WELCOMING THE CLASS OF '09

SLU responds to Hurricane Katrina  The St. Louis Jesuits reunite  Celebrating Social Work's 75th  Recording Busch Stadium memories
President’s Message

Like most of you, I spent late August and early September glued to my television, watching the news of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath.

Although we are many miles north of the affected region, as St. Louisans we know the wrath of floods. As Americans we recognize the importance of sharing the recovery. And as people of faith we understand that we must pray? Make a donation?

Of course, prayer is a powerful thing. And those displaced by this disaster certainly will need money to get through the crisis and rebuild their lives. But I wanted to do more — and I wasn’t alone.

The Saint Louis University community wanted to help, too. And there was something we could all do together.

We could provide what we had to offer, in this case an excellent education, with those displaced by the floods. Within days of the disaster, 190 students who had been enrolled at Loyola, Tulane University, Xavier University of Louisiana and Benedictine College were attending classes at SLU.

Our admissions, advising, financial aid, residence life and registrar staffs worked tirelessly to get these students registered for class and moved into their dorm rooms. Our campus ministry team offered everything from school supplies to transportation. The student life office held a welcome event and resource fair.

For more details about SLU’s efforts, see the story on page 8.

And our efforts did not focus only on the displaced students; we reached out to the dozens of our own students who call the Gulf Coast home. Campus ministers contacted every one of these students to offer assistance and counseling.

In addition, we pitched in to assist all of the hurricane victims in a variety of ways. The collection at the 10 p.m. Sunday student Mass was earmarked for hurricane relief. Our Student Government Association organized a canned food collection, launched fund drives and made plans for a service trip to the Gulf Coast region. Staff planned a “denim day” (wearing jeans to work for a $5 donation). Faculty from our schools of medicine and nursing provided care to survivors who had evacuated to St. Louis. Our Web site featured ways to give. (Read about an extraordinary alumna who was in New Orleans during the disaster on page 32.)

It was amazing to see the entire SLU community work together to welcome these students and to assist so many in need. But perhaps “amazing” is not the right word. In fact, the SLU community’s response was no less than what I would expect.

Our students, faculty and staff are always driven to help those in need. During 2004, 15,156 students, faculty and staff contributed 758,493 hours of community service and outreach to more than 1,100 local, national and even international organizations.

So it’s really no surprise that our community rallied around the hurricane victims. But it is still a blessing. And it still gives me immense pride to know that SLU’s women and men were there for others in a time of great loss.

Of course we couldn’t all go to New Orleans to help, but we are so pleased that 191 New Orleans students found at least some refuge at SLU. God bless them, and God bless all of you affected by this disaster.

LAWRENCE BIGNISI, S.J.

Shelter from the Storm
SLU welcomes New Orleans-area college students.
By John Baworowsky

Make a Joyful Noise
The St. Louis Jesuits are singing new songs.
By Marie Dilg

Advancing Social Justice
The School of Social Work marks 75 years.
By Marie Dilg

Kiss It Goodbye
A SLU professor records Busch Stadium memories.
By Chris Waldvogel

World-Class Glass
SLU’s museums receive a noteworthy collection.
By Allison Babka Burney

First Impressions
Welcome Week shows new students what Saint Louis University is all about. This photo essay recaps all of the highlights, from square dancing to conversation to soccer game spirit.
Photos by Steve Dolan
**Construction under way for Research Building**

After two years of planning, Saint Louis University broke ground on its Research Building June 2. The signature building in Midtown St. Louis will provide a new front door for Saint Louis University Health Sciences Center and will make it possible for SLU scientists to make research discoveries in five key areas: cancer, liver disease, heart/lung disease, aging and brain disease and biodefense/vaccine development.

The $86.7 million Research Building is part of a $80.5 million project that also includes renovation of existing laboratory space, which will take place after the new building opens in 2007. This is the largest building project in the University’s 187-year history.

“Breaking ground obviously is great news and yet another piece in the revitalization of Midtown St. Louis,” said University President Lawrence Biondi, S.J. “But the medical discoveries to fight human disease and human suffering that will be made in this building — new ways to cure, prevent and treat disease — will echo far beyond Midtown St. Louis.”

Saint Louis University and its biomedical research building will form the eastern anchor of “Cortex,” a public-private economic development initiative promoting the development of a nationally recognized life sciences industry in the corridor between SLU and Monsanto. Cortex stands for the Center of Excellence in Science and Technology and Entrepreneurial Exchange.

The new Research Building will consist of a 10-story tower at the north end with the two lowest floors extending toward the south and connecting in a covered walkway to the School of Medicine, where additional research facilities and training space are located. Construction is expected to take 24 to 27 months. This spring, Clayco was selected as the general contractor. The architect of the building is Cannon Design.

**SLU researchers explore flu vaccines without needles**

For those squirmish about needles, here’s some potentially good news. Researchers at the School of Medicine are investigating the use of sound waves rather than cradles to administer the flu vaccine. In the first study of its kind in the nation, researchers at the SLU Center for Vaccine Development are using an investigational device that applies ultrasonic waves to a small area of the skin to create microscopic openings in the pores. Once the pores are opened, a nickel-size patch containing a licensed flu vaccine is placed over the area, allowing the medication to pass into a patient’s bloodstream.

“The painless pulse of sound waves takes about 15 seconds, and the skin returns to its normal state within 24 hours,” said Dr. Robert Belhe, the lead investigator for the study and director of the Center for Vaccine Development at the School of Medicine.

**School of Social Service and College of Public Service merge; Social Service gets new name**

In the real world, social workers, counselors and educators often work closely together to solve problems. Training for that kind of collaboration got a boost this summer when the Saint Louis University School of Social Service merged with SLU’s College of Public Service.

Social Service is now known as the School of Social Work within the College of Public Service. Dr. Susan Tebb serves as the school’s director, reporting to Dr. James Gilkison, dean of the College of Public Service. The School of Social Work remains housed in Tegeler Hall.

The merger, which took effect July 1, is expected to create new opportunities for innovative academic programs and cutting-edge research.

“This move really takes advantage of our strengths,” Gilkison said, adding that the two units already offer common academic offerings.

The merger isn’t a new idea. When Public Service was founded in 1998, there were discussions of a merger with Social Service. Those discussions resurfaced in fall 2003. Since then, officials with both units have spent a lot of time examining the transition. There also has been significant faculty input into the planning.

Officials expect that the academic units’ similar missions will encourage a smooth transition. Both Public Service and Social Work educate students to be community-oriented professionals who strive for positive change when they enter the workforce. Before graduation, students get real-world, hands-on education through clinical experience, which is a key component of both units’ degree programs.

“Once practitioners get out there — whether they’re social workers, teachers, speech pathologists or counselors — they almost always work in an interdisciplinary way, and it’s better that they gain those skills as part of their early training,” Tebb said.

40 years ago in Universitas

**The cover of the October 1965 issue of Saint Louis University Magazine featured the new Science and Engineering Center, which opened the following month. The completion of the buildings, later known as Maciel-Watson, Mosquito and Shannon halls, marked the official opening of the “new campus” in the Mill Creek Valley.**

The magazine also reported on the Society of Jesus General Congregation, held that summer in Rome. Then-President Paul C. Stewart, S.J., was one of 220 Jesuits invited to attend. At the meeting Pedro Arrupe, S.J. was elected to lead the Jesuit order. Arrupe had strong Saint Louis University connections, having studied at SLU’s divinity school and School of Medicine.

**Quotable UTAS:**

“Writing is not a random imposition of form on experience but a very careful and sophisticated attempt to impose form and intelligibility on our experience.”

Dr. Ella J. Claassen, professor of English, in the article “A Dying Art Restored,” which described her efforts to improve high school composition courses.

**SLU named a best buy for 8th year**

For the eighth 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 2006” issue, U.S. News & World Report again named Saint Louis University on its coveted “Great Schools, Great Prices” list. SLU joins other distinguished Catholic institutions, including Boston College, George Washington University and Boston College, on this list of the 50 national, doctoral universities that are considered best buys by the magazine. To determine the best value rankings, U.S. News relates a school’s academic quality to the net cost of attendance for a student who receives the average level of need-based financial aid.

“The higher the quality of the program and the lower the cost, the better the deal,” the magazine states.

In addition to best buy rankings, U.S. News also compiles an annual listing of the nation’s best universities and colleges. This year, SLU rose three spots to No. 78 among the nearly 250 national universities that offer doctoral programs. Harvard and Princeton topped this year’s list. And once again, Saint Louis University was listed among the top five Catholic institutions in these overall rankings.

U.S. News also gave high marks to several individual SLU academic departments and undergraduate programs. SLU’s Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology claimed the No. 29 spot among nation’s best undergraduate engineering programs. In addition, the college’s aerospace program was ranked No. 5 in the nation. And SLU’s John Cook School of Business was listed at No. 87 on U.S. News’ rankings of the country’s best undergraduate business programs.
Business school launches a one-year MBA degree

The John Cook School of Business has announced a new program for students interested in earning an MBA in less time than a traditional program—a one-year MBA degree option. The degree, which consists of three terms, is the first of its kind in the region and will begin in May 2006. The first class will graduate in May 2007.

“W e designed this program for driven individuals who want to make the most of their time and get ahead faster,” said Dr. Tom Miller, associate dean for master’s and undergraduate programs. “One-year MBA students will be back in the workforce in half of the time of their peers at most other institutions.”

The degree is fully accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, and a two-year study abroad venture is included in the curriculum. The business school will continue to offer a professional MBA option for those interested in pursuing their degree on a part-time basis. However SLU’s one-year MBA program will replace its traditional two-year full-time MBA program. SLU also will continue to offer the master of accounting, master of science in finance and executive master of international business programs.

To learn more about the SLU one-year MBA, visit oneyearmba.slu.edu or call (314) 977-6223 or 1-800-570-1861.

Richard Ford wins Literary Award

The Saint Louis University Library Associates will present the Saint Louis Literary Award to Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Richard Ford at 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, in the Anheuser-Busch Auditorium of SLU’s John Cook School of Business.

The program is free and open to the public. Ford is the author of five novels, Independence Day, The Sportswriter, The Ultimate Luck and A Piece of My Heart and three collections of short stories. He received both the Pulitzer Prize and the PEN/Faulkner Award for Independence Day, the first book to win both prizes. In 2001, he received the PEN/Malamud Award for excellence in short fiction.

At the award, Ford joins a select group of previous recipients, including Tennessee Williams, Eudora Welty and Saul Bellow. The award has been presented annually since 1967.

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For the third year in a row and with the help of some celebrity guests, the “Denim and Diamonds” fund-raiser benefited the nation­ally renowned Liver Center at the School of Medicine. “Denim and Diamonds” was a two­ evening gala event in September that benefitted the national education, research and treatment of liver disease. For the second time in three years, country music legend Willie Nelson performed. A black­tie dinner followed the next night.

The College of Public Service and the SLU Campus Kitchen have inaugurated a new partnership with James Cormack, C.M., Scholarship. Funded by an endowment named for Cormack (Grad Pub Ser ’78), former pastor of St. Vincent DePaul parish, the Cormack Scholarship will work with Campus Kitchen to provide assistance of academic services and direct service and strategic assessment of the organ­ization’s outreach efforts. Michael J. Schmid, a doctoral student in the department of public policy studies, is the first Cormack scholar.

The department of pharmacological and physiological science has received a $1 million-plus grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to train 30 pre­ doctoral students during the next five years. SLU is one of only 29 institutions across the country to receive the grant. The department had received the competitive renewal grant for the previous 15 years and is the only institu­ tion in the state to receive the funding.

Mel Burkart (Grad BBA ’10), professor emeritus of aviation science in SLU’s Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technol­ogy, has earned a rare distinction in the field of aviation. He recently received designation as a master certificated flight instructor by the National Association of Flight Instructors. Fewer than 500 of the 85,000 certified flight instructors in the United States have achieved this status. Burkart is one of only seven aviation instructors from Missouri to earn the title.

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**SLU officially joins the Atlantic 10 Conference**

Saint Louis University began its first year as an official member of the Atlantic 10 Conference July 1. The original announcement came in November 2003 that SLU and the University of North Carolina Charlotte were leaving Conference USA after 10 years to join the A-10.

The profile of the A-10 membership is the best fit that Saint Louis University has ever had in the history of Billikens athletics, said Cheryl L. Levick, SLU’s director of athletics. “Plus, the A-10 provides new major market media exposure for our program and also opens the East Coast for undergraduate student recruitment.”

The Atlantic 10 Conference is in its 30th year of NCAA Division I competition. Along with its two newest institutions, the league’s membership includes Dayton, Duquesne, Fordham, George Washington, La Salle, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Richmond, St. Bonaventure, Saint Joseph’s, Temple and Xavier.

“The A-10 has never been as strong as it is now,” said A-10 Commissioner Linda Bruno, who is in her 12th season at the helm of the league. “More importantly, the additions of Charlotte and Saint Louis ensure that the future is brighter than it has ever been. We are adding two members who will greatly enhance the national profile of our sports and expose our programs to two new markets in which our universities actively recruit.”

In all, 374 teams have represented the A-10 in postseason play since the 1976-77 season. Atlantic 10 student-athletes excel in the classroom as well. Each A-10 institution ranked at or above the national average for graduation rates, according to the NCAA Official 2004 Division I Graduation Rates Report. The Atlantic 10 Conference crowns champions in 21 regular-season sports, including men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s cross country, field hockey, men’s golf, women’s lacrosse, men’s and women’s indoor and outdoor track and field, women’s rowing, men’s and women’s soccer, softball, softball, men’s and women’s swimming and diving, men’s and women’s tennis, and women’s volleyball.

SLU was a charter member of Conference USA and left its mark upon the league. The Billikens’ soccer team won eight regular-season championships. The Billiken men’s basketball team captured the 2000 C-USA titles. The women’s soccer team won two regular-season championships. The Billikens’ men’s basketball team captured the 2000 C-USA Tournament. The Billikens also received C-USA’s Institutional Excellence Award in each year of the league’s existence. The award is presented annually to the school with the highest cumulative grade point average during the academic year for all student-athletes in conference-sponsored sports.

The NCAA has awarded 2006 Men’s College Basketball Championship to St. Louis and Saint Louis University. The College Cup is returning to a soccer-specific, on-campus venue for the first time in 10 years. The semifinals will be played on Dec. 1 and the final on Dec. 3, at SLU’s Robert H. Hermann Stadium. St. Louis has previously hosted the men’s soccer championship five times, with the last event held in 1974 at Busch Stadium. When not in Howard University, Hermann Stadium, which seats 6,050 fans, will be expanded to seat 7,185.

## Colleges and schools benefit from fiscal-year 2005 gifts

Campaign progress also was reflected at the college and school level, where there were numerous fiscal-year 2005 developments.

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<th>College/School</th>
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<td>Medical School</td>
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A bequest from the estate of Max and Barbara Lubin created the largest endowed scholarship fund for the humanities in SLU’s history. The Lubin estate will provide annual income of over $63,000 to support SLU’s humanities programs.

The College of Arts and Sciences announced the retirement of dean Joan Hrubetz. The Lubin estate will provide annual income in excess of $500,000 to support SLU’s humanities programs.

The School of Medicine and the Center for Advanced Dental Education have both met the 27% by ’07 challenge with alumni participation rates of 21.5 and 28.3 percent respectively. Participation from the alumni of the Institute of Technology and the Schools of Dentistry, Law and Nursing have all exceeded the overall University rate of 16.5 percent.

The College of Public Service received a gift from the Danforth Foundation to house the RegionWest office. RegionWest’s mission is to infuse data and community outreach to promote positive regional change.

An additional 8,065 donors by the end of the campaign would raise the alumni participation rate the remaining 5.5 percent and allow the University to reach its goal of 27 percent.

Not only does alumni participation support the campaign, it affects SLU’s ranking in U.S. News. A strong alumni participation rate also sends a message to corporations and foundations that are considering making gifts to SLU. These funding sources want to know that alumni support the institution.

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As vice president for enrollment and academic services and interim vice president for student development, John Baworowsky led Saint Louis University’s efforts to assist New Orleans students who needed a school to call home—only for a semester. This is his story.

As the news unfolded, it was much worse than anyone could expect. Tulane University and Loyola, a fellow Jesuit institution, were empty beds in our 3,500-bed housing complex. In consultation with the St. Louis area would be given immediate housing. Those traveling from local areas would be housed next week. The first two calls came in on Tuesday, Aug. 30, from a Saint Louis University’s efforts to assist New Orleans students who needed a school to call home—only for a semester. This is his story.

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A gasp went through the crowd at the annual convention of the National Association of Pastoral Ministers. Bari Colombari, a senior editor from Oregon Catholic Press (OCP), stepped forward to make an announcement. "There are four men here tonight who have not sung together in 20 years," Colombari said. "The St. Louis Jesuits."

The audience leapt to its feet and cheered wildly as four middle-aged men took to the stage in Washington, D.C. — 30 years after they met and began making history on Saint Louis University's campus.

"There we were, four older men on stage, and the crowd cheered for us as if we were the Beatles," said John Foley, S.J. (A&S '68, Grad '68, '74), distinguished liturgical theologian and founder and director of the Center for Liturgy at Saint Louis University. "It demonstrated to us that people still were served by our music. We began wondering whether we should consider working together again."

"Something magical happened at that performance," agreed Roc O'Connor, S.J. (A&S '73), a theology professor and liturgist at Creighton University. "The experience of singing together again reinforced that the sum is greater than its parts, much greater than the kind applause we received."

After that performance in 2000, the St. Louis Jesuits began discussing the possibility of a reunion project. It took four years of discussions and coordinating schedules to produce Morning Light, a reunion CD of newly written music, which they finished recording this summer. The much anticipated album will be released in February 2006 by OCP.

Even if you have not heard of the 1970s liturgical music phenomenon these Jesuits began, you probably know their work. Music by the St. Louis Jesuits appears in the missals and hymnals used by nearly all of the nation's 19,000 Catholic parishes and numerous Protestant churches. Liturgical pieces such as "This Alone," "City of God," "One Bread, One Body," "Be Not Afraid," "Come to the Water," "Here I Am Lord" and "Lift up Your Hearts," are staples of contemporary worship. Other performers sang their music at President Ronald Reagan's funeral and President Bill Clinton's inauguration. Susan Sarandon sang "Be Not Afraid"
SINGING SOLO

Through the St. Louis Jesuits did not record together for 20 years, they still remained close friends. Each produced solo endeavors and more. Below is a list of CDs (plus sheet music) released by each of the men since 1985.

BOB DUFFORD, S.J.
1993 As a River of Light
1995 Nightingale
1999 A Rock Star's Prayer

JOHN FOLEY, S.J.
1987 As a River of Light
1989 Rise Up in Splendor: Songs of the Spiritual Exercises
1995 From East and West
2001 Glory in the Cross
2004 Prince of Peace

ROD O'CONNOR, S.J.
1988 Rise Up to Splendor: Music for Children that Adults Can Sing
1991 Beyond the Glory of God: Music for the Easter Vigil

DAN SCHUTTE
1978 Table Prayer
1988 Lover of Us All
1993 Drawn by A Dream
1997 Always and Everywhere
2001 Glory and the Cross
2002 Here I Am Lord
2003 You Are Near
2004 Prince of Peace

To Sean Perry near the climax of the movie, Dead Man Walking Mother Teresa used them as an act of hope,” O’Connor said. “When we began, there was a youthful exuberance and enthusiasm about the Church and liturgy and music. It’s different today. The Church is in a state of flux, and people in the culture have come to question their faith. We wrote our compositions to offer hope and to inspire people.”

“Ahas happens with many of us as we get older, there’s a loss of innocence,” Schutte said. “You experience more of the ugly, fearful part of the world and human life, and that can change your faith. I’m writing from a deeper place than my earlier music. I write music for people who need to hear a voice of hope.”

Their new CD of 12 songs, three from each of the composers, offers a look at liturgical music from four-album sets. The subtitle was “Music from St. Louis Jesuits.”

Music from St. Louis Jesuits is one of only four such liturgical centers; it is based at the Center for Liturgy at St. Louis University. The center allows the use of vernacular in liturgy and called for the full participation of the people. Almost overnight, liturgy became connected with the human experience, and people were hungry for music to go with it. It flowered in this atmosphere of optimism.”

Between their studies, each of the young Jesuits worked on his own compositions, described by the others, that they wished to collate and record their compositions. They released five more collections: Eucharist Ven.

Associated with liturgical revivals, the St. Louis Jesuits are considered the “fathers of contemporary liturgical music.” O’Connor said. “We worked together for more than 15 years, and we felt the need to pursue our own musical styles as well as our pastoral ministries.”

It wasn’t until the performance in Washington, D.C., that the St. Louis Jesuits took seriously the possibility of a reunion.

“We were reluctant at first,” Foley said. “Back in the 70s there were perhaps 10 or 15 composers working, and there was a huge void to fill. Today, there are many more composers. The Center for Liturgy sends out as many as 250 invitations to our annual convocation of composers. There is much more diversity now as well. We wanted to be sure we still had something to offer to people’s faith.”

A Web site updated weekly that prepares all members of the liturgical assembly for Sunday Mass by supplying commentaries on the coming Sunday’s readings, prayers and reflections, instructions for the celebration, liturgical actions; social implications; and sample petitions for the Prayers of the Faith. The site, liturgy.wlu.edu, reaches more than 120,000 people a month from about 90 parishes and with the archdiocese and have sponsored citywide liturgies.

Sponsorship of the Liturgical Composers Forum, where liturgical composers meet annually to discuss and learn from one another. It is the only such forum in the country.

Partnership in the SLU VOICES program (Vigilant, Intently, Community and Engaged Liturgies), which facilitates a student internship that pays eight student apprentices as they receive training in liturgy from the center and parish churches.

Members of the center have published 15 studies and a book during the last seven years. They have given more than 130 talks, seminars, workshops and presentations throughout the country. They also work and for with St. Louis Independent Parish and with the archdiocese and have sponsored diocesan liturgies.

A REUNION OF HOPE

By the mid ‘70s, all but Foley left SLU for other apostolic assignments. The St. Louis Jesuits started to get together occasionally to collate and record their compositions. They released five more collections: Eucharist Ven.

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In 1996, the school made its commitment to social justice even more explicit with the establishment of the Emmett J. and Mary Martha Doerr Center for Social Justice Education and Research, an internationally recognized center that advocates the advancement of a just society for all, especially the poor and vulnerable. During the past nine years the center has funded 234 students, given 23 collaborative faculty/student/community grants and has supported 31 publications.

The school celebrated its contributions to social work and social justice in early October with a conference showcasing the ways alumni have used their social work degrees to advance the field. The keynote speaker was John Dear, S.J., a pastor and peace activist living in New York who has edited and written 20 books on peace and justice.

While an anniversary is time for reflection, Tebb said it is also the perfect time to look to the future. The school recently merged with the College of Public Service to provide students with more opportunities for multidisciplinary teaching, service and research endeavors. Joint endeavors include a bridge program that gives master’s students advance standing in the college’s counseling and family therapy doctoral program.

Tebb also looks forward to seeing the School of Social Work expand globally.

“We’re working to expand our study opportunities in Mexico, Panama and Ghana,” she said. “We want our students to realize how our policy affects other people’s lives. The best way to do that is through field practice. It’s also valuable to see how resources are utilized in other countries so that we can better use our resources here.”

Since 1930, the School of Social Work has graduated more than 4,000 professionals. Those who attended classes since 1967 probably had Dr. William C. Brennan as a professor. Brennan came to the school 38 years ago, and he continues to teach courses on family interaction under stress, communicating with children, and human behavior and the environment. Brennan said he sees nothing but opportunity when he looks ahead.

“I’ve read that professional social workers are the nation’s leading providers of mental health and therapy services to people — ahead of any other professionals, including psychologists and psychiatrists,” Brennan said. “I don’t see that changing. The demand for compassionate social workers is growing, and I see in our students a commitment that will help them meet the demand. Their idealism is what keeps me and the school going.”

The school moved into its current home in 1973 when a gift from Jerome F. Tegeler (B&A ’29) made construction of Tegeler Hall possible. During the 1980s, under Hutchinson’s leadership, the school became more active in promoting itself and its mission. This resulted in another substantial growth in enrollment and a doubling of the school’s endowment.

The size of the faculty more than doubled, and enrollment spiked dramatically.

“It was a period of tremendous ferment in the country, and there was great concern about social equality,” said William Hutchinson, S.J., (A&S ’59, Grad ’64, ’68). He joined the faculty in 1973 and served as dean from 1984 to 1995. “Those were the years we got Medicaid and Medicare and the Civil Rights Act. We launched the war on poverty and went to war in Vietnam. Similar to the 1930s, government and agency support for social service programs was ample. A good 90 percent of our students were full-time, and they had scholarships, fellowships or grants.”

Tebb notes that how students are paying for their social work education today represents one of the biggest changes over the past 75 years. Many of the students in the undergraduate program and most in the graduate program are part-time students who must work while going to school because financial aid is limited.

“Unfortunately, our government isn’t as supportive of social services as it once was,” said Tebb. “Social programs are the first thing to be cut, and our students are feeling the pinch. It’s one of the reasons our fund-raising campaign focuses so intensely on raising scholarship money.”

A Focus on the Future

The School of Social Work celebrates 75 years of
advancing social justice
1930–2005

- By Marie Dilg

Seventy-five years ago, the country was in chaos. A catastrophic collapse of the stock market brought on the Great Depression. Businesses closed their doors, factories shut down, and banks failed. One out of every four Americans was unemployed. One in three lived in poverty. For the first time in history, the federal government entered the field of social work on a large scale to cope with the effects of the economic crisis.

This critical time in American history was the backdrop as Saint Louis University established its program in social work education.

“The initial curriculum was focused on giving students the tools they needed to help people with the effects of the Great Depression — poverty and homelessness,” said Dr. Susan C. Tebb, director of the School of Social Work. “These problems existed well before the stock market crash, but now the government was willing to invest money in addressing them, and the need for formal social work instruction intensified.”

SLU’s School of Social Work was one of the first social work programs in the region and the first within the Catholic tradition. Joseph C. Heslin, S.J., the school’s founder, was considered by his contemporaries as a pioneer in American Catholic social thought. He popularized Catholic social teaching and produced the largest body of American Catholic social writings in his time. He vigorously attacked the abuses of capitalism and used scripture to confront social injustice.

He established the school with two goals in mind: to promote Catholic social teaching and to train professional social workers.

“Much has changed in how we educate our students, but our mission hasn’t changed at all,” said Tebb, who has been leading the school for the past eight years. “Our commitment to social justice is unwavering, and we continue to train strong practitioners who are ready to hit the ground running. Integrating social work education and practice always has been our strong suit.”

The social work program received accreditation in 1933. Then, as now, the school offered three areas of concentration: community, health and family. In the 1940s, the school began offering late afternoon and evening classes, drawing men and women from throughout the nation to pursue social work degrees.

The late 1960s and early ’70s were a period of robust growth.

The social work program was one of the first to employ part-time graduate students. In 1970, the school went full-time and took on new faculty members. The same year, the school's first master's degree was awarded.

Social work circa 1961.

In 1996, the school made its commitment to social justice even more explicit with the establishment of the Emmett J. and Mary Martha Doerr Center for Social Justice Education and Research, an internationally recognized center that advocates the advancement of a just society for all, especially the poor and vulnerable. During the past nine years the center has funded 234 students, given 23 collaborative faculty/student/community grants and has supported 31 publications.

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Social work circa 1961.
When freshmen arrived at Saint Louis University Aug. 24, they found some unexpected helpers moving their boxes from cars to residence halls. For the first time, faculty and staff were lending a hand.

“It’s about the whole SLU community welcoming the students and their families together,” said Dr. Leanna Fenneberg, Welcome Week organizer and director of first-year programs. “It’s an exciting time on campus, and the whole Saint Louis University family is a part of it.”
The focus isn’t only on students; parents also have a full itinerary. In addition to assisting their children, parents attend separate sessions to help them with the transition, too. Workshops such as “Don’t Tell Me What to Do … Just Send Cash!” and “My Child Didn’t Tell Me” allow parents to discuss the issues and opportunities that arise during this major change in their child’s life.

But for all of the serious topics, the main focus is having fun and making friends. “We want students to feel at home here,” Fenneberg said. “So we let them know they’re part of the SLU family and that we’re glad they’re here.”

But Welcome Week is more than just moving boxes. It’s also square dancing, convocation, picnics and soccer. A full slate of activities offers freshmen and their parents the chance to socialize, learn and acclimate themselves to SLU.

Student orientation volunteers, known as Oriflamme, unload trunks and carry televisions, but they also lead groups of first-year students through pep rallies, tours and discussions about everything from alcohol to campus involvement. Oriflamme members are known for their orange T-shirts, enthusiasm and their knowledge of SLU.

“Oriflamme just seemed like fun; everyone is so spirited,” said Addison Killeen, an Oriflamme member from Lincoln, Neb. “And it’s great to help freshmen because they are usually so nervous during their first days at SLU.”

Every year the square dance on the upper level of the Olive Compton Parking Garage is one of the highlights of Welcome Week. Students learn to do-si-do and get to know classmates.

The new student convocation, held in St. Francis Xavier College Church, officially welcomes new freshmen, transfer students and their families.
ne of St. Louis’ most prized places for making memories soon will be a memory itself. Busch Stadium, the home of the St. Louis Cardinals since 1966 and the seventh oldest stadium in Major League Baseball, will make its way into the pages of baseball history after the 2005 season, giving way to a developing brick successor looming to the immediate south. Dr. Robert Krizek, Saint Louis University associate professor of communication, is investigating how the ballpark has helped to shape the identities of baseball fans over the years and what its closing means to them.

“I’m interested in how people talk about events in their lives that transpired in the old Busch Stadium,” Krizek said. “Busch Stadium is more than a place for baseball. It is a place where people established, developed and nurtured relationships.”

Although Krizek focuses on how the stadium’s closing affects people, he leaves the debate about whether the Cardinals should have built a new stadium to the politicians and civic activists. Likewise, he leaves baseball’s milestones and memorable plays to the broadcasters. His research delves more into personal territory rather than what is foul or fair — whether on or off the field.

First dates, bachelor parties, family traditions and other memories stand among the tales that Krizek has collected in his study about how the landmark St. Louis stadium has fostered landmarks in people’s lives. One of Krizek’s favorite stories from Busch involves a woman in her 30s. Her dad took family members to a particular Busch Stadium souvenir stand. The prize? A red Cardinals T-shirt. But there was a catch. Before anyone was awarded a shirt, the father gave a Cardinals quiz. The kids had to demonstrate that they had mastered the rules of the game and knew what it meant to be a fan of the St. Louis Cardinals. To do the latter, they had to answer some questions about famous moments in Cardinals’ history.

“Her two older brothers had gotten shirts before she did, but she was the first girl in the family to get a shirt. It meant a lot to her,” Krizek said. “She was looking forward to continuing the family ritual with her two daughters. And although she can buy them T-shirts at the new ballpark, she said it just won’t be the same because they won’t be going to the place where her dad took her.”

Another story that stuck with Krizek concerned an executive who attributed his professional success to an epiphany at Busch Stadium. “This man was allowed to walk around the stadium as part of Little League night as a reward for his accomplishments as a young ballplayer,” Krizek said. “The man told me that trip to Busch Stadium taught him that if you tried hard and worked hard, you got to do something neat. That walk around Busch Stadium convinced him that he could accomplish big things if he applied himself.”
“When people leave that park for the last time, they will be hit with a reality they don’t face right now,” Krizek said in August. He noticed a tremendous difference between the Comiskey stories he collected at the second to last game compared to the last game. “At the final Comiskey game, I have stories of people saying goodbye to husbands who died or to army buddies and friends they no longer see — all in a place where they experienced relationships with these people. In the last games at the stadium, the reality sinks in for the fans that they could never go back and celebrate or back in the remembrances of their relationships and the memories made in that place.

People get hit with the realization that they are never going to be in there again, and it makes a difference in the story they tell. It’s very different from interviewing people who are coming to a game when there are 30 or so games remaining because they could still go to more games. The place of your memories will still be there tomorrow. The finality about being there at the last game to be in there again, and it makes a difference in the story they tell about the relationships and the memories made in that place.”

Despite these predictable similarities, Krizek said St. Louis has put its stamp on the baseball world by encouraging community experiences. “The idea of Cardinal Nation keeps coming up,” Krizek said. “People’s stories about Busch Stadium reflect the idea that St. Louisians go to the ballpark to part of something larger, a community of fans that involves the city area and represents an identity that would continue no matter where the Cardinals play.”

“He would like to hear your story of Busch Stadium. Please e-mail him at krizekcb@slu.edu or call (314) 968-9765 to share your memories.”

“Busch Stadium is more than a place for baseball. It is a place where people established, developed, and nurtured relationships.”

As the season wears on, Krizek sees familiar pattern emerge: Fans become more emotional as they share their favorite memories about the ballpark. He also encounters fans who tell stories that contain a similar flavor to the stories he has collected in the past. “Regardless of the park, one thing that comes out in my research is that baseball is a game that nurtures and encourages relationships,” Krizek said. “Some people complain about the slow nature of game, but that’s the nature and pace that allows people to develop and nurture relationships in ballparks everywhere.”

“Third Places” demonstrates Stadium’s first-rate standing with fans

Just the thought of Busch Stadium coming down can bring tears to the eyes of some fans. Researched by Dr. Robert Krizek may explain why. Krizek, who is collecting memories from St. Louis fans the final season at Busch Stadium, was inspired in part by sociologist Ray Oldenburg, who has written extensively about “third places,” which are locations other than home and work where people develop, form and perform identities.

“Oldenburg argues that third places are indispensable in contemporary American society,” said Krizek, SLU associate professor of communication. “We no longer have neighborhood taverns, corner soda fountains or city centers and squares as places to be in public with others.”

Instead, people have bigger homes with higher fences or longer lots with no sidewalks to connect neighbors. The Internet has become a place where people interact. People live less in media rooms and on decks stuck to the rear of their homes, not on front porches or city streets. American lives have become more private. But in an age of dying third places, ballparks have survived. A rabid baseball fan, Krizek said omission, considering that ballparks meet all the criteria.

“One characteristic of a third place is that of leveler,” Krizek said. “People from different walks of life — no matter who you are or what you do — find common ground. As long as you are somewhat knowledgeable about the game, you will be interested in third places.”

Krizek also said that ballparks exemplify another characteristic of third places as location where through their communicative interactions people develop relationships and express their identities. When Krizek studied the White Sox, he remembers a story about a woman who attended Sunday doubleheaders with her husband. At one of the games, the husband said he wanted to be buried behind second base. After he died, the woman had her husband cremated and that it’s all that she knew what to do with the ashes. Eventually, she hired a private plane at Meggs Field, flew over Comiskey Park and dumped his ashes onto the field – all unknown to team officials.

“When the park was about to be torn down, the woman worried about what would happen to her husband,” said Krizek, who told team management about the woman’s plight. Later, the White Sox took wheelbarrows of dirt from the old infield to the new infield.

“I am not made up of the stories of this one woman,” Krizek said, who told team management about the woman’s plight. Later, the White Sox took wheelbarrows of dirt from the old infield to the new infield.

“Eleanor wanted her collection to serve as a starting point for people to be inspired to make the collection bigger and better,” Lipan said. “There is plenty of room to grow, and we appreciate each gift.”

“This is a collection of national significance,” Lipan continued. “Not many universities have collections like this. It puts us on a new level.”

Pieces of the Eleanor Turschin glass collection are on display at both SLUMA and Samuel Cupples House: SLUMA is open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday; Cupples House is open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. For more information, call Cupples House at (314) 977-3570.”
Marie E. Williams (Parke) retired from American Airlines in 1980 after 41 years. Then he and his wife set up commercial fishing in the New York/Long Island area. He lives in Lynden, N.Y.

Paul L. Lechlaiter (B&A '50, Law '57) is a member of the Board of Directors of National University, a for-profit, non-sectarian, degree-granting educational institution committed to the Church of the Ascension in Washington, D.C.

Selina Kreese, O.S.F., (Nun, Grad '43) is celebrating her 70th anniver- sary as a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Clinton, Iowa. From 1943-64, she was the director and an instructor at the School of Nursing at the former Mercy Hospital in Burlington, Iowa. From 1964-69, she was supervisor of medical and surgical nursing services at St. Francis Hospital in Greenfield, Iowa. She also taught at St. Joseph School of Nursing in Joliet, Ill. She retired in 1983 and Clinton to serve as nuns at the Astoria and at Mount St. Clair Convent.

John F. Kechter, C.P.P.S. (Law '68) is the first parish administrator of Our Lady of the Rosary in St. Paul in 1994. He served as a national board member of the Region V of the National Federation of State Catholic Parishes and Councils.

Donald H. Clooney (Law '65) is celebrating his 50th year as a law- yer in Chicago. He is a partner in the law firm of Imes & Clooney, in Chicago. He is a past president of the Chicago Bar Foundation and is currently serving as a director of the organization.

Fred Hodes (A&S '52, Grad '46) has been a fixture in the Chicago area for over 50 years. He is the author of several books on Economics and has served as an instructor at the University of Chicago for over 30 years.

Maria Teresa V. Mos- star (Korean) is a former teacher at the Korean-American Educational Foundation in St. Louis, Mo., with her husband, Carol. She has four children and five grandchildren.

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Dr. Jeffrey Smith (Grad '84) and Dr. Philip Tucker (Grad '90) have been named chairman of the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

Dr. Anthony V. Cervone (Grad) has been named president of the American College of Surgeons.

Robert R. Kame (Grad) is the director of the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine.

The College Notes column offers a unique look into the lives of our alumni. It provides a snapshot of their accomplishments and current activities.

Dr. Nancy Newstreet Cervone (Grad '49, Law '54), is an attorney and former chief of police for the City of Cape Coral, Fla.

Bill Slattery

During the past 15 years, coach Charlie Spoon- houen, Lorenzo Romar and Brad Soderberg have led St. Louis University to the top of the Big East Conference. If you’re watching the Big East, look no further than Bill Slattery (B&A '50). With his ef- forts in community outreach, the former SLU bus- hedd is part of the big picture on Billikens basketball for more than a decade. No, he’s not a high-profile basketball player. It’s his job to give the Lay Family Foundation.

Dr. Herbert I. Rettinger (Med) of the American Medical Association.

James S. Murphy (Med) is a former president of the Medical Society of the State of New York.

James C. Wirken (Law) is the head of the Law Department of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. Donald H. Clooney (B&A '58, Grad '63) is a co-founder and president of the Clinton Daily Record.

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38. Dr. Thomas D. Myles (A&S) was appointed as the 90th president of the Missouri Athletic Club. He and his wife, Marti, live in St. Louis while stationed in Europe.


40. Dr. Thomas D. Myles, M.D. (A&S) and his wife, Marti, live in St. Louis while stationed in Europe.

41. Dr. Margaret, welcomed their son, Charles David, March 7. David is chairman of the foundation.

42. Dr. David M. Sander (A&S) was elected the 90th president of the Missouri Athletic Club. He and his wife, Marti, live in St. Louis while stationed in Europe.

FOR SOME, SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY IS PART OF THE FAMILY TREE.

This year, 156 members of SLU’s freshman class have a parent, grandparent or sibling who is a SLU graduate. And as is tradition, the office of alumni relations invited these alumni and their new students, known as “legacies,” to take a break from moving in and enjoy a special luncheon during Welcome Week.

Field in the St. Louis Arena of John and Jacy Cook Hall, the gathering gave alumni the chance to reminisce and gave students the chance to catch up on a little campus history.

Mirt Ali Khan (IT ’67) of Chesterfield, Mo., and his daughter, Saffia, said, “SLU offers a good education, good values and good teachers.” Mirt said, “And the campus really looks beautiful.”

L E G A C I E S
Temisha Y. Baker (AHP '99, Grad '01) is an associate in the Medical-Surgical Clinic. She has a particular interest in women's health and is engaged in research on the role of spirituality in the healing process. She is also involved in community outreach, providing education on health topics to underserved populations.

Dr. Shawn C. Aylward (Med '91, Grad '95) is an associate professor of emergency medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. He is known for his work in developing protocols for the early recognition and management of stroke.

Dr. Thomas Sommer (A&S '57) is a retired associate professor of English at The Ohio State University. He is the author of several books on Shakespearean theater and has received numerous awards for his contributions to the study of theater history.

Mr. Thomas Burnes (B&A '45) is a retired businessman and philanthropist. He is known for his support of arts and education in his hometown of Tenney's Landing.

Mr. Samuel Brown (B&A '44) is a retired attorney and community leader. He is known for his work in civil rights and his commitment to social justice.

Mr. Joseph Gallo (Parc '42) is a retired teacher and lifelong member of Tenney's Landing Community Center. He is a beloved figure in the community and is known for his dedication to education and community service.

Mr. Eugene Harrison (Nurs '41) is a retired nurse and community volunteer. He is known for his work in public health and his commitment to serving the community.

Mr. John Berg (B&A '48) is a retired businessman and community leader. He is known for his work in developing new business opportunities in Tenney's Landing.

Mr. Anthony Paratore (Parc '40) is a retired teacher and community volunteer. He is known for his work in education and his commitment to community service.

Mr. Frank Zielinski (PS '77) is an attorney and community leader. He is known for his work in environmental law and his commitment to protecting the natural environment.

Mr. Donald Becherer (Law '71) is an attorney and community leader. He is known for his work in criminal law and his commitment to justice.

Mr. Jerome Mason (B&A '69) is a retired businessman and community leader. He is known for his work in developing new business opportunities in Tenney's Landing.
Club City News

ATLANTA
Join us for our annual trip to see the men’s basketball Billikens game on Saturday, Feb. 25.

CHICAGO
Make plans to join us for our annual pub crawl this fall. Visit the Web site for complete details.

CINCINNATI
Join us as we welcome the Billikens in Atlantic 10 play vs. Xavier Sunday, Jan. 22.

CLEVELAND
Join fellow alumni at a holiday party from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, at Flannery’s Irish Pub downtown. Then choose from several events to cap off the evening, including the Cavaliers-Nets game or a variety of holiday activities.

LOUISVILLE
SLU Alumni Day at Churchill Downs begins at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 13. Make plans to be there for church and a day of horse racing.

MILWAUKEE
Join us for the Billikens vs. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee men’s basketball game with pre-game event Saturday, Dec. 3.

MINNEAPOLIS/ST.PAUL
Nine plans to attend “Welcome Christmas,” a concert by VocalEssence at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at Plymouth Congregational Church. The cost is $21 per person. R.S.V.P. to twincities.kintera.org.

NEW YORK
Join us for two cultural events. Be there when the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra presents “Rite of Spring” June 15, at Carnegie Hall. Also join us for “Christmas at the Met” at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art with V integrator. R.S.V.P. to twincities.kintera.org.

PHILADELPHIA
The Billikens are coming! Join fellow alumni to watch the Billikens take on LaSalle Saturday, March 4.

SEATTLE
Join us for a fun night out with some of our classmates and alumni for a trip to the Seattle Children’s Museum. Pick up the tickets at the store or call (206) 287-4444 to reserve your space.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
President: Dr. Thomas J. Olsen (’79)

- The School of Medicine Reunion Weekend for class years ending in 00 and 05 is Oct. 27-29. Visit medschool.slu.edu/alumni for weekend details.

PARKS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, AVIATION AND TECHNOLOGY
President: Kevin McGregor (’88)

- The 50th annual Senior Banquet will be on Saturday, Sept. 17, at the Parks College Hangar at the St. Louis Downtown Airport.

YOUNG ALUMNI
The Young Alumni Association exists to help young alumni keep in touch with their classmates and with SLU. If you graduated from SLU during the past 15 years, you are automatically a member. Check out our 2005-06 calendar of events at www.slu.edu/alumni/yaa. Call (314) 977-2250 or e-mail youngalumni@slu.edu for more information.

- The YAA Book Club meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Nodar’s in the Cornadoes, 5801 Lindell Blvd. If you like to read the latest best sellers, as well as great classics, you should join this group. For more information, to join or to recommend a book, e-mail YAABookClub@slu.edu.

- For more enjoyment reading (and daily wines and learning about all the intricacies of wine tasting) The YAA Wine Club meets monthly at a variety of St. Louis area wineries and wineries to taste and learn. Costs differ based on the location. For more information or to recommend a location, e-mail YAAWineClub@slu.edu.

Billiken Travel Program 2006 Tours
Being a Billiken Traveler puts the world at your feet. From the Amazon River to the beauty of Tuscany, 2006 is the year to see it all. Here is the full schedule of trips for the coming year.

Winter Tours

JAN. 13 - 20
Amazon Voyage, The Greatest Voyage in History

JAN. 27 - FEB. 7
Cruse the Panama Canal, The Tides of Holland and Belgium

FEB. 12 - 19
Discover Imperial Rome

MARCH 5 - 22
Explore the Majestic Pacific Northwest

Spring Tours

APRIL 29 - 27
Tuscany-Cortona

MAY 6 - 14
Cruise the Magnificent Canals of Holland and Belgium

MAY 10 - 22
Swissland: Alumni Traveler’s Choice Education Program

JUNE 5 - 18
Italy Combo: Umbria/Tuscany

JUNE 8 - 15
Rome Escapade

Summer Tours

JULY 10 - 20
Family Adventure in Costa Rica

JULY 13 - 23
Kenya Migration: Nature’s Greatest Migration in History

SEP. 6 - 16
An Irish Classic

SEP. 10 - 28
Sassy Cruise on the magnificent Emerald Princess

FALL Tours

SEP. 20 - OCT. 8
Egypt: Gift of the Nile

OCT. 13 - 21
The Spectacular of Switzerland and Northern Italy

OCT. 17 - NOV. 1
Ancient Treasures of China and the Yangtze River

OCT. 21 - NOV. 1
Tuscany-Cortona, 2006 is the year to see it all. Here is the full schedule of trips for the coming year.

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

Tennis Center at the Met will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Parks College Hangar at the St. Louis Downtown Airport. Events will be held at the Cardinals winter home in Jupiter, Fla., and also both the Cardinals spring training in Phoenix, Ariz., and also in Florida. Events will be held at the Busch Student Center.

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

The office of alumni relations (314) 977-2250 or (314) 977-8335
Health Sciences Center (314) 977-8330
www.slu.edu/alumni

Flight from New Orleans
– Kelly Armbrretch Perry (Nurs ’04)

There we were on the tarmac of the New Orleans international airport. I was doing my best to explain to my 5-year-old patient that he was going on the big helicopter and that I couldn’t go with him. His parents evacuated before the storm, and I had no place to go. I said, “It’s going to be very loud and scary, but these people are going to help you, and you’re going to be OK. I can’t go with you, so you’re going to have to be a brave boy.” He was my favorite, the only patient who has ever made me cry.

Less than an hour earlier, one of the day-shift nurses came in and said, “Y’all, get up. We are evacuating our patients, and we may have to go with them.” We knew it was coming. Earlier that day the Children’s Hospital president and CEO told us, “No one is coming to help. We must help ourselves.”

So there we were, helping ourselves and our patients. An intercom announcement asked for at least 30 volunteers to drive to the airport. I grabbed my 5-year-old’s chart and ran downstairs, where I found the 30-car convoy waiting for us. It was over 90 degrees, and anxiety overwhelmed. We knew we had to make it to the airport by 7 p.m., and it was already 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 31.

Because generators were powering the hospital, we had watched TV and listened to the radio. We knew we were in danger and that just six blocks away looters had driven a forklift into a Walgreens. There were two roads out of town, and the fire department told us we would need a military escort to drive one of them because of the violence.

This was our first time out of the hospital in three-and-a-half days. We traveled slowly through the debris-laden streets of Uptown, winding our way around downed power lines and 10-year-old sags snapped in half. At first, we saw only a few people, some pushing grocery carts, and some carrying plastic bags full of belongings. They seemed lost.

As we made our way closer to Interstate 10, we saw people grouped together by the hundreds, and then later by the thousands. One man tried to jump in front of our car. Moments later, another man in a maroon minivan tried to drive into us. Our driver, a nurse from the third floor, asked if anyone was “packing heat.” From the backseat, my co-worker shouted, “You better believe it.” I felt so relieved.

As we reached I-10, we slowed to about 5 mph. There was standing water ahead, and it looked deep. I thanked God we were in an SUV, but I was still afraid it would stall. I turned to the nurse who was carrying a gun and said, “I’m with you; we have to get out of this car.” As a proponent of small, fuel-efficient vehicles and as a nurse of patients with gunshot wounds, I never thought I would be grateful for the SUVs and guns.

The convoy made it through the water safely. We then saw thousands of people just waiting, not realizing it might be days before help arrived. I was amazed that I saw only a few helicopters. I thought they would be swimming, or at least dropping food and water. Where was the help?

At the airport, we were stopped several times because no one seemed to know Children’s Hospital was being evacuated – even though we could see the Chinook helicopters waiting for us on the tarmac. Kansas City Children’s Mercy Hospital, which had accepted all 65 of our acute care patients, arranged for the transport.

When we reached the helicopters, it was surreal. It was almost dark outside, and the choppers’ engines were running. Men and women in flight suits were everywhere. I felt my little patient clinging to me with all his might, and I felt the tears well up inside of me. Inside the helicopter I did my best to give my report to the nurses, but it was so loud. By this time, my patient was crying. He was saying something, but all I could make out was the word “hurt.” I told him, “I know it’s very loud and scary, but it’s not going to hurt.” Then he yelled in frustration, “No! Are y’all gonna hurt me? Are you gonna hurt me?”

After the patients were safe in the hands of the flight crew, we made our way back to the hospital through the pitch-black streets of New Orleans. We passed several police cars, and no one offered to escort us.

At the main roadblock into the city, an official asked us what we were doing. We explained that we needed to get back to Children’s Hospital. He stared at us in amazement and said, “Great! I hope all you have guns, cause you’re taking your lives into your own hands.” By the grace of God, we made it back safely.

At daybreak on Thursday, Sept. 1, with our patients secure in Kansas City, the staff evacuated via the one dry road out of town.

Kelly Armbrretch Perry is an acute care nurse at Children’s Hospital of New Orleans. After evacuating, she and her husband traveled to Kansas City to visit her patients. At press time, the couple was living in their hometown Madison, Ind., hoping to return soon to Louisiana.

Graduate’s story, message inspire reader
I am the proud parent of a 2005 graduate of Saint Louis University and had the honor and pleasure of being in attendance of the commencement and recognition of Stanley Mills (“Glad Grad,” summer 2005). I appreciate his story perhaps more than others because as an adult who didn’t attend college out of high school, I have never had the courage to “take that step.” I’m encouraged and perhaps motivated now to pursue some of my long-suppressed dreams. But I digress –

I have received the summer edition of Universitas – and was very moved by the “President’s Message.” I too applaud Carol Servino’s caring, compassion and actions in initiating Mr. Mills return to his studies. More people should have her conviction to make the world a better place, one person at a time.

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Thanks for letting me catch a glimpse of them now and then.

Mary Crandell Gravers (AAS ’79)
Telford, Pa.

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Conroe, Texas 77301

Phonorecord

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Conroe, Texas 77301

By e-mail: universitas@slu.edu
By phone: (314) 977-2240
By fax: (314) 977-2320

Please send us your letters, class notes and address changes. There are three easy ways to reach us.
One of these dots represents YOU. Statistics show only the yellow dots will give.

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