SLU Research Building Named in Honor of Nobel Laureate

Throughout five decades as a professor at Saint Louis University School of Medicine, Edward A. Doisy, Ph.D., was renowned worldwide for his pioneering work in the field of biochemistry, including winning the 1943 Nobel Prize for discovering the chemical nature of vitamin K.

To honor his lifetime of work, Saint Louis University’s new biomedical research building, a $67 million tower in the heart of Midtown St. Louis and a key part of the continuing rebirth of the city’s Midtown corridor, will be named in Doisy’s honor.

“Nothing would have made Ed happier,” said Margaret M. Doisy, widow of the Nobel Prize-winning scientist. “I hope the memory of Ed will be a source of inspiration for men and women to pursue scientific knowledge for many years into the future at Saint Louis University School of Medicine.”

Saint Louis University President Lawrence Biondi, S.J., announced the naming of the Edward A. Doisy Research Center to faculty, staff and students on June 9 at a special topping out ceremony during which the final 519-pound steel beam was lifted in place on the western side of the building. At the ceremony, the University also announced that the Doisy family has committed a total of $30 million for construction of the state-of-the-art biomedical research facility.

The new Doisy Research Center 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 Saint Louis University School of Medicine, where additional research facilities and training space are located. Construction began in the summer of 2005, and the building is expected to open in the fall of 2007. The $67 million Doisy Research Building is part of an $80.5 million project that includes the renovation

Think Business, Think Service

An estimated 300 students, faculty and staff from Saint Louis University John Cook School of Business furthered their commitment to the community with the school’s first organized service day on March 31. “Think Business, Think Service” was their slogan.

Volunteers gathered in John and Lucy Cook Hall for a quick breakfast before heading out into the community for various projects, including painting the playground at a local elementary school, assisting the elderly at a north St. Louis center and spicing up the historic Third Baptist Church in Midtown.

Volunteers also helped prepare the soil for the new “City Seeds Urban Farm.” A joint project of St. Patrick Center and Gateway Greening, the three-acre site in downtown will serve as a therapeutic and job-training program for clients of the center. They will learn practical gardening and landscaping skills and produce fresh vegetables.

The service day was the first for the school as a whole and was the brainchild of student Mary Kate Morley, a recent graduate who triple majored in international business, finance and human resources.

“I was looking for a way for the John Cook School to further its mission of service,” she said. For Morley, this service day aligned perfectly with the Cook School of Business’ mission of “excellence in business education inspired by the Jesuit ideals of seeking truth, educating the whole person and serving others.”

Morley also chaired the school’s Service Leadership Program student advisory board and coordinated a tutoring program at the
SLU AFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

Members of the Saint Louis University community continue to live the institution's mission to be women and men for others. According to a recently released University report, 14,602 students, faculty and staff contributed 753,808 hours of community service and outreach during 2005. This is the second year in a row that members of the University have performed more than 750,000 hours of service.

According to the report, more than 1,270 organizations and events benefited from SLU faculty and staff volunteerism, up from 1,110 in 2004. Faculty and staff spent 71,903 hours performing community service in 2005, a drastic jump from 41,533 hours previously reported. Faculty and staff members also are generous in other ways — 95 percent contributed money or items to nonprofit organizations.

Student service also is intensive. Through academic courses, internships and campus organizations, students committed more than 76,768 hours to outreach.

Many SLU community members put effort into Hurricane Katrina relief. SLU's Katrina Web site raised $73,688, the Student Government Association held numerous fund-raising events and blood drives, SLU physicians aided victims locally and in Louisiana and faculty and staff members donated money in exchange for wearing jeans to work one day. In addition, campus ministry provided special services and information to displaced students. Masses at St. Francis Xavier Church raised nearly $3,000 for relief efforts. Students also gave up their Thanksgiving holidays to help rebuild parts of the New Orleans area.

Saint Louis University organizes numerous events with service components throughout the year, including the annual SLU Make a Difference Day in October. During this event in 2005, more than 1,400 volunteers visited area locations to perform community service.

Also, students, faculty and staff extend their service around the world through SLUCAP spring break trips.

Several other University events and initiatives serve the poor and marginalized, including Open Doors, which provides meals and services to the homeless; Pack 'em Back to School, which provides school supplies for elementary school students; and SLU Campus Kitchen, which delivers meals to individuals and families in need.

Faculty, staff and students also reported contributing considerable time, money and items to many local and national organizations, including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society and Habitat for Humanity, whose SLU chapter participated in three builds during fall 2005.

The report, “Beyond the Classroom: Men and Women for Others, a Celebration of SLU Service and Outreach 2005,” was compiled and published by the University’s office of planning and decision resources, with assistance from the Center for Leadership and Community Service (CLCS).

For more information about community service opportunities at SLU or to inquire about student support for your nonprofit organization, call the CLCS at (314) 977-1570 or visit www.slu.edu/services/coc.
Father Biondi Honored as St. Louis’ “2005 Citizen of the Year”

Saint Louis University President Lawrence Biondi, S.J., was recently recognized as St. Louis’ “2005 Citizen of the Year.” Chosen by a committee of former recipients and sponsored by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the honor is awarded to a community leader who demonstrates concern for St. Louis’ growth and vitality.

Last year’s recipient, Dr. Donald Suggs, publisher and president of the St. Louis American, introduced Biondi, describing him as a “Renaissance man.” After the introduction, Biondi took the stage in Cook Hall’s Anheuser-Busch Auditorium to deliver a speech that referenced SLU’s successes but focused more on the issues facing the St. Louis region that most concern him.

Biondi led off by acknowledging all of those who make SLU shine, “from the grounds crew to the history professors to the health care providers to the deans and vice presidents, and many, many other professionals.”

“I know, and you know, that this award honors not only me but this entire University community that I am privileged to lead,” he told an audience filled with friends, family, colleagues and local leaders, including St. Louis Mayor Francis G. Slay. Biondi’s 98-year-old mother, Albertina, was in the front row.

Biondi discussed the University’s dramatic growth during the last decade, including rising national rankings and the growing endowed. He also highlighted SLU’s commitment to social justice, offering concrete examples of how members of the University community strive to make a difference in the world.

Biondi addressed the issues he views as keeping the city and region from becoming as great as it could or should be. He talked about challenges facing the city’s public schools, the region’s mass transit system, the airport and economic development. He also tackled tough issues such as diversity and political polarization.

“I believe that being named Citizen of the Year brings with it a responsibility, first to discern and then to help lead the dialogue of how we all can make our lives better, and at the same time, to point out the significant challenges we have to deal with in order to achieve a more equitable, a more fulfilling life for all our citizens,” Biondi said.

Facing these issues squarely and solving them, Biondi said, would require commitment from what he called the “three-legged stool” of government, business and higher education. He said he felt these three key facets failed to work together far too often.

“We must commit ourselves to St. Louis. We must commit our time. We must commit our money. We must commit our talents. And, most importantly, we must commit ourselves to working together.”

Biondi also shared his vision for the future, which included a booming downtown, lively riverfront and beautiful marina. He shared his hope that the region would become a hub for biotechnology.

“Most of all I would like to see the day when we are no longer divided by whether we live in the city or the county or in the Metro East — that we are all simply St. Louisans,” he said.

Near the end of his speech, Biondi turned to the previous Citizens of the Year, who were featured on stage with him. He called the previous Citizens of the Year “ambassadors for change,” adding that each year’s honoree picks someone to follow in their footsteps.

“Blessed with so much talent, how could we not succeed in working together for the common good of our fellow citizens?” Biondi asked.

The old St. Louis Globe-Democrat began the “Man of the Year” award in 1955. The Post-Dispatch took sponsorship in 1988, and the award committee renamed the honor in 1997.

The “2005 Citizen of the Year” honor was just the latest recognition for Biondi. He has earned the prestigious St. Louis Award, the Leon R. Strauss Urban Pioneer Award, the Mayor John H. Foelker Leadership Award and the Chief Executive Leadership Award for the Council for Advancement and Support of Education District 6.

For many college students, service is the way to spend an occasional Saturday afternoon. Not for Debra Krueger. For Krueger, service is a way of life.

Whether it is for Saint Louis University or the greater community, she makes a point to incorporate service in all she does.

Krueger is working toward her master’s degree in physical therapy. Once she finishes the master’s program, she intends to return to Saint Louis University and begin her doctoral studies, also in physical therapy. The doctoral program is entirely online, which will allow her to work full-time while earning her degree.

Throughout her time at Saint Louis University, Krueger has served as the president of Alpha Sigma Nu, the Jesuit honor society, and has been a member of the Saint Louis University Christian Action Program (SLUCAP), which provides service every Saturday morning to poor and needy persons in the St. Louis area. Through this program, she volunteered at St. Matthew’s parish in north St. Louis every week. Krueger was also a participant in spring break mission trips to Alabama and Ohio, a leader of the SLU Encounter retreat, a Eucharistic minister at the Campus Ministry Masses on Sundays, a member of Alpha Phi Omega (the service fraternity at SLU), a volunteer with both the St. Louis Senior Olympics and Campus Kitchen, and a participant in many other campus activities, including intramural sports. Most recently, Krueger was honored as Saint Louis University’s “Student Woman of the Year,” an honor bestowed on only one student each year. Despite her busy schedule, she always finds time to help others.

Service is important to Krueger because it is how she lives out her faith. “The greatest lessons I have learned at SLU have not come in the classroom,” she said, “but from what I have experienced through the people I have encountered and the opportunities with which I have been blessed.”

In addition to her volunteerism, Krueger also excels in academics. In fact, recently her clinical instructors reported that they have never seen a student physical therapist possess such a high level of understanding of children, their parents and the uniqueness of pediatric physical therapy. Clinical instructors also remarked that Krueger always takes the initiative to learn more than was required and improve her skills.

Krueger embodies all of the virtues that Saint Louis University strives to develop in its students. She truly exemplifies the Jesuit mission as a woman for others.
To view an online map of Saint Louis University, go to www.slu.edu/campusmap.
**MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY RELIGIOUS ART**
3700 West Pine Mall  
11 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday  
Phone: (314) 977-9170  
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Nursing Students May Have Helped Save a Life during Health Screenings

Saint Louis University again opened its doors to the area’s homeless population to provide a hot meal, clothing, children’s activities and hospitality from students, faculty and staff.

During SLU’s annual “Open Doors” event, homeless individuals also received free employment and housing assistance, legal services and opportunities to pursue literacy education. Hundreds of people without homes participated in the event.

Students from Saint Louis University School of Nursing conducted free health screenings during the event. Two nursing students may have made a real difference in at least one homeless woman’s life. While conducting the screening, Sarah Caslin and Kristina Camba realized that the woman’s blood pressure and blood sugar levels were dangerously high.

“With these high findings, they knew to come to me to discuss the case,” said Joanne Langan, Ph.D., chairwoman of the division of mental health, family, community and systems nursing, who was supervising the students. “The students were great.”

Langan coordinated with SLU’s department of public safety to have an ambulance take the woman to the hospital to ensure that she would receive the proper care she needed.

The culmination of Saint Louis University’s Homeless Awareness Week, “Open Doors” encourages the St. Louis community to see past the myths that surround homeless people and reach out to those in need.

For more information about community service opportunities at Saint Louis University, call the Center for Leadership and Community Service at (314) 977-1570 or visit www.slu.edu/services/coc.

‘Jumpstart For A Day’ Successful

Saint Louis University’s Jumpstart St. Louis program participated in its fifth “Jumpstart For A Day” event at the Howard Branch Head Start in April. Approximately 60 children from Jumpstart’s four partner schools in St. Louis participated in a variety of activities, including face-painting, making play dough and designing necklaces. Both children and adults enjoyed the Moonwalk provided by Bounce St. Louis.

Students in Saint Louis University School of Nursing offered blood glucose monitoring for adults, and SLU’s Campus Ministry donated bottled water for all participants. The St. Louis Fire Department also attended the event and presented the school with books about fire trucks.

“This was the best ‘Jumpstart For A Day’ we’ve had during my time at the University,” said Travis McAllister, Jumpstart site manager. Since 2001, Jumpstart St. Louis at Saint Louis University has worked with hundreds of preschool children throughout the city to make sure that they reach kindergarten ready and able to succeed. The University’s Jumpstart program offers ongoing training and support to prepare SLU students to work one-to-one with preschool children who need more individualized attention than they get in the regular classroom. Saint Louis University currently partners with Adams Elementary, Julia Goldstein Early Childhood Center, South Grand and Howard Branch Head Start centers to prepare many of their children for elementary school success. This year, nearly 50 SLU Jumpstart Corps members served area preschool children who attend those schools. Each volunteer is committed to serving at least 300 hours with the program in the community.

For more information about the Jumpstart St. Louis program at Saint Louis University, contact Travis McAllister at (314) 977-1585 or mcallitr@slu.edu.