President’s Message

A New Year of Sustainability and Prosperity

By Donna Bess Myers

Happy New Year! It’s hard to believe 2011 is here. As I write this message, I am thankful for the many blessings from last year and full of hope for many more in the new year for all of us. In particular, it has been a blessing for me to be involved with the Women’s Commission for the past two and half years, during which I have had the privilege of serving as arrangements chair and now as president. This dynamic group of women strives to focus on the concerns of today; the 2010-2011 Women’s Commission’s theme examines the matters of sustainability by addressing various aspects of our daily lives including community, spirituality, career and health.

In October, Claire Chase, issues chair, presented “A Greener YOU,” which focused on incorporating sustainability tips into daily life both at home and work. Lindsay Walters, former assistant director of Campus Ministry, presented November’s program on “Sustaining Your Spirit,” the incorporation of spirituality in daily life with thanksgiving and reflection. In addition, last month’s program started off the holiday giving season by sustaining our community when blankets were made for those in need living in the greater St. Louis community.

There is still much work to do. The upcoming spring programs include sustaining your career and health. I know I can always use tips from these programs to enhance various aspects of my daily life and experiences. All of our programs take place from 12:1-30 p.m., and light refreshments are provided. Detailed information on this semester’s upcoming programs can be found in this newsletter. Come join us. Bring lunch and a friend, and stay as long as your schedule permits.

Additionally, this April marks the Women’s Commission’s Women of the Year luncheon, a signature event held since 1977. This spectacular recognition program will be held 12-1:30 p.m. April 27 in the Wool Ballroom of Busch Student Center. More information can be found in this issue. I hope you will nominate an outstanding SLU woman for this prestigious award.

On behalf of the Women’s Commission, we look forward to seeing you at our events and wish you a very prosperous new year!
Executive Board Seeks Nominations for 2011-12 Officers

The Women’s Commission Nominating Committee, chaired by past-president Gayle Rogan, seeks nominations for officers and committee chairs who will form the Women’s Commission 2011-12 Board of Directors. Open positions and responsibilities include the following:

- **Vice-President/President-Elect:** Presides at Executive Board meetings and other functions in the president’s absence; serves on the Awards Selection and Nominating committees; and performs other tasks at the request of the president.

- **Secretary:** Records and distributes the minutes of the Executive Board meetings; handles correspondence; maintains attendance records of all events and meetings; and maintains eligible voters’ lists.

- **Treasurer:** Maintains accurate records of income and expenditures; reviews monthly financial statements; prepares and submits all requisitions for cash, checks, purchase orders and interdepartmental orders; presents periodic budget reports to the Executive Board; prepares an annual budget request for submission to the University as requested; and determines the budget with input from the president.

Committee Chairs

- **Arrangements:** Coordinates the food, facility and set-up arrangements for events and meetings; coordinates RSVPs and thank-you notes for programs; coordinates RSVPs for the Women of the Year awards along with the Awards Committee chair, and arrange for the presentation of gifts to program presenters.

- **Awards:** Appoints members of the Awards Selection Committee; serves as non-voting chair for the YWCA Leader Lunch and Saint Louis University Women of the Year; and coordinates details with the Arrangements Committee chair.

- **Communications:** Co-chairpersons appoint members of the Communications Committee. Coordinate the writing, formatting and distribution of announcements, news releases, invitations and ballots, as well as collect reservations for events. Coordinate the writing and design of the electronic newsletter. Maintain the website, including publishing of the newsletter. Maintains the listserv.

- **Issues:** Appoints members of the Issues Committee and coordinates committee planning and implementation of meetings and events focusing on issues of interest to the University community.

- **Programs:** Appoints members of the Programs Committee and coordinates the selection of themes and speakers for and implementation of regular programs.

Faculty, staff, students and administrators of Saint Louis University are eligible to serve on the Women’s Commission Executive Board. Interested candidates or anyone nominating a candidate should contact Gayle Rogan no later than Jan. 28.

Women’s Commission members spend December’s meeting making unique microfleece blankets for area pediatric hospitals. Blue Santa even stopped by to share in the fun.
SLU Women Recognized at Annual YWCA Leader Lunch

On Dec. 2, eight Saint Louis University women were recognized at the annual YWCA Leader Lunch. The Women’s Commission participated in the program by honoring women from across the University who have contributed to the growth and enrichment of both the university community and the greater community.

The following eight women were recognized at the 2010 Leader Lunch:

Anne Garanzini  
Interim Chair of the Physician Assistant Department  
Doisy College of Allied Health

Donna LaVoie  
Associate Dean  
College of Arts and Sciences

Michelle Lorenzini  
Assistant Professor of Political Science  
College of Arts and Sciences

Barbara Macon  
Laboratory Assistant  
Center for Anatomic Science and Education

Mary Therese McLennan  
professor of urogynecology  
School of Medicine

Alexa Serfis  
Professor of Chemistry  
College of Arts and Sciences

Christy Wahl  
Library Assistant  
Pius XII Memorial Library

Julie Wolter  
Associate Professor of Health Informatics  
Doisy College of Allied Health

More than 1,200 people attended the annual event, which was held at the Millennium Hotel.

Since 1984, the YWCA has recognized the commitment and contributions of working women from the St. Louis area at the luncheon. The YWCA (Young Women’s Christian Association) is the oldest and largest multicultural women’s organization in the world.

2011 Women of the Year Luncheon Scheduled

The annual Women of the Year recognition program will take place 12-1:30 p.m. April 27 in the Wool Ballroom of Busch Student Center. A traditional springtime event since 1977, the luncheon is co-sponsored by the Women’s Commission and the Office of Diversity and Affirmative Action. Five Saint Louis University women are honored as Woman of the Year. They are selected by the Awards Committee of the Women’s Commission from nominations submitted by members of the university community. They represent a cross-section of the administration, faculty, staff, and students.

Click here to nominate a SLU colleague you think deserves to be named as one of the 2011 Women of the Year.

Creating A Sustainable Work Life

Sustainability is a call to action, a way to maintain or improve your life. Kathy Day, assistant dean of Graduate Business Programs, will share stories and engage in a conversation that we hope will help all of us discern ways to enhance our work/life sustainability.

Date: Feb. 16, 2011  
Time: 12-1:30 p.m.  
Location: 253 Busch Student Center  
RSVP by Friday, Feb. 11, 2011