PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

It is a pleasure to take this opportunity to address you, Saint Louis University alumni via Universitas. As a longtime reader of this magazine, it is certainly a different experience to be writing a message for it.

As you may know, I have spent the past 18 years of my career at SLU serving as the University’s general counsel. So in August I did not anticipate being asked to become SLU’s interim president. Though the request was unexpected and I had been perfectly content in my position as a university attorney, I could not say no. Saint Louis University is an institution I truly love and have been honored to serve, so taking on this new role was the right thing to do.

Since my appointment became effective on Sept. 2, I have gained an even greater appreciation for the importance and impact of this outstanding institution. As general counsel, I met and worked with many people across the University, but as interim president I have gotten to know so many more who are equally as passionate about Saint Louis University and about Jesuit education as I am.

In October I had the privilege of attending a historic meeting with the superior general of the Society of Jesus, Adolfo Nicolás, S.J., who was visiting from Rome. Held in Chicago and hosted by the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, the gathering included the presidents and board chairs from all 28 U.S. Jesuit colleges and universities. It truly was an honor for me to join this august group of leaders at this first-ever meeting of its kind.

During his remarks Father Nicolás reminded us of how the spirituality of St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, can inspire us today. He said: “In the understanding of St. Ignatius, the principal function of a leader is to help the members of a community grow to become the living presence of God in the world.” Perhaps it was the timing, but that statement struck a chord with me. I always had been aware of the University’s efforts to encourage growth and transformation. But as interim president I know I am seeing Saint Louis University in an entirely new light.

I am meeting students who truly embrace our Catholic, Jesuit values. Whether serving their fellow students, tutoring young people or serving meals to the poor, they truly live our mission.

I also am meeting faculty who fully embrace their roles as leaders and show our students how “to become the living presence of God in the world.” Our professors teach at prisons, create healthier school lunches for local districts and travel the world to aid indigent communities, assisting with everything from health care to clean water wells.

Finally, I am meeting alumni who are living the lessons they learned at Saint Louis University. In November I started gathering with alumni groups to provide an update on all of the great things happening at the University and to answer questions about SLU. The first event was held in St. Louis, and in December I met with alumni in Chicago. In the spring I plan to travel to even more cities to hold these information-sharing sessions.

For me, the best parts of these meetings come before and after my remarks, when I have time to talk one-on-one with our alumni. I have met so many SLU graduates who are making a difference in our world in big and small ways. They truly illustrate for me the power and promise of a Saint Louis University education.

I also have enjoyed experiencing the enthusiasm our alumni have for their alma mater. Indeed, Saint Louis University is a wonderful place, and I am humbled to be at the helm, at least for a little while.

Please know I am always interested in hearing from alumni. If you would like to reach out to me, please send an email message to president@slu.edu.

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Saint Louis University's Spanish presence continues to grow. In September, the University celebrated the opening of its newest building in Madrid, San Ignacio Hall. The recently renovated, 26,000-square-foot building nearly doubles the size of SLU-Madrid and adds a new library, classroom space, art and dance studios, and a restaurant. Photo by Ángel García López

The presidential search is chaired by trustee Jim Smith, and its members are:

- James Burshek, S.J. (A&S '69), trustee
- Anne Gagen (Cook '72, Grad Cook '76), trustee
- Dr. Jeffrey Geller, professor and chairman, psychology department, College of Arts and Sciences
- John Griesbach, professor, School of Law
- Al Littleken, trustee
- Dr. Teri Murray (Nurs '79, Grad Nurs '83, EdPS '97), dean, School of Nursing
- Dr. Frank O’Donnell, trustee
- Vidur Sharma, president, Student Government Association
- Patrick Sly (Grad Cook '77), vice chairman of the board and trustee
- Dr. Jane Turner (A&S '85, Grad '91, Med '92), president, Faculty Senate

This fall, Smith and AGB Search’s managing partner, Dr. Jamie Ferrare, met with various University groups to discuss the presidential search and to learn about the characteristics and qualities that the SLU community seeks in its next president. They received input from hundreds of people via direct meetings and emails.

In October, the committee released the presidential position description, which was approved by the board. This description can be found online at slu.edu/presidential-search.

The committee is now in the next phase of the search, which includes identifying prospective candidates and discussing SLU’s presidential position with them. In January, the search committee will work to narrow the candidate list to approximately two or three candidates who can be proposed to the board for review.

“We are very enthused about all the advantages that Saint Louis University has to offer a prospective president,” Smith said. “And speaking for the search committee, I can assure you we will do everything possible to find a great new leader for Saint Louis University.”

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH UNDERWAY

In September, the Saint Louis University board of trustees officially launched the search for a new university president by establishing a search committee and by engaging the consulting firm AGB Search. The search committee is chaired by trustee Jim Smith, and its members are:

- James Burshek, S.J. (A&S '69), trustee
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- Dr. Jeffrey Geller, professor and chairman, psychology department, College of Arts and Sciences
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NIH TAPS SLU TO BID ON NEARLY $1 BILLION FOR VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

SLU’s Center for Vaccine Development is among an elite group of nine Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Units (VTEUs) selected by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to bid on nearly $1 billion in projects to study infectious diseases, including emerging threats.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, part of the NIH, has funded vaccine research at SLU since 1989. The new contract represents an estimated value of up to $135 million in task orders annually during the seven-year ordering period — or an estimated value of up to $951 million for the contract duration. Only centers accepted as VTEUs can bid on specific projects. This is a change in the federal funding mechanism for vaccine research, said Dr. Robert Belshe, director of the Center for Vaccine Research, said Dr. Robert Belshe, director of the Center for Vaccine Development and principal investigator on the project.

NEWS BRIEFS

University President Emeritus Lawrence Blondi, S.J., received the 2013 Mayor’s Award for his influence on economic development in the city of St. Louis. During Blondi’s tenure, the University had a major impact on the region’s economy, an independent study found that SLU generated $715.5 million in economic impact during 2011 alone. St. Louis Mayor Francis S. Slay (’82) presented the award in October.

J. Joe Adorjan (Cook ’63, Grad Cook ’67), chairman of the University’s board of trustees, was awarded the Hungarian Order of Merit-Knight’s Cross, Hungary’s highest state honor. Adorjan is the honorary general consul of Hungary as well as the founder of the Hungarian Missouri Educational Partnership, which links four Missouri universities, including SLU, with five Hungarian universities to enhance the education of emerging leaders who will help create a lasting bond between the two countries.

Dr. Alexander Garza (PH ’93), the former assistant secretary for health affairs and chief medical officer for the Department of Homeland Security, has joined the faculty of the College for Public Health and Social Justice. Garza is associate dean for public health practice and associate professor of epidemiology.

David Gassens is the new dean for University Libraries. He has served as interim University librarian since June 2012. Previously he served as assistant university librarian for administration and director of the Pius X Memorial Library. He has worked at SLU for nearly 15 years.

In October, Dr. Mildred Matfeldt-Beman (Grad E&PS ’02), director of nutrition and dietetics for the Department of Internal Medicine and Pediatrics, received a Medallion Award from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics for guiding her department and helping to build the region’s nutrition and dietetics workforce.

Dr. Mike Shaner, professor at the John Cook School of Business, has been named the “Best Management Professor” by the World Education Congress in Mumbai. Shaner was recognized as a thinker and doer who served as a “role model and a believer in change.” He joined the SLU faculty in 1974.

Dr. Diana Garfin, associate vice president for graduate education and international initiatives, was one of 11 U.S. ambassadors selected by the U.S. and French Fulbright commissions to participate in a two-week seminar in France in October. The purpose was to help both the Americans and French better understand the other’s higher education and research areas, and to explain partnership opportunities with French universities.

By the Numbers

2013 MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
SLU’s 14th annual day of giving to the service of others was one of the largest in University history. 2013 Mayor’s Award
The John Cook School of Business has appointed Dr. Bidisha Chakrabarty, associate professor of finance, to the Edward Jones; and Interim President William Kauffman.

BUSINESS ENDOwed PROFESSOR NAMED

The John Cook School of Business has appointed Dr. Bidisha Chakrabarty, associate professor of finance, to the Edward Jones Endowed Professorship in Finance.

Edward Jones created the endowed professorship in 2007 to recognize an expert in finance who provides academic leadership through teaching, research and service.

Chakrabarty joined the business school faculty in 2003. She has received the Outstanding Faculty Award given by the John Cook School of Business Alumni Board, the Kwak Research Award for the best research productive faculty, the ICRIER policy paper grant and the National Stock Exchange of India Research Initiative Grant.

Chakrabarty is also a consultant to Beyond Housing, an organization that helps families facing foreclosure. She is an author and researcher on the topics of market microstructure, securities regulation, disclosure and market reaction, and market design and price discovery.

PARKS STUDENTS, NASA LAUNCH CAMERA INTO SPACE

COPPER (SLU-01), Saint Louis University’s first spacecraft designed, built, tested and operated by students at Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology, launched Nov. 19 from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport at Wallops Island, Va. The Air Force Research Laboratory and NASA Mission to Planet Space Grant funded the project development, and the launch of COPPER was sponsored by NASA.

COPPER is a one-kilo gram, 10-centimeter cube and is made of commercially available spacecraft parts and student-developed electronics. The mission tests the effectiveness of a commercial infrared camera for in-space navigation and object detection, as well as observes the Earth in the infrared spectrum.

For the next 12 months, Parks College students will operate COPPER from a radio control station in McDonnell Douglas Hall on the SLU campus. The spacecraft will de-orbit naturally in less than four years.

COPPER is a product of the Space Systems Research Laboratory, which is led by Dr. Michael Swartwout and Dr. Sanjay Jayaram of the department of aerospace and mechanical engineering, and Dr. Kyle Mitchell of the department of electrical and computer engineering. More than 50 undergraduate and graduate students worked to create COPPER during the past three years.

CLASS OF 2017 BOASTS HIGH MARKS

This fall, SLU welcomed one of the largest and most academically gifted freshman classes in University history. The Class of 2017’s credentials include a mean high school GPA of 3.81 and an average ACT score of 27.6. Geographically, 44 states and 24 countries are represented in this year’s freshman class, and nearly 75 percent of SLU’s new students hail from outside the St. Louis metropolitan area.

SLU’S FREE MEDICAL CLINIC RELOCATES IN NORTH ST. LOUIS

Saint Louis University’s Health Resource Center, a free clinic operated by medical school students under the guidance of SLU faculty physicians, celebrated its 20th anniversary of caring for the underserved and underinsured with a move to a newer, larger facility in north St. Louis. The new site is known as the Jesuit Health Resource Center.

Dr. Eva Frazer, a former member of SLU’s board of trustees, and her husband Steven Roberts donated the space. The new clinic has a large patient waiting room, six patient exam rooms, a social work room, a conference room, multipurpose rooms, expanded lab space, and a classroom. With the additional space, SLU is exploring the possibility of offering other services.

Last year the Health Resource Center served more than 1,000 patients at primary care, well women and pediatrics clinics. About 73 percent lacked insurance.

Students began seeing patients in the new space during their regular Saturday morning session late this summer.
RISE OF THE BILLIKENS

Alex Kelly

Three seniors from the 2012-13 men's basketball team, Brian Conklin, Kwamain Mitchell and Darin Hendrickson, have signed professional contracts to play overseas. Forward Cody Ellis signed with the Sydney Kings in Australia, guard Kevin Kamau Mitchell signed with SLUNetA in Germany. Joining Ellis and Mitchell is guard Brian Conklin for the spring 2013 season. To be listed, the player must have a 3.5 GPA or better (or a 4.0 scale) in a given semester.

Outfielder Alex Kelly was named to the American Baseball Coaches Association All-Americans. The Southland conference also named him as its Player of the Year and the Most Valuable Player.

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marked the dawn of a new era for the first law school west of the Mississippi River. That’s when classes began at Scott Hall, the new home of Saint Louis University School of Law. After $32 million in renovations and upgrades, the former office building at 100 N. Tucker Blvd. in downtown St. Louis is now a 12-story landmark designed to educate future members of the legal profession.

> Named in honor of Joe and Loretta Scott, the St. Louisans who donated the building to SLU, the new facility encourages collaboration and provides a communal learning environment. And for the first time, all aspects of the law school’s community, including the Law Library and Legal Clinics, are housed under one roof.

From the lobby to the newly created 12th-floor rooftop pavilion and courtyard, the building is contemporary, spacious and configured for a variety of learning and networking opportunities. But the move downtown is more than just a space upgrade. Michael Wolff, dean of the School of Law and a former chief justice of the Missouri Supreme Court, noted that the school’s new location is within walking distance of court buildings, many top law firms, and government offices and agencies. >>>

Scott Hall was designed by the Lawrence Group with Clayco Inc. as the general contractor of the project, with oversight by SLU’s design and construction team. Joe and Loretta Scott donated the former office building to the University in 2012.

Interior stairs, like these leading up to the Anheuser-Busch Foundation Student Commons, connect every two floors together throughout the building providing a feeling of openness and plenty of natural light. >

Scott Hall offers several classroom options, from smaller classrooms that can be configured by windows to large lecture halls. Here, in a high-tech, 80-seat classroom, Professor Marcia McCormick teaches criminal law.

> Scott Hall puts the School of Law in the center of St. Louis’ legal community.
> “Our move downtown is not just a change of location and an upgrade to a state-of-the-art new facility, but a profound transformation in our ability to teach, to learn and to become fully integrated within the legal profession,” Wolff said.

Located in the heart of the downtown legal and business community, Scott Hall is situated next to the Civil Courts Building, a block away from the St. Louis criminal courts and City Hall, and three blocks away from the U.S. Court of Appeals and the U.S. Attorney’s Office. This proximity presents many opportunities to extend the classroom experience, allowing students to spend more time with the practicing bar and judges not just at the courthouse or attorneys’ offices, but in the law school itself.

> This location also provides SLU law students with the opportunity to fulfill the social justice mission of the law school and to learn firsthand the great responsibilities that accompany the privilege of being legal professionals,” Wolff said. “We believe this high-profile location and the proximity to clients and to the legal community will enhance our ability to help meet the legal needs of some of the most vulnerable members of our community.”

Donor naming opportunities are still available at Scott Hall, including classrooms, offices and meeting spaces. To inquire about making a gift to support the School of Law, call Sheridan Haynes at 314-977-3303 or send an email message to hayness@slu.edu.

In addition to classes, the 200-seat John K. Prullage Courtroom will host legal events, speakers and court proceedings. The 12th floor rooftop deck offers fresh air and a glimpse of the Gateway Arch. Greeting visitors from the first-floor lobby (and a separate entrance on Chestnut Street) is the Docket, a new restaurant open to the public. Operated by Bon Appétit Management Co., The Docket offers breakfast, lunch and dinner with a focus on locally sourced, seasonal ingredients.
Welcome to Saint Louis University

Shoe down!

As she’s moving into Gries, a new freshman’s platform sandal falls out of one of the many bags in the “speedpack” (a giant cardboard box on wheels) overflowing with all she’s brought to college. A male Oriflamme leader starts yelling, “Shoe down! We’ve got a shoe down!” to anyone in earshot. Dramatically, three other Oriflamme leaders descend, pick up the shoe and return it to the lug-gage with a flourish.

“Welcome to Saint Louis University!” one of them exclaims. It’s all a bit silly, but silly has become one of the hallmarks of Oriflamme.

Out of the Comfort Zone

“I wear a tutu during move-in, and I’m not the only one,” said Keilah Johnson, Oriflamme’s 2013 president and a senior communication and political science major. “Fairy wings. Crazy glasses. Cheese-wedge hats. Yes! I encourage all of it.”

During what is inevitably an emotionally charged time for new students and families, the silliness serves a significant purpose.

“I’m a relatively serious person, but I’m definitely sillier during Welcome Week,” said Kate Buckley, a senior occupational therapy major and 2013 Oriflamme team leader. “I push myself out of my comfort zone, which helps me remember what it was like moving in for the first time and being so outside of my comfort zone.”

Besides that, Johnson said the over-the-top enthusiasm helps introduce students to Saint Louis University specifically.

“Kids come to college with this preconceived notion that they have to do this and be that, that there’s a cool crowd,” she said. “But there’s really not here. Oriflamme has five days to diminish any stereotypes of what the typical college kid looks like — and we do it.”

Welcome to Saint Louis University

“Shoe down!”

It’s blindingly bright and a humid 95 degrees on the asphalt behind the Griesedieck Complex. It’s Aug. 21, the first day for first-year students to move to SLU. A speaker blasts the kind of pop music played at major sporting events. SUVs and mini-vans line up from the parking lot behind Griesedieck Hall onto Laclede Street and then to Grand Boulevard. Scores of sweaty people shuffle around — befuddled new students, arriving at their residence hall for the first time; parents and loved ones, visibly stressed; and three dozen orange-clad Oriflamme leaders, whose herculean task it is to move hundreds of new students not only into residence halls but also into the SLU community.

Welcome to Saint Louis University

Although she’s the Oriflamme president, Keilah Johnson isn’t above carrying a carpet into Griesedieck Hall for a new student.

THE BEST FIRST IMPRESSION

Johnson’s efforts — Oriflamme’s efforts — are certainly not lost on new SLU parents.

“This is the best first impression you could give,” said Lauren (Finn) Spearman (Doisy ’84) while moving her daughter Jen into Walsh Hall in August. Spearman should know; she herself moved into Marguerite Hall nearly 30 years ago. Before she graduated from SLU, she added “Oriflamme leader” to her own résumé.

Angie (Catanaro) Bright (A&S ’91) and her husband Rich (Cook ’91) were not the Oriflamme type when they attended SLU and lived on campus. As they dropped off their son Tony at
“You are an inspiration to all of us.”

University. She’s been working and volunteering at the University, Meg, summed up what makes Bruemmer so special: “She was an inspiration to me.”

Parents aren’t the only ones who have noticed an inSpiration to all of us. The two — Bruemmer and Oriflamme — are inextricably tied.

Bruemmer (A&S ’42, Grad ’60) is a living legend at Saint Louis University. The flag — a symbol of the army's loyalty and devotion to the king. The flag — a red field with four gold fleur-de-lis — symbolized the army's loyalty and devotion to the king. One of the reasons why the flag is so special is because it was carried by the army of the saintly King Louis IX of France, namesake of Saint Louis University.

In yearbook photos from the early 1960s, Oriflamme looks a bit different than it does today. For one thing, there was no orange. There also were no women. Affairs. By then, no serious gentlemens dressed in blazers,” said Ana Sontag, the Student Involvement Center coordinator for Oriflamme, describing the earliest form of the group.

Those gentlemen, like their modern-day counterparts, were among the brightest and best of Saint Louis University. They had been hand-picked by the University not to help new students move to campus — which was far less residential in those days — but instead to “provide service to the University,” as Bruemmer put it.

In the late 1950s and ’60s, the University was gaining prominence in the region. This higher profile — along with the University’s approaching sesquicentennial — meant more of a need for “ambassadors”: ushers at University functions, escorts for distinguished guests and campus tour guides. Two years later, McQueeny asked Oriflamme to take responsibility for the welcome and orientation of new students. The group recruited 20 upperclassmen, each of whom selected a female partner.

When Bruemmer told the history, she smiled as she recalled this arrangement: “There have been Oriflamme marriages, you know,” said Bruemmer. “One couple was assigned a group of incoming students. Working with the academic and student life offices, Oriflamme established the tradition of helping new students move into the residence halls the weekend before registration, which was done in person in the gymnasium.

“Registration was a lot of work!” said David Borgmeyer (A&S ’82, Grad ’86), one of the aforementioned Oriflamme marriages. “It was a lot of work!”

In 1972, allowing women to become full members of the group continued: “I know the experience doesn’t just belong to the student but also to the family as a whole. When they look back moving into Saint Louis University, they’ll remember the Oriflamme experience.”

The correct pronunciation is “Ori-flam” (rhymes with ham), but where did the moniker come from?

In 1967, Bruemmer became dean of women and took over student development and its necessary component, Oriflamme. She worked with the group until 1985, when she retired from student development as dean of student affairs. By then, no serious gentlemen dressed in blazers,” said Ana Sontag, the Student Involvement Center coordinator for Oriflamme, describing the earliest form of the group.

As the years went on, the group continued to evolve. The SLU 101 program was established and took over orientation and registering for new students each summer, and Oriflamme became more about welcoming and helping students adjust socially to life on campus during Welcome Week, now known as Fall Welcome.

During almost two decades of advising Oriflamme, Bruemmer saw some big changes — the group went co-ed in 1972, at which point female Oriflamme leaders chose male partners — but she also noticed one important constant, year in and year out.

“Our students are welcoming,” Bruemmer said. “In the last 20 years or so, SLU really has gotten the reputation as being a particularly friendly campus. That plays out all the time with the student ambassadors, Oriflamme leaders and others. But I think it’s always been that way.”

One of the earliest photos of Oriflamme, the organization went co-ed in 1972, allowing women to become full members of the group.

What does “Oriflamme” mean?

So, when is Family Weekend?

During move-in, Oriflamme leaders become experts on all things SLU to new students and their parents. Here are the most frequently asked questions, according to the 2013 answers.

1. How much do you get paid to do this? Well… you guys aren’t being paid to do this? Wait, you pay to do this?!
2. Do you think this will fit in the room? Will 14 meals a week really be enough? My child eats a lot.
3. What does “Oriflamme” mean? How do you pronounce that word?
4. What does “Oriflamme” mean? How do you pronounce that word? (residence hall floors) or population (transfers, commuters). Four executive board members preside over the whole organization.

For all their efforts, they get … nothing. In fact, everyone in Oriflamme pays a one-time fee to be part of it.

“My parents were like, ‘Why are you paying to move other people’s stuff in 100-degree weather?’” Johnson said. “But honestly, we’re celebrating new students, new friends, new student leaders. I don’t know if I can even find the words to describe it. It’s just worth it.”

She continued: “I know the experience doesn’t just belong to the student but also to the family as a whole. When they look back moving into Saint Louis University, they’ll remember the Oriflamme experience.”

In addition to moving new students in, Oriflamme leaders rally their teams the first weekend on campus for the soccer game spirit competition and the square dance, among other fun activities. They also lead them to New Student Convocation and Family Welcome, the annual fall event to officially welcome new members of the University community.

All of these events have become essential to the beginning of the SLU experience. Just like Oriflamme:

“Oriflamme is such a great tradition,” Farrington said. “I can’t imagine Saint Louis University without it.”
In May, Saint Louis University opened its $8 million Center for Global Citizenship in the newly renovated space, transforming the former basketball court into the AT&T Student Commons, with access to media from around the world, and into the 1,000-seat C.S. Huh Auditorium with adaptable multiscreen technology.

The 70,000-square-foot center, along with adjoining Des Peres Hall, brings together in one location the Office of International Services, the International Studies Program and the English as a Second Language (ESL) Program. It also is home to the Cross Cultural Center and the centers for sustainability, service and community engagement, and intercultural studies.

“Our Center for Global Citizenship stands as the cornerstone of our enhanced efforts to educate our students as global leaders,” said Interim President William R. Kaufman.

The University has already hosted a number of events in the new space, including the annual conference of professionals involved in international higher education, a lecture series in celebration of the University’s ESL Program’s 50th anniversary and many other faith, service and study abroad programs.

The center will also host future Atlas Week events, international speakers and informal gatherings to discuss and watch global events, such as the Olympics or World Cup.

Dr. Ellen Harshman, interim vice president for academic affairs, said: “I am confident that this new center and its associated programs will strengthen our commitment to preparing our graduates for success in an increasingly global world.”
Judge Jimmie Edwards (A&S ’78, Law ’81) grew up in the infamous Pruitt-Igoe housing complex in north St. Louis City. The eldest of four, Edwards learned from his single mother the importance of both relying on and helping others. The simple lesson changed the course of his life, over and over again. In high school, Edwards read about Justice Thurgood Marshall and was inspired to make a difference.

As a fourth grader, I remember not caring very much about school. But my teacher, Lawrence Wootten, gave me the responsibility of taking care of an incubator. It was just a fish tank with fertilized eggs in it and a light. He told me that if I did my job and did not allow anything to hurt those fertilized eggs, eventually chicks would be born. I came to school early every single day for about six weeks, and the only thing I did was watch the incubator. And the first crack of that egg changed my life. It was then that I realized that I could be independent and accomplish something, that I didn’t need a boost to achieve something. From that day forward, I became interested in school.

I became interested in being the best I could be. When I got into high school, I was a very good student. And Barbara Woods (Grad ’82, ’87) from Saint Louis University visited Vashon High School to recruit students. I went home and told my mom that a lady from Saint Louis University said that I could go to college there, and my mom’s whole body just lit up, and she started crying. It was the first time that anyone in our family had been offered an opportunity to attend college.

For a couple of weeks I was very resistant. I wanted to go to Rolla. I wanted to be an engineer. I found out where Rolla was — not very far from here, not more than 125 miles. But we had no car; we had nothing. My mom finally said, “I want you to be happy. I want you to go to any school that you would like to go to. But you need to understand that, if you go to Rolla, and if you get sick or something happens to you, I can’t get there. If you go to Saint Louis University and something happens to you, I can walk there.”

That conversation sold me on Saint Louis University, and I never looked back.

My attitude, my demeanor, my philosophy, my core changed at Saint Louis University. Because Saint Louis University taught me that it was never about me; it’s always about somebody else. It taught me to truly understand the generosity of others, and it’s something I take wherever I go. When I talk to children, I always talk about the generosity of others, being appreciative, being grateful. Saint Louis University taught me that.

Saint Louis University gave me a terrific education that I am so grateful for — but more importantly it made me a man, it made me into someone who understands that it’s OK to help others.

J: So what happened to being an engineer?
JE: I was very interested in being an engineer, and my next-door neighbor in the dormitory, Darrell Jones (A&S ’77), was a math major, so I decided to major in math. After the first semester I saw a “D” on my report card, and I ended up in the English department, where I met Father Walter Ong, Dr. Al Montesi and all of those wonderful people who took care of me. They started to work on my mind. They introduced me to things that were different from the sports page. They introduced me to Shakespeare and wonderful novelists like F. Scott Fitzgerald. And my whole world opened up.

I think God has a plan for all of us. We take what we are confronted with and deal with it. I was startled by that “D,” but I knew that I could still be a good student and a good person.

When I deal with my children at the school, I tell them, “Give me an effort better than you gave me yesterday, and I will applaud you. That effort today versus that effort yesterday to improve that; I will applaud you.”

I live my life by doing better today than I did yesterday.

> He quickly realized that the problem of juvenile delinquency was much more complicated than he’d thought, and that to truly change lives and improve the community, he had to give these kids more than a sentence — he had to give them a chance.

In 2009, Edwards asked: Why not start a new kind of school, one that addresses the very specific, intense needs of kids on the brink? His answer became the Innovative Concept Academy, a groundbreaking school that acts as a last resort for delinquent teens. Bridging the legal system, the public school system and dozens of community partners, the ICA provides students in grades six through 12 a comprehensive experience that both opens their minds and keeps them off the streets.

A typical day at the academy includes not just reading, writing and arithmetic, but a wide range of extracurricular activities such as culinary classes, golf, ballet, dance, classical music and chess. Students have access to on-site tutoring, social and mental health services, and job training.

While it’s too soon to measure the long-term success of the school, the ICA and Edwards have attracted national praise, including stories in the Wall Street Journal and the Ebony Magazine. A typical day at the academy includes not just reading, writing and arithmetic, but a wide range of extracurricular activities such as culinary classes, golf, ballet, dance, classical music and chess. Students have access to on-site tutoring, social and mental health services, and job training.

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> The simple lesson changed the course of his life, over and over again. In high school, Edwards read about Justice Thurgood Marshall and was inspired to make a difference.

After success as an attorney for Sabreliner and Southwestern Bell, Edwards left the corporate world for an appointment to the St. Louis City Circuit Court in 1992. He spent years hearing adult cases and then assigned himself to juvenile court hoping to help children.

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Hence, I began to really understand the generosity of others, being appreciative, being grateful.

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I live my life by doing better today than I did yesterday.
When did you decide on law school?
JE: Law school had always been in the back of my head. I always had this sense of justice, and I thought law was the way to go to make sure that my friends had the opportunity to be treated fairly. The thing that I am so adamant about, even today, is the due process rights of everybody.

What did it mean for you to become a judge?
JE: Now, here’s this poor kid from the city of St. Louis who started with nothing and had no idea what direction his life was going to go — the chances were that they were going to a bad direction because of the environment I was in. But by the grace of God, my life went in a direction that landed me the opportunity to be a judge. I was very honored.

The first day I put on my robe and walked into that courtroom, I was the most excited person in the world. Today, when I put on my robe in that same courtroom, I am the most excited person in the world. My life has, believe it or not, been not for their money but for their heart and compassion and commitment.

Do you want that child learning from other children who are worse off, or would you prefer to keep that child in school and use it as a teaching moment?

The premise of our school was to control the students’ behavior, educate them and move them back into the mainstream. But that hasn’t happened because they don’t want to leave our school. So now we keep them, and they’ll graduate from our school but will receive a diploma from the last school they attended.

We have 97 percent daily attendance, and I’m there every single day. I’m very tough on them. When the kids are asked the question, “Do you like the school?” the answer will always be, “Yes.”

If you ask, “Is Judge Edwards tough?” They say, “He’s tough; he makes us do everything, but we love him.”

And if you then ask, “Why do you love him?” The answer that my kids give is always the same: “Because he shows up every day.”

They don’t have that. I’m not doing anything special. The only thing that I’m doing is showing up every day.

How is your school different?
JE: There are more than 2,000 cases when we opened — a full school with students, faculty and wonderful volunteers. I have always leaned on the generosity of people, not for their money but for their heart and compassion and commitment.

The academic world, including Saint Louis University, wrapped their arms around me and around the children, and lifted us up.

In 2009 we had 242 children. In 2010 we had nearly 300 children. These are kids who would have been walking our streets but for the fact that that they’re able to come to the academy. This is the only school of its kind in this country.

People started to hear about this, and then People Magazine decided it would do an article. Then I did the Today Show, CBS Sunday Morning and more. I started giving speeches all over the country — at Harvard, at Boston University, the American Bar Association — all through the Detention Alternative — talking about children and that it makes more sense to keep them in school as opposed to jail.

What did you do differently?
JE: When people ask me what kind of school we are, I tell them that we can’t be a public school because the public school expelled these children. We are not a charter school. We are a wonderful community hybrid where we are all willing to go out on a limb and do what’s right for children irrespective of our religion, irrespective of our social, economic classification, irrespective of who we are or whose we are.

We wash their clothes, feed them. We do laundry. What you do for others matters most. That’s how I love my life. 

What is your personal philosophy?
JE: What do you do for others matters most. That’s how I love my life.
When Rex Sinquefield (Cook ’67), a retired financial executive and a philanthropist, began collecting art, he focused on European post-impressionist artists. But while collecting the likes of Vincent Van Gogh and Edouard Vuillard, there began an irresistible pull to Missouri artists, particularly Thomas Hart Benton. Then in 2006, he and his wife Jeanne moved back to his hometown of St. Louis from California. Suddenly Sinquefield found himself interested in the region as well as their profession. That really started with Benton.

I have always loved Benton. There is a lyricism to the way that he painted that touches me. One of my most recent purchases, from the National Hispanic Medical Association’s 2013 Art Auction, is Benton’s Flood Disaster, his fifth book on St. Louis folkways. He lives in St. Louis.

One of my goals is to focus my collection on artists who brought distinction to the region as well as their profession. That really started with Benton. One of my most recent purchases, from the National Hispanic Medical Association’s 2013 Art Auction, is Benton’s Flood Disaster, his fifth book on St. Louis folkways. He lives in St. Louis.

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Andrew Walker: You have a deep interest in American regionalism and social realism in the works of Thomas Hart Benton and Joe Jones. Both artists have strong ties to Missouri. Is that important to you?

Rex Sinquefield: Yes, place is important to me, and, in particular, the state of Missouri. I grew up here in St. Louis. It is my home. All the years I lived in California, where my business was headquartered, I remained attached to Missouri.

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Sheila Champlin (A&S) is the assistant vice chancellor for communications and marketing department of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. She lives in Germantown, Tenn.

Thomas O’Toole (A&S ’79, LAW ’86), a partner at Mickes O’Toole, is president-elect of the U.S. Golf Association. He lives in St. Louis.

Joseph Porter (A&S), a shareholder at Polsinelli, was selected as a 2014 Best Lawyer in America for his work in the areas of banking, business/corporate. He lives in St. Louis.

Helen Ferraro-Zaffram (A&S) is director of maintenance at The Villa at Riverwood Retirement Community and a member of the bluegrass band The STL Ramblers. He and his family live in Hazelwood, Mo.

Dr. Edmond Cabbabe (MED) is the president of the Collaborative Association Foundation. He lives in St. Louis.

Thomas Venker (Law) is a judge of the Paradise Valley Municipal Court. He lives in Paradise Valley, Ariz.

Dr. Alyn (Greene) Caulk (NURS) has retired from government service after 27 years in security assistance and foreign military sales. He lives in Washington, D.C.

Deborah (Bromberg) Stanfield (NURS) has retired and moved to Rutherfordton, N.C., with her husband.

Fredric Knapp (Law) is acting Morris County prosecutor and assistant attorney general for New Jersey. He lives in Morristown, N.J.

Mary Beth (Moss) Clay (LAW), a partner in Fenster Wright’s corporate department, was named Woman Lawyer of the Year by the Collier County Women’s Bar Association. She lives in Naples, Fla.

Lawrence Duke (COOK ’82, TP ’97) retired as director of business and finance from the Children’s Home Society of Missouri. He lives in Valley Park, Mo.

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Dr. Gifford Eckhout (MED) is the chief of anesthesiology and executive vice president of Trinity Mother Frances Hospitals and Clinics. He lives in Tyler, Texas, with his wife, Madise, and their two children.

Patrick Hagerty (LAW) served as a SLU student, and her father is a SLU corporate lawyer.

Carolyn Booth (DO/VT) retired from health care six years ago. She lives in St. Louis.

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Mary Beth (Moss) Clay (LAW), a partner in Fenster Wright’s corporate department, was named Woman Lawyer of the Year by the Collier County Women’s Bar Association. She lives in Naples, Fla.

Lawrence Duke (COOK ’82, TP ’97) retired as director of business and finance from the Children’s Home Society of Missouri. He lives in Valley Park, Mo.

Ignatius Tundo (A&S) is director of maintenance at The Villa at Riverwood Retirement Community and a member of the bluegrass band The STL Ramblers. He and his family live in Hazelwood, Mo.

Dr. Gifford Eckhout (MED) is the chief of anesthesiology and executive vice president of Trinity-Mother Frances Hospitals and Clinics. He lives in Tyler, Texas, with his wife, Madise, and their two children.

Patrick Hagerty (LAW) served as a SLU student, and her father is a SLU corporate lawyer.

Carolyn Booth (DO/VT) retired from health care six years ago. She lives in St. Louis.

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LEGACIES

Saint Louis University is a family tradition for 306 new SLU students. That means that nearly 20 percent of the members of the freshman class have a parent, grandparent, sibling or family member who graduated from SLU. During Fall Welcome in August, the office of alumni relations invited these freshmen and their Billiken relatives to the annual Legacy Lunch. Pictured above are some of the new students and their alumni family members.

“It made me proud that she chose SLU, and campus has changed a lot since my days here.”

—Ken Yeung (A&S ’76) of St. Louis and his daughter Malody, who plans to major in business.

“I really like the campus. The students here are so enthusiastic.”

—Nanette Paris (PS ’94) of O’Fallon, Ill., right, and her daughter Ariana Brown, who plans to major in psychology.

“I’m just happy she’s here. During my SLU experience, I met so many of the greatest people in my life.”

—Dr. Jan Albrecht-McClure (Med ’89) of St. Louis (right) and her daughter Kelsey, who is still deciding on her major.

“I’m very proud of Bryan. And of SLU, too.”

—David Hoy (A&S ’87) of Collinsville, Ill., right, and his son Bryan, who is studying at Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology.
Flavio Guerra, a retired faculty member of the School of Commerce and Finance (now the John Cook School of Business) in 1957, taught accounting until his retirement in 1990. Prof. Guerra joined the School of Commerce and Finance in 1957 to teach Latin, theology and music. He began the SLU Chorale in 1957 and directed many performances. Prof. Guerra emeritus of music, died Sept. 20. He was 96. A Jesuit faculty in 1957 to teach Latin, theology and music. He began the SLU Chorale in 1957 and directed many performances. Prof. Guerra emeritus of music, died Sept. 20. He was 96. A Jesuit
Alumni Associations

Black Alumni Association
PRESIDENT: Michael Love (C’03)

THE 27TH ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST
Saturday, April 26; 9 a.m.
alumni.slu.edu/prayerbreakfast2014

Doisy College of Health Sciences

PHYSICAL THERAPY ALUMNI RECEPTION
Wednesday, Feb. 5; Selor Frogs, inside Treasure Island Resort
The Doisy College Alumni Association invites alumni, faculty, students and friends to attend a reception at the annual physical therapy Association 2014 Combined Sections Meeting.
alumni.slu.edu/PTRA

TRIVIA NIGHT
Saturday, Feb. 16; 6-8 p.m. doors open; Multipurpose Room, Allied Health Building.
Cost: $100 or $100 (VIP) per table
alumni.slu.edu/Trivia2014

MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION THERAPEUTICS ALUMNI RECEPTION
Friday, June 6; 6-8 p.m. The Thaxton: 1008 Olive St., St. Louis.
alumni.slu.edu/MMRA2014

John Cook School of Business
PRESIDENT: Kevin Eridi (C’02)

TRIVIA NIGHT
Saturday, Jan. 25; 6 p.m. doors open; Cook Hall Atrium.
Cost: $50 or $50 (premium) per table of 10
Proceeds support the business school scholarship fund.
alumni.slu.edu/trivia2014

School of Medicine
PRESIDENT: Dr. Edward J. O’Brien Jr. (C’75)

JOHN COOK ALUMNI RECEPTION
Friday, March 14; 6-9 p.m.; Windsor Court Hotel, New Orleans.
In conjunction with the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery Annual Meeting.
alumni.slu.edu/AOAS2014

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St. Louis University Events

Once
THURSDAY, APRIL 10; 6 p.m.
prereception, Wabash Hall; 8 p.m.
culinary reception, The Beacon Theatre
Winner of eight 2012 Tony Awards including Best Musical, Once tells the story of a Dublin street musician who is about to give up on his dream when a young woman takes an interest in his songs. It features an ensemble of genuine musicians who play their own instruments onstage.
cost: $75 or $85 per person; both price points include a ticket to the show, prereception and a $5 gift to the Emergency Scholarship Fund.
alumni.slu.edu/once14

Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 19; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Join us for this special Saint Louis University tradition. Spring flowers and green grass return, and so will the Easter bunny and all of his treats. Bring the whole family back to campus for this celebration.
alumni.slu.edu/easter14

BASKETBALL PREGAME RECEPTIONS
Gather with fellow alumni and cheer on the men’s basketball Billikens as they make another run to the NCAA Tournament.
For more information, visit alumni.slu.edu/mensbasketball14
The following is a transcript of the homily delivered by John Kavanaugh, S.J., to St. Francis Xavier College Church during SLU’s 2008 Homecoming weekend, just before the Golden Billiken lunch, which honors the 50-year class.

Kavanaugh, a former professor, philosopher and author, died in November 2012. To honor his memory, a memorial scholarship fund has been created to provide need-based aid to undergraduate students studying philosophy or theology. And thanks to the support of many of his former students and friends, a CD set containing 33 of his homilies (including this one) has been produced in memory of Kavanaugh.

I’m fascinated about time. And when you think of those who graduated in 1958, just think of what they’ve lived through, of what they must have done over the years, the places they’ve visited, the people they’ve encountered, the families they launched in their own lives, the plans made, the achievements won, the difficulties met, the losses mourned, the kindnesses offered … over all those years. Good every thing they may have done still abides as all good ever abides. It was such a different world then. Not only was Eisenhower president of the United States, but he sent troops to Lebanon that year (how things stay the same). Nasser led Egypt and formed the United Arab Republic with Syria. Khrushchev took over Russia. De Gaulle was elected again in France. Tito in Yugoslavia. Juan Perón. They’re all gone. And most of the present fund has been created to provide need-based aid to undergraduate students studying philosophy or theology. And thanks to the support of many of his former students and friends, a CD set containing 33 of his homilies (including this one) has been produced in memory of Kavanaugh.

And the changes of the world at large parallelized the changes in all our lives. Not just those who sat in this church 50 years ago and now pray with us today, but all of us, whether we’re 22 or whether we’re 72. Those 22 have another world ahead.

In the midst of this, let us pray once again for healing of the world. We still witness the wounds of the poor, the conflicts of nation and ideology, the divisions within our Church, the affections of the body politic and the human body, as well as our own sufferings. Let us pray too, in the spirit of Ezekiel, that none of us ever think it’s too late to give ourselves more fully to God. Or as the gospel reminds us, let us remember that it’s always time for us to say yes, no matter how late. And then let us think of those we love: our children, grandchildren. Then think about what do you must desire for them. Especially those of you who have the wisdom of the ages. What do you really desire? Is it something like Paul’s desire for his friends, the Philippians? He says, “If there’s any encouragement, any solace in love, any compassion, any mercy, complete my joy, be of one mind and one heart, united and committed, not fixed on yourself but looking out for the other and looking forward to Christ.”

So most of all, let us pray for gratitude. For all the ways that this 50-year class has used the gifts that God gave them, surely. But let us pray for each other, to make the gift of each year we’ve lived, each day we’ve lived, more real, more lasting. And our gratitude will then make more lasting the gifts of our lives, where all goods endure the change of seasons, the ages of our time, the young, our old, our single, our married, our pregnant with life, our adopted with love. For the faith that endures and the hope that promises and for the love that says yes to this, yes to the good that endures and the hope that promises and for the love that says yes to this, yes to the good in gratitude in your Eucharist, giving thanks in most holy of communications with each other and with God.

No matter what our fear or frailty, let us embrace what is lovely and graceful and know what lasts beyond all pomp and circumstance. Especially those of you who have the wisdom of the ages, especially those of you who have the wisdom of the ages.

30 Years ago in Universitas

T he autumn 1983 issue of Universitas featured a cover story about Walter C. “Doc” Ellsworth, a professor emeritus of physical education and former director of physical fitness for the St. Louis Cardinals. The two-time alumna received a 1983 Alumni Merit Award.

Another story covered the history of Saint Louis University football, going back as far as the 1936 season, the year SLU threw the first forward pass in football history. That pass changed the style of the game and helped SLU achieve its most successful season ever.

The magazine also included articles about the Billiken, who was marking his 75th birthday, and about the annual Legacy Lunch for the children of SLU alumni who were beginning studies at the University.

Quotable UTAs:

“Individual entrepreneurship is not everybody’s cup of tea. It takes stubborn independence, self-sufficiency, willingness to take chances, and above all an innate distaste for filling the role of subordinate, at least on a permanent basis.”

— From the story “On Minding Your Own Business” about alumni entrepreneurs

MORE FROM THE CLASS OF ’67

I recently learned that Universitas readers posted my article about deceased alumn Jim Coyle ’67 in the Fall 2012 issue and went on to purchase and read his posthumously published detective novel, Evil At Its Ease. At the time of publication, our small publishing team [1967 alums Jeanne Coyle, Bob Shea and John Bacali] and I was just beginning to edit Jim’s second novel. The Gold打球s Murder, which we have recently published as an e-book. Readers of Evil At Its Ease will appreciate these further investigative adventures of Detective Timothy Walker as he solves another California missing person case.

Both these publishing projects have been driven by our desire to use newly available tools to make Jim’s novels, written in the 1980s, available to fans of original detective fiction. More importantly, we see them as an extension of Jim’s life, his energy and his love of the written word.

The Goldballs Murder and Evil at its Ease are available at amazon.com.
“SLU is the foundation I need in order to live my dreams.”

Help Wendy reach her potential with a gift of scholarship. We’ll match it dollar for dollar. Together, we’ll go further.

your gift. our match. go further.

The Scholarship Matching Program for Saint Louis University
giving.slu.edu