The Founder and His Mission

The Conduct of Schools

By The Hand of Simlon 1908
Rediscovering St. John Baptist de La Salle

Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., ’70, President

Approximately 40 years ago, the Second Vatican Council published “The Decree on the Appropriate Renewal of Religious Life,” which instructed religious congregations to renew their communities by studying the founders of their orders as a way to rediscover their original missions.

It was this same Council, in publishing “The Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity,” that affirmed that all Christians share the call to mission. Interestingly, early in this decree, after referencing the vital role the laity had in the early Church, it says, “Our own times require of the laity no less zeal.” I will return to zeal later.

The Christian Brothers took up Vatican II’s mandate in earnest. Individual Christian Brothers were asked to become experts in St. La Salle’s life and spirituality, with the intention that they help inform the process of congregational renewal. Brother Miguel Campos, F.S.C., S.T.D., a professor of theology at La Salle University and a recent recipient of an honorary degree from the University, became one of these experts.

Almost 10 years ago, with Brother Miguel’s help and guidance, the Lasallian Leadership Institute was founded. The Lasallian Leadership Institute is but one of the more recent examples of the Christian Brothers’ response over these past 40 years to the Church’s call for renewal.

The Institute was begun with the recognition that lay associates share in the Lasallian mission. It has grown in importance as an increasing number of the laity, many of them faculty and staff from La Salle University, have expressed an interest in learning more about the Lasallian heritage.

It is this interest in knowing more about John Baptist de La Salle and the educational heritage of the Christian Brothers and their associates that has given rise to this issue and the series to follow. Over the next three years, La Salle Magazine will share the story of St. La Salle, founder of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, the namesake of La Salle University, and the patron saint for all educators. The series will provide an overview of the history of this educational enterprise and speak to how it is being lived out in the world today.

Zeal. John Baptist de La Salle identified zeal as one of the two signs of the spirit of God, animating the Brothers’ early educational mission, the other being faith. Zeal is understood by the Brothers to be a passionate commitment to the educational mission in service to the students being educated. Three hundred years later, the Church identified the need for zeal among the laity as they carry out the mission of the Church. Forty years after that, I see no less need for a spirit of zeal among our faculty, staff, alumni, and friends as we help advance this vital Catholic and Lasallian educational heritage for the benefit of present and future students and their families. I hope you will find in this series not only valuable information, but also inspiration.
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The following is the first in a nine-part series examining St. John Baptist de La Salle, his mission, and its relevance in today’s world. Future issues will explore such topics as the growing importance of lay leadership at Lasallian institutions, the expansion of the mission around the world, and how St. La Salle’s spiritual guidance continues to inspire modern educators. The articles in this issue, which provide a historical perspective on the life and teachings of St. La Salle, were adapted from a commemorative edition of *Signs of Faith*, the former magazine of the Brothers of the Christian Schools’ District of San Francisco. The staff of *La Salle Magazine* extends a special thank-you to Brother George Van Grieken, F.S.C., Ph.D., guest editor.
IT IS APRIL 1679. A YOUNG PRIEST waits on the doorstep of a convent in Reims, France. He has come to call upon the Sisters of the Child Jesus, a new order whose work is the care and education of poor girls. The young priest has helped them in becoming established, and now he serves as their chaplain and confessor. His name is John Baptist de La Salle. The eldest son of a wealthy professional family in the city of Reims, not quite 28 years old, he has been ordained for a year and is about to receive his doctorate in theology. He is a canon of the prestigious Cathedral Chapter at Reims, which is a traditional breeding ground of bishops and cardinals. A man so gifted and so positioned might well become an important member of the Church hierarchy or a distinguished professor. This young canon, thoughtful, cultivated, and kind-hearted, will certainly become notable in church circles and a pious influence at the comfortable and powerful level of society that is his natural world in 17th-century France.

Now it is April of 1719. That young priest, now old, racked by asthma and chronic rheumatism, is at the end of his earthly journey. In the early morning hours of Good Friday, he lies in his bed, attended by the men whom he calls “Brothers.” His wealth has long ago been given away and the privileges that were his by birth are long since surrendered. His church connections are mixed at best. Some church leaders admire him, but many powerful pastors and bishops have treated him and his work with contempt or hostility. His journey has been down paths he could not have imagined 40 years earlier. And what are the final results of his life’s work? A small community of some 100 men that calls itself the Brothers of the Christian Schools but is not yet recognized officially by either church or state, and a set of mostly parish-based schools for poor boys, schools fully appreciated only for him, he would not have even begun the task.

The foundation was established in his early life. While it might have been expected that he would follow in his father’s footsteps as a magistrate of the presidial court, De La Salle chose to pursue the priesthood and underwent an official ceremony at the age of 11 to confirm his intention. At 15, he received the distinguished position of canon, a title that brought

"If my work does not come from God, I would consent to its ruin. I would join our enemies in destroying it if I thought that it did not have God for its author, or that he did not will its progress.” —John Baptist de La Salle

by those who attend them. Early on that Friday morning, as De La Salle begins to breathe his last, Brother Barthelemy, his successor as Superior of the Brothers, asks him if he accepts his sufferings. De La Salle responds: “Oui, j'adore en toutes choses la conduite de Dieu à mon égard.” (“Yes, I adore God guiding me in all the events of my life.”)

And so John Baptist de La Salle dies. He has not become a distinguished professor or an important churchman. He has only become a founder of a religious order and a saint. More than 350 years after his birth, it has become ever more apparent that the life he lived was the life God led him to live. At one point, De La Salle wrote that if he had known what was in store with it both church responsibilities and church benefits. At age 19, De La Salle studied at the Sorbonne while residing at the Seminary of St. Sulpice in Paris. St. Sulpice was notable for a rigorous lifestyle and intended to produce priests capable of self-sacrifice and self-discipline. Mindful of the needs of the poor, a regular task of the seminarians was to teach catechism to the poor.

When he was compelled to return to Reims 16 months later upon the death of his parents, his vocation began to develop in ways he would never have anticipated. The 21-year-old seminarian became head of the household, with four brothers and two sisters to take care of. In the meantime, he pursued his studies

Timeline of Events
1651: John Baptist de La Salle is born at Reims.

(Facing Page) John Baptist de La Salle meets schoolmaster Adrien Neyl at the doors of the convent of the Sisters of the Child Jesus in Reims in 1679. This chance encounter begins De La Salle’s involvement in starting free schools for poor boys in Reims. Painting from Gerlier’s engraving in Gaveau’s 1866 Life of the Founder. (Right) The childhood home of De La Salle in Reims.
and his path to the priesthood and became a priest on April 9, 1678.

The beginning of his involvement in the world of education—at least the visible beginning—came at that convent door of the Sisters of the Child Jesus in April of 1679, where he happened to encounter another man coming to call on the Sisters. Adrian Nyel was a layman who had worked in Rouen for many years providing schooling for the poor. A wealthy widow had asked Nyel to see about founding a charity school for boys in Reims. Nyel’s first call in Reims was at the convent of the teaching Sisters. Following their meeting, De La Salle invited Nyel to stay at his home while he brought together various people in Reims who could help Nyel to start the proposed school for poor boys.

De La Salle’s help was effective, and a school was soon opened. Shortly thereafter, another wealthy woman in Reims told Nyel that she also would endow a school but only if Monsieur La Salle would help. De La Salle agreed and gradually began to help support the teachers, even renting them a house to live in. Now he found himself becoming drawn into a world to which he had been a stranger, the world of the poor—a world of disadvantaged students, uncultured teachers, and parents chronically oppressed by poverty. De La Salle could not deny the needs he saw so immediately before him.

De La Salle knew that the teachers in Reims were struggling, lacking leadership, purpose, and training, and he found himself taking increasingly deliberate steps to help this small group of men with their work. First, in 1680, he invited them to take their meals in his home, as much to teach them table manners as to inspire and instruct them in their work. In 1681, De La Salle realized that he would have to take a further step—he brought the teachers into his own home to live with him. De La Salle’s relatives were upset, his social class was scandalized, and they thought he was carrying the Gospel a bit too far. But De La Salle could not shake the conviction that he was doing something in accordance with God’s will for him.

When, a year later, his family home was lost at auction because of a family lawsuit, De La Salle rented a house in which he and the handful of teachers moved, a house that would come to be called “the cradle of the Institute.” One biographer has called the walk across town to this undistinguished home in the poorer part of town De La Salle’s personal Exodus. It was here that those who had joined this new enterprise with De La Salle first began to call themselves “Brothers.”

Community life became formalized, teaching and procedures at the new-three schools became more regular, some men left and new candidates came.

Within a year, in 1683, the Brothers became concerned about their stability and their security as part of this untested enterprise. De La Salle urged them to trust in God, but he was a wealthy man by birth and a canon with a large annual income, while they were poor men with no skills and no prospects.

De La Salle considered donating his personal wealth to endow the community. But after praying deeply and consulting widely, he decided that the Holy Spirit was leading him along a different path. So, in 1683, he resigned his position of canon at the cathedral and, in the winter

1666: Following the resignation of Pierre Dozet, John Baptist de La Salle is named Canon of the Cathedral Church of Reims.

1669: John Baptist de La Salle earns his master’s degree, with highest honors.
of 1683-84, he gave away all that he had to feed the poor during a particularly severe famine in France. Thus he joined his Brothers in true poverty and broke down the barrier that separated him from them. Now, they would all be fully dependent on God.

For a person of De La Salle’s background and position as a priest to accept barely literate laymen as equal colleagues, as his Brothers, was quite unheard of. Yet, early on, De La Salle realized that the community had to govern itself from within, rather than from the outside, whether by a bishop, a parish priest, or even himself. At the Brothers’ General Assembly in 1686, a distinctive habit was approved, a vow of obedience was taken, and the name “Brothers of the Christian Schools” was officially adopted.

In 1688, he and two Brothers traveled to Paris, where in short order they revitalized the school for the poor in the parish of St. Sulpice. This work was important because it established the group’s autonomy and freedom from direct diocesan control, and it allowed the Brothers in Reims to begin to develop without leaning on De La Salle’s constant presence.

As the work began in Paris, first at one school and then at several more, a new challenge appeared. Schools for the poor such as those that the Brothers ran were meant to be restricted to the certified poor. However, the Brothers did not distinguish in their admissions between poor and non-poor. All were welcome to their free schools, and many wanted to come, including those whose families were not on the parish’s Poor Register. The fee-taking teachers filed suits for infringement on their business and violation of the established regulations. This hostility, in suits, harassment, and even violence, continued in Paris for the next 15 years.

In 1694, the first assembly to be known as a General Chapter was held, at which perpetual vows of obedience and association for the educational service of the poor were taken for the first time by De La Salle and 12 Brothers.

De La Salle and the Brothers began to fortify their Society, strengthening and expanding the already flourishing schools and communities and providing for the young candidates asking to join. De La Salle spent time writing various texts, both for the schools and for the Brothers, including everything from a student reading text on politeness and decorum to a detailed method for the Brothers’ interior prayer.

Between 1694 and 1709, many new schools opened, several others closed, and legal battles raged on. In Paris, as lawsuits were decided against him, he began to wonder if the welfare of the community and the prosperity of the work required his personal withdrawal from the scene.

De La Salle journeyed throughout the south of France for more than two years, visiting schools, teaching, and spending personal time in retreat. His physical health was poor (his rheumatism was chronic); his long labors had worn him out; the difficulties in Paris continued to be a personal challenge, and the future was not clear. He pondered the continued usefulness of his presence within the Institute that he had worked so hard to establish.

His prayers for guidance were answered when the Brothers summoned De La Salle back to Paris. As the Brothers in Paris opened the door to him, De La Salle said, “Here I am. What do you want me to do?”

“Since it is your responsibility to teach your students about God, you must first become aware of the action of God in your life. Teach by example. Put into practice what you want your students to believe.”

—From John Baptist de La Salle’s Meditations

1670: John Baptist de La Salle enters the seminary of St. Sulpice in Paris.
1672: John Baptist de La Salle’s parents die within eight months of each other. He leaves the seminary and returns to Reims to be head of the family and guardian of his six brothers and sisters.
1678: John Baptist de La Salle receives a licentiate in theology and is ordained a priest, having continued his studies in Reims.
1679: A chance encounter at the convent of the Sisters of the Child Jesus on the Rue du Barbâtre with schoolmaster Adrian Nyel, who had just arrived from Rouen, involves John Baptist de La Salle in starting free schools for poor boys in Reims. John Baptist de La Salle invites into his home on the Rue Sainte Marguerite both Adrien Nyel and his 14-year-old apprentice.
De La Salle’s presence and insights did help eventually to resolve most of the difficulties that had beset the Brothers. After a year in Paris, De La Salle moved to Rouen, home of St. Yon—which housed the novitiate, a boarding school, and a juvenile center. The Brothers now constituted 23 houses and 34 educational establishments throughout France, with 100 Brothers and some 18 novices.

At four o’clock in the morning on Good Friday 1719, De La Salle made an effort to rise from his bed as if to greet someone, then joined his hands, raised his eyes to heaven, and died. He was buried on Holy Saturday in a side chapel of the local parish church, St. Sever. Throughout Rouen, and soon throughout the Society, word spread that “the Saint is dead.” But the providential extension of his life, work, and influence was just beginning.

A thorough but accessible biography of De La Salle is The Work Is Yours, by Brother Luke Salm, F.S.C.; a more comprehensive one is De La Salle: A City Saint and the Liberation of the Poor Through Education by Brother Alfred Calcutt, F.S.C. For a compact introduction to De La Salle’s life and times and achievement, and an analysis of the meaning of Lasallian education today, see Touching the Hearts of Students: Characteristics of Lasallian Schools by Brother George Van Grieken, F.S.C.

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1680: John Baptist de La Salle receives his doctorate in theology.
1680: John Baptist de La Salle takes the struggling group of school teachers into his home for meals, meetings, and prayer. This is considered the founding of the Institute.
1683: De La Salle joins the Brothers in their poverty and dependence on God by resigning his office as Canon and using his personal fortune to feed the poor during a famine.
1686: First General Assembly of the Brothers, in Reims. A distinctive habit and the name “Brothers of the Christian Schools” are adopted, and a vow of obedience is taken.
1688: In response to a request by Claude de La Barmondiere, the parish priest of St. Sulpice, the Brothers assume direction of a school in Paris, their first enterprise outside of Reims. The Brothers are feared as competition by the for-profit educational establishment. Lawsuits, conflicts, and harassment will continue for two decades.
A Saint For Teachers

JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE TAUGHT and exemplified, in a way that no one before him had done, that teaching is a religious act and that the teacher has a religious vocation. He guided into being a community of teachers devoted to living out that truth. Clearly, the enduring movement he began for “human and Christian education” is not only educational but also spiritual, a movement that has the school as its setting, the teacher as its focus, and the salvific potential of education as its inspiration. The following is an overview of the main tenets of De La Salle’s spirituality.

DRIVEN BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

For De La Salle, the Holy Spirit was as real and alive as the students who gathered in the classroom each day. He urged his teachers to pray constantly for their students and to bring all their daily teaching concerns to God. He told his teachers that they should look upon their students as Jesus would.

WITH THE SPIRIT OF FAITH AND ZEAL

De La Salle came to understand his work and the work of the schools as an expression of a single spirit that consisted of two parts, faith and

(Left) Cesare Mariani’s painting of the Founder teaching class. On the occasion of the beatification of St. John Baptist de La Salle in 1888, the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools presented the painting to Pope Leo XIII. The painting has been on display from time to time in the Vatican Museum and in the Motherhouse in Rome.

1690: There are defections and deaths among the Brothers, opposition from authorities, and a near-fatal illness for De La Salle. The Brothers open the establishment at Vaugirard, outside Paris, including the first formal novitiate.

1691: De La Salle and two Brothers swear a “heroic vow” to establish the Institute even if all others leave, and they are reduced to begging for their bread.

1694: At the first General Chapter, De La Salle and 12 Brothers make perpetual vows, and the first Rule is adopted.

1699: The Brothers open a school in Chartres; schools are opened in 18 more cities in France over the next two decades.

(Right) In June 1686 at Reims, John Baptist de La Salle and 12 Brothers make for the first time the vow of obedience for one year. The following day they went to renew this vow at the shrine of Our Lady of Leisse near the town of Laon. Painting (detail) by Giovanni Sagliardi (1901)

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zeal. The spirit of faith is the spirit that lets us look at situations from God's viewpoint rather than our own. We begin to find new insights, new talents, and new challenges as this spirit of faith becomes habitually exercised. The spirit of zeal describes a kind of drive that animates a person who is fully committed to Christian education. Zeal makes sure that whatever needs to be done will be done. Such zeal is found each day in classrooms, offices, and sporting fields throughout the Lasallian world.

**A DIFFERENT KIND OF SCHOOL**

In De La Salle's day, the quality of one's educational life depended on social standing, financial resources, and academic interest. De La Salle and the Brothers bypassed these determinant influences by insisting that all students be treated the same and as if they were sons of the King (social standing made no difference), by requiring that everyone receive their education gratuitously (no tuition or gifts were accepted), and by providing an education that cultivated academic engagement (the curriculum was practical).

**DEPENDING FULLY ON GOD**

De La Salle's trust in God's continual and loving care shaped the educational enterprise that he developed. His surrender to the designs of God's Providence was a conscious, continual decision, a daily recommitment. His constant response to all was "God be blessed." His deep conviction was that God's Providence spoke to him in the events of his life.

**ACCESSIBLE AND COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION**

The more De La Salle became involved in education, the more needs he saw and tried to fulfill—needs for terminal primary schools, continuation schools, teacher-training schools, and more. The schools were to be accessible to all. Students were treated alike in terms of opportunity and treated individually in terms of capacities. The education that De La Salle and his followers provided paid attention...
to the heart of all education—integrated lives in right relationship with reality, which includes the reality of God.

EDUCATION AND THE POOR

Commitment to the education of the poor works hand in hand with a commitment to the Gospel itself, and for Lasallians, it is a great legacy and a great challenge. De La Salle established educational institutions that directly addressed an ingrained and debilitating societal cycle in 17th-century France. The “poor” of his day were the vast majority of the population, limited in resources, abilities, and security. De La Salle’s response was to provide well-organized schools with caring, dependable teachers who provided a comprehensive, free, and faith-centered education.

A CHRISTIAN AND CATHOLIC SCHOOL

De La Salle’s followers called themselves “Brothers of the Christian Schools” because their focus was the school. One of the major tasks of these Christian Schools was to bring the young to understand and enter into the fullness of life that was their inheritance as children of God. Concern for “salvation” on the practical level went hand-in-hand with “salvation” on the spiritual level.

The schools were solidly schools within the Catholic tradition. The context of a vibrant Catholic heritage provided the means for developing what we today would call a “faith community.”

A PRACTICAL APPROACH

De La Salle did not write about educational philosophy—he wrote educational handbooks and textbooks on everything from French syllables to Gospel maxims to the rules of politeness. The schools were eminently practical: written work concentrated on contracts and ledgers; arithmetic lessons dealt with finance and business; young men who worked all week could attend classes on Sunday, an opportunity unique to Lasallian institutions at the time, to learn mathematics, drafting, and commerce; and schools on the seacoast included classes on navigation and seamanship.

WITH CREATIVITY AND COURAGE

Courage? De La Salle gave up his inheritance, social position, and chances of ecclesiastical preferment; he distributed his fortune to feed the poor; he took an “heroic vow” to establish the Institute even if they had to live on bread alone; he withstood years of relentless attempts to destroy or co-opt the young society of Brothers.

Creativity? De La Salle and the Brothers came up with innovative methods for teaching reading, handwriting, mathematics, and religion, and for grasping each student’s needs by means of a personalized record of strengths and weaknesses, family relationships, and the approaches that worked best.

TOGETHER AND BY ASSOCIATION

De La Salle realized that the schools would be successful and stable only if the teachers were united by a common vision, a shared dedication, and a supportive community. From the first retreat that he gave them in his house in 1681 to his last General Assembly with them in 1717, he worked to knit his teachers into a religiously animated group of Christian educators who worked in, with, and through association.

A LAY SPIRITUALITY

The Brothers’ vocation is a vocation to educational ministry, not to sacramental ministry. It is a lay vocation that has more in common with the people in the pew than with the pastor in the parish.

De La Salle established a teaching order of men who were to be neither “seculars” nor “clerics.” They were to be dedicated to teaching as “Brothers.” Their ministry lay in their encounter, as teachers, with students and parents. And the value of the teaching encounter is what Lasallian educators today still use as a touchstone.

This lay character allows for, encourages, and empowers the sense of companionship, the down-to-earthness, that characterizes the relationships found within a Lasallian school. There is a care for one another like that of an extended family. There is a sense of solidarity among all Lasallians, who know from daily experience the many modalities of the lay vocations that have sprung from the spiritual inspiration of John Baptist de La Salle.
What Made Lasallian Schools so Unusual and Desirable?

De La Salle’s intervention in the French educational system was truly and quietly revolutionary, thanks to two fundamental contributions. First, he revealed that teaching has a religious as well as a human dimension and that divine love is at the heart of all teaching. Second, he guided into being a stable community of Brothers vowed to associate together for the purpose of keeping schools for the poor.

De La Salle brought discipline, order, and focus to schools and devised a curriculum appropriate to the needs of their particular students, including training in basic academic skills (reading, writing, and arithmetic), social skills (politeness, leadership, and cooperation), and instruction and involvement in the Catholic faith (catechism, daily prayer schedule, and regular Mass attendance).

The Brothers answered the crying need for stable and competent teachers who were trained to their task and dedicated to their students. In the Brothers’ schools, the teaching was done by men who worked as a community and in association, neither for prestige nor for pay but for the glory of God, the salvation of the poor, and the fulfillment of their vocation as part of a community. De La Salle’s direction to the Brothers was: “Regard your students as the children of God himself. Have much more care for their education and for their instruction than you would have for the children of a king.”

Perhaps De La Salle’s most fundamental contribution to education is his conviction that at the root of true teaching must lie an authentic love for the students and for the vocation of teaching. In his writings, he pointed out how such a relationship is enacted day by day: “By love and patience, win over the hearts of those whom you teach.”

The Brothers’ schools became places where the young were able to develop intellectually, socially, and spiritually, where they were able to determine where and how to advance in their capacities, and where they experienced an affection and respect not commonly bestowed on the young by the general society of the time. Along with well-organized practical lessons taught in common, there was instruction in social manners and a host of classroom responsibilities, from ink-distributor to key-keeper to bell-ringer to prayer-leader. At each hour of the day, the bell-ringer would stop all activity for the prayer, “Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God.”

For good reasons, the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, with its essentially independent, non-clerical character and its mission-based, communal ministry of education, has been recognized by historians as a unique addition to the history of education.

1888: On February 19, De La Salle is beatified.
1900: On May 24, De La Salle is canonized.
1950: On May 15, St. John Baptist de La Salle is proclaimed Patron of All Teachers of Youth.

(Right) Bronze relief sculpture of St. John Baptist de La Salle by Leonard Baskin (1922-2000) from the La Salle University Art Museum.
Web Resources for Further Reading

For more information about the Christian Brothers’ global mission, visit www.lasalle.org.
For more information about the work of the Christian Brothers Conference in the United States/Toronto Region, including an online bookstore with several titles referenced in this issue, visit www.cbconf.org.
To learn more about Lasallian schools in the Baltimore District, visit www.fscbaltimore.org.

De La Salle’s Written Works

FOR THE SCHOOLS:
The Conduct of Christian Schools (in manuscript form until 1720)
Exercises of Piety for the Use of the Christian Schools (1696)
Instructions and Prayers for Holy Mass (1698)
Teaching French Syllables (1698)
How to Go to Confession (1698)
Prayers for Confession and Communion (ca. 1698)
The Rules of Christian Politeness and Civility (1702)
Spiritual Canticles for the Use of the Christian Schools (1703)
The Duties of a Christian (1703)
Christian Public Worship (Volume III of The Duties, 1703)
David’s Psalter and the Office of Our Lady (1706)

FOR THE BROTHERS’ COMMUNITY:
The Common Rule of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (1705 and 1718)
The Collection of Short Treatises for the Use of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (1705, printed in 1711)
The Rule of the Brother Director of a House of the Institute
Meditations for All the Sundays of the Year and for the Principal Feasts of the Year
Meditations for the Time of the Retreat
Explanation of the Method of Interior Prayer

During the famine of 1683-84, John Baptist de La Salle distributes his wealth by providing food to the poor of Reims. Painting (detail) by Giovanni Gagliardi (1901) at the Generalate in Rome.

Carrying on the Mission

Five La Salle graduates are serving as Lasallian Volunteers at sites around the country in 2006-07.

- John Patrick Schultz, ’06, is in his first year at La Salle Yakima in Yakima, Wash. He is teaching two sophomore English classes and a homework class, working in campus ministry, and involved in immersion trips in Tijuana, Mexico, and Browning, Mont.
- Brendan Bradley, ’05, is in his second year at San Miguel Back of the Yards in Chicago, Ill., where he continues to teach seventh grade.
- Matthew Joram, ’05, is in his second year at San Miguel Tulsa in Tulsa, Okla., where he continues to teach sixth- and seventh-grade classes.
- Victoria Kline, ’05, is in her second year working at Holy Family Catholic Worker and has started tutoring and mentoring students at St. Stephen’s School in Kansas City, Mo.
- Bridget Lilly, ’05, is in her second year at LEOCenter in Oakland, Calif., where she works at the tutoring center and programs field trips for the students.
WHY I GIVE BACK: LEONARD WARD, ’55

IN THE LATE 1940S, WHILE WORKING ON AN ASSEMBLY line at a factory in Philadelphia, Leonard Ward began to feel restless. A World War II veteran with a wife and two young children, Ward came to the conclusion that education was his way out of the factory and into a career that would help him provide for his growing family and feel more fulfilled.

After visiting a few other schools in the city and growing confused and even more unsure of himself, Ward found his way to La Salle, where he was assured that he could earn his diploma in as little as five years in the Evening Division.

“That sounded like heaven to me,” Ward said.

Enrolling at La Salle was a decision that Ward still counts as one of the best of his life. He graduated magna cum laude in 1955 with a bachelor’s degree in industrial management.

It wasn’t always easy—Ward and his wife, Betty, had two more children before he finished school, and he changed jobs twice in that time. He once found himself having to defend his pursuit of higher education while interviewing for a position with Sherwin Williams, the paint company. The interviewer told him that, in order to be offered the job, Ward would have to give up his night classes.

“I said, ‘If you can’t see the value of what I’m doing in getting an education, then I’ve got the wrong company,’” Ward recalled.

He landed that job with Sherwin Williams and spent 35 years with the company before retiring as a Division President. He and Betty had 10 children in all, and, in 1972, Sherwin Williams moved him to Rocky River, Ohio, where he still resides.

More than 50 years after completing his La Salle education, Ward is still raving about his experience as a student.

“At La Salle, I came out of a cloister of no knowledge and got educated,” he said. “I learned to speak, I learned to write, and I felt great about myself. I always felt the professor at the front of the room really cared to help, and that stayed with me.

According to Ward, his wife of nearly 60 years provided unwavering encouragement during his years at La Salle and deserves much of the credit for his success.

“If it weren’t for Betty’s support, it never would have happened,” he said.

Ward’s history of giving back to La Salle began just before his graduation in 1955, with an encouraging prediction made by Casimir Ciesla, a statistics professor, at a dance held in honor of the graduates’ wives.

“Casimir was dancing with my wife, and he said to her, ‘Your husband is okay. He’s going to be making $10,000 a year before you know it,’” Ward recalled. “And I thought, ‘If I ever make that kind of money, I’m going to give some back to La Salle.’”

Ward’s family has carried on the La Salle legacy—one of his sons and three of his grandchildren are also La Salle graduates. Leonard and Betty Ward try to come back to campus at least once a year to keep that connection strong. Besides, La Salle “throws great parties,” he said.

“My mentality says I never left La Salle,” Ward said. “I’ve been imprinted with the place—it’s a family. It’s a wonderful education and a wonderful outfit.”

At this year’s President’s Reception in September, Leonard and Betty Ward were inducted into the De La Salle Society, which recognizes individuals who have given more than $100,000 in cumulative lifetime donations to the University. Ward said he always viewed giving to La Salle as a worthwhile habit, something he did automatically with what was left over after providing for his family.

“First, take care of your family. Second, put money where you think it’s going to do some good,” he said. “I can’t think of any place that does better than La Salle.”
We invite you to celebrate with La Salle University!

The Fifteenth Annual Charter Dinner

Leadership Award to be presented to

Sharmain Matlock-Turner
President, Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition

Normandy Farm
Blue Bell, Pennsylvania
Saturday, March 24, 2007
6:30 p.m.

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

Since its founding, La Salle has played a leadership role in Philadelphia as both an educational institution and a responsible corporate citizen. In recognition of the importance of leadership in our community, La Salle University recognizes an individual who has displayed outstanding leadership in the corporate, civic, governmental, or religious communities with the presentation of La Salle University’s Leadership Award.

Proceeds from the annual Charter Dinner and Leadership Award ceremony are utilized to enhance the University’s Scholarship Fund, thereby benefiting future generations of La Salle students.

For more information, please visit our Web site at www.lasalle.edu/charterdinner or contact gordon@lasalle.edu or 215.951.1880.
Top of the Food Chain

BY MARIAN BUTCHER
PHOTOGRAPH BY DOMINIC EPISCOPO

features
During her senior year at La Salle in 1975, Judy Spires met a district manager for the South Jersey Acme supermarket where she had worked since high school and told him of her plan to work full-time for Acme after college.

“When it got to be a month before graduation, he said to me, ‘Judy, don’t worry. When you graduate, I have the perfect job for you. You’re going to be my private secretary,’” Spires recalled recently.

Not exactly the job that Spires had in mind.

“I thought to myself, ‘Gee, I’m not going to be anybody’s secretary. I’m going to have a job where I have a secretary,’” she said.

The day after that exchange, with the district manager, Spires had an interview for management training, and the former part-time cashier went on to manage several stores, become a district manager herself, and hold several vice president-level positions in divisions of Supervalu, Acme’s parent company.

On Valentine’s Day 2006, Spires landed her dream job when she became President of Malvern, Pa.-based Acme Markets. The first woman to hold that job, she oversees 16,000 employees and 134 Acme stores in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland.

“I fell in love with the retail business when I was a junior in high school,” said Spires, who lives in Center City Philadelphia with her husband, Bob Spires, ’75, who she met at La Salle, and has one son, Robert, a freshman in college. “I became part of the Acme family back then, so I’m absolutely thrilled to be back here.”

Spires’ father, an Acme truck driver, helped her land her first job at Acme, in 1970, to help her to earn money for college. She had her sights set on La Salle, which had just gone co-ed, because of her older brother’s positive experience at the University.

Spires lived on campus and returned to New Jersey for her job at Acme on the weekends. She majored in special education, but by her junior year she knew she was not meant to be a teacher.

“I loved teaching and I loved the program, but the allure of the retail business was so much more overpowering,” she said.

At the time, to say the supermarket business was male-dominated would have been a drastic understatement.

“There wasn’t a woman to be found in the industry,” Spires said. “But I just knew in my heart of hearts that this was the industry I wanted to be in.”

Spires said she never felt awkward when she found herself as the only woman in a room full of male managers. From attending an all-girls high school, to being among the first women to attend La Salle, she said she had developed enough self-confidence to hold her own in such situations.

“I love that to my education,” she said. “At La Salle, the atmosphere was never that you were a girl or a boy in a classroom—you were a student. You weren’t pigeon-holed, and I never felt like I was treated any differently, so that’s how I started my career.”

Spires has lived all over the country for her various jobs and said she is glad to be back in the Philadelphia area—and closer to La Salle. She has resumed work on her La Salle M.B.A., which she started several years ago, and is a new member of La Salle’s Board of Trustees.

Even though she did not major in business, Spires said her liberal arts education at La Salle, with its foundation in writing, culture, languages, math, and the sciences, gave her all the tools she needed for her career in retail management.

“La Salle taught me to be an independent thinker and to have confidence in myself,” she said. “With an undergraduate degree from La Salle, you’re prepared to do so much more than what that particular degree says. When I walked out of there, I felt I could be anything I wanted to be.”

As President, Spires spends much of her time in Acme stores, interacting with employees, managers, and customers. What she loves about her job when she was a teenage cashier is what she still loves about going to work every day—the opportunity to create the best place for customers to shop and employees to work.

“I tell every student I talk to that there will be a professor, a class, a work experience—something will ignite your passion. When you graduate, you will never do anything that feels like a job, and you will never ‘work’ a day in your life.”

—Judy Spires
I recognized the look, but not on Jack. He asked me if I wanted to play chess. I asked how he was doing. He laughed, said he didn’t want to talk about it—which, as I had learned from seeing that vacant, lost look before, meant two things: He needed to talk about it, and it wasn’t going to be funny.

A coworker who had lost many games to Jack told me there was one piece Jack couldn’t play without: his mouth. Instead of trash talk, I listened to lectures as Jack came up with patented catchphrases, like “Double Checkmate” and “The Power of Sacrifice.”

Jack, whose name has been changed to protect his privacy, was one of the people I met last year working at Nativity House, the only daytime, drop-in shelter for the homeless in Tacoma, Wash. I had joined the Jesuit Volunteer Corps after I graduated from La Salle University for three reasons: a desire to travel, an aversion to cubicles, and—hokey as it sounds—an idea of helping people.

Nativity House served meals to around 250 people a day. Some guests came in for meals, then left, some asked for bus tickets or clothes, some hung out in our upstairs art room. Some killed time between meals or until the overnight shelters opened.
He was middle-aged and felt like he was just starting his life.

In March, Jack shuffled in, looking thin, scared, and tired. He had spent the last few weeks in Tacoma General with splintered ribs from a gunshot wound. The bullet was still lodged in his back. The details were fuzzy. Neither of us felt like playing.

In April, I took his queen. It was a nice fork—I used my knight to simultaneously put his king in check and threaten his queen. Not a bad move, but one that Jack should have seen a mile away. One that usually would have led to another one of his

game. I’d also dropped a little of the ego that came with helping others. I stopped taking things personally: the relapses, the women who went back to abusive men, the bad decisions. That gives me the good things, too: the recoveries, the couple who invited the staff for dinner in their new apartment, the beautiful moments. Never had I seen people at such extremes before. It’s humbling and an honor to sit with someone, listen if they wanted, be a friend, realize the only thing I can change is myself, play a game of chess, and maybe catch somebody with a double checkmate.

During my last week of work in July, Jack returned in his old form. Walking normally, he looked thicker than March, thinner than November.

It’s humbling and an honor to sit with someone, listen if they wanted, be a friend, realize the only thing I can change is myself, play a game of chess, and maybe catch somebody with a double checkmate.

—Ed Mahon

A group of new faces—most of my chess crew had moved on to other cities, better spots in their lives, or different games, like cribbage—huddled around Jack’s table, waiting to take a shot. That’s the last look I saw on Jack—the lecturer, the constant talker, the man with all the answers, one of the king’s men who could put it all back together again.

Mahon, who lives in Springfield, Pa., is now a correspondent for the News of Delaware County. He is a former news editor for the Collegian, and he participated for three years in La Salle University Ministry and Service’s Project Appalachia, an annual weeklong service trip to Kentucky.
New Trustees Introduced

Five new members have joined La Salle’s Board of Trustees this fall.

Susan F. Altamore Carusi, Esq., ‘82, most recently was the Coordinator of the Teen Court at Glen Cove City Court in Glen Cove, N.Y., for six years before her retirement in June 2006.

Carusi has been active in numerous nonprofit organizations, including Books for Students, a nonprofit she founded to raise money for library books for New York City Public Schools. She lives in Mill Neck, N.Y.

Brother Louis DeThomasis, F.S.C., Ph.D., is Chancellor of St. Mary’s University of Minnesota. Br. Louis has spoken and written extensively about ethics in the financial world and has co-authored a book, Doing Right in a Shrinking World, which explores corporate ethics in a global economy. In 1982, he founded and became the first President of Christian Brothers Investment Services Inc., an investment advisory firm that manages more than $3 billion in assets.

Brother Ronald Gallagher, F.S.C., Ph.D., became President of St. Mary’s College of California in Moraga, Calif., in January 2005. Among the numerous academic and administrative positions he has held, Br. Ronald has served as Vice Chancellor of Bethlehem University, a Lasallian institution in the West Bank. He later served as Secretary General of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in Rome from 1997 to 2001, organizing the 43rd General Chapter, an international assembly that resulted in a seven-year global strategic plan for Lasallian educators.

Gaetano P. (Guy) Giordano, ‘76, has been the C.E.O. and President of the Vincent Giordano Corporation, a family business that specializes in the manufacture of beef deli meats and services the retail supermarket and national quick-service restaurant industries, since 1983. He has also expanded his business interests to include Buona Vita Inc., another specialty meat manufacturer, Gaetano P. Giordano Builders LLC, a residential housing, building, and development company, and QSR Concepts LLC, an operator of seven Subway sandwich restaurants.

Judith (Judy) Spires, ‘75, is the President of Acme Markets, a Northeast retailer operating combination stores and supermarkets in 133 locations in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. Prior to accepting her new post, Spires served for more than 30 years in a variety of positions at American Stores and Albertsons, including President of Albertsons’ Dallas/Fort Worth and Rocky Mountain divisions.

Honor Roll 2005-2006
The following are corrections and additions to the Fall 2006 La Salle University Honor Roll of Donors:

**ALUMNI**

1959

Ugo Doneni Club ($250-$499)
Mr. Joseph G. Rodev (15 years of giving)

**PARENTS AND FRIENDS**

President’s Club ($50,000 and above)
Mr. Robert Chamberlain
Br. Miguel Campos Receives Honorary Degree

La Salle University honored Brother Miguel Campos, F.S.C., with an honorary doctorate at this fall’s Honors Convocation for his “significant contributions to the worldwide Lasallian movement.”

Since 2000, Br. Miguel has served in Rome as one of six General Councilors of the Christian Brothers. In this and other capacities, he travels around the world conducting seminars and workshops promoting the values of the Christian Brothers to lay faculty members and encouraging them to follow in the tradition of the Brothers.

“Throughout his career, Brother Miguel has cultivated and used his talents for the good of many—his students, colleagues, fellow Brothers, and the lay associates who he knows will help to carry the Lasallian mission into the future,” said Gail Ramshaw, Ph.D., a La Salle religion professor who sponsored Br. Miguel for the honor. “A man of intelligence and master of four languages, a man of passion for the mission and with a work ethic to be admired and emulated, Br. Miguel is truly deserving of our appreciation.”

Br. Miguel has taught at La Salle twice, from 1975 to 1978 and again from 1991 to 1998. While at La Salle, he co-founded Bilingual Undergraduate Studies for Collegiate Advancement (BUSCA), an associate’s degree program for Spanish-speaking students.

“Your world is not leading you inexorably to disenchantment, despair, and to death,” Br. Miguel said in his address to students. “This is what I hope you will be able to ask for and experience in this learning community of La Salle University in your relationships with one another, with your professors and administrators.”

In conferring the degree, La Salle’s President Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., ’70, said of Campos. “Your seminars, retreats, and workshops in North America, Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Europe have touched many Lasallians, helping them to understand, among other things, the religious dimension of all education. You have helped to make John Baptst de La Salle accessible and inspiring to your fellow Christian Brothers and all our Lasallian colleagues.”

A Feast for Police, Firefighters

Thirty La Salle student Ambassadors served a turkey dinner with all the trimmings to more than 300 police officers and firefighters at the 35th Police District Headquarters just before Thanksgiving. The dinner, organized by June Robinson, a retired La Salle staff member, and Amie Kotalic, ’07, social chair for the Ambassadors, was sponsored by several La Salle departments and organizations and was prepared and transported to the precinct by the University’s Food Services Department.

President’s Reception

The 22nd annual President’s Reception was held on Sept. 24, 2006, at the newly expanded Bucks County Center in Newtown, Pa. At the event, several individuals were inducted into the De La Salle Society, which recognizes those with cumulative lifetime donations to La Salle University of $100,000 or more. (Far left, from left) Gail and Jack Hagan, ’57, and Marc and Laura McKenna, 2006 De La Salle Society inductees. (Left, from left) Ken Shaw, representing the Philadelphia Frostbite Regatta, accepts the organization’s induction into the De La Salle Society from Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., ’70, La Salle’s President.
Holroyd Award, Lecture Held

Francis P. Sutter, ’72, and John R. Gimpel, ’84

At the 27th annual Holroyd Award and Lecture, Francis P. Sutter, D.O., FACS, FACOS, ’72, was named the Holroyd Award recipient and John R. Gimpel, D.O., ’84, presented the Holroyd Lecture.

The Holroyd Award is named after legendary La Salle biology professor Roland Holroyd, Ph.D., who was known to students as “the Good Doctor.” The award recognizes distinguished contributions by a La Salle alumnus or alumna to the medical profession.

Sutter is a clinical professor of surgery at Thomas Jefferson University. He is also President of Medical Staff at Lankenau Hospital and Chief of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery.

He is the co-founding member and project lead for the Delaware Valley STS Quality Improvement Initiative—a regional, peer review organization with a commitment to continually improving quality surgery care. Sutter also serves as Director for Governmental Affairs for the Pennsylvania Association for Thoracic Surgery.

Gimpel is Vice President for Clinical Skills Testing for the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners and Associate Professor of Family Medicine at Georgetown University’s School of Medicine.

Starting in 1994, Gimpel led a national team of physicians in the research and development of a national standardized patient-based clinical skills exam, which is required for graduation and licensure for osteopathic physicians.

La Salle’s newly expanded Bucks County Center in Newtown, Pa., was dedicated in a ceremony on Oct. 27, 2006. The expansion added about 20,000 square feet to the center and includes 13 classrooms, a science lab, a computer lab, and two nursing labs. There is also an expanded resource center/library, an executive seminar/conference room, and an expanded dining facility and student lounge. More than 2,200 students are expected to take classes at the center in the 2006-07 academic year. (Top) A biochemistry lab in the new addition to the Bucks County Center. (Above, from left) James F. Cawley, Esq., Commissioner Chairman, County of Bucks, Susan M. DiIuliano, ’06, who spoke at the ceremony, and La Salle’s President Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., ’70. (Above right) The new addition at the Bucks County Center.

African American Alumni Association Honors Philadelphia Community Leader

Sandra Dungee Glenn was honored as this year’s recipient of the Warren E. Smith, M.D., ’54, Award, presented by La Salle’s African American Alumni Association at its annual dinner in November.

Glenn is President and Chief Executive Officer of American Cities Foundation, an organization committed to the development and implementation of national urban policy and to defining a new relationship between cities and the federal government.

A leader in community service, Glenn was appointed by Philadelphia Mayor John Street to the School Reform Commission in 2002. She is one of five commissioners committed to providing a quality education in the School District of Philadelphia.

According to Dana King, ’93, President of the African American Alumni Association, Glenn was selected as this year’s recipient because of “her advocacy and passion for properly educating Philadelphia’s children.”

At the dinner, the African American Alumni Association also presented the Warren E. Smith Scholarship to students Ricardo Johnson, ’07, and Pamela McClure, ’07.

Warren E. Smith was one of the first African Americans to graduate from La Salle’s pre-med program. He served as the University’s psychologist for 15 years before retiring in 1984.
Alumni Association Recognizes Parish Ministry, Trustee

St. Vincent de Paul parish’s ministries in service to those in need in Germantown was honored with La Salle’s Signum Fidei Award and Carmen Romeo, ’65, Vice Chair of La Salle’s Board of Trustees, received the John J. Finley Award at this fall’s Alumni Association Annual Awards Dinner in November.

The Signum Fidei Award is given annually by the University’s Alumni Association to an individual who or an organization that has made significant contributions to the community in keeping with Lasallian values.

The Rev. John Kettelberger, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul, accepted the award on behalf of the parish, which serves the community by offering adult education, job counseling, a thrift shop, and a food cupboard, among many other initiatives.

“Since 1851, St. Vincent de Paul parish has epitomized the spirit of caring so characteristic of this proud community,” said Michael J. Dicccio, ’71, President of La Salle’s Alumni Association.

Romeo was recognized with the Finley Award for outstanding service to the University and the Alumni Association. A retired Executive Vice President of SEI Investments, Romeo has served on the steering committee of Shoulder to Shoulder: Securing the Future, a fundraising initiative for a new science and technology center and to strengthen La Salle’s endowment. He has also served on the Executive, Finance, Investment, Advancement, and Trusteehip committees of the University’s Board of Trustees and has been a member of La Salle’s School of Business Advisory Board for many years. In 1992, Romeo was honored with the School of Business’ D’Angelis Award for outstanding accomplishments in the field of accounting.

“Not only has Carmen been a generous donor, he is generous with his time, his leadership, and his ideas for what La Salle University can become,” Dicccio said.

IBM Executive Receives IT Leadership Award

Diane Melley, ’82, who directs some of the largest and most influential partnerships between IBM and schools around the world, has received La Salle’s Information Technology Leadership Award. Melley began her career at IBM as a systems engineer and is now the firm’s Corporate Community Relations Executive in Philadelphia and also serves as the global manager of the company’s Reinventing Education program. She oversees the volunteer efforts of 77,000 IBM employees who donate their skills to their communities, is involved in IBM’s efforts to upgrade technologies in schools, works to encourage more students to pursue careers in math and science, and also serves on the Philadelphia Mayor’s Commission on Technology.

“In my community relations role at IBM, I have seen how IT can improve education for the disadvantaged, help the poor move from welfare to work, raise the quality of health care, and make important strides in the fight against AIDS and cancer,” Melley said. “In today’s complex world, we need leaders who will continue to focus on these and other critical humanitarian issues.”

The IT Leadership Award is presented annually to recognize an outstanding individual who has made significant contributions to the field of information technology and has served as an example to students pursuing careers in information technology.

Three Politicians Visit Campus

In the week leading up to Election Day, Lynn Swann (right), a Republican, and Gov. Ed Rendell (left), a Democrat, rivals in the gubernatorial race, made separate appearances to drum up support for their campaigns. La Salle’s Students’ Government Association sponsored both Swann’s and Rendell’s visits. On Nov. 9, U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.) (center), Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, made a presentation in the Dan Rodden Theatre on the ways Congress and President Bush are developing laws and taking action to balance the nation’s security and civil liberties concerns. Afterward, he fielded questions from the audience.
Kerlin Honored With Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award

La Salle University has been a part of Michael Kerlin’s life for 45 of his 70 years. Growing up in a row house in West Philadelphia, Kerlin was taught by the Christian Brothers as a student at Philadelphia’s West Catholic High School. He earned his bachelor’s and two master’s degrees from La Salle and has been a professor in the Department of Philosophy for the past 40 years.

For his dedication to La Salle and its heritage, Kerlin was named this year’s Distinguished Lasallian Educator. Each year, the award is given to a person who “exhibits in their daily lives an understanding of and a commitment to Lasallian priorities and traditions.”

“I know first-hand why he was selected for this award,” said Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., ’70, a former student of Kerlin’s, as he presented the award. “I profited from his knowledge of subject matter, from the contagious enthusiasm he brought to his teaching, and from the friendship he naturally and unfailingly extended to his students.”

Kerlin prides himself as a lifelong learner who says his work allows him to continue his education, not only in the classroom, but also from his colleagues.

“I love this place so much,” Kerlin said as he accepted the award. “I’m going to stay around for as long as I can.”

Faculty Distinguished Service Award Goes to Vogel

When Robert Vogel graduated from high school, his father advised him, “Choose a career path you are passionate about, make each day mean something, and don’t settle for anything less.” With a passion for teaching and service, Vogel took his father’s advice to heart—becoming a teacher and later a professor of education at La Salle University.

La Salle recently honored Vogel with the Faculty Distinguished Service Award. Vogel has been a professor in the Department of Education for more than 30 years and recently co-founded the University’s Leadership and Global Understanding Program, a program he now serves as co-director.

As the recipient of this year’s Faculty Distinguished Service Award, Vogel is acknowledged for his years of service both inside and outside the classroom. To Vogel, teaching and service go hand-in-hand.

“I see service as part of my role as a professor,” Vogel said. “Helping students see the connections between what they are learning and the world in which they live is critical.”

Over the years, Vogel has led La Salle students on numerous travel/study courses, including trips to the Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland, as well as the Czech Republic, Hong Kong, and Chile. He will lead a travel/study trip to India during the Spring 2007 semester.
Haberstroh Receives Distinguished Scholar Award

As the daughter of Irish immigrants, Patricia Boyle Haberstroh grew up not wanting to be labeled “Irish”; she simply wanted to be “American.” Ironically, it is her Irish roots that eventually became her life’s work. Over the past 30 years, Haberstroh has dedicated much of her life to researching and writing about Irish women poets. In recognition of her exemplary scholarly achievements, Haberstroh was recently presented with La Salle’s Faculty Distinguished Scholar Award.

Haberstroh’s interest in Irish women poets began in the 1970s, when she attended a National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Seminar at Yale University. There, she encountered scholars who were researching the works of Irish poets. Realizing that none of their work included women poets, Haberstroh set out to research the under-appreciated area of Irish women poets.

Her research allows her to combine three of her interests—women’s studies, poetry, and Ireland—into one research topic. While conducting her research in the U.S. and in Ireland, Haberstroh was also teaching full-time at La Salle, where she has been a professor of English since 1968. In 2003, she was named the Chair of the Department of Fine Arts.

When she first presented her research on Ireland’s women poets at a conference in Dublin, she was approached by Syracuse University Press to turn her research into a book. Women Creating Women, Contemporary Irish Women Poets was published in 1996 and won a Choice Award for outstanding academic book. My Self, My Muse, Irish Women Poets Reflect on Life and Art, Haberstroh’s second book on Irish women poets, was published in 2001, and her third book, Opening the Field, Irish Women, Texts and Contexts, co-edited with Christine St. Peter, will be released in January from Cork University Press.

In 2002, Haberstroh was selected as a Fulbright Scholar and spent a semester teaching and researching at University College in Dublin.

“It feels great to be recognized for work that I’ve slowly plowed away at for years,” Haberstroh said when she received her Faculty Distinguished Scholar Award at this fall’s Honors Convocation. “Hopefully this award encourages students to become scholars in their chosen field.”
Affirming Our Association

The Affirmation, a statement of shared values created by the Division of Student Affairs and student leaders in 2005, has received wide recognition since its inception. Dean of Students Joseph J. Cicala, Ph.D., '78, and various partners from the professional staff, student leaders, and alumni have made several presentations about The Affirmation at regional and national conferences, including the Delaware Valley Student Affairs Conference, the National Conference on Student Government Associations, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators' Conference, the "Transitions" Conference of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, and the national Conference of the Association for Student Affairs at Catholic Colleges and Universities.

More importantly, The Affirmation is serving the purposes for which it was intended in the La Salle University community. It has been employed as a major curricular theme for our Day ONE, Opening Weekend, and other programs of welcome for new students, with very positive response from students and families. Nearly all incoming members of the classes of 2009 and 2010 affixed their signatures to banner versions of The Affirmation, which hang proudly in our Union lobby. The Affirmation also is routinely used and celebrated in inductions and other ceremonies of our student organizations, as well as in staff and student training. To learn more about The Affirmation, our efforts, and our plans for the future, please visit www.lasalle.edu/studentaffairs.

More than 175 families came to La Salle over the first weekend in October for Family Weekend, once again breaking a record for attendance.

Utilized by La Salle's Parents' Association, the weekend included outings to the Philadelphia Zoo, art galleries, and historical landmarks, performances by a hypnotist and La Salle's Improv team, a Philly Ghost Tour, football and women's soccer games, a jazz band concert, and a La Salle version of Family Feast. Families were also invited to a carnival-themed lunch and a Happening Hour event.

Family Weekend culminated with a luncheon on Sunday, followed by a brunch with Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., '70, La Salle's President.
Let There Be Light—and Turf

As of the fall sports season, La Salle student-athletes are competing with new turf and lights overhead.

With the $2.5 million turf enhancement project completed, the campus’ two multi-sport athletic facilities, McCarthy Field, home of Explorer football, soccer, and lacrosse, and Hank DeVincent Field, where La Salle’s baseball and field hockey teams play, have been resurfaced with SprinTurf brand artificial playing surfaces. Lights were also installed at McCarthy Stadium to allow for daytime intercollegiate and recreational competition.

"In our first several contests, it has not only brought out a higher level of play from both sides, but we are now able to play to the strengths of our talented young team," said women’s soccer head coach Paul Royal. "We feel that we have gained an outstanding home field advantage against any team that comes to McCarthy."

The project has also allowed for the expansion of the campus recreation program. Because the fields are now available after dark, the number of intramural teams participating in sports such as flag football and Ultimate Frisbee is up from 15 to 27 teams this year, and the number of participants has doubled.
Communication Alum Finds TV Fame

In just a few years, Cyreeta Sharp, ’01, M.A. ’04, has gone from student and Admission Office staff member at La Salle to new mother to burgeoning TV star.

Sharp has appeared in a music video with singer and Oscar-winning actor Jamie Foxx for the song “You Still Got It,” about the beauty of pregnancy. She also has been featured on a cable television series about new parents. And this fall, she appeared on the game show The Price is Right and took home big prizes, including a new car.

Sharp’s role in the Jamie Foxx video came about when her husband, Tawala, who is the music director for a major radio station in Los Angeles, invited his wife to come to the studio to meet Foxx while giving an interview.

“When I walked in the studio, Jamie stopped what he was doing and told me he had a song on his new album just for me,” said Sharp, who was seven months pregnant at the time.

Foxx explained his idea for a music video that would document women during various stages of pregnancy and immediately asked if she would be interested. Sharp agreed and was followed around by a camera crew that evening. She calls Foxx, “amazing, a sweetheart.”

The Philadelphia native also recently taped an episode of Bringing Home Baby, a show on The Learning Channel that follows the lives of women during their final months of pregnancy as well as the first 35 hours with their newborns.

The episode, titled “A Brighter Future,” spotlights Sharp’s pregnancy with her first son, Mac’Sean, as well as her husband’s pending kidney transplant.

“There were so many emotions I didn’t expect to have, and to have a camera crew in the middle of everything was just crazy,” she said. Still, she calls the entire month of filming, “a lot of fun, with both happy and stressful times.”

To top it off, Sharp was recently plucked out of the audience at a taping of The Price is Right to be a contestant on the long-running game show hosted by Bob Barker. She advanced all the way to the show’s final challenger, the Showcase Showdown, and ended up winning a Ford F-150 pickup truck, a computer, a hot tub, a cookware set, and $12,200 in cash, among other prizes.

“You Still Got It” will air in the upcoming months, and Bringing Home Baby can be seen at 2-3 p.m. weekdays on The Learning Channel. Sharp’s appearance on The Price is Right was scheduled to air in December.

1954 E.F. (Ted) Bronson (B.S.) of Arlington, Va., was recognized for his outstanding support to the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA), Washington, D.C., Chapter, by the AFCEA Board of Directors and Members. One of his responsibilities includes administering the chapter’s scholarship program. (Above) Bronson (left) accepts a plaque from Paul Brubaker, Chapter President and C.E.O. of Procentrix, Inc.

1957 ★ REUNION YEAR

1961 John J. Bieniek Jr. (B.S.) of Norristown, Pa., retired from his advertising and marketing business after 30 years of creativity. He was involved in all aspects of the business, from concept development, art, photography, film, and video to creative and art direction. He showcases his 250-plus pieces of art at various art shows and exhibits. He was selected to decorate one of the 50 painted animal sculptures (Tiffany Pig Louis) as part of “Abzolutely Chestnut Hill.”

1962 ★ REUNION YEAR

1963 William J. Raftery (B.A.) of Florham Park, N.J., received the 17th annual Curt Gowdy Media Award from the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame during the 2006 Enshrinement Weekend. The award was established by the Board of Trustees to recognize members of the electronic and print media for outstanding contributions to basketball.


1964 James R. Mulhern (B.A.) of Broomall, Pa., was appointed Director of Development for West Philadelphia Catholic High School.

1965 Robert L. Butler (B.S.) of Hingham, Mass., was elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Clough Global Allocation Fund, Clough Global Equity Fund, and Clough Global Opportunities Fund.

1966 Ralph F. Desiderio (B.S.) of Wayne, Pa., retired as Senior Vice President of the PNC Financial Services Group. He is working as a consultant for nonprofits, including Regional Housing Legal Services.
Thomas J. Murray (B.S.) of Naples, Fla., was elected President of the Friends of the Florida Panther Wildlife Refuge. He is working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in preserving one of the world’s most endangered species.

1967 ★ REUNION YEAR

1968 Joseph D. Murphy (B.A.) of Ewing, N.J., is working in partnership with the New Jersey Council of Communication Colleges to develop a statewide career development program for educational support professionals. He is also serving a second term as an elected member of the Ewing Township Council.

Thomas F. Strickland Jr. (B.S.) of Collegeville, Pa., received a Master of Science in Organizational Dynamics from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2006. Elizabeth (Bessie), his first grandchild, was born on May 23, 2006.

1970 John E. Mordock (B.S., M.B.A. ’78) of Newtown, Pa., was named Chief Executive Officer for Neurogix Inc.

John W. Lund (B.A.) of New York, N.Y., President and C.E.O. of the YMCA of Greater New York, was appointed to the Community Development Advisory Board by President George W. Bush. The Board advises the Director of the Community Development Financial Institutions.

Eugene G. Thomas (B.A.) of Greenbrae, Calif., founder of Lifespan Video Portraits, was retained as Supervising Producer and Director for Stories of Reconciliation, video oral histories recorded by U.S. high school students in South Africa.

1972 ★ REUNION YEAR


1973 Earle G. Hitchner III (B.A.) of Blooming Grove, N.Y., earned an M.A. in Writing from CUNY. He continues to teach writing at Lehman University and Marist College and has published articles on Irish music in Irish Echo, a newspaper published in New York.

Donald Miller (B.S.) of St. George, Utah, is enjoying retirement with his wife, Sue.

1975 Lawrence T. Bowman, Esq. (B.A.) of Dallas, Texas, was promoted to Firm-Wide Chair of Litigation for Cozen and O’Connor.

Suzanne R. Brooks (B.A.) of Sacramento, Calif., has left her administrative position in higher education institutions to pursue her

Marriages

1996 David C. Lyons (B.A.) to Julie Silsby.
1998 David Infante (B.S.) to Kristie Camiolo.
1999 Suzanne K. Chase (B.S.N.) to Thomas Lang (B.A.).
Anne Marie Devlin (B.S., M.B.A. ’01) to James Mazonne.
Joy L. A. Miller (B.A.) to Adam Olenoski.

Erin Benson (B.A.) to Michael Yucha.
2000 John A. Giansanti (B.S.) to Regina Mondella.
2002 Deena T. Lattanzi (B.S.N.) to Jason Conti.
2003 Monique F. Abele (B.A.) to Shawn M. Kramer.
2004 Kimberly George (B.A.) to Peter J. Curtis.


2005 Charles Edward Buehrle (B.S.) to Caroline Yost.
Alena S. Petty (B.A.) to Douglas McGraw.
Kimberly H. Polanski (B.S.N.) to Stephen W. Barrow.
entrepreneurial music pursuits. She is the owner of a recording studio, a bandleader and singer in her own jazz band, an author/poet, songwriter, and hula dancer.

1976 The Hon. Diane (McMonagle) Welsh (B.A.) of Wayne, Pa., was the commencement speaker at the 2006 graduation ceremonies at Manor College in Fox Chase Manor, Pa.

Diane C. Wimanski (B.A.) passed the Certified Information Systems Audit (CISA) examination.

1977 *REUNION YEAR* James G. Lauckner (B.S.) is owner of J’Lis Management Consulting, specializing in helping companies improve their recruiting and retention processes. He and his wife, Mary, and two sons, Jake and Joshua, live in Chester County, Pa.

Anne Marie Smith, Ph.D. (B.S., M.B.A. ’87) of Mantua, N.J., earned a Ph.D. in Management Information Systems from Northcentral University. Her dissertation topic was “An Examination of the Influence of the Capability Maturity Model on Smaller Software Development Organizations.” She completed her doctorate while working as a consultant and Director of Education for EWSolutions.

1979 William J. Gaughan, M.D. (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., joined Einstein Center for Kidney Transplantation in Philadelphia as a transplant nephrologist. He is board-certified and previously served on the faculty of Thomas Jefferson University Hospital as a clinical associate professor of medicine.

John Shegda (B.A.) of Yardley, Pa., earned the e-PRO designation offered by the National Association of Realtors.

1980 LTC Keith M. Cianfrani (Ret.) (B.S.) of Ocean City, N.J., joined the news team at WPVI in Philadelphia as a pilot for Chopper 6.

Paul M. King (B.S.) of Cinnaminson, N.J., co-founded South Jersey Rowing Club, a nonprofit organization that provides the opportunity to row on the Cooper River to high-school-age youth.

1981 Ramona M. Cannon (B.A.) has been living in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, for the past 22 years. She is a member of Soroptimist International of Kona, an international volunteer service organization for business and professional women, whose mission is to improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. She continues to play the viola and performs with the local orchestra.


1982 *REUNION YEAR* Jeffrey F. O’Donnell (B.S.) of Malvern, Pa., was awarded C.E.O. of the Year designation at the Eastern Technology Council’s annual Enterprise Awards.

John J. O’Donnell, C.P.A. (B.S.) of Doylestown, Pa., was promoted from a senior manager to a shareholder of WithumSmith+Brown and is assigned to the Princeton, N.J., office.

Celeste M. Riley (B.A.) of Bridgeton, N.J., was elected to Bridgeton City Council in May 2006.

Stanley R. Snock Jr. (B.A.) of Upland, Calif., was promoted and assigned to head the counterterrorism squad in the F.B.I.’s West Covina, Calif., office.

1984 Dennis T. Owens (B.A.) of Harrisburg, Pa., was nominated for three 2006 Mid-Atlantic EMMY® Awards for his work with WHTM ABC 29 in Harrisburg. His nominations include: Reporter for “Rolling
John Keenan, ’52, professor emeritus and former Chair of La Salle’s English Department from 1978 to 1985, died due to complications from cancer on Oct. 14, 2006. He was 75.

Keenan also edited *Four Quarters*, the internationally renowned literary journal once published by La Salle. For many years, he wrote the college catalogue and other La Salle publications. He was the author of two books on writing, *Feel Free to Write* and (with Kevin J. Harty, Ph.D.) *Writing for Business and Industry.*

An inspiring and beloved teacher, Keenan earned La Salle’s Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1967-68. He excelled as a teacher of writing, a particularly difficult subject to teach. He came up with a brilliantly simple approach for his students, both in the classroom and in the world of work, to approach any writing task. In *Feel Free to Write*, Keenan wrote: “Think PAEFO. Some years ago, I made up a nonsense word to help my students remember the important steps in constructing a piece of writing. It seemed to stick in their minds. In fact, I keep running into former students who can’t remember my name but who remember PAEFO because it proved to be so useful. Here are the magic ingredients. P stands for purpose: A stands for audience; F stands for format; E stands for evidence; O stands for organization. Put together, they spell PAEFO, and it means the world to me!”

Keenan wore many hats: those of husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather, colleague, friend, loyal alumnus of West Catholic and La Salle, musician, teacher, writer, and editor, but first and foremost, he was a gentleman and a gentle man.

He resided in Bryn Mawr, in the same home in which he was raised, and is survived by his wife, Alice, and three children.

1985 David R. Forlini (B.S.) of Willow Grove, Pa., is the Vice President of Loan Servicing for Continental Bank. He also manages the loan servicing area and branch facilities.

1986 Philip J. Minigh (B.A.) of Fairless Hills, Pa., completed 20 consecutive years of service at Reedman-Toll Auto World.

1987 Reunion Year Donna L. Clews (B.S.N.) of Mount Carmel, Pa., was named Vice President of Nursing for Lancaster General Hospital. She is responsible for the Nursing Department at the Duke Street Hospital and will help coordinate nursing services throughout Lancaster General Hospital.

Christopher Konzelmann (B.A.) of Moorestown, N.J., is a partner in the law firm of White and Williams LLP. He received the Valeictorian Award after completing Firefighter 1 Training at the Mercer County Fire Academy.

1988 Barbara Peltzer (B.A., M.B.A. ’94) of Cape May Court House, N.J., was named Vice President and Commercial Banking Relationship Manager for Sun National Bank, southern market.

1989 Larry D. Holman (M.B.A., M.S. ’90) of Philadelphia, Pa., retired as the Assistant Director of Purchasing at Temple University. He is working on his memoirs and supporting veteran organizations.

Jennifer (Poe) Scheel (B.S., M.A. ’99) of Furlong, Pa., has joined Cadient Group, a strategic interactive marketing agency located in Conshohocken, Pa., as a Strategic Engagement Manager.


John J. Gallagher, R.N. (B.S.N., M.S.N. ’99) of Norristown, Pa., is a clinical nurse specialist in the nationally recognized Rhoads Surgical Critical Care Unit at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

1992 Reunion Year Donald W. Fox (M.B.A.) of Horsham, Pa., was named Vice President and Executive Director of Elder Health Pennsylvania, a subsidiary of Elder Health Inc.

Catherine P. Forkin (B.S., M.B.A. ’98) of Doylestown, Pa., received a national honor as a “2007 Top Ten Businesswomen,” awarded by the American Business Women’s Association.

1994 Matthew W. Howley (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., was nominated for a 2006 Mid-Atlantic EMMY® in the category Sport—Regularly Scheduled Daily or Weekly Program for the program *Sportsnite* on Comcast SportsNet. He also serves as the coordinating producer.

Michael B. Hayes, Esq. (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., is the head of the Young Lawyers Division of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Dennis A. Jordan, M.D. (B.A.) of Dresher, Pa., was elected as the 159th president of the Montgomery County Medical Society for 2006-07.

Lawrence T. Mangan (M.B.A.) was named Chief Financial Officer of the Rockefeller Foundation (New York), an international philanthropic organization. In September...
2006, he was elected President of the Foundation Financial Officers Group, an international association of private foundation finance and investment professionals. Prior to these appointments, he served as Vice President, Finance, and Treasurer of the Connelly Foundation. He and his wife, Leititia (Mele) (B.A. ’83) live in suburban Philadelphia with their four children.

Frances C. McKeown (B.S., M.B.A. ’94) of Rockledge, Pa., is the Eastern Pennsylvania Regional Manager for American Education Services (AES) in the Philadelphia region. Her responsibilities include visiting postsecondary schools in Eastern Pennsylvania to review, discuss, and market AES products, services, programs, and technology.

Donna A. Tonrey (M.A., Psy.D. ’02) of North Wales, Pa., is among those quoted in “How to Handle Separation Anxiety” in the Spring 2006 issue of Parenting Education Practitioners Talk.

1995 Amaris R. Brown (B.A.) of Levittown, N.Y., was selected as a New York City Teaching Fellow. She is teaching Living Environment at a New York City public school.

Stephen A. Pecorelli (B.S.) of Haddonfield, N.J., was activated in September 2005 for active duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is currently in Iraq pulling convoy operations.

1996 Erin K. Flynn (B.A.) of Allentown, Pa., is nominated for a 2006 Mid-Atlantic EMMY® Award in the category Sports—One-Time Special for WLTW PBS 39 “Football Legends of Pennsylvania.” She also served as producer of the program.

Rachel (Garver) Kahn (B.A.) resides in Voorhees, N.J., with her husband, Gary, and two daughters, Olivia and Stella.

Amy (Antonelli) Nicholls (B.A.) of Chalfont, Pa., is a marketing manager with Advanta Corporation and is a student in the M.B.A. Program at La Salle University.

1997 Reunion Year Wendy Lunk-Leach (B.A.) of Burlington, N.J., is teaching second grade at the Young School in Burlington, N.J. She is enjoying her life-long dream of being around children all day.

MaryBeth Slane (B.A.) was recognized as Sam’s Club Teacher of the Year for Sarasota County, Fla., and received a $1,000 contribution to the school where she teaches.

1998 Andrew Gwiazda (B.A.) of Wilmington, Del., was nominated for a 2006 Mid-Atlantic EMMY® Award in the category of Director for his work with CN8, the Comcast Network.

Rosemary King, LMHC, N.C.C. (M.A.) of Spring Hill, Fla., is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in the state of Florida.

Thomas E. Quinn (B.A.) of Springfield, Pa., completed his first year in the M.F.A. film program at Temple University. The screening of his short film, Via Bicycles, was part of the Bicycle Film Festival 2006.


Carol A. (Lucas) Thalheimer (B.A.) of Villas, N.J., was named to Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers in 2005-06.

2001 Regina Gauss (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., is pursuing a Master of Public Service

Alum Carries on Mother’s Legacy with ODUNDE Festival

Oshunburni Fernandez-Ogundana, M.B.A. ’02, was just a baby when she attended the first ODUNDE Festival in 1975. More than 30 years later, she is in charge of the renowned showcase of African American culture.

Co-founded more than 30 years ago by Fernandez-Ogundana’s mother, Lois, the ODUNDE Festival has grown from a one-day block party to a three-day, 10-block event featuring African dance workshops, food, crafts, and performances, as well as an Ambassador’s Ball for African dignitaries. As executive director, Fernandez-Ogundana’s goal is to make the event as open and accessible to as many people as possible. This year’s ODUNDE (a Nigerian term meaning Happy New Year) drew nearly 600,000 people.

The festival’s expansion was helped by a $300,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, which allowed Fernandez-Ogundana to invite and hire a greater number of performers, artists, and production assistants.

Next year, Fernandez-Ogundana is looking forward to an even bigger event, and she hopes to have more activities aimed at families and children. While the festival only occurs once a year, ODUNDE exists year round, continually sponsoring cultural and educational advancement programs throughout the tri-state region. Fernandez-Ogundana is also looking to open an assisted-living facility for 15 senior citizens in South Philadelphia to address a need for affordable housing for seniors in her neighborhood.

Fernandez-Ogundana said her family is responsible for the many opportunities she has been given to make a difference.

“I love my mother,” she said, “for creating an amazing legacy and trusting me to take it to the next level.”
degree at the University of Arkansas’ Clinton School of Public Service, the only such program in the nation.

Therese J. Zaccagnino (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., and Michael Marrion are planning an October 2007 wedding.

Alicia Santelli (B.A.) of Lansdowne, Pa., is moving to Texas to work with AmeriCorps and Habitat for Humanity. She earned a master’s degree in chemistry education from the University of Pennsylvania and has been teaching for the past five years.

2002 Reunion Year Darren J. Baker (B.A.) of Mantua, N.J., received an M.A. in education from Wilmington College in Delaware and teaches middle school in the West Chester, Pa., school district. During summers, he assists his dad with announcing the Philadelphia Phillies and Eagles games.

Mary Leigh Anne Daniels, M.D., M.P.H. (B.A.) of Rochester, N.Y., received her dual M.D./M.P.H. degrees from the New Jersey Medical School’s University of Medicine and Dentistry on May 24, 2006.

Paul V. Palaruan (B.A.) of Washington, D.C., was promoted to Technical Director at CNN in Washington, D.C.

Lenora C. Thrower (B.A.) of Deptford, N.J., is a project editor for Ascent Media Healthcare, a medical publishing company located in Princeton, N.J.

2003 Timothy A. Cairns (B.S.) of Collegeville, Pa., was promoted to Senior Sales Representative for Lanier Worldwide/Ricoh U.S.

Melissa DiFeo (B.A.) of Lafayette Hill, Pa., is a seventh-grade special education teacher at Wissahickon Middle School in Ambler, Pa. She and Mike Scarry are planning a June 2007 wedding.

James R. Keba (M.B.A.) of Yardley, Pa., was named Vice President, Operations, at Sandmeyer Steel Co. in Philadelphia.

Michael C. Kimble (M.A.) of Malvern, Pa., received an M.A. in theology and ministry in May 2006. He was appointed Dean of Students at The Phelps School in Malvern, Pa.

Kelly G. Redkoles (B.S.W.) earned an M.A. in Social Work from Widener University in May 2006. She received her L.S.W. and is currently getting clinical hours for her LCSW while working at a community mental health center as an outpatient therapist.


Jonathan Hunt (B.A.) of North Wales, Pa., returned from a trip to Nicaragua, where he helped to build a school in a remote village.

- He teaches at Abington High School and serves as Abington’s Building with Books Club adviser.
- Laura E. Picchierr-Bowley (B.A.) of Toms River, N.J., was named a Certified Quality Auditor by the American Society for Quality. She works in the biochemistry department of ImClone Systems, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company dedicated to developing breakthrough biologic medicines in the area of oncology. She worked on ImClone’s Erbitux, a drug used in treating squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck.
- 2005 Brendan T. Kelly (B.A.) of Glenside, Pa., was accepted into the M.A. program at The National University of Ireland in Galway, at the John Huston School of Film and Digital Media. He is among 14 students worldwide accepted into this prestigious program. Since graduation, he has worked
In Memoriam

Harry J. Gibbons (B.S.) of Cape May, N.J., September 2006.
1951 G. Robert Adelsberger (B.S.) of Bucks County Pa., on July 16, 2006.
Daniel J. Ragan (B.S.) of Maple Glen, Pa., on Aug. 6, 2006.

Raymond J. Kelly Sr. (B.S.) of Glenside, Pa., on Sept. 3, 2006.
1960 LTC Allen E. Holme (B.S.) of Columbus, Md., on May 19, 2006.
Francis C. Coyne (B.A.) of Upper Black Eddy, Pa., formerly of Buckingham, Pa., on June 15, 2006.
1986 Andrew J. Kemp (B.A.) of Levittown, Pa., on May 9, 2006.

STUDENT
Barlie Kargbo, senior B.S.N. student in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences, in April 2006.

Andrew P. Lazor (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., is an assistant Arts and Entertainment editor at the City Paper in Philadelphia.
Jared A. Mondelli (B.S.) of Audubon, N.J., is majoring in Pre-Pharmacy Studies at Temple University's College of Science and Technology.
Mark Saifert (M.A.) of Trumbauersville, Pa., is a lecturer in Middle Eastern Area Studies at DeSales University. Courses this semester are in Arab-Israeli Conflict and Syrian History and Civilization.

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as a production assistant for two films, Invincible, the story of Eagles walk-on Vince Papale, and a mystery film starring Wes Bentley, Ungodly.
Andrew N. Linn (M.B.A.) of Lansdale, Pa., is an assistant project engineer for Turner Construction Company in Philadelphia, Pa. He also announces his engagement to Amy Steinhagen.
Meredith Marakovits (B.A.) of Walnutport, Pa., is a member of the WPEN morning team. She is the radio station's Correspondent for the Philadelphia Eagles, 76ers, and Flyers sport teams. She continues to report for TV2 Sports in Allentown.
Jasmine L. Thomas (B.A.) of Philadelphia, Pa., co-manages one of the premier bakeries in Philadelphia. She also trains prospective employees and dabbles in cake decorating.
Barbara A. Wadsworth (M.B.A.) of Warrington, Pa., was named Vice President of Nursing and Patient Services at Abington Memorial Hospital.
2006 Michelle L. Bauer (B.A.) of Colmar, Pa., is an assistant account executive for FCF Schmidt Public Relations in Plymouth Meeting, Pa.
Is There a God in Health Care? Toward a New Spirituality in Medicine  
BY WILLIAM F. HAYNES JR. AND GREGG B. KELLY, '54

Haworth Press, 2006; 241 pp.; $24.95 (paperback), $39.95 (hardback)

Is There a God in Health Care? shares the belief that prayer can be a powerful resource in dealing with illness, whether physical, spiritual, or emotional. Through fascinating personal stories and examples, the authors examine how faith can enhance the immune system and how a spiritual outlook can help bear the burden of suffering and grief.

Geoffrey B. Kelly, '54, is former Chair of La Salle's Religion Department. He has published 10 books in the fields of theology, spirituality, and ethics, including Liberating Faith, A Testament to Freedom, and The Cost of Moral Leadership.

Federalism in America: An Encyclopedia  
EDITED BY JOSEPH R. MARBACH, PH.D., '83, ELLIS KATZ, AND TROY E. SMITH

Greenwood Publishing, 2006; 808 pages; $225

Federalism in America: An Encyclopedia provides a comprehensive reference explaining the major concepts, institutions, court cases, epochs, personalities, and policies that have shaped, or been shaped by, American federalism. It describes federalism's creation and evolution and its influence on governmental institutions, procedures, and policies.

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., '83, was recently named Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Seton Hall University in South Orange, N.J., and is also a past chair and an associate professor in Seton Hall's Department of Political Science. An expert on New Jersey politics, Marbach is frequently called upon by local media for his insights.

Fully Occupied Years: The Rise and Fall of a Company Called BIOSIS  
BY GEORGE TOMEZSKO, '71

Xlibris Corporation, 2006; 173 pp.; $39.99 (hardcover), $20.99 (paperback)

Fully Occupied Years: The Rise and Fall of a Company Called BIOSIS chronicles the history of BIOSIS, a once-major information provider, and of the history of the information industry in the years leading up to the Internet age.

George Tomezsko, '71, worked at BIOSIS, starting as a proofreader and ending as a consultant, for 20 years. He is now a freelance writer who has written hundreds of news and feature stories for newspapers owned by the Journal Register Company in Northeast Philadelphia and nearby counties. Tomezsko has published two other books, Flawed Foundings and Civil War Fragments.

"Book Notes" will be featured periodically in upcoming issues of this magazine and its companion piece, the Alumni News. We invite you to let us know if there's a book written by an alum within the last year that should be highlighted by e-mailing Marian Butcher at butcher@lasalle.edu.

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

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Did You Know ...

- Whenever something unexpected occurred in John Baptist de La Salle’s life, his response often began with the exclamation “God be blessed!” Whether he was in pain, had failed somewhere, or received a gift, this exclamation remained. On many occasions, the words “God be blessed!” were tied to events or situations that demonstrated to him that God’s provident care was clearly leading him on.

- John Baptist de La Salle’s mother, Nicole Moët de Brouillet, was of landed gentry by birth, a member of the family that still produces Moët & Chandon Champagne. She lost her claim to nobility by marrying Louis de La Salle, a bourgeois.

- Since its founding in France more than 300 years ago, the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools has expanded to 80 countries and has grown to include more than 73,000 lay associates who, together with the Brothers, teach more than 900,000 students.

- In early Lasallian schools, teachers tried to avoid speaking unnecessarily in the classroom, except when asking a question or when, once a day, they shared a “reflection” on some religious theme in order to inspire the students and speak to them “from the heart to the heart.”

- John Baptist de La Salle maintained a deep appreciation for the restorative power of gardens. De La Salle would find gardens for the Brothers to use for prayer and relaxation, if their house did not have a garden attached to it. He realized through his own experience that gardens were a privileged means of restoring one’s capacity for the difficult work that the Brothers did each day in the school.