



SAINT LOUIS  
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# Office of the Provost



## Provost's Perspective



Joe Weixlmann, Ph.D.  
Provost

Dear Faculty and Staff at Saint Louis University:

I am pleased to share the Spring 2007 issue of the *Provost's Perspective*. As in the past, this newsletter features a current issue of significance for our SLU community, that of diversity and global awareness. Our celebration of Atlas Week last month, culminating with the festive Parade of Nations, Billiken World Festival, and Mabuhay Filipino celebration, highlighted our campus's multicultural richness. Atlas Week, *One World*, and our many international programs, services, and activities enrich the academic experience of

Saint Louis University as well as promote a global perspective that challenges our University community to embrace a diversity of ideas, world views, and cultures.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the 38 faculty members promoted to associate professor and the 20 faculty members promoted to full professor, and also to formally welcome Tom Finan, our new Director of the Center for International Studies and Don Linhorst who was appointed as Director of the School of Social Work. Congratulations, too, to the winners of the Academic Funding Opportunities competition which will support four Centers of Excellence. Read more about these centers in Mike Dockter's column on page 2.

As I noted in the Fall issue, we are working in many areas of the University to integrate the Five Dimensions of a SLU education more fully into our curriculum. Julie Weissman reports on the successful Five Dimensions workshop, "Framing the SLU Student Experience." Gail Staines and her staff share their efforts to enhance the intellectual inquiry and communication dimension of a SLU education in their new strategic plan, "Great Libraries are the Heart of Great Universities." Donna Bess emphasizes the dimension of building an inclusive community at SLU through the activities of the Cross Cultural Center. Each of the Five Dimensions underpins the new

Integrated Academic Advisement System that is gearing up for the Fall 2007 semester under the direction of Leanna Fenneberg.

I look forward to celebrating the end of another successful academic year with you and our students at May 2007 Commencement.

### Spring Faculty Development Workshop

#### *Understanding Millennial Students: Strategies to Address the Needs of Today's Students*

Tuesday, May 15, 2007, 1-4 p.m.  
Busch Student Center, Room 170

The Office of the Provost Undergraduate Initiatives and the Reinert Center for Teaching Excellence are pleased to invite you to this year's Faculty Development Workshop presented by a recognized leader in the field, Richard Sweeny, University Librarian at New Jersey Institute of Technology. This interactive workshop will examine the traits of Millennial students and explore strategies for educating today's students. Please reserve your space by calling 977-3718.



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## *Four New Centers of Excellence Announced in April*

by Michael Dockter, Ph.D.  
Vice Provost for Research

The Academic Funding Opportunities competition resulted in the selection of four Centers of Excellence: Center for Environmental Science, Center for Aging Successfully, the Walter J. Ong, S.J. Center for Language and Culture, and Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

In November of 2006, the President funded a \$1,000,000 academic initiative to enhance the University's image and reputation. With the support of the Deans and Directors, the Provost issued a request for proposals that focused on development of interdisciplinary programs or special projects with special merit. As characterized by Dr. Michael Dockter, Chief Research Officer for Saint Louis University:

The Centers of Excellence Program should reflect our university's foci on research excellence. The Centers embody the interdisciplinary, inter-collegiate, and inter-institutional elements that we value, and have regional, national and international scope. Investment in these programs allows the University to leverage federal, state, and private dollars, and enhances its image as a major research University. The return on investment, moreover, is of great significance to the University and to the community that we serve.

A total of nineteen applications were submitted that varied in scope, size, and duration. Following review, four applications were recommended for immediate funding. Several other applications were favorably reviewed with the possibility of future funding.

The Center for Environmental Science is a collaborative project between the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Public Health, School of Law, and College of Public Service that will focus on: 1) human interaction with the earth, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere; and 2) improved responses to changing environmental conditions, natural hazards, and disasters. The Center's goal is to be self-supporting within three years, generating \$3-5 million in new grant awards, \$730,000 in indirect costs, \$530,000 in gifts, and \$140,000 in new tuition dollars. Strong ties to the community are also anticipated. Its principal investigators include Tim Kusky, Rick Mayden, Bill Dannevik, Steve Buckner, and Wynne Moskop.

The Center for Aging Successfully is a collaborative project between the School of Medicine, Doisy College of Health Sciences, School of Public Health, College of Public Service, Graduate School, and College of Arts and Sciences. It will build on existing strengths among the collaborators to: 1) facilitate a variety of interdisciplinary research programs; 2) develop interdisciplinary educational programs in research, teaching, clinical- and community-based geriatric care; and 3) provide state-of-the-art services to the region's elderly population. The center is expected to generate at least \$5 million in extramural support and contribute to the University's reputation as a leader in gerontology and geriatrics. State-of-the-art services will be made available that will improve the health, safety, and quality of life of our elderly population. The Center's principal investigators include John Morley, Nina Tumosa, and Susan Tebb.

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Michael Dockter, continued from page 2

The Walter J. Ong, S.J. Center for Language and Culture is a collaborative project between the Library and the College of Arts and Sciences. In partnership with the Department of Special Collections, the Center seeks to make the unpublished papers, manuscripts and other works of Walter Ong available physically and virtually to advance the understanding of his contributions and to further new scholarship in the fields that he helped to develop. The collaborative anticipates matching the University's funding with contributions from the ICF Foundation, NEH Lilly Humanities Programs, and by creation of a *Friends of Walter Ong Center* support group.

The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies is directed by David Murphy and is housed in the College of Arts and Sciences. The requested funds will be used to develop a patrons group, tentatively entitled Friends of the CMRS. They will also be used to create printed material for a fundraising initiative, similar to one undertaken in 1993. This modest investment will help generate one or two million dollars to increase the size of the Center's endowment and will allow expansion of the Center's programs. Its activities should also draw more community members into the life of the University and create additional naming opportunities.

### *Great Libraries are the Heart of Great Universities*

University Librarian **Gail Staines**, announced the completion the University Libraries 5-Year Strategic Plan "Great Libraries are the Heart of Great Universities" (2007-2012). Dr. Staines is available to present the Plan to those who may be interested in learning more about the future of library and information resources and services at SLU.

**Pius Library** is on the move this semester with the opening of **Café Libros** (above, right) and the addition of 60 new computers! These computers not only provide access to the Library catalog, online databases, but support software applications including the MS Office Suite and the SPSS statistical analysis package.

**Patrick McCarthy**, Director of the **Medical Center Library (MCL)**, upgraded the ten computer workstations in the Cyberspace Lab and added ten new IBM ThinkPad computers to the pool of 25 laptops that can be checked out for use on MCL's wireless network.



### *Undergraduate Advising Expansion Implemented Fall 2007*

This fall will mark the roll-out of the Integrated Advising system, a full expansion and reorganization of undergraduate academic advising at Saint Louis University. The reorganization recommendations, sparked by student interest in improving the existing advising system, were developed by the Sophomore-Junior Taskforce comprised of faculty, staff and students. Recommendations for change were based on a thorough study of students and faculty and staff advisors on campus. The new Integrated Advising System, to be implemented Fall 2007, is a multidimensional advisement approach with staff advisors assisting in registration and retention efforts working in partnership with faculty mentors who will continue to counsel students in areas of academic study and vocation.

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### *Framing the SLU Student Experience*

by Associate Provost, Julie Weissman, Ph.D.

Infusion, integration, intention, and communication: These were the topics tackled by faculty and staff at the March 30 workshop, Framing the SLU Student Experience. Participants generated ideas for communicating the Five Dimensions of the SLU Experience to students in meaningful ways and saw examples of best practices for infusing the Five Dimensions into curricula and activities. They reflected on the changing roles each of the Five Dimensions assumes throughout a student's educational experience at SLU.

In the first part of the workshop, Tom Valone from Biology and Paaige Turner from Communication shared their syllabi that integrate their department and course missions, student learning objectives for their courses, and the Five Dimensions. During the group work, participants generated recommendations for ways to integrate and communicate the Five Dimensions to students. These range from initial contact with students to graduation and include incorporating the Five Dimensions into recruitment literature, new student orientation, University 101, advising, undergraduate convocation, course syllabi, service activities, training for student mentors, course evaluations, and capstone experiences.

In the second part of the workshop, Ann Rule led participants through examples of the ways the Five Dimensions can be used as a conceptual framework for curricula and activities. She was aided by Nancy Murphy and Dan Gentry from the School of Public Health who shared how they use the Five Dimensions to frame student activities and programs of study.

Workshop participants had two suggestions for next steps:

1. Offer a similar workshop to individual colleges, departments, programs, and other units. If you are interested in this or in a workshop that is tailored to meet your unit's needs more directly, please contact Julie Weissman at [weissman@slu.edu](mailto:weissman@slu.edu).
2. Offer a workshop for faculty and staff focused on the next stage of helping students frame and integrate their experiences. This workshop would center on integrative learning; in other words, examining ways that the Five Dimensions, pedagogy, and curricula can be used to help students integrate their academic, co-curricular, and extra-curricular experiences to produce more profound learning. We will plan on developing and offering a workshop on integrative learning in the next academic year.

*Undergraduate Advising Expansion,  
continued from page 3*

The Integrated Advising System connects students and faculty members through the early assignment of faculty mentors and individualized support for degree and course-planning assistance by one of the professional staff advisors in the academic schools and colleges. The new process provides consistency in advisement and increases collaborations between academic advisors and career counselors who assist students in discernment of their calling, majors and career path.

Professional academic advisors will be housed in each undergraduate academic school or college, providing further collaborations and connections with faculty and academic disciplines and further resource to students from freshman through senior year. A specific advising unit for deciding students will meet the needs of students not yet declared in a college. More detailed information will be distributed to faculty, staff and students at the beginning of the academic year 2007.



All correspondence regarding this newsletter should be directed to:  
Maureen Burkhardt  
Staff Assistant  
Office of the Provost  
Saint Louis University  
Phone 314.977.2230  
[burkhams@slu.edu](mailto:burkhams@slu.edu)



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***Bonjour! Hola!  
Konnichi wa! Guten Tag!  
As-salaam-aleykum!  
and Hello!***

by Donna Bess  
Director of the Cross Cultural  
Center

My staff and I invite you to drop by the Cross Cultural Center on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Busch Center Student. We offer an open and friendly environment that cultivates cultural awareness through events, programs, and immersion experiences. The Cross Cultural Center provides cultural opportunities outside of the classroom to support students in their development into culturally sensitive citizens and international leaders. The Center supports the Filipino Student Association (FSA), Hispanic-American Leadership Organization (HALO), the Indian American Student Association (IASA), the Irish American Student Guild (ISG), and the Rainbow Alliance. Student groups housed in the Center include the Black Student Alliance (BSA), the International Student Federation (ISF), and the Muslim Students' Association (MSA). Each of the groups welcomes students from any background and culture to become active members.

We host a variety of programs, including "A Taste of Culture" brown bag series for students, staff, faculty, and University administration to discuss how to promote greater appreciation of our rich diversity

at SLU. This Spring student groups hosted several multicultural events. In January, over 500 people attended the festivities of the International Student Federation. The Black Student Alliance, joined by Spike Lee, kicked off Black History Month during February. The Muslim Student Association hosted Social Justice Month.

***Welcome to Saint Louis  
University***

***Thomas Finan, Ph.D.***

Director of the Center for  
International Studies  
and Assistant Professor in the  
Department of History

The Office of the Provost is pleased to welcome Dr. Tom Finan as Director of the Center for International Studies. Tom received his Ph.D. in History from the Catholic University of America in 2001, specializing in the fields of Irish medieval history and archaeology and modern theories of nationalism. Tom is also the Director of the Kiltasheen Archaeological Excavations, an ongoing research excavation of a medieval ecclesiastical complex in Ireland. He is the General Editor of *Eolas: The Journal of the American Society of Irish Medieval Studies*, and has published one monograph and several articles since completing his Ph.D. A native St. Louisan, Tom received his B.A. from the University of Missouri-Columbia, and M.A. from the University of Chicago Divinity School.





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## *Global Perspective of SLU Education*

by Seung H. Kim, Ph.D.

Chair, International Initiatives Committee for Saint Louis University  
Director, Boeing Institute of International Business, John Cook School of Business  
Lorenzini Professor of International Business

Across the University, classes and extracurricular activities expose students to global perspectives and to the intricacies of cultural differences in society and within their chosen fields. Efforts have been building over the years in support of the University's strategic plan and the academic goal of "preparing students for the global community" by building "a University community of diversity to ensure that students, faculty, and staff work effectively in cross-cultural situations." The University commits itself to welcoming "students, faculty and staff from all racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds and beliefs..." This vision of providing a "global perspective" in a SLU education was one of the elements articulated at the January 2006 retreat for the President and Vice Presidents and recently re-affirmed by the Deans and Directors of the University.

In the Spring 2005, the Provost commissioned the International Initiatives Committee (IIC) to facilitate and promote international programs in all academic units of the University. Members of the IIC represent all units of the University. Sub-committees include Study Abroad, Faculty Exchange, and International Students. The IIC developed a uniform proposal guideline for study abroad partnerships and implementation issues. The IIC recommended a special orientation program for inbound international students to be held during the freshman orientation period each semester and to include academic, housing, and other logistical issues new arrivals would need for a smooth transition into the SLU community.

The IIC is currently working on the following initiatives:

### *Inventory of International Programs*

The IIC has recognized the wealth of international curriculum and programs already existing on campus. We are in the process of building an inventory of all international programs at SLU. Please keep your IIC representative informed of new international curriculum or programs, or email me at [seungkim50@gmail.com](mailto:seungkim50@gmail.com).

### *Global Perspective Website*

These international resources and activities—plus many still to be identified—will be compiled this Summer onto a website to highlight the globally diverse foundation here at Saint Louis University. This new website will raise awareness of our faculty, staff, students, and constituents worldwide of the international academic programs and student services provided at Saint Louis University.

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*Seung Kim, continued from page 6*

### *Creating a Global Alumni Connection*

The IIC recommended updating the international alumni databases to improve future communications with alumni in other countries. International alumni will be invited to visit the SLU Global Perspectives website and be encouraged to participate in creating new overseas partnerships to provide opportunities for students and faculty.

### *Recruiting Students from Overseas*

We are encouraging alumni to assist in recruiting students from their home countries to attend Saint Louis University. In partnership with the Office of Admissions international alumni can assist in student recruitment overseas. Additionally, the SLU Global Perspectives website will also link to other international academic programs and international student services which will help recruit international students from other countries.

### *Global Faculty*

Just as students from around the world are needed to foster a diverse community, faculty from other countries are also critical to bringing global perspectives into the classroom. As noted, Saint Louis University committed itself to diversity with people from all racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds and beliefs. With strong staff resources in both the International Services Center and Human Resources, overseas faculty have solid support in obtaining visas and getting settled in St. Louis. Thus, instead of cultural conflict, there is a human harmony at Saint Louis University.

Founded as an institution of higher education in the Jesuit tradition, Saint Louis University is distinguished from other universities as it strives towards “discovery, dissemination and integration of the values, knowledge and skills required to transform society in the spirit of the Gospels. As a Catholic, Jesuit University, the pursuit is motivated by the inspiration and values of the Judaeo-Christian tradition and is guided by the spiritual and intellectual ideas of the Society of Jesus.” By this standard, Saint Louis University seeks to share knowledge and practice values, respecting the individual rights of brothers and sisters around the world who are all children of God. Saint Louis University is an urban oasis to reach for true knowledge in a harmonious environment where diverse people—faculty, students, and administrators—work together. With this stage, it is clear why such key advances have been made in incorporating global perspectives into a SLU education and environment. It is clear that these efforts will continue forward through the reinforcement of the International Initiatives Committee.

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## *Spring 2007 Faculty Promotions*

In the **College of Arts and Sciences**, James J. Burwinkel, Jeffrey D. Gfeller, and Darrin M. Speegle were promoted to the rank of professor. The faculty members promoted to the rank of associate professor include B. Bentley Anderson, Jeral B. Becker, Jonathan S. Fisher, Scott R. Harris, Joseph E. Heathcott, Ana Iltis, Devin D. Johnston, James A. Kelhoffer, Thomas R. Martin, M. Dyan McGuire, Clyde P. Ragland, Mark E. Ruff, Norman A. White, and Lupei Zhu.

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*Spring 2007 Faculty Promotions, continued from page 7*

In the **Doisy College of Health Sciences**, Dorcas McLaughlin and Mark Reinking were promoted to the rank of associate professor.

In the **College of Public Service**, Dorothy Becvar and Donald Linhorst were promoted to the rank of professor, and Carol Ackerson was promoted to assistant clinical professor.

In the **John Cook School of Business**, Brian Till was promoted to the rank of professor and Carl Maertz, Laurel Boone, and Heather Bednarek were promoted to the rank of associate professor.

In the **School of Law**, Bradley Fogel, Michael Korybut, and Camille Nelson were promoted to the rank of professor, and Teri Dobbins was promoted to the rank of associate professor.

In the **School of Medicine**, promotion to the rank of professor was granted to Craig W. Belsha, Salvador Cruz-Flores, Hilary K. Klein, Jennifer K. Lodge, Jane McHowat, Lynda A. Morrison, Susan E. Myers, Blakeslee E. Noyes, and John E. Tavis. Promotion to the rank of associate professor was granted to Levent Akduman, Jeffrey A. Bailey, Sarah E. Barlow, E. Stephen Bolesta, David P. Dempsher, Mary Fran Ernst, Mary B. Holloran-Schwartz, Oleg G. Kisselev, Sergey Korolev, Ganesh Kudva, Medhat M. Osman, Marie D. Philipneri, Michael I. Rauchman, John M. Richart, and Raj Sindwani. Frances Newman and Karoly Toth were promoted to the rank of associate research professor.

Douglas Luke was promoted to the rank of full professor in the **School of Public Health**.