New programs keep pace with a high-tech world
Message from the President

By now, you’ve noticed a few changes have been made to our La Salle Magazine. They’re indicative of an evolution going on in all areas of the University—in administration, academics, and in our commitment to alumni and friends. Some of this is detailed in the following pages of this issue, but please allow me to put this evolution in context first.

In the past year, the University has begun to introduce a series of new programs and majors that will prepare our students for leadership in the contemporary, high-tech economy. New programs such as Integrated Science, Business and Technology (ISBT), Digital Arts and Multimedia Design (DArt), the E-Commerce Institute, and our new Information Technology major are all in keeping with the Christian Brothers’ tradition of educating students in the disciplines they need for success in the workplace while also providing them with a liberal arts foundation. The response of current and prospective La Salle students to these programs has been gratifying. And, in the case of our unique E-Commerce Institute—open to students from all majors—La Salle has received excellent coverage in The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times, as well as in the local media.

The sense of positive momentum at La Salle is reinforced by the strong recruiting activity we are seeing on campus, as a broad range of employers seeks to attract our talented, well-grounded students. And there are many other trends that point to a bright future for La Salle, including a record number of applications for this year’s freshman class, as well as more graduate students, more women, and more resident students enrolled than ever before.

In the midst of all these favorable trends and exciting innovations, La Salle’s continuing development as a premier educational institution remains firmly rooted in the 300-year-old tradition of the Christian Brothers. La Salle’s education continues to be values-based. We remain committed to excellent teaching that prepares students for the changing economic, social, moral, and religious challenges of our society. As part of a Lasallian education, we also continue to foster student involvement in community service.

Just as La Salle is launching innovative programs while remaining firmly rooted in its traditional mission, so too, this magazine is undergoing changes without losing sight of the audience it is meant to serve. There is a new, more contemporary look and style to the magazine. More important, there is also a wider range of stories to keep you informed about what is happening on campus, what our students are achieving, and how alums of all ages are helping to build their communities and careers. Occasionally, I will also take advantage of these pages to share my perspective with you on matters of special importance to La Salle.

All in all, I hope these innovations in La Salle Magazine not only help to keep you informed about our alma mater but also serve to strengthen your relationship with the University. To sustain the University’s positive momentum, and to achieve ever higher levels of excellence in all areas of our values-based education, La Salle needs your active involvement. As I visited with alums around the country in my first year as President, I made one message very clear: “Come back to La Salle.” You can’t catch the excitement at a distance. So return for a visit. Meet with the students. Enjoy a class reunion event or reconnect with faculty.

Your involvement adds immeasurable value to the La Salle community as it progresses into the new century. I hope to see you on campus soon.

Warmest regards,

Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., ’70
President
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La Salle introduces several innovative science and technology programs designed to prepare students for a rapidly evolving future

La Salle University, a respected liberal arts institution for almost 140 years, has gone high-tech.

In very short order, the school’s roster of business, liberal arts, and nursing programs has evolved to include some of the most forward-thinking science and technology programs in the country.

But the old traditions weren’t left in the dust in favor of the new computer age. In fact, creators of the University’s most recent additions have taken pains to integrate the latest technical advances into the other established degrees. The end result: a graduate who is well-grounded in the basics, but who also is prepared to constantly anticipate the rapidly changing future.

If an English major wants to learn how to write and design material for a Website, she can sign up for the new Digital Arts and Multimedia Design (DArt) program. A student considering a career in science or technology, but who also wants to know more about how his company is run, can enroll in the Integrated Science, Business and Technology (ISBT) program. And all students, regardless of major, can take advantage of the first-of-its-kind Electronic Commerce Institute, a program that anticipates a near future when almost every professional will rely on the World Wide Web to promote his or her business.

Those most familiar with the Lasallian teaching traditions of the Christian Brothers say these seemingly radical additions are completely in step with their ideologies.

“I’ve attended meetings with presidents and chief academic officers from other Christian Brothers universities around the world,” said Dr. Richard Nigro, La Salle University Provost. “I found a fascinating and powerful combination of broad liberal arts education and pre-professional programs at these schools. A broad education with a practical side to it is a hallmark of Christian Brothers institutions.”

“Academic institutions have a challenge in a sense—nothing can stay the same, we have to evolve,” he added. “But at the same time, we want to preserve the past and transmit some of that. Evolution shouldn’t mean radical breaks with the past.”

Nigro came to La Salle 2 1/2 years ago, when then-President Brother Joseph Burke and the Board of Trustees had already decided it was time to take a hard look at how well the University was responding to the emerging needs of its students, and the world.

“La Salle was poised for change. It was just a matter of considering our strengths and finding our niche,” Nigro said.

In 1998, the University set up a planning group headed by School of
Over the past two years, these new programs have been approved and added to La Salle’s offerings:

- E-Commerce Institute, M.B.A. Specialization, and certificate program
- Integrated Science, Business and Technology bachelor’s degree
- Digital Arts and Multimedia Design bachelor's degree and certificate program
- Information Technology bachelor's degree
- Nutrition bachelor's degree
- Speech-Language-Hearing Science five-year bachelor/master’s degree
- Licensed Practical Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Organizational Dynamics bachelor's degree completion program
- Executive Master of Business Administration
- Global Management of Technology master's degree

Arts and Sciences Dean Barbara Millard. The committee eventually focused on the broad issues of science and technology—two areas in which La Salle historically has excelled. And, Nigro points out, these are also expected to be high-demand fields for some time to come.

Nigro said it didn’t make sense to let other universities corner the market on developing science and technology programs when La Salle already had the infrastructure in place to create a few of its own.

“Some of these areas of study are just starting to be defined, so why don’t we define them?” he said.

“We have a lot of talented and energetic people here ready to develop these programs. And the academic leadership, Deans Greg Bruce (School of Business), Millard, and Zane Wolf (School of Nursing), are as creative a group as one is likely to find anywhere.”

First on the agenda was a Digital Arts and Multimedia Design program, which “builds a curriculum at the intersections of science, technology, fine arts, and communications,” Nigro explained. This began as an undergraduate major—an unusual degree program that allows a typical liberal arts student to apply her knowledge to the world of computer design. It has since grown to include a post-baccalaureate degree program, and beginning this fall, an evening and weekend degree program.

La Salle faculty and staff have met with representatives from many different organizations and businesses to hear their needs, specifically what kind of graduate they would find most indispensable.

“We moved quickly to start the E-Commerce Institute, the first program of its kind, so that every student would have the opportunity to explore his or her future potential on the World Wide Web,” Nigro said.

La Salle’s E-Commerce Institute already has attracted national attention. The Institute is open to any La Salle student, regardless of major, who desires a working knowledge of the “dot com” environment. Institute Fellows attend lectures by e-commerce professionals, and classes with e-commerce components.

Building on that, La Salle now also offers a six-month certificate program in electronic commerce on weeknights and weekends. Individuals can specialize in two fields: information technology (which includes Website design and programming) and marketing and management (which will focus on operating an e-commerce endeavor).

The soon-to-be-launched Integrated Science, Business and Technology program was developed with the gracious help of James Madison University in Virginia. Nigro says the program evolved after a contingent of La Salle faculty and staff paid a reconnaissance visit there.

James Madison University had already begun an Integrated Science and Technology (ISAT) program in answer to a plea from the Virginia legislature. In the late ‘80s, a number of high-tech companies in Virginia were alarmed to find many of their mid-level jobs were not being filled. The commonwealth decided undergraduate studies should be where those needs would be met, and issued a challenge to colleges to come up with programs.

Nigro said the very same shortages were being felt in the greater Philadelphia area. “‘By the mid-1990s, we were hearing about the need for ‘knowledge workers’—workforce development.’”

After a second visit, and a close study of how the program worked, La Salle’s team came back with a recommendation to implement a similar program, but with one big alteration—the addition of a business component.
Most professionals shouldn’t just rest on their particular area of expertise, Nigro explained. Every worker should have some knowledge of information systems, organizational behavior and organizational decision-making, among other things.

“It’s not just about being the best scientist or technical person, but knowing how to apply those abilities in different contexts,” Nigro said.

The importance of a comprehensive outlook toward one’s career will continue to be a theme of many of La Salle’s soon-to-be-added programs. “The genie is out of the bottle. We don’t want to stop it now,” he said.

Beginning this fall, students who want a global perspective on the world of business can apply for a Master’s Degree in Global Management of Technology. Those involved in the program will study here and in Germany. An Executive M.B.A. designed for physicians, engineers, and scientists will also be introduced in Fall 2000. And the School of Nursing will offer a five-year Bachelor’s/Master’s Degree in Speech-Language-Hearing Science, anticipating the medical concerns of the aging baby boomer generation.

But, Nigro is quick to point out, science and technology aren’t the only areas undergoing changes. Faculty and administrators are discussing a Master’s Degree in English, and other additions to liberal arts. “We’re not becoming a one-trick pony here,” he said. “The situation with science is complex and involved, but it’s not the only area for expansion. We’re going to keep moving in all directions to keep improving and adding to what we already have.”

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**What If Picasso Had Used a Computer?**

By Maureen Piché

Digital Arts and Multimedia Design Program Turns Computers into Artistic and Promotional Tools

The computer is our friend.

This is a statement guaranteed to stir up controversy at workplace water coolers across the country. Most professionals have a computer sitting somewhere in their offices, but not all are yet aware how this mysterious piece of equipment can improve their job performance, promote their business, and just generally make their lives easier.

La Salle University’s new Digital Arts and Multimedia Design (DArt) major and certificate program seek to demystify computers, and illustrate their usefulness to students of every liberal arts persuasion.

Those of us bombarded with the “dot com" commercials on TV are well aware computers have become important informational resources and consumer venues. Businesses that want to grab potential customers have to make sure they’re noticed in the electronic world of the Web. They need Web page experts who can help them do that.

“The Web is the growing communication tool. Everybody will soon be communicating through it,” said Peggy McCoey, DArt Program Director. “In order to function in the 21st century, you’re going to need to be Web-savvy."

“There are very few people out there who really have the expertise right now—it’s such a new and developing technology. To stay a step ahead, this program will give you some of the groundwork."

The undergraduate major allows day, evening, and weekend students to take a variety of courses in fine arts, psychology/human computer interaction, communication, computer science, English and Web commerce. They’re designed to broaden students’ core digital design requirements, and let students create their own focus. They can also participate in cooperative education assignments and internships that give them on-the-job experience. Graduates will have the skills to become Website Administrators, Interactive Web Magazine Publishers, and Graphical User Interface Developers.

“There’s no other program in the Philadelphia area that allows a student to take creative, artistic abilities and blend them so well with other disciplines,” McCoey said. “The computer isn’t the focal point—it becomes the tool."

“This is an arts program in the plural sense. Not just fine arts, not just English, not just music—it’s a merger of all three. Plus, it’s communication techniques, marketing overviews and human interactions."

The five-course Digital Arts and Multimedia Design certificate program assists people who either want to expand their computer skills, or go into a new facet of Internet development. It was created for adult students who are looking for a series of classes in computer design, but who don’t want to go through a full degree program.

The certificate program emphasizes hands-on learning. In only ten months (six-week semesters), students are armed with a whole slate of Web techniques and digital design skills. Students will be able to develop multimedia documents; build attractive Websites, and send and retrieve Internet information. McCoey said professionals don’t need to have any particular degree to take part in the certificate program, although basic computer skills are helpful.

“We’re the only school that offers this set of studies,” McCoey said. “Other programs concentrate on either the art or the technological aspects. We cover both.”
E-Commerce Institute: A Real Program about Virtual Business

Accounting Professor Paul Brazina has never been busier or more active than since he proposed last summer to start an Electronic Commerce Institute for students at La Salle.

While e-commerce programs are popping up all over the country, virtually all of them have been for business majors. La Salle’s Institute is designed for all students, regardless of major or even career goals. It began last September, and more than 350 students are working to become “Fellows” of the Institute.

There’s more. The University is offering a certificate program for working professionals to learn about e-commerce, and this August the School of Business Administration will begin offering an M.B.A. with a concentration in e-commerce.

Interest in the Institute and certificate program was so great that Brazina needed to hire an assistant director to handle the volume of phone calls, e-mails, and other details.

“This isn’t a fad,” said Brazina. “It’s here to stay. We just happen to be one of the first schools in the country to take the initiative in teaching it not just for business students, but for all students.”

People are noticing. The Institute has been written about in publications such as The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, the Christian Science Monitor, and the Philadelphia Inquirer.

This attention indirectly led to the creation of the certificate program. Brazina was flooded with calls from people who wanted to learn about e-commerce by attending the Institute. He had to inform them that the program was only for degree-seeking students.

But the volume of calls, along with business and government leaders telling Brazina and La Salle officials that the region’s workforce needed to catch up with electronic commerce, led to the certificate program, one of the first of its kind in the nation. (Students will take eight courses on weeknights to learn the basics of the field.) The University also is looking to offer the certificate program to local corporations to train their managers in e-commerce.

Currently, electronic commerce accounts for about 3 percent of the nation’s gross national product—and it’s growing. “Any company not thinking about the Internet as a distribution and customer service channel is in the dark ages,” said Steve Andriole, Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of Safeguard Sciences, Inc., a holding and operating company of Internet-centric companies.

“It’s important that employees in every field have an appreciation for e-commerce architectures, platforms, and business models,” added Andriole, who has consulted to the Institute.

“E-commerce is not a stand-alone specialty, it’s a new way of doing business, and it has to be integrated within an organization,” Brazina said. “My idea was to make e-commerce education available to all students, regardless of discipline, and integrate it into the curriculum.

“The term ‘e-commerce’ would seem to indicate business. It’s really more than business; it’s the use of information, and that use of information does have a financial aspect to it. Yet it’s really more a new way to disseminate information on a global basis. That’s why it’s important for a person who’s an English major who might want to publish online. Or a nursing student can learn about healthcare delivery online—the management of cases and sharing of remedies. For students in the arts and sciences, e-commerce is a way for them to share their expertise online.

“We have graduate students in religion and psychology who are Fellows of the Institute. When they work in mental health centers or in ministries, they will understand how they can use e-commerce to benefit their patients and parishioners,” Brazina said.

To become a Fellow, students must complete either approved courses that deal with e-commerce, or lectures by industry experts in e-commerce. Students will submit a research paper and complete 40 hours of professional activity related to e-commerce, which can include a co-op job or internship and/or consulting to a business.

“When Paul came to me with this idea, I thought it was right on the money,” says Business School Dean Greg Bruce. “We’d been talking about this for a year (e-commerce education) and we didn’t want to offer a degree program. We felt it should be more application-oriented and tied into the curriculum.”
A Potent and Practical Combination

Integrated Science, Business and Technology Program
Answers Needs of Today's Job Market

Mary Ubbens and Megan Ann Jensen are a couple of mavericks in La Salle's academic history. When the two enrolled at La Salle in the fall of 1999, they were planning to earn degrees in Integrated Science, Business and Technology—a program that didn't even officially exist yet.

An innovative approach to combining business knowledge with a technological background, ISBT had no courses, no teachers, and no listing in any course catalogue. But Ubbens and Jensen realized the commitment the University had to the program, and came to La Salle planning to get an ISBT degree once the program became official. (The two spent their freshman year taking core curriculum and pre-ISBT courses.)

"I just thought it would be neat to help start it," said Jensen, who is from Hope, Maine. "It would be fun to do."

Jensen had an interest in environmental science when she came to an open house at La Salle. There, she met Dr. Nancy Jones, Director of the ISBT program. Jensen learned about ISBT and how she could study environmental science and combine it with a business component.

Ubbens had an interest in studying biology, but like her parents, was intrigued by how science and business are combined with ISBT. "I thought the applications to business and technology were really interesting, plus it would help me get a better job when I graduated," said Ubbens, who is from Arlington, Va.

"I think it certainly gives her a better chance of employment when she graduates," said her father, Bill Ubbens. "It seems to have a lot of potential for making her skills marketable." He said his daughter wasn’t quite sure what area of biology she wanted to pursue, but with ISBT, she’ll have an opportunity to get practical experience with business and technology—experience that will help her select a particular field.

This past January, ISBT became "official" when various University committees and governing boards approved its curriculum. But the program was moving along well before that.

Last summer the Admissions Office hired Jim Plunkett, '94 to recruit ISBT students. That Plunkett would recruit for only one program was unheard of in college admission circles; that he would be promoting a program that didn’t officially exist was daunting.

Jones, who is an associate professor of chemistry, traded in her class and lab assignments to handle such ISBT chores as recruiting an advisory board, getting a logo created, ordering supplies for college fairs, and in general learning a new approach.

ISBT differs from traditional science programs in three ways. The curriculum adds a focus on social and business issues relevant to the applications of science and technology. ISBT students will gain extensive experience in team-building and in using computer technology as a problem-solving tool. And students will learn science and math concepts not through specific courses, but as components of ISBT classes. For example, students might not take calculus courses, but will learn principles of calculus in ISBT courses.

"This program will build on La Salle’s strengths by making the connections among the ethical and moral dimensions, as well as the scientific and business aspects of these real-world problems," said Jones. An important attribute of ISBT graduates will be their ability to acquire quickly the necessary information and knowledge relevant to a specific problem context, she added.

For more than two years, Jones, Provost Dr. Richard Nigro and other La Salle faculty and administrators have been developing the ISBT program, modeled after a program at James Madison University but containing a higher concentration of business courses in its curriculum. La Salle invited more than 20 area business leaders to join an ISBT Advisory Board and consult on curriculum matters.

Peter J. Julian, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer at Crown Cork & Seal Company, and a member of the advisory board, said he was impressed with the program because "it not only deals with the specific Information Technology focus but also with surrounding business issues such as finance, manufacturing, supply chain, etc. The program is current, effective, and encompasses a sound technical as well as functional business series of topics."
The second week of May, where the gleaming ribbon of the Schuylkill River winds through green Fairmount Park, one of the unusual sporting pageants of our times will take place. More than 100 colleges from all over the country will participate in the 62nd Dad Vail Regatta, the championship of small college rowing. If things go according to recent form, local schools will distinguish themselves. Temple will do well in the men's varsity eights and Villanova's women may well dominate their events. St. Joe's will make a respectable showing in several events.

But that's just on the water. Off the river, behind the scenes, doing all the work that goes into making such a huge gathering a success, there is only one school that counts.

As it has for decades now, La Salle will own the Dad Vail. Five of the last six presidents of the Dad Vail have been La Salle grads. Although the current president, Jim Hanna, is a Georgetown grad, La Salle people will dominate this year's committee. Of the first 20 officials listed in the program, 15 will be from La Salle. Throw in all the warm bodies involved in 18 committees working on everything from referees and timers to the regatta's internet Website, and another 30 La Salle people (or spouses and children) will be helping to make the huge regatta run smoothly. Officially, the race is now called the Sunoco Dad Vail Regatta. Unofficially, it could be called the La Salle Dad Vail.

How this came to be is rooted in the decade following World War II when La Salle first got into rowing. It was a remarkable era in sports for what had been a small college, for almost 100 years little known outside Philadelphia. But in a few years, beginning in the late '40s, La Salle made itself a national name.

This occurred, first in basketball with NIT and NCAA championships, but also in track and field and swimming, where its programs were powerful, and athletes such as Joe Verdef, Al Cantello, and Ira Davis achieved Olympic distinction.

As successful as these teams were, they were in some respects less impressive than what the crew achieved. At least the basketball, track, and swimming coaches got paid. When La Salle began rowing, its first coach, Jack Bratten, was a volunteer. But he took a small group of oarsmen, some of whom had rowed in high school at La Salle High and West Catholic, and turned them into La Salle's first Dad Vail champion in 1951. The next coach, the legendary Tom "Bear" Curran, whose crews won five Dad Vails, did get paid but his remuneration was a token. Curran survived as a beer salesman, but he was also a hard-driving, hugely popular man who coached rowing because he loved it. They called him the Bear because no other animal came close.

The crew did not have its pick of superb athletes. With some notable exceptions, the people who take to rowing are not depriving a school's football or basketball teams of their stars, although football players sometimes use the sport to keep in shape off season. But what they all have, or develop, are endurance and determination. Sandy Grady once described the shells as "graceful spiders slithering across the water." But it doesn't feel that way to the graceful spiders.
Recently, they gathered together (in the same order, standing, from left):
Vince Szymbowski, '57; Bob Morro, '58; the empty place represents the late Romeo Burzichelli (Boyd), '58; Dottie Maketa representing her late husband, Dr. Gene Maketa, '57; John Dever, '57; Jack Galloway, '57; Frank McCloskey, '57; and Jim Wagner, '60.
Kneeling: Marilyn Loschiavo, representing her late husband, Tom Loschiavo, '57.

There are no better-conditioned athletes in any sport, and often the difference between victory and defeat, in those last 20 or 30 strokes—when your arms feel like lead, your legs are mashed potatoes, your fingers can barely grip the oar, and you are sucking air as if every breath may be your last—is simply the will to win. In the '50s, only a handful of La Salle students came out for crew; in most years, freshmen did not even have eight oarsmen. Half of those who tried out had never rowed before, and the bow man had the disturbing habit of falling out of the boat now and then.

There were far fewer crews in the Dad Vail in those days, but the competition was just as strong, if not stronger than today. Brown, Dartmouth, and Rutgers all had Dad Vail winners, and much larger rowing programs. All of them soon moved up in the '50s to major college rowing, racing against the strong Ivy League crews. The Ivies have always had large, well-financed programs.

A La Salle student of statistics noted in the '50s that Penn's rowing budget exceeded La Salle's entire athletic budget. Penn put a dozen boats on the water every day, their gleaming red and blue oars a contrast to the usually scuffed up oars La Salle used.

But what La Salle did have in abundance was something few schools could match—confidence and spirit. There is something about those cold, wet afternoons in the thin twilight of early spring that bonds oarsmen. It is, after all, called crew, and it is the epitome of teamwork. In La Salle's case, it also seems to generate an uncommon loyalty to the school and the sport of rowing.

"It's interesting that the university board of directors has two oarsmen, Frank Stanton, '51 and myself," says Ken Shaw, '64, who stroked crews in the early '60s and is still an active oarsman today. Stanton stroked one of La Salle's first Dad Vail Winners in 1951. "I don't think any other sport has two people on the board."

In those days, La Salle had its own boathouse. The high school and college crews shared what had been originally (and is again today) known as Crescent Club. La Salle Rowing Association survived through the '50s, but barely. It was a constant struggle to raise money to maintain the 19th-century building, much less provide expensive equipment for the crews, which rowed during the summer after school ended. The club crews often borrowed boats from the college and high school. Many gray-haired men and women remember fondly the boat house parties, which raised enough money to keep the lights and water on for another month.

The river rat closeness produced a rowdy camaraderie. The university had a victory song whose lyrics cannot be reprinted. It was often heard echoing from the upstairs locker room after an Explorer victory. The high school and college oarsmen became friendly, and rowed with and against each other in the summer club programs. Boys from La Salle High and West Catholic first met as competitors, then often rowed together in college. Being around great oarsmen, such as the late John B. Kelly, Jr., of Vesper Boat Club, who participated in four Olympics, helped young oarsmen move up from mediocrity to championship caliber. There was even something glamorous about the grueling workouts. Jack Kelly, John's father, was an Olympic champion and a sports legend of the '20s, and one of Philadelphia's most powerful men. He was often seen around the boathouses, sometimes with his great-looking
daughters who went on to become Princess Grace of Monaco.

Jack Kelly’s Olympic doubles partner, Charley McIlvaine, coached La Salle High and his three sons rowed there. These boys, and their friends, were heirs to a winning tradition. Three of the University’s Dad Vail champions of the ’50s were stroke by men who had rowed at La Salle High. Another came from West Catholic.

La Salle won six Dad Vail Regattas in the ’50s, and because so many of the oarsmen in those boats were from Philadelphia, the Schuylkill remained for them a place of pride and nostalgia. Many continued to row for years on the club level, and they always enjoyed coming back to the scene of their college and high school triumphs. They became officials of the dozen rowing clubs along boathouse row, as well as the Schuylkill Navy, the governing body of local rowing. Some began working as officials in various Schuylkill Navy activities shortly after graduation. Gradually, they were joined by others. Wives got involved. Eventually children.

The Dad Vail grew from just a few races for men, to include dozens of events for men and women, and two weight divisions. Every year, more colleges showed up, as rowing became more popular. In the early ’50s only Penn and La Salle among Philadelphia colleges had crews. Today there are eight local colleges competing, most of them with men’s and women’s programs.

The major trophies awarded to winning crews each year reflect La Salle’s contribution. Former La Salle Coach Jack Bratten’s name is on the overall point trophy. Jack and Nancy Seitz (now deceased, he was a La Salle coxswain in the ’50s, and later, Dad Vail President) is the trophy for the women’s point winner. Richard O’Brien, ’52 and the late Tom Loschiavo, ’57 have trophies named for them.

As the regatta grew, so did the numbers of people needed to run it. Year by year, it became more and more a La Salle-run event. Just registering the close to 3,500 athletes oarsmen who show up from all over the country is a big job. La Salle people become water traffic cops, controlling the hundreds of racing shells that crowd the river, headed to and from the race course. Sometimes it falls to an Explorer to make a tough choice, as was the decision of Jack Galloway, ’57 two years ago to postpone the regatta because heavy rainfall that weekend made the Schuylkill too dangerous. It was a hard call because many of the crews who had come a great distance could not stay around to compete when the racing began on Monday. John Dever, ’57, who rowed in two Dad Vail championship boats in the ’50s, and who has been involved in boathouse row activities ever since, sums it up: “Some people probably think it’s a clique, but it really isn’t. Anybody can get in. But you have to be willing to work. It’s a lot of work. And it seems that La Salle guys just like to do it, and when they need help they ask other La Salle guys. It’s been going on for years, but anybody who wants to work can get in.”

For perspective, Temple has dominated the varsity eight race for the last two decades, winning 15 Dad Vails. And yet almost none of the many people associated with all those crews has worked on the regatta. The few who have are related to La Salle grads.

Bob Morro, ’58, a La Salle Dad Vail winner from the ’50s and secretary of the Dad Vail today, says some of the longtime trojans didn’t realize what they were getting into when they signed on years ago.

“I just always enjoyed doing it,” says Morro. “In the beginning years it was a lot of fun. We used to have lunches and see the coaches, and have fun. Interestingly enough, the officials seemed to come from the Dad Vail championship crews. I think it was the camaraderie, seeing the same coaches and officials year after year. But today, we don’t even have time to do that. Now, it’s just a lot of work.”

And as usual, this year those trojans will be Explorers. L
While driving his car with several friends and listening to the radio, Gregg Truitt, '92 heard that Philadelphia would be hosting the Republican National Convention in 2000—and a lightbulb went off in his head.

Along with two other La Salle alumni, Truitt founded POA Interactive, and quickly—even quicker than the Republican National Party—constructed a Website, www.gopphilly.com, which showcases the region’s businesses, services, and attributes at a time when Philadelphia will be in the world’s spotlight.

“The idea behind gopphilly.com is to build an online community of businesses in Philadelphia and arm them with cutting-edge applications that capture convention and meeting revenue,” says Truitt.

“We’ve built a foundation of nearly 300 businesses and presented it to a worldwide audience of meeting planners, delegates, and journalists looking for information.” Those businesses are contracted and pay monthly membership fees for the marketing and design of their Web pages on gopphilly.com.

“It’s a cost-effective way for small businesses to get their feet wet on the Internet, with no downside, because of the phenomenal exposure surrounding the GOP Convention,” he added.

But the Website is just a springboard for the firm’s signature product, E-Z Event, essentially an online marketplace where meeting planners and professionals pick dates for their events, then initiate proposals with a given city’s restaurants and meeting spaces; they, in turn, respond with detailed offers.

Restaurants pay a fee to be a part of the service and pay commissions on bookings. Last year, American businesses spent approximately $175 billion on travel and entertainment. About one-fifth of that was spent on dining. “That part, about $35 billion, is what E-Z Event is positioned to take advantage of,” says Truitt.

POA’s 14 employees are a delicate balance of “super-techs, digital artists, and marketing animals,” says Truitt. The majority are La Salle alumni: Vice President/Operations Tim Stephens, ’86, studied accounting; Kevin Baird, ’92, Vice President/Sales and Marketing, studied philosophy.

Truitt studied English. Pat Doyle, ’93, a political science major, is a Marketing Specialist. Truitt’s cousin, Bob Truitt, Jr., ’98, was a marketing major and is a Marketing Specialist. Mark Shugsta was an intern with the firm last summer and will be starting full-time when he graduates from La Salle this May with a degree in communications. Additionally, Joe Truitt, ’86, and Drew Lombard, ’88, serve on the firm’s Board of Directors.

“The La Salle factor gives us a distinct advantage because we are all able to communicate very effectively. I tell people that La Salle’s challenging curriculum reined each of us for the rigors of Internet start-up,” says Gregg Truitt. “It was a culmination of our experiences coming together.”

A reporter for The Philadelphia Business Journal (which recently named Truitt one of the region’s top 40 business people under 40) asked him if he had been a computer science major. “No, English,” he replied.

“How does an English major succeed doing business on the Web?” asked the reporter.

Truitt said, “In the words of Winston Churchill, ‘Play for more than you can afford to lose and you will learn the game.’”

As a way of saying thanks to their alma mater, POA has put La Salle’s emblem linked to a Web page right at the top of the home page of www.gopphilly.com. L

The La Salle Connection: POA Interactive, founded by alumni, has produced a Website to guide visitors to Philadelphia during the Republican Convention this summer. The entrepreneurs are (from left) Bob Truitt, Jr., ’98, Marketing Specialist; Pat Doyle, ’93, Marketing Specialist; Gregg Truitt, ’92, President; Tim Stephens, ’86, Vice President/Operations; and Kevin Baird, ’92, Vice President/Sales and Marketing.
For the second year in a row, the La Salle University Charter Dinner/Leadership Award Ceremony at the Union League of Philadelphia was a sold-out event, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for student scholarships and financial aid.

At this year’s eighth annual dinner in March, longtime La Salle supporter and entrepreneur Charles J. Reilly, ’62, was honored with the La Salle University Leadership Award. The 360 friends of La Salle in attendance, as well as other supporters not present, contributed $250,000 in unrestricted funds ($40,000 more than last year’s total). The fundraiser has grown steadily in importance since it first began in 1992. That year, a total of $35,000 was raised.

Each year, a committee of La Salle alumni and friends awards the La Salle University Leadership Award to an individual who has displayed outstanding leadership in the corporate, civic, governmental, or religious communities that shape the quality of life in this region. Reilly, co-founder of the Charter Dinner, was a natural choice as this year’s recipient.

Reilly is the founder of Reilly Foam Corporation; a founding partner of Safeguard Biologicals and Reilly Mita Industrial Real Estate; and a general partner in several Reilly Real Estate partnerships. He was given honorary membership in the worldwide De La Salle Christian Brothers’ Order in 1997 for his faith, zeal, and generosity. The consummate fundraiser, Reilly has raised tens of thousands of dollars in scholarship money for La Salle University and other area educational institutions. He is a University Trustee with emeritus status (1992-97), and a recipient of La Salle’s John J. Finley Memorial Award in 1997 for outstanding service to the University. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Conshohocken.

The Charter Dinner celebrates the founding of La Salle College on March 20, 1863, and pays tribute to the generations of Christian Brothers, laypersons, and clergy whose dedication has made La Salle University the prominent institution that it is today.

Proceeds from the Charter Dinner/Leadership Award Ceremony will be used to enhance the University’s Scholarship Fund, and for other financial aid, benefiting future generations of La Salle students.

Charles J. Reilly, ’62 (fourth from left, with his wife, Kathleen) was recently honored for his dedication to La Salle at the University’s annual Charter Dinner. Pictured with the Reillys are (from left) Thomas J. Lynch, ’62; Brother Michael J. McGinniss, ’70; Thomas N. Pappas, ’70; and William R. Sautter, ’71.
Grant Support Exceeds Expectations

In recent months, La Salle University’s Schools of Nursing, Business Administration, and Arts and Sciences have received substantial grants from a variety of funding sources.

During the fall, the School of Nursing received a $50,000 grant from the Helene Fuld Health Trust, HSBC Trustee, for scholarships to students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The grant is part of a program that also seeks to encourage nurses to work in medically underserved areas upon graduation. Five LPNs currently studying for a Bachelor’s degree at La Salle will each receive a $10,000 scholarship. The project director for the scholarship program is Joanne Farley Serembus, Director of Undergraduate Nursing Education at the University.

In December, the Lincoln National Foundation awarded a grant of $100,000 to the School of Business to establish a new computing center in College Hall. The center will augment new University programs in science, business and technology, and in electronic commerce. The grant was one of five that the foundation, the philanthropic arm of Lincoln National Corporation, made to city charitable and educational groups. La Salle was the only institution of higher education to receive such a grant. The project director for this initiative is Gregory O. Bruce, Dean of the School of Business.

In February of this year, the La Salle Neighborhood Nursing Center received a three-year grant of $150,000 from the Patricia Kind Family Foundation to continue the support of a program linking medically uninsured children with health care and related insurance. The CHIPLINK Program works through the combined efforts of the Pennsylvania Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the Medical Assistance Program. La Salle’s CHIPLINK program is the first of its kind in Philadelphia and was developed in response to the growing number of uninsured children presented to La Salle’s Neighborhood Nursing Center for primary health care and other programs. The CHIPLINK project directors are Katherine K. Kinsey, Ph.D., Director of the La Salle Neighborhood Nursing Center, and Ann Linguiti Pron, Coordinator of Primary Care Services.

In March 2000, the Pennsylvania Department of Education awarded a $84,882 Link to Learn grant to the University’s new Information Technology Program. Funds will be used to develop six courses that will be offered as part of the Information Technology major and to acquire state-of-the-art equipment for a new Information Technology laboratory in Olney Hall, the University’s main classroom building. The new program will provide students with appropriate preparation to enter the information technology workforce once they graduate and will enhance the quantity and quality of information technology professionals entering the workforce in Pennsylvania. La Salle’s was one of 26 projects funded statewide out of 62 applications. The project director is Linda J. Elliott, Chair of the University’s Mathematics and Computer Science Department.

“At the Station,” an oil painting by Raymond Kirsch, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science at La Salle, won the Carkhuff-Agin Award at the Lambertville Society and Coryell Gallery’s 20th annual Juried Show on Feb. 6, 2000.
A 63-Year Legacy

Brother John Owens Retires From La Salle’s Registrar’s Office

Student, Brother, teacher, administrator. These are just a few of the hats Brother John Owens, ’41, has worn throughout his 63-year career—more than half of which has been spent at La Salle.

After dedicating his life’s work to the ministry of Christian education, the 82-year-old Brother retired on January 10.

Affectionately known as “Handsome John,” Bro. John has served as Dean of Men, Director of the Christian Brothers’ Community, and most recently, Assistant Registrar, since he joined La Salle’s administration in 1963. Before that, he spent 24 years at West Catholic High School as a teacher, vice principal, and later, principal.

“Bro. John epitomizes the best of Lasallian values,” said a long-time friend and colleague, Brother Edward Sheehy. “He is a humble, magnificent individual who has done much for all the dimensions of the La Salle community, academically and spiritually. He has been a continual source of strength and a tremendous inspiration to the people around him.”

“For more than 30 years, Bro. John has mastered the intricacies of the roster and is now a campus legend,” said Vice President for Enrollment Services Ray Ricci. “He has the great knack of making everyone else look good. When I was once a relatively green registrar, he made me look like a seasoned veteran. He is one of the most generous and kind people I have ever known, always thinking of this community and his Brothers above his needs.”

A native Philadelphian, the Roman Catholic High School graduate was invested in the religious habit in Ammendale, Md., in 1936, and was perpetually professed in Ocean City, N.J., in 1943. He earned his Bachelor of Arts from La Salle in 1941, Master of Education from Villanova in 1945, and received an honorary Doctor of Pedagogy from La Salle in 1960.

On the occasion of his 60th anniversary in religious life three years ago, Bro. John reflected on his commitment to the Christian Brothers’ educational mission. “When I hear that one of the boys or girls from West or La Salle is making it big, I just light up inside,” he said. “That’s the sort of news that makes me feel like my life has had some purpose, some meaning. But I always knew it would be that way. That’s why I became a Christian Brother.”

Although he’ll surely be missed in the Registrar’s office, Bro. John is delighted to stay on campus in the Christian Brothers’ residence. “As long as I’m staying here, I’m happy,” he said.

Brothers Website

The Brothers are now on the Web at www.delasallebrothers.org. For those trying to locate Brothers, their current locations are listed on the site. While there, visitors can also find general information about the Christian Brothers and their works, and a listing of events in the Brothers communities. Mass Cards can also be ordered from the site (through the St. La Salle Auxiliary).
A Year for Anniversaries

The Lasallian community has much more than the millennium to celebrate in 2000. Three major anniversaries related to St. John Baptist de La Salle will be marked with a special dinner in May and Jubilee Celebration in September on La Salle’s campus.

This year is the 350th anniversary of La Salle’s birth, the 100th anniversary of his canonization and the 50th anniversary of his declaration as Patron Saint of Teachers of Youth. Alumni and friends are invited to share in the celebration at a dinner May 19 at La Salle University. The dinner is also a fundraiser in support of retired Christian Brothers. To purchase tickets, call Brother Richard Kestler at West Catholic High School, 215/386-2244.

In addition, the Christian Brothers District of Baltimore will hold Convocation 2000 on Sept. 29 at La Salle University. Christian Brothers from the District, faculty, administrators, and staff will take this opportunity to deepen their commitment to the Lasallian mission by gathering together to celebrate the past and contemplate the future.

The celebration will include numerous workshops presented by Lasallian colleagues; a Eucharistic Liturgy including the reception of the religious habit of the Brothers of the Christian Schools; a report from delegates to the 43rd General Chapter in Rome, a meeting held every seven years to provide direction for the Lasallian mission worldwide; a special video presentation produced for the convocation; and a continental breakfast, boxed lunch, and sit-down dinner.

Martyred Brothers Declared Saints

Pope John Paul II recently declared eight Spanish Christian Brothers and their priest saints for their martyrdom during the Spanish Civil War.

The Brothers and priest were killed because they were religious men engaged in the religious education of youth. They include: Brothers Cirilo Bertran, Marciano Jose, Victoriano Pio, Benjamin Julian, Augusto Andres, Benito de Jesus, Aniceto Aldolfo and Jaime Hilario of Tarragona, and Father Inocencio de la Immaculada.

In 1934, the Brothers were accused and executed because of the religious influence they had on their students. The Brothers, residents of Turon in northwestern Spain, were reported to have ignored the government’s ban on teaching religion and openly escorted their students to Mass, declaring not only their faith, but also their commitment to their students.
Enrollment Milestones

A quick scan of the statistics will tell you La Salle has been having a few milestone semesters in terms of applications and enrollment—and the momentum does not appear to be slowing down.

Several records were broken in the Fall 1999 Semester, most notably, the highest day program enrollment in almost a decade, and the largest graduate programs enrollment ever. The Spring 2000 semester promises to be even better.

“We’re very pleased to see more and more prospective students are discovering La Salle’s reputation for quality education and Christian Brothers values,” said Ray Ricci, Vice President for Enrollment Services. “The combination of new, in-demand programs, ease of application, and strong recruiting efforts is really paying off.”

Application and enrollment numbers have been strong for the past couple years, Ricci pointed out, but recent changes at La Salle have given them an even greater boost in 2000. As of April 1, Ricci said the University had received 3,600 applications—the most in La Salle’s history.

Among the contributing factors: Several new majors now offered at La Salle have piqued prospective students’ interests. As much as 5 percent of inquiries are directed toward programs such as Digital Arts and Multimedia Design (DArt), and Integrated Science, Business and Technology (ISBT). The admissions office has also added a recruiter solely dedicated to securing international student applications.

Ricci added that the University has made applications for admission available over the Internet to increase accessibility for students. And while the quantity of applications has increased, the quality of the applicants is slightly higher in terms of high school credentials and SAT scores.

“We’ve also made a concerted effort to target our student search program to go after students more inclined to consider La Salle seriously,” he said. “We’re getting a much better return on a smaller recruiting pool.”

Statistics from Fall 1999

- **3,066**
  - Day enrollment is the highest since 1991

- **1,650**
  - Graduate enrollment is the largest in University history

- **3,200**
  - Female student enrollment is at all-time high

- **1,852**
  - Resident student enrollment sets a new record

Four graduate programs set individual enrollment records for their respective programs:

- Computer Information Science
- Professional Communication
- Psychology (both Master’s and Doctoral)
The Science of Miracles

As a boy, Matthew Bucko, M.D., ’54, was taught to have faith in miracles. Although the young Catholic was a believer, he never imagined he’d actually witness one.

At the close of a long career as an ear-nose-and-throat specialist, the seasoned doctor’s faith—and medical expertise—were put to the test. In 1996, he was introduced to the story of a young Bucks County girl whose deafness had been cured after her family prayed to Mother Katharine Drexel.

Amy Wall, who had been diagnosed with moderate-to-severe deafness at age one in 1993, could barely hear pots and pans banging behind her head. Four months later—after her mother placed on Amy’s ears pieces of a nun’s habit worn by Mother Katharine, and then prayed—tests showed Amy could hear normally.

“This is an extraordinary case of a deaf child—living in a world without sound—who one day mysteriously takes the hearing aids out of her ears and watches Barney,” Dr. Bucko said. “That kind of reversal just doesn’t happen.”

An unexplained act of nature, or a possible miracle?

Dr. Bucko was asked to find out.

In 1996, Monsignor Alexander Palmieri (a patient of Dr. Bucko’s former partner, Stanley Farb, M.D.) requested that Dr. Bucko examine the scientific facts of Amy’s case. As the Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and the Vatican’s Vice-Postulator of Mother Katharine’s cause for sainthood, he knew it could possibly qualify as the second and final miracle needed for her canonization. (The first, in 1974, was when a Bensalem boy’s middle ear bones grew back after prayers to Mother Katharine.)

“I wasn’t asked to prove whether or not this was a miracle,” explained Dr. Bucko, who was appointed head of the Archdiocese’s medical review team. “The Church needed to know if Amy’s case could be explained from a medical standpoint. If it could not be explained in terms of medical science as we know it today, then the Church calls it a miracle.”

After a thorough examination of the evidence, Dr. Bucko and his team of physicians arrived at an amazing conclusion. “This case defies medical explanation,” he said. “Every other child with nerve deafness will go through life with hearing aids and imperfect speech. No surgery or medicine could ever cure what Amy had. It’s just remarkable—flabbergasting, really.”

Dr. Bucko and other physicians presented their findings to the Vatican’s Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome in February 1999. On Jan. 27, 2000—a little more than three years after the Church’s official investigation was opened—Pope John Paul II decreed Amy’s cure was a result of Mother Katharine’s intercession. The canonization process in the Catholic Church is by no means an easy one,” Dr. Bucko said. “I had to play the devil’s advocate. I tried to shoot holes in the evidence and disclaim as much as possible, but simply couldn’t.”

Not only was it an enormous honor for him to be involved in such an important case, but his faith has been strengthened by the experience as well. “Sometimes God has His own purposes that we don’t always understand,” he said. “I’m certainly a believer.”

Dr. Bucko and his wife, Judy, plan to make the pilgrimage to Rome with their two daughters in time for the canonization on Oct. 1.
Love at First Write

These are the days of instantaneous e-mails, constantly beeping pagers, and ever-present cell phones. The very act of writing a longhand letter, tucking it in an envelope, and entrusting it to a human courier may, to some, seem a little unnecessary—almost extravagant.

It's this very feeling of extravagance—the impression that she was worth the time and effort of a thoughtful and heartfelt letter—that may have won the heart of Krista Hirschmann, '94. The writer, Kevin Rodowicz, D.O., '92, is now her husband.

Their story reads like the plot of a Hollywood romance. Hirschmann was a senior Communications/History major at La Salle in the spring semester of 1994. She wrote a weekly column for the Collegian student newspaper. Rodowicz was completing his first year of medical school on City Line Avenue, but he wanted to use La Salle's comprehensive, and quiet, Connelly Library to study for exams. Rodowicz started reading the student newspaper during his visits to campus. That's when Hirschmann's column caught his attention.

"I loved the humor of her writing—how she could cover different topics so well," Rodowicz said. "I got to the point where I was picking up the paper just to read her column. I was actually looking forward to the day it came out."

He said he was so interested in "finding out who she was as a person," he decided to write her a letter, and sent it care of the Collegian office. But rather than a straightforward letter of praise, he wrote an intriguing mystery note, and signed himself as a secret admirer.

"I remember the letter smelled of cologne," Hirschmann said. "I read it hiding behind a notebook, because I thought it was a practical joke."

But, she was also immediately attracted to his writing style and sense of humor. She remembers telling a friend after the first letter, "This sounds like the kind of guy I would like to marry."

Hirschmann decided to test the joke by placing an ad in the Collegian, encouraging the mystery man to contact her again. Rodowicz responded with a dozen roses for Valentine's Day and another letter, but he still wouldn't identify himself. He also provided her with the reference number for a book on the third floor of the library, and told her she could leave future letters to him inside the pages. The book, one of the first clues he gave about his identity, was about Bucks County, where he grew up.

Over the course of several letter exchanges, Rodowicz revealed he was a '92 Biology major while at La Salle, and he gave hints that helped Hirschmann deduce that he grew up in Ivyland. "Then it was just a matter of looking through the La Salle Class of '92 yearbook until I found a Biology major from Ivyland," Hirschmann said.

She discovered his identity, but they still exchanged letters without meeting. Hirschmann was in the process of ending a relationship, and didn't want to confuse things.

But one day in April 1994, about four months after they started their correspondence, fate lent a hand. Hirschmann recognized the face from the yearbook as she walked past a group of men entering Connelly Library.

"We talked for two hours straight," she recalls. "We immediately hit it off."

However, their letter-writing days had only just begun. After graduation that May, Hirschmann headed off to graduate school in Maine for two years while Rodowicz continued his studies in Philadelphia. Then both lived in different parts of Florida for a year. After that, Hirschmann stayed in Florida to work on her Ph.D. for two more years, while Rodowicz moved back to Pennsylvania to start practicing osteopathic medicine. "We were dating for five years, and July of 1999 was the first time we lived in the same city," Hirschmann said.

All through this long period of separation, the couple continued to write to each other. And they fell in love through their letters and occasional visits. "We say it was love at first write," Hirschmann laughed.

Of course, their romantic story ends with a fairytale wedding. After the couple became engaged, Hirschmann entered a contest held by Reunite, the winemaking company. The contest: describe your dream wedding. The prize: $50,000 toward wedding expenses. Hirschmann sent in a description of a rustic wedding set in rural Bucks County. They didn't hear back the first year, but after a second attempt, the couple won. And on Oct. 16, 1999, they were married at the Mercer Castle in Doylestown, Pa. Their first dance was to Jimmy Buffet's "Love in the Library."

Today, Hirschmann is an adjunct Communication professor at La Salle, and Rodowicz is practicing medicine in Allentown, where they reside.
Renaissance Woman

When Ann Gallagher, ’99, was pursuing her Master’s Degree in Theology at La Salle, she stood out among her fellow classmates. Her projects had a creative flair. She read the work of church scholars as leisurely as her favorite mystery novels. And, she was more than twice their age.

After 50 years of being out of school, Gallagher says she decided to go back for her Master’s degree during a troubling time in her life. She had come to a point where she needed to evaluate her faith and either leave or stay with the Church.

“I knew that I really needed to understand and learn as much as I could about my religion if I was going to stay with it,” she explains. “So I decided to take classes at La Salle and get my Master’s. I was really interested in learning more about the history and origins of my religion.”

Raised by agnostic atheist parents, Gallagher was always intrigued by theology. Although she went to a Quaker high school, she had very little experience with religious practice. It wasn’t until she was in college in the 1940s that she began to consider Catholicism.

“I had several very good friends who were Catholic, and I started to realize that intelligent people believed in religion.”

One of Gallagher’s most outstanding characteristics is that once something has caught her interest, she can’t stop thinking about it until she has researched its every aspect. Gallagher’s interest in Catholicism was no different.

“At one point, I sat down and read straight through St. Thomas Aquinas. I was bored out of my skull, but at the same time I was so intrigued by it.”

Soon, she converted to Catholicism and began to enjoy going to church with her friends.

“I’ll never forget the first day I went to Mass. It was the day after Pearl Harbor, and the church was jammed full of people. We had taken the bus from campus to the church, and my friends had given the bus money to me to hold onto. When they passed the collection basket around, I got carried away and put all of the bus money in it! We had to walk home and we were late for class.”

Gallagher seems to have the same enthusiasm for church today as she did the first time. Now, she regularly participates in her church’s Bible study group and she recently put on a play about the history of religion, called “Welcoming the 21st,” a project she originally began working on as a grad student at La Salle.

The dramatization is about seven women who represent worship through the centuries, from a first-century Jewish woman to a 20th-century American. The women gather before the turn of the century to plan how they will greet the 21st century, their new neighbor.

“I picked all women characters because they’ve been a bit ignored in the past and they need to have their voices heard,” Gallagher says.

“Welcoming the 21st” was a big hit, both inside and outside of class.

By Kate Miller, ’99

Most recently, Gallagher and some friends put on the play at Jesus House, a retreat center in Wilmington, Del. “We had a great time with it.” Ann remarked. “One of my friends, who played the 7th-century Irishwoman, spent all summer learning the accent from an Irishman who worked on the beach in Cape May. The 14th-century British prioress was played by a friend of mine who is actually from England, so her accent was flawless.”

Aside from taking classes, Gallagher also teaches at the University of Delaware’s Academy of Lifelong Learning, a continuing studies program for people age 50 and over. A retired high school English teacher, she says it’s a pleasure to return to her profession.

“I started out as a student,” she says. “I took art, history, and French. Now I’m teaching a memoir-writing seminar called ‘Yesterday for Tomorrow,’ as well as a ‘Pleasures of Poetry’ course. I’m just going to teach people about poems I like, from ancient to modern ones.”

Gallagher’s interest in just about everything has earned her the nickname “Renaissance woman” from her friends. However, she insists, there is one thing she can’t do—her income taxes.
For Donnie, a Carr-load of Achievements

When graduating senior Donnie Carr finished his basketball career on March 8, he had marked 2,067 points as La Salle’s fourth all-time scorer and the fifth Explorer to reach the 2,000-point plateau. The others are Lionel Simmons (3,217), Michael Brooks (2,628), Tom Gola (2,461), and Steve Black (2,012).

Some other La Salle highlights in Carr’s outstanding career: first in career three-point field goals (308), sixth in three’s in a season (99), seventh in field goals made (683), seventh in career assists (404), tenth in assists per game (3.8), and 11th in free throw percentage (.771).

And in case you’re wondering what point total he might have reached had he not missed five games in his senior season due to pneumonia, the additional 100 would have given him 2,167—not enough to move higher, but still a very good number.

Volleyball’s Hodge an All-Around Star

Melissa Hodge carries a 3.97 GPA (out of 4.0) in management/marketing. She has earned berths on such classroom-oriented groups as the GTE Academic All-America team, the Atlantic 10 Conference All-Academic team and, would you believe, the All-American Farm Team.

Besides all that, you should see her spike a volleyball.

The graduating senior from Downingtown (Pa.) High has combined academics and athletics in such a successful manner that, for three consecutive years, she has won her way onto the GTE District 2 team.

Off the court and away from her studies, Hodge has found time to be active in the Business Honors Society, in Junior Achievement and with Project Teamwork, the Athletic Department’s Youth Outreach and Community Service Program.

And to explain the “Farm Team” reference, Successful Farming magazine, in conjunction with Dodge trucks, annually selects a five-person volleyball team and five honorable mentions. As a junior, Hodge was one of the five honorable mentions.

The basic criterion: a student-athlete must be from a rural area. In Hodge’s case, that has been augmented by the fact that her parents, Bruce and Nancy Hodge, manage and work at the Highlands Orchard between Downingtown and West Chester. Melissa helps out as often as possible, when she isn’t studying, spiking, and pursuing other hobbies, including singing and playing the flute and piccolo.

When she finished her volleyball career in November, she was La Salle’s all-time leader in games (455), kills (1,302), solo blocks (204), and assisted blocks (259).
Student-Athletes Earn High Marks

Both on the fields (and courts) of play and in the classroom, La Salle University continues to produce an outstanding array of student-athletes. Here is a representative list of student-athletes who have combined high marks in their studies with performance in some fall and winter sports events.

**Football**
All-Conference *(Metro Atlantic Athletic)* —
Kevin Campbell *(First Team)*, Pete Turchi *(Second Team)*
All-Academic — Kevin Campbell
GTE/CoSIDA First Team All-District II
Player of the Week honors — Kevin Campbell and Rocky DeVuono
Philadelphia Chapter of National Football Foundation Hall of Fame — Ed Klusman

**Men’s Soccer**
All-Conference — Bill Blesi *(Second Team)*
Player of the Week — Don Tuohey
NCAA — Don Tuohey
(1999 Division I Saves-Per-Game Leader)
All-Academic — Dave Rajakovich
National Soccer Coaches Association All-East Honorable Mention

**Women’s Soccer**
All-Conference — Dana Gavaghan *(First Team)* and Blair Hontz *(Second Team)*
Rookie of the Week honors — Lara Wean and Amy Schneider

**Field Hockey**
National Field Hockey Coaches Association
All-Academic Team — Lindsay Block, Alishia Faller, Lauren Feracco, Julie Hope, Kelly Saxman, Annette Sciamanna
All-Conference — Jami Wilus *(First Team)*
All-Academic — Kelly Saxman *(First Team)*

**Men’s/Women’s Cross Country**
All-Conference *(Men)* Tim McAteer *(Most Outstanding Rookie)*, Colin Dooley, Scott Levell, and Kevin Myles
*(Women)* Maura Calahan and ToniAnn Razzi

**Men’s/Women’s Indoor Track**
Atlantic 10 Champions
Most Outstanding Women’s Performer — ToniAnn Razzi
Most Outstanding Women’s Rookie — Ndidi Obichere
All-Conference *(Women)* — Ndidi Obichere, ToniAnn Razzi, Maura Calahan, Kathy Heabel

**Volleyball**
All-Conference — Melissa Hodge *(First Team)*
All-Academic — Melissa Hodge *(Atlantic 10 First Team: GTE/CoSIDA First Team All-District II, and GTE/CoSIDA Third Team All-America)*

**Men’s/Women’s Diving/Swimming**
Atlantic 10 Champions
Melanie Coots, women’s diving
Jamie Davidson, men’s diving
All-Championship Team *(Men)* Jamie Davidson, Chris Hefty, Michael McGinniss, Tom Yaegel, and Mitch Zackowski
*(Women)* Melanie Coots

**Coaches Honored**
While you’re marveling at the accomplishments of these student-athletes, remember it takes someone to lead them, and La Salle coaches have earned their share of the awards. Charles Torpey was named Coach of the Year for men’s cross country; Chris Bergere, for men’s and women’s diving; and, in case you missed it last spring, Larry Conti was the Atlantic 10 baseball Coach of the Year.
Meanwhile, in the Classroom...

MEN’S GTE ALL-AMERICA
Three La Salle athletes earned nominations for the men’s GTE Academic All-America team for District II for fall and winter sports. They are Bill Blesi, men’s soccer, 3.74 GPA in Elementary and Secondary Education; Colin Dooley, men’s cross country, 3.78 GPA in Business; and Tom Yaegel, men’s swimming, 3.48 GPA in Accounting.

Bill Blesi  
Colin Dooley  
Tom Yaegel

WOMEN’S GTE ALL-AMERICA
Four La Salle athletes earned nominations for the women’s GTE Academic All-America team for District II for fall and winter sports. They are Melanie Coots, diving, 3.62 GPA in Education; Blair Hontz, soccer, 3.61 GPA in Biology; Kathy Heable, cross country, 3.48 GPA in History; and Melissa Hodge, 3.97 GPA in Management/Marketing (not pictured).

Melanie Coots  
Blair Hontz  
Kathy Heable

Razzi Races to Atlantic 10 Honors

ToniAnn Razzi already had a reputation as an indoor track senior with a 3.40 GPA in biology. But, in just the last few months, the title Outstanding Performer in the Atlantic 10 Conference Indoor Women’s Championships has been added to her running record.

In one weekend at the University of Rhode Island, the former Archbishop Prendergast High star from the Philadelphia suburb of Drexel Hill set a record in the Atlantic 10 mile (4:55.19), tied the conference standard in the 800 meters (2:13.71), and was part of the Explorers’ 4x800 meter foursome that set a conference record (9:11.67).

Razzi followed that with a 4:45.84 mile in the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) meet in Boston with a La Salle record for the mile. That earned Razzi a berth in the NCAA Championships in Fayetteville, Ark. Her time eclipsed the 4:47.92 set by Terry Carroll in 1988.
The Explorer Club is the athletic development fund for La Salle University and provides financial support for 23 intercollegiate athletic programs.

Members of the Explorer Club can receive benefits at various levels including priority for purchasing the best seats in the house for ticketed events. Gifts can be designated for the sport of your choice or to the General Athletic Fund.

Program areas supported by the Explorer Club
- Athletic Recruitment Program
- Academic and Student Support Program
- Degree Completion Assistance Program
- Athletic Equipment Supplies
- Athletic Publications and Promotional Materials
- Radio and TV Production
- Athletic Travel
- Other Special Needs

3rd Annual Explorer Club Spring Fund Drive

We are looking for individuals who are interested in serving as fund drive workers. All interested persons should contact the Athletic Advancement Office at 215/951-1606.

Fund Drive Schedule of Events
Reporting Session May 11
Phonathons May 1 and 2 | May 8 and 9
May 15 and 16 | May 22 and 23
Victory Celebration May 25
Creating 2000 Memories

More than just memories will be created at this year’s Reunion gala on May 12-14. A series of new traditions will be introduced as well.

For the first time, Reunion is focused on welcoming all former Explorers back to campus, whether they are members of the Class of 1919 or 1999 or anywhere in between.

“We want to make sure all alumni always feel at home at La Salle,” said Director of Alumni George “Bud” Dotsey, ’69. “Reunion 2000 gives everyone the opportunity to join in the festivities even if they’re not part of a five-year anniversary class. It broadens the relationships between graduates of all years.”

More “firsts” to look forward to on the weekend of May 12 include: an increased amount of affinity groups and Explorer sessions, an Alumnae Anniversary Awards Brunch, a multimedia display of graduates’ memories, and a special address to all attendees by La Salle’s new president, Brother Michael J. McGinniss, ’70.

“It’s a great time to rejoice in the good things that are happening at La Salle,” said Alumni Association President Jim Conboy, ’50. Reunion Committee Co-Chair for the Class of 1950, said he is “absolutely thrilled” about the prospects of this year’s event. “Over the years, life changes as you get a job, get married, and have children. You start to lose touch with former classmates and drift apart from your old college friends. I’m really excited to catch up with some familiar faces and exchange reminiscences,” he said.

The Al Raymond Big Swing Band, a Reunion liturgy, an archival time tunnel, a walking tour of Belfield Estate, aromatherapy, and photo opportunities with campus notables are just a few of the slated activities guaranteed to conjure up a few old memories—and create some new ones.

While the University is taking steps to include alumni of all ages, the silver and golden jubilarians need not feel slighted. At a private reception in their honor, each member of the classes of 1950 and 1975 will receive a commemorative medallion.

Jim Conboy, ’50, Reunion Committee Co-Chair for the Class of 1950, said he is “absolutely thrilled” about the prospects of this year’s event. “Over the years, life changes as you get a job, get married, and have children. You start to lose touch with former classmates and drift apart from your old college friends. I’m really excited to catch up with some familiar faces and exchange reminiscences,” he said.

The Al Raymond Big Swing Band, a Reunion liturgy, an archival time tunnel, a walking tour of Belfield Estate, aromatherapy, and photo opportunities with campus notables are just a few of the slated activities guaranteed to conjure up a few old memories—and create some new ones.

By Caitlin Murray
Dear La Salle Alumni,

As we start a new century, La Salle’s President, Brother Michael J. McGinniss, ’70, and I would like to issue an invitation to all La Salle alumni across the country. We invite you to help your alma mater by working in your own local areas to establish alumni clubs and chapters. Please allow me to explain a little about them, and why they’re so important to the University.

In this his first year as La Salle’s President, Bro. Michael has made it a top priority to visit a number of alumni groups, in areas as close as Bucks County, and as far away as Chicago. He’s excited about what he’s seen: Alumni of all ages and backgrounds are coming together because of a shared loyalty to La Salle and a desire to help new generations of students.

For their part, alumni tell us that clubs and chapters offer camaraderie, business opportunities, and a chance to contribute to future generations of La Salle students, as well as the alma mater.

By way of definition, clubs are loosely organized groups of alumni who have La Salle and geographic proximity as common affinities. They occasionally meet for social and business-related functions.

Chapters are clubs that have received official recognition by the La Salle Alumni Association. They have a formal set of bylaws, recognized leadership, and a calendar of planned events. Their official recognition links them to, and entitles them to, support from the Association.

La Salle alumni have established two such clubs to date—one in Florida and the other in Washington, D.C. Several additional chapters are in the process of gaining official charters.

Both clubs and chapters are open to all interested alumni, regardless of age, academic discipline, or extracurricular activities.

Affinity groups or societies, on the other hand, are usually dedicated to something other than geographic location, such as professional interests (i.e., business or law). There is also an alumnae affinity group in the process of re-forming, as well as a new African American affinity group.

Typically, all of these groups work in some way to help La Salle continue its mission by planning fundraising activities for the University, volunteering for different events, creating a support network for newly graduated alumni, or assisting with recruitment and admissions.

We invite you to attend an upcoming club or chapter meeting near you. We’ve included some future dates and locations, as well as a few recently held events, in the box on this page.

To find out more about current clubs and chapters, or to help start one in your area, please contact the La Salle Alumni Office at 215/951-1535, 888/4-ALUM-LU, or alumni@lasalle.edu. You can also find information at our Website, www.lasalle.edu/alumni.

Many thanks for your continuing interest in La Salle. Bro. Mike and I look forward to visiting with you at an alumni group meeting in the near future.

Best wishes,

George "Bud" Dotsey, ’69
Director
La Salle University Alumni Office

The President’s Recent Club and Chapter Visits
Chicago
Washington, D.C.
Florida (three separate locations)

Bro. Michael’s Upcoming Club and Chapter Visits
Bucks County, April 30
California, May 23-28
San Francisco
Los Angeles
Orange County
San Diego
Minneapolis, June 23
Atlanta, Fall 2000

Pre-registration requested.
Contact the Alumni Office at: 215/951-1535, 888/4-ALUM-LU
La Salle Co-Sponsors Career Fair for Young Alums

La Salle’s Alumni and Career Planning Offices, along with PACNet, a consortium of 11 other local institutions, sponsored ACCESS 2000, the second Annual Career Fair for young alumni on April 4 in King of Prussia.

Participants had the opportunity to join alumni from area colleges, with approximately 2-10 years’ experience, for an evening of networking and interviewing with up to 70 companies seeking candidates for attractive job opportunities. Informative career success seminars were also presented. Look for more information on upcoming events in the next issue of La Salle Magazine.

La Salle Lady Alums Re-form Affinity Group

It has been less than nine months since the La Salle Alumnae Association has been revitalized, and the momentum is outstanding.

The Alumnae Association, an affinity group of the Alumni Association, promotes fellowship among women graduates. The Association sponsors a variety of network opportunities for alumnae, including education programs, social events, and monthly meetings. The “Investing in Yourself” seminar held in January offered financial planning advice from professionals throughout the Delaware Valley. The Alumnae Association will sponsor the financial planning seminar again because of its popularity and effectiveness.

The Association will be holding elections for its officers in April. Officers will be announced at the Alumnae Association Awards Brunch, held on May 13. The Brunch, one of the Reunion 2000 events, honors outstanding female faculty, staff, and graduates emulating the Lasallian values of service, integrity, and compassion. All are welcome to attend the brunch; tickets are $20 and may be purchased through the Alumni Office.

For information regarding membership or to receive a copy of events sponsored by the Alumnae Association, contact the Alumni Office at 215/951-1537 or 888/4-ALUM-LU. The e-mail address is alumni@lasalle.edu.

Alumni Calendar

April 14
Warren E. Smith African American Alumni Award Dinner
Ballroom

April 24
President’s Cup Golf Outing
Blue Bell Country Club

April 26
Grimes Lecture Series

April 27
School of Business Reception
Union League of Philadelphia

April 28
Holroyd Lecture and Award Reception
Rodden Theatre

April 30
Bucks County Alumni Reception
Bucks County Center

May 12-13
Reunion 2000
Campus

May 23-28
Alumni Receptions
California (see page 25)

June 23
Alumni Reception
Minneapolis

August 26
Annual Young Alumni Beach Party
Princeton Inn, Avalon, N.J.

September 18
Alumni Association Golf Outing
Melrose Country Club
Newest Hall of Athletes Inductees

Four outstanding La Salle athletes and a former coach were recently inducted into the Alumni Association’s Hall of Athletes at the 2000 Induction Ceremony. From left: Tracey Lynn Sneed, Esq., ’89, who graduated as the third highest scorer in women’s basketball with 1,486 points; Stephen P. O’Donnell, ’89, who had a four-year batting average of .403 in baseball including 45 home runs; La Salle President, Brother Michael J. McGinniss, ’70; John T. Hurd, ’92, men’s basketball team captain in his senior year, who started every game (124) in his four-year career; Marguerite C. Kriebel, the founder and first coach of La Salle’s women’s volleyball team (1973-82), inducted into the “Coaches’ Corner”; and Jeff Van Tiem, ’93, who finished as the second leading scorer in soccer at La Salle with 92 points in three seasons.

6 Great Trips for the Year 2000

Sponsored by “Explorations”
La Salle University Alumni Association’s Travel Committee

Scandinavian Capitals and St. Petersburg
16-day Deluxe CruiseTour

Canada and New England
11-day CruiseTour with 3 nights in Montreal

Alaskan Discovery
8-day Cruise of Inner Passage or 14-day CruiseTour including Denali National Park

Vienna, The Magical Danube & Oberammergau
12-day Tour and River Cruise
18 alums have already signed up!

Australia and New Zealand
19-day, leisurely paced, fully escorted, memorable journey

Around the World
35-day Tour covering four continents: Australia’s Great Barrier Reef, the Great Wall of China, India’s Taj Mahal, an African Safari, a stay in an authentic French château, and much more.

To receive a travel packet, call the Alumni Office at 215/951-1535 or 888/4-ALUM-LU.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'55</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Dr. Charles A. Coyle represented Kutztown University as a delegate at the inauguration of Michael J. McGinnis, F.S.C., Ph.D., '70, as President of La Salle on Sept. 24, 1999. Dr. Coyle is a Professor of marketing at Kutztown and a Permanent Deacon in the Diocese of Allentown.</td>
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<tr>
<td>'60</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Eugene A. King received a Master's of Science in Taxation from Widener University. King is the principal of King Financial Advisors in Feasterville, Pa., and provides insurance, investment, and tax services to businesses and individuals. Vincent A. Romano recently retired from Seagate Technology in Oklahoma City.</td>
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<td>'65</td>
<td>1965</td>
<td>George F. Longshore was recently appointed Vice President, Human Resources for Catholic Health East, one of the nation's largest Catholic health care systems. Catholic Health East is based in Newtown Square, Pa., and serves 18 communities in 10 Eastern states.</td>
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<tr>
<td>'50</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>50th Reunion May 12-13, 2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>'55</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>55th Reunion May 12-13, 2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>'70</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>30th Reunion May 12-13, 2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>'72</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Dr. John F. McInerney was appointed Adjunct Professor of the graduate psychology program at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.</td>
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<td>'73</td>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Robert G. Liney was named Director of Employee Relations at American Infrastructure in Worcester, Pa.</td>
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<tr>
<td>'75</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>25th Reunion May 12-13, 2000</td>
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<td>'75</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Paul Jenkins was named President of Watson McDaniel, a manufacturer of industrial and process products used in steam applications, located in the Valley Forge Corporate Center.</td>
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<tr>
<td>'78</td>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Donald J. Degrazia, CPA is a partner in the accounting firm of Gold Meltzer Flaskey &amp; Wise, P.A. located in Moorestown, N.J. Degrazia's speaking engagements for 1999 included the American Institute of CPA's National Advanced Litigation Services Conference and its Advanced Business Valuation Conference, as well as the New Jersey Superior Court Judicial College. He is also a contributing author to the American Institute of CPAs' newly published book, The Complete Book of Income Reconstruction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>'79</td>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Richard Wiley was named Vice President of Sales for the Northeast and mid-Atlantic corridor for Edward Don &amp; Company, the nation's largest independent distributor of foodservice equipment and supplies.</td>
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<tr>
<td>'80</td>
<td>1980</td>
<td>20th Reunion May 12-13, 2000</td>
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<td>'80</td>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Anthony Bosco has been named Project Director of Enterprise 2000, Day &amp; Zimmerman, Inc.'s SAP implementation project. The Day &amp; Zimmerman Group, Inc., headquartered in Philadelphia, is a leading global provider of diversified professional, technical, and personnel services.</td>
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<td>'84</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Birth: to Carla DiGregorio Hendricks and her husband, Len, a daughter, Victoria Theresa.</td>
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<td>'85</td>
<td>1985</td>
<td>15th Reunion May 12-13, 2000</td>
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<td>'88</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Greg A. Scolieri and Debra Chiavarollotti Scolieri (BA '89) are the owners of the Goces-Scolieri Funeral Home and the Pets and Sterns Flowers and Gift Shop, both located in Willingboro, N.J. Births: to Colleen Humphries (Clark) and Kevin Clark, a son, Brendan Colin; to Dominic Catrambone and Jennifer Dello Catrambone (BA '90), identical twin girls, Cassidy Madison and Devon Leigh, to Greg A. Scolieri and Debra Chiavarollotti Scolieri (BA '89), a son, Greg A., II.</td>
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<tr>
<td>'89</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Steve Dougherty was recently named Account Executive of the Year for Prophet 21 Inc., a company that specializes in order fulfillment software.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'90</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>10th Reunion May 12-13, 2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>'92</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Kathleen Allen Law is an Assistant System Manager with the Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's Office. Marriage: Kathleen L. Allen to Corey Law.</td>
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<tr>
<td>'95</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>5th Reunion May 12-13, 2000</td>
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1962 | George Vercesi recently published his second novel, SEAL-Text, available directly from 1sbooks.com or in bookstores via Ingram Book Company and its subsidiary, Lightning Press.

1970 | Richard Tucker, D.O. was named Director of Medical Education at Rancocas Hospital in Willingboro, N.J. Dr. Tucker will oversee the continuing education and enrichment of the physicians on staff, residents, student physicians, and the student physician assistants at the hospital.

1975 | Christine Wronka Gawlak has received recognition for accomplished teaching from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, which offers a new system of advanced, voluntary certification for teachers. She is among the first group in Florida to achieve this honor in the area of Adolescent and Young Adult Mathematics.

1954 | Dr. Geoffrey B. Kelly recently published Reflections on Bonhoeffer: Essays in Honor of F. Burton Nelson (Covenant Press, 1999); the eighth book that he has either authored, edited, or co-edited. Dr. Kelly's ninth book, the new critical edition of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's The Cost of Discipleship, is scheduled for publication in June 2000. He is in the last year of his second term as President of the International Bonhoeffer Society and has been invited to address the Eighth International Bonhoeffer Congress in Berlin this August.

1955 | Harvey Portner was recently re-elected as President of the Cheltenham Township Board of Commissioners. A township commissioner since 1988, Portner has served as Board President twice before and as Board Vice President five times.

1958 | Robert H. Fitzsimmons was inducted into the Northeast Catholic High School Alumni Hall of Fame for his contributions to Catholic education. He has been a faculty member there for 40 years.

1966 | John Flinn was appointed Vice President/ Human Resources for the Boston Herald. Dr. Augustine E. Moffitt, Jr. was elected Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation located in Bethlehem, Pa. Bro. Richard Grzeskiewicz has been named to succeed Bro. Lawrence Monroe, '69, as principal of Central Catholic High School, in Pittsburgh, effective July 1, 2000.

1968 | Michael G. DeFino, a 1975 graduate of Widener University School of Law, was named Chairman of the law school's Board of Overseers. DeFino, the first Widener alumnus to hold the position, is the principal in the Law Office of Michael G. DeFino in Media, Pa.

1971 | William B. Sudell, former adjunct faculty member, has released his first novel, Though All The World Betrays Thee. Amy Wohl has been appointed to the Board of Advisors of Omnient Corporation, an end-to-end e-business solution provider headquartered in Blue Bell, Pa.

Gallagher Helps His "Hometown"

Philadelphia's loss is Baltimore's gain. Matthew D. Gallagher, '94, has left his job as Philadelphia's Assistant Deputy Mayor to oversee a study of Baltimore's departments for the Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC).

Gallagher, a graduate of La Salle's Honors Program, has joined GBC to coordinate studies of business leaders of the city's public works, housing and community development, health and recreation, and parks departments. The effort mirrors a strategy by former Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell in 1992 that helped the city save $150 million.

For the past three years, the Baltimore native has worked in Philadelphia's Office of Management and Productivity. The office focused on cost-cutting measures and ways to increase city revenue.

Gallagher is married to Helene Grady, '93, and is the son-in-law of La Salle Honors Program Director John S. Grady.
Brother Arthur Bangs Receives West Catholic’s Outstanding Grad Award

Brother Arthur J. Bangs, ‘53, has done more than just teach for 50 years—he’s spent those five decades making a difference in young people’s lives.

The longtime La Salle professor and Campus Counseling Center staff member was recently honored by his high school for a half-century of service and dedication to Greater Philadelphia youth.

At West Catholic High School Alumni Association’s Annual Communion Breakfast in March, Bro. Bangs was awarded the Brother Edwin Anselm, F.S.C. Award. The award honors a West Catholic graduate who continues to contribute to the school while achieving outstanding success in his chosen field.


Combining his studies with teaching, Bro. Bangs taught Religion, Latin, Mathematics, and English at several area high schools before coming to La Salle in 1969. Since then, he has been associated with the Counseling Center, Department of Education. His greatest satisfaction, he says, is working with young people in any capacity.

From 1979 to 1982, he was the Director of the American College Program at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, directing the programs for approximately 270 students from 30 U.S. colleges and universities.

Bensalem, Pa., has been appointed Director of Operations for the St. Gabriel’s System.

1977 | Richard M. Connelly, Esq. was appointed General Counsel of J.G. Wentworth, a specialty finance company in Philadelphia.

At a recent convocation at Northeast Catholic High School, Barry Donald Brodzinski was inducted into the Philadelphia school’s Alumni Hall of Fame.

1981 | Kurt T. Kessler, Ph.D., has been named executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer of MK Associates, the largest supplier in the world of custom marketing research services to the healthcare industry. Carlton A. Payne was awarded a Ph.D. in experimental psychology from Temple University.

Birth: to Theresa Gauder Kraus and Ingo S. Kraus (BBA ’80, MBA ’84), their third child, a son, Matthew Joseph.

1982 | Theresa Martin Golding has published her first book, Kat’s Surrender (Boysds Mills Press). The story is set entirely in Philadelphia. Martin A. Healey is Director in the Special Situations Investments and Restructuring Group of First Union’s Capital Markets.

Coleman Kane, President of the Phonics Game, has been named Chief Executive Officer of the Orange County, Calif., company.

1983 | Joseph J. McGrenra has been named President of the Norfolk (Va.) chapter of the National Contract Management Association.

1984 | Births: to Barrie Leasoff Hovis and her husband, Jack, their second child, a daughter, Isabella Zacari; to Lenore Troyanosky-Siegler and her husband, Ken, their second child, a son, Troy James.

1986 | Gregg R. Melinson has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Economy League’s (PEL) eastern division. The PEL is a nonprofit organization that conducts public policy research and development in the areas of economic development and public sector performance.

1989 | Debra Chiaravallotti Scolieri and Greg A. Scolieri (BBA ’88) are the owners of the Goes-Scolieri Funeral Home and the Petals and Stems Flowers and Gift Shop, both located in Willingboro, N.J.

Birth: to Debra Chiaravallotti Scolieri and Greg A. Scolieri (BBA ’88), a son, Greg A., II.

1990 | Mark R. M. Sermarini, M.D., 1990

La Salle men’s swimming team captain, is currently Team Physician for the Special Olympics swimming team in Montgomery County, Pa.

Birth: to Jennifer Delio Catrambone and Dominic
Catrambone (BBA '88). identical twin girls, Cassidy Madison and Devon Leigh.

1991 | Jose Mallabo founded Full Disclosure Media, LLC, a New York and San Francisco-based new media company focused on investor-oriented services and e-commerce.

Birth: to Salvatore A. Barreca and Kelly Maher Barreca, a daughter, Cecilia Margaret.

1992 | Birth: to Thaddeus and Mariabeth Nowakowski their second child, a daughter, Lily Bea.

1993 | James T. Hannigan, Jr. is the Associate Director of Admissions for Keller Graduate School of Management in Arlington, Va.

Marriage: James T. Hannigan, Jr. to Patti Mattson (BA '95).


Crime: Captain Douglas LeVien has been appointed Commander of the Soldiers of the Echo Company at Fort Stewart, Ga.

Marriage: Karen M. DiStefano to Eric Spring.

Births: to Nicole S. Pilkus and her husband, Joseph, a daughter, Katerina Anne; to Melissa Rebl Wilson and Joseph Wilson (BBA '93), a son, Anthony Charles.

'S95 | 5th Reunion

May 12-13, 2000

1995 | Patti Mattson-Hannigan is a statistician for the Criminal Justice Statistics Branch of the Bureau of the Census in Washington, D.C.

Births: to Michael and Patricia Mattson.

Kirsten Quinn is working as an actress in Philadelphia, as well as teaching at Community College of Philadelphia.

1997 | Adrienne N. Nagliardo, an ensign in the U.S. Navy, recently completed the Officer Indoctrination Course at Naval Station Newport, R.I.

1999 | April White was featured in a recent issue of The Philadelphia Inquirer. White discussed her reasons for remaining in the Philadelphia area after graduation despite being raised in a small New England town.

Master of Business Administration

1984 | Ingo S. Kraus (BBA '80) recently joined GMAC Commercial Mortgage Corporation in Horsham, Pa., as Assistant Vice President and Portfolio Manager in its Equity Investment Group.

Kenneth J. Sylvester joined Schein Pharmaceutical in

A Compassionate Presence

In Maryellen (McGettigan) Glackin's line of work, education doesn't just lighten—it saves lives.

For a year now, Glackin, '79, has served as administrator of the Philadelphia Archdiocesan Office for AIDS Ministry. In that role, she works hard to be "a compassionate presence, not only to those suffering, but to their families and caregivers—to be non-judgmental, to be with people in their suffering. Jesus was there with them in their suffering, and as part of the Church, that is what we are called to do."

Her interest is mainly in the educational aspects of AIDS prevention. "I'm a mom with four teens, and I really believe the way to stop the spread of the disease is through education."

Glackin said the AIDS Ministry sponsors many presentations at middle and high schools, talking about the dangers of drug use and risky sexual behavior and relating them to the spread of the AIDS virus. She said AIDS Ministry speakers also stress the importance of strong families in children's lives, "helping family members to value each other. A lot of times, youths turn to dangerous behaviors because they feel they're not valued at home."

Glackin said she always had an interest in working with young people, and it only increased during her time at La Salle. "Brother Joseph Keenan convinced me to double my major (psychology and religion), and I ended up teaching religion for six years after I graduated." She taught at Camden Catholic and Archbishop Ryan high schools.

After putting her career on hold for a few years to be a full-time mother, Glackin returned to work, as a grief counselor in her home parish of Maternity B.V.M., where she set up and conducted a bereavement and grief ministry program.

She and her husband, Joseph, '77, live in Philadelphia with their four children, ranging in age from 11 to 17.
Col. McCloskey Named a Knight of Malta

Chivalry is not dead. And La Salle graduates continue to prove it.

One such alumnus, Colonel James E. McCloskey, ’68, was recently honored for his life’s dedication to faith and good works with an invitation to join one of the oldest and most respected heraldic orders in the world.

The Blue Bell, Pa., resident has been selected as a Knight of Malta—Knight of Grace and Devotion. The heraldic order, also known as the Sovereign Military Order of Saint John, goes back to the time of the Crusades—some 800 years. The Knights are the oldest chivalric order in existence today.

“This honor is well deserved as demonstrated by Col. McCloskey’s years of unselfish service to his fellow man, active compassion for those less fortunate, and being a standard bearer of hope. These are qualities that have remained constant over the past eight centuries for those individuals who aspire to be a knight,” said Timothy E. Zack, Knight Commander for the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem Knights of Malta.

The order began with a group of fighting monks, who participated alongside the Crusaders to hold fortresses and hospices across the Holy Land in the 12th century. Today, the organization is divided into a religious order, a religious institute of laymen, and an international order of chivalry. Col. McCloskey belongs to the latter order, whose main activities are religious and charitable (hospital and medical assistance).

Col. McCloskey is a native-born Philadelphian, and a 1968 distinguished military ROTC graduate of La Salle. He served in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantryman’s Badge. He recently retired as acting commander of the 304th Civil Affairs Brigade. As a civilian, he is president of a management consulting and investment firm. He is the son of retired La Salle administrator Jack McCloskey, ’48. He and his wife, Carol, have three children.

Cherry Hill, N.J., as Vice President of Operations.

Birth: to Ingo S. Kraus (BBA ’80) and Theresa Gauder Kraus (BA ’81), their third child, a son, Matthew Joseph.


1994 | Birth: to Peter Linn and his wife, Dana, their second child, a son, Alexander William.

Master of Arts

1994 | Stephen Czekalski (BA ’85) owns Motivators Inc., a performance enhancement firm in Collingswood, N.J. Czekalski also writes a sports motivation column for the Courier-Post newspaper and has written a book, Pep Talks: The Twenty-Four Hour Coach.

In Memoriam

1941 Francis J. “Beau” Griesser, Sr.
1949 Joseph J. Tilden
1950 Reverend Thomas E. Comber, C.S.P.
1951 Eugene Fitzgerald Joseph F. McAveety
1955 Michael G. Flach
1957 Leo W. Reilly
1958 Thomas E. Adams
1961 John V. Theveny
1962 John P. Finzel
1963 John F. Maher
1966 William A. Salmon
Celebrate!
May 12-13, 2000

La Salle Alumni
General Reunion 2000

All alumni
1919-1999
are invited

Come one—come all.
Gather with your friends
from all years.

For more information,
call the Alumni Office
215/951-1535
or visit our website at
www.lasalle.edu