



The Servant Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTER FOR VOCATION AND SERVANT LEADERSHIP

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First Student Servant Leader Awards

The first Student Servant Leader Awards Ceremony was held on campus on Thursday, February 10. Members of the University community, family and friends gathered to celebrate the University's mission to prepare students as servant leaders.

The nominees were judged on the strength of their overall commitment to service, and the merit of their service.

Awards were given in three categories for Campus, Community, and Global Servant Leadership. Each servant leader was presented with a statue of the University's patroness, Mother Seton.

Campus

Sheena Collum was awarded the Campus Student Servant Leader Award. Sheena coordinated the "Midnight Run" by which Seton Hall students provided meals to the homeless in NYC. As President of the Village Liaisons Committee, Sheena worked to strengthen the relationship between Seton Hall and South Orange. She led the



Campus Ministry Director Father James Spera, comedian and philanthropist Joe Piscopo, Student Servant Leader awardees Sheena Collum, Beatrice Antoine, Kimberly Wolf; and Executive VP for Administration Sister Paula Marie Buley.

"You SHU'd Vote" effort, which registered over 1000 students to vote in South Orange. Currently, Sheena is chair of the SHU Tsunami Relief Task Force.

Community

Beatrice Antoine was awarded the Community Student Servant Leader Award. Beatrice's willingness to serve is drawn from her faith. She is a dedicated Sunday School teacher in her local church. Beatrice carried out 600 hours of a social work internship, providing individual and group counseling to prisoners in Northern State Prison. Through that experience, she had an

opportunity to serve with the New Jersey Community Research Initiative, a program working with Essex County residents affected by HIV/AIDS.

Global

Kimberly Wolf was awarded the Global Student Servant Leader Award. Kimberly was selected to participate in the "Releasing the DOVES" service trip last spring. She traveled with a group of students to San Miguel, El Salvador, where she worked in a local orphanage. She has also been selected to participate in the program again this year. Strengthened by her experience abroad, Kimberly hopes

to serve with *Doctors Without Borders*.

Because of their exceptional service, the Selection Committee also gave Honorable Mention to Tara DiDomizio, Jennifer Loheac, and John Perez.



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The FAST Group

By Leslie Bayer, Department of English

FAST
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One of the highlights of my week is the FAST Group (Faculty, Administration & Staff Together) lunch organized by Robin Cunningham. A diverse section of the Seton Hall community “breaks bread” and talks about ideas of spiritual interest.

As an adjunct, the people with whom I generally interact are students and the English Department. On Thursdays, I meet professors

from other departments, staff, administrators, and the priest community. Since our jobs influence how we view the world, the broad views expressed help me to clarify my own ideas and to think about new ones.

The topics discussed vary. We do not always agree, but all comments are welcomed, and I can count on the conversation to add more light than heat.

The subjects dis-

cussed range from the international (our response to the tsunami and the war in Iraq), to the local (how to grade fairly), to the personal (favorite quotations from the Bible or important stories in our own lives).

As a result, I have an opportunity to think about how I can help my students and myself become more involved. I leave each meeting renewed and refreshed. The food is pretty good, too.

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From the Director's Desk

More Tom Hanks than Kramer

On January 16, I had the privilege of addressing the Masters in Corporate Communications graduates. It was an occasion to reflect on the common elements of our individual vocations. The following is excerpted from the talk; the full address is on our web site 'mission.shu.edu/center.'

I believe our lives are more like Tom

Hanks in *Saving Private Ryan* than like Kramer,

Jerry Seinfeld's neighbor; more like Frodo Baggins, in *Lord of the Rings*, than like Elaine or George. My belief is not that our lives should be full of battle scenes, but that, like them, we have been given a mission.

It is rarely a dramatic experience like that of St. Paul or St. Joan. It often comes by a small inner voice or is recognized only in retrospect. Yet, we recognize it as something being asked of us and not simply equal to what we want. That is,

until we discover our deepest desires and realize that God's call is consistent with our deepest desires.

While each call is unique, I think there is a common three-part structure to every vocation: first, to nurture life; second, to serve the common good by our work; third, to enter upon our spiritual journey. In short, we are all called to be guardians, gardeners, and pilgrims.



Discover U: A Student's Perspective

By Kerri Clarke

Discover U was a program about just that - discovering yourself. More than anything else the program was aimed at finding what you want out of life. Determining what brings you joy can help you find a career.

To show students that finding a job that satisfies you can be a reality, a guest speaker was brought to each program. Each speaker shared his or her

story of how they overcame obstacles to find a career that they loved, proving that a job doesn't have to be work you hate.

Other aspects of the program were interactive: students took personality tests to determine career suitability; discussed in small groups what fulfills them physically, mentally, and spiritually; and drew life maps of potential goals.

Programs like *Discover U* are beneficial to students who are unsure of what life beyond Seton Hall will bring.

Having a program full of people who were dedicated to listening to student's expectations and supporting their goals produced in us an optimistic outlook on the future.



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1500 Students Attend FOCUS Conference

By Mary Fisher

"Once for All" (Hebrews 10:10) was the theme of the seventh annual FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) Conference.

Over 1500 college students came to Denver for the 2005 FOCUS National Student Leadership Conference. Long flights for the 32 Seton Hall students and harsh weather across the Midwest did not stop the participants from making their way to the conference. SHU students attended workshops on evangelization, chastity, sobriety, and religious life.

Freshman Alex Ayer from Great Falls, NJ, said,

"Adoration had the most impact on me; I had a good chance to examine my life after hearing the talks, and Adoration gave me time to see what Jesus wanted me to change in my life."

Friday evening featured Australian author, Matthew Kelly, with the message, "Who you become is infinitely more important than what you do, or what you have." The Saturday Banquet, featuring Dr. Scott Hahn, was held at the Adam's Mark Hotel Ballroom with close to 1700 participants.

"People think the Church is dying," said Curtis Martin, who founded

the FOCUS apostolate over seven years ago, "but it is bearing fruit"

"Day-to-day growth can seem slow, but when I look out into this crowd of over a thousand college students, the principle of spiritual multiplication is evident and inspiring."





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“Hall” Retreat

Twenty-nine students recently went on Hall Retreat #2, sponsored by

Campus Ministry and the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership.

The Hall Retreat gives stu-

dents a chance to consider

God’s personal call and

what that means in their lives.

The wooded campus of Delbarton School was the setting, and retreatants enjoyed the hospitality and good cooking of the Benedictine community who run the school.

The retreat talks were given by a largely student team under the guidance of the spiritual director, Father Stanley Gomes of

campus ministry, and the lay director, Tom Wurtz of the Focus Team.

The retreat included talks followed by discussions, time for personal prayer, the celebration of Mass, and common fun. Everyone was impressed by the talent displayed at the Saturday night skits. Some who were unable to attend are already looking ahead to next Fall’s retreat.



Caitlin, Jean, Margot, Andrew, Stephanie and John explain why their group is called the “Monk-ees.”

It’s Your Call

Vocation Profile: Forrest Pritchett, Freshman Studies

Q: What is your birthplace?

A: Atlantic City, NJ.

Q: What do you feel called to do?

A: To help people and human organizations to reach their maximum potential.

Q: A defining moment in your life was . . .

A: Receiving a diagnosis of cancer in 1996. I left the doctor’s

office and instead of receiving surgery, I walked in faith for three years.

Q: What is your favorite

song or poem?

A: “And Still I Rise” by Maya Angelou.

Q: What is your favorite Scripture passage?

A: Philippians 4:13, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

Q: If you could spend 24 hours with anyone, living or dead, who would it be?

A: Christ.

Q: What does the word “vocation” mean to you?

A: It is the area of our personal work or lifestyle that we are most passionate about. It is something I would do without seek-

ing compensation. It involves an “inner calling.”

Q: What change would you like to make at Seton Hall?

A: SHU needs more “soul”: *For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?* (Mark 8:36).

Q: What is one word that others would use to describe you?

A: Involved.

Q: What is your favorite pastime?

A: Photography.

Q: What would you like on your tombstone?

A: Well Done, My Good and Faithful Servant.

