2014

Arts and Sciences Explorer 2014

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International Lasallians had a chance to stop by Central Park during a sightseeing trip to the Big Apple when they were stateside last summer for the second annual Lasallian Leadership Conference, which La Salle hosted in Philadelphia. See story, p. 3.
A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN
THOMAS A. KEAGY

Some visitors to our main campus believe they are complimenting us when they comment that La Salle is a wonderful oasis in North Philadelphia. They do not realize that our goal is quite the opposite. While our well-maintained facilities together with neighborhood partnerships such as the Shoppes at La Salle do, in fact, create a very pleasant and safe campus environment, the image of an isolated oasis does not accurately reflect our successful efforts to connect with neighbors in our immediate area of the city, as well as neighbors in the region, nation, and world. This edition of the Arts and Sciences Explorer newsletter contains a number of examples illustrating how our students and faculty continue to establish and maintain significant connections beyond the boundaries of our campus through coordinated efforts of service and scholarship.

Our Integrative Studies Department, which is a rather unique unit in higher education, has assumed a leading role in connecting internal resources both within La Salle and across school boundaries in ways that facilitate outreach. The cover story in this issue provides one example in terms of forging connections across international boundaries with students and faculty from fellow Lasallian universities around the world. The department has also played a key role in a more local venue by enhancing connections within our own University community that ultimately serve the nutritional needs of residents in our own backyard.

This spirit of connecting internal resources to an external world can be found throughout this edition of the Arts and Sciences Explorer newsletter. Here you will find descriptions of the achievements of our award-winning faculty and their students—excellent teachers, internationally recognized scholars—all with a focus on service beyond the boundaries of our campus, which, in fact, is more of a launching pad than an oasis.
Hailing from cities across the country and the globe, 34 students and six professors gathered in the City of Brotherly Love for the second annual Lasallian Leadership Conference last July. The conference built upon the inaugural meeting in 2012, held at La Salle Polytechnic Institute in Beauvais, France.

La Salle had the honor of hosting the future Lasallian leaders, who represented 13 Christian Brothers universities and several countries—including the U.S., France, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, and the Philippines. “We hope that participants of this program will build their leadership skills in a Lasallian context, and, upon their return, we count on participants to become sparks that will ignite and sustain the Lasallian community in the future,” said Robert Vogel, a professor of education at La Salle and co-founder of the University’s program in Leadership and Global Understanding (LGU).

The goal of the conference was to develop the students’ leadership skills so that they may work cooperatively with others to solve complex international issues. The rich, culturally diverse environment allowed participants to exchange, understand, and develop ideas and projects. Through a series of international nights, the attendees were able to learn a little bit about the home culture of their peers. “They explored complex global problems and related these issues to the many challenges being faced in their home countries,” Vogel said. “Most importantly, the students gained a better understanding of each other’s cultures and developed a network of colleagues that will last a lifetime.”

In addition to learning about the differences between their cultures, the students also discovered many similarities—namely the core principles that drive them. “It was incredible to see that all over the world, there are people who had nearly the exact same values that I do,” said junior John Schatz, a political science and economics major. “Recognizing that being Lasallian goes beyond the Lasallian high school I attended and La Salle University was both a humbling experience and one that has challenged me to do better.”

“We count on participants to become the sparks that will ignite and sustain the Lasallian community in the future.”

—Robert Vogel

During the conference, students participated in workshops, attended lectures, and engaged in various team-building exercises. They also talked about creating programs to maintain contact between members of the international Lasallian community and to encourage continued dialogue. They discussed ways they could continue the mission of the conference—the promotion of Lasallian values in a leadership capacity—at their own universities.

This meeting of the minds prompted the American students to create the National Lasallian Gathering (NLG). With the inaugural conference to be held this spring at Saint Mary’s College of California, the program will involve the participation of all six universities within the Lasallian Region of North America: Manhattan College, La Salle University, Christian Brothers College, Lewis University, Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota, and Saint Mary’s College of California.

“The main goal is to help strengthen the Lasallian network, to have representatives attend the conference this year in Barcelona, and then to return to their respective colleges and collaborate with the students from NLG to work together,” Vogel said. “This outcome is one that we will use as a model in the future. This is an example of true leadership development—the students are running this conference by themselves without faculty input.”

Soon after, La Salle Barcelona–Universitat Roman Llull will host the third annual meeting this summer in Barcelona, Spain, from July 20 to Aug. 2. With 40 spots available, this year will be the first that the Lasallian Leadership Conference is open to every Lasallian institution of higher learning. “These future Lasallian leaders exhibit endless energy and are determined to ‘make a difference’ in this world,” Vogel said. “They are proud Lasallians who take civic responsibility and global understanding seriously—they give us great promise for the future.”
Teaching teachers is something that Stuart Leibiger, associate professor and Chair of the History Department, takes great pride in. For the past 10 years, he's had the opportunity to share his expertise in American history and our country’s founding by presenting at a number of federally and privately funded teacher workshops in 13 states and the District of Columbia.

Leibiger first received an invitation to speak at a teacher workshop shortly after publishing his book, *Founding Friendship: George Washington, James Madison, and the Creation of the American Republic*. He has published several articles and another book since then and also has been a consultant for The Learning Channel and for George Washington’s Mount Vernon.

Teachers participating in the workshops often come from rural middle America, Leibiger said, without the background and resources to adequately teach social studies and history. “They are thirsting for content,” he said. “The fun thing about these workshops is that they take place at Washington’s Mount Vernon or Jefferson’s Monticello.”

In many cases, the teachers at the workshops are visiting these historic sites for the first time. It is very competitive for teachers to earn a spot at these workshops, which typically last from one to three days. At the workshops, Leibiger is paired with another academic who models how to teach the historical content that Leibiger provides to elementary, junior high, and high school students. The teachers do homework, create lesson plans, and learn about online resources.

Leibiger has lectured on the American Revolution, the founding of the United States, and the U.S. presidency, among other similar topics. “Some of these teachers really admire the leaders I speak about,” he said. “What’s really valuable is that they take it back and teach it.”

He has received positive feedback from attendees, who say he is easy to listen to, informative, and entertaining. One teacher stated that Leibiger’s talks on Madison and Washington were the highlight of his 30-year career, and another said the lectures made him want to return to school.

“It’s a lot of effort and travel, but the positive feedback makes it worthwhile,” he said. “It’s also a great opportunity to pitch La Salle University.”

**NEUROSURGEON HONORED WITH HOLROYD AWARD**

For his contributions to the field of neurosurgery, Joseph Queenan, M.D., ’87, was honored with La Salle’s 2013 Holroyd Award. An attending neurosurgeon at Hahnemann University Hospital, an attending pediatric neurosurgeon at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, and an assistant professor of surgery at Drexel University College of Medicine, Queenan earned his bachelor’s degree in biology from La Salle and attended medical school at the University of Pennsylvania.

**KLING HONORED FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND TRANSLATION**

German professor Vincent Kling, ’68, received the Faculty Distinguished Scholarship Award. An active scholar since he joined the full-time faculty in 1980, Kling has displayed his impressive academic reach as a translator, editor, interpreter, and essayist in numerous publications over the years.

Touted by experts in his field as “second to none in the U.S.” among scholars of Austrian literature, Kling was awarded the Schlegel-Tieck Prize of the Goethe Institute in London last summer. He was honored for the best translation of a literary work from German to English for his translation of *Why the Child Is Cooking in the Polenta*, a novel by Aglaja Veteranyi.

“To me, the announcement of the award was as startling as if a kid who plays club baseball for La Salle would suddenly get a call from the Phillies,” he said. “It’s very gratifying, a kind of career-changer, and I’m thrilled about the whole thing.”
Learning Behind Bars

This fall, 26 students took a course examining mass incarceration in the United States—within the walls of a Philadelphia prison. Half of the students in the Inside-Out course made the drive from campus with their instructors, political science professor Miguel Glatzer and Director of Community Engagement and Service-Learning Heather McGee. The other half had a shorter commute—from their prison cell to the classroom.

“La Salle University is a natural home for Inside-Out courses, given our mission and commitment to providing educational opportunities to all individuals, particularly those who have been underserved or who may face special challenges,” Glatzer said.

The setting, structure, and class design for “Incarceration Nation: The Politics of Justice in America” allowed students to engage in rich discussions and truly experiential learning.

“I am very impressed with how much we have all learned from one another, especially what the incarcerated individuals have taught us,” said Sierra Applegate, a senior criminal justice major who took the course. “We get to see the criminal justice side from their perspective, such as how hard it is for them to reintegrate into society, how difficult it can be for them to succeed on the outside and not regress (back into crime).”

FEDEN NAMED DISTINGUISHED LASALLIAN EDUCATOR

A faculty member since 1973, education professor Preston Feden, Ph.D., recently added another honor to his long list of awards for teaching and service—the Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award.

Feden was the Founding Director of the La Salle University Teaching and Learning Center and the La Salle University Philadelphia Center (now the Greater Philadelphia Initiative), and he is currently Assistant Director of the University Honors Program.

First setting foot on La Salle’s campus more than 40 years ago, “I simply fell in love with the place, because it was guided by a clearly defined mission that focused on a values-based education with an emphasis on social justice and teaching excellence,” Feden said.

MSHOMBA RECEIVES WARREN E. SMITH, M.D., AWARD

La Salle’s African American Alumni Association presented economics professor Richard Mshomba, Ph.D., ’85, with the Warren E. Smith, M.D., ’54, Award last fall. The award recognizes his professional achievements, commitment to Lasallian values, and significant contributions to the community.

A native of Tanzania, Mshomba came to the U.S. at the age of 27 to attend La Salle on a full scholarship. After graduating maxima cum laude in three years, he earned a master’s degree and a Ph.D. before returning to La Salle in 1991 as a faculty member. Mshomba teaches undergraduate courses in economics as well as MBA courses.

He and his wife, Elaine, travel regularly with their three sons to his village in Tanzania, where they champion educational and developmental initiatives. “It has been quite rewarding to see young people that we have helped with their education now helping their siblings, supporting their parents, and participating in community development,” Mshomba said.

President Brother Michael McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., ’70 (second from right), with Richard Mshomba, Ph.D., ’85 (center), his wife Elaine, and their sons (from left) Alphonce, Charles, and Dennis.
BLUM RECEIVES LINDBACK AWARD

Thomas Blum, ’85, associate professor of mathematics and computer science, was named the recipient of the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching at the University’s 2013 undergraduate Commencement ceremony.

A full-time faculty member at La Salle since 1998, Blum teaches physics and many computer science courses. He was described by students who nominated him as “one of the most dedicated, enthusiastic faculty members I have known in my tenure at La Salle,” and as “a master teacher who embodies what it means to be a Lasallian educator.”

SHILEEN BYNUM
Biology/ISBT

Biology and Integrated Science, Business, and Technology Laboratory Coordinator
Shileen Bynum comes to La Salle by way of Widener University and Community College of Philadelphia, where she also held positions in laboratory preparation. Earning a Bachelor of Arts in chemistry at Cheyney University and a Master of Science in microbiology and immunology at Temple University, Bynum also gained research experience at the University of Pennsylvania, which helped her to take the knowledge acquired in the classroom and apply it in the laboratory.

TARA CARR-LEMKE
The Explorer Connection

La Salle’s dedication to transforming lives and fostering ongoing personal and academic growth is what captivated Tara Carr-Lemke. Born and raised in nearby Norristown, Pa., she earned an M.A. in international relations from Johns Hopkins and spent years in Latin America working with organizations such as Share Foundation: Building a New El Salvador Today, the U.S. Office on Columbia, and Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala. Carr-Lemke worked more locally for the past five years as the Director of the Community and Human Services concentration at the Esperanza College of Eastern University in Hunting Park.

STEPHEN DOWNS
Graduate Recruitment

Stephen Downs says coming to La Salle for his own graduate studies changed his life. So it’s no surprise that he relishes his new opportunity as Graduate Recruiter for the School of Arts and Sciences to “share the promise of La Salle with people looking to explore the possibilities for reaching forward.” A firefighter in his Doylestown community, Downs has had quite a varied career—travelling the world as a marketing executive for a global pharmaceutical company, teaching elementary school students, and more recently, serving as Director of Graduate Programs in La Salle’s Education Department.

CATHARINE HOLOCHWOST
Fine Arts

In addition to her teaching experience at Rutgers University and the University of Delaware, Catherine Holochwost has held research fellowships at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She is particularly excited about being in such a “rich area to teach American art history”—from the architecture of Quaker meetinghouses to the German yarns used to weave Navajo blankets in the later 19th century to the mural art that adorns surrounding neighborhoods.

MARK LASHLEY
Communication

A Philadelphia native, Mark Lashley made his way back to the area after a long sojourn as a graduate student and instructor at the University of Georgia. He has published and presented at national conferences on topics related to digital media, telecommunications, and participatory culture, and his current research focuses on YouTube and other social-oriented video services as sites of cultural practice. Co-founder and co-editor of “Culture in Conversation,” an online cultural studies project.

BUTLER PRESENTED WITH INAUGURAL GRADY AWARD

During the Honors Program’s 50th Anniversary Dinner last spring, the Honors Board presented James Butler, ’67, with the inaugural John S. Grady Award for Teaching Excellence.

Named for the late longtime Honors Program Director, the award recognizes one Honors Program faculty member annually for outstanding teaching, dedication to the Honors Program, commitment to enhancing students’ knowledge about the world around them, and a noble representation of Lasallian values.

It would be difficult to find a more appropriate first-time recipient than Butler, who was one of the very first Honors Program students at La Salle. “It’s something I was a student in and taught in and directed,” he said. “So, a big chunk of my life is connected with the Honors Program.”
Yang Wang

Computer Science

Born in China to parents who were both teachers, Yang Wang has dreamed of teaching since he was 7 years old. He attended a teacher’s preparatory college in China before beginning his graduate studies in the U.S., which he completed at Georgia State University. With a background in computer networking and Internet research, Wang hopes to help students prepare for their careers by sharing his industrial experience, most recently as a Senior Cloud Development Engineer with Internap Network Services Corporation.

Joanne Woods

BUSCA

After teaching, advising, and coaching in independent schools for 15 years, Joanne Woods originally came to La Salle as the Academic Adviser and Tutorial Coordinator for the Academic Discovery Program. She observed some Bilingual Undergraduate Studies for Collegiate Advancement (BUSCA) classes as part of her coursework for the Bilingual/Bicultural Studies master's degree from La Salle's Hispanic Institute. With experience teaching Spanish and volunteering in Bogotá and Cartagena, Colombia; Quito, Ecuador; Cuzco, Peru; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Boquete, Panama, Woods says it's an honor to work with students in the BUSCA program.

Julie Regan

Religion

Fluent in French, Spanish, Tibetan, Sanskrit, and Chinese, Julie Regan takes an interdisciplinary approach to her scholarship, reading a variety of texts, performances, and rituals—from early Sanskrit court poetry to acts of self-immolation in Tibet today. Originally from San Francisco, her field research into Buddhist practice and the body has taken her to traditional temples, caves, and pilgrimage sites in India, Nepal, Tibet, and China.

Mey-Yen Moriuchi

Fine Arts

Mey-Yen Moriuchi’s research focuses on representations of miscegenation and the construction of racial and social identities in Latin American art. After completing her dissertation at Bryn Mawr College, Moriuchi taught art history at various local universities, including the Tyler School of Art and St. Joseph’s University. She has also worked in various capacities at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts (PAFA)—most recently on PAFA’s 2012 exhibition “The Female Gaze.”

Maureen O’Connell

Religion

Before returning home to Philadelphia to serve as an associate professor and Chair of the Department of Religion at La Salle, Maureen O’Connell spent eight years in the Department of Theology at Fordham University in New York City. While there, she taught courses ranging from freshman to doctoral levels, established a strong, nationally recognized research agenda, and invested significantly in a wide range of social justice projects. O’Connell’s areas of expertise include Christian/Catholic social ethics, the arts and social justice, and racism and racial justice.

Dillon Honored for Distinguished Service

La Salle honored Michael Dillon, Chair of the Political Science Department, with the Faculty Distinguished Service Award last spring. Originally joining La Salle’s faculty in 1968, Dillon earned a law degree in 1985 and practiced environmental law for more than two decades before returning to the University in 2007.

Since his return, Dillon has started the Lasallian Forum for Politics and Policy; instituted Publius, an alumni newsletter; started a high school mock trial tournament; and launched a Legal Careers Night. He also reinvigorated the St. Thomas More Pre-Law Society, making connections with some of Philadelphia’s most prominent lawyers, judges, and law firms to provide internship opportunities for students.

Farewell to Retiring Faculty

After many years of exceptional service, several longtime faculty members from various departments in the School of Arts and Sciences joined the ranks of retired professors. Their service is greatly appreciated, and we wish them the best in their retirement.

- Norbert Belzer, associate professor of biology, 45 years
- James Butler, professor emeritus of English, 43 years
- Gary Clabaugh, professor emeritus of education, 45 years
- Patricia Haberstroh, professor of fine arts, 38 years
- Thomas Malatesta, assistant professor of English, 12 years
- Sister Roseanne McDougall, assistant professor of religion, 14 years
- Virginia Modla, associate professor of education, 13 years
Alumni Board Member Sean Hand, ’09, recently won the KPMG National Chairman’s Award for High Performance. Among the 22,000-plus professionals who work for the audit, tax, and advisory services firm nationwide, only 16 receive this award each year to recognize achievement in both functional expertise and client service. Hand graduated with a degree in economics and a minor in Leadership and Global Understanding.

FRUEHWALD GETS IT LEADERSHIP AWARD

During Homecoming, La Salle presented its 10th Annual Informational Technology Leadership Award to Franz Fruehwald, ’80, MBA ’94, Chief Information Officer for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. “Franz is an excellent model of Lasallian values in action,” said Margaret McCoe, ’79, assistant professor of computer science and Director of La Salle’s master’s programs in Computer Information Science and Information Technology. “He has used his technical expertise to provide community service to many groups and organizations, and he continues to develop opportunities to provide service.”

HAND WINS NATIONAL CHAIRMAN’S AWARD

(From left) John Veihmeyer, Chairman of KPMG LLP Tax, Sean Hand, ’09, Kristin Hand, MSN, R.N., OCN, ’09, and Scott Ozanus, Vice Chair of KPMG LLP Tax Alumni Board Member Sean Hand, ’09, recently won the KPMG National Chairman’s Award for High Performance. Among the 22,000-plus professionals who work for the audit, tax, and advisory services firm nationwide, only 16 receive this award each year to recognize achievement in both functional expertise and client service. Hand graduated with a degree in economics and a minor in Leadership and Global Understanding.

QUICK RECEIVES HONORARY DOCTORATE

Best-selling author Matthew Quick, ’96, returned to campus to receive an honorary doctorate at La Salle’s Honors Convocation last October. His first novel, The Silver Linings Playbook, was the basis for the 2012 Oscar-winning film, starring Jennifer Lawrence, Bradley Cooper, and Robert De Niro. “Things worked out for me largely because of what I did while I was at La Salle, writing every day,” Quick said. “I walked the red carpet at the Oscars last year, and Jennifer Lawrence won an Oscar for a character I wrote, and I did that with a La Salle English degree. So if people keep telling you that your dream is not possible, don’t believe them.”

DICCICCO RECEIVES FINDLEY AWARD

La Salle’s Alumni Association presented the Finley Award to Mike Diccicco, ’71, Chief Executive Officer of DDCworks, a brand and marketing communications firm in Conshohocken, Pa. Alumni Association President Beth Harper Briglia, CPA, ’80, commended Diccicco’s unwavering commitment, tireless volunteer work, and support of La Salle throughout the years.

LTAP CONNECTS PARENTS TO THE WEB AND THE COMMUNITY

Since its launch in 2011, the LADDER Technology Access Program (LTAP) has helped numerous special needs families make community connections by getting connected to the Internet. Each semester, 10 parents selected by lottery from area schools receive individualized and group instruction on how to use a laptop.

After completing the unique training program and presenting to the class, each student receives a graduation gift through the generosity of La Salle and the Widener Memorial Foundation—the Acer Chromebook and textbook they used in class.

“It’s a two-prong approach: we teach them the actual mechanics of using a laptop, and then we teach them how to use that technology to make community connections,” said Bob Mack, LADDER’s Director of Programs and Services. “They leave with a variety of resources they can access in the community and information they can use to enhance their family lives.”
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

TURNER RECEIVES PR AWARD
Recognized for her dedication to advancing herself in the public relations field, junior Kellsey Turner accepted the Anne Sceia Klein Award for Professional Promise in December.

President of the La Salle Chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), Turner is the first junior to ever receive the prestigious award and the second La Salle PRSSA student to receive the honor.

Turner’s win makes La Salle one of only two schools to have multiple Anne Sceia Klein Award recipients.

JUNIOR PRESENTS AT TWO MATH CONFERENCES
Junior Katherine Boligitz received two grants to help with travel expenses for the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Baltimore, Md., and the Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), which both took place in January.

At both conferences, Boligitz delivered a talk, “Distinguished-color Rainbow Connection in Graphs.” In Baltimore, she had a poster presentation and jointly presented with Janet Fierson, assistant professor of mathematics at La Salle.

“I like math because it is challenging, but, with some perseverance and insight, you can solve the problem at hand,” said Boligitz, a double major in mathematics and economics from Roslyn, Pa. “Math is not just about computing—it is a way of thinking.”

STUDENTS FIELD TEACHING IN RIO DE JANEIRO
Through a newly established partnership with Our Lady of Mercy School in Rio de Janeiro, three La Salle seniors traveled to Brazil this fall to complete their student teaching—which turned out to be a unique learning experience.

“It was a very unique and phenomenal opportunity for these pre-service teachers to strengthen their knowledge base academically and broaden their cultural perspective,” said Education Department Chair Mary Williams. “You can’t buy that kind of learning—it’s something you can only gain through experience.”

(From left) Senior education majors Chelsea Marina, Elizabeth Diplacido, and Preya John, along with a fellow student teacher from Lewis University in Chicago, explored many of Rio’s cultural landmarks, including the famous Christ the Redeemer statue.

LA SALLE RECOGNIZED AS A TOP PRODUCER OF FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS
La Salle University was named by The Chronicle of Higher Education as one of the nation’s top producers of U.S. Fulbright scholars during the 2013–14 awards cycle.

Of the 115 U.S. universities and colleges included on the list, the University was the only Lasallian institution and one of just eight colleges in Pennsylvania to earn a spot.

“*To be included in the Chronicle’s listing, along with some of the nation’s most prestigious universities, speaks to the exceptional quality of our students and the education we provide here at La Salle,*” Provost Joseph Marbach said.

Four La Salle University graduates received Fulbright U.S. Student Program awards for 2013–14:

- Kevin Smith, ’12, who is conducting literary research and teaching English in Austria;
- Theresa Glinski, ’13, who is teaching English in Slovakia;
- Michal Wilczweski, ’09, who is conducting research in Poland for his dissertation; and
- Thomas Shattuck, ’13, who is teaching English in Taiwan.

LA SALLE RECOGNIZED AS A TOP PRODUCER OF FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS

2014
IN MEMORIAM:  
BROTHER THOMAS McPHILLIPS, ’72

Brother Thomas McPhillips, ’72, a professor of biology at La Salle for nearly 30 years, died in his sleep on June 6, 2013. He was 63.

Br. Thomas’s first teaching assignment was teaching biology at his alma mater La Salle College High School in 1972. After earning his Ph.D. in virology from Baylor College of Medicine in Texas, Br. Thomas joined La Salle’s Biology Department faculty in 1984. That year, he also became adviser to the jazz and pep bands, and he even played trombone with them at athletic events.

Br. Thomas taught a variety of biology classes, and the University awarded him summer study grants to serve as a research scientist at the University of Maryland, where he studied reoviruses and paramyxoviruses.

He is survived by a brother, Clifford, his sister-in-law, Marianne, nieces Shannon and Kara, a nephew, Patrick, and seven great-nieces and great-nephews.

The following list of scholarly faculty accomplishments is only a sample of the work completed over the past year, with each person limited to one entry. For a more complete listing, please visit the Faculty subheading on the School of Arts and Sciences Web page.

BARBARA ALLEN, History, served as a Summer Research Lab Associate at the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center at the Champaign-Urbana campus of the University of Illinois. This was funded by a U.S. Department of State Title Vll housing grant.


JOHN BEATTY, English and Digital Arts and Multimedia Design Program, was quoted in a Philadelphia Inquirer article, “NPR Host Tweets his Mom’s Death.”

MICHAEL BOYLE, Political Science, published “The costs and consequences of drone warfare” in International Affairs.


HUNTYL COLLINS, Communication, was awarded the 2014 Social and Racial Justice Award from the First United Church of Germantown.

JORDAN COPELAND, Religion, presented “Minor Chords: Reconsidering Punk as a Tradition” at the 3rd Global Conference on Urban Popcultures and Subcultures held in Prague.

BROTHER JOHN CRAWFORD, F.S.C., Religion, was invited to participate as both observer and reactor at the Annual Meeting of the Lasallian Association of College and University Presidents. The meeting discussed a statement concerning the common characteristics of Lasallian higher education.

MARIANNE DAINTON, Communication, published “Relationship maintenance on Facebook: Development of a measure, relationship to general maintenance, and relationship satisfaction” in the College Student Journal.

SUSAN DIXON, Fine Arts, presented “Diletantetti in Arcadia” at the Fourth Anglo-Italian Conference on Eighteenth Century Studies, held in Viterbo, Italy.


KATIE DUNLEAVY, Communication, and a co-author published “Marital partners’ perceptions of effective repair” in Qualitative Research Reports in Communication.

JOHN DOWNIE, Religion, presented “A Burnt Offering: Tibetan Self-immolation, Martyrdom, and a Mystical-Political Dharma” at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion.

JANET FIERSON, Mathematics and Computer Science, was one of 20 nationally selected applicants to attend and receive full support for Research Experiences for Undergraduate Faculty 2013 at the Institute for Computational and Experimental Research in Mathematics at Brown University.

LAURA GAMBREL, Psychology, received the national 2013 Dissertation Award from the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy for her research related to mindfulness-based relationship enhancement for couples expecting their first child.


EDIE GOLDBACHER, Psychology, and La Salle student collaborators presented a poster session, “#dissatisfied, #disordered: Relationships among Social Media Usage and Maladaptive Social Comparisons in College Students” at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies.

KEVIN GRAUKE, English, was awarded the Steven Turner Award for Best First Book of Fiction by the Texas Institute of Letters, for Shadows of Men, his collection of stories.


RAYMOND KIRSCH, Mathematics and Computer Science, presented “Using a Flipped Classroom Approach to Build Real World Competencies” at the Villanova University Technology Expo.

ELIZABETH LANGEMAK, English, published poems in various literary reviews, including “Wedding Love,” which appeared in The Notre Dame Review.

PAMELA LANNUTTI, Communication, published “Same-sex marriage and privacy management: Examining couples’ communication with family members” in the Journal of Family Communication.


JANINE MARISOTTI, Social Work, presented on “Assessment of Student Competency” at the Council of Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting.


KELLY McCLURE, Psychology, MYUNGHOO MOON, Psychology, and co-author John Donahue, a La Salle Psy.D. program graduate, published “The relationship between emotion regulation difficulties and psychopathic personality characteristics” in Personality Disorders: Theory, Research and Treatment.

MARGARET McGUINESS, Vice President for Mission and religion professor, published Called to Serve: A History of Nuns in America.


JULIE REGAN, Religion, presented “Burning Questions” as part of a panel on “Immolations in the Tibetan Buddhist World” at the American Academy of Religion meeting.


MEGAN SCHOEN, English, presented “Making African Rhetorics Public: Discourse and Democracy in Botswana” at the Conference on College Composition and Communication.

ANTHONY SMITH, Religion, published his monograph, A Non-Philosophical Theory of Nature: Ecologies of Thought.

MICHAEL SMITH, Communication, and a co-author published “Fracking democracy: Issue management and locus of policy decision-making in the Marcellus Shale gas drilling debate” in the Public Relations Review.

MARGOT SOVEN, English, and collaborator MarySheila McDonald presented “Liberal Learning and Professional Education” at the annual meeting of the Association of American Colleges and Universities.

H. LYMAN STEBBS, History, presented, “Knowing the Qajars: British Intelligence Operations in Iran, 1840–1914” at the Western Conference on British Studies.

JUDITH STULL, Sociology and Criminal Justice, published “Family socio-economic status, parent expectations, and a child’s achievement” in Research in Education.


CAITLIN TAYLOR, Sociology and Criminal Justice, published “The Supervision to Aid Reentry (STAR) program: An outcome evaluation” in the Criminal Justice Policy Review.

FREDERICK VAN FLETEREN, Philosophy, held a visiting professor position for the past two summers at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland.

ROBERT VOGEL, Education, is the Principal Investigator and Director of the grant-funded Writers Matter Program, which involves multiple Philadelphia public, Catholic, and charter school students and has been expanded to Israel and Palestine.


BRIAN WYANT, Sociology and Criminal Justice, and a co-author published “Who cares who protects us?: The relationship between type of police coverage and citizen satisfaction with the police” in Police Practice and Research: An International Journal.

ELAINE ZELLEY, Communication, and KATIE DUNLEAVY, Communication, presented “The Face of Adult Female Friendship: Examining the Relationships between Interpersonal Competition and Facework” at the Annual Meeting of the National Communication Association.

NATALIYA ZELIKOVSKY, Psychology, presented “Optimizing Adherence in Pediatric Chronic Kidney Disease” at the Congress of the International Pediatric Nephrology Association, held in Shanghai.

NEIGHBORHOOD CHANGES

Immigration and gentrification have been transforming Philadelphia neighborhoods over the last few decades, and Charles Gallagher’s latest research will take a closer look at this metamorphosis.

With funding from a Pew Charitable Trust Grant, the Sociology and Criminal Justice Chair will gather information from long-term white and black residents about how they feel their neighborhoods have changed. He will interview a total of 80 residents in four Philadelphia neighborhoods—Olney, Mayfair, Kensington, and Passyunk Square.

“I believe my research on new immigrant communities, how these groups are treated by the dominant group, and the obstacles these newcomers must overcome in assimilating to the host society are consistent with La Salle’s historic mission to help immigrants new to the Philadelphia metropolitan area,” Gallagher said.

Calls to Serve: The History of Nuns in America

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In an area that was previously one of the largest food deserts in Philadelphia, Marjorie Allen saw an opportunity to bring together academic disciplines with a unified purpose. The mission: to have a positive impact on the neighborhood’s health and nutritional well-being by pooling La Salle’s collective resources and expertise through a partnership with local businesses, community organizations, and religious institutions.

As Chair of the Integrative Studies Department, Allen provided the architecture for the Exploring Nutrition Initiative, and Tom Wingert, ‘12, began mobilizing the labor and gathering resources. “The whole first year in many ways was devoted to building connections with area churches and organizations,” Allen said. Last year’s annual Easter Food Drive provided the perfect opportunity and proved to be their first big success.

It fit easily into the framework of service-learning, nutrition education, community organization, and academic research. Students in the Leadership and Global Understanding program played a direct role in community outreach, fundraising, and service delivery, and an online journalism class covered the food drive. One of the social work classes helped to publicize the food drive, and students from the Academic Discovery and Summit programs sorted the produce for delivery.

Their collective hours of planning, organizing, and hard labor paid off. They distributed the 3,600 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables that they collected among 15 community partners, feeding more than 2,000 people. They also raised more than $5,000 through contributions and various fundraisers, with generous help from The Fresh Grocer and Beneficial Bank.

Now in its second year, Exploring Nutrition hopes to meet the same goals for this year’s Easter Food Drive and continues to strengthen community bonds and integrate La Salle into the hunger-alleviation network of the Germantown, Olney, and Logan neighborhoods of Philadelphia. “My hope is ultimately that we’ve created a model to engage all sectors of civic society in addressing one particular problem—in this case, hunger,” Wingert said.