EXPERTS
MEET THE MEDIA-SAVVY FACULTY OF SLU
PG.10
Each spring I look forward to our commencement ceremony. There is just something about the sound of the organ filling Scottrade Center and the sight of hundreds of graduates having their pictures taken in their caps and gowns smiling ear-to-ear flanked by a parent on each side with even bigger smiles on their faces. I love the banners, the academic attire and the ritual of it all. It is an exciting time for professors, students and parents alike, and the thrill culminates for me when I get to roar at the end of the ceremony: “I declare you sons and daughters of Saint Louis University forever!”

Many students find it difficult to see past my role as priest and president, but at heart, I am also an educator. I spent 12 years as a member of the faculty at Loyola University Chicago teaching and six years as a dean at Loyola before I became president of SLU. I value my time as a professor because what I learned from my students in the classroom has influenced the education-focused decisions I have made as president here.

So, it is a joy for me to see so many students excited about what they have achieved during their time at SLU and to witness their enthusiasm for the future. Every year, I wonder how the graduates in the audience will go on to achieve great things and how the University will play a role in those successes.

With nearly 108,000 SLU alumni living around the world, there are many stories of SLU sons and daughters making the University proud. But in February, I was blessed to spend time with one of those sons. He has not only gone on to achieve great success, he saw fit to share it with SLU.

I am sure some of you will find familiar the name that adorns the Chaifetz Arena (read more on page 2), our long-awaited, on-campus arena, because its namesake may have been a former classmate. Dr. Richard A. Chaifetz, who made a $12 million naming rights gift to the arena project, graduated from Saint Louis University in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in psychology. During the past 30 years, Chaifetz founded Chicago-based ComPsych Corp. and oversaw its growth into the world’s largest provider of employee-assistance programs.

It’s truly a blessing that Rich is sharing the success he achieved after graduating from SLU. But as an educator, I was more touched to hear Rich tell the story that inspired him to give back to his alma mater.

During a press conference announcing his donation, Rich told the media in attendance about the day he visited the office of former University President Paul Reinert, S.J. As Rich told those in attendance, he was faced with the possibility of having to leave SLU because he could not pay his tuition.

When Rich reached the president’s office, he was obviously nervous. But Father Reinert took the time to meet with him and listened to his story. Rich punctuated his plea to stay at SLU by promising that if Father Reinert allowed him to remain in school, he would not only pay SLU the tuition he owed but give back even more when he had to establish himself. Clearly, he’s made good on that promise.

Rich truly understands the benefits he received by attending Saint Louis University, not only because of the investment Father Reinert made in him, but the kindness that all those who support the University showed him. Donations, whether small or large, make it possible for future generations to share in the educational experience you received at Saint Louis University.

As we push forward to have SLU recognized as the finest Catholic university in the nation, we will continue to need the assistance and leadership of sons and daughters like Rich — and like you. By making the University even better, you not only give current students the opportunities you received, you strengthen the value of your degree as SLU’s stature and reputation improve across the country.

No matter how long ago it was that you took those special pictures with your parents or felt the excitement of graduation rush over you as “Pomp and Circumstance” began to play, I hope you will always remember you are sons and daughters of Saint Louis University, forever.

— Lawrence Brondi, S.J.
Saint Louis University announced Feb. 28 that its new 10,600-seat multipurpose arena will be named in honor of University alumnus Dr. Richard A. Chaifetz (SHAY-fetz), who made a $12 million naming rights gift to the project. Chaifetz Arena will open in March 2008. It will be home to Billiken men’s and women’s basketball and will host other events.

Chaifetz (A&S ’75) is a licensed neuropsychologist and is founder, chairman and CEO of Chicago-based ComPsych Corp., the world’s largest provider of employee-assistance programs (EAP). ComPsych is also the leading provider of fully integrated EAP, behavioral health, work-life, wellness, crisis intervention services and outsourced human resources solutions under the GuidanceResources brand. ComPsych provides services to more than 25 million individuals and 10,000 organizations throughout the United States and 92 countries. Chaifetz is one of the world’s most frequently quoted experts on behavioral health, workplace issues as well as employer and employee trends.

“It is an honor for Saint Louis University to have Dr. Richard Chaifetz’s name on our arena, which will mean so much to the University and the entire St. Louis community,” said University President Lawrence Biondi, S.J. “Not only is Dr. Chaifetz respected around the world for the success of ComPsych Corp., but we take special pride in his alma mater and future generations of SLU students.”

Chaifetz is a native of New York, and in 1971 he turned down an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point to attend SLU on the advice of his high school dean and mentor. He credits former University President Paul Reineer, S.J., with helping him remain at SLU when financial issues threatened his ability to stay in school. “Father Reineer told me he believed in me and allowed me to stay at SLU at a time in my life when I didn’t have the financial resources to pay for my tuition,” Chaifetz said. “I promised him not only would I pay my tuition, but that I would pay back the University in an even bigger way in the future. Now, this is an opportunity for me to give back to the University for all the support and guidance I received as an undergraduate here. It is my hope that Chaifetz Arena will enhance the on-campus experience for every future Saint Louis University student, as well as the city of St. Louis.”

Chaifetz has been named to the Who’s Who list of Crain’s Chicago Business for three consecutive years — 2004, 2005 and 2006. In addition, for the second straight year, the St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association named SLU to its list of “Greater St. Louis Top 50 Businesses Shaping Our Future.” The 50 companies recognized in 2006 were selected for their contributions to the St. Louis region and future impact on the business community.

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“An arena is more than a place to put a basketball egg in the basket. It is a representation of the school’s pride and its dedication to excellence in every area of the university,” said University President Lawrence Biondi, S.J., at the news conference announcing the new name. Biondi (left) presents Chaifetz with a Billiken basketball jersey.

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CAMPUS ENTHUSIASTICALLY EMBRACES RECREATION CENTER EXPANSION

The University recently completed a 40,000-square-foot expansion of the Simon Recreation Center, paid for by students who voted to assess themselves a fee to fund the project.

New space includes more than 150 new pieces of fitness equipment, a juice bar and lounge, additional locker rooms, several multipurpose rooms, wellness suite, traversing wall and gaming area.

Students enthusiastically embraced the expansion that less than a month after it opened, the Rec Center expanded its hours to meet demand.

Additional improvements are planned for this school year. The second phase of the project includes renovations to the main level and the second floor. The lobby, locker rooms, elevated track and special event rooms will be updated. An elevator also will be installed.

DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE ANNOUNCES HER RETIREMENT

Dr. Patricia L. Monteleone (Med ’61, Pub Hlth ’91, Grad Cook ’91) one of the first women appointed to lead a U.S. medical school when she was named the 11th dean of Saint Louis University School of Medicine in 1994, announced her intention to retire in March. With 13 years of service, she is the longest continuously serving woman dean in the history of U.S. medical schools.

Monteleone, a pediatrician with an expertise in medical genetics, has presided over the school during a time of rapid change in American medicine. She has overseen a restructuring of the school’s medical curriculum, an expansion in the amount of research funding at the school from both governmental and private industry sources; and the creation of the University Medical Group (SLU/Group), the clinical practice of the faculty at SLU School of Medicine.

Monteleone will continue to serve as dean until a new dean is identified.

ANNUAL SERVICE HOURS SOAR TO NEARLY 780,000, SURVEY SAYS

Members of the Saint Louis University community certainly know how to give back.

In 2006, SLU students, faculty and staff contributed 779,776 hours of community service and outreach, according to the report, “Beyond the Classroom.”

That’s more than in 2005 (753,806) and up significantly from five years ago, when the university service and outreach, according to the report, “Beyond the Classroom.”

The Vermont chapter of the IVC or to sign up for your local chapter, go to igeatr.org. For information on the Ignatian Volunteer Corps, go to igeatr.org.

VIRTUAL TOUR OF ITALIAN CHURCH POSSIBLE WITH TECHNOLOGY

Using technology typically associated with video games, two SLU theologians created an interactive, 3-D tour of one of Europe’s most important churches.

Theology professors Drs. Jay Hammond (A&S ’93, Grad ’94, ’98) and James Gantner spent more than a year building the virtual version of Italy’s landmark Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi. Their 3-D model allows virtual tour-goers to walk nearly everywhere in the upper basilica and fly close to the church’s famed paintings and stained-glass windows.

More than 150 important churches.

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BILLIKEN BEAT

The Billikens had an award-winning year-off the court as 106 student-athletes were named to the Atlantic 10 Conference Commissioner’s Honor Roll for the fall 2006 semester. A-10 Commissioner’s Honor Roll members must finish the fall semester with a 3.5 grade point average or better. SLU’s 106 honorees represent the third most by an A-10 institution. The University of Dayton and Duquesne University tied for first-place laurels. Each school had 108 student-athletes on the honor roll.

In February, the Missouri Valley Conference announced that Billiken great Ed Macauzer (A&S ’69) earned a spot on the “Starting Five” of the league’s All-Centennial Team. In addition, former Billikens Dirk Bouska and Eddie Hickey were recognized as a top 50 player and team coach, respectively. Macauzer was the dominant center in the MVC and in the nation from 1945-49. He led the Billikens to their only NIT championship in 1947-48. A four-time All-MVC performer, Macauzer was a two-time All-American, and in 1949 he was named the Associated Press National Player of the Year. Following his college career, Macauzer went on to star for the Boston Celtics and St. Louis Hawks of the NBA, earning eight NBA All-Star selections and finishing with more than 11,000 points in his nine-year career.

Saint Louis volleyball head coach Anne Kordes was selected by USA Volleyball to serve as an assistant coach this summer for the 2007 Fédération Internationale de Volleyball Girls Youth National Team. She will aid the head coach at the USA Volleyball to serve as an assistant coach this summer for the 2007 Girls Youth National Team. She will aid the head coach at the

BILLIKEN HALL OF FAME INDUCES NEW MEMBERS

Nine people and one team were inducted into the Billiken Hall of Fame in February. Sponsored by the Billiken Club, the Hall of Fame has honored more than 230 student-athletes, teams and dignitaries. This year’s inductees come from four categories. Honored as “Billiken Greats: Pioneers” were Lindsay Midlandschool, Icie Iwoy, 1973-77, and Tim Loguosh, men’s soccer, 1971-74. Honored as “Billiken Greats: Contemporary” were Jamie Cavenus, women’s basketball, 1995-99; Jeff DiMaria, men’s soccer, 1997-99; Adam Garbeis, baseball, 1994-97; Kevin Kalish, men’s soccer, 1997-98; Lydyy Stoesel, women’s basketball, 1992-96; and Kelly Young, women’s soccer, 1997-00.

The 1999 women’s soccer team was recognized with the Bob Burns Award, which honors a former Billiken team that brought recognition and prominence to the University and its members of the team through athletic accomplishment. In just the fourth year of their soccer program, the 1999 team won the University’s first outright Conference USA regular-season title and posted an 11-4-2 record.

Why is it important to give to Saint Louis University? Excellence requires resources. Saint Louis University is a unique institution. Saint Louis University is a first-rate, nationally recognized academic institution. But it’s more than that. It’s a faith-based institution that’s founded on values that are more than 500 years old as a Jesuit institution, and certainly more than 2,000 years old as a Catholic, Christian institution. But in order to stay whole, we need resources to provide quality education and research opportunities.

For example, Saint Louis University is blessed to have an endowment in excess of $300 million. Notre Dame has an endowment in excess of $2 billion. Harvard has an endowment in excess of $30 billion. If need was the reason people gave, Harvard wouldn’t receive any more money. But if the truth be known, Harvard raises more money than any school annually. Why? Because people invest in excellence. Saint Louis University is an excellent investment.

The $300 million campaign for the University already has surpassed its goal — with a year left.

Why is it important that a greater percentage of alumni give back to SLU? Participation in the University provides us with feedback on how well we educate and prepare leaders for the future. Certainly, the million-dollar gift from the 60-year-old donor is a grace. But the $10 gift from the first-year graduate is a grace as well. It tells us that they understand that they are part of the leadership of the institution, and will be for the rest of their lives. We need their money, but more importantly, we need their ideas, their energy and their leadership.

How do gifts have an impact on the University? How is the money used to make a difference at SLU? Gifts are used to ensure excellence at the University. Philanthropic dollars are not used to turn light bulbs on. Philanthropic dollars are sources of revenue that allow professors to do the special things that will make the class more compelling and interesting. The donations that we receive are utilized to ensure that every student who has the opportunity to attend SLU we are able to have the ability. It’s the scholarship dollars that attract the very best who may come from the most modest backgrounds. It’s the revenue that allows us to enhance the structure to make it a more attractive, welcoming environment. It’s important for people to understand that when people give money to SLU that SLU then has the power to do those extra things to make us a special institution. It’s freedom to take chances. It’s freedom to be innovative in education.

How is the Chaifetz Arena fundraising going? And why did we break ground on the project before all the funds were raised for it? We approached an audience a decade before we did anything. We talked about the arena for so long and so often that we lost credibility.

We found that people were unwilling to invest in us because we didn’t have the credibility that we were actually going to do it. It was a conscious decision to break ground before the fundraising was done to have a concrete demonstration that we are, in fact, going to build Chaifetz Arena. As of now, we have raised $91 million, and we’re at $113 million. We’re pleased with the progress we’re making. We open the doors in March 2008, and we’re confident (to that time) we will raise the funds that are necessary. As Chaifetz Arena comes out of the ground, it will become increasingly easier because people will not only have the proof that it’s going to happen, but they’ll also have the vision of the magnificent facility that is going to open on campus.

For a number of years, we have talked about the arena for a decade. People ask me to give some of the money that is the majority of alumni choosing gifts.

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overed in coal dust and left in disrepair during the 1960s, many people saw the historic Samuel Cupples House at Saint Louis University as an eyesore and a roadblock to progress. But Maurice B. McNamee, S.J., saw something very different: beauty and history.

Father McNamee worked for more than a decade to save Cupples House from the wrecking ball, turning it into an on-campus art museum and preserving the historic landmark that many now consider a work of art in itself.

Father McNamee, better known as “Father Mac,” to thousands during his nearly 75 years at SLU, died on Jan. 28. He was 97.

Father McNamee was a painter, an interior designer and a finder of lost art. He often worked alongside other volunteers. Father McNamee’s efforts were rewarded when the mansion was measured. Father Mac embodied the Jesuit tradition — he truly was a man for others.”

SAVING A LANDMARK

In 1964, SLU planned to demolish Cupples House, then used as a student center. But Father McNamee wouldn’t hear of it. He championed the history, architecture and significance of the building.

After saving Cupples House, Father McNamee wouldn’t settle for mere preservation. He made rehabbing the three-story, 42-room home his personal quest. During its restoration in the early 1970s, at times Father McNamee was a painter, an interior designer and a finder of lost art. He often was found at Cupples House in Dungarees with a scraper and paintbrush working alongside other volunteers.

Father McNamee’s efforts were rewarded when the mansion was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.

“When they walked past it, most people saw an unattractive building,” said David Suwalsky, S.J., (A&S ’89) director of University museums and galleries and executive director of Samuel Cupples House. “Father Mac saw the potential. He had a great ability to see not just the potential of buildings, but also of his students. He had the fortitude to be able to get things done.”

GENERATIONS OF INFLUENCE

Born June 5, 1909, on a farm in Montello, Wis., Father McNamee came to Missouri in 1927 to enter the Society of Jesus at Florissant. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1940.

Father McNamee joined the English faculty in 1944. During a teaching career that spanned an amazing 110 semesters, Father McNamee touched the lives of thousands of students, including that of Terry Dempsey, S.J., the May O’Rourke Jay Endowed Professor of Art History and Theology. Also director of SLU’s Museum of Contemporary Religious Art, Dempsey calls Father McNamee one of the greatest teachers he ever had.

“When I was thinking about joining the priesthood, I asked him how he dealt with discouragement and disillusionment,” Dempsey (Grad ’70, ’82) said. “He said the measure of a person’s character was his ability to deal with disillusionment, not to succumb to it and to retain his own ideals in spite of it. These weren’t just words to him. He lived those words.”

In 1973, students honored Father McNamee with the Nancy McNeir Ring Award for Distinguished Teaching. In 1981, he earned SLU’s highest honor for service, then called the Fleur-de-Lis Medal.

FORGING HIS OWN PATH

In the 1930s, Father McNamee wanted to pursue graduate work in art history. His superiors told him there was no demand for the subject.

At the time art history was not offered at any U.S. Jesuit high school, college or university.

He studied English instead and went on to a distinguished academic career. He wrote several well-known books, including the popular textbook, Reading for Understanding. He headed SLU’s English department for 15 years and the Honors Program for a decade.

Dr. Clarence Miller (A&S ’51), professor emeritus of English, was a colleague of Father McNamee. He also was a student. In fact, he is one of only three former students to be highlighted in Father McNamee’s autobiography, Recollections in Tranquility.

“He was single-handedly responsible for my education and was one of the most dynamic teachers I ever had,” Miller said. “As a colleague he was generous, understanding, disciplined and helpful.”

Although Father McNamee had many accomplishments in the field of English, he never gave up his original interests: art and art history. Father McNamee became a recognized scholar of the Renaissance period and of Flemish art. He held a yearlong Fulbright Research Fellowship in Belgium, where he developed his noted book, Vested Angels: Eucharistic Allusions in Early Netherlandish Paintings.

He also didn’t lose sight of his dream to establish art and art history at SLU. He became the first person to introduce an art course at a Jesuit institution. He also helped found SLU’s art history program.

In 2006, Father McNamee finally earned a Ph.D. in art when the University conferred upon him an honorary doctorate of fine arts during the May commencement.

COMMUNITY TREASURE

Father McNamee retired from full-time teaching in 1977 to serve as executive director of Cupples House. In 1995, he became director emeritus, but remained involved with the museum.

Those who knew Father McNamee said neither age nor health issues seemed to slow him down. In fact, up until his recent hospitalization, he was working on two books: one about stained-glass windows in St. Louis and another about Jesuit Baroque churches.

Memorials may be made in Father McNamee’s name to support the acquisition of art and historic artifacts for Samuel Cupples House. For more information, call (314) 977-2849.
IF YOU THINK YOU’VE seen more of Saint Louis University in the news the past few years, your eyes are not deceiving you. SLU is home to some of the nation’s top experts in fields ranging from infectious diseases to coping with stress. And those faculty members are constantly being tapped by major media sources to provide analysis and context to complex news stories. During the last few years, appearances by SLU experts in newspapers, magazines and on television have more than tripled — totaling more than 23,000 in fiscal-year 2006 alone. SLU experts are not only successful because of the knowledge they share, but also because of the way they share it. Ten of the University’s top experts discuss what it takes to be a successful know-it-all at SLU’s Media-Savvy Faculty:

**MEET THE EXPERTS**

**You’ve seen them in the newspaper and on TV. Now get to know SLU’s media-savvy faculty.**

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**Dr. Robert Belshe**

**Title:** Dianna J. Joseph Aderjan endowed professor of infectious diseases and immunology and director of the Center for Vaccine Development

**Time at SLU:** 18 years

**Expertise:** Developing vaccines to fight respiratory diseases, including the flu, pneumonia, group A strep and RSV


ROBERT BELSHE’S ADULT SON and daughter both live in California, about 2,100 miles from their father’s home in suburban St. Louis.

So, what’s one way to keep up with dad? Google news alerts e-mailed to their inboxes. And if you’re the offspring of one of the most sought-after vaccine experts in the United States, it’s no big deal. If a story is breaking about avian flu or a new nasal-spray flu vaccine, chances are Belshe will be one of the experts the national media call on for commentary.

Since joining SLU in 1989, Belshe has been quoted at least once in each of the country’s Top 100 circulation daily newspapers. And on Nov. 3, 2004, he was quoted in more than 1,000 outlets about flu research he published in the New England Journal of Medicine, making it the No. 1 health story on Google News that day.

Such media attention is important for SLU, keeping its research with infectious diseases in the public spotlight, Belshe said.

But no matter how busy, he never turns down an interview.

“My research is funded through tax dollars. I am working for the public. I think I have a responsibility to share it with the general public,” he said.

“I think it’s hard for a scientist because our whole vocabulary is set on precision. We don’t naturally think in terms of translating our science in a way that is understandable to the mass media. It’s not natural — at least not to me.”

His greatest frustration with media interviews — which frequently are edited to reduce complex scientific information into 10-second sound bites — is “not getting across what I want to say.”

“Life isn’t a sound bite. The way the media are today, it’s hard to demonstrate the importance of the trial,” he said. “It was widely covered in the media. That’s the single-best example of community education we’ve done.”

Belshe’s first-ever experience with media was years ago in West Virginia.

“It was the very first vaccine trial I did at Marshall University — a high-profile study on a pneumonia vaccine for babies,” he said. “It was a very favorable experience to help educate the public about a study seeking to improve childhood health.”

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**Dr. Mark Buller**

**Title:** Professor of molecular microbiology and immunology

**Time at SLU:** 12 years

**Expertise:** Smallpox, monkeypox, the creation of new medicines to fight viral-borne diseases


MARK BULLER IS NOT one to seek the spotlight. When the media relations office at Saint Louis University Medical Center calls him with a request from a journalist, his reaction is usually the same.

“I groan internally,” he said. “I am intrinsically a shy person.”

But no matter how busy, he never turns down an interview.

“My research is funded through tax dollars. I am working for the public. I think I have a responsibility to share it with the general public,” he said.

“I think it’s hard for a scientist because our whole vocabulary is set on precision. We don’t naturally think in terms of translating our science in a way that is understandable to the mass media. It’s not natural — at least not to me.”

His greatest frustration with media interviews — which frequently are edited to reduce complex scientific information into 10-second sound bites — is “not getting across what I want to say.”

“Life isn’t a sound bite. The way the media are today, it’s hard to get things of substance across,” he said. “My main reason for doing these interviews is to educate the public and to try to put science in perspective. We hope that things we do in our lab will improve the life of the average person.”

He respects media outlets that take time to understand the science of virology, the study of viruses and the diseases caused by them. He gave high praise to a Japanese film crew from Nippon Television that spent several days at SLU a few years ago for a report on how antivirals can combat poxvirus infections, such as smallpox and chicken pox. Dr. Robert Belshe’s research was featured in a chapter of Richard Preston’s book The Demon in the Freezer.

_Buller, a poxvirus section chief at the National Institutes of Health before joining SLU, is always surprised at how people rate his media appearances as noteworthy and important, reducing his everyday work in the lab to little more than a side note._

_“It’s been really great for the Vaccine Center,” he said. “It makes the community aware of what we’re doing.”_

_Belshe said these news accounts helped educate potential volunteers about many clinical trials, including studies for investigational vaccines to prevent hepatitis C, herpes, smallpox, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases._

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Dr. Greg Evans

**Title:** Director of the Institute for Biosecurity  
**Time at SLU:** 26 years

**Expertise:** Bioterrorism, avian flu, lead poisoning, pandemic preparedness

**TOP MEDIA HITS:** NBC Nightly News, CNN, MSNBC, Diane Rehm Show on National Public Radio, New York Times, USA Today

“Many faculty members don’t like the media environment,” he said. “They don’t like to say, ‘This is what I think happened.’ They say, ‘What if I’m wrong?’ To me it’s not speculation—it’s a judgment. You listen to the facts that are unavailable and then can say, ‘This is what likely happened.’”

Cyzas also appeals to journalists because he explains the most complicated engineering topics in easy-to-understand terms.

“There is so much baloney out there,” he said. “I like to see simple words and a simple explanation about what actually happened.”

Cyzas, who retired in 2002 as the Oliver L. Park endowed chair in aerospace engineering, said he continues to work with the media because he thinks he can make a difference. He believes his comments on space missions, most topics he’s asked to discuss involve the loss of human life. He tries not to let these interviews get him too nervous. “You have to detach yourself, and talk about airplanes,” Czysz said.

“I understand the human tragedy involved, but I can’t do anything about that. What I can try to do is to understand why it happened and find ways to prevent it from happening again.” — Clayton Berry

Paul Czysz

**Title:** Professor emeritus of aerospace and mechanical engineering

**Time at SLU:** 10 years (retired in 2002)

**Expertise:** Bioconstruction, airplane design, spacecraft, hyperasymmetric systems, space launchers

**TOP MEDIA HITS:** New York Times, Washington Post, Time, ABC World News Tonight, CNN, PBS, Discovery Channel Canada

The Nation held its breath as the first images of the Space Shuttle Columbia’s re-entry hit TV screens. Viewers held out for hope. Paul Czysz had to admit a new disaster had already struck. “When I saw those flashes come off of the shuttle, I knew it was breaking apart,” he said.

Cyzas Parks ’59 was among the first to suggest a piece of foam that fell off hit the shuttle during launch was to blame. Eventually, he would be proven right.

“When I saw those flashes,” he said, “I knew the shuttle couldn’t come back.”

“It’s that tragedy could have been prevented. That was the toughest thing for me.”

Within minutes of the disaster, dozens of reporters called Czysz. Eventually, he was invited to appear on the PBS’ ’NOVA. Host Jim Lehrer found other panelists unwilling to give the foam theory much weight.

“Evans said. “I was 21 and studying air pollution and the effects on national press discussing bioterrorism in the weeks following Sept. 11, and this reporter started talking to me. In 2000, he suspected land security, they know about SLU,” he said. “One of the places where people need it most.”

Glaser is one of the world’s leading experts on using Botox to treat hyperhidrosis, or excessive sweating. She said frequent exposure in the press — especially on television — has earned her a degree of celebrity, and not just in St. Louis.

“I had the funniest experience on a plane one time,” she said. “I was quoted in one of the early articles on Botox that had just come out in Vogue, and the flight attendant was reading the story. She must have recognized my name from the passenger list, so she proceeded to come up to me, point at the article and say, ‘This is you!’” — Rachel Otto

IT’S DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE, but Greg Evans — a fixture in the national press discussing bioterrorism in the weeks following Sept. 11 — previously avoided speaking with the media.

“The first interview I ever did was in a bar in New York City,” Evans said. “I was 21 and studying air pollution and the effects on bridge and tunnel workers. And this reporter started talking to me. Before I knew it, I was quoted in the New York Post the next day. If I knew that I wouldn’t have talked to him.”

His run-in with the notoriously sensational New York Post turned him off for doing interviews for a long time, he said. It wasn’t until he was an environmental-health researcher at SLU School of Medicine that Evans was approached about being interviewed. He started doing interviews after a/msma — a manned chemical component — was found in Times Beach, Mo.

“I did a couple dozen interviews, and I was always nervous,” he said. “I told myself over and over again I’m doing in shows and the increasing paranoia of some conspiracy theorists.

“We would ask people about the airplanes flying over and vapor trails that they believed contained biological agents,” he said. “I’d just have to respond, ‘Well, it’s nothing, I’ve never done a test, I’d have to go upstairs, shut the door and start working.”

“Once, a reporter tried to soften the cancellation by telling me that my name was now in her Rolodex,” Goldstein said. “Whoops. I never heard from her again. There is a certain celebrity that comes with being a expert, but Goldstein said his family helps him keep it all in perspective. “They always tell me I did well and then go upstairs, shut the door and snicker,” he said. — Jeannette Grider

Dr. Dee Anna Glaser

**Title:** Professor of aerospace engineering  
**Time at SLU:** 20 years

**Expertise:** Hyperasymmetric, skin care, Botox, cosmetic dermatology


“Like anyone who’s ever had to speak to a crowd, a Dee Anna Glaser admits to occasionally having a few butterflies before talking to reporters. But after countless interviews during the last 25 years, she says talking with reporters has become almost second nature. What I have to remember is that I have a knowledge base and expertise to draw on,” the cosmetic dermatologist said. “That’s one of the main reasons why I think it’s so important to do interviews. At Saint Louis University, we have an excellent body of physicians and scientists who can help get important medical information out to the people who need it most.”

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Dr. Joel Goldstein

**Title:** Vincent C. Imeld Professor of Law  
**Time at SLU:** 12 years

**Expertise:** U.S. Supreme Court, vice presidency, presidency

**TOP MEDIA HITS:** Reuters, NPR, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, MSNBC

“In December, Joel Goldstein experienced such intense and excruciating back pain that his doctor told him to go to the emergency room immediately.

Goldstein’s secretary called while he waited for an ambulance to arrive at his home and said the New York Times was seeking his insights on the historical implications of Vice President Dick Cheney testifying in the criminal trial of his former aide.

“I thought, what the heck, I can probably do the interview before the ambulance arrives,” Goldstein said. “The next day I was on cruises and taking painkillers, but there I was in the New York Times.”

One of the nation’s premiere scholars on the vice presidency, Goldstein also is a respected U.S. Constitution expert and author. Through the years, Goldstein has been interviewed by hundreds of local, national and international media outlets. A one-hour interview discussing the vice presidency on NPR’s Talk of the Nation with Arthur Schlesinger Jr. stands out as a favorite. Interviews with good reporters are stimulating because they are knowledgeable, prepared and know the subjects well. I think I learn as much from the experience as I teach,” Goldstein said.

Goldstein first involved himself with the media when his sister-in-law, a public relations professional, persuaded him to do a local TV interview about then-vice presidential candidate Dan Quayle. Goldstein said ego played a large part in his desire to do interviews. “It’s fun to be on TV, radio or in the newspaper and have your family and friends share in that enjoyment,” Goldstein said.

As he did more interviews, he learned media exposure meant even more. “First, I’m a teacher, and media is a form of public education,” Goldstein said. “You’re just dealing with new ways of conveying knowledge to a different audience. Secondly, it’s educational for me. It requires me to think through all aspects of a problem.”

The downside to working with the media comes when reporters are poorly prepared, have an agenda or fail to accurately report the information discussed. It’s also disappointing when an interview falls through because of breaking news, he said.

“One, a reporter tried to soften the cancellation by telling me that my name was now in her Rolodex,” Goldstein said. “Whoops. I never heard from her again. There is a certain celebrity that comes with being a expert, but Goldstein said his family helps him keep it all in perspective. “They always tell me I did well and then go upstairs, shut the door and snicker,” he said. — Jeannette Grider

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Long before his academic career, Katz was involved with the media as a newspaper reporter and DJ in high school and college. Active in drama, debate and extemporaneous speaking, Katz was well prepared to share his opinions as a teacher and a media expert.

"I just always seem to get into outlets in which to express myself," Katz said.

USA Today, the Wall Street Journal and dozens of print and broadcast media outlets across the country have interviewed Katz. In 2016 he was named one of the top media hits by Wall Street Journal Magazine.

"One of the highlights was telling Matt Lauer off-camera that he had an unexpected audience. He had an unexpected audience listening to that," Katz said.

"My then-10-year-old daughter and her best friend were 'hiding' behind the couch watching and listening," Katz said. "To this day, my daughter is involved in media and performance, and I’ve always felt that moment probably had some impact on her interests."

As a teacher, one of the things Katz enjoys most about doing interviews is the opportunity to share his knowledge, or “mindshare” as he calls it, with a large group in a short time.

"I often wait years to see my knowledge get passed on to others," Katz said. "In the media, it is within days."

Most interview experiences are fun, interesting and have a positive effect, Katz said, but he’s also had some negative experiences.

"Several years ago, there was an interview about why some chairs in the entrepreneurship area remained vacant so long," he said. "The journalist had a clear agenda, no alternative sources and kept trying to get me to agree with it. When the article came out, I hardly recognized my ideas."

Experts share important information with the public, but they also face the fear of SLU to the world.

"Demonstrating our expertise, our sense of humanity and ethics, and even our sense of humor is good for positively showing the world what SLU is like. And to come here, they have to first learn that we are here," Katz said. "That’s where media and mindshare are essential."

— Jeanette Giebler

BEHEADINGS, TERRORIST ATTACKS, SNIPER shootings: That’s a pretty heavy list of interview topics. But for Terri Weaver, it comes with the territory. Weaver is a nation-ally recognized expert on posttraumatic stress disorder — the psychological and physical impact of traumatic events.

Her expertise was used widely in January when police officers in the St. Louis suburb of Kirkwood, Mo., made a dramatic discovery: They found two kidnapped boys, Ben Ownby and Shawn Hornbeck. Owsby had disappeared only days before, but Hornbeck had been missing for four years.

The case quickly made national headlines, and soon the Associated Press sought Weaver’s insights. The AP story, which ran in more than 400 news outlets, led to interviews for cover stories in People and Newsweek. She not only shared knowledge based on years of research, but also expressed compassion for the young victims.

"I’ve covered a lot of child kidnappings, and as a mother it becomes really difficult to talk about them," she said. "I feel very strongly about these cases because being a mother is an important part of my life."

Weaver also took part in the aftermath of Sept. 11. Weaver was frequently interviewed about how the attacks would affect survivors, rescue workers and even the nation’s psyche.

"I do interviews because I believe that I am providing a public service by offering helpful insights into the most important political matters of the day," she said.

— Clayton Berry

Dr. Jerry Katz

**Title:** Professor of marketing and entrepreneurship, Coleman Foundation Endowed Chair for Entrepreneurship

**At:** UCLA since 2010

**Expertise:** Management, entrepreneurship, small business

**Top media hits:** Wall Street Journal, Fortune Magazine, Insight Magazine, Entrepreneur Magazine, USA Today, MSNBC

Dr. Ken Warren

**Title:** Professor of political science

**At:** SLU since 2012

**Expertise:** U.S. politics, presidential elections, public opinion polling, local politics


**Ken Warren is the political version of a rock star.**

Once called that by St. Louis Post-Dispatch political columnist Jo Mannies, the nickname may not be far off.

Warren is a noted political scientist, interviewed by every national TV network and major American newspaper. He’s also made an international splash, appearing on the top outlets in countries across the globe, including England, Australia, France, Sweden, Japan and Singapore.

"Almost from the very first day I stepped on the SLU campus, the media sought my opinions," Warren said.

Those opinions occasionally hit a nerve with some talk-radio listeners who don’t agree with his views.

"Unreasonable extremist partisans will call you all sorts of insulting names because they don’t like your views on something," he said.

"They can really curse you out."

"They can really curse you out."

"They promise, ‘I’m going bald,’” Warren said. "That’s most probably why I’ve never lost any hair."

"One of his most memorable media appearances was in 2011 at the National Public Radio talk show Morning Edition.

"I told the audience that I had covered a lot of child kidnappings, and one of Morley’s former patients."

"They found two kidnapped boys, Ben Ownby and Shawn Hornbeck. Ownby had disappeared only days before, but Hornbeck had been missing for four years."

"The case quickly made national headlines, and soon the Associated Press sought Weaver’s insights. The AP story, which ran in more than 400 news outlets, led to interviews for cover stories in People and Newsweek. She not only shared knowledge based on years of research, but also expressed compassion for the young victims."

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"Her compassion also came through in the aftermath of Sept. 11. Weaver was frequently interviewed about how the attacks would affect survivors, rescue workers and even the nation’s psyche."

"She also offered advice on how to cope with the tragedy."

"Doing interviews is a really gratifying part of my job," she said. "It helps me feel connected to the community and to feel that the research I do is making a difference in people’s daily lives."
Robert MacArthur wanted to be a dentist since the third grade. His childhood dentist also was his swim coach, so MacArthur never developed a fear of "the chair." Plus, the Saint Louis University biomedical engineering major loved building with Legos as a kid. He views the oral cavity as a sort of puzzle where everything has to fit in a certain orientation to work well.

As MacArthur’s studies progressed, however, things were not fitting together right. During his sophomore year he picked up a second major in theology. The more he learned about the Jesuits, the more he became committed to the Jesuit ideal of being a man for others. “Dentistry is a great profession, but I realized it had the potential to be more meaningful,” said the 20-year-old from Columbia, Tenn. “I realized I wanted to use dentistry not just to get something but to give something from it. I wanted to make dentistry a service to others, but I struggled with how to mesh my spiritual beliefs and faith with my career choice. Basically, I didn’t want to relegate my spirituality to the weekends.”

Enter the VOICES Project. It is an initiative launched on campus five years ago with three major aims: to promote reflection as a life habit for all members of the University community, to create communities in which students can better discern vocation and develop leadership, and to enhance the capacity of the University’s faculty and staff to not only teach and mentor students, but also to explore their own feelings about faith and spirituality.

Mary Beth Gallagher (A&S ’71) directs the VOICES Project, which is open to students, faculty and staff of all religious beliefs. “Many people within the University feel a little uncomfortable raising spiritual issues in the classroom, unless it’s the material of the course,” Gallagher said. “They’re concerned about offending someone whose tradition might be different, or they just don’t know how to open the conversation.

“Students are free to attend Mass or prayer groups on campus, but too often their academic lives are kept separate. Our goal is to encourage an integration process in the classroom and to use opportunities on or off campus to help students, faculty and staff blend these two worlds.”

For the most part, MacArthur’s integration opportunity is taking place off campus. Through a VOICES ministry internship, he is working at St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church, also known as the “Rock Church.” MacArthur tutors preschoolers three days a week and works with their parents to set educational goals. He also schedules free dental screenings for the children.

As part of his yearlong internship, MacArthur meets twice a month with other VOICES interns and works closely with a mentor at his internship site.

“We look for a mentor who can meet students where they are in terms of their own faith journey and can challenge them,” said Leah Sweetman, internship coordinator. “It’s not meant to be an easy experience. We place students in situations that might be new to them, such as working with the homeless or war refugees. It forces them to ask questions. ‘Why is this happening? Where is God in all this? How can I make a difference?’”

Photos by Jim Visser

Gallagher (center with glasses) with Leah Sweetman (left), internship coordinator, and students.
“We realize not every student involved with these projects will be answers,” said Gretchen Wolfram, spokesperson for the endowment. “We approached the initiative as an inquiry with no predetermined received implementation grants in the $218 million competitive grant trend, it invited a few private, church-related liberal arts colleges becoming Catholic priests or Protestant ministers. To combat the growing increasingly concerned about the dismal number of people the “V” word from the First-Year Experience project and annual giving, as well as faculty, members and counselors.

The “V” World
The VOICES Project was launched six years ago with a $2 million grant from the Indianapolis-based Lilly Endowment, which was growing increasingly concerned about the dismal number of people becoming Catholic priests or Protestant ministers. To combat the trend, it invited a few private, church-related liberal arts colleges and universities around the county to apply for grants to create and implement “Programs for the Theological Exploration of Vocation.” Between 2000 and 2002, 88 colleges and universities in 29 states received implementation grants into the $218 million competitive grant program.

“We procrastinated the initiative as an inquiry with no predetermined answers,” said Gretchen Wolfram, spokesperson for the endowment.

“Men and women for others.” Does that still tug at your heart? It certainly did for me. As an undergraduate, a VOICES internship placed her at St. Pius V Catholic Church in south St. Louis, Mo. with Paulette Weindel, C.P.P.S., director of the immigrant and refugee community to gather outside their department boundaries.

“When you might exchange paperwork with someone from another department every day, but you don’t really know that person. Perhaps you don’t have the best impression of that person for whatever reason.

“Another VOICES program geared toward students is “Pathways,” designed for first-year students struggling to find their niche. Through the course grew out of an experience I had a few years ago. In May 2003, I was offered the opportunity to work as a pilot in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

“I spent nearly nine months helping clients from all over the globe find funds for groceries, housing and utility bills. I spent much of my time, however, modeling Sister Paulette, trying as she did to be a messenger of hope.

“At St. Pius V, I realized that life is more than physical therapy homework and student government. It’s about the heart, the potential components that unite as human beings. And in order to thrive as humans, we must first survive as humans. This means having adequate food, water, heat, electricity, clothing and shelter.

“As Sister Paulette helped struggling families find resources, or as she returned one of her many phone messages, she not only gave her time and energy, Sister Paulette gave hope, compassion and grace. Through the internship, I learned I could do more for one person than I ever thought possible simply by listening ear, a human heart and an open mind. Even when I could not answer every request, I could listen to every voice. After this experience, I knew my future patients will find a compassionate physical therapist working to heal the body, but also to preserve the human spirit.

Stephen Belt is the flight training director in the department of aviation science. In 2004 he developed a course titled “Humanitarian Action” under the provisions of a VOICES faculty sustainability grant.

“Worried about their students professional ethics, spirituality or faith. A Spanish professor and a communications professor received grant money to develop together a module for teaching assistants on the nature of being a Spanish or French teacher. A Denver College of Health Sciences professor was funded for a course on the use of spirituality to heal physical therapy patients. A philosophy professor used funds to create a module titled “Awe and Wonder in the Teaching of Philosophy.” And a nursing professor received funding to develop a module on the use of therapeutic letters between students and patients.

“Students have been in our offices crying because they were nearly to the world of international humanitarian action. Upon my return and ever since, students that they wish to do similar things with their mission. My response — with the generous that they could do that, I never thought possible simply with a listening ear, a human heart and an open mind. Even when I could not answer every request, I could listen to every voice. After this experience, I knew my future patients will find a compassionate physical therapist working to heal the body, but also to preserve the human spirit.

Teresa Gabhart is a master’s student in the physical therapy program at SLU. As an undergraduate, a VOICES internship placed her at St. Pius V Catholic Church in south St. Louis, Mo. with Paulette Weindel, C.P.P.S., director of the immigrant and refugee support ministry.

“I’ve been amazed by how many individuals in the University have really wonderful transformative ideas, that, until this project, they haven’t shared with other people,” she said. “We’ve been able to bring together these people and nurture these ideas so they can flourish. We have invigorated our Jesuit tradition.”

The Alexandrian Society
Is SLU’s longest-raging Reflection Circle. Dr. Eleanor Stamp and other members gather every Friday night at Jesus Hall for a potluck dinner and discussion. Stamp, the Robert J. Henle Professor of Philosophy, and John E. Russon, S.J., professor of philosophy, initiated the society.

“When I was a graduate student at Cornell University, some of the faculty members in the philosophy department knew I was a Christian, but they didn’t talk much about religion. They encouraged me to focus on the same line as someone with a facial disfigurement. It embarrassed people who tried not to notice it. I wasn’t the only Christian student in my department, I never knew it. In fact, if there was another Christian student besides my husband anywhere in the humanities at my university, I never knew it.

“In our hunt for Christian company, my husband and I finally wound up in a prayer group for chemists, which was run by one dedicated, over-worked chemistry professor. As far as I was able to determine, that was the only graduate Christian group on the campus. We prayed together, but it would be a bold lie to say that we managed the integration of faith and learning.

“It, therefore, gives me great pleasure that the Alexandrian Society provides for our graduate students in philosophy the sort of thing I would have loved to have and could not find when I was a graduate student. The society helps students and faculty, who desire to do so, to hold their professional lives with their commitment to Christianity. In accordance with the Jesuit mission of SLU, we learn together to strive for the greater glory of God in all the parts of our lives. It is our hope that the Alexandrian Society will contribute to SLU’s forming students into leaders in faith, service and scholarship.

In their own words
He has a Job that many envy.

But for Mark Lamping, president of the St. Louis Cardinals, World Series championships and sell-out games are a lot of work.

Lamping (Grad Cook ’81), who came to his position after stints with Anheuser-Busch and the Continental Basketball Association, has been with the team since 1994. In that time he’s led the Cardinals organization as it spruced up an old stadium and built a new one, acquired a radio station and a minor league team, and last fall won a World Series.

Still, work is work.

“This is a job,” he said. “And I experience all the positive and negative things that come with everyone’s jobs. It certainly is an easier job to talk to your friends and your neighbors about. But it’s also a tough job — most people don’t see the results of their job on the news and in the paper each and every day.”

But that spotlight does have a benefit.

“One of the great things about this job is that our customers don’t hesitate to let us know how they feel and what they expect,” Lamping said. “That not only makes the job enjoyable, but getting that type of instant feedback also makes it a little easier — as long as you’re not so stubborn that you don’t listen.”

And Lamping does listen.

In fact, he likes to watch Cardinals games from all over the stadium so he can talk with fans and get a feel for how things are working.

Seeing things from a fan’s perspective is not too far a stretch. As a native St. Louisan, Lamping grew up watching the Cardinals. He also grew up around Saint Louis University. His mother’s cousins were former University President Paul Reinert, S.J., and Jim Reinert, S.J., former rector of the Jesuit School of Theology at SLU. Lamping chose to get his undergraduate degree at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Mo., thanks to that Jesuit connection. And when it came time to pursue his MBA, Lamping knew SLU was the right fit.

“I really appreciate the philosophy and the challenging environment that is stressed in Jesuit education,” he said. “You learn that things don’t come easy; You typically receive in direct proportion to what you put in.”

Perhaps that’s why Lamping’s hard work has led to so much success.
7 Secrets of Great Entrepreneurial Masters (GEM) by Allen E. Fishman (Cook ’84, Law ’86) | McGraw-Hill

Fishman uses his experiences and the 7 practices he has observed in other “GEMs” to create a step-by-step guide to starting or expanding a business. He says the book provides a proven formula for finding a balance between life and work, while also making money doing what you love.

The Conference on Beautiful Moments

by Richard Burkin | Johns Hopkins University Press

Burkin, a professor of communication at SU, mixes dark themes and humor to explore truth, success and identity. In the title story, he describes a journalist sent to cover a conference founded to discuss beautiful events in art, but he finds that the conference has turned into something else.

Getting and Keeping the Right Customers

by Frank W. Weyforth (Cook ’65) | Weyforth-McGill Accounting

A 25-year marketing industry veteran, Weyforth has dealt with many Fortune 500 companies. This book cites real-life situations to show business owners how to get and keep the right customers. Weyforth classifies the book as a “practical guide to making your marketing investment profitable.”

An Unlit Path

by Deborah L. Hannah (A&S ’82) | Xulon Press

An Unlit Path has turned into something else. Hannah provides insight on the importance of faith in today’s reality of parenting adopted children. She tackles issues rarely discussed when talking about the adoption of children.

BallonBerry Buddies

by Mary K. Lawrence (A&S ’93, Grad ’01) | BallonBerry Press

Drawing from 125 letters he wrote home during his time with the U.S. Army’s 41st Division, Catanzaro touches on the physical and mental hardships of his army experience. He focuses on his time with the U.S. Army’s 41st Division. Drawing from 125 letters he wrote home during the war, he describes his time in the jungles and caves of New Guinea and the Philippines.

Off the Shelf: Literary Works from the SLU Community

by Brian Birdnow (A&S ’84, Grad ’87, ’00) | The Edwin Nolen Press

Birdnow digs deep into the Thur of the St. Louis Five to take the reader through the arguments and evidence presented. He also shares the backgrounds of the defendants, lawyers and witnesses.

Families That Flourish

by Dorothy S. Becvar (SW ’80, Grad ’83) | W.W. Norton & Co.

Although resiliency is often associated with individuals who survive traumatizing events, families can also show the trait. Becvar cites examples of families that came together in response to tragedy and grew stronger. Her book advocates that therapists collaborate with family clients, drawing on examples of successful families.
Jeanne A. Davis (SW '81) has been named president of Med and, works in children's health and education in the Boston area and two grandchildren.

Paul O. Stein (Med) retired from the division of psychiatry practice. He lives in Milwaukee and stays active as an assistant professor at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Rural Health, where he worked for the Pittsburgh Pirates. Madison L. Davis (SW) is retired and lives in Stone Lake, WI.

Charnelle Spretnak (A&S) was ranked 65th on the list of the 100 greatest eco-heroes of all time compiled by the British government's Environment Agency. She is an author credited with pioneering the concept of environmental and social criticism. She is a co-founder of the Green Party and is a professor of philosophy and religion at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco.

Thomas Renz (A&S '95, Grad '97) is the director of communications at the University of Central Missouri. He is also an adjunct professor at Columbia College.

William F. Wilson (A&S) is senior vice president and chief financial officer for Frontier Bank in St. Louis.

“...there is no substitute for being loved...” — Alice Roosevelt

“...I am ready to support...” — Bill Clinton
He also serves on the board of directors of a local university. Michael Ruffin (Law) was a scholar-in-residence at Stanford University School of Medicine and has had several short stories published in literary magazines.

**Classmates**

**76** Dr. Gary Curnow (Grad) and his wife, Melissa Hsiao (Law), have been named to the board of directors of the University of St. Louis Medical Center. He is a professor of surgery at the University of Washington.

**78** Dr. Michael Howland (Cook) and his wife, Jennifer (Balmes) King (Law) have been named to the board of directors of the University of Illinois Medical Center. He is a professor of surgery at the University of Illinois.

**80** Dr. Christopher R. Fava (Cook) has joined Clancy, a New York City-based construction development, design and construction firm in St. Louis, as vice president of finance for its real estate development division.

**81** Dr. Thomas M. Burke (Law) is a vice president of the Missouri Bar. He is an attorney with the St. Louis Federal Bar. He is also serving on a board of directors for the Washington University School of Medicine for nine years. He and his wife, Kim, live in Fenton, Mo.

**82** Dr. Christine F. Miller (A&S) is dean and vice president for student affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is an alumna of the Jumon Voluntarist School.

**83** Dr. Norbert K. Glaser (A&S) is a senior Web developer at Time Out Inc., which operates a directory of local businesses and services.

**84** Dr. Dr. Brian Lohr (A&S) is a research scientist at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., where he lives.

**85** Dr. Patricia Fugate (A&S) is an associate professor of psychology at Southern Illinois University. She is also involved in an automobile accident and saw two men exit the college.

**86** Dr. Brenda G. Richardson (A&S) is an OB/GYN at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Tulsa. She is a resident in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. She is also an OB/GYN at the University of Missouri.

**87** Dr. Patricia Hagglund (A&S) is an associate professor of psychology at the University of Missouri-Columbia. She is also involved in an automobile accident and saw two men exit the college.

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Alumni Events

Club City News

Billion Travel Program 2007 Tours

Spring Tours

May 5-9: Alumni Campus Abroad

Italian Lakes

June 1-2: Alumni Campus Abroad: Spain

Summer Tours

July 2-6: Romance of the Blue Danube);

Aug. 3-12: Scandinavian Discovery

Sept. 5-17: China and the Yangtze River

Aug. 19-26: Alumni Campus Abroad: Sicily

Sept. 20-30: Enchantment of Island

Fall Tours

Oct. 13-21: The Colors of Tuscany and

Venetian Treasures

Oct. 5-12: Prague and Fairy Tale Bavaria

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

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BILLIKEN E-BULLETIN

Receive Saint Louis University news and sports updates and event information each month by subscribing to the Billiken e-Bulletin. In addition to receiving monthly news updates, subscribers also receive special reports when important news breaks on campus. To subscribe to the Billiken e-Bulletin, send your name, class year and e-mail address to the office of alumni relations at alumni@slu.edu or call (314) 977-2250.

THE LION KING at THE FABULOUS FOX THEATRE

Wednesday, July 11 | 6:30 p.m. reception at Busch Student Center | 8:30 p.m. curtain time

Join us for a very special evening at Disney’s The Lion King. The reception will take place just minutes from the Fox Theatre. The cost is $75 per person for the reception and orchestra seats.

Register online at www.slu.edu/alumni/lionking07

For more information, call (314) 977-2250 or e-mail lonnie.adams@slu.edu

ALUMNI EVENTS

Executive Alumni Association

Office of Alumni Relations

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The optimist already sees the scar over the wound; the pessimist still sees the wound underneath the scar. – Ernst Schröder, German mathematician

We all have scars. Some are physical, and some are emotional — regardless of their location or severity, they are reminders of painful events from our past. My college roommate, John O’Leary (Cook ’99), has more physical scars than seem possible and certainly more than I could have ever endured. Yet, in spite of thick scar- ring, he chooses to see them as existing because wounds have healed.

John and I should never have met — not because we went to the same school but because the teens of our “clean apartment” differed significantly. Rather, because as a curious 9-year-old John wondered what would happen if he mixed gasoline and fire. The resulting explosion left John with burns on 100 percent of his body, and 87 percent of those burns were third-degree. The first day in the hospital, the doctors told his parents that John had less than a 1 percent chance of surviving the first night. To their amazement, he survived that first night, five grueling months of hospitalization, dozens of surgeries, the loss of his fingers to amputation and ultimately returned home.

Told of being released from the hospital, John chose to go to Saint Louis University for college. It was here where we met and spent most of our years at SLU as roommates. During that time, and until just recently, we rarely spoke of his “accident,” as he referred to it at times. I was never comfortable about asking him about it, nor did I ever volunteer any information, and that seemed to work for both of us. We just went about our day-to-day activities, playing video games and hanging out in the quad (not necessarily in that order).

It wasn’t until recently that we spoke about what happened that fateful day when we were just 9 years old. John shared his story, not only with me, but with 100 other friends and students and for all that evening that we may not choose when or how these events happen. He has chosen our attitude toward our recovery and ultimately how to overcome obstacles.

No one would ever blame John if he complained about his physical condition. It is not only painful, but even the most mundane activities became challenges that he had to find new ways to complete. Tying shoes, shaving, brushing, turning a shirt, all things we take for granted, became tasks that took time and effort. Yet, when we lived together, John never asked me to help him do anything when it would have been quicker and easier to do so. Unbelievably, he never complained about the added effort and time it took to do these tasks. It is because of his determination and faith that John survived that first night when all of the doctors said he wouldn’t. It is because of his positive attitude and the choices he made that he has thrived in life. The fact that John survived wasn’t by chance — it was by choice.

While our scars are reminders of painful events — they also can serve as reminders of endurance and perseverance over past adversity. It took a very brave 9-year-old and the life he has chosen to live to teach me this lesson — and for that I will always be grateful.

W E A N T  T O  H E A R  F R O M  Y O U

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2. BY PHONE: (314) 977-2429

3. BY E-MAIL: stl@slu.edu

Please send us your letters, class notes and address changes through these three easy ways to reach us.

Remembering Dr. Montesi
In the first issue of the spring 2011, and within hours of each other, two great southern men of letters passed away. One was William Styron, the Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist who wrote Sophie’s Choice, among oth- ers, the third novel. The other was poet and English professor at Saint Louis University, Dr. Albert J. Montesi (“In Memoriam” page 29), author of half a dozen books about St. Louis, as well as a history of his own Italian immigrant family, Italians in Memphis: A Memoir, published shortly before his death.

In the history of modern American prose William Styron is famous for writing some of the great literature of our time. In the history of Saint Louis University, Al Montesi is famous for bringing literature to life on the campus of the college.

Professor Montesi breathed literature with every breath. It was his whole life, and for three decades, until his retirement in 1991, he passed on to students his knowledge of and enthusiasm for the written word. Al Montesi was not the greatest poet or the greatest critic. He was not the greatest historian or the greatest author. He was not the greatest English professor (He was not even the greatest English professor at St. Louis University). He was not the greatest Southern writer (He’ll have to give that credit to T.S. Eliot) He was not the greatest English professor to teach at the University. (The list of superb English teachers at SLU is long.) Yet more than one student finishing four years as an English major would say to him, “You taught me everything that I know.” Al Montesi was a phenomenon. And, as we all realized when we came to know him well, he was a piece of work.

He would stand in from a classroom, a small, slight man, with one leg thrust out, gesturing dramatically like a Roman senator, squinting, staring, pacing back and forth and stopping only to hark back on an ill word on the blackboard, a vague reference to his lecture, as he jumped from one thought about James Joyce to another about Krouse, then tossed in a quote from a Dostoevsky, and finally drew all his literary references back to the room and connected them to the lives of the students sitting stunned before him. He would accuse one undergraduate or the other of having sinned like Hemingway, or having carried on like Zelda Fitzgerald, and only then, at last, would he catch the startled look on a young, Catho- lic, face, laugh and briefly hug the sitting student as he addressed, “You’ve been out on the street, haven’t you, Coyne?”

It was a performance worthy of Beckett.

We soon learned to set aside our pens and notebooks and not even try to follow his lecture with notes. The fun, the excitement, the knowledge imparted came in the electrifying ride of his lecture, which was really his daily one-on-one free association that was both through life and literature and the personal history of Al Montesi.

With William Styron, we can go to a book shelf and take down a work of literature and be carried by his language into a grander time. We cannot do that with Al Montesi, but for those of us who lucky that we had the chance to follow his lecture with notes. The fun, the excitement, the knowledge imparted came in the electrifying ride of his lecture, which was really his daily one-on-one free association that was both through life and literature and the personal history of Al Montesi.

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September 28-30, 2007

Plans are under way for the alumni event of the year — Homecoming 2007. If you are a member of the classes of 1957 or 1982 and want to help plan your special reunions, contact the office of alumni relations. Weekend airfare and hotel discounts are available at www.slu.edu/alumni.