July 16, 2009

- 1. Sr. Margaret named to top educator list
- 2. SBU students receive record number of study abroad scholarships
- 3. Science students spend summer working on biomedical research
- 4. <u>Newsmakers</u>

Sr. Margaret named to top educator list

St. Bonaventure University President Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D., has been named a leading figure in education by Irish Voice newspaper. Sr. Margaret is part of the weekly newspaper's Irish Education 100 publication, a list of leading educators in North America.

"The Irish Education 100 is our inaugural effort to recognize the central role of educators in our history," said Niall O'Dowd, founding publisher of Irish Voice. "More than a reflection of the past, we endeavor to build a creative communication network that will strengthen Irish identity in the 21st Century with new collaborations, partnerships and friendships. We view educators as the central link with Ireland in our globalized world."

A lifelong educator, Sr. Margaret came to Sr. Bonaventure University in 1997 to serve as a faculty member of its worldrenowned Franciscan Institute. Within two years she was named dean and director. In 2004, she was named the 20th president of the university.

She was the leader in establishing the Father Mychal Judge Center for Irish Exchange and Understanding, a unique venture that will offer St. Bonaventure students, faculty, and cultural exchanges with the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, and the United States, including academic study, service learning, co-curricular seminars, and research.

Proud of her Irish heritage, Sr. Margaret's maternal and paternal grandparents were born in Ireland and Sr. Margaret's sister, Sr. Sheila Carney, is an internationally-known expert on the life of Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy whose headquarters is in Dublin.

Last summer, Sr. Margaret led a pilgrimage to Wexford to the ancestral lands and parish of the Devereux family. Nicholas Devereux, who emigrated to the U.S. in 1806, was the founding benefactor of the university. His family is well known in Wexford and beyond for its generosity to Catholic causes and religious orders.

Sr. Margaret is also well known in Franciscan circles and has lectured in Ireland and at the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock.

Sr. Margaret was the first woman to earn a doctorate from the Franciscan University of Rome. She studied in Europe after completing master's degrees in theology at Duquesne University and Franciscan Studies at St. Bonaventure University.

A leader with a strong impulse for collaborative models, Sr. Margaret is working with Trustees and the university community to develop a 21st century plan for educational excellence in a student-centered learning environment.

Sr. Margaret holds five honorary doctorates and is the recipient of a number of other honors. She holds leadership roles with the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, and the Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities.

Joining Sr. Margaret on the Irish Education 100 list is St. Bonaventure alumnus and trustee Daniel F. Collins of Corning, vice president of corporate communications at Corning Inc.

Click here to return to the top of the page

SBU students receive record number of study abroad scholarships

Despite the current economic crisis, the fall 2009 semester has resulted in a robust recruiting season, with 12 St. Bonaventure University students approved for study abroad, according to Alice Sayegh, director of International Studies. Students were mindful of economic challenges impacted by loss of financial aid and the discontinuation of funding from certain external sources.

Of the 12 students who will study abroad during fall 2009, seven have received external, largely competitive scholarship awards. Two students, Shanequa Ravenell, a senior management major from Brooklyn, N.Y., and Karim Troncelliti, a sophomore Theater major from Allegany, received Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships from the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs administered through the Institute of International Education (IIE). Ravenell will spend a semester at Edge Hill University in Lancashire, England. Troncelliti will spend the fall semester at Nanjing University in Nanjing, China.

Two students, Kelsey Wrzos, a junior English major from West Seneca, N.Y., and Keelan O'Connell, a senior biology major from Abilene, Texas, received F. Donald Kenney International Scholars scholarships from the F. Donald Kenney Foundation. Wrzos will spend the semester at National University of Ireland, Galway in Galway, Ireland. O'Connell will study at the University of Limerick in Limerick, Ireland.

Two students, Catherine Turner, a sophomore, sociology/psychology major from West Hyannis Port, Mass., and Kyle Klosowski, a sophomore biology major from Ringwood, N.J., received a Kingston Scholarship from Kingston University. Turner and Klosowski will spend the semester at Kingston University in London, England.

Senior Patrick Boquard, a journalism/mass communication major from Severna Park, Md., will spend the semester studying and

interning at American University in Washington, D.C. He received a Dean's Scholarship from American University.

"We have a committed group of study abroad students for the fall. Those who received scholarship awards sifted through the added paperwork, wrote essays, and submitted required supplementary documentation to verify finances in order to secure their scholarships," said Sayegh.

Notable among the scholarships is the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. During the fall 2009 application cycle, the Gilman Scholarship Program received 1,927 applications for 850 possible awards.

"This is a highly competitive process and to have two students in the same semester was a huge surprise when we were notified," added Sayegh.

The remaining five students have chosen unique locations that take in account the cost of programs while allowing the students to take courses required for their majors and gain valuable travel experience. Two students will be spending the semester at the Anglo-American College in Prague, Czech Republic, and three students will be studying at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia.

Click here to return to the top of the page

Science students spend summer working on biomedical research

Many college students dream of spending their summers at their respective colleges and universities — places that represent future careers, friendship, fun and, of course, some freedom away from parents. For three St. Bonaventure University science majors, they are living that dream by spending a summer at Bona's and developing their own biomedical research projects.

These students, Thomas Zaikos, '10, Devin Patel, '10, and Aashish Kumar, '11, have been awarded scholarships under The Dr. Arnold T. Borer Summer Fellowship Program to spend this summer conducting research on a topic of their choice.

Zaikos, a biochemistry major from Unionville, Ontario, Canada, is no stranger to Bonaventure summers or research. This is his second year in the fellowship program.

"To receive this award is truly amazing. To receive it a second year in a row is just unbelievable," Zaikos said. "I am more proficient and comfortable in the laboratory and research setting now. This summer I hope to diversify my knowledge by tackling a subject that is relatively foreign to me. Hopefully, with this summer's work and future work, I will be able to discover an area that interests me enough to dedicate my time to and focus on in professional school."

That's why Zaikos is busy going green, hoping to discover a new source of renewable energy in a species of green algae called Neochloris Oleoabundans.

"With much discussion and debate about global oil consumption and its ever-depleting availability, renewable energy sources have become of great interest to many who are trying to discover an alternative and renewable energy source," Zaikos said.

He is focusing on the algae's ability to produce sugars and fats under different environmental conditions. His goal is to find the optimal condition for this organism to produce biodiesel by extracting a number of different products, such as fats, starch and simple sugars.

ZAIKOS SAID he is grateful for his experiences as a fellow and couldn't do any of this without the support from the St. Bonaventure faculty, especially his research adviser Fredrick Harrington, visiting professor of biology.

"Professor Harrington is basically what this project is about," Zaikos said. "From the day he came to Bona's last year you could tell he knew a great deal about the topic of renewable energy and is passionate about it. This research is all his and I am simply continuing his research this summer and trying to build upon the progress he has made up until this point."

Harrington hasn't minded spending his summer in the lab either, working toward a common goal with his advisee.

"Tommy is hard working and it is enjoyable spending time in the lab with him," Harrington said. "The long-term goal (of this project) is to culture the algae as an agricultural crop, which would use waste products like manure and carbon dioxide for growth and would produce biofuel components in a way that is much more efficient and does not compete with food crops like corn and soy."

DEVIN PATEL, a biology major from Harleysville, Pa., has been enjoying this summer for the whole package — living off campus, getting to know his research adviser, Dr. John Kupinski, associate professor of biology, and shooting hoops with the Bonnies women's basketball team, he said.

"I think the most exciting thing about receiving this fellowship is being able to work with Dr. Kupinski, a professor I haven't had a chance to take a class with previously or really interact with," Patel said. "I look forward to delving into his field of interest, immunology, and learning something new."

Patel is spending his summer researching a specific subject within immunology, a branch of biomedical science that covers the study of all aspects of the immune system in all organisms: the correlation between immune response and estrogen levels in females.

"Epidemiological evidence has shown that there may be a link between female sex hormones, of which estrogen is the most prominent, and autoimmune diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis or osteoporosis," Patel said.

Patel is investigating this hypothesis using mice. He hopes his research will culminate in the publication of a research paper on behalf of the university.

Much like Zaikos and Patel, Kumar, a biology major from Matthews, N.C., has been enjoying the company of the biology faculty outside the classroom. Kumar has been studying and researching Cadherin-11, a protein that has been implicated in metastatic cancer and may also play a role in the development of the mammary gland, under the advisement of Dr. Julie Hens, assistant professor of biology.

"Dr. Hens is very knowledgeable in her field, and thus it is quite a delight to work with someone who has so much experience with different laboratory techniques," Kumar said. "She is extremely passionate about her research as it can potentially serve a dramatic purpose to the advancement of cancer research."

Together, Hens and Kumar hope their research may lead to cancer cures.

"WE ARE HOPING that these studies will increase our understanding of metastatic cancer both in the mammary gland and also in the lung," Hens said. "Working and teaching (Aashish) in the laboratory has been a pleasure. He is quick to learn, and works well in the laboratory setting. I believe he will go far in whatever career path he takes in medicine."

Kumar said he is honored for being chosen for the fellowship.

"By participating in the fellowship I will be able to gain a better understanding of what actually goes on behind the scenes of what research actually entails, and how it is the basis of creating what may eventually be a cure for cancer," he said.

After graduation, all three students plans to attend medical school at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. This summer has prepared them for that next step, they said, which is what the Borer Summer Fellowship Program is all about: preparing students for their future in medicine and the future of medicine.

The Dr. Arnold T. Borer Summer Fellowship Program was made possible in 1992 through a major gift to the University by Gertrude Borer and her son, Francis "Frank" E. Borer, '69. The fund was established in honor of her late husband, Arnold. Borer Fellows are chosen because they have achieved the highest science and math GPAs and have a potential interest in biomedical research.

Click here to return to the top of the page

Police agencies sign MOA with university

Countless hours of preparation and practice became policy Monday afternoon when four police agencies signed an Emergency Preparedness Law Enforcement Memorandum of Agreement at St. Bonaventure University.

The MOA puts on paper the "common understanding and agreement of each other's responsibilities and roles in the event that there is an emergency situation at St. Bonaventure," said Rick Trietley, vice provost for student life and head of the university's Emergency Preparedness Planning Group.

Signing the MOA were representatives from the New York State Police, Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department, and the Olean and Allegany police departments, as well as Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., university president.

Representing the police agencies were Major Christopher Cummings of the New York State Police; Sheriff Dennis John of the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department; Allegany Police Chief Dominic Papasergi; and Sgt. Michael Vitello of the Olean Police Department.

State Assemblyman Joseph Giglio and Sister Margaret also spoke.

"When we began this process, some doubted that we could ever achieve the level of cooperation and collaboration that would be necessary to develop and implement this," Trietley said. "Well, I am proud to say that we did not experience any of that negative energy. Rather, I observed a group of professionals dedicated to only one thing — the safety and security of all members of this campus community in the event of a life-threatening emergency here at St. Bonaventure."

Comprehensive emergency planning began in earnest at the university in September, and culminated with a campuswide disaster drill and lockdown March 25 involving a shooter and hostage scenario. More than 60 area police and emergency responders took part in the drill.

"I feel very good about what we have accomplished," Trietley said. "This agreement helps take guesswork out of the process should an actual emergency occur. This should give students, their parents and the campus community a sense of security that there is a plan in place."

Click here to return to the top of the page

SBU's Quick Center galleries being readied for new season

Several galleries at The Quick Center have been closed for the installation of new exhibitions for the center's upcoming 2009-10 season. Remaining open and on view throughout the summer are St. Bonaventure's permanent collection of European and American paintings located in the Dresser Foundation Gallery on the first floor, and the 20th Century Works exhibition in the Dresser-Rand Atrium.

All galleries will reopen for the new season on Friday, Sept. 4.

The Quick Center is open to the public year round at no charge. Regular hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Click here to return to the top of the page

Stevens takes over MBA program

John B. Stevens took over June 1 as the director of the master's in business administration program at St. Bonaventure University.

Stevens replaces Brian McAllister, an assistant professor of accounting.

An instructor in SBU's School of Business, Stevens is an organizational development, training and human resources professional. He also owns and operates JB Stevens Organizational Solutions.

Stevens, of Olean, has over 30 years' experience in positions involving organizational development, administration, human resources, communications and public relations.

Stevens' past experience includes vice president for human resources at The Rehabilitation Center; director of the Achievement Center for Continuous Learning at St. Bonaventure; manager of training and employee development at CUTCO Corporation; training manager for AVX Corporation; and training specialist for Dresser-Rand Corporation.

Stevens is a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR), recognized by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM); and a Certified Performance Technologist (CPT), recognized by the International Society for Performance Improvement (ISPI). He holds a master's degree in business and policy studies from SUNY-Empire State College and a

bachelor's degree in journalism from St. Bonaventure.

He is a past president of the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce, serves on the Cattaraugus-Allegany County Workforce Investment Board, and is president of the Leadership Cattaraugus program.

In addition to St. Bonaventure University, he has taught continuing education or college courses at Cornell University, Jamestown Community College, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, and Penn State University.

Click here to return to the top of the page

Newsmakers

Dr. Charles Walker, professor of psychology, with four seniors, **Jillian Coniglio, Catherine Cuviello, Keely Sibbald** and **Elizabeth Thomeier,** presented their research on slander gossip at the national meeting of the Association for Psychological Science held in San Francisco. Their study found that slander gossip is a disguised form of shame gossip that is illegitimately used by revengeful individuals. The majority of gossip is a truthful form of social news passed within groups to monitor actual changes in interpersonal relationships. Slander gossip is a lie or distortion of the truth passed to harm others.

Dr. Walker also co-facilitated a session on positive psychology and higher education at the First World Congress on Positive Psychology recently held in Philadelphia. Two juniors, **Sarah Specchio** and **Andrea Spink**, and 2008 graduate **James Wood**, also attended the conference of this promising new international organization in psychology.

Click here to return to the top of the page