LA SALLE’S EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

EXCELLENCE AT ITS CORE
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EVER SINCE I CAN remember, I liked helping young people learn. Few things are more exciting and satisfying. The progression was seamless—baby-sitter, camp counselor, public school teacher, and then, college professor.

I first arrived on La Salle’s campus in July 1973 after spending three years teaching for the School District of Philadelphia. I saw an opportunity to help shape the lives of young men and women during a critical time of their lives. Little did I know the incredible impact the La Salle community, and specifically the students, would have on my life—both personally and professionally. La Salle was the right place at the right time for me.

My teaching was shaped and challenged by the values of the Christian Brothers. That influence is captured concisely in the present-day University Handbook (pp. 17-18), which clearly encourages faculty to engage students in programs in which “students’ personal, social, and religious values may take root, and in which students may grow in mature attitudes and behavior in all human relationships. The University strives to foster an environment of faith which produces a reciprocal respect among all persons in the community and to establish an atmosphere in which community members may openly bear witness to their convictions on world peace and justice.”

These goals are particularly appropriate for a teacher educator like myself. The Education Department prepares students for entry into a profession with an enormous responsibility. Preparing future teachers for a rapidly changing world and providing them with the tools to be successful with the children they teach are no easy tasks. We must challenge the students to think critically, help them to clarify their own values, and to value the views of others. Students also should be encouraged to consider difficult issues of social justice and civic responsibility. My goal is to continually challenge my students to remain flexible, question what they see, evaluate and support their beliefs and values with substantial evidence, and back their ideas and decisions with hard evidence.

If I expect my students to do these things, I should set the example. That’s why I challenge my own teaching and learning boundaries. The University Handbook reminds us to “provide students with a liberal education, one which assists students in liberating themselves from narrow interests, prejudices, and perspectives, and in learning to observe reality with precision, to judge events and opinions critically and independently, to think logically, to communicate effectively, and to sharpen aesthetic perception.” To serve those ends, I designed a new minor called Leadership and Global Understanding. The goal of the minor is the “re-engagement” of La Salle’s undergraduate students in the life of their communities, both local and global. Co-director Margie Allen [Professor of English] and I strive to place civic responsibility and global understanding at the core of a student’s education and the La Salle experience.

These varied experiences also have taught me to observe reality with greater precision, to judge events and opinions more critically, and to think more independently. This, in turn, has made me a better teacher. Recently, I shared what I have learned in a book that I co-authored with Preston Feden [Professor of Education]. It is called Methods of Teaching: Applying Cognitive Science to Promote Student Learning. And in the process of sharing, I learned a great deal more. That is what is so exciting about teaching. Every step forward opened up still more possibilities.

That is why I continue to be passionate about teaching and strive to use my knowledge of pedagogy to create unique opportunities for students who are learning to learn. I have come to realize that my classroom must be far more than the room assigned to me in Olney Hall. It must incorporate the whole world.

So, why do I teach? Because I love it. The feeling of challenging young minds and teaching them to challenge others is intensely rewarding. Observing and helping a student struggling to gain new understanding whether in a classroom, student-teacher site, or some remote part of the world—to me, that’s what it is all about—education.
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Then and Now
1969-2005
BY GARY CLABAUGH, Ed.D., PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION

TOP [Left to Right] Summer Enrichment in past years; former Chair and retired Professor William Binkowski; former Chair from 1983 to 1997, Br. Lawrence Colhoeker, F.S.C., Ed.D.
BOTTOM [Clockwise from Left] Robert Vogel teaching in the 1970s, and still teaching today; Maria Theresa McCormick, Ed.D., a professor in the mid-80s; Chair from 1948 to 1964, Br. Francis Azarias (King), F.S.C., former Chair from 1977 to 1983, Marilyn Lambert; former Chair from 1975 to 1977, Br. Anthony Wallace, F.S.C., a longtime administrator within the National Catholic Educational Association.
IT WAS 1969 AND I FACED MY FIRST HIGHER EDUCATION employment interview. The dean of one of the nation’s most selective colleges sized me up from behind her oversized desk. Spare, prim, and impeccably dressed, she soon posed a question I had never been asked in my life. “Where did you prep?” she queried, in nice pear-shaped tones.

Where did I prep? She had my résumé and should have known that I attended a public high school in a gritty railroad town. For that matter, I graduated from a state college and earned my doctorate at decidedly non-ivy Temple University. Where did I prep, indeed!


My next interview was at a state college; I had attended one just like it, so I thought I would feel at home. I was wrong. The dean, a former submarine commander, was chiefly interested in my attitude toward campus radicals. (Remember, this was the Vietnam War era when peace activists were disrupting campuses and conflict over the war was tearing America apart.) I was against the war; but, thinking this dean would not appreciate my opposition, I tried to sidestep the matter.

I must have had some success because, in the end, he hesitantly offered me a contract. “Take it home and think it over;” he said, “and if you still want to work here, sign it and mail it back.” That night, however, he called to say he had changed his mind. He offered no explanation. I suspect that he raised the periscope, took a second sighting on me, and decided that I was politically unreliable.

My next stop was liberal arts, Roman Catholic, all-male La Salle College. I had attended co-educational public schools all my life, and did not know what to expect. I knew only that the student body was all male, that most of them were commuters, and that the Education Department just trained secondary teachers who were permitted to only minor in education. None of this seemed promising.

First impressions also were dispiriting. The Department’s College Hall office was jam-packed with elderly adjunct faculty, files, books, and a welter of aged audio-visual equipment.

There was no sign of a secretary. Instead, the Department Chair and only full-time faculty member, Bill Binkowski, sat pecking away at the Department’s lone typewriter. Bill was a trim, middle-aged man with well-chiseled features, a strong, calloused grip, and a hearty, open manner. He reminded me of the hard-working, plainspoken railroaders I had come to know and respect while working in my father’s barbershop.

Gary Claybaugh, then and now

Bill offered no “Where did you prep?” haughtiness; nor did he conduct a political inquisition. He just greeted me warmly and invited me to sit down and talk—so far, so good.

It was a two-way conversation, and I soon learned that Bill was the first in his family to attend college. In fact, his parents had emigrated from Poland and still spoke no English. Also, like me, Bill was a veteran and had received his higher education courtesy of the G.I. Bill of Rights. I felt much more at ease when I learned that we had these things in common.

Bill candidly acknowledged that the Department was short on resources. But he also emphasized that it was strong on results. He proudly told me that over 1,000 La Salle College alumni taught in various Philadelphia area schools. A number of others were top administrators, and one was even the chief negotiator for the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers. I was amazed that such a small department could produce such out-sized results. I think Bill was amazed, too.

He attributed the Department’s job placement success to a legendary former Chair, Brother Azarius. Bill described Brother ‘A’ as a droll, one-of-a-kind character who “ran the Department out of his pocket.” Brother’s legion of personal contacts had secured hundreds of teaching positions for young La Salle men. I personally always regretted not knowing the fabled Brother.

Bill also told me that the Department had surprisingly loyal alumni. In fact, with over 200 active members, the Education Alumni Association was astonishingly large. I had never heard of such a tiny department having that many active alumni.

Clearly, this department must have been doing something right. By interview’s end, I was sold on La Salle. And I particularly wanted to work with Bill Binkowski.
That is why I was delighted when he called and offered me the job.

I soon found that I had joined a college in transition. La Salle became coeducational just a year after I arrived. And in that same year, ground was broken for Olney Hall—a new classroom and faculty office building that alleviated College Hall's overcrowding. Planning also began for a new field house, library, and the conversion of the old library into a new administration building. Efforts also were under way to recruit more resident students and from further afield.

La Salle has been changing and growing ever since. Today, it is a full-fledged, residential university with a rich selection of undergraduate opportunities, a growing international emphasis, 21 different graduate-level degree or certificate programs, and a doctoral program in Clinical Psychology. None of this bears much resemblance to the La Salle I first knew.

The Education Department has matched the University change for change. The first initiative following my arrival was particularly important. In the early 1970s, Bill Binkowski, Marilyn Lambert (the first female faculty member ever in the Department), and I developed a boldly innovative program to train an entirely new type of special educator.

Since its inception, La Salle’s Education Department had only prepared secondary teachers. But when the Federal Government mandated that school districts must serve all handicapped children, it created a marvelous opportunity for the Department to expand into an area that uniquely complemented the Christian Brothers’ historic emphasis on educating the disadvantaged.

At that time, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania required special educators to be trained to teach either mentally, emotionally, or physically handicapped youngsters. Real-world kids seldom fit into these nice, neat, bureaucratic categories. At La Salle, we designed the first program in Pennsylvania—actually, one of the first in the nation—which set aside these stereotypical labels and focused instead on the individual child and his or her development. In so doing, we boldly met state standards for all three certification areas simultaneously; we also provided state officials with a model for a new multiple-category special education teaching certificate that emerged some years later. A young and eager Preston Feden, Ed.D., was hired to whip La Salle’s new program into final shape, and he did a fantastic job.

Since the founding of the program, La Salle’s Education Department has trained hundreds of special educators who, in turn, have helped myriad handicapped children over the years. That is a legacy of which I am particularly proud.

Many departmental innovations followed on the heels of the special education initiative at La Salle. Here are some before-and-after highlights:

- Instead of preparing conventional elementary teachers, we now prepare an entirely novel type of elementary/special education teacher. These educators command the cross-categorical skills necessary to meet the urgent demands of inclusive classrooms and are in great demand.
- Instead of one full-time faculty member with a master’s degree, we now have 15 full-timers, all with doctorates; and they all still put students first.
- In place of one weak undergraduate minor, we now offer two strong undergraduate majors—Secondary Education with 10 different certification areas, and Elementary/Special Education.
- Instead of only undergraduate programs, we now offer two innovative graduate programs, as well. One of them is for adults who are changing careers into teaching. (Preston Feden, Bob Vogel, Ed.D., and I holed up in a storage room one Christmas holiday and planned the entire thing.) The other graduate program, a brand new initiative, prepares reading specialists.
- Instead of having to wait until their senior year to actually teach youngsters, our students begin field work in their freshman year and continue until they graduate.
- Instead of 12 weeks of half-time student-teaching, secondary education majors now experience a full-time, all-semester placement. Elementary/special education majors complete an unprecedented full-time, two-semester placement, one in an elementary classroom and one in a special education classroom.
- The Department also offers a new certification program in Bilingual Education as well as Religious Education.

Significantly, Department members have also developed new inter-disciplinary initiatives that extend beyond traditional departmental boundaries. Francis Ryan, Ph.D., for example, directed the creation of the new American Studies major. This creative multidisciplinary program examines American culture through the content and methodologies of various academic specializations. He also took a lead role in developing the new multi-track History/History for Educators graduate program. It offers an M.A. in History for Educators, a straight M.A. in History, and various certificate options.

Similarly, Bob Vogel played a key role in founding the
Making a Global Impact on Education

BY ANDREW LAZAR, '06

LING LIANG, PH.D., SHOWS DOZENS OF STUDENTS HOW to be quality teachers in her education classes. Now, a textbook she created for teachers in China will spread that same message to thousands. The La Salle University professor recently co-wrote Science Education in the Elementary School: Theory Into Practice, an instructional text that discusses modern teaching techniques in the field.

Liang, who teaches investigations in Math and Science at La Salle, was born and educated in East China. After teaching high school physics for several years, she came to America in 1993 and earned her doctorate from the University of Indiana-Bloomington.

Published by the Higher Education Press, her book is written for pre-service elementary school teachers. The Chinese educational system differs greatly from America’s, and Liang kept this in mind when creating the book. “In China, math and science classes are fact-based lectures,” she explained. “Teachers want to do more inquiry-based teaching, which involves asking questions, hands-on activities, and investigations.”

The country’s movement toward contemporary education is spearheaded by a government-sanctioned reform program. Liang was recently invited to speak stateside on the topic by Professor Jinghua Hao of Nanjing Normal University in China. Hao, who heads the program, was impressed by Liang’s insights and suggested she work with the publisher on a book.

Written in Chinese, the textbook is currently used by about 13,000 teachers. Liang hopes that her work will benefit instructors in her home country. “The book is easy to understand,” she said. “In China, a lot of books are directly translated from English but the translators don’t have a strong background in both languages.” Many teachers in China are eager to learn more about American education. “Right now they want to know what inquiry teaching looks like. The book gives them some examples and theories about cognitive development.”

Although the book is written with elementary-age students in mind, the movement toward inquiry-based teaching affects education on all levels. Liang anticipates that the updated system will provide Chinese students with a better chance of going to college. The country’s equivalent of the SAT exam is geared toward lecture-based learners, but Liang hopes the standards for the test are reformed in the future. “College in China is very competitive. In the past, only four percent of people went. But now, if you’re in the city, 70 percent of students from good high schools can go. It’s improved a lot.”

Liang keeps in touch with many of her contemporaries in China. She enjoys providing them with updated ideas about teaching, and often discusses the ever-changing differences between the American and Chinese systems. “My peers are curious about American teaching. They’ve asked for some examples of student work, so I tried to collect some to show what we do here. I also gave some suggestions about what we could do in China.”
Always Educators Deep Down Inside

BY MARIAN MORTON

FOR 25 YEARS, STEVE DOWN, '99, TRAVELED THE world, visiting clients for his marketing job with a major pharmaceuticals company. Now, he runs focus groups to determine the best service for a new brand of customer—a classroom full of fifth-graders.

Downs studied for his master's in education at La Salle while on business trips to Europe and South America. Later, having completed his master’s, he resigned his position to student teach. He is now in his fourth year of teaching at Newtown Elementary School in Bucks County.

“Teaching just engulfed me. I eat, sleep, and breathe it,” said Downs, who lives in Doylestown. “It started as an exploration, and it became a career.”

Downs’ story of how he found his niche in a fifth-grade classroom isn’t all that unusual at La Salle. The Education Department’s graduate program is full of students who have seen the world and filled cavities, raised children and engineered bridges. They’ve achieved success, but perhaps wanted more. The search for a more rewarding career is leading many aspiring teachers to La Salle.

“Since La Salle’s Master’s of Education program was launched in 1984, many people have come to us from other professions who have always wanted to be teachers, or have just realized throughout the course of their lives that they want a way to contribute to their community,” said Preston Feden, Ed.D., Professor of Education at La Salle.

Feden said teachers who come to education from other careers are assets to schools and students.

“People bring to us an awful lot of richness and experience that plays out well in the classroom,” Feden said. “We give them an appropriately challenging program that initiates them into the teaching profession.”

Many of these returning students choose to teach subjects in which they have had practical work experience. David Steele holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in civil engineering, and he worked in the field for more than a decade. He decided last spring to return to school to become a high school math teacher. That’s meant taking some undergraduate math courses (and catching up with all the new classroom technologies that have come about since his college days) along with his graduate education courses, but he said the extra work is worth it.

“I’m hoping I can bring a different perspective to the classroom and convey a sense of the practicality of math and science,” said Steele, who lives in Yardley. “I want to teach my students to use math as a means of accomplishing a goal.”

There are others who are looking for a complete change of focus. Mary Granados, of Newtown, spent eight years as a dentist, 10 years in the pharmaceutical industry, and the past five years as a stay-at-home mom. Volunteering at her daughter’s school and participating in parent organizations piqued her interest in teaching, and she’s now studying elementary and special education at La Salle.

“I wasn’t looking to go back to school until I thought, ‘I really enjoy being in the classroom, working with kids,’” Granados said. “With my advanced degrees, I knew I could teach in various places without getting a master’s, but I want to be an expert teacher, a really good teacher.”

The decision to change careers isn’t easy, and La Salle’s graduate education program is known as a rigorous one. In addition to courses and student-teaching, students must participate in summer practica designed to immerse them in a real-life classroom setting. Elementary and special education students take two practica, one in each discipline, over the course of two summers. The practica consist of a two-week planning period, followed by two weeks of instruction to students in a local school district.

Secondary education students enroll in a practicum that requires four weeks of night classes in preparation for teaching their chosen content area to students who attend a middle school that is set up on campus for two weeks in the summer.

Several students said they chose La Salle for that challenge and for the experiences that make the program unique, like the summer practica and the combined elementary and special education track.

“When I was looking into graduate programs, I started talking to principals and teachers and asking around at
parties and picnics. La Salle kept coming up as a really top, well-respected program,” Granados said. “It was highly recommended by people who were either in schools or in the position of hiring teachers.”

Nicky Dominick, a graduate student in secondary education, has worked for IBM for 25 years, and he is now Vice President of Strategy for the company. Between travel and long hours at the office, he found time to coach local sports teams and get involved in youth ministry at his parish, but it wasn’t enough. He had considering returning to school and becoming a teacher for years, but the catalyst came about two years ago, when he took about 25 high school students to a retreat in Ohio.

“Just being there with those kids that weekend—something happened to me,” Dominick said. “I thought to myself, ‘I have to do this.’”

Dominick, of Chalfont, is now in his second year of graduate studies at La Salle, and he has plans to become a high school math or social studies teacher, preferably at a local private or Catholic school.

“I’ve been very successful in my career, and I’d like to take that success and turn it into significance,” Dominick said. “I thought, ‘What better time than now to make a change in my life?’”

Even after earning his master’s degree, Downs, the fifth-grade teacher in Newtown, continued to work in the pharmaceutical industry until one day when he received a call from the Newtown principal, wondering if Downs would be interested in a job. After one visit to the school, Downs was convinced that it was time to make the change to a career in teaching.

He hasn’t looked back. He and his teaching partner, Lisa Lingman, also a La Salle graduate, run a classroom that includes children with special needs, and he said every day is different and rewarding.

“To have had the opportunity to do two things you love in a lifetime is a pretty wonderful thing. I would hope that more people have the opportunity to see that life has so many different dimensions and passages,” Downs said. “If I can be a good teacher, that’s all I can hope for.”

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**Advanced Placement Summer Institute**

Every summer, La Salle serves as a sponsoring institution for a College Board-endorsed Advanced Placement (AP) Summer Institute. This intensive, week-long workshop provides teachers with the support and training needed to teach AP courses. More than 250 new and experienced teachers regularly attend this institute, which is comprised of 21 various courses such as Biology, Computer Science, English Language and Composition, and European History, to name a few.

This summer’s institute will be held from July 25 through July 29. For more information, contact Donna Wake at 215.951.1099, or e-mail wake@lasalle.edu.
The Family Who Learns Together ...  

BY MARIAN MORTON

IF IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD, THE 14 children of the Faia family may well be set for life. Their village is a comfortable house on a quiet street in Williamstown, N.J., where their mother is also their teacher, someone is always laughing, and a friend is no more than a few seats away at the dinner table.

Salvatore Faia, ’84, and his wife of 20 years, Lynn, always wanted a large family, but they never thought they’d take on the additional responsibility of homeschooling. After more than a decade, though, they can’t imagine it any other way—and neither can their children.

“I liked having my mom as a teacher,” said 18-year-old Marjorie, the Faia’s oldest child, who just finished her freshman year studying elementary and special education and psychology in the Honors Program at La Salle. “She knew my personal strengths and weaknesses, and she knew my full potential and could push me toward achieving that.”

Salvatore, who studied accounting at La Salle, said his experience at the University, and particularly in the Honors Program, convinced him that he and Lynn could handle the task of raising and educating a large family.

“We wanted to give our children an education like I had at La Salle, focused on history, philosophy, literature, and religion,” Salvatore said. “All these aspects of getting to know who you are as a person and gaining a perspective on the world around you are well-developed at La Salle, and we had a view that we could teach our kids that.”

Salvatore and Lynn both grew up in Philadelphia—Lynn as one of three children and Salvatore as one of 12. They met in high school and dated throughout college (Lynn holds an accounting degree from St. Joseph’s University). They married shortly after graduation, and had two children by the time Salvatore graduated from law school. After several years at a big law firm and in private practice, Salvatore went into business for himself last year. He now provides compliance services to the mutual fund and investment management industry, splitting his time between the office and home to be closer to his family.

In addition to Marjorie, the Faia kids are: Mary, 17; Elizabeth, 16; Perpetua, 14; Salvatore, 13; Victoria, 11; Caroline, 10; Philomena, 9; Anastasia, 7; Joseph, 5; Azelie, 4; Louis and Gerard, 3-year-old twins; and Catherine, 18 months. They eat, sleep, learn, and play under one roof. They attend Mass together every day, travel in a 15-passenger van, and take field trips to art museums, historical monuments, and religious sites. There are music lessons, ballet classes, and soccer practices, and recess is held in the backyard or in the garage, which has been converted into a playroom.

When a younger sibling gets fussy or needs a boost to reach a treat in an Easter basket, there’s always an older brother or sister to lend a hand. The younger sisters whisper and giggle amongst themselves like best friends. There’s a round of applause in the living room after Perpetua and Elizabeth take turns at the piano. And the myriad family portraits all over the house offer further proof that this is a tight-knit group.

A typical day starts with Mass, followed by breakfast, during which, Lynn says, a few boxes of cereal and a gallon and a half of milk are consumed. Then the school-age kids troop to the
basement to a meticulously organized classroom lined with bookshelves and furnished with a dry-erase board and old-fashioned wooden desks salvaged from a thrift store. They wear school uniforms, Lynn said, to cut down on laundry and to send the message that, even though the kids are at home, this is school.

The Faías follow a curriculum designed for homeschooling families by California-based Kolbe Academy, and Lynn supplements it with lessons in religion, Latin, and Spanish. Kolbe provides an entire course plan, and teachers there are available to grade the children’s work. Students who complete the program receive diplomas and transcripts from the institution. Lynn also administers standardized tests every two years to chart her children’s progress.

Reading is an integral part of all subjects, and the children start writing at an early age, completing book reports on the lives of the saints. There is an emphasis on the classics: History lessons start in the ancient world and work up to modern day, with the works of philosophers and writers of various historical periods studied along the way.

For the younger children, the school day is highly structured, but the older kids are allowed to work more independently based on their needs and interests. By the time Marjorie finished high school at home, she had read most of the selections on the Harvard reading list. Marjorie and Mary have both learned to play the harp, and the other children have taken up instruments as well.

When the Faías first started homeschooling, the network of like-minded families was quite small, but it’s grown since then, Lynn said. Homeschooled students get together to socialize and to take classes in advanced math, science, and languages, sometimes using labs and other facilities at local high schools. There are proms and other dances, ice-skating outings, and meetings among parents to swap teaching and child-rearing tips and recipes for quick and easy dinners.

Families also collaborate on field trips. The Faías have visited the major landmarks of Philadelphia, as well as the Tastykake factory, a candle factory, and ecological sites.

“There is so much going on, it’s almost as if you have to refuse opportunities,” Lynn said. “There are activities for every day of the week.”

The family’s more flexible school schedule also allows them the time to travel on the off-season, when it’s easier to accommodate a family of 16. They’ve been to Quebec City and Montreal, New Orleans, Las Vegas, and Disneyworld. Salvatore took his oldest children to Europe a few years ago, hitting major cities and religious shrines in Italy, Spain, and France.

As the children have grown up, they’ve all been given the option of attending high school. So far, no one has accepted the offer. Marjorie said she wanted to continue learning at her own pace, and she says that experience, combined with having a hand in raising her 13 younger siblings, is what sparked her interest in becoming a teacher.

“I really love kids, and seeing my mom teach and getting to help out in our classroom really made me want to give other kids the same experience,” said Marjorie, who lived at home for her first year at La Salle but will move on campus as a resident advisor next year.

Marjorie’s parents said they were surprised at first that their oldest daughter was considering a career in teaching. Upon reflection, though, it started to make sense.

“We realized this wasn’t a rejection of homeschooling, but was a result of an interest in her own education, and in education in general, that she wants to pass along,” Salvatore said.

As they prepare to send their second daughter off to college (Mary is interested in the fine arts and is considering following Marjorie and her father to La Salle), Salvatore and Lynn said they’re glad their children have responded so well to homeschooling. What started as an experiment in reaction to crowded schools in their district has morphed into a way of life.

“If they were in school, we’d be missing their best hours, when they have the most energy and are the most creative,” Salvatore said. “Here, we get to see them at their best, and see their development from start to finish. I feel like we’ve grown up and learned right alongside of them.”
Learning To Be World Citizens

BY MATTHEW POSIVAK, '05

LA SALLE SENIOR BETHANY COTTINGHAM RECENTLY SAT in the modest Chilean home of a woman whose husband had disappeared during the infamous General Augusto Pinochet regime; she listened intently as the woman recounted the night her spouse was taken away by armed men never to return. Her husband and thousands of other political dissidents were executed or imprisoned during the dictator’s 17-year rule.

This was just one of the many interactions Cottingham and 13 other La Salle students had with the poor and marginalized during a 10-day travel study trip to the South American country.

While on the trip, Cottingham and her classmates participated in a women’s rights march, journeyed through Chilean shantytowns, and spoke with a woman trying to stop the Chilean sex-slave trade. Their meetings with civic leaders as well as the underprivileged provided a context in which to appreciate the country’s culture.

“We really got a sense of what it’s like to be Chilean,” Cottingham said of the travel component of her course, Voices of Chile: Community, Education, and Human Rights. Voices of Chile is the most recent travel course taken as part of La Salle’s minor in Leadership and Global Understanding (L.G.U.).

The L.G.U. minor is a six-course program that consists of travel study components and independent study. Each course in the program requires service learning commitments as part of the educational experience. According to Robert Vogel, Ed.D., Program Co-Director and Professor of Education, “Our primary objective is to create students who come to understand, value, and accept their responsibility to become active citizens in their community, so that they may assume active leadership roles and help others do the same.”

The L.G.U. program was born from Vogel’s experience taking 33 of his senior education majors on a spring break trip to Spain six years ago. An experienced traveler to over 20 countries, Vogel had taken for granted that his students would flourish in this unfamiliar environment. Instead, he was surprised by the hesitancy of some students. Vogel decided to meet the problem head-on.

“I saw a need to create opportunities for students to learn and experience foreign culture,” Vogel said. “La Salle students must understand that they have a responsibility to their community and the world after graduation.” He co-directs the program with Marjorie Allen, Ph.D., Professor of English, and Louise Giugliano, Associate Director of University Ministry and Service.

The responsibility of the student to the world is fostered in the L.G.U. program through service learning. Each L.G.U. course requires students to develop and implement a project that benefits a community. Cottingham’s project focused on the large homeless population of Chile. “Except for a few soup kitchens, there really is no support available for the homeless,” Cottingham said. “Few understand the extent of the problem.” In response, she and some of her classmates compiled information resources for distribution to charitable organizations who minister to the Chilean homeless.

The travel study component is the facet of the L.G.U. program that especially piques student interest. L.G.U. minors enroll in either two or three courses that take them abroad. Cottingham, who also has gone with Vogel to Barcelona, Hong Kong, and Thailand, believes the firsthand experiences gained through travel are integral to the success of the L.G.U. courses. “Seeing these places changed my life,” Cottingham said. “Reading about them in a book just doesn’t compare.”

Vogel’s teaching philosophy of L.G.U. courses employs problem-based learning, where the goal of the semester is to answer a specific question or resolve a specific issue. The students in the travel study trip to Chile were posed a question: Do young people reflect society or do they shape it? “A lot of the course involves discussion, which is student-led,” Cottingham said.

The travel study trips in the L.G.U. program have taken La Salle students to a variety of countries overseas. Austria,
the Czech Republic, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Poland, Thailand, and Vietnam are only a few of the
nations L.G.U. participants have visited and expect to visit
in the future. Next year, Vogel plans to conduct a travel
study trip to visit Turkey.

The L.G.U. Capstone experience, the final stage of the
minor, completed its pilot this spring, and four members of
the Class of 2005 were the first to graduate with the
L.G.U. minor, representing majors as diverse as biology
and communication.

Project Achieve Partners La Salle
Faculty with Local Teachers

BY MATTHEW POSIVAK, '05

THE SWEATING AND FIDGETING ASSOCIATED WITH THE
stress of testing are normally reserved for students. For
La Salle’s new educational initiative, Project Achieve,
however, testing of students is more a measure of the
teacher’s competency in disseminating information than of
the student’s ability to retain knowledge.

La Salle has partnered with the city in an effort to
improve teachers’ instructional and assessment strategies as
the School District of Philadelphia implements its new core
curriculum in literacy, math, science, and social studies.
Project Achieve is a year-long program in which La Salle
professors in the Education Department are coaching a
dozen experienced teachers at Philadelphia’s Grover
Washington Jr. Middle School on how to teach “all”
students in ways that accelerate their scholastic abilities.

The program, predominately funded by the school
district and partially funded by the University, formally
began last summer with a two-day seminar focusing on staff
development and training for fifth- and eighth-grade
teachers. “It was encouraging that virtually all of the
teachers participated in the August training, considering it
was during their vacations,” Project Achieve Co-
coordinator Robert Vogel, Ed.D., Professor of Education,
said.

During the training sessions, teachers were refreshed on
best practices through demonstrations by La Salle faculty
and encouraged to share lesson plans for constructive
criticism. Despite the potential for resistance among the
teachers, Vogel confirms that the collaboration between the
middle school and La Salle teaching faculty has been very
gratifying. “We try to encourage dialogue and share our
experience as educators. Everyone is appreciative of the
others’ contributions. It is a real working partnership.”

One of Project Achieve’s techniques is action research,
in which teachers conduct research within their own
classrooms to expand their understanding of their students
and classroom dynamics. Five teachers and two teacher
leaders are investigating an array of issues—literacy skills,
process writing, service learning projects, etc.—both
observing and collecting data from their classes. According
to La Salle Education Professor and program Co-
coordinator Deborah Yost, Ph.D., “Action research is
enhancing student learning by giving teachers greater
insight into their classroom practices.”

Less than a year after its inception, Project Achieve has
already demonstrated remarkable success. In their
November 2004 benchmark assessments, fifth graders
climbed 10 percentage points in math proficiency while
eighth graders showed an increase of nine percentage
points in math, and an eight percent rise in reading
compared to October’s evaluations.

The successes of the partnership, however, extend
beyond benchmark assessments. Four La Salle alumni are
now teachers at Grover Washington Jr. Middle School and
six are student-teaching, while 12 junior Education majors
are participating in full-day placements, in which the
students observe the classroom and occasionally teach
lessons.
Creating Leaders in Education

BY JON CAROULIS

AS DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION FOR K-12 and Staff Development for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Louis DeAngelo, Ed.D., '80, oversees what more than 80,000 students learn in Catholic schools, from the alphabet to calculus. He has to follow guidelines set by the state and federal government, and deal with teachers, parents, and school administrators.

"Part of being a good administrator is being a good listener—taking in all of that information, and aligning it with what you need to get accomplished, as well as saying a prayer to make a good decision," DeAngelo said.

Learning to be a good listener was instilled in him by Brother Arthur Bangs, F.S.C., Ph.D., whom he said "was very demanding professionally."

"He would really communicate with you, and he truly inspired me to stay in track on education," says DeAngelo.

Mark Heiser, '00, took a different path to being a teacher: He had been an environmental engineer, but in 1998, began the Education Department's master's program for people who want to switch careers and become educators.

"Everything I gained from La Salle trickles down to everything I do in the classroom," said Heiser, who was named Teacher of the Year for 2005 at Rancocas Valley High School, N.J.

There's a saying: No one learns like a teacher. But the basis for success is the teacher's own education, and many La Salle alums have become leaders or award-winners based on the lessons they learned here.

"La Salle helped me become a hard worker," says Robert Burt, '69, Ed.D., Principal of Abington High School in Abington, Pa. "La Salle had a rigorous academic program, and I learned to read critically and how to think. I'm pretty certain that if you master those two skills at a relative young age, you can work your way through the problems that befall you in your career pathway."

"I would say I felt extraordinarily well prepared for moving into the workforce after leaving school—that, and becoming a lifelong learner." Burt says.

The average tenure for a college president is between four and five years. John E. Murray Jr., S.J.D., '55, was President at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh for 13 years (and jokes that he stepped down only because his wife insisted). He's currently Chancellor at the school and also is Vice Chair of a special oversight committee for the city of Pittsburgh's financial situation.

"All of my courses at La Salle helped prepare me in my career," said Murray, who earned a bachelor's degree in industrial management. After he graduated from La Salle, he earned a law degree from Catholic University, and on a Ford Foundation Fellowship, received a doctorate in law from the University of Wisconsin. He began teaching law at Duquesne, then became Dean of the University of..."
Pittsburgh’s law school, then Dean of Villanova’s law school. He returned to the University of Pittsburgh for a chaired position at its law school, and became Daquesne’s president in 1988.

“I remember my La Salle education very well. I remember the books I read and the courses I took,” he said. “It was a great background for everything I’ve done. Among the courses I enjoyed at La Salle were the philosophy courses, particularly the way they developed analytical ability. They have been very helpful in my career.”

Mary Benson, ’76, says she got a really strong foundation in her subject area—math—but it was facing a video camera where she learned a great deal about teaching. She had to teach a “class” of her fellow La Salle students while a video camera recorded her every move and spoken word.

“Then your class peers critiqued you and graded your performance,” said Benson, who was recently named the best new faculty member at Pensacola Junior College in Florida.

“You also had to put a lesson plan together, and that was important to learn,” said Benson, who has taught math at the high school and college level. “I find that essential, even now.” She said that the lesson plan—listing the methods, goals, and objectives for each class—and the ‘structure’ of each class, was very useful.”

John Convey, Ph.D., ’62, has conducted a number of studies on Catholic schools and written several books on Catholic education while a member of the Education Department at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He also served as Chair of the Education Department, and eight years ago, was asked by the school’s President (and former La Salle University President) Brother Patrick Ellis, F.S.C., Ph.D., to be Provost.

After graduating from La Salle, Convey taught math at La Salle High School in Miami, Fla., and went on to earn a doctorate in education from Florida State University. From there, he joined the faculty in the education department at Catholic University in 1974.

“In addition to the great teachers that I had at La Salle, I also benefited from the great sense of community there and the good rapport between the faculty and the students. What I learned is that if you don’t build relationships, you can’t communicate,” Convey said. “What I learned at La Salle, both in the classroom and from the Brothers, was just invaluable. The whole La Salle spirit was serving the students to make sure they do well.”

Annenberg Grant Funds Scholarships for Future Math and Science Teachers

BY ANDREW LAZOR, ’06

IN 2003, THE ANNENBERG FOUNDATION AWARDED La Salle University a $2 million grant for scholarships to assist and encourage students to become math and science teachers. The grant was designed to reward deserving education majors who specialize in these fields. Education is currently one of the largest undergraduate programs at La Salle; the program has graduated thousands of students who have gone on to become teachers in many different disciplines.

Maryanne Bednar, Ph.D., Professor of Education and Director of La Salle’s Secondary Education program, sees the scholarships as an excellent way to encourage graduate entry into math and science teaching. “Having more teachers who understand [these subjects] and how to teach them will help secondary education students to better understand and apply the lessons they learn in the classroom,” she said.

The scholarship was created with a $2 million gift from the late Ambassador Walter H. Annenberg and his wife, Leconore. It is named after the couple and William J. Henrich, their longtime friend and a 1950 La Salle graduate. The selection committee gave the scholarships, which range from $5,000 to $10,000, to a total of five students.
Special Education Teachers: Knocking Down Labels, Building Up Confidence

BY JON CAROULIS

IT SHOULDN'T TAKE YOU MORE THAN A FEW MINUTES TO read this article. For Colleen Tomaszewski, '03, however, it will take her about five times as long to finish it. She has dyslexia, but that didn't stop her from graduating from La Salle with a 3.8 G.P.A., and it doesn't stop her now that she's teaching full time, attending graduate school, and tutoring an autistic child.

Not until fifth grade did Tomaszewski learn she had dyslexia. She wasn't lazy or slow as many of her teachers had deemed her. She committed herself to becoming a teacher for special needs children and found her way to La Salle. While there were a number of reasons she chose the University, one of the most compelling was the Education Department's combined major in elementary education and special education.

For most of the 20th century, special education teacher training programs at education departments around the country were focused on the specific disability labels of children, whether they had a learning, physical, or mental disability, said Preston Feden, Ed.D., Professor of Education. In the 1970s, he said La Salle's Education Department began training special education majors to work with children based upon their learning needs, rather than their disability labels. Then the department got some interesting feedback.

"Catholic grade school principals called us and told us they really liked the manner in which our special education graduates whom they hired not only worked with students with special needs, but with children in regular classroom settings as well," Feden said. "That got us to thinking maybe we should develop a program that combined both elementary and special education teacher preparation—one of the very first programs of that kind in the country."

This year, Tomaszewski started teaching at the Russell Byers Charter School in Philadelphia. She's helped create and develop the first resource center for children with special needs at the school.

These students were falling behind their classmates, said Charlotte Babinski, the school's Director of Special Education. So, she and Tomaszewski set up the center.

"She has really made a wonderful environment for the classroom," Babinski said. "When you enter it, it's calming and comforting, yet a lively classroom. There's lots to look at, lots to get engaged with."

Tomaszewski also set up a program for the students to learn about sea life, complete with field trips and special projects.

"They put on a very beautiful showcase to demonstrate to their families and other kids what they learned," Babinski said. "It was very, very impressive. The kids had costumes, and stood up before a group and explained what they learned. That was something we'd never seen those students do before. They felt confident, successful. It was fabulous to see that, and their parents were so happy to witness their accomplishments."

Colleen Tomaszewski, '03, helps her students Naquan Hight (left) and Nysear Hearst (right) put together an ant farm.
Teaching the Teacher: La Salle’s Teaching and Learning Center

BY CAITLIN TERCHA

WHEN PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION PRESTON FEDEN, Ed.D., founded La Salle’s Teaching and Learning Center in 1994, his main objective was to create a support center for faculty. Whether it was through the sharing of ideas and learning resources, or discussing what makes teaching exciting, the underlying goal was to “rejuvenate enthusiasm for learning” on the part of both teachers and students.

Feden—who joined La Salle’s faculty in 1973, directed the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) from 1994 through 2002, and still teaches in the Education Department today—says he felt that, in all his years of teaching, he noticed that faculty tended to talk about the educational experience in general, but not about the strategies and methodology they used to teach. He wanted to create a place where faculty and students alike could come in and out to discuss what was happening in the classroom. He wanted to provide everything he could to enable teachers to create “optimum learning environments” for their students.

The impetus behind such a center was the thinking: “If teaching comes first here, then we should have a place where teachers can come and find some tangible support for their efforts,” Feden said. And so he took a sabbatical to draft a proposal outlining what he believed the Center could do in order to improve teaching practices among faculty. After receiving fervent support from then-Interim Provost Joseph Kane, Ph.D., and then-Dean of Arts and Sciences Barbara Millard, Ph.D., the TLC was born.

More than a decade later, the Center has grown to include varied programs and services not only for faculty, but for students as well. One of its main objectives today is to “assist students in attaining academic excellence” by offering tutoring, online learning resources, and other academic support services. In fact, the TLC has teamed up with the Sheeky Writing Center, the Counseling Center, the Academic Discovery Program, Academic Enrichment Program, and Academic Support for Student-Athletes to better service students.

Though directorship of the TLC has changed hands since its inception, its mission is essentially the same: “to support the informing spirit of La Salle University—dedication to excellence in teaching that fosters excellence in learning.”

Assistant Provost for Learning Support and Faculty Development Sabrina DeTurk, Ph.D., has been at the helm since 2002. “By expanding the role of the Teaching and Learning Center to encompass services for both faculty and students, we are creating an inclusive learning environment that supports the original mission of the Center in new ways.”

Just a few examples of the extensive services the Center currently provides for faculty include classroom observations, consultation on course design, the hosting of events related to teaching and learning or faculty professional development, and the formation of various study or reading groups.

“What to engage people is really what the Center is all about,” said Feden. DeTurk concurred. “Whether we are bringing together a group of two or a group of 20, creating conversations about teaching and learning is always the goal.”

SAVE THE DATE

WHAT: Education Conference: “What the Best Teachers Do”
WHEN: November 5, 2005
WHERE: La Salle’s main campus
SPONSOR: La Salle University’s Education Department
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Kenneth R. Bain, Ph.D., Founding Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence at New York University and author of the best selling book, What the Best College Teachers Do
WHO’S INVITED: Faculty and administrators from La Salle University as well as other local colleges and universities; La Salle students and alumni; members of Phi Lambda Theta, the Education Honor Society
SCHEDULE:
8:00 to 9:00 a.m. Check-in and continental breakfast
9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Keynote speakers
11:00 to 12:00 p.m. Lunch and book signing
12:00 to 1:30 p.m. Breakout sessions
Please call Donna Wake at 215.951.1099, or e-mail wake@lasalle.edu for more information.
Student-Teachers Impact the Region

BY JON CAROULIS

RITA MCGOVERN, '77, M.A. '96, KNOWS WHAT A secondary education major experiences when her or she steps in front of a classroom for the first time as a student-teacher.

“That is always scary,” McGovern said. As an undergraduate at La Salle, she experienced being in charge of a classroom for the first time. Now, she gets to see La Salle secondary education students following in her footsteps when they arrive at Little Flower High School in Philadelphia for their student-teaching assignments in English, mathematics, world languages, social studies, and religion.

“I know a little bit about where they’re coming from,” said McGovern, now Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs at Little Flower. “La Salle does a nice job [in preparing] the students. They have a pretty good feel for what’s going on. If anything, the students are over-prepared.”

At Cardinal Dougherty High School, student-teachers are not viewed as part-time help or adjuncts. “They have come to be full members of our faculty, and their input at our faculty meetings has been invaluable,” said Jeff Taylor, Director of Academic Affairs at the school. “They come with a fresh perspective. The secondary student-teachers from La Salle have been great for Cardinal Dougherty. They’re more closely connected to the education professor as consumers (being students themselves).”

“I find La Salle students have been respected by our faculty and students,” Taylor said. “They take over an entire class, and we don’t hold them back in any regard. They monitor service periods, mind the study halls, do café moderation, substitute in classes. We have them do everything we expect faculty members to do.”

The process leading to senior year student-teaching begins with field experiences in the freshman, sophomore, and junior years.

Before all secondary education (SE) and elementary/special education (ESE) majors student-teach, they visit schools and observe classrooms.

“We want them to have as much interaction with the students and teachers in their weekly two-hour visits as possible,” says Joyce Hunley, an administrative assistant for the ESE program. Students at schools keep journals and incorporate what they’ve observed into coursework, “to show how theory relates to practice.”

ESE juniors spend a full day each Friday in one of three designated professional development schools. Education faculty members are on site on Fridays to plan, observe, and consult with students. These juniors take 10 semester hours of coursework each semester that is directly related to this more intensive fieldwork experience.

Each January, SE student-teachers undergo a “boot camp” with professionals who volunteer to present issues related to their experience. Last fall, students met with three area principals or assistant principals, including McGovern and John Lohn, '71, Assistant Principal at Rose Tree High School in Media, Pa.

“The students get to hear all of the wisdom from those on the panel, nearly 100 years’ worth,” said Maryanne Bednar, Ph.D., Director of Secondary Education at La Salle. She also brings in experts to discuss issues pertinent to teaching. These included James Bednar, '69, a clinical social worker, who has discussed sexual harassment and conflict resolution, and Kathleen Roth, '02, a graduate of La Salle’s school nurse program.

Each year, SE and ESE students complete field experiences in more than 70 public, parochial, charter, and private schools throughout the region.

“My teachers have been very much impressed with the La Salle student-teachers,” said Adrienne Jacoby, Ph.D., Principal of Lowell Elementary School in Philadelphia. “They’re very knowledgeable and well prepared everyday. They put in a great deal of work. I think they go the extra mile (in preparation), and they have wonderful relations with the teachers here. We’re just delighted to have La Salle students.”

Michael Rosenberg, Principal of Grover Washington Jr. Middle School in Philadelphia, said, “When I see a La Salle student coming in, I know I have somebody great. They can relate to students, execute a [lesson] plan, and be a professional.”
# La Salle University Department of Education and Local K-12 School Connections

Schools are keyed as follows:

| FP | Field Placement Site – La Salle University students attend the school weekly for a two-hour period to work with teachers and students in conjunction with coursework. |
| ST | Student-Teaching Site – La Salle University students complete full semester, full-time senior student-teaching at this site. |
| PDS | Professional Development School – La Salle University has an enhanced relationship with these schools. Many La Salle University students attend the school for both field placements and for student-teaching. The PDS sites and La Salle work collaboratively on action research, grant projects, faculty inservice, and special programs. |

## School District of Philadelphia Public Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Key</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baldi Middle School</td>
<td>FP</td>
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<tr>
<td>G.W. Carver High School</td>
<td>FP, ST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creighton School</td>
<td>FP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ellwood School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germantown High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grover Washington Middle School</td>
<td>FP, ST, PDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jay Cooke Middle School</td>
<td>FP</td>
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<td>Lowell School</td>
<td>FP, ST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Logan School</td>
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<td>Masterman Secondary School</td>
<td>FP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast High School</td>
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<td>Pastors School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pennell School</td>
<td>FP, ST - PDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philadelphia High School for Girls</td>
<td>FP, ST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prince Hall School</td>
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<td>Roberto Clemente Middle School</td>
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<td>Roxborough High School</td>
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<td>Mayfair School</td>
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<td>Morrill School</td>
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<td>Widener Memorial School</td>
<td>FP, ST - PDS</td>
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## Archdiocesan Schools

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<tr>
<td>Archbishop Ryan HS</td>
<td>FP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archbishop Wood HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishop McDevitt HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardinal Dougherty HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>John W. Hallahan HS</td>
<td>FP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Father Judge HS</td>
<td>FP, ST</td>
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<td>Gesu</td>
<td>FP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Name of Jesus</td>
<td>FP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Flower HS for Girls</td>
<td>FP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast Catholic for Boys</td>
<td>FP, ST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notre Dame HS (Trenton)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Our Lady of Hope</td>
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<td>Our Mother of Consolation</td>
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<td>Resurrection</td>
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<td>Roman Catholic HS for Boys</td>
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<td>St. Benedict</td>
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<td>St. Helena</td>
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<td>St. Hubert HS</td>
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<td>St. Leo</td>
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<td>St. Martin De Porres</td>
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<tr>
<td>SS John Neumann and Maria Goretti HS</td>
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<td>West Philadelphia Catholic HS</td>
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## Private, Other Church-Affiliated and Charter Schools

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<td>ST</td>
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<td>De La Salle in Towne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin Towne Charter HS</td>
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<td>Girard College</td>
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<tr>
<td>La Salle College HS</td>
<td>FP, ST</td>
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<td>Mt. St. Joseph Academy</td>
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<td>Nazareth Academy HS</td>
<td>ST</td>
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## Philadelphia Academy Charter Sch. | FP |
| San Miguel Middle School | FP |
| School Lane Charter School | FP |
| West Oak Lane Charter School | FP |
| William Penn Charter School | FP, ST |

## Suburban Pennsylvania Public Schools

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<tr>
<td>Abington Jr. High</td>
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<td>Abington Sr. High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centennial School District</td>
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<tr>
<td>McDonald Elementary</td>
<td>FP, ST</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Tennent HS</td>
<td>ST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheltenham School District</td>
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<td>Chesterbrook MS</td>
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<td>Jenkintown School District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jenkintown Elementary</td>
<td>FP, ST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hatboro-Horsham School District</td>
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<td>Hallowell Elementary</td>
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<td>Hatboro-Horsham HS</td>
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<td>Keith Valley MS</td>
<td>ST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunnonum Elementary (graduate summer programs)</td>
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## Suburban New Jersey Schools

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<td>Lawrence MS</td>
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<td>LARC School (Indep. Special ed.)</td>
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<td>Lenape School District</td>
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<td>Cherokee HS</td>
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<td>Seneca HS</td>
<td>ST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moorestown School District</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Allen Middle School</td>
<td>ST</td>
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A Conversation with James J. Lynch, ’71
Board Chair and Steering Committee Member Shares His Thoughts on Shoulder to Shoulder

“Through Shoulder to Shoulder, we are discovering and engaging successful members of the La Salle community who want to participate in the life of the University, and this fundraising effort provides them with an opportunity to do just that,” noted James J. Lynch, ’71, Chair of La Salle’s Board of Trustees and a member of the Steering Committee. Lynch is one of the many alumni, parents, and friends who have had an impact on this effort by providing volunteer leadership and financial support. He and his wife, Kathleen Gordon Lynch, ’71, have committed $250,000 to Shoulder to Shoulder: Securing the Future for the construction of the new science and technology center. They are also members of the De La Salle Society, which recognizes lifetime giving over $100,000.

This multi-year effort provides opportunities for every member of the La Salle community to support its strategic priorities and help provide valuable resources that will benefit the students and enhance their educational experience. With more than $15 million in commitments secured to date, representing more than 60 percent of its $25 million goal, Shoulder to Shoulder continues to gain momentum.

“From the beginning, Shoulder to Shoulder was designed to add to the resources the University had available, and not simply shift funding from annual support to the major gift projects,” Lynch said. “A successful major gift initiative should have a positive impact on the Annual Fund in addition to raising capital and endowment funding.” Those participating in Shoulder to Shoulder are asked to make gifts and pledges in addition to their ongoing support of the Annual Fund.

“Years ago, La Salle reached out to me and asked me to become more involved,” Lynch remarked. “I am glad that I did, because I get back so much more from my involvement than I give. The relationships I’ve developed over the years with other members of the Board of Trustees, the President, students, alumni, parents, faculty, and administrators have inspired me and continue to motivate me to help move the University forward.”

Already, Shoulder to Shoulder has engaged the most donors, secured the largest gifts, and raised more money for La Salle than ever before. These positive indicators among La Salle’s key stakeholders are a reinforcement of the University’s mission and a sign of confidence in its future. Not only is this a good barometer for success for the current fundraising effort, but it also is helping to establish an important tradition of philanthropy that the University can continue to build upon for years to come.

Lynch is encouraged by the early success of Shoulder to Shoulder.

“We’re very optimistic and pleased with progress to date. Both the level of interest in the University and philanthropic support of its priorities have been raised to levels never seen in the past, because people feel good about La Salle,” added Lynch. “They recognize that La Salle remains true to its roots and continues to be committed to the development of the total person in the Christian Brothers tradition. The type of student that was attracted to this educational experience in years past is the same kind of student that La Salle attracts today. These are things that people are willing to invest in.”

The State of the Initiative

Shoulder to Shoulder, La Salle’s Major Gift Initiative (MGI), currently stands at $15,072,064. Our current rate of return on asks is still approximately 40 percent. “We are in a very good position to finish this campaign successfully,” said James J. Lynch, ’71, Chair of La Salle University’s Board of Trustees. During the MGI, La Salle has:

• Attracted the largest gifts from individuals in the University’s history;
• Raised more money for La Salle than ever before;
• Identified and visited an unprecedented number of potential donors;
• Built a new development program for La Salle—staffing, infrastructure, systems, tracking, and accountability;
• Created a new culture of major gift cultivation in the shadow of 9/11 and the downturn in the stock market, both of which have had significant impact on the philanthropic environment.
In Memoriam: Br. Charles “Chip” Echelmeier, F.S.C., Is Remembered as a Teacher and Spiritual Leader

BROTHER CHARLES “CHIP” ECHELMEIER, F.S.C., WHO served as Director of University Ministry and Service at La Salle University and also directed many theatrical productions, died suddenly at a Brothers’ community residence in Mt. Airy on May 5. He was 62.

Born in Philadelphia in 1942 and raised in Margate, N.J., he was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Francis J. Echelmeier and graduated from Holy Spirit High School in Atlantic City. Br. Chip joined the order of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in 1965, a year after he was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College with a bachelor’s degree in English. He later earned a master’s degree in English from Temple University and a master’s degree in Pastoral Theology from the University of Notre Dame.

He began working at La Salle in 1977 as an assistant director of residence life, and in 1980 he was named Director of Campus Ministry, later renamed the Office of University Ministry and Service (UMAS). He believed that a religious center on campus, in his words, “cannot be compartmentalized. It must permeate the University.”

“In keeping with the mission of our founder, St. John Baptist de La Salle, we strive to tap each student’s potential to become a fully developed human being: an informed lifelong learner, an advocate for social justice, and a steward of the community, be it worldwide or around the block,” Br. Chip wrote about UMAS in an issue of La Salle Magazine.

Br. Chip had seen dedicated students arrive at La Salle eager and willing to get involved in community service, only to see them have to cut back on their volunteer work to get part-time and even full-time jobs to help pay their expenses. He then developed a Community Service Scholarship to enable students to continue their volunteer work. La Salle is one of a few universities that provide such financial assistance. “It wasn’t patterned after anyone else’s,” said Br. Chip. Each year, five students are selected for these scholarships.

La Salle President Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., ’70, said, “Brother Chip will be most remembered for his love of music and liturgy. He believed strongly that a liturgy should be participatory, and he did all that he could to get people involved.”

Prior to coming to La Salle, Br. Chip held several teaching and administrative positions at Archbishop Carroll High School for Boys in Radnor, Pa., including Vice Principal, and at the Congregation of Holy Cross Formation Program in Indiana, where he was Spiritual Director. He was also the Musical Director of the Theatre Workshop at Archbishop Carroll.

Br. Chip possessed a fine singing voice and sang at many University functions, including Opening Convocation and Commencement.

He also directed a number of student theatrical productions, and played the piano as accompaniment. His last show was directing La Salle Dean of Students Joseph J. Cicala, Ph.D., and Director of Health Services Lane Neubauer, Ph.D., in the two-character play, “Love Letters,” which was produced on campus as a fundraiser for the service trips, such as Project Appalachia, Los Niños, and Project Hope, organized through UMAS.

As part of a memorial display in his honor in the La Salle Union, several quotes from Br. Chip’s colleagues are posted around his picture. One of them, from Cicala, reads: “Br. Chip was—is—a profound influence on my work, on my spiritual development, and on my life. He introduced me to and helped me learn from St. John Baptist de La Salle and the legacy of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in a way to be unparalleled by any other. He has been, and continues to be, my teacher. For a true Lasallian, such as Br. Chip, there’s no greater tribute. I do and always will miss his physical presence among us, but in our work and in our lives, he always will be present.”

A Mass of Christian Burial and viewing were held at the De La Salle Chapel on the University’s main campus on May 9, and the interment was held the following day at the Christian Brothers’ Cemetery in Ammendale, Md.

He is survived by a first cousin, Grace Cremlin.

Br. Chip left a bequest to establish a scholarship fund in honor of his father—The Francis J. Echelmeier Scholarship, to benefit junior and senior students majoring in Communication at La Salle. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Francis J. Echelmeier Scholarship Fund, c/o Advancement Office, La Salle University, 1900 W. Olney Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19141.
The death of Pope John Paul II has saddened millions of people, and it has left me profoundly bereaved. He was the only pope I knew personally, at least as well as a man in my position can ever get to know a pope.

WE MET IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS., IN THE SUMMER OF 1976. I was a visiting professor for Ukrainian literature at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. He, then Karol Cardinal Wojtyla of Cracow, came up from Philadelphia, where he took part in the 41st Eucharistic Congress, to deliver a lecture on Marxism and Christianity. I went to the event, which was rather modestly attended. The speaker impressed me with his lucid and erudite analysis of a complex philosophical topic, displaying an unquestionable mastery of Marxist dialectics and modern philosophical trends. Following the lecture, at the subsequent wine and cheese reception, I went up to the Cardinal to further discuss the subject of his discourse. I spoke to him in Polish, and he responded warmly and with great interest. Sipping white wine, we talked about his presentation, and he was truly appreciative of my comments. Soon the topic of our conversation expanded. He was sincerely interested in my commitment as a Catholic educator, my work in
comparative literature, my activities on behalf of the underground Church in Ukraine. We must have talked at least 20 minutes. At the end of the conversation, the Cardinal invited me to visit him in Cracow; unfortunately, I was unable to make use of his gracious offer. Two years later, he became Pope John Paul II, and I could proudly proclaim urbi et orbi (to the town and to the world, ed.), I know him!

This chance (or providential) encounter in Cambridge as well as my work for the Patriarch of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Josyf Cardinal Slipyj, led to several audiences in the Vatican. I knew the Pope had a phenomenal memory, but I was most surprised and delighted when, during my first audience, he pointed his finger at me and said, “I know this gentleman—Harvard, isn’t it?” This, after his seeing millions of people, was truly extraordinary. “No, Your Holiness, La Salle,” I responded, and explained: “I did have the honor of meeting Your Holiness at Harvard in 1976, where we were sort of missionaries,” which brought a smile to his face.

_Honores mutant mores_ (honors change customs, ed.), an old Latin proverb tells us, but this was definitely not the case with Karol Wojtyla. There was no trace of pride in him, only loving, human kindness expressed most poignantly in his message to all of us: “Do not be afraid.” If anything, he was more humble after his election to the See of Peter. His human warmth was constantly with him. When, at one general audience in St. Peter’s Square, my at- that-time teenage children screamed at him in Ukrainian, “Our father says hello.” He smiled, waved back, and replied: “Say hello to him from me.” The Holy Father also was not inured to criticism. When, at one time, I thanked him for interceding on behalf of the persecuted Ukrainian Catholics in the Soviet Union, he asked with some concern, but also with a touch of satisfaction, “But did you read how the French newspapers criticized me?”

As a man, he was, like all of us, fallible. As a Pontiff, he was awe-inspiring. His exceptional quality of character enabled him to stand firm against certain currents of our times, and yet divinely surf the tides of our common historical experience. Spanning two centuries, with a plethora of humankind’s unprecedented inventions, innovations, and confounding technological advancement, including the advent of the much vaunted information revolution—he was uniquely in tune with both the spiritual needs and the worldly necessities of our age. He was without doubt the right man, at the right time.

“God needs good people in heaven,” says an old Ukrainian saying. I find solace and comfort in these simple words. Having labored and suffered and having accomplished so much for the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth, John Paul II has gone to his Maker, to an ensured and blessed eternal peace.

**A Man of Strong Faith**

**BY JON CAROULIS**

EDWARD A. TURZANSKI, ’81, LA SALLE’S ASSISTANT VICE President for Government and Community Affairs, had the honor of performing the first reading in Polish at a Mass for Pope John Paul II at the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia on Friday, April 8. It was not the first time in his life that his knowledge of Polish allowed his path to meet that of the Holy Father.

In 1976, then Karol Cardinal Wojtyla of Warsaw came to Philadelphia to participate in the Eucharistic Congress. Turzanski had been employed as a V.I.P. Tour Guide by the Bicentennial Commission, where his skills in Polish, Russian, and other Slavic languages were in demand. Coincidentally, Turzanski was also a lector of Polish Masses at St. Adalbert’s Parish, in Philadelphia’s Richmond section, and the future Pope said Mass at the parish as part of his visit. When his supervisors at the Bicentennial Commission found out about Turzanski’s interaction with the Polish cardinal, they assigned him to Wojtyla as an escort and translator.

Three years later, Pope John Paul II came to Philadelphia, and again Turzanski was approached, this time by the Secret Service, to serve with the security detail.

After the Pontiff’s death, officials at the Archdiocese of Philadelphia asked him to perform the first reading of the liturgy in the Pope’s native language.

“I was concentrating on the meaning of the words and on John Paul II’s legacy of freedom,” Turzanski said of his reading. Afterward, he said he reflected on how John Paul II reminded him of his father.

“Seventeen years ago, my father had a scare with cancer, and we almost lost him—and we almost lost the Pope in 1981 (to an assassination attempt). Both the Pope and my father had near-death experiences. I was lucky to have my dad for 17 more years after that scare (he died last year), and we all were able to have the Pope for another 24 years after the assassin shot him. Both my father and the Pope were men of strong faith who opposed communism and believed that love of God, country, and family were the keys to honorable and moral lives.”
Sasso Receives Leadership Award

This was one recognition ceremony that William Sasso, Esq., '69, couldn't pass up.

Well-known for his philanthropic works in healthcare and education, Sasso's typical practice was to decline invitations to be honored by the organizations he's helped, but he couldn't say no when his alma mater wanted to present him with its Charter Award, given for civic contributions.

"I've been asked by a number of institutions to be an honoree, and I've always passed," says Sasso, who is a member of the University's Board of Trustees. "I'd much rather support an event honoring someone else, usually a friend, but I think in this particular case, La Salle has done so much for me, I felt I should accept. It's just a matter of paying back an institution that had such a positive influence in my life."

Sasso is Partner and Chair of the law firm of Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young. He also serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Holy Redeemer Health System; was appointed by Philadelphia Mayor John F. Street to serve on the Children's Commission Advisory Committee; is a trustee of the Leo Niessen Jr. Charitable Foundation, which benefits inner-city youths and working women in need; and received the honor of papal knighthood as a Knight of St. Gregory from Pope John Paul II.

Sasso grew up a few blocks from La Salle's main campus. He always knew he wanted to be a lawyer (and was involved in the University's pre-law society). He majored in economics and took courses with two legendary teachers in that department—Joseph Flubacher, '35, Ed.D., and Joseph Cairo, '60.

"Professor Flubacher was a tremendous, positive influence on my life, and also a kind, gentle man," Sasso said. "He had a real gift for education and was incredibly patient, compassionate, and enthusiastic. That came through in class each and every day."

As for Cairo, "I admired his creativity and uniqueness," Sasso recalled. "He was the reason I became interested in film. He was an incredible film buff, especially foreign films, and he developed analogies in the classroom to different films that he loved, some of Truffault's films, Fellini's films. He was a very creative, imaginative guy."

MATH AND SCIENCE PARTNERSHIPS

(From left) Victor Donnay of Bryn Mawr College, Deborah Pomeroy of Arcadia University, and F. Joseph Merlino of La Salle are principal investigators for the Mathematics and Science Partnership of Greater Philadelphia (MSPGP). La Salle hosted a convocation on March 21 for representatives from the 13 higher education institutions involved in the MSPGP, a regional effort to improve math and science teaching and to encourage more students to pursue careers in math and science education. La Salle is the lead partner in the MSPGP, which is funded through a five-year, $12.5 million cooperative agreement awarded to the University by the National Science Foundation. Lori Shorr, Special Assistant to Francis Barnes, Pennsylvania's Secretary of Education, was the event's keynote speaker, discussing the importance of partnerships among colleges and universities and high schools.

GRANT ROUNDUP

La Salle University has recently received the following grants:

• $211,800 from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare to support the Neighborhood Nursing Center's Community Connections Initiative.

• $10,000 from the James S. Kemper Foundation for the Entrepreneurship Institute, a joint venture of the schools of Arts and Sciences and Business.

• $25,000 from the Verizon Foundation to support an educational technology project in the Elementary and Special Education Program.

• $18,000 from the William G. McGowan Charitable Fund, Inc., to provide scholarship assistance to a student enrolled in La Salle's School of Business.
Barletta Named Dean of New College of Continuing and Professional Studies

Charles Kennedy Barletta, Ph.D., has been named the founding Dean of La Salle University's new College of Continuing and Professional Studies (CCPS) by Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., '70, La Salle's President. Barletta was previously Dean of University College at Syracuse University in New York.

"Dean Barletta has had a long and distinguished career in continuing higher education since 1971," Br. Michael said. "His leadership will support our University's mission to nurture a lifelong learning community in the Lasallian tradition. He will develop programs that are diverse, relevant, accessible, and useful—for personal growth, professional advancement, and service to others."

Barletta has served with distinction at some of the leading universities, colleges, and organizations in the realm of continuing, higher, and professional education, including Syracuse University, the State University of New York, Michigan State University, and the Educational Testing Service.

Barletta is a 1967 graduate of Christian Brothers Academy in Lincroft, N.J. He graduated from Virginia Wesleyan College and earned an M.S. in Adult Continuing Education at Syracuse University and a Ph.D. in Higher Education from Michigan State University.

While at Syracuse University, he helped establish degree and certificate programs in legal studies, information technology, organizational leadership, engineering management, public relations, and several special contract programs with business, industry, and the U.S. Department of Defense.

"Dr. Barletta was far and away our first choice," said La Salle University Provost Richard Nigro, Ph.D. "He has extensive experience in developing degree programs and professional training opportunities for working adults. His background at Syracuse University allows us to expand our commitment to the adult learner under the direction of proven leadership."

"The College of Continuing and Professional Studies will create, market, and manage its own programs and courses," Nigro added. "It will offer bachelor's degrees, non-credit programming, and executive education, professional education, and life-enrichment programs." In addition, Barletta will be responsible for the operation of off-site programs, including La Salle's Bucks County Center.

Raymond Ricci, '67, Vice President for Enrollment Services at La Salle, said, "The creation of the CCPS is congruent with the mission of the University. It provides opportunities to people whose circumstances prevent them from becoming full-time students, and La Salle has a long history of doing just that."

LOCAL ARTIST FEATURED AT AFRICAN AMERICAN ALUMNI EVENT

La Salle's African American Alumni Association partnered with the African American Student League to host an event in the University's Art Museum, featuring Philadelphia art gallery owner Sande Webster and local artist Moe Brooker. The reception was held on Feb. 25 as a part of the University's Black History Month celebration.

Webster (right) owns a gallery in Center City Philadelphia and has been representing primarily African American artists since 1969. Brooker (left) has held numerous solo exhibitions all over America, including at Webster's gallery. He received his M.F.A. from Philadelphia's Tyler School of Art in 1972 and currently heads the Department of Basic Studies at Moore College of Art, where he teaches painting. In 2003, he received the James Van Der Zee Lifetime Achievement Award, and he was recently commissioned for a major artwork at the Kimmel Center.

Madeleine Viljoen, Ph.D., Curator of the La Salle Art Museum, poses with them in front of one of Brooker's oil pastels, *Might Could*, which the Art Museum recently purchased. Brooker's compositions are primarily abstract and are deeply influenced by the rhythms of jazz and gospel music.
Vice President, Retiring After 40-plus Years, Reflects on Changes

After serving in the U.S. Air Force and a successful career in banking, David C. Fleming, La Salle's Vice President for Business Affairs, didn't set out to spend four decades at the University. Hired as Assistant Comptroller in 1963, Fleming planned to work at La Salle for a few years on the way to a career in aviation.

But as time passed and a job with the commercial airlines failed to materialize, Fleming happily stayed on at La Salle, working his way up from Comptroller to Vice President and Treasurer for the University. Fleming will retire this summer after 42 years of service to La Salle—years he said have flown by as the campus has expanded and its administration grown more complex.

"From the day I arrived here, I never had a day that I didn't find interesting and feel challenged," he said. "I like to think I've had a hand in helping the University grow."

La Salle's business operations were far simpler in the early 1960s. There was no Human Resources department, no Student Financial Services office—just the Registrar and the Bursar. The University employed just one accountant; one room was devoted to the Food Services administrative office, and the campus switchboard occupied a small corner of College Hall.

"When I arrived here, La Salle was a fairly unsophisticated organization, and it did not need to run like complex businesses," Fleming said.

Fleming took the lead in expanding and creating many administrative departments, including Human Resources, and he now oversees 12 departments employing 325 people. During his tenure, the University's operating budget increased from $13 million to more than $96 million; the total value of the physical plant grew from $24 million to $131 million; and endowment funds increased from $4 million to more than $50 million.

Fleming has overseen the acquisition of property and buildings that have more than doubled the physical footprint of the campus, from about 50 acres to more than 100 acres. He has been involved in the acquisition of the Good Shepherd property, the Peale estate (Wister Farm), the land that is now South Campus, the Bucks County Center, and St. Theresa Court apartments. He has also supervised construction and renovation projects, including the St. Katherine Residence Hall, the Blue and Gold Commons, the Connelly Library, the Communication Center, St. Neumann Hall, the Hayman Hall expansion, the Peale House restoration, the Bucks County Center, the Ditmar-Penn facilities, the St. Miguel Townhouse Complex, and the nearly completed St. Basil Court residence hall and Treetops dining facility.

"The University as we know it today has really been built from the ground up," Fleming said. "To be part of that period of change made my job very challenging, but I went home every day feeling like I'd accomplished something meaningful."

Part of Fleming's job included the development of the University's first strategic plan in 1994, and he has worked with La Salle's Board of Trustees to create a more sophisticated management structure for investing endowment funds and enhance the way the University prepares its operating budget.

"I'm proud of what I'll leave behind, and I'm grateful for the able and professional people I've had the privilege to work with and call my colleagues," he said.

**HALL OF ATHLETES**

La Salle University inducted five new members into its Hall of Athletes this year. Pictured from left: Barry Petrachenko, '88, a member of the most successful team in the history of La Salle baseball; Jim Phelan, '51, already a member of the Hall of Athletes as a basketball player, was recognized for his contributions as a basketball coach at La Salle and Mount St. Mary's College; Robert Wilkinson, '88, currently an assistant men's soccer coach at La Salle and the University's all-time leader in games played with 78; Theresa Carroll, '98, the first La Salle women's runner to earn All-American honors; and Dina Dormer, '98, the first woman swimmer from La Salle to qualify for the NCAA championships.
Br. Joseph Willard Joins President’s Team

Brother Joseph Willard, F.S.C., graduated from La Salle in 1964 and returned to campus in the early 1990s to live in the Christian Brothers’ Residence. Moving from Center City to the University’s community, he found peace, quiet, and, eventually, a new job.

Br. Joseph recently became Executive Assistant to Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., ’70, La Salle’s President. He will be involved in issues relating to institutional operations, quality control, and planning at La Salle, with special attention focused on those activities related to the University’s mission. He has welcomed the opportunity to give back to a place he knows so well.

“I feel a real energy on campus from the young people,” Br. Joseph said. “The University is just alive, and the atmosphere is so invigorating.”

A former member of the University’s Board of Trustees (he stepped down from the Board to accept the position in the President’s Office), Br. Joseph will serve on the President’s Team and the University Council, and he will assist in the coordination of the President’s Office staff, planning activities, budgets, and daily operations.

“My role is to be a personal representative of the President’s Office to try to find the most positive and effective way to bring about a thorough resolution to issues that may arise while respecting everyone involved in the process,” Br. Joseph said.

Br. Joseph previously worked at the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in the Office of the Vicar for Administration for 15 years under Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua. During that time, he also served on numerous boards and committees, including the Archdiocese’s Board of Education, Finance Council, and Investment and Audit committees.

Previously, Br. Joseph, who holds a master’s degree in social work, served as Administrator for the St. Gabriel’s Hall System and as Director and Principal of De La Salle in Towne, a day treatment center for delinquent youth. He also has worked as a school social worker at West Catholic High School, his alma mater, and has been involved in the Vietnamese resettlement program, which helped Southeast Asian refugees start new lives in the U.S. after the Vietnam War.

Br. Joseph, a Christian Brother for 45 years, recently returned from a trip to Australia and Vietnam, where he met with Christian Brothers who still reside in communities there.

“I appreciated seeing [Vietnam] at peace,” he said. “The vitality and industry of the people and the culture was truly inspiring.”

Br. Joseph said the La Salle community has been equally welcoming and exhilarating.

“There’s something very special about this campus. It is like an oasis,” he said. “It’s been a very comfortable place to live, and now it’s a very pleasant place to work as well.”

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**Explorer Club Leadership Needed**

The Explorer Club is the official fund development and booster organization for La Salle Athletics. It provides financial support to La Salle’s 23 intercollegiate sports programs. Explorer Club members 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 the general athletic fund.

We’re looking for individuals who are interested in taking a leadership role in the University’s Athletics program. For more information, please contact Peter D’Orazio, Executive Director of the Explorer Club, at 215.951.1545.

To receive an Explorer Club membership application, please call the Athletic Advancement Office at 215.951.1606, or e-mail explorerclub@lasalle.edu.

**Auctioneer Bruce Leauby awards an item during the 2004 Explorer Club Auction.**

**Save the Date!**

**2005 Explorer Club Autumn Auction and Reception**

September 24, 2005
Tom Gola Arena
La Salle Alumni Get a Taste of Dalí

The Downtown Club of La Salle's Alumni Association held a reception at the Salvador Dalí exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art in March. More than 100 people convened at the Wintersteen Center, a reception hall within the museum, for a chance to socialize before viewing the famed surrealist's work.

Alums and their guests were greeted by La Salle President Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., '70, before being given an overview of Dalí and his work by former Fine Arts Chair and current Assistant Provost Sabrina DeTurk. "The reception was a great event," said Jim Butcher, '00, (left, at the reception with Marian Morton, Staff Writer in La Salle's Office of University Communications). In addition to experiencing Dalí's artwork, Butcher also won a door prize—a catalogue describing the collection used for the exhibit. "I really enjoyed seeing this exhibit and hope La Salle holds more of these gatherings in the future."

FLUBACHER AWARD

La Salle junior Brendan Clark (center) was awarded the Flubacher Scholarship from the University's Economics Department at a reception on April 1. (Left to right) David George, Chair of the Economics Department; David Poiesz, '80, the La Salle Trustee who endowed the Flubacher Scholarship; and Clark's parents, Marcella and William, '72, of Fox Chase, congratulate Brendan on his scholarship. The award is named for the late Joseph F. Flubacher, a 1935 La Salle graduate who taught economics at the University for 50 years. It is given to an economics major who has shown financial need and academic ability and who has also demonstrated an interest in the values of social and economic justice.
School of Business’ AASCB International Accreditation is Renewed

The Board of Directors for the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AASCB International) has extended accreditation for La Salle’s School of Business for the next six years.

This prestigious accreditation, which the School of Business has had since 1996, is awarded to only 20 percent of business programs worldwide.

“I want to take this opportunity to congratulate everyone in the School of Business who, over the long haul, has ensured that we have maintained the levels of quality expected of a school with AASCB accreditation,” said Gregory O. Bruce, M.B.A. ’81, Dean of the School of Business.

Alumni Portal Creates New Connections

Alumni no longer have to leave their homes or offices to stay connected with their classmates and the La Salle community. The University’s Web Portal, mylasalle, is providing a direct link to their alma mater.

“Alumni are looking for an easy way to communicate with one another, whether it be for social or professional reasons, or just to get involved with the University,” said Jim Gulick, ’89, La Salle’s Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations. “The mylasalle portal can become the online tool La Salle alumni need to stay connected to our vital, vibrant community.”

The portal was launched for students, faculty, and staff at the start of the Fall 2003 semester, and has since expanded to offer resources tailored to the needs and interests of alumni. The alumni channel of the portal was created to help alumni maintain a lifelong association with classmates and friends as well as today’s La Salle University, Gulick said.

Using mylasalle, alumni can locate classmates in an online directory, join a career network, receive information on class reunions and other events, stay up to date on campus news, and create an alumni e-mail account.

While the portal will allow alumni to network in cyberspace, it is not intended to replace face-to-face contact. In fact, many believe attendance at reunions

ALUMNI TRAVEL

As another benefit to La Salle alumni, the La Salle’s Alumni Association has partnered with Group Vacation Travel Services, LLC. To view a list of available trips, please visit www.lasalle.edu/alumni/benefits-travel.shtml. For more information, or to book, call Group Vacation Travel Services at 610.892.8686 or 1.866.700.6765.

home page by adding links to other Web sites, news feeds, and accessories. They are then free to explore the portal’s various channels and can also visit their directory profiles to select the information they want displayed about themselves in the portal’s alumni directory. The mylasalle portal, unlike other online services that link friends and classmates, is available exclusively to La Salle alumni. “Our goal is to have the mylasalle Alumni Portal—a secure, password-protected environment—become the exciting center that will serve as the heart of our existing alumni community,” Gulick said.

NOW AND THEN: LEE IACCOCA HONORED BY LA SALLE

(Above, clockwise from left) Brother Daniel Burke, F.S.C., Ph.D., former La Salle President, and James J. Lynch, ’71, Chair of the University’s Board of Trustees, recently signed a new honorary degree certificate for Lee A. Iacocca, former C.E.O. of Chrysler, hailed as one of the most influential business leaders of all time. Iacocca, then-president of Ford Motor Company, appearing in the black and white photograph with Br. Daniel, originally received the Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, from La Salle on May 17, 1972, in honor of his industrial leadership. He has since lost the certificate and requested a new copy from the University.
THE BIG FIVE AND THE PHILLY GUARD: TWO things that are synonymous with Philadelphia college basketball.

Some of the greatest college basketball players spent their careers in the City of Brotherly Love. Year in and year out, this city has produced point guards, or “playmakers” as they were once called, whose unselfishness, hard-nosed defense, and floor leadership guided their team to success.

By all accounts, Roland “Fatty” Taylor belongs in both conversations.

This past December during the annual Philadelphia Big Five Classic, the point guard from La Salle’s great 1968-1969 team was introduced to the crowd as the newest member of the Big Five’s Hall of Fame—35 years after he played his last collegiate game and almost 20 years since he retired from the NBA’s Denver Nuggets.

He is the fourth out of five starters from that team to be inducted, joining Larry Cannon, the late Ken Durrett, and the late Bernie Williams. Only Stan Wlodarczyk remains waiting for a nomination.

“This validates all the hard work I put into being a great player and playing with great teammates,” Taylor said.

Surprisingly, Taylor wasn’t even sure if he was a victim of a prank when he was notified of his selection.

“When they called my cell phone back in November, I thought it was a big joke,” Taylor said. “It was over 30 years since I played there; I almost forgot about the whole thing.”

What is surprising is that the voters did not forget about him.

Before the days of Allen Iverson, Stephon Marbury, and Ray Allen, point guards were rarely huge scorers. There were few recognizable categories that these players would lead. Box scores do not show how well someone played the opponent’s top scoring threat or how well you exploited a team’s weaknesses by calling the right plays, but that’s what made Taylor so good.

He only played two seasons at La Salle after transferring from Dodge City Junior College in Kansas City, Mo., and averaged slightly less than 10 points a game while an Explorer. He also had only 169 assists, usually considered a point guard’s most important stat, during his time here. His name appears nowhere in all-time leaders for either the Big Five or La Salle.

Combine that with the absence of the now-ubiquitous presence of modern sports media during the 1960s, you can see how he was ignored for so long. You don’t have to agree with it, either. Wlodarczyk, another lesser-known, but vital member of the 68-69 team, certainly recognizes the importance of this event.

“As a defensive player, I have the utmost appreciation for it,” Wlodarczyk said. “He was always up against the other team’s best scorer, and he always shut them down. There was this one game against Niagara where [forward] Larry [Cannon] couldn’t play, and Coach [Tom] Gola put Fatty in against Calvin Murphy, one of the best scorers in the nation—All-American and everything. If Murphy had a little more than 10; that was probably it.”

It wasn’t just Taylor’s defense that made him stand out, either. He set the tempo for a team that out-scored its opponents by 15 or more points 15 times. In his own words, he compared himself to another famous Philadelphia-area athlete by calling himself “the straw that stirred the drink.” But instead of creating a mess, he set the game in motion, masterfully mixing in each of his teammates’ best attributes with his team-first mentality like a good bartender fixes a soothing cocktail: Too much or too little of an ingredient ruins the refreshment.
As much as Taylor gave to the team that helped get him into the Hall of Fame, it was what he kept from it that earned that spot, as well.

“At Dodge City, I was getting over 20 points a game many nights,” Taylor said. “But I made sacrifices. I had to give up those points and those shots when I came to La Salle because that was going to be the way we were going to win a lot of ballgames.”

Former teammate and current Penn Coach Fran Dunphy said that a lot of Taylor’s character came out on the court.

“He was a very consistent and caring person and player,” Dunphy said. “He sacrificed a lot for that team. His first priority was leading the team to victory, not leading the team in points.”

That team concept was not just a novel one, either. Though African Americans were becoming extremely successful in sports during this time, integration was still a hot-button topic. Taylor, Durrett, and Williams were the only three African American players on the 14-man roster, but according to Dunphy, no one on that team saw color.

“It wasn’t easy being [for them] African American then, but we [the team] all hung together,” Dunphy said of the team’s camaraderie.

What helped keep the team chemistry positive was a coaching change that became a tremendous influence in Taylor’s life. La Salle replaced Coach Jim Harding and his reputation as a harsh taskmaster with the legendary Gola after the 1967-1968 season.

“After Harding left, it was a blessing,” Fatty said. “Gola was a great coach for that team. When Harding was there, we hated the game, but Gola turned that around. He and his staff cared; they all treated us like men. There was a lot of love on that team.”

There still is a lot of love remaining from that team. Taylor often spoke about his “forgotten” teammate, Stan Wlodarczyk, during his interviews. He said he wants to see the fifth member of that 68-69 team join his other teammates in the Hall.

“I’m still waiting for Stan. Everyone did an important job on that team and we wouldn’t have been what we were with out him,” Taylor said.

Taylor’s talents and determination eventually paid off when he was drafted in 1969 by Philadelphia and spent seven years with Washington, Virginia and Denver. His style never changed during his time with the pros and though he was not a starter, his contributions to his teams were always significant and certainly did not go unnoticed.

“Back in ’71, after one game during the season, Dr. J [Julius Erving] came up to me and said: ‘I just got 42 points tonight and you only had two, but you were the most valuable guy tonight. You’re always doing the little things that help us win that aren’t in the box score,’” Taylor said.

Though he retired from the game in 1977, basketball is still the focal point in Fatty’s life. Now living in Aurora, CO, a suburb just east of Denver, Taylor is currently the coach for the Aurora Central High School’s boys’ basketball team, as well as being a director for the Colorado Hard-At-Work-Kids (HAWKS), a basketball program aimed at reaching at-risk youths in the Denver area. He is also in charge of an ABA reunion set for February 18, two days before the NBA’s All-Star game.

Taylor does with his former friends and teammates years after their careers are done the same thing that he did while playing with them: making sure others get their due.

On Sunday, Dec. 6, 2004, a special brunch was held on campus honoring Fatty. Among the attendees were teammates, friends, and his former coach Tom Gola.

“When I received a call from Tom Brennan [Ed.D.] La Salle’s Athletic Director, I was ecstatic to hear that I was being inducted into the Big Five Hall of Fame and joining such a list of great athletes, especially my teammates. What I didn’t expect was for the Athletic Department to go to the ends that it did to make my weekend so special. I am so thankful to them for organizing a special brunch with many of my old friends, including Tom Gola. It was a weekend I will never forget.”
Despite Won-Loss Record, Men’s Basketball Proves Mettle
BY MIKE LOPRESTI

CINCINNATI — LA SALLE ENDED ITS SEASON MARCH 10. The guess here is that nobody on your block noticed.

Who pays attention to a 10-19 basketball team? Not even the NIT.

But we should, at least for a moment. It does not take long for a roll call of La Salle’s scholarship players. There are only seven, four of them 6-2 or shorter. The La Salle band showed up at the Atlantic 10 tournament with more trumpet players, and nearly as tall.

Try surviving with that in a major conference, where there is no rest for the weary, and no mercy from the opponents who look down on you, literally.

And the only bell the name across your uniform rings in many minds is from the past turbulent summer, when the police kept showing up at the door of La Salle’s basketball program.

It was gale-strength turmoil. Three players charged with sexual assault, and now gone. The coach fired. Another player transferred, fleeing the ruins of a scandal. A shell of a roster left, a new coach suddenly needed in June, and found in Maine. A guy with Philadelphia roots and a doctorate, with a specialty in sports psychology, which would certainly come in handy at a time like this.

On Thursday, La Salle finished with an 83-70 loss to Xavier in the Atlantic 10 tournament. The night before, they had upset Massachusetts in overtime, with three of the starters playing at least 41 minutes. The Explorers won five of their last 10 games and pushed hard in the ones they didn’t.

Nobody in college basketball had a stiffer test of perseverance this season. Nobody.

“I think sports reveals character even more than it builds it,” coach John Giannini was saying. “These guys are going to be very successful in life.”

La Salle won a national championship, but that was 51 years ago. Now it fights for exposure in Philadelphia’s tough market. Villanova is a Big East stalwart. Saint Joseph’s was last year’s national darling. Temple has John Chaney. Penn just won the Ivy League.

La Salle? Headlines don’t come easily. Except, of course, when its players get charged with rape.

Now the season is over. What the Explorers want is for the stigma to be over.

“Our team,” Giannini said, “was past that in September.”

“We can finally move forward,” guard Jermaine Thomas said. “We had hard-working kids pouring everything on the court. I think we pretty much showed that every game. A lot of times we looked like midgets out there. But we always seemed to compete.”

What is wrong with La Salle must now be fixed with recruiting. College basketball’s surest painkiller.

“This year was a care-taking year. This team needed someone to coach them. But the only building we could do was in terms of attitude,” said Giannini.

“I tried not to have any expectations other than winning the next game. ... We never went into a game thinking about not being able to win.

“Our only goal was to win the next game.”

Snapshots of La Salle tenacity. Thomas, who carried on through the last part of the season with a torn finger ligament, played 39 of 40 minutes Thursday. Season leading scorer Steven Smith played all 40. The night before, guard Darnell Harris played 45.

Such is the team that had many losses, but was not beaten. Before the glamour names settle the last tournament berths this week, La Salle needs mention, but not for its dirt.

“I think that’s finally out of people’s heads,” Thomas said. “When you hear La Salle, it’s not the scandal anymore. They see our guys, and it’s a basketball team.”

All seven of them.
BOB VETRONE
1925 – 2005

La Salle University, Philadelphia, and the sports community has lost one of its finest. Bob Vetrone passed away Tuesday, March 22, at the age of 79. He started at La Salle as a sports information director in 1990 with an emphasis on handling the necessary promotion and media work to help explorer great Lionel Simmons earn the National Player of the Year. He achieved that goal and continued to be a member of the La Salle University Athletic Department until his retirement in 2003. Although he officially retired from office work, Bob remained a member of our family until his final days. Of course Bob was also “Buck the Bartender,” a sportswriter who wrote columns for years at the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, and later at the Philadelphia Daily News. Our friend...a Philadelphia legend. Some called him Bob, others called him Buck or Beefy. To us at La Salle Athletics, he was simply the best.

“La Salle was blessed to have Bob Vetrone on staff for more than 13 years. At his retirement almost two years ago, he promised he would, in his words, ‘be stopping in, visiting friends and co-workers, and pestering people for a ticket or a vacant seat at press row.’ We are happy that he kept his promise, and sad that now there really will be a vacant seat at press row.”

— La Salle University President
Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C.
Ph D. ’70

“Bob’s good nature, wit, and genuineness are known to all, and this reputation always preceded him. He is a big part of the Philadelphia basketball community as a unique, wonderful, and enduring character. I very much valued his opinion because he was so highly respected that if something was ‘ok’ with Bob, it would be ‘ok’ with everyone. Goodness and happiness just came out in the things he did and said. His memories will continue to bring smiles to many.”

— Dr. John Giannini, Head Basketball Coach, La Salle University

“Bob was a great man who taught me a lot. I read Bob as a youngster, I was covered by Bob as an athlete and coach, and then our relationship came full-cycle with our friendship, which was absolutely a privilege.”

— Fran Dunphy, Head Basketball Coach, University of Pennsylvania

“He was a great truth-teller and the most dedicated person in the history of the Big 5. He was also one of the great sportswriters in Philadelphia.”

— John Chaney, Head Basketball Coach, Temple University

“Bob was one of the true jewels of the Philadelphia sports crown. Every Big 5 school has a connection to Bob and a love for Bob. We will all miss him.”

— Jay Wright Head Basketball Coach, Villanova University

“There are many times when we exaggerate about people after they’re gone. But it is no exaggeration—Bob Vetrone is irreplaceable.”

— Phil Martelli, Head Basketball Coach, Saint Joseph’s University

“He was the best friend I ever had, and someone who never had an enemy in the world.”

— Jack Schlueter, Associated Press

“Bob was not only a father-like figure to me, but also one of my best friends. I will always cherish the memories of our trips together to many sporting events.”

— Peter D’Orazio, Explorer Club Executive Director

“I have been very fortunate to be around and learn from the best this city has to offer. No one, however, had a greater impact on me than Buck. The others taught me very tangible things about the business, but Bob taught us all how to deal with people. He was a tremendous influence, a huge part of La Salle, and will never be forgotten. When Bob Vetrone Jr. called to tell me the sad news, he said, “You were his last boss.” We paused a bit, and then I corrected him. I was never Bob’s boss. We were all his understudies.”

— Kale Beers, Director of Athletic Communications, La Salle University
La Salle Alumna Featured on NBC’s Today Show

KATIE KINZEL’S WORK WITH A YOUNG autistic child was recently profiled on NBC’s the Today Show as part of a week-long special on autism.

While pursuing a degree in psychology and criminal justice, Kinzel, ’04, began working with a 2-year-old boy diagnosed with autism during the summer of her junior year. A child with autism can have a range of developmental problems that result in extraordinary difficulties learning communication or interaction of any kind.

When she began providing therapeutic support for the child, Kinzel encountered a lot of difficulty. “He would engage in numerous tantrums,” she said. “And he had no eye contact.”

Using Applied Behavior Analysis, a method of intensive teaching that reinforces behavior through repetition, Kinzel began by helping to develop in the boy the ability to identify objects and point to them when asked. Although the experience was extremely trying, Kinzel said it was rewarding to see his progress. “It was the greatest feeling. After that, it was easier to break down his behavioral issues, so he could learn all the concepts a child of his age needs to know to function typically.”

When Kinzel returned to La Salle for her senior year, she set aside time for therapy on weekends. Despite having to juggle the sessions with her academic obligations, Kinzel could not ignore the progress the boy had made. “By the end of that summer, he was a completely different child. He was able to make eye contact, follow two-step directions, and label items.”

The Today Show special followed a day in the boy’s life, as he attended a normal preschool and a karate lesson.

Kinzel, currently enrolled in Temple University’s Applied Behavior Analysis master’s degree program, is upbeat about the potential impact the Today Show feature may have had, hoping it “spread awareness about autism and the importance of early intervention.”

Grumman IT, and serves as Senior Medical Advisor for its vertical health organization, NG Health Solutions.

1962 Nicholas L. Lisi, Esq. (B.A.) of Bryn Mawr, Pa., was honored with the Boston College Law School Alumni Association’s 75th Anniversary Award. He has contributed his legal services to the Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program and co-chaired the Bar Association’s Bench-Bar Conference, and the Lawyers Fund for Equal Justice. He has been a member with numerous Bar Associate Committees and Sections, including the Criminal Law Section, the State Civil Committee, the Federal Courts Committee, and the Professional Responsibility Committee. He is also a member of La Salle’s Board of Trustees.
James Anagnos, '90, and his bride, Jennifer Mahar, are pictured at their wedding reception in Upperville, Va. A number of La Salle grads and Christian Brothers were in attendance. First row, from left: James Dunleavy, '90; the bridal couple; and Gia Anagnos, '07. Second row, from left: Andrea Patumbo Mack, '90; Br. Gabriel Fagan, F.S.C., La Salle Associate Professor, English; Brian Fancovic, '90, and Sheila Paul, '95; Third row, from left: Darryl Mack, '90; Joseph Dever, '90; and Br. Charles Gresh, F.S.C., Director of Major Gifts at La Salle.

1964 Raymond F. Minger (B.A.) of Feasterville, Pa., continues to teach history after his retirement. In 2004, he taught at a charter school, a drug and alcohol treatment school, and Northeast Catholic High School for Boys. He also teaches Tae Kwon Do at his martial arts school.

Robert P. Pietranego Sr. (B.A.) of Naperville, Ill., is C.E.O. of Octel Performance Chemicals, Inc., in Milwaukee, Wis.

1965 * REUNION YEAR Edmond J. Doran, Ph.D. (B.A.) of Conshohocken, Pa., has retired after 39 years of teaching high school English.

Charles (Chuck) J. Durney (B.S.) is Vice President of Business Development of BeamPines, Inc. and The Beam Group. He is a member of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association as a certified high school soccer referee. He has two adult children and lives with his wife in Morristown, N.J.

1966 Joseph F. Haughney (B.S.) retired as a Senior Systems Engineer from General Dynamics Corp., of Needham Heights, Mass. He also retired as a Lieutenant Colonel from the United States Air Force Reserves.

John R. McCloskey, M.D. (B.S.) was reelected President of the New Jersey Orthopaedic Society/Orthopaedic Surgeons of New Jersey, a professional society of 450 orthopaedic surgeons throughout Garden State. He is a practicing orthopaedic surgeon in Somers Point, N.J.

Frank McNally (B.A.) of Round Hill, Va., is a public affairs specialist with the Smithsonian Institution National Air and Space Museum.

Thomas Murray (B.S.) of Naples, Fla., and his wife, Camille, worked tirelessly in 1994 to protect 140 residences in their Naples-based home watch business when four hurricanes hit Florida in a six-week period.

1968 Joseph Belinsky (B.A.) of North Canton, Ohio, was named Beta Gamma Sigma’s Chapter Honoree of the Year at Kent State University.


Harry Diamond (B.A.) of Langhorne, Pa., is a Vice President of Claims for WQIS. He is a member of the Association of Average Adjusters and the Marine Insurance Claims Adjusters.

John P. Dorr Jr. (B.A.) of Cinnaminson, N.J., and his wife, Catherine, became grandparents for the first time when their granddaughter, Lily Mae Oliver, was born in December 2004.

Charles Pfizenmayer (B.A.) of Cincinnati, Ohio, retired from Proctor & Gamble after 30 years in purchasing. He has five children and a brand new granddaughter.

Charles J. Uliano, Esq. (B.A.) of West Long Branch, N.J., has been designated as a Certified Civil and Criminal Trial Attorney by the Supreme Court of the State of New Jersey. He has been included in Strathmore’s Who’s Who, a publication for those who have demonstrated leadership and achievement in their occupation or profession.

1971 Alfred Cini, M.A. (B.S.) of Moorestown, N.J., is C.E.O. and President of Computer Methods Corporation, a company he founded.

Br. Gerald. J. Frendreis, F.S.C. (B.S.) of Beltville, Md., was named Director of Finance and Administration for the Christians Brothers Conference, the umbrella organization for the Brothers and their apostolate in English-speaking North America.

Robert J. Hough (B.A.) of Indian Rocks Beach, Fla., was elected President of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Florida Business Brokers Association and is a past president of the Gulf Beaches Chamber of Commerce. He is the C.E.O. and Chief Broker of Sunbelt Business Brokers of Clearwater/St. Petersburg, Fla.

William J. Nolan Sr. (B.S.) of Philadelphia, Pa., was named the 2005 Outstanding Executive of the Year by the Associate of Lutheran Development Executives at its annual conference in Denver, Colo.

James M. Paradis (B.A.) of Abington, Pa., authored the book African Americans and the Gettysburg Campaign. He also teaches history at St. Mary’s Hall, Doane Academy, and Arcadia University.

1974 Robert H. Lane, Ph.D. (B.S., M.B.A. ’79) of Philadelphia, Pa., is a principal with Lane Services, LLC, Technology Consulting for Not-for-Profits.

1975 * REUNION YEAR Francis P. Flood, Ed.D. (B.A.) of Wilmot, N.H., received a Doctorate of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Argosy University in Sarasota, Fla.

Edward J. Kleck (B.A.) of Warrington, Pa., ran in and completed the Boston Marathon on April 18, 2005.

1976 Thomas A. Craparo (B.S.) of Ocean Grove, N.J., retired from his position as a senior auditor for the State of New Jersey Department of Labor. He is working for the Internal Revenue Service as a revenue agent, stationed in the Paramus, N.J., office.

J. Mark McLoone (B.S., M.B.A. ’84) of Edmond, Okla., has been named Executive
Vice President for the Children’s Medical Center in Dallas, Texas.

Joseph P. Stampone, Esq. (B.A.) of North Wales, Pa., chaired the seventh annual National American Political Action Committee Carnevalé Festival.

1977 Michael A. Jankowski, Esq. (B.A.) of Pewaukee, Wis., was named a member of Wolff & Samson PC and joins the fidelity and surety department in the firm’s Philadelphia office.

Maureen (Lowery) Pezzementi (B.A.) of Birmingham, Ala., was appointed Director of Student Affairs at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry.

1978 William J. Burns (B.A.) of Washington, D.C., was awarded an honorary degree from Lewis University. He is the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.

Donald J. DeGrazia, C.P.A./A.B.V. (B.S.) of Cherry Hill, N.J., was elected President of the Americas, Australia, and Asia division of Integra International, an international association of local and regional accounting and consulting firms.

Michael J. McGinley, Esq. (B.S.) of Tampa, Fla., is serving a two-year term on the board of directors for Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin, a defense litigation law firm. He also is one of the firm’s senior vice presidents.

Karen R. Pushaw, Esq. (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., is pursuing a master’s degree in theology at Washington Theological University. For the past 13 years, she has been working full-time at St. Francis Inn, a soup kitchen in the Kensington section of Philadelphia. She was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters at La Salle’s Commencement on May 15.

1979 Tyrone T. Dancy (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., has hosted and produced the Veteran’s Hour Magazine radio program on WDAS AM 1480 for the past 12 years.

Col. Julie (Trezo) Manta (B.A.) of Mt. Holly Springs, Pa., is a faculty instructor in the Department of Command, Leadership, and Management at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pa. She serves as a seminar leader and advisor for senior military and government civilian professionals.


1980 *REUNION YEAR* Paula Krebs (B.A.) of Providence, R.I., was named editor of Academe, the magazine of the American Association of University Professors.

Russell A. Spruance (B.A.) a special agent for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, was named Agent of the Year by the U.S. Attorney for Jacksonville, Fla., for his work in counterterrorism.

1982 Diane (Mulherrin) McCarthy, C.P.A. (B.S.) of Media, Pa., was appointed C.F.O. and Chief Administrative Officer of Lincoln Financial Distributors, Inc.

Jeffrey F. O’Donnell (B.S.) of Malvern, Pa., is President and C.E.O. of PhotoMedex and serves as a member on the board of directors.

Michael J. Wagner (B.S.) is a senior test pilot flight instructor at the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School in Patuxent River, Md. Prior to this position, he served for 10 years as a flight test pilot for the U.S. Navy.

1983 Mary (Conville) Smith (B.A.) of Florence, S.C., has been a teacher for 26 years, 12 of them as a first grade instructor at St. Anthony School.

1984 Eileen R. Creamer, R.N. (B.S.N.) of Huntingdon Valley, Pa., is starting her 21st year in the nursing profession. She is eternally grateful to Zane R. Wolf, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, Dean of La Salle’s School of Nursing.

Robert Lewis (B.A.) of Rose Valley, Pa., was awarded a $1.25 million federal grant to create high-energy “cyclical ozone,” which might one day be used as fuel for missiles or rockets to Mars. He is Chair of Temple University’s chemistry department, and one of a handful of scientists using finely tuned lasers to tweak the very building blocks of matter.

June (Littel) Matwijec (B.A., M.A. ’90) of Bensalem, Pa., teaches morality to juniors at Archbishop Wood High School. She also serves as moderator of the school’s Pro-Life Club, and helped start a praise-and-worship band for students.

1985 *REUNION YEAR* Mark Turner, M.B.A., C.P.A. (B.S.) of Coatesville, Pa., is the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer for Wilmington Savings Fund Society Financial Corporation. He has assumed responsibility for all retail banking, marketing, human resources, and facilities management, and will continue his responsibilities for Technology and Operations.

1986 John A. Macoretta, Esq. (B.A.) was named partner at Spector, Roseman & Kodroff, P.C. He practices law in Philadelphia, where he concentrates in nationwide class action litigation, including cases alleging fraudulent manipulation of drug prices and antitrust cases.

Paul Roach (B.S.) received the Drug Enforcement Administration’s Administrator’s Award and the International Narcotic Enforcement Officers Association Award for his investigation that dismantled an international cocaine trafficking organization. He resides in Colorado Springs, Colo., with his wife, Lisa, and four children.

Diane (Houlihan) Strelcikis (B.A.) of Royersford, Pa., is a freelance writer, editor, and proofreader for a variety of government and commercial clients.

1988 Kenneth J. Paizczewski (B.A.) graduated in January from New Jersey City University with a master’s degree in educational leadership. He also has a master’s degree in school counseling from William Paterson University. He resides in Wayne, N.J., with his wife, Maureen, and two children, Peter and Brenna.
Joanie D. (Alston) Lovelace (B.S.N.) of Bryn Mawr, Pa., is an associate chief nurse for longterm care at the Wilmington Medical and Regional Office Center. She is pursuing a Master in Science in Forensic Medicine at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

1990 * REUNION YEAR * Maria J. (Colsey) Heard, Esq. (B.A.) was named partner at the law firm of Dickstein Shapiro Morin & Oshinsky, LLP, in Washington, D.C.

Sabrina Zabrodski, R.N. (B.S.N.) of Deptford, N.J., was honored as one of the top three Nurse Leaders of the Year in the tri-state area by Advance for Nurses magazine.

1991 Sean T. Bryan, M.D., FAAFP (B.A.) of Albany, Ga., was promoted to Program Director of Southwest Georgia Family Medicine Residency and remains Fellowship Director of Southwest Georgia Sports Medicine Program at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital.

Joseph H. Hainthaler (B.A.) of Newton, N.J., is night editor at the New Jersey Herald.

Frank A. Monahan (B.S.) of St. Louis, Mo., was appointed General Manager of Cigna HealthCare operations in Kansas and Missouri.

Timothy D. Muldoon (B.A.) of Providence, R.I., is the General Manager of the Rhode Island Convention Center. He oversees the convention center’s daily operations, including event management, sales and marketing, finance, food and beverage, and parking.

1992 Suzanne Ely (B.A.) of Santa Monica, Calif., co-wrote a biography of Michael Jackson for Harper Collins. She is currently writing about music, film, and entertainment for USA Weekend, Blender, and Entertainment Weekly. She teaches journalism courses online for The New School University.

Walter Zinch (B.A.) of New York, N.Y., traveled to Kiev, Ukraine, to serve as a volunteer monitor in the recent presidential election.

1993 Daniel L. DeStefano, M.B.A. (B.A., M.S. ’99) of Avondale, Pa., was named Director of Knowledge Services at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals in Wilmington, Del., having also earned a M.B.A. in Pharmaceutical Marketing from St. Joseph’s University.

Mary Beth (Krauss) Lee, C.P.A., C.F.E. (B.S.) of Hamilton Square, N.J., is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Fraud Examiner who devotes her practice to litigation consulting services. These services include damage measurement, fraud and embezzlement detection, forensic and investigative accounting, criminal and civil controversies, legal claims and class action matters, and taxation.

Jeffrey M. Meyers (B.A.) of Cherry Hill, N.J., received a Philadelphia International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) Epic Award for a video he produced for Hay Group, where he serves as Manager of Marketing and Communications. He and his wife, Suzanne (Brownholtz) Meyers (B.A. ’91), have two children, Sean and Allison.


Danielle (Bower) Coyne (B.S.) of Oreland, Pa., and her husband, Robert, were advised one week after the birth of their daughter, Fiona, that their 18-month-old son, Aidan, was diagnosed with the rare disease, histiocytosis. As of August 2004, there was no funding for this disease. To learn about the disease and make a donation, visit www.histio.org.

Joanna (Kalathas) Peoples (B.A.) of Elkins Park, Pa., is Corporate Project Manager for ING in West Chester, Pa.

Heather McInerney (B.S.) serves as C.F.O. of Medford Leas Retirement Community in Medford, N.J. She married Timothy Poor Jr., on Sept. 11, 2004, and was escorted by her father, Leo McInerney (B.S. ’68, M.B.A. ’83). All of the bride’s attendants were LaSalle alumnae, including Christine Luzekyj (B.A. ’99), Carolyn Cear, D.D. (B.A. ’94), Mary Scott (B.A. ’94, M.A. ’98), and Megan Gaskill (B.A. ’94).

Christopher Scarpa (B.S.) of Philadelphia, Pa., was admitted to partnership in the Philadelphia office of Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP.

Frank S. Spera (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., recently married Krista Harron. Michael Mumm (B.S.) was the best man and Jeffrey Fisher (B.A. ’93) was a groomsman in the wedding.

1995 * REUNION YEAR * Neil Clover (M.B.A.) of Ringoes, N.J., was honored with Delaware Valley College’s Alumni Achievement Award in Business for 2004.

1996 Jim Bortolotti (B.S.) of New Hope, Pa., was promoted to Regional Vice President for Business Lending covering the Mercer and Middlesex, N.J., counties and Bucks County, Pa., for Sun National Bank.

Joseph James Devine (B.S.) of New Hope, Pa., is a tax consultant with Deloitte and Touche. He graduated from Catholic University School of Law and passed the New Jersey Bar Exam.

James F. Peoples III (B.A.) of Elkins Park, Pa., is in his third year of medical school and doing clinical rotations at St. Barnabas Newark Beth-Israel Hospital in Livingston, N.J.

Colleen (Casey) Voshell, Esq. (B.A.) of Wallingford, Pa., is an associate in the mass torts and product liability group of Dechert, LLP. She is a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association and the Young Professional Network of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce.

Donna (Dykes) Yoeke (B.A.) of Palmyra, N.J., received a Master of Arts degree from Nova Southeastern University.

1997 Julianna (Thompson) Capozzoli, M.S.N. (B.S.N.) of Malvern, Pa., is the co-owner of the WomanWise Midwifery practice in Wynnewood, Pa.

Catherine (Murphy) Devine (B.A.) of New Hope, Pa., is a supply chain director at Johnson & Johnson. She is working toward an M.B.A. at Villanova University.

Elizabeth “Libby” Lescalet (B.A.) of Portland, Ore., is the Director of Program Operations at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Portland Metropolitan Area, working with youth from all over the metro area. Last year, the program served over 10,000 children.

Rebecca Schmidt (B.A.) of Houston, Texas, is an office manager for her uncle’s acupuncture medical clinic practice and institute of education. She is heading up a small, all-male clothing company, www.ubawear.com, and plans to launch a full line in Summer 2006.

1998 Harold S. Knudsen (M.A.) of Dunleer, Republic of Ireland, is Coordinator of the Retirement Activation Program for Intellectually Disabled at St. Mary’s Drumcar. He is working with elderly and frail handicapped people by setting up daily programs for them.

Catherine E. Paczkowski (B.S.W.) of Philadelphia, Pa., earned a Master of Social Work from Rutgers University. She was promoted to Senior C&E Specialist with Einstein’s School-Based Program.

Paul J. Sebastian (M.B.A.) has relocated to Shanghai, China, with his wife, Lisa, and
son, Paul Justo. He is the Asia Pacific Region IT Director for Rohm and Haas Co.

1999 Ken Liberatore (B.A.) of Ventura, Calif., and Carrie Kathryn McAluffe were engaged on March 19, 2005.

Kelly (Martin) Stefanik (B.S.) of Warrington, Pa., has been promoted to Controller of Cox Enterprises.

Erica C. Neiman-Vedder (B.A.) of Mount Laurel, N.J., graduated from Widener University’s Master of Reading Program and received the state of New Jersey’s Reading Specialist Certification.

2000 + REUNION YEAR

2002 Sharon Fleming (B.A.) of Enola, N.J., earned a master’s degree in education from Nova Southeastern University.

Cristina Sadowski (B.A.) of Maple Shade, N.J., teaches English as a Second Language at Eastern University.

2003 Maura V. Panelli (B.A.) of Abington, Md., is a laboratory technician with the U.S. Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, She and Michael P. McGinley (B.S., ‘02) plan to marry on June 4, 2005.

MARRIAGES


1988 Debbie Carlini (B.A.) to Gregg Warren.


1994 Joanna Kalathas (B.S.) to James F. Peoples III (B.A. ’96).


1998 Allison Adair (B.S.N.) to John Conners.

Michael Cerniglia (B.A.) to Keryn Comerford (B.A.).

Erica C. Neiman (B.A.) to Michael Vedder.

Joseph Woyciechowski (B.S., M.B.A. ’02) to Stacy Harris (B.A. ’00).

2002 Louis Steilato (B.A.) to Jillian Kurek (B.A. ’03).

BIRTHS


1989 A son, Michael Robert, to Samantha Claire Shakesley, Esq. (B.A.) and husband, Robert Aboud, Esq.

1990 A son, Wellington Mark Lee, to Steven and Tonya C. (Lombaro) Bergstrom (B.S.).

A son, Victor Daniel, to Annamarie and Mark W. Falvo (B.S.).


A son, Patrick Henry, to Joseph R. Hainthaler (B.A.) and Mary Ann (Buschka) Hainthaler (B.A. ’92).

A daughter, Eleanor Anne, to Christopher and Michele (Zelinsky) Hanson, Ph.D. (B.A.).

1992 Two sons, Ryan Patrick and Connor Stephen, to Laura and Patrick Thiele (M.S.).


A son, Benjamin Charles, to Jennifer and Benjamin A. Suit (B.A.).


1996 A daughter, Patricia Jeanne, to James J. (B.A.) and Catherine M. (Murphy) Devine (B.A. ’97).

A daughter, Eloise, to Stephan and Kelly (Donnelly) Hagelaer (B.A.).

A son, Garrett Ethan, to Ted and Jennifer (Noakes) Pietryka (B.S., M.B.A. ’01).

1999 A daughter, Meghan Patricia, to Brian (B.A.) and Kim (Kessler) Martin (B.S., N. ’00).

A daughter, Haley Rose, to William and Kelly (Martin) Stefanik (B.S.).

2000 A son, Austen Robert, to Steven and Natalie (Shields) Gustafson (B.A.).


A son, William Andrew, to Andrew and Jennifer L. Walter (M.A.).

2001 A daughter, Natalie Marie, to Alfred and Marie (Wojcik) Wolanin (B.A.).

2002 A son, Gavin, to Patrick and Heather (Kutner) McDermond (M.A.).

IN MEMORIAM

1928 Frederick P. Betz (B.A.) of Hatboro, Pa., on Jan. 11, 2005.

1939 Charles B. Fitzpatrick (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., in October 2004. He was a civil engineer for the City of Philadelphia Department of Public Property.

1943 Owen J. Breen Jr., M.B.A. (B.S.) formerly of Glenside, Pa., on Dec. 13, 2004. After earning an M.B.A. from Harvard University and retiring from the U.S. Navy in 1965, he became business manager and treasurer of the newly opened Community College of Philadelphia (CCP). He was Dean of Administration at Montgomery County Community College for four years before returning to CCP to teach business courses. He also taught at Gwynedd-Mercy and Chestnut Hill colleges.

Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., and was ordained a priest in May 1975. He taught at Central Catholic High School in Pittsburgh, Pa., served as Parochial Vicar in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and later served as the chaplain of St. Joseph Nursing Home in Pittsburgh.

1947 Donald J. Pasucci (B.S.) of Newtown Square, Pa., on Nov. 27, 2004. He was Vice President of Finance at St. Joseph's University for 24 years, and until his retirement, was the treasurer at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood.

1949 Joseph A. Browne (B.A.) of Delran, N.J., on Jan. 29, 2005. He was the former publisher and vice president of the Burlington County Times, retiring in 1993.


1952 Frank X. Conaty (B.A.) of Indianapolis, Ind., on Jan. 26, 2005. He was a founding member of Soulforce and a member of the Sarasota chapter of PFLAG. He served in the U.S. Army occupation forces in Japan following WWII.


1963 John W. Grelis (B.A.) of Springfield, Pa., on Feb. 12, 2005. He was a principal and teacher for 33 years in the Philadelphia School District.

1965 Paul J. Coverdale, M.D. (B.A.) Doylestown, Pa., in November 2004. He was a partner in an internal medicine practice affiliated with Doylestown Hospital. He photographed sports teams for several Bucks County area high schools.

William J. Leimkuhler (B.S.) of Holland, Pa., on March 3, 2005. He was a longtime Annual Fund Phonatheron for La Salle and a member of the Alumni Association.


1977 Ralph J. Jones Jr. (B.S., M.B.A. '81) of Philadelphia, Pa., on Feb. 6, 2005. He was a business development specialist with the Delaware Valley Industrial Resource Center. He proudly served his country during the Vietnam War in the U.S. Army.

1980 Reginald Miller (B.A.) of Pleasantville, N.J., on Nov. 19, 2004. In addition to being a high school basketball All-American and a member of La Salle's men's basketball team, he was the first player in South Jersey's history to score more than 2,000 points in a career and held his scoring record of 2,505 points for eight years.

1994 Robert J. Kozlowski, Ph.D. (B.A.) of Rochester, Minn., on Dec. 6, 2004. He was a professor of economics at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. He is the son of Robert H. (B.S. '69) and Suzanne, formerly of La Salle's Office of Financial Aid.

FACULTY:

John Sandor Cziraky, Ph.D., a member of the history department since 1960. He taught American History and specialized in the Civil War and the American West. His students often commented that his approach to history was truly unique.

Patricia A. Persico Middlemiss, an adjunct faculty member for the nursing programs in the School of Nursing, on Dec. 29, 2004.

STUDENT:

Lourdes Ayala, a continuing studies student majoring in social work, on Dec. 28, 2004.

WE WANT TO HEAR ABOUT YOU!

If you have news, we want to know! Complete this form and send to: Office of Alumni Relations, La Salle University, Box 830, 1900 W. Olney Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19141

Name: ____________________________ Class: ____________________________

Degree: __________________________ Address: __________________________ This is a new address: ☐

City: ___________________________ State: __________ Zip Code: __________

Phone: __________________________ Work Phone: _______________________

E-mail: __________________________ Job Title: __________________________

Name of Employer: __________________________

Work Address: __________________________

News: __________________________
Did You Know...

- Members of La Salle’s Education Department faculty volunteer their time to help local high school teachers implement new teaching methods and strategies for their classrooms through Project Achieve. (See full story on page 11.)

- La Salle education students can be found in 21 Philadelphia public schools and 23 Archdiocese of Philadelphia schools, either as student-teachers or for field placements. (See chart on page 17.)

- The Education Department has new certification programs in Bilingual Education and Religious Education.

- Education was recently approved as a minor for students. Though this minor will not lead directly to a teaching certificate, it provides students with a background in pedagogy that is useful in a number of other careers. For example, it teaches students how to motivate others, to plan, organize, and present information, and to evaluate outcomes.

- Nearly 70,000 Lasallian educators (6,700 of whom are Brothers) serve over 900,000 students in 80 countries around the world. Nearly half of these educators work in secondary schools, while the rest work in colleges and primary schools. Twelve percent of them minister to special needs and court-adjudicated youth. (Taken from the Christian Brothers Baltimore District’s Web site.)