



The Servant Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTER FOR VOCATION AND SERVANT LEADERSHIP

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November 2004

“Discover U”

“If you love what you do, you’ll never work a day in your life.”

With the assistance of a student planning committee and executive coach Theresa Liddy, the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership is hosting a series of three seminars for students, entitled “Discover U,” on Wednesday evenings.

Seminars examine one of three key questions:

What is your joy? What are you good at? Who cares?

The first seminar was very successful, with 31 students in attendance.

The program included a presentation by Cathy Dixon, the True Colors exercise, small group discussion and a skit



performed by two student members of the planning committee.

This intense program

will hopefully help undergraduate students find their calling in life. These activities assist students in exploring their talents as well as finding careers that reflect their gifts.

“As an older student whose career has taken many turns over the past years, I thought Discover U was an evening of discovery,” said Gregory Kelly, a first-year transfer student

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Most Successful “SHU 500” Ever

The 8th annual SHU 500 took place on September 25th and over 800 Seton Hall University student volunteers participated.

SHU 500 was coordinated through the Division of Volunteer Efforts (DOVE), which is responsible for all community



Students pitch in for SHU 500

service opportunities offered to Seton Hall students. The morning began with speeches by Tom White, Assistant Vice Presi-

dent for Public Relations and Marketing, and Monsignor Robert Sheeran, University President.

The 800 volunteers then set out in their SHU 500 T-shirts to ten different locations in Essex County. These locations included:

the Community Food Bank, YWCA of Essex, St. John’s Soup Kitchen, Sister’s of St. Joseph’s Convent, New Community Corporation,

the Village of South Orange, and United Vailsburg Services.

Students participated in dispersing and sorting food, cleaning up facilities, river clean up, planting flowers, and painting various worksites.

DOVE Director, Michelle Sheridan, was very pleased with the outcome of the event. There were more volunteers than ever before, as well as more upperclassman. SHU 500 had an impressive turnout of volunteers who were there to serve ~ and build ~ community.



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Key Personnel . . .

“THE STRATEGY OF OUR PROPOSAL WAS TO FUND NEW PERSONNEL IN KEY PLACES FOR HELPING MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY TO DISCOVER THEIR CALLING.”

-- DR. DAVID FOSTER, DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR VOCATION & SERVANT LEADERSHIP

From the Director's Desk: People Are the Key!

Seton Hall's award-winning proposal to the Lilly Endowment carried with it a detailed budget explaining just how the University promised to spend the \$2 million Lilly was offering faith-based colleges to explore "vocation," or "calling," at their institutions.

Our proposal detailed 15 different initiatives that serve students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the surrounding community. The budget is divided between personnel and program costs. And, as with all such grants, the major portion is invested in personnel.

The strategy of our proposal was to fund new personnel in key places for helping members of the University community to discover their calling. The proposal also sought to fund initiatives that serve the surrounding community, so we were able to hire Kristen Weis, and her intern Derek Lumsden, in the *Community Outreach Office*. (We spotlighted Kristin in last month's newsletter.) And now that three key "Lilly" hires have been finalized, I introduce them here in the center pages of this month's "Servant Leader."

The grant also provides

the major funding for the *FOCUS* program enlisting our student evangelization team: Tom Wurtz, Margot Capocci, Mary Fisher, and Patrick McLoughlin (see the Nov. 7 article in *Our Sunday Visitor*).

Seton Hall's "Lilly Project" also funds the *Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership* which is responsible for administering the grant. It is staffed by assistant Carol Ann Koert, grad assistant Esperanza Hernandez, and myself. Programs and initiatives are very important ~ but *people* are the key to the project's success!

Dr. David Foster

Spotlight: Coordinator for Spiritual Programming

David Peterson was recently hired with funds from the Lilly grant to work with Campus Ministry. His responsibilities include working with the RA's on spiritual programming and being a liaison between the *Center for Vocations and Servant Leadership* and *Campus Ministry*.

As an undergraduate

student, David attended Mount Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg where he received a BA in Theology. After graduation he joined the Xaverian Volunteers and went to live in Central Haiti for a year. In Haiti he lived and worked with the *Little Brothers of the Incarnation*, a native Haitian community.



David Peterson, Coordinator for Spiritual Programming

About his new position David says, "During the year in Haiti, I decided I wanted to be involved in some sort of Catholic ministry. Being aware of the many challenges I faced as a student, I thought there was no better place to work than at a Catholic University. I was very excited when I was offered a job here, a place with deep-rooted faith, tradition, and connections to Mother Seton. I am extremely grateful to be here as part of a devoted Seton Hall team."

... Now in Place

Spotlight: Coordinator of Career Mentoring

Andrew Brereton recently accepted the position of Coordinator of Career Mentoring. As the newest member of the Career Center staff, Andrew will work with the Director, Jacqueline Chaffin, and her staff to incorporate the concept of “calling” or “vocation” into the Career Center’s programs.

Andrew earned his M.A. in theology from Seton Hall in 1998, and is currently writing his dissertation in theology at Fordham University.

Asked about his new

position, Andrew says “I’m excited about returning to the SHU community. In many ways I feel like I’m coming home.” Andrew describes himself as having an interesting career path: “I’ve taught in settings ranging from kindergarten to graduate school -- including a semester at Immaculate Conception Seminary. I’ve managed a store and



Andrew Brereton, Coordinator of Career Mentoring

been a professional carpenter and cabinet-maker.”

In all of this, the two things that Andrew says he has enjoyed the most are the experience of being of service and the chance to solve problems.

Andrew lives with his wife Janet and three teen-age sons in Sayreville where the family belongs to Our Lady of Victories parish.

Spotlight: Coordinator for Student IMPACTS Programs

Robin is well known at Seton Hall for her service from 1982 to 2003 as the Director of Academic Support Services for Student-athletes.

Her work with the student-athletes has been both locally and nationally recognized, including the Seton Hall University President’s Award for Excellence in Service to Students



Robin Cunningham, Coordinator for Student IMPACTS

in 1996 and the 2002 Men’s Basketball MVP (Most Valuable Person) Award for her service to the team.

Currently, Robin is dividing her time between working as a mentor in Freshman Studies and being the Coordinator for Student Impacts program in the *Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership*. She sees

the change in her work from student-athletes to the general population as an opportunity for her to bring her expertise in developing the whole student to the wider community.

Originally from Westfield, NJ, Robin graduated from Seton Hall in 1978 with a BA in English. In 1984, she earned her master’s degree in Counseling and Special Services, and she received her Ed.S. degree in Secondary Education in 1996. She currently resides in North Plainfield, NJ.

“PROGRAMS COME AND GO; INITIATIVES MAY SUCCEED OR FAIL. BUT THE TRANSFORMATION WE’RE SEEKING WILL ULTIMATELY DEPEND ON THE PEOPLE WE INVITE TO LEAD THE EFFORT.”

-- FATHER PAUL HOLMES, VICE PRESIDENT FOR MISSION & MINISTRY



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“Discover U” (Cont’d from page 1)

involved in the planning committee. “If I had been exposed to the impact series on Vocation, Work and Career, my life probably

would have been a lot more fruitful. Isn't it wonderful that God works in such loving ways, as to bless me with a chance to come

back to school and start a new career?”

Future guest speakers include Dr. William Toth on November 17 and Jerry

Walker on December 1.

For more information, please contact Carol Ann Koert, ext. 6042.

Servant Leader Essay Contest

The Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership is sponsoring an essay contest that will coincide with Public Service Month in February. We encourage faculty members to pass this information along to students.

Essay Topic: “The Ethical Challenges of Leadership”

At Seton Hall we believe

every career can and should serve the common good. For your essay, imagine what you might be doing 15 years from now and what opportunities there will be to exercise leadership in serving the common good.

The challenges you face will not only be managerial but also ethical. In your essay

explain what you envision to be a major ethical challenge you would face in a leadership position.

Finally, suggest what Seton Hall could do to prepare you to face that challenge.

Due: 1 February 2005



Length: 600-650 words

Best Undergraduate Essay: \$300 prize

Best Graduate Essay: \$300 prize

Submit essay by email to: csl@shu.edu, or drop off at the Center for Servant Leadership, Presidents Hall, Lower Level.



Vocation Profile

Roseanne Mirabella, Assoc. Prof., Political Science, & Chair, Faculty Senate

Q: What do you feel called to do?

A: *Bring the community and its issues to life in my classroom and to help my students understand their role in creating a better world for all of us.*

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

A: *Idealist.*

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

A: *Tenacious.*

Q: What is your favorite pastime?

A: *I find gardening very relaxing, very rewarding and all-forgiving.*

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: *Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen.*

Q: What is your favorite song?

A: *“I’ve Got You Under My Skin,” Frank Sinatra recording, Nelson Riddle ar-*

rangement.

Q: What is your favorite Scripture passage?

A: *The Beatitudes.*

Q: Who is your hero?

A: *Dr. Mary Boutilier, Political Science Professor, Seton Hall University.*

Q: A perfect day would have to include...

A: *My husband and my children, in the garden - having a nice meal together and playing games in the evening.*

Q: Where would you like to travel next?

A: *Tuscany.*

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

A: *As a junior I discovered a lot about myself when I worked as an intern for Unified Vailsburg arranged by Dr. Emma Quartaro.*

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

A: *The adoption of a Core Curriculum, a signature experience for our undergraduates that speaks to who we are as a university. The Core Curriculum would emphasize Seton Hall’s mission to form servant leaders for a global society.*