventeen percent, or 75 members of this year’s freshmen class, ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating classes.

Fifty-three percent of the freshmen enrolled are female. Forty-six percent of the freshmen are minorities with Asians comprising the largest group at 27 percent. Seventy-five percent are from the suburbs of Chicago.

Thirty-nine percent of the freshmen who responded to a survey of the field of interest indicated science as their No. 1 choice, followed by business, social sciences and education.

The University also welcomed a record number of students who transferred from community colleges and other four-year institutions. Three hundred and five students began the fall term after beginning their post-secondary careers elsewhere.

Fifty-seven percent of the transfer students are female and 31 percent are minorities. Students transferred from College of DuPage, University of Illinois-Chicago, DePaul, Northern Illinois and University of Illinois-Champaign.

Thirty-eight percent of the transfer students who responded to a survey of the field of interest indicated science as their No. 1 choice, followed by business, education and health.

Satisfied Students: Benedictine Ranks High in Educational Effectiveness

College faculty continually ask themselves if they are succeeding as teachers. Potential students want to know which institution will provide them with the best education. The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), conducted by the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research, was designed to help answer these questions.

Each year, NSSE asks students at hundreds of colleges and universities to respond to questions about the various learning activities in which they are engaged at their respective institutions. The survey measures responses in five critical areas: Level of Academic Challenge; Active and Collaborative Learning; Student-Faculty Interaction; Enriching Educational Experiences; and Supportive Campus Environment. All five areas are recognized indicators of educational effectiveness.

Last spring, Benedictine was among 714 institutions that administered the survey to a random segment of first-year and senior students. More than 375,000 students replied nationwide.

In all five areas measured, students scored Benedictine higher than the average score for 171 comparable institutions. In fact, first-year students scored Benedictine as well or higher than the highest scoring institutions in all classifications.

In several key areas, Benedictine’s educational opportunities exceeded those of most other institutions. For example, Benedictine’s students were far more likely to collaborate with classmates on assignments outside of class than were students from other institutions.

Benedictine’s first-year students reported using computers and technology significantly more than first-year students elsewhere.

Seniors gave Benedictine high marks on providing a broad general education, and more said they developed a deepened spirituality than seniors at other schools.

Benedictine students also reported a greater emphasis on writing clearly and effectively, and indicated that they wrote more papers and were required to produce more drafts than students at other institutions. They also felt better prepared to solve complex, real-world problems.

Benedictine’s diversity was reflected in its scores as well, with both first-year and senior students reporting much higher scores than students from other campuses on questions involving interaction with peers from different racial or ethnic backgrounds.

Two of the survey’s final questions asked students to summarize their educational experience.

In both cases, favorable responses from Benedictine students exceeded those from comparable institutions. Furthermore, Benedictine seniors not only gave the University a more favorable rating than students from comparable institutions, they gave the University higher marks than students from all institutions participating in the survey.

In short, 93 percent of Benedictine’s first-year students were satisfied with their overall education experience, and more than 80 percent of seniors said that if they could start their college career over, they would attend Benedictine University.
REVITALIZED WEEKEND COLLEGE SERVING ADULT LEARNERS

One of the most significant challenges facing educators is to provide quality education that is both convenient and responsive to the needs of today’s adult population. The adult student’s primary focus is usually on earning a living and raising a family. There is not much time for anything else.

Yet within many adults there lies the need to enhance life professionally and personally through education. The revitalization of Weekend College at Benedictine responds to that need.

The primary consideration in developing and implementing the Weekend College was to maintain the high standards and quality education programs offered at the University while accommodating the adult student’s personal responsibilities and commitments.

Benedictine’s Weekend College is under the auspices of the Moser College of Adult and Professional Studies and offers accelerated degree programs available entirely on the weekend (Saturday mornings, afternoons or Sunday afternoons). The degrees include the Associate of Arts in Business Administration, Bachelor of Arts in Management and Master of Business Administration. More degrees will be offered in the near future.

Courses are delivered in an accelerated format with most courses offered on a five-week basis. They are designed for highly motivated, well-prepared students who need an alternative to traditional semester-length classes, and who are looking for high-quality and rigorous instruction with ample opportunity to meet and learn from their professors.

For more information, call (630) 829-6307.

UNIQUE ONLINE M.S. IN NURSING PREPARING NURSES FOR THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE

To prepare nurses to meet the growing demand for highly qualified nurse administrators, nurse leaders and nurse educators, Benedictine University’s School of Health Sciences has launched its fully online Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) program.

The new online M.S.N. program offers a truly innovative curriculum, designed to prepare registered nurses at the master’s degree level for the rapidly changing face of health care. The program emphasizes interrelated academic preparation in areas of leadership, education, administration, and public and global health care. Nurses study these content areas in the context of emerging demographic trends such as the expected increase in the elderly population and/or trends in caring for vulnerable populations including the homeless, those with chemical addictions, HIV/AIDS, the poor and those with catastrophic illnesses.

The M.S.N. program is unique because the curriculum combines an eight-course core with the flexibility of four additional elective courses. Students have the opportunity to reach across different academic disciplines to create a truly custom degree that will expose them to the skills they need for these modern times. For example, a student in the M.S.N. program could select elective courses in topics such as Disaster Management/Public and Global Health Care, Health Care Administration, Accounting/Finance, Organizational Behavior, Education and Leadership.

“The role of the nurse is rapidly moving beyond bedside care. Increasingly, nurses are taking on new challenges managing large clinics, overseeing million-dollar budgets and educating the next generation of nurses to meet growing demand. Our program is uniquely designed to provide nurses with the knowledge necessary so they can flexibly adapt to and positively shape the future
Attention Alumni: Refer a Student

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

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

Accreditation Input Alert

Benedictine University is seeking comments from the public about the University in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The University will undergo a Quality Checkup visit February 18-20, 2009, by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Benedictine University has been accredited by the Commission since 1958. The team will review the institution’s ongoing ability to meet the commission’s criteria for accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the University to:

Public Comment on Benedictine University
The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed and cannot be treated as confidential. All comments must be received by February 1, 2009. ♦

CMI Upcoming Events

The University’s Center for Mission and Identity (CMI) has focused its efforts on promoting the characteristics and values that enhance the institution’s Catholic and Benedictine identity.

FEBRUARY 13
Conversatio

MARCH 3-6
Visiting Scholar in Catholic Thought (John Haught)

MARCH 13
Conversatio

MARCH 26
Theology and Life Lecture Series: Catholic Green

MAY 11-15
Summer Faculty Workshop

MAY 28-30
Benedictine Pedagogy Conference (Latrobe, PA)

For more information, contact Alicia Cordoba Tait at (630) 829-6324, atait@ben.edu, or Alfred Martin at (630) 829-6540, amartin@ben.edu. Visit the CMI Web page at www.ben.edu/cmi. ♦

UNIVERSITY QUICK FACTS

**ENROLLMENT**
- Undergraduate: 3,282
- Graduate: 1,997

**PROGRAMS**
- Undergraduate: 46
- Traditional Undergraduate: 43
- Adult Accelerated Undergraduate: 13
- Graduate: 13
- Graduate Certificates: 29
- Doctorate: 2

**OTHER KEY FACTS**
- Sports Teams: 17
- Buildings: 20
- Student-to-faculty ratio: 13:1
- Representation:
  - by state: 44
  - by foreign countries: 16
- Full-time faculty: 93
- Part-time faculty: 6
- Adjuncts: 327
- Total faculty: 426

of health care,” explained Ethel Ragland, R.N., Ed.D., professor and chair, Department of Nursing and Health Nursing; chair, Health Department.

To learn more about how you can earn an innovative online M.S.N. degree, contact the University’s admissions team at (866) 295-3104 or www.onlinedegrees-benedictine.com. ♦
Art professor Bill Scarlato began teaching Fine Art at Illinois Benedictine College (Benedictine University) in 1990 with an extensive background in drawing, print-making and oil painting. Drawing is what he considers basic to art, and it has been a part of his life since he was a boy. While in the seventh grade he noticed the student next to him drawing elaborate scenes of the Civil War. He thought, “I couldn’t imagine anyone not wanting to be able to do that.” He then began to draw incessantly.

From that moment, drawing became paramount in his life. He was also influenced by a nun in his grade school through her lectures on modernist painters such as Piet Mondrian, Picasso and Georgia O’Keefe. “Those lectures were the most exciting and motivating moments in my early schooling. It is important to me to pass that excitement on to my students,” said Scarlato.

Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B., Benedictine’s art curator, hired Scarlato 19 years ago. Komechak feels there are five expressions of art: composition; color; craft; content and creativity. All are captured in Scarlato’s works, many of which hang on the walls of Scholl Hall. These skills make Scarlato an incredible asset to the art program which features a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art and a Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) in partnership with the College of DuPage (COD).

Scarlato earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in printmaking at Yale University. Prior to that, he earned a B.F.A. degree in painting from Northern Arizona University. He sharpened his techniques and his own artwork while teaching for three years at New England College in Arundel, West Sussex, England, then for three years at the same American based college in Henniker, New Hampshire. Scarlato also spent three years teaching at the University of New Hampshire. He has taught 15 different art courses at Benedictine, and given guest professor lectures in a variety of studio art and art historical topics at the University of Cincinnati and New England College.

Scarlato has had six selected solo exhibitions at the Wood Street Gallery, Chicago; the Union Club, Chicago; New England College, Henniker, N.H.; North Central College, Naperville; and at Benedictine. His work has also been exhibited in 18 selected group and competitive competitions. He has received seven awards and grants, and his art is included in five different collections in Illinois, New Hampshire and England.

A pillar of the Benedictine community, Scarlato carries the light of the University and encourages his students to do the same through his art and teaching. “I try to be a responsible steward of the gifts that God has given me. I use those gifts by making art to the best of my ability and teaching students to do so the same. When it’s done well, joy is the result,” said Scarlato.

Everywhere you look on Benedictine’s campus, you will see art displayed. The collection reflects the embodiment of “balance of life,” one of the seven points St. Benedict wrote in his Rule for Benedictine life. All students are exposed to art, while art students learn to recognize that whether executing art or observing, it is enjoyable and helps balance the stresses of everyday living.
Illinois Benedictine College

Class of 1959
Robert E. Pieczynski, D.D.S., Biology, has retired after 45 years of practicing dentistry. He is currently building a log house in central Wisconsin.

Thomas “Tim” White, English, made Bonet Academy history as the first person to teach for 50 consecutive years at the Lisle high school. His exceptional achievement includes missing only one day on the job when he asked in advance to celebrate his wife Pat’s birthday.

Class of 1969
Joseph Allen O’Donnell, Biochemistry, was ordained permanent deacon on June 7, 2008 in the Sacramento Diocese.

Class of 1968
Edward Merkel, Ph.D., Economics, has been appointed director of graduate business programs at Troy University in Alabama. He is also a professor of Economics and has been married to Pamela, a high school Spanish teacher, for 26 years.

St. Procopius Academy/College

Class of 1971
Patrick Lupton, Political Science, has joined Monmouth College as the new regional director of admissions. He is responsible for increasing the college’s out-of-state enrollment, particularly the states bordering Illinois and South east and Southwest states.

Class of 1973
Lester Sawicki, D.D.S., Biology, would like to let his classmates know that he is looking forward to the 40-year class reunion in 2013. Sawicki practices dentistry in Harlingen, TX.

Class of 1974
Rev. Larry Snyder, Music and Education, president of Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) was named one of the nation’s top not-for-profit executives of 2008 by The NonProfit Times. Six months after his arrival at CCUSA, he led the network’s largest disaster recovery efforts in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, providing immediate and long-term aid to victims. Today, he oversees CCUSA’s Campaign to Reduce Poverty in America. This initiative aims to cut poverty in half by 2020, urging Congress and the administration to give a much higher priority to the needs of the poor in budget and policy decisions. In 2007, Pope Benedict XVI named him to the Pontifical Council Cor Unum, which oversees the Church’s charitable activities around the world. He is also the president of Caritas North America and serves on the board of the Independent Sector and as a member of the Domestic Policy Committee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Class of 1978
Bill Callahan, Physical Education, has been named the New York Jets offensive line coach.

Class of 1980
Roy Y. Tanaka, M.B.A., was promoted to the board of directors for Tomo Therapy. Tanaka brings 27 years of operational leadership experience, including global market expansion. He recently retired from Biosense Webster, Inc., a Johnson & Johnson company, where he worked since 1997 as the U.S. president of the company before being promoted to worldwide president.

Class of 1987
J. Michael Turner, M.B.A., was recently added to the Zeu nga board of directors. Turner has more than 30 years of experience at SBC (now AT&T) and most recently as president of SBC DataComm, Global & Internet Services where he was responsible for providing Internet services, global customer care and networking services and integration. In addition, he has worked extensively with digital media companies. Since his departure from SBC, Turner has consulted a broad variety of technology and digital media companies.

Class of 1997
Scott P. Mitchell, M.B.A.’92, M.S.M.O.B.’93, M.S.M.I.S.’94, was appointed president, chief executive officer, director and vice chairman of the BSA Satellink Company. Mitchell has played a key leadership role in innovative technology and Internet-based businesses for more than a decade.

Class of 1993
Charles Colander, M.S.M.I.S., joined Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare as its new vice president of information services and chief information officer. Colander previously held the position of chief technology officer at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Class of 1994
Pat Danaher, Psychology, earned a master’s degree in Education through Concordia University in September 2008. He and his wife, Sandy, became proud parents to twins, Cole Patrick and Sydney Lee, born in December 2007.

Alan G. Zola, Ph.D., History, earned his doctoral degree in medieval history from Loyola University in Chicago. He is currently teaching western civilization classes at the College of DuPage and a humanities class at Benedictine University.

Benedictine University

Class of 1996
Priscilla Laubscher, M.S.M.O.B., is senior vice commander of American Legion Post 43, overseeing the organization’s membership and Blue Star Banner programs.

Tony Michels, Accounting, and his wife, Kim, announce the birth of their daughter, Ruby Kate, born on March 15, 2008. She joins big sister, Abby.

Carolyn Wilson, M.B.A., has been promoted to chief operating officer from associate dean and vice president of faculty practice administration at the University of Chicago Medical Center. Her new responsibilities focus on unifying the Medical Center operation in the areas of patient care, education and research and aligning them with the biomedical enterprise of the future.

Class of 1997
Sherry Husa, M.B.A., has been appointed president and chief executive officer of Centene Corporation’s Wisconsin Subsidiary Managed Health Services.
**Class of 1998**
Barb Ragsdale, M.O.B., and husband, Jason Ragsdale, C99, Marketing, welcomed the birth of their second daughter, Isabelle Ann, on March 10, 2008, joining big sister, Mackenzie.

**Class of 1999**
Carolyn "Cari" Ann (Bennett) Adams, Elementary Education, and husband, Ryan Adams C00, Engineering Science, announce the birth of their son, Nathan Patrick, born on September 13, 2007. He was welcomed home by big sister Mae Carolyn, born October 14, 2005.

**Class of 2000**
Ralph Hugh Barger, Social Science, has moved from Illinois to Rogers, AR, and hopes to continue contact with the Benedictine community.

Kristina Blostica, Pre-Pharmacy, married David G. Thompson, C01, Molecular Biology, in December 2005. She is working part-time as a pharmacist for Osco Pharmacy. David is working at Loyola University Medical Center in a cardiology fellowship. The couple had their first child, Brayden Gerard, on August 21, 2008.

Jeremy Schoenecker, Elementary Education, is currently the athletic director at Faith, Hope and Charity grade school in Winnetka. He will also join the Loyola Academy staff as an associate athletic director. Schoenecker has previous experience as an AAU basketball coach and has also coached the boy’s and girl’s teams at Faith, Hope and Charity over the past eight seasons. He also spent one year as an assistant boy’s varsity coach at Notre Dame High School in Niles, where he played basketball and football before graduating in 1995.

**Class of 2001**
Marc A. Serret, M.D., Molecular Biology, is working at Case Western Reserve University Hospital as a physician in plastic surgery. He earned his medical degree from Medical College of Wisconsin in 2005 where he received many scholarships and won the Ohio Valley Plastic

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**CLASS NOTES MATTER**

Do you remember your graduating class? Well, they are wondering what you’ve been up to!

Everyone loves reading class notes, so let us know where you are, where you have been and where you are going. Are you busy in your career? Busy at home with your children? Earning another degree? Getting a great new job? Starting a new business venture? Met that person of your dreams? Finally retired? What are you doing with your time?

Send in your class notes today and keep your fellow classmates informed on all the happenings in your life.

Even after you graduate, you are still connected here.!

Nicole (Oleksiat) Marcheschi, Elementary Education, married Gary Marcheschi in December 2006. They welcomed their first child, Michaela Noel, in February 2008. Nicole is currently working on a master’s degree and will complete it in spring 2009.

Class of 2002
Demetrios Ford, Communication Arts, has recently moved to Phoenix, AZ, where he is a new director for the Department of Education for the Title II “No Child Left Behind” Act. In spring 2009, he will celebrate his 10-year anniversary as a member of the Freemason Fraternal Order.

Class of 2003
Demetrios Ford, Communication Arts, has recently moved to Phoenix, AZ, where he is a new director for the Department of Education for the Title II “No Child Left Behind” Act. In spring 2009, he will celebrate his 10-year anniversary as a member of the Freemason Fraternal Order.

Class of 2003
Jeffrey Benedek, Finance, is the president of Twink Enterprises Inc. and works with real estate, personal shopping, the online store and catalog merchandise.

Jonathan Cohen, D.C., Health Science, is working as a chiropractor in Manhattan, IL. Rachel Rose Miller, Biology, married Nicholas Ryan Butler, C03, Health Science, on June 21, 2008.

Kevin Ivers, Communications, married Kayleen Newby, C04, Political Science/Philosophy, on May 24, 2008 at Resurrection Catholic Church. Kevin is the director of retreat programming for Resurrection Center, Inc. in Woodstock, IL. Kayleen works mergers and acquisitions for CIT Group, an investment banking firm in Chicago. The couple resides in Woodstock.

Class of 2004
Corissa Elgar, M.D., Health Science, Spanish minor, earned her medical degree from the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science on June 6, 2008. During medical school, she participated in several activities, including secretary of the American Medical Association chapter at RFUMS, coordinator of the Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention program and vice president of the OB/GYN interest group. She also served as a crisis intervention advocate for the Lake County Council against Sexual Assault. Elgar was awarded the Dean’s Award and the Outstanding Female Leadership Award in addition to being elected into the Gold Humanism in Medicine Honor Society.

Genica (Zdenek) Miller, Chemistry, married Devin Miller on June 7, 2008 in Naperville. She works as a nuclear medicine technologist at Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital.

Class of 2005
Kristin Racine, Health Science, is engaged to Travis Gillespie. The wedding ceremony is planned for March 14, 2009 in LaSalle, IL, with a May 23, 2009 reception in Copeland, IL. Racine earned a Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Rockhurst University in May 2008. She is working at Elite Sports Medicine and Physical Therapy in Kansas City.

Class of 2007
Sharla Frances Britanche, M.C.P., is engaged to her longtime boyfriend. They are planning to get married in December 2009. She works as a clinical therapist at Linden Oaks Hospital in Naperville and has recently joined Nowell and Associates, a private practice in Naperville.

Michael H. Ladd, Business and Economics, works as an associate transportation manager with St. Charles River Boat Captains and is the associate transportation manager.


Laurie (Cantrambone) Spiegel, recently married Joseph Spiegel, C06, Marketing.

Class of 2008
Kimberly Grady, M.B.A., was promoted to regional quality assurance manager at Laboratory Corporation of America in Elmhurst, IL.

Emily A. Taylor, Communication Arts, is an editorial assistant/staff writer at the Academy of General Dentistry.
Preston Aldrich (Biology) and Cheryl Heinz (Biology) published an article titled “Floral Visititation of the Invasive Stinking Ash in Western Suburban Chicago.” The article appeared in the *Transactions of the Illinois State Academy of Sciences*, 2008, 101: 1-12. Anthony Brusa, a graduate of the biology program at Benedictine was a co-author on the publication.

Dave Beyer (Sports Information Director) was named a winner of the Fred S. Staley Sr. Writing Contest 2007-08 for District 5 by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). Beyer’s winning entry was “Oh Johnny O” about long-time University baseball coach John Ostrowski.

Sharon Borowicz (M.B.A.) presented her research, “Managers Changing with the Times: Suggestions for Managing High-Performing Virtual Teams,” at the 2008 Midwest Academy of Management held in October in St. Louis, Mo.

Mardelle Fortier (Literature) published a poem titled “Soft Woman/Hard Woman” in *Poets & Patrons of Chicago* issue 1, a literary journal devoted to social commentary. She has published a total of 80 poems. She also won third prize in the “Poets and Patrons of Chicago” annual contest. She received a prize for Formal Verse (“Dancing on Ice”), Free verse (“The Impossible Search”) and Chicago verse (“City of Slender Shoulders”). Fortier was among the winners honored at a banquet in October at the Harold Washington Library in Chicago.

Christine Fletcher (Theology) presented a paper, “Code of Practice or Virtuous Practitioner,” at The Eighth International Conference on Knowledge, Culture and Change in Organizations’ held in August at Cambridge University in England.

Cheryl Heinz (Biology) published an article titled “Host Plant Odor Extracts with Strong Effects on Oviposition Behavior in Papilio Polyxenes. Entomologia Experimentalis et Applicata,” 128: 265-273, in the August 2008 edition of the peer-reviewed journal, *Entomologia Experimentalis et Applicata*. Heinz also teamed with Eric Ribbens of the Department of Biological Sciences at Western Illinois University to prepare a clicker case, “Darwin’s Finches and Natural Selection.” It’s called a clicker case because it was designed to be presented in a class that uses personal response systems known as “clickers.” The case study is presented via PowerPoint with multiple-choice questions sprinkled throughout the lecture. Students are expected to answer the questions as they arise using their clickers. This approach encourages student participation even in large classes.

Beth House (Fine Arts) mounted eight exhibitions at the International Conference for Lettering Artists at North Central College in July. More than 450 calligraphers from the United States, Europe, Asia and Australia attended the conference. One of the exhibits featured the calligraphy of Timothy Botts of Glen Ellyn, whose pieces are among the 3,500 original works of art in the Benedictine collection.

Joyce Jeevek (Education) was elected co-president of the local Prairie Area Reading Council (PARC) and participated in the leadership conference for the Illinois Reading Council in Normal in June. As a Benedictine faculty member, she is serving as a university liaison for PARC.

Kelly Kandra (Psychology/Sociology) is a member of the dance troupe “Desert Flames” which performed at the Paramount Theater in Aurora in September.

Fr. Michael Komechak, O.S.B. (Benedictine art collection) presented and commented on images of St. Paul in various artwork to parishioners of St. Joseph Church in Downers Grove in September as part of the parish’s commemoration of the year of St. Paul. Fr. Michael also juried and awarded prizes at a photographic exhibit on portraiture at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum in September, and served as one of three award judges at a photographic exhibit at the Graue Mill in Hinsdale.

Tim Marin (Chemistry) attended the “Radiation Driven Processes in Physics, Chemistry and Biology” Gordon Conference in Waterville Valley, N.H., and presented a paper titled “Temperature and Density Dependence of the Light and Heavy Water Absorption Band Edge.” The Gordon Research Conferences promote discussions and free exchange of ideas at the research frontiers of the biological, chemical and physical sciences. Scientists come together for a week of intense discussion and examination of the most advanced aspects of their field.


Ralph Meeker (Acting Dean of the College of Science) and Dan Nohl (Computer Science and Information Systems) attended the 15th Annual Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges Midwest Conference in September at Hope College in Holland, Mich. Nohl wrote all seven programming problems for the programming competition held at this conference. Sixteen teams from across the Midwest participated in the competition.

John Moulder (Music), a jazz guitarist, performed in August at the Democratic National Convention in Denver. He performed at the “Nomination Celebration” of the Illinois Delegation with the Paul Wertico Trio. Wertico is a seven-time Grammy Award winner.

Jeremy Nadolski (Mathematics) presented “Teaching Undergraduate Statistics as a Capstone for Mathematics Majors,” at the 2008 Joint Statistical Meetings in Denver, Colo. in August. His poster focused on strategies and examples to engage undergraduates in data analysis as well as prepare them for future careers.

Peter H. Nelson, Ph.D. (Physics) received a $149,196 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). He was awarded a three-year NSF Course, Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) grant for his project, “Understanding Biophysics using Excel Simulations.” This grant will help undergraduate students develop an understanding of advanced topics in biophysics even if they do not have a calculus background.

James Pelech (School of Education) participated in the 16th Annual Constructivist Design Conference in Canton, N.Y. The conference consisted of a format in which teachers work in teams and receive guidance from expert facilitators and liaisons. The conference also helps participants by holding formal presentations and activities. Pelech conducted two formal presentations and served as a facilitator.

Sue Peterson (Benedictine Library) co-authored an article in the *LOEX Quarterly* (V35, No.1) titled “LOEX 2008 Conference Report.” Peterson and her co-author, Susan Protepeak from Joliet Community College, served as recorders for the 2008 LOEX Conference held in May in Oak Brook. The LOEX Conference is a focused conference dedicated to library instruction.

Roger Rose (Political Science) contributed a short article about how working on Capitol Hill can enhance teaching and mentoring of students in *PS: Political Science & Politics* (July 2008). The particulars about the article are: “The APSA Congressional Fellowship: Value for Faculty from Teaching Colleges and Universities,” Volume 41, Issue 03, July 2008, pp. 670-672.

Niina J. Ronkainen (Chemistry) gave a presentation titled “Undergraduate Research Experiences: Lasting Benefits to Students” in a Chemical Education symposium at the 236th American Chemical Society (ACS) National Meeting and Exposition in Philadelphia, Pa. in August. The theme of the meeting was “Chemistry for Health.”

Lee Ann Smith (Biology) received a grant/scholarship to attend the 2008 Genomics and Proteomics Hands-On Workshop at the National Jewish Health Center this summer in Denver, Colo. The 10-day intensive course takes the participants from sample preparation through data analysis for DNA microarrays and mass spectrometry of proteins. Participants were
selected based on the merits of application proposals using the technology. Smith’s proposal of using genomics to improve her research and introducing undergraduate students in her courses to the technology won her a grant/scholarship funded by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

Alandra Weller-Clarke (Education) contributed two chapters to the Encyclopedia of Child Behavior and Development, one for educational psychology and the other for behavior disorders. These encyclopedias are expected to be published both in print and online in 2010. In the fall, she presented “The Child and Adolescent Wellness Scale: Definition, Deliverance and Deliberation” for a faculty colloquium, sharing the results of her work which benefited from the faculty summer research grant. Clarke also presented another peer-reviewed paper, “Constructing Teachers: Promising Partnerships, Good Practice and Positive Results,” at the Hawaii International Conference on Education.

Ovid K. Wong (Education) published an article titled “Revisiting the Learning Cycle and Its Implications to Science Instruction” in the Journal of the Illinois Science Teachers Association (ISTA), Spring 2008, Volume 34, No.1. He presented “Learning Cycle Transformation” in May at the Chicago Mathematics and Science Symposium at Chicago State University. In August and October, he conducted book signings for “Using Data Analysis to Improve Student Learning: Toward 100 Percent Proficiency” and “Pivotal Strategies for the Educational Leaders: the Importance of Sun Tzu’s the Art of War” at the Borders in Schaumburg. In September, Wong was invited by the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada to celebrate the university’s centennial, where he is a distinguished alumnus. He also presented a workshop titled “Leading and Teaching in the Wake of ‘No Child Left Behind.’ ” In October, his photograph titled “The Preying Mantis” was published as the cover of the Journal of the Illinois Science Teachers Association SPECTRUM, Fall 2008 (Volume 34, No. 2). †

Mystery Photos revealed

1. Hall of Fame wall in the Rice Center.
2. Stained glass in Scholl Hall.
3. A section of the ceramic artwork representing the University’s history, displayed on the first floor of the Kindlon Hall of Learning.

Kluckhohn Assumes Track and Field Coaching Duties

James Kluckhohn is the new head coach for the University men and women’s track and field programs, and also assists with the Eagles’ cross country teams.

Prior to joining Benedictine, Kluckhohn spent five seasons as the founding coach of both cross country and track and field at Aurora University. His numbers at Aurora included five league championships in cross country and track and field.

During his tenure as a coach in the Northern Athletics Conference (NAC), Kluckhohn has produced athletes who garnered 41 individual titles in track and field. His track and field athletes have six NCAA Division III provisional qualifying marks to their credit and made four appearances at the NCAA III championships. Likewise, his success with cross country helped his charges win three NAC women’s titles. He is a four-time “Coach of the Year” award winner, earning the honor for both men’s and women’s track and field in the final season of the Northern Illinois Intercollegiate Conference in the spring of 2006, as well as the men’s and women’s cross country awards the following fall for the inaugural NAC campaign.

Kluckhohn was also on staff at North Park University, Texas Lutheran University and his alma mater, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education in 1995 and a Master of Science in Human Performance in 1997.

Kluckhohn is an active member of the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA). He currently serves as the NCAA Division III chairman of the organization’s Hall of Fame Committee. He, his wife Kari, and their sons Jacob and Nathaniel reside in Warrenville. ►
New faces in the Eagles’ Nest (cont.)

Remley Takes the Reins of Cross Country Programs

Molly (Morrison) Remley was named as head men’s and women’s cross country coach and assistant track and field coach. She was previously an assistant coach for the Eagles’ cross country and track and field teams since 2005.

During her time as an assistant at Benedictine, Remley helped with the coordination of the 2006 NCAA Division III Men’s and Women’s Outdoor Track and Field National Championships hosted by the University. More recently, during the 2007-2008 track and field season, she oversaw two Eagle student-athletes set new school records. Hannah Miller reset her previous record in the indoor mile and Alex Arman broke a 26-year-old school record in the 3000 meter run.

Remley earned collegiate letters in both cross country and track and field while leading both teams as captain throughout her remarkable career at North Central College. She earned citations as a CoSIDA Academic All-American in both cross country and track and field. She was a three-time All-American in cross country and track and field, while earning seven conference championship titles and setting four school records during her time as a Cardinal.

Remley earned a bachelor’s degree from North Central College in 2004. She is a member of the USTFCCA and the ITCCCA, USATF Level 1 Certified and a graduate of the NCAA Women Coaches Academy. She and her husband, Andy, reside in Oswego.

Eagles Reach Out to Community with Free Tickets

The Benedictine athletics department is lending a hand to residents of the Village of Lisle in an effort to give some relief due to economic pressures. To help the local community stretch its dollar, the Eagles’ NCAA Division III athletics program initiated a free ticket campaign this past fall.

For the entire 2008-09 school year, the University will waive the admission cost to all home regular-season athletics events to all Village of Lisle residents and their immediate family with proof of residency.

“We want to give a little something back to the Village of Lisle” said Dave Swanson, director of Sports Events.

“Benedictine is all about community and family. This is a tangible way we can give Lisle residents entertainment that’s free and convenient. Our student-athletes compete with the same dedication as professionals and truly carry the banner for the Village of Lisle whenever they take the field. This is a fantastic chance to get to see all the things going on at the University.”

Lending a Hand

Benedictine nutrition major Chrissy Sitarski, C10, (right) — who also happens to be the reigning Miss Illinois American National Teen Scholarship Organization — lent a hand collecting food donations at the September 20 home football game. All fans donating a non-perishable food item received $1 off the price of admission and all proceeds were donated to the Woodridge Community Pantry.

On the Run

Senior cross country (and track) runners Hannah Miller, C09, and Jen Murray, C09, (left) were consistently at or near the top of the Eagles’ list of finishers in every race during the fall. The duo posted some of the best race times in Benedictine cross country history.

He’s Got Swing

Junior golfer R.J. Schwalbach, C10, (right) rose to the top of the Northern Athletics Conference men’s golf championship tournament, taking home medal honors after a playoff. Schwalbach carded a two-day total of 150 for the 36-hole event. The New Berlin, Wis., native shot an even-par 72 in the opening round on the Whistling Straights Irish Course in Kohler, Wis. He was also named to the All-Northern Athletics Conference team for the third-consecutive season.

All in the Family

Residents of the Village of Lisle could take advantage of free admission to home athletics events to watch the likes of freshman football kick return specialist John Borsellino (left), Borsellino — another in a long line of outstanding football players to attend Benedictine from his family — ranked among the national leaders in kickoff returns and even had the honor of earning the first-ever Special Teams “Student-Athlete of the Week” award presented by the Northern Athletics Conference in football.
50 WAYS TO SUPPORT 
BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY

1. Tell your friends how much you love Benedictine
2. Bring a prospective student for a tour of campus
3. Make a gift to the Benedictine Fund
4. Display a Benedictine University decal on your car
5. Buy and wear a Benedictine sweatshirt
6. Call five family members to come to Parent’s Weekend with you
7. Bring your siblings to visit you for a weekend
8. Call five friends to come to alumni events with you
9. Cheer the Eagles by coming to a game
10. Keep in touch with Alumni Relations after graduating
11. Check out Quad Day
12. Participate in the Bags Tournament at the Coal Ben
13. Attend a distinguished visiting professor lecture
14. Make a gift to your favorite program at Benedictine
15. Visit the Benedictine Web site frequently to stay involved and informed
16. Read the University newspaper The Candor
17. Join the Benedictine University group on Facebook.com
18. Attend your class reunion
19. Submit your news and updates to the Alumni Relations office
20. Include Benedictine in your estate plan
21. Make a gift in memory of a loved one or in honor of your favorite professor
22. Use Benedictine’s Career Development Center
23. Use Benedictine’s Student Success Center
24. Attend Mass at the Abbey
25. Carpool to class
26. Have a picnic at Lake St. Benedict
27. Have a chat with the monks
28. Tell friends about job opportunities at Benedictine
29. Take your niece/nephew to the Jurica-Suchy Nature Museum
30. Come back for Homecoming festivities
31. Stay involved in school events and activities throughout the year
32. Become a Senior Class Representative
33. Join the Student Government
34. Earn your M.B.A. or other graduate degree at Benedictine
35. Hire a Benedictine graduate
36. Wear a little red and black
37. Endow a scholarship
38. Study abroad
39. Sign up to become a mentor for freshman
40. Volunteer at alumni events
41. Join a regional alumni chapter
42. Host an alumni gathering or event at your home
43. Provide career advice in your field to other Benedictine students
44. Meet and recruit prospective students
45. Speak to Benedictine students at career-related workshops and panel discussions
46. Network at Benedictine recent graduate events
47. Donate a book to the Benedictine Library
48. Plant a tree on Campus Beautification Day
49. Join an intramural team
50. Download a Benedictine screen saver

For more information on how you can help Benedictine, call Jessica Stillo, Coordinator of Alumni Stewardship and Philanthropy, at (630) 829-1811 or e-mail jstillo@ben.edu.

Keep Benedictine part of your life.
Upcoming Alumni Events

February 1
Super Bowl Party in the Coal Ben

February 5
Wine Tasting in the Coal Ben

February 7
Red & White Gala (formerly Sweetheart Club)

February 7
Men’s and Women’s Basketball Reunions

February 17
Alumni Board Meeting

February 20
College of Science Reunion and Re-dedication of Jurica-Suchy Nature Museum

April 30
Caribbean Night at the Coal Ben

May 17
Commencement/Golden Eagles Reunion

May 19
Alumni Board Meeting

June 29
15th Annual President’s Invitational Golf Outing

September 18-20
Homecoming Weekend

For updates on alumni events, go to www.ben.edu/alumni or call (630) 829-6077.

Stay Connected.
For information about these and other University events, visit our award-winning Web site.

www.ben.edu

Years Environment

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Please take a moment and call (630) 829-6099.
Thank you for helping us be economically and environmentally conscious!

Voices is printed by a Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) printer who adheres to strict environmental rules. In addition, the magazine is printed using soy inks to further our stewardship of the earth.
Please recycle this issue.

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