President's Message

I was having dinner in Beirut with the president of Notre Dame University of Lebanon on July 12 when he got the call: Hezbollah militants had just abducted two Israeli soldiers. At that point, I had no idea just how harrowing the next week would be.

When I left for Lebanon just two days earlier to deliver Notre Dame's commencement address, I had no indication a crisis was brewing. But by July 13 all hell broke loose. From my hotel in northern Beirut, I heard Israeli jets attacking the Hezbollah section of the city. From my balcony I could see clouds of black smoke rise into the air, and at night I could see fires on the horizon. When the airport and major roads were bombed, I began to wonder when — if — I would get back to St. Louis.

For the most part, I felt safe. Because the hotel was in the so-called Christian area of greater Beirut, we were told it was unlikely to be a target. Even so, the fighting grew more intense every day. Occasional blackouts and media warnings to stay in the hotel kept me on edge. Even more unnerving, days passed with no word from the U.S. embassy, even though I had taken care to register my presence with them several times. Literally waiting by the phone in my hotel room, I began to feel like a hostage.

Finally — at 3 a.m. on July 19 — Saint Louis University's general counsel called to say he had received word from the State Department that I would be leaving on the cruise ship the Orient Queen that day and would be permitted only one 30-pound bag.

I rounded up my essential documents, left my other luggage behind and headed to the designated staging area. Waiting in line, I heard bombs exploding, sounding like thunderclaps reverberating in every direction.

After showing my passport to the embassy staff, I boarded a bus to the Beirut seaport. I joined about 200 men, women and children gathered there, all of us anxious to be cleared to board ship. Bombs were dropping just a few miles away; it was the closest I had been to the fighting.

We finally left port at 4 p.m. with an American warship, the U.S.S. Gonzalez, following us in a corridor only half a mile wide. The Gonzalez accompanied us all the way to Cyprus. We arrived just after midnight, but a ship bearing French national evacuees from Beirut had arrived before us, so we had to stay on the Orient Queen for three more hours.

Tension was high. Everyone was anxious to get off the ship, find a place to stay and begin making their necessary travel arrangements. Some people fainted; some got angry. There was some pushing and shoving and even a fistfight. When more than 1,000 of us were told we could disembark, the exodus process became chaotic.

Eventually, I got off the ship and to a taxi that took me to a hotel about 50 miles away. I was able to catch a chartered plane the next evening, and I finally arrived in St. Louis at 1 p.m., July 21. It had taken me about 12 hours to get from the United States to Lebanon by plane. It took me nearly 52 hours — by bus, ship, taxi and plane — to get home.

Although I was relieved to be out of war-torn Lebanon, I must confess that my experiences there were among the most memorable of my life. I’m not saying I’d willingly do it again, but I am genuinely grateful that I had an opportunity to get to know and appreciate the Lebanese people and see how resiliently they handled this crisis. I also am genuinely grateful for the sobering moments I spent in my hotel room thinking about my life, my relationships and my work at SLU. I know I have a responsibility for being somewhat tough and business-minded at times. But I came to realize how fortunate I am — with the help of my God — that so many people were thinking of and praying for me.

Even several months later, I continue to reflect on my life-changing experiences in Lebanon. I am not a politician, but I know that what’s most important is to settle this conflict for the long term. If not, the Lebanese and Israeli people — especially the children — will continue to suffer. And unlike me, they won’t get a call at three in the morning to board the Orient Queen and get out.

— Lawrence Bruendl, S.J.

A version of this essay appeared July 30 on the Commentary page of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Recipe for Fresh Gatherings

SLU’s unique cafeteria in the Doisy College of Health Sciences has all the ingredients for success.

By Nancy Solomon

Shimmy

Get up close and personal with SLU’s women’s basketball coach, Shimmy Gray-Miller.

By Laura Geiser

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ARENAD CONSTRUCTION UNDER WAY: OPENING PLANNED FOR MARCH 2008

Saint Louis University broke ground on its new $80.5 million multipurpose arena Aug. 28 at the Arena site near Compton and Laclede avenues. University officials, coaches and student athletes as well as St. Louis dignitaries were in attendance to celebrate the new facility, which includes a 10,600-seat Arena, a practice facility, athletics offices, locker rooms and training facilities.

“It has taken us a long time to get here,” said University President Lawrence Biondi, S.J. “While I am not known as the most patient man in St. Louis, I never lost faith that we would get to this day. And, thankfully, there were many others who believed as I did.”

The new Arena will be home to Billiken men’s and women’s basketball and will host a variety of other events such as concerts, conferences, trade shows and commencements. It is expected to bring more than 400,000 people to Muhlen St. Louis each year. St. Louis-based Clayco will build the Arena, with an expected opening in March 2008.

“There are few institutions in St. Louis that have done more to enhance life in the city than Saint Louis University,” said Barry H. Beracha, chairman of the SLU board of trustees. “I ask our friends from throughout the region to help us complete the fundraising for this wonderful facility.”

Arena donors were recognized at the event, which also brought out hundreds of faculty, staff, students and Billiken fans to witness the beginning of the long-awaited project.

“This is one of the greatest days in Billiken athletics history, and I’m overjoyed to be here and be part of it,” said director of athletics Cheryl L. LeVick. “This building is a product of a tremendous grass roots fundraising effort because this is a privately funded facility that did not tap into student fees or tuition dollars. No matter the size of the gift, everyone involved in contributing to this building has the right to be extremely proud today.”

“I want to thank Fisher Biondi and the board of trustees for giving our program the opportunity to compete on a national level,” said men’s basketball head coach Brad Soderberg. “When we bring in this work, they will now know that we are serious about competing with the best programs in the country.”

“The University administration has done its job in bringing this building to life,” said women’s basketball head coach Shimmy Gray-Miller. “Now I promise that I will do my job, my staff will do its job, and our student-athletes will do their job to produce winning basketball.”

The Arena complex will be built on University-owned property on the eastern end of campus and will be visible from Interstate 64/40. It will be funded through fundraising, $8 million in TIF funding and through bonds, which will be paid off with revenues from the Arena.

In August, SLU announced that the Jack Taylor Family and U.S. Bank each donated $1 million for the Arena, moving the University closer to the project fundraising goal.

For others who would like to make a gift, there still is time to be part of the Arena project. To make a donation online, go to arena.slu.edu or call (314) 977-2499. — JF

U.S. News keeps SLU on its ‘Best Buy’ list

For the ninth consecutive year, U.S. News & World Report has recognized Saint Louis University as one of the nation’s best values in higher education. In its special “America’s Best Colleges” issue, U.S. News ranks SLU among the top 50 national, doctoral universities on its revered “Great Schools, Great Prices” list. SLU joins Georgetown and Boston College among the Catholic institutions in the best values list.

In addition, SLU climbed to No. 77 on U.S. News’ rankings of the nearly 250 national universities in the country—a list topped by Princeton and Harvard. It’s the third straight year that SLU has risen in these rankings. Once again, SLU ranked among the top five Catholic institutions in the country on this overall list.

Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology’s aerospace engineering program was ranked No. 5, and undergraduate engineering programs overall were ranked 29th among engineering schools whose highest degree is a master’s.

SLU’s undergraduate business programs in the John Cook School of Business again were ranked among the top 100 in the nation.

DOISY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES ADDS NEW PROGRAMS

Already experiencing an enrollment boom, Saint Louis University’s Edward and Margaret Doisy College of Health Sciences anticipates even more growth in the future as it prepares to assume responsibility for three programs that will be discontinued at the Barnes-Jewish College of Nursing and Allied Health in St. Louis next year.

Dr. Charlotte Royeen, dean of Doisy College, said new fall SLU plans to offer the following new options for SLU students, pending approval by the board of trustees: a new bachelor of science program in radiation therapy; a new bachelor of science program in cytotechnology; and a proposed expansion of the graduate program in the department of nutrition and dietetics.

SLU and Barnes-Jewish officials are working to make sure that the transition for both students and employees goes smoothly. Some faculty at Barnes-Jewish College will join the faculty of SLU’s Doisy College, and students enrolled in SLU programs will still have the option of participating in clinical training on-site at Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

Princeton Review also honors SLU

The Princeton Review has named Saint Louis University one of the top institutions in the country for undergraduate education. SLU also was listed as one of the best universities in the Midwest in the 2007 edition of Princeton Review’s annual book, The Best 361 Colleges. Only about 15 percent of four-year colleges in America and two Canadian colleges made the publication. The book does not rank the colleges 1 to 361 in any single category.

The book’s rankings are based on a survey of 110,000 students attending the colleges in the book. In the survey, SLU students spoke highly of the University’s business, pre-med and pre-law programs as well as unique programs in nutrition and religion. Survey respondents also noted that the facilities are friendly and that the University offers a great library.

SLU HONORS MARONITE PATRIARCH

Saint Louis University bestowed its highest honor, the Sword of Ignatius Loyola, on the patriarch of the Maronite Catholic Church June 30. His Beatitude and Eminence Nasrallah Peter Cardinal Bechara, Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, visited St. Louis as part of a pastoral visit to America. He was the most significant religious figure to visit St. Louis since Pope John Paul II in 1999, and his visit marked only the second time a Maronite patriarch has journeyed to the United States. SLU also received an honorary doctorate of laws from Saint Louis University.

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GILSANI: TO ACCEPT PROFESSORSHIP, TOP DUN VAL AS DEAN

Saint Louis University’s College of Public Service has reached a new milestone: the establishment of its first named professorship. Civic leader E. Desmond “Dee” Lee provided funding to support the E. Desmond Lee Professorship in Collaborative Regional Education.

Dr. James Gilsinan, dean of the College of Public Service, has been named the first holder of the professorship. Because the professorship requires teaching, research and service, Gilsinan will step down as dean and retain the faculty on a full-time basis at the end of December. The honor recognizes Gilsinan’s decades of service to Saint Louis area schools, local governments and non-profit organizations. As a Des Lee Professor, Gilsinan will join scholars from Washington University in St. Louis and the University of Missouri-St. Louis in researching ways to help schools and communities improve the lives of young people.

RESEARCHERS TACKLE MOLD REMOVAL

A new study by Saint Louis University School of Public Health hopes to create universal standards for getting rid of mold in homes and buildings. Dr. Ana Ozturk, associate professor of environmental and occupational health and principal investigator, said that the team will review existing, inconsistent guidelines from homes and buildings by surveying about 400 mold assessment and remediation professionals. The team will then use the responses to develop a single comprehensive, scientifically sound plan for homeowners and mold remediation experts to follow.

“The timing couldn’t be better for Hurrican Katrina and Rita victims, some of whom are still battling mold problems in their homes and businesses,” Ozturk said.

CAMPUS GOES WIRELESS

This summer, Saint Louis University’s information technology staffers and subcontractors pulled 150,000 feet of wire throughout campus to make SLU completely wireless. Now the University’s wireless network includes the entire campus — including residence halls and academic buildings.

SOBRINO RETURNS TO SLU AFTER 15 YEARS

One of Saint Louis University’s most famous alumni was back on campus in September for the first time in 15 years. Dr. Rogelio Sobrino, the University’s Great Lakes Great States Conference Committee’s vice chair, addressed the final business meeting of the conference.

SLU After 15 Years

The honor recognizes Gilsinan’s decades of service to Saint Louis area schools, local governments and non-profit organizations. As a Des Lee Professor, Gilsinan will join scholars from Washington University in St. Louis and the University of Missouri-St. Louis in researching ways to help schools and communities improve the lives of young people.

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BILLIKEN BEAT

Saint Louis University placed 96 student-athletes on the Atlantic 10 Conference Commissioner’s Honor Roll for the Spring 2006 semester. Student-athletes named to the honor roll completed the spring semester with a 3.5 grade point average or better. In all, 1,101 student-athletes in the A-10 were named to the Commissioner’s Honor Roll. SLU’s 96 honorees is the third-most by an A-10 institution.

Cheryl L. Lavick, SLU director of athletics, was named the 2005-06 Atlantic 10 Sports Turf Systems Athletic Director of the Year for the NCAA Division I Central Region. Lavick was recognized at the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics annual convention in June in New Orleans.

Former SLU men’s soccer standout Brian McBride (Pub Ser ’96) has announced his retirement from international soccer. A three-time World Cup veteran, he ends a 13-year international career that produced 30 goals through 95 matches, leaving McBride as the second all-time leading scorer in U.S. team history. The only player in U.S. history to score in multiple World Cups (1994, 1998, 2002), McBride closed out his international playing career at the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany, starting all three games for the national team.

John Conway is the new head coach of the Billikens softball team. He spent the previous four seasons as head softball coach at Fort Hays State University and led the Griffins to three NCAA Tournament appearances. For his efforts, Conway was twice named the St. Louis Intercollegiate Conference Coach of the Year for softball.

Former Billikens basketball guard Anthony Drexel signed a two-year contract to play for Sigma Pristina in Kosovo’s Super League, the premier professional league in the country. During the 2005-06 season for the Billikens, Drexel averaged 7.8 points, 2.8 rebounds, 2.2 assists per game and helped the team to 31 steals during his senior year. He also will play for Kossovo’s National Team.

SOCCER STADIUM PREPARES TO HOST COLLEGE CUP

R

evolutions have begun at Saint Louis University’s Robert R. Hermann Stadium in preparation for the NCAA Men’s Soccer College Cup, which is coming to St. Louis Dec. 1-3.

More than 7,000 fans will be on campus for the three games, and the event will be broadcast live on ESPN. SLU’s men’s and women’s soccer teams will reap the benefits of the project.

Two cement pads, which will be used as merchandising and post-game interview areas during the College Cup, have been poured in the northeast and southeast corners of the field. During the regular season the areas are used for parties and special events.

The stadium’s press box also is being revamped. Plans call for new countertops, windows, seating areas, flooring and a ceiling. It will be the first major renovation of the press box since the facility opened in 1991.

To ensure the best possible playing surface, the soccer field now is equipped with an Evgreen Turf blanket. A total of five blankets are capable of covering the width of the playing surface. The blanket is a semisotropic plastic material similar to windscreening. The system promotes and accelerates the growth of grass during the cold winter months by trapping moisture and heat but allowing the grass to grow under the covering.

FORWARD PASS MARKS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

L

ast month was the 100th anniversary of the first documented forward pass in American football history, a play that changed the game forever. On Sept. 5, 1906, Saint Louis University football player Bradbury Robinson threw a pass to teammate Jack Schneider. The “projectile pass,” as it was known back then, was the brainchild of SLU head coach Eddie Cochems.

The auspicious play took place in a game between SLU and Carroll College in Waukesha, Wis. In a scoreless tie, an intense Cochems had enough with his team’s lackluster performance running the ball. So, after several weeks of secretly practicing the art of the forward pass, Cochems commanded his squad to break open the “air attack.” The play surprised everyone in attendance, including the Carroll College defense, and Schneider marched in for a touchdown. Cochems ordered the team to attempt the pass a few more times before returning to the more recognizable running game. SLU beat Carroll 22-0.

In the years following SLU’s historic pass, much debate swirled over who should be given credit for first using the forward pass. In the early 1900s, most top college football programs, as well as the bulk of the national media, were based on the East Coast. So even though Saint Louis University mastered the pass a month earlier, many fans thought it originated when the regular season began at East Coast institutions.

SLU discontinued its football program in 1949.

With One Year Left, Campaign Exceeds Expectations

Scheduled to end next year, the “Campaign for Saint Louis University: Where Knowledge Touches Lives” has already achieved its $300 million goal. At the end of June, the campaign had totaled $316,628,089, up dramatically from $245,371,146 just one year before.

“This is wonderful for the future of Saint Louis University,” said Thomas W. Keefe, vice president for development and University relations. “The University is truly blessed to have such a strong base of generous alumni and friends who have allowed us to reach this historic goal.

“We must reach our goal in the next year to continue to build a strong base and to advance the focus areas of the campaign — students, faculty, science and technology, our centers of excellence, campus life and annual support.”

Fund for Excellence Debuts

This fall, the division of development and University relations is unveiling the Saint Louis University Fund for Excellence. This newly named initiative replaces the annual fund and is designed to generate excitement about fundraising and to share with alumni and donors the reasons to make a gift to SLU.

“The Fund for Excellence gives a name to what we’re all about here at SLU,” said Dr. Stephen Petersen, associate vice president for alumni relations and annual giving programs. “We are constantly striving to be the best, and our donors need to know that they are a part of that.

Student phone callers and direct mail pieces will use the new name, thus giving continuity to the University’s fundraising efforts. However, donations to the Fund for Excellence can be earmarked for any school, college or fund at the University.

“Annual gifts from alumni and donors allow us to address SLU’s most pressing needs — whether they are in the classroom, in the lab or in the clinical setting,” said David Nolda (A&S ’95), director of annual giving programs. “As a University, we rely on these gifts to give our students an outstanding educational experience.”

Petersen and Nolda both believe the Fund for Excellence is further evidence of SLU’s momentum. “We are truly on the move,” Petersen said. “Our national reputation is growing, and donors have helped us get to this point.

Added Nolda, “Plus, when many alumni and friends generously support SLU, foundations and corporations are inspired to do so as well.”

To make a gift to the Saint Louis University Fund for Excellence, visit giftslu.edu. To learn more, call (314) 977-3781.

With more than a year until we complete the campaign or how you can make a difference, call (314) 977-2849 or visit campaign.slu.edu.

SLU men’s soccer beat Northern Illinois 1-0 in its fall, 2005-06 season opener, held on Friday, Aug. 19.

Funds raised will be used to support the work of student-athletes and the needs of the University. The campaign is designed to reach and surpass the $300 million goal.

Funds will be raised for student-athlete scholarships;

• Athletics facility improvements;

• Grants to faculty for research;

• Endowment for the unrestricted University fund;

• Family and fund support;

• Athletics;

• Faculty;

• Athletics.

The campaign is designed to raise funds for the unrestricted University fund, as well as the schools and colleges.

Funds raised will be used to support the work of student-athletes and the needs of the University. The campaign is designed to reach and surpass the $300 million goal.
SLU’s Madrid campus, founded in 1968, began as a study-abroad program. During the 1970s and ’80s, the campus started admitting Spanish students who studied in Madrid for two years and finished their degrees in St. Louis. Today, it has emerged as a leader in international education, offering two four-year bachelor’s degrees and two master’s degrees that are earned entirely on the Madrid campus.

For the past 14 years, Dr. Rick Chaney has led this evolution of the Spain campus and its programs. Chaney, vice provost for the Madrid campus, started his career with the University teaching economics in St. Louis. In 1991 he spent a semester in Madrid as a visiting professor. The next year, he was asked to take the leadership reins.

“At that time, the Madrid campus was mainly study-abroad students and Spanish nationals being recruited in Spain and sent to the United States,” Chaney said. “I saw this was a unique place. I thought there was a lot of potential here, but also that there were things that needed to be adjusted. It seemed like an interesting opportunity.”

This is Avenida del Valle in Madrid, Spain. And for those who know the “home campus” (as the SLU Madrid staff call SLU in St. Louis), a visit here is both a bit familiar and a bit, well, foreign. Framed photos of the Billiken and St. Francis Xavier College Church adorn the administration building walls, while rapid-fire Spanish fills the air. The most popular T-shirt in the small bookstore features a drawing of a bull, not a Billiken. Brochures feature both DuBourg Hall and Padre Arrupe Hall.

Yet, despite the differences, this is definitely Saint Louis University.
During his tenure, Chaney has developed a real campus, albeit small, in the heart of Madrid’s university district. Anchored by two academic buildings — one mostly administrative and another primarily filled with classrooms and labs — the campus also includes two residence halls. "When you hear campus, you think of a large campus, and we have two buildings," Chaney said. "Our campus is the city, the country and the continent. Students are not coming here because of our campus. American universities in the United States have far more than what we have. But what they don’t have is the city, the country and continent. On the other hand, by study-abroad standards, our facilities are superb. It depends on the context."

But the current physical campus, which opened in 1992, is not the biggest change to SLU’s presence in Madrid during Chaney’s tenure. ”The primary change has been the internationalization of the student body and faculty,” he said. “Before, it was primarily just Spanish students and American study-abroad students. Now our international confidence is made up of students from all over Western Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and even U.S. students. Spanish students are now only about 15-20 percent of the total student body.”

When Chaney arrived in 1992, the demographics in Spain, the passage of a Spanish law allowing private universities and the expansion of public universities forced the Madrid campus leadership to look beyond Spain’s borders for students. It was a move now copied by many American universities abroad. “Our first decision, which was a very strategic one, was to start internationalizing the campus, promoting the program to both international non-Spanish students and to U.S. freshmen,” he said. “We also improved the quality of our Spanish students. Any former student who was here 15 years ago would be quite surprised.” Chaney continued. “It is quite different than it was then. It’s not just a study abroad program — far from it.”

Another reason the Madrid campus is quite different is the addition of several “self-contained” bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Students now can complete undergraduate degrees in international business and Spanish language and literature in Madrid without ever visiting Spain. In addition, an international nursing degree program requires just one year of study at the Doisy College of Health Sciences in St. Louis.

Launched last year, the international business major is thriving and enrolls about 150 students. “We are in a unique position because we attract students from all over the world — 60 different countries,” said Dr. Mark Hon, chairman of business and economics in Madrid. “Our strength also lies in the connections we have with the companies here and in the faculty. We have 16 professors — Asians, Americans, Spaniards, Finns, Greeks. It’s a great mix.”

The Spanish language and literature bachelor’s and the Spanish master’s degrees have been around a bit longer and also are very popular programs, with more than 60 students enrolled in the master’s program alone. “Spanish is the biggest department,” said Dr. Ángeles Encinar, who has been at the Madrid campus for 20 years and is chairwoman of the department of modern languages and the arts. She also is the campus’s associate vice provost. “From my point of view, the most important change here is academic — the quality of the students we have.”

The master’s degree in English, offered as a dual degree with the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, is the only master’s of arts in English accredited by both a Spanish and U.S. university. Its success is aided by an especially close connection with the home campus. “The relationship between the English department in St. Louis and in Spain is the ideal of what we’d like to see,” said Dr. Paul Vita, chairman of Madrid’s department of English and communication. “The St. Louis faculty are excited about coming to teach in Spain, and they’re excited about the students we send over to them.”

What attracts a full-time student to Saint Louis University Madrid? Dr. Rick Chaney, vice provost for the Madrid campus, said American freshmen in Spain are of a distinct profile: “They are looking for something different in their lives, and they see themselves as different kinds of college students,” he said. “They’re not looking for football on Saturdays. They self-select, and we attract 50-70 each semester. They’re very strong students.”

International students come to SLU Madrid for a variety of reasons. “European non-Spanish students are looking for an American education, but they either don’t want to go to the United States or want to come to Spain,” Chaney said. “The kids from Eastern Europe are looking for a very competitively priced American university education. We offer scholarships, so we have some genius Bulgarian and Romanian students here.”

The Spanish students come for a change of pace. “Maybe they’re tired abroad, have been educated in foreign education systems and seek this out,” he said. “Or you have Spanish students educated in the Spanish secondary school system who are looking for something else. They just don’t like the Spanish system, which is very rigid.”

WHERE THEY COME FROM

Dr. Rick Chaney, vice provost for the Madrid campus
“They grow up,” said Dr. Taieb Gasmi, chairman of the science and engineering department in Spain. “Our aim is to give the same type of education as the one given in St. Louis,” said Dr. Taieb Gasmi, chairman of the science and engineering department in Spain. Gasmi’s department, which also prepares engineering students to transfer to the St. Louis campus after two years, works hard to ensure that there is consistency in engineering, too. “We know that our students have to finish their studies there, so we want them to be in sync with the home campus.,” he said. “We even use the syllabi they are presently using at the St. Louis campus.”

As the Madrid campus evolves, Chaney and his colleagues hope to offer even more stand-alone programs, particularly at the undergraduate level. Dr. Renato Llorente, chairman of social sciences and humanities in Madrid, does not offer a degree in his department yet, but he sees possibilities in a program such as international relations.

“We think that’s something that we could do successfully and is something we are especially well equipped to offer since we have such an international campus,” he said. “The faculty are so international, we have so many international contacts, we have so many international students — and we’re here in Spain.”

“The appeal of Spain is no small thing. The Madrid campus enrolls approximately 650 students each semester (the maximum capacity for the campus). That includes about 200 study-abroad students, 40-80 of whom are from the SLU home campus. The others come from colleges across the nation, including Stanford, Cal-Berkeley, Boston College and Penn. Unlike the international students who come to SLU Madrid for several years, the study-abroad students usually come for just a semester and sometimes have different expectations, such as travel and fun.

But Chaney and his team strive to give them a complete education. “The purpose of coming here is not just to have good experiences, but also to have challenging experiences, which they do,” Chaney said. “When study-abroad students are here, no one from their regular life is looking at them — not their old professors, friends or parents. We’re here, and we help them, but they’re quite on their own. And that’s an important part of their development as individuals. What they do during this time is a good measure of their character.”

The beginning of the Gran Via, a major street in Madrid. The building in the background is the Edificio Grassy, which was constructed in 1917.

More scenes from the city (from left): The Reina Sofia National Museum Art Center, the Prado Museum and Plaza Mayor.

So what is the most important thing study-abroad students learn in Spain? “They grow up,” Chaney said. “They have to fix their own weaknesses and face their own fears. Nothing matters students as much as living abroad in this kind of environment.”

One way the Madrid administration assists in helping all of its students adjust is by building a complete campus environment. “We have tried to create a campus community through extracurricular activities,” he said. “We have music, a choir, drama. We have the Sierra Club, a student newspaper and a student magazine. We have lots of volunteer activities — in fact, Monday through Thursday evenings our classrooms are filled with people from the community learning English at the hands of our students.”

In addition to their common emphasis on community outreach, SLU Madrid and SLU St. Louis share goals, mission and, of course, vision. “The Madrid campus is a real complement to building Father Biondi’s vision that SLU become the finest Catholic university in the United States,” Chaney said. “I think that would be hard to do without a presence in Europe.”

With the distance between campuses creating a natural barrier, it would be easy to think of the locations as disconnected and unique. But Chaney encourages connections and synergy. “We could have chosen to go it alone, to take a separate route, and we didn’t choose that route. Our greater strength as a small American university abroad is that we have a major American university behind us. So we have not tried to be separate.”

“Frankly, it’s not only our great strength, it’s what distinguishes us from other American universities abroad,” he said. “Many are stand-alone institutions with no American affiliate. Ours is a unique model for the world. But that’s beginning to change as other schools begin to adopt this format. Still, we’ve been doing this for more than 30 years, and that’s a huge advantage.”

That huge advantage positions the Madrid campus for more growth in the future. In addition to the expansion of both the physical campus and the degree programs, Chaney would like to see an expansion of study centers and specialized certificate offerings unique to Spain and its culture. “The potential here is enormous,” he said. “As long as we can continue growing, it is a fun place to be and a professionally interesting place to work.”
“Lunch at Fresh Gatherings is as good as it is in many of St. Louis’ better restaurants,” he said. “One of my prime gauges for the quality of a restaurant is the distance from the farmer or producer to the table, and Eddie Neill (who runs Fresh Gatherings) has managed to make that distance remarkably short.

“Plus the place is a bargain.”

To Dr. Mildred Mattfeldt-Beman, chairwoman of the department of nutrition and dietetics, Fresh Gatherings is a whole lot more. It is a working hub for her department, which is growing by leaps and bounds.

Nutrition and dietetics at the Saint Louis University Doisy College of Health Sciences was designed to accommodate 60 students and now has more than 80. In 2001 the department added a new, one-of-a-kind program that prepares dietetics students to become chefs as they earn both their registered dietetics and culinary arts credentials. The culinary arts-emphasis program, which prepares students for careers such as personal chefs, has enrolled 21.

“We use Fresh Gatherings in nearly every opportunity as a learning facility,” Mattfeldt-Beman said. “We try to make it enough of a business to at least break even. Fresh Gatherings is a tremendous resource.”

Sustainable food systems?

“In the old days, we called it organic farming. We buy locally from farmers in the area who are trying to stay on their farms,” Mattfeldt-Beman said.

“They give us the best product. It has the longest shelf-life. It has the best flavor. These farmers avoid pesticides and don’t pollute the groundwater. They ensure that the Earth is going to be here 20, 30, 35 years from now, and it will be in better condition. We support farmers who do the right thing, and they give us a wonderful product.”

The restaurant has negotiated agreements with local vendors including a couple of women in North St. Louis who raise organic chicken and Missouri and Illinois farmers who produce heirloom tomatoes, beans, herbs, mushrooms, carrots, lettuce, eggplant and much more.

A gourmet chef and sous chef whip those ingredients into champagne delicacies for those on a beer budget. The most expensive lunch entrée is $6.

Food waste from the cafeteria goes back into the soil of the University garden to fertilize it. In keeping with its commitment to sustainable food systems, Fresh Gatherings serves meals in containers that are environmentally friendly and with utensils designed to decompose in eight to 12 weeks.

“It’s part of a cycle: Grow it locally, eat it locally, recycle back to the soil, grow it locally,” Mattfeldt-Beman said.

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**SNACK IN A LEARNING LAB**

Fresh Gatherings is a great place to grab a quick cappuccino — it has a new machine and serves fair trade coffee — a fresh-from-the-oven oatmeal cookie or a gelato. But it’s also a place to learn. High school students enrolled in the University’s unique culinary arts-dietetics program spend three two-week blocks of time cooking and baking in Fresh Gatherings between semesters, when the restaurant is least likely to be busy. Restaurant patrons are among those to benefit from the fruits of their labor.

“Having Fresh Gatherings as a resource is enormously helpful,” said Mark Miller, a longtime certified executive chef who used to work for country clubs and now coordinates the department’s culinary program. “I couldn’t do it without Fresh Gatherings.”

“Our students use the restaurant to take what they’ve learned out of the theory stage and put it to work in the real world. We’re expanding what we’ve done on a small level and blowing it up to what students will need to run a restaurant.”

The real-world practice is critical, Miller said.

“Instead of eating up one chicken, they cut 20. And, of course, they’re cooking, too. I built the class around the American Culinary Foundation’s exam. They have to know this stuff and are on a timeline.”

Student-athletes who spend most of their time on the other side of campus also benefit from Fresh Gatherings.

Through a summer pilot program, the department of nutrition and dietetics fed the University’s men’s and women’s basketball players meals designed to improve nutrition and ultimately enhance sports performance. The department’s sports nutrition expert worked with a graduate student who designed a custom menu of five meals a day for 21 Billiken basketball players.

“They’ve been very happy with the results,” said athletic trainer Tony Bentruch. “Every- one has stretched their food taste and become more aware of what they’re eating and when to eat it. Our student athletes are definitely the better for it.”

“We absolutely know what’s in this food,” he continued. “Fresh Gatherings can make a pasta that has tons of protein in it or no pro- tein at all. This is just the beginning. We can look to Fresh Gatherings for pre-game meals and travel meals.”

Closer to home, undergraduate nutrition and dietetics students use Fresh Gatherings as a site for their menu planning and quantity food preparation labs. Graduate dietetics students do their internship rotations in the restaurant.

**A WAY TO DREAM DIFFERENTLY**

But Fresh Gatherings is more than a learning lab and model for environmentalism.

It’s also a way to soothe Eddie Neill’s personal midlife crisis.

Neill acknowledges that Fresh Gatherings “rides differently” than the fancy sports car that satisfies more traditional midlife crises. But Neill, who runs a culinary arts option and Fresh Gatherings, is driven by the mission to teach students that healthy foods don’t have to taste like dirt.

“I got tired of seeing what’s going on in the schools, the lip service paid to keeping kids healthy,” Neill said. “Very seldom in your life do you make changes like this. This is one of them.”

During the school year, diners can select from about five lunch options that change daily, vegetable side dishes that never include French fries, a personal pizza duo, several soups and an extensive salad bar. Fresh Gatherings recently added a gelato machine, so now it serves rich ice cream treats with the freshest fruits and ingredients available.

Frequently, the smell of baking goodies makes it impossible to resist buying a baguette of French bread, muffin or leaf of banana nut bread for later.

Neill says that Fresh Gatherings as a classroom and how it ties directly into Saint Louis University’s Ignatian social justice values, we’re way above the breaking even; we are a high-profit center.”

Neill offers a different perspective.

“Two years ago, we weren’t even open to the public; we were just doing meals for the faculty. It was exactly one year ago that we opened to the public and sold meals out to the public. It’s been really good for us. We’ve been very happy with the results,” said athletic trainer Tony Bentruch. “Everyone has stretched their food taste and become more aware of what they’re eating and when to eat it. Our student athletes are definitely the better for it.”

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Neill adds heirloom tomatoes to the Fresh Gatherings salad bar.

Neill (A&S ’78) has a bachelor’s degree in urban affairs and mis-

ors in business and Russian. He’s known among St. Louis food aficionados for his stints as partner and chef at Café Provencal, Chez Leon, Jazz at the Bistro and Malmaison.

When Mattfeldt-Beman offered Neill the opportunity to run Fresh Gatherings in December 2004, he jumped at the chance.

“It’s goofy stuff, when you think about it, that you can have a restaurant that’s a model for social justice,” said the chef who specializes in Tuscan and southern French cuisine. “It’s something the kids can grow with and the school can grow with.”

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**WHAT’S OLD IS NEW**

Mattfeldt-Beman sees Fresh Gatherings as a way to educate people about the importance of good nutrition. It marks a return to the roots of her profession.

“The field we now think of as dietetics started in a cooking school, and we hope to bring it full circle,” she said. “Through our culinary arts option and Fresh Gatherings, our department is going back to its roots.

The field of dietetics began in 1917, when the American Dietetic Association made a commitment to feeding World War I servicemen in a nutritious way. The association also focused on helping the government conserve food and improve the public’s health.

During World War II, dietitians on the home front learned about the importance of eating right as they planted victory gardens and found ways to creatively cook when premintum ingredients were rationed.

That all changed when the war ended and convenience foods became available. Women stopped spending as much time in the kitchen as they began working in careers outside the home. Fami- lies started eating at restaurants and stopped cooking. High schools stopped teaching home economics. Americans’ waistlines started growing.

“Now we have an epidemic of obesity, and third parties are reimbursing for dietetics consultations. It’s creating a marketable field for people who want to treat obesity,” Mattfeldt-Beman said.

“At the same time, there are now fewer and fewer people who know the basics of food preparation. There’s a need to teach those people the basic skills.”

The way Mattfeldt-Beman sees it, Fresh Gatherings is helping to rekindle an interest in cooking and eating right, as well as environmentalism and caring for others.

“The public relations that come from Fresh Gatherings and our department’s commitment to sustainable food service increase awareness and identifies us as a unique experience. If you calculate in the worth of Fresh Gatherings as a classroom and how it ties directly into Saint Louis University’s Ignatian social justice values, we’re way above breaking even; we are a high-profit center.”

**SUBMITTED BY**

Mark Miller

**SUBMITTED BY**

Eddie Neill

**SUBMITTED BY**

Todd Parkhurst

**SUBMITTED BY**

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Emily Neill
n the surface, the Saint Louis University women's basketball team is coming off a pretty rough season. With just seven wins and 20 losses, the Billikens did not exactly set their new conference, the Atlantic 10, on fire.

But spend a little time with Billikens' head coach Shimmy Gray-Miller, who made her debut at SLU last year, and it's easy to see even a losing season as a series of small victories. "I think I am probably the only head coach in America who won seven games and is still smiling at the end of the season," she said. "In the beginning it was very difficult — we lost our first exhibition game, and I woke up the next morning physically sick.

"And then I had to realize, I don't know how many games we're going to win this year, but dang it, we're going to turn this program around and get it heading in the right direction. And it's going to be painful at times, but we have to lay the foundation and do it the right way."

So Gray-Miller found things to cheer about as the season progressed. "Maybe we lost the game, but did we reach our goals with fewer turnovers? Yes. Did one of my players have a good game and do things she's never done before? Yes. Was my point guard talking and communicating? Yes. Well then that was a victory. So when I started looking at it from that perspective, it became a lot less stressful and a lot more enjoyable for me and my coaching staff — and ultimately my players."

Finding the silver lining is nothing new for Gray-Miller, who knows well that reaching a goal often takes time, patience and even a few diversions along the way. Just look at her own career.

After playing basketball at the University of Michigan and graduating in 1994, Gray-Miller was a counselor at a boys home and then a police officer. Four years later, when she realized that she missed basketball, Gray-Miller got back into playing shape and landed a spot on Olivais Futbol Clube, a first-division club team in Portugal. When her playing career ended due to an injury, she was certain that she wanted to coach. So certain that in 1999 she took a $574-a-month assistant coaching job at Bellevue (Wash.) Community College. To make ends meet, she also was a full-time barista in a Seattle coffee shop.

After just one season at Bellevue, Gray-Miller hung up the coffee apron and was hired as an assistant coach at the University of Washington. She stayed three years, and along the way helped the Huskies to the postseason every season, including two NCAA Tournaments. It was the same at the University of Arizona, where Gray-Miller was an assistant coach from 2003-2005. The Wildcats made the NCAA Tournament both seasons of her tenure.

Clearly, Gray-Miller knows what it takes to win. And thanks to this year's recruiting class, she's sure that soon enough it won't be any different at Saint Louis University. Just ask her.
GRAY MILLER: I had been on campus three years ago for a camp when I was recruiting. I was very impressed and thought it was an absolutely beautiful university.

When I came here on my interview last April, the sun was shining, all the flowers were blooming, and I thought again, “Oh my god, this is great.” I said to myself, “I could sell this place—easily.” We walked into West Pine Gym. But everything else was just awesome, and that hasn’t changed one bit. Plus, it’s all about the people for me. And the people here have been extremely welcomed to me—both in the city and in the University community.

Despite the challenges you recognized coming in, why was this the right job for you?

Some of the key reasons I took this job: First and foremost, Cheryl Levick. With this being my first head-coaching job, it was very important to me that the leader who was going to mentor me. And Cheryl was the one for me. I try to be a positive female role model for my roster, and these 16 players are like my daughters, like my sisters. I It’s so much more than just Xs and Os. I have 16 players right now on at a boys’ home—and dealing with kids like that every day really

And more. Everything that I expected and then a lot that I didn’t ex

has coaching been what you expected?

I honestly feel like we can win conference championships here and

And another big reason I took this job is because of this Arena. I

I’m big on community service, and there are a lot of community ser

Another important reason why I took this job is because it is in the

I was recruiting. I was very impressed and thought it was an abso

That wasn’t in my head-coaching manual.

What type of player do you want on your team?

I want to coach a team. I want a kid who is passionate, not just about basketball but about life—passionate about everything that they do. Passionate about being a good friend, a good player, a good student. I want someone who wants to get more out of this than just a good basketball career.

So even when I’m on vacation, there’s no off time. I’m not dealing

I have been on campus three years ago for a camp when I was

My mother, Bonnie, brothers, We would go to Toronto everysummer.

A Previous job: police officer, counselor, foreman at an auto

A b O V E : L E F T A N D C E N T E R : G r a y M i l l e r c o a c h i n g t h e f i r s t w i n s t a t L o u i s .

My mother got it from my grandmother, B onnie. She is a

My brother, with whom I live. We would go to Toronto every summer.

In fact, I would definitely place more of an emphasis on the stude

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How important are academics?

Both are extremely important. They go hand in hand. If I’m at the end of my four-year contract here, and this basketball program doesn’t win any games and hasn’t gotten any better, then I’m a failure. Now, if we win championships, and my players don’t graduate, and we have the lowest GPA in the school, then I’m failure. So I don’t think that I can be successful without both of them.

In fact, I would definitely place more of an emphasis on the stude

So at halftime, if my kids need to use the bathroom, they don’t have to stand in line at the public facilities that we currently have. So this Arena means everything to our program.

The Arena is also sends a message to my cur

The Arena is also sends a message to my cur

5:00 a.m. and work out until midnight. I have to wear pantsthatare tooshort

I am extremely proud of what my players have done in the com

Do you have a good connection with men’s baske

I think so. I have a tremendous amount of re

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For example, we lost our last game, and our

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I also came because of the environment I can interact with. It’s a

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As a child, I was a little bit of a perfectionist. So at halftime, if my

If you ask them, probably too involved. I don’t know if I learned this

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I don’t know if I learned this from being a police officer or this is what made me a good police officer, but I read people very well. And I think kids today have a difficult
time compartmentalizing. So if they’re having a problem with

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controversies in mexico

stafford poole, c. m., teaches a course in spanish at the university of friends and colleagues, ranging from music CDs to books on DVDs. Rochford limi- ter makes time to stretch his artistic side through photography and oil painting. But his work is as much a passion as his painting. Recently, Rochford has focused on Africa and other emerging nations there by building partnerships with U.S. dis- tance-learning programs. “Saint Louis University has been in the forefront of distance learning, and the US could be part of a solution to the problem,” he said. “We are part of a solution to the problem.”

“His paintings are a window on the world,” said Jennifer L. Corrigan. “He is a master of his craft and brings a unique perspective to his work that is truly inspiring.”

Rochford’s paintings have been exhibited in numerous galleries throughout the country, including the New Orleans Museum of Art, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the San Diego Museum of Art. He has also been featured in several books and magazines, including the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Los Angeles Times. His work has been acquired by collectors throughout the United States and around the world. Rochford is currently working on a new series of paintings that explore the themes of identity, perception, and memory.

In addition to his painting, Rochford is also a writer and photographer. He has published several articles and essays on art and culture, and his work has been featured in numerous publications, including the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Los Angeles Times. He has also given many lectures and workshops on the subject of art and culture.

Rochford received his BFA in art from the University of Pennsylvania, and his MFA in art from the University of California, Los Angeles. He has taught at numerous universities, including the University of Pennsylvania, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of California, Santa Barbara. He has also served as a visiting artist at numerous schools, including the University of Pennsylvania, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of California, Santa Barbara. He has also served as a visiting artist at numerous schools, including the University of Pennsylvania, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of California, Santa Barbara.

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**newsflash**

In 2006, Mike Skipper (A&S) joined the lichenology research group of Blumenfeld Kaplan & Sandweiss at J.W. Terrill, an insurance, risk, and public agency practice group at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. She lives in Clayton, Mo., including Sarasota Green in Sarasota, Fla., including Sarasota Green in Sarasota, Fla., and public agency practice group at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. She and her husband have two children, Bryce, Emma and Luke.

**Legacies**

For 259 members of Saint Louis University's freshman class, SLU is family. That’s because some members have a parent, grandparent or sibling who graduated from SLU. Those family members are called “legacies,” and every Welcome Week features a special event for them. Together with their alumni family members, the students gathered Aug. 24 in the Shahan Atrium of John and Lucy Cook Hall to see, share memories and receive an official welcome to the SLU family.

Lauren Burton and her mother, Kimberly (Doisy '93), of Palmyra, Mo., have attended SLU for the last 15 years. “I think it’s a wonderful college,” Kimberly said, “and I got a wonderful education here, and so will my kids.”

Gregory Drf and his father, Robert (Cook '97), of St. Louis, “I don’t plan to have to come to SLU because I wanted to do it for him.” Robert said. “I’m just very happy that he’s here.”

**classmates**

Dr. Bruce A. “Duke” Baker (Grad) is an orthodontist in Fairview Heights, Ill. His oldest son is a resident at SLU’s Center for Advanced Dental Education. He and his wife, Theresa, look forward to visiting SLU often.

Jeff Pozen (A&S) is an associate state’s attorney for the 14th Judicial Circuit in Florida. He and Mary Pozen (A&S ’78) live in Lynn Haven, Fla., with their children, Elizabeth and Michael.

Linda (Sopha) M. exploration of atmospheric surgery and emergency medicine in Grand Rap- ids, Mich. He is married and has three children, Bryce, Emma and Luke.

University at Chicago.

Vivian and Eva. He lives in Taipei, Taiwan, and works in the department of speech and hearing sciences at the National Defense Medical College.

Michael Mallardi (A&S), a CPA, is a regional technical manager for Franklin Home Products in Scotts Valley.

Dr. Tony Garcia-Pratts (A&S) has completed his chief resident year in pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and his wife, and pediatrician Dr. Laura Pratts, are joining the Pediatric A&S Corps and moving to Lebanon, where he is a cardiologist for Lebanon’s Children’s Hospital.

Jamie Draper, his wife, Michael (Cook) and his wife, were members of SLU’s Center for Advanced Dental Education.

Dr. Tony Garcia-Pratts (A&S) completed his chief resident year in pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and his wife, and pediatrician Dr. Laura Pratts, are joining the Pediatric A&S Corps and moving to Lebanon, where he is a cardiologist for Lebanon’s Children’s Hospital.

Katie Hormuth (Pub Ser ’94) is a speech-language pathologist and field hockey and soccer coach in the Edwardsville (Ill.) School District. She lives in Glen Carbon, Ill.

Robert J. Hauser (Doisy) is a physician assistant in orthopedic surgery and emergency medicine in Grand Rapids, Mich. He is married and has three children, Bryce, Emma and Luke.

Laura Burton and her mother, Kimberly (Doisy ’93), of Palmyra, Mo., have attended SLU for the last 15 years. “I think it’s a wonderful college,” Kimberly said, “and I got a wonderful education here, and so will my kids.”

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in memoriam

Dr. Thomas Edward Moisan, professor emeritus of marketing, died July 28 at the age of 80. He entered the Clar- kette College of Business at SLU in 1970 and earned his M.B.A. in 1975. He was named the Chan- nel Professor of Economics and Mathematics at SLU in 1979. He retired in 1993. In 1996, he was elected to the College of Business Academy of Distinguished Scholars. He served two terms as president of the American Marketing Association. He is survived by his wife, Mary Beth Moisan, and his son, Dr. David T. Moisan.

Andrew Barraza (Grad) is the assistant principal in the College of Business Administration at Fordham University in New York. He also is an associate teacher of finance and accounting.

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows investors from an Individual Retirement Account to be directly transferred to a qualified charitable organization such as Saint Louis University. Some specifics and benefits of the legislation:

- IRA charitable rollovers may be made in 2006 and 2007.
- Donors must be at least age 70 at the time of transfer.
- Up to $100,000 per year may be excluded from taxable income by the donor.
- The rollover may be applied to the required minimum distribution from the retirement account.

For more information on the IRA charitable rollover, please contact:

Kent LeVan
Director of Planned Giving
Saint Louis University
221 North Grand Blvd.
Room 304
St. Louis, MO 63103

PHONE: (800) 758-3678 or (314) 977-2357
E-mail: plannedgiving@slu.edu

NEW TAX BREAK: The IRA Charitable Rollover

IRA charitable rollovers allow assets from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to be directly transferred to qualified charitable organizations such as Saint Louis University. Some specifics and benefits of the legislation:

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Saint Louis University does not render tax, legal, accounting, insurance or investment advice. Please consult with your own professional advisors in these matters.

For more information on the IRA charitable rollover, please contact:

Kent LeVan
Director of Planned Giving
Saint Louis University
221 North Grand Blvd.
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PHONE: (800) 758-3678 or (314) 977-2357
E-mail: plannedgiving@slu.edu
Club City News

BLACK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

President: Terrius Johnson (A&S ’65)

Join us for our annual Fall Bash Thursday, Nov. 29. This annual alumni, faculty, staff and students’ bash will be held at 5:30 p.m. in Samuel Cupples House on campus. 

Register online: www.alumni.slu.kintera.org/fallbash06

JOHN COOK SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

President: Todd Buss (94, 91)

Join fellow John Cook School of Business alumni and friends on Saturday, Jan. 26, for the annual JCBS Trivia Night. For more information or to register, call (314) 977-2250.

PARKS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, AVIATION AND TECHNOLOGY

President: Andy Thummon (75)

Santa is scheduled to arrive by helicopter Sunday, Dec. 2, at the Parks College Hangar at the St. Louis Downtown Airport. The evening will begin with a pre-flight dinner and pre-flight lecture. 

There will be activities, refreshments starting at 6 p.m., and Santa will arrive at 10:30 a.m. and visit with children until noon. Bring your own camera to capture the moment.

This is a free event. Register online: alumni.slu.kintera.org/santaflyin06

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Sunday, Dec. 30
9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Busch Student Center

For more details on these trips and how to reserve your space, visit the travel program Web site at www.slu.edu/alumni/travel. On call (314) 977-2250 and ask to be placed on the travel mailing list.

Alumni Campus Abroad: Sensational Spain

SEPT. 21-29

Sensational Spain

Includes a journey through memorable locations in Spain. Leave from Madrid to Seville, Malaga, Granada, and Florence. 

For more information or to reserve your space, visit the travel program Web site at www.slu.edu/alumni/travel.

Summer/Fall Tours

JUNE 2-9

Alumni Canada 2007: British Columbia

Includes a drive through the vibrant city of Vancouver and the breathtaking and majestic scenery of Banff.

JULY 6-13

Victory Over the Blue Danube

APRIL 13-21

Sensational Spain

JULY 6-13

Sensational Spain

JULY 23-29

Toscana (Northern Italy)

JULY 29-SEP. 10

Venetian Treasures

SEP. 3-15

China and the Yangtze

SEP. 15-25

River Discovery

OCT. 2-12

Romance of the Blue Danube

OCT. 12-20

Italian Favorites: Rome

OCT. 22-30

Roman and Florence

ALUMNI PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL

Breakfast with Santa

Billiken Travel Program 2007 Tours

Spring Tours

MARCH 3-10

Italian Riviera: Rome and Florence

MAY 1-9

HOMECOMING 2007

It’s never too early to mark your calendar for Homcoming next year. Plan to be back on campus Sept. 28-30, 2007.

For more information or reservations for any of these events, contact:

The office of alumni relations at (314) 977-2250

www.slu.edu/alumni/relation

Billiken Travel Program 2007 Tours

Being a Billiken Traveler puts the world at your feet. 2007 is the year to see it all. Here is the schedule of trips for next year:

Black Alumni Association

President: Twintette Johnson (A&S ’96)

Join us for our annual Fall Bash Thursday, Nov. 29. This annual alumni, faculty, staff and students’ bash will be held at 5:30 p.m. in Samuel Cupples House on campus.

Register online: www.alumni.slu.kintera.org/fallbash06

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A Graced History
– Michael Rozier, S.J. (A&S ’03)

“B eing a Jesuit always gives you an excuse to be around people.”

I heard this my senior year at Saint Louis University during a student government process, and since I entered the Jesuits after graduation, it has remained central to my life.

Many of my companions in the Society of Jesus are SLU grads. I know we all experienced the call differently, but none of us can separate our calls from those who walk with us on the journey. My family gave me the support to find something I care deeply about. The SLU community helped me frame my experience around how God was calling me. And my brothers in formation challenged me to go more deeply into relationships—and those relationships are what begin to answer my questions.

My family and friends have many questions about my development as a Jesuit (known as “formation”), but they never have to ask, “Are you keeping busy enough?” Every time I turn around there is a new place to go in a new culture or country where I will surely meet each group of people. While each mission is challenging, and the places I travel are exciting, the people I get to be with always make it hard to move on.

These people with whom I share my life form me as a Jesuit. Whether they are in my community or in those places of ministry, they draw me more deeply into my vocation. They help me recognize my strengths and make me more aware of my weaknesses. Some invite me to use those strengths, while others make me aware of my weaknesses. And, in the presence of those weaknesses, they ask me to persist and to work to make me whole. It is a privilege that is more humbling.

Before I could be with others, however, I wanted to more truly humbling. I wanted to more truly know myself. Through the Spiritual Exercises, I knew my time would be best spent showing them in word and deed that they were deeply loved. They had had enough commitment in their life-time—probably enough for several lifetimes. So, I spent my time as a teacher and counselor, with little skill but a lot of desire. These young men, cast aside by society, made me want to be a better Jesuit. They drew out of me availability, patience, and generosity I never thought I had. And it was in being with them that I realized how important my vows were to being free for this kind of mission. As their trust in me grew, they invited me to bear their struggles of the past and to help them dream for the future.

We all have a graced history filled with those who make us who we are today. Some bring out our best. Others place our weakness right before our eyes. The young men in Belize did both of those in a particular way because of the intense situation in which I met them. Being a Jesuit gave me an excuse to enter into their lives, and my time with them has become a large part of my grace history. It was not always easy or pretty, but the mission of the Gospel felt as enflamed when I was with them.

Most days I am grateful for the long time we Jesuits spend in formation. The big questions are never fully answered, but the process is important. These young men, cast aside by society, helped me realize how much I was needed. And it was in being with them that I realized how important my vows were to being free for this kind of mission. As their trust in me grew, they invited me to bear their struggles of the past and to help them dream for the future.

We all have a graced history filled with those who make us who we are today. Some bring out our best. Others place our weakness right before our eyes. The young men in Belize did both of those in a particular way because of the intense situation in which I met them. Being a Jesuit gave me an excuse to enter into their lives, and my time with them has become a large part of my grace history. It was not always easy or pretty, but the mission of the Gospel felt as enflamed when I was with them.

I would like to remember your loved ones during the month of November through the Jesuits at Saint Louis University. Please send your messages in remembrance of your loved ones and tell us your story.

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Quotable UTAS
Among academic buildings that have accumulated haphazardly since 1886 south of the corner of Grand and Lindell boulevards, and along the line of an old street that used to cut through the area from east to west, a hospitable internal quadrangle has been quietly taking shape.

—Frank Peters, author of the article “A Library Liberalized”

The autumn 1999 issue of Universitas featured a cover story on the expansion of the Pius XI Memorial Library. The $6 million library overhaul included the addition of a 31,700-square-foot glass-walled rotunda, the Anheuser-Busch Wing, as well as an extension into O’Neill Hall, which previously was a law school building and home to the University Theatre. The library’s new look also included a grand staircase, new reading rooms and a covered-plaza entry. The magazine also bore the news that then-University President Thomas Fitzgibbons, S.J., would step down at the end of the academic year. He had joined SLU as president in 1979. Among his accomplishments were the completion of the law school building, renovation of Denis- Shaughnessy Hall, construction of Simon Recreation Center and addition of a central mall to campus.

In addition, the issue ran an article by Dr. Edward A. Deyo, who died Oct. 23, 1986, at the age of 92. Deyo, one of the University’s most generous benefactors, was professor and chairman emeritus of biochemistry and won the Nobel Prize for isolating vitamin K. (I am indebted to SLU Universitas, SLU’s new biomedical research building will be named in his honor.)

In honor of the Feast of All Souls, every November the Jesuits at Saint Louis University remember our deceased relatives and friends, and allows us to revere and recall those close to us who have passed away during the past year.

We would like to remember your loved ones during Mass at St. Francis Xavier College Church on Nov. 2, the Feast of All Souls. After Mass the Jesuit community will bring your loved ones and the beloved family, friends and Masses throughout the month. Please send your names to our campus ministry center: Saint Louis University, 221 N. Grand Blvd. Saint Louis, MO 63103, or by e-mail to: memorial@slu.edu.

Please do not include an offering – this is our offering to you in the spirit of service.

Sincerely,
Lawrence Biondi, S.J.
President, Saint Louis University

Professors’ passing stirs memories
I was sorry to read in the Spring 2006 issue of Universitas about the deaths of Drs. Charles Fleener and John Dwyer. I enrolled in Dr. Fleener’s courses in the history of Mexico and the history of Brazil and Argentina in the mid-1970s, and I often saw Dr. Dwyer during his visits to Belize with groups of SLU students. Both were good men who helped many young people at SLU over many years.

JAMES S. MURPHY (P&L ’76, GRAD ’83)
Bellevue, Cape Disiect

Attention Alumni

We’re looking for Saint Louis University families with generations of SLU alumni for future story in universities. If your family has been SLU Blue for many years, we’d love to know. Send an e-mail at alumni@slu.edu and tell us your story.
MEN’S 2006-07 SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
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<th>DATE</th>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>TV</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>11/03</td>
<td>Missouri-St. Louis (exH)</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11/08</td>
<td>Harris-Stowe (exH)</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Quincy (Ill.)</td>
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<td>Louisiana Tech</td>
<td>College Station, Texas</td>
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<td>Lamar</td>
<td>College Station, Texas</td>
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<td>College Station, Texas</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Houston</td>
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<td>Loyola (Ill.)</td>
<td>Chicago</td>
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<td>Southern Illinois</td>
<td>Carbondale, Ill.</td>
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<td>Western Illinois</td>
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<td>Pacific</td>
<td>Stockton, Calif.</td>
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<td>12/16</td>
<td>Tennessee-Martin</td>
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<td>12/18</td>
<td>Missouri State</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
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<td>12/22</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
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<td>St. Bonaventure</td>
<td>Olean, N.Y.</td>
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<td>Duquesne</td>
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<td>Xavier</td>
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<td>Temple</td>
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<td>Fordham</td>
<td>Bronx, N.Y.</td>
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<td>Charlotte</td>
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<td>Saint Joseph's</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
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<td>George Washington</td>
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<td>Kingston, R.I.</td>
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<td>La Salle</td>
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<td>Dayton</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
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<td>UMass</td>
<td>Amherst, Mass.</td>
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<td>Richmond</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
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<td>3/03</td>
<td>Dayton</td>
<td>Dayton</td>
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Home games listed in bold and played at the Scottrade Center in St. Louis
(exH) Exhibition Games | * Atlantic 10 Games
All times are Central Standard Time and are subject to change

WOMEN’S 2006-07 SCHEDULE

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<td>Missouri-St. Louis (exH)</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>(Scottrade Center) 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/10</td>
<td>Akron</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
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<td>11/13</td>
<td>Chicago State</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Tennessee State</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
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<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
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<td>Southern Illinois</td>
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<td>7:05 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Washington</td>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/26</td>
<td>Championship/Consolation Games</td>
<td>2:30/5 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/29</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/02</td>
<td>Robert Morris</td>
<td>Moon Township, Pa.</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/06</td>
<td>UMKC</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/10</td>
<td>Western Illinois</td>
<td>Macomb, Ill.</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/16</td>
<td>Iowa State</td>
<td>Des Moines, Iowa</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/20</td>
<td>Weber State</td>
<td>Ogden, Utah</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/22</td>
<td>Utah State</td>
<td>Logan, Utah</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/30</td>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>01/09</td>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>Charlotte, N.C.</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/12</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>01/14</td>
<td>Dayton</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/18</td>
<td>Duquesne</td>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
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<tr>
<td>01/21</td>
<td>Saint Joseph's</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Amherst, Mass.</td>
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<td>01/29</td>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>Kingston, R.I.</td>
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<tr>
<td>02/04</td>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/08</td>
<td>St. Bonaventure</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/11</td>
<td>Fordham</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
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<td>02/15</td>
<td>Temple</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/18</td>
<td>George Washington</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/22</td>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>Richmond, Va.</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>02/25</td>
<td>La Salle</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>Noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Home games listed in bold and played at the Bauman-Eberhardt Center on the campus of Saint Louis University
(exH) Exhibition Games | * Atlantic 10 Games
All times are Central Standard Time and are subject to change

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