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   When a team of Seton Hall alumni joined the launch of Shadow Traffic in 1979, they helped transform the dreaded morning commute.

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Memories of Seton Hall

With fewer than 90 days remaining in his tenure as the University’s 19th president, Monsignor Robert Sheeran reflected on his administration and the future of Seton Hall.

Q. You have been at Seton Hall for more than 30 years, half that time as chief executive. What are some of the key memories of those years?

A. My first — and one of my strongest — memories is the day in September 1963 when my Dad dropped me off in front of Boland Hall. Like any freshman I was excited, uncertain of what lay ahead, and I soon felt absolutely at home.

And a flood of memories over the decades. I think of taking classes that helped to shape my life and perspective on almost everything; welcoming new students at orientation; basketball games and those always exciting post-season trips. I recall, as if it were yesterday, my first teaching experience at Seton Hall in 1980 and my years as rector of the College Seminary. How could I ever forget the night we celebrated our 150th anniversary with fireworks and when we closed our $153 million campaign?

Q. What major educational successes and challenges can you point to over the course of your presidency?

A. We have certainly achieved great national recognition for Seton Hall and greater prominence in New Jersey, especially through our graduate and professional programs. Recruiting excellent faculty and students and, yes, economic pressures have grown more intense over this period, as the cost of a college education has increased for everyone.

And faith today plays a larger role than ever in the life of this Catholic university. I have just finished reading God & Back about how the global rise of faith will change the world — in our own time. It is happening right now.

Q. How have you personally dealt with the requirements of being both priest and administrator?

A. Being president allows me to help shape the institution, to sell and to sing its virtues to many constituencies. But even as I spend a lot of my time on big strategic matters, I appreciate working directly with people. There is nothing I enjoy more than welcoming a student from far away, acknowledging a professor’s outstanding service, awarding diplomas on graduation day with family and friends present, or even just being in the cafeteria with students and learning about their perspectives on Seton Hall.

First and foremost, I am a priest, and I have the opportunity to celebrate liturgies at moments of our greatest joy and deepest sorrow. I thoroughly enjoy saying Sunday Mass and my regular 8 a.m. Mass at the beginning of the day.

Also, these years have made me much less afraid to ask people to be involved with the University, to give of their time, talent and treasure. I have invited hundreds of people to be involved in the life of Seton Hall, to give of themselves — and so many have responded with enormous generosity. Inevitably, their involvement is as much or even more of a gift to them!

Q. Do you have a final thought for us?

A. When I was appointed in 1995, I could never have guessed that there would be no Seton Hall president with a term of office longer than mine. I trust that Seton Hall has become better under my presidency, but I will let others judge. I will await Professor Dermot Quinn’s history of the University! Suffice it to say that I thank God for the opportunity to serve, and hope that one day it will be said “He served well.”

One of my strongest memories is the day in September 1963 when my Dad dropped me off in front of Boland Hall.

Seton Hall actively participates in some of the transforming phenomena of our time: The healthcare revolution through the College of Nursing and School of Health and Medical Sciences; globalization through the Whitehead School, science and technology innovations in a range of new academic programs; interreligious dialogue; as well as huge leaps forward in learning technology.

There are sad memories, too: the tragic moments of the Boland Hall fire and its aftermath. The memorial service for the 13 members of the Seton Hall community who died on 9/11.

Of course, I remember being involved in the start-up of Freshman Studies, inaugurating the School of Diplomacy at the U.N., welcoming to campus Mikhail Gorbachev, Shimon Peres, Kofi Annan and Tony Blair.

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“SHU in the news

“The senator's letter was beautiful, and it was the letter of someone seeking peace in his last days.”
— Monsignor Robert J. Wisler, School of Theology, in The Boston Globe, on Sen. Ted Kennedy's letter to Pope Benedict XVI

“In short, the popular criticism of the automotive bankruptcy cases does not stand up to careful scrutiny.”
— Stephen Lubben, School of Law, in Forbes.com, on the truth about Detroit's bankruptcies

“The virulence is basically the same as seasonal influenza.”
— Vorshaj Huang, Whitewood School of Medicine, in Forbes.com, on deciding if it is safe to get the H1N1 vaccine

“People recognize that part of his motivation for this unprecedented presidential involvement is that Chicago is his home city. But they also think he would do it enthusiastically for any city because it’s good for the country.”
— Rick Gentile, Stillman School of Business, in the Los Angeles Times, on Tiger Woods' dealings with the media

“We are the first to bring these products to the market.”
— Yanzhong Huang, Whitehead School of Medicine, in Forbes.com, on producing shark repellent

“The more you stonewall these things, the longer they tend to drag on.”
— Larry McCarthy, Stillman School of Business, in The Boston Globe, on the truth about Detroit’s bankruptcies

“I do not think that the SciFi Channel will lose an ounce of equity by changing to Syfy.”
— Walt Guarino, College of Arts and Sciences, in CNN.com

“A lot of the voters who voted for Christie really were voting against Corzine.”
— Joseph Markoe, College of Arts and Sciences, in USA Today, on New Jersey's gubernatorial race

In Case of Emergency...

Seton Hall’s ability to be prepared got a boost when the U.S. Department of Education awarded it a $530,000 emergency management grant. The grant will improve the University’s response by funding a number of projects, including the development of an “all hazards” University Emergency Operations Plan that will assess threats and vulnerabilities, train staff, implement drills and exercises, and review campus infectious disease plans. The money will also fund a volunteer Community Emergency Response Team. The team will be equipped with radios, first-aid kits and rescue and safety gear, including two special chairs used to evacuate disabled people from buildings when elevators cannot be used, said Thomas Giordano, assistant director for emergency management.

“One of these evacuation chairs will be presented to the South Orange Fire Department, the agency that provides firefighting and fire rescue services to the main campus,” he said. “They are an important partner in the University’s emergency preparedness and response efforts.”

The grant money will also:

• Help create online resources and other programs to educate the campus community about emergency preparedness and procedures.
• Improve coordination with local, county and state emergency management offices.
• Help address the needs of people with disabilities during emergencies.
• Improve recognition of students at risk for committing violence, and provide intervention training for faculty and staff.
• Seton Hall is one of 26 universities to receive grants from the $9.7 million Emergency Management for Higher Education program overseen by the Department of Education. The money must be used to address all four phases of emergency management: prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Sesquicentennial Celebration

Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology (ICSST) marks its 150th anniversary on April 25, 2010. To commemorate the sesquicentennial, the seminary has planned a year-long schedule of events, including alumni reunions, lectures and spiritual reflections, and a special banquet to be held on May 18, 2011. The celebration will officially close on Dec. 8, 2011, on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, with Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark—at which the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States will preside. “We are approaching a great time in the history of Immaculate Conception Seminary,” says the seminary’s rector and dean, Monsignor Robert F. Coleman, J.C.D. “As one of the very few seminaries founded before the Civil War that continues to serve the Church’s mission today, we rejoice in the great history of these 150 years and are filled with hope and confidence for a future of continued growth and service.”

The school, which admits seminarians studying for the Catholic priesthood as well as lay students, serves as the major seminary for the Archdiocese of Newark and the University’s school of theology. Founded at Seton Hall, ICSST remained part of the University until 1926, when it moved to Darlington, N.J. It affiliated with Seton Hall again in 1984.

The seminary community has already begun to prepare spiritually for the sesquicentennial anniversary with special prayers for the 150 days before the opening celebrations. To join in prayer or learn about coming events, visit www.shu.edu/academics/theology.
The Golden Age

The Seton Hall Honors Program recently celebrated 50 years of fostering intellectual development through academic challenge. The program, which began in 1959, enrolls students from every undergraduate college to collaborate with faculty in intense study that broadens their sense of how the world came to be and the process of critical thinking. Honors students first immerse themselves in classical civilizations, medieval cultures, the early modern world and the contemporary world, then take seminars in the humanities and social sciences. Independent research at the end of the program leads to a senior honors thesis. The program, directed by Peter S. Abravanel, Ph.D., associate professor of religious studies, also takes advantage of cultural opportunities in the greater New York City area. Students visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art, attend concerts, opera and theater, and study abroad on faculty-led summer trips to places like Rome and Athens.

A Streak Continued

It was a big year for one of the University’s leading researchers.

In 2009, Susan I. Chang, Ph.D., director of the Institute of Neuroimmunomodulation Pharmacology, was honored as Seton Hall’s first University Researcher of the Year. The National Institutes of Health also awarded five grants to Chang, providing $1 million to Seton Hall over two years, is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This grant will support four new researchers at the University to study alcohol’s effects on adolescents.

Another new grant, valued at almost $2.5 million over five years, is for research to study nicotine’s effects on memory problems associated with HIV. A fifth grant supports summer research at Seton Hall by a high school senior.

Chang, a professor of biological sciences and neuroscience, has received close to $9.5 million from the federal government since 1988. One of her projects has now received 20 years of continuous support.

Her current research focuses on the effects of drugs and alcohol use on the nervous and immune systems.

Two of Chang’s 2009 awards were continuations of existing grants. One of the new grants, which will bring more than $1 million to Seton Hall over two years, is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This grant will support four new researchers at the University to study alcohol’s effects on adolescents.

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CAREER REBOOT

The Seton Hall Career Center hosted a forum this fall for more than 150 people looking to return to the work force.

The event was a one-day conference organized by iRelaunch.com, a company that offers re-entry programs for women who have taken a break in their careers.

With men accounting for most of the job losses since the beginning of the recession, many are being motivated to return to the workplace to pay the family’s bills, said Carol Fishman Cohen, one of the company founders.

“You have to go through a rigorous analysis of how your skills have changed, or not changed, since you left work,” she said.

Fox News broadcast live throughout the day from the Oct. 29 forum, which was held at the Main Lounge of the Bishop Doughey Library University Center. The event featured breakfast, a keynote speech, a networking lunch, and a number of panel discussions and breakout sessions.

In September, Father John F. Russell, S.T.D., was awarded the Pope Beneficent medal by Pope Benedict XVI. The medal was conferred on Father Russell at the Sacred Heart Cathedral by the Most Reverend John J. Myers, J.C.D., D.D., Archbishop of Newark, for Father Russell’s contributions to the Church’s life and mission.

The College of Nursing recently received scholarship funding for students enrolled in its accelerated master’s program. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation awarded the college the $150,000, and the Daimnno-Mitral Association awarded $10,000.

In October 2009 the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, one of two national associations approved by the U.S. Department of Education to review programs, continued the accreditation of the College of Education and Human Services.

Asefaw Barlaghe, Ph.D., professor and faculty chair at the Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations, was elected president of the Association of Third World Studies.

The Seton Hall United Nations Association student organization was presented with the Outstanding Large Delegation Award for its performance at the 32nd annual Security Council Simulations at Yale University.

William J. Connell, Ph.D., professor of history, was elected to the editorial board of the journal Storia e politica.

Brian B. Shulman, dean of the School of Health and Medical Sciences, was recently appointed dean commissioner on the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant.

Nina Capone, Ph.D., professor of speech-language pathology, was appointed associate editor of the Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research.

Patricia Remshahli, M.S., director of clinical education and professor of speech-language pathology, was appointed to the board of directors of the New Jersey Speech-Language Hearing Association.

In Brief

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To Be a Better Leader, Give Up Control

The Princeton Review’s Best 301 Business Schools featured the Stillman School of Business and its M.B.A. program.

Assefaw Barlaghe, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematics and computer science, hosted more than 60 computer scientists from 20 countries during the 21st International Symposia on Implementation and Applications of Functional Languages (IFL). The on-campus event was the first IFL symposium to be held in the United States.

WSOU was named one of four finalists in the “Best Radio Station Promotion” category of the annual College Broadcasters awards. In September, the station received three nods in the 2009 CMJ College Radio Awards: “Station of the Year,” “Best Student-Run Station,” and “Most Supportive of the Local Scene.”

The Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations hosted its Global Leadership gala at the New York Public Library in December. The gala honored Ambassador Frank C. Carlucci, a former secretary of defense and assistant to the president for national-security affairs.

Petra Chu, Ph.D., professor of museum professions, was recently nominated for a second term as board member of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums.

Fifthgrant supportsother research at Seton Hall, and is for research to study nicotine’s effects on memory problems associated with HIV. A fifth grant supports summer research at Seton Hall by a high school senior.

In October 2009, Father John F. Russell, S.T.D., was awarded t
What’s simple about New Jersey? With nearly nine million people packed into just 7,500 square miles, an exceptionally diverse population, and some of the richest and poorest cities in the country – not much.

Still, Seton Hall history professor Maxine Lurie, along with co-editor Peter O. Wacker and cartographer Michael Siegel (both from Rutgers), have illustrated key facets of the state through a series of stunning maps. In Mapping New Jersey, they track the evolution of transportation, land use, demographics and the environment. All in 240 pages.
An examination of the biographical literature provided support for the diagnosis, and Chokroverty published a review of the case in Sleep Medicine, the journal he founded in 2000 as a resource to educate physicians about the latest developments in the emerging field of sleep science.

Chokroverty is an internationally respected authority in sleep medicine and an expert in restless legs syndrome. He has written for hundreds of scholarly publications on subjects across the field of sleep studies, from parasomnias and movement disorders to the links between neurological disease and sleep. But the legacy he is building is that of an educator. “People are getting more knowledgeable now, but for hundreds of years — until the last 15 years or so — we talked about what happens during the daytime and totally ignored the nighttime,” he explains. “And there is still a great ignorance around sleep.”

He has therefore dedicated much of his nearly 50-year career as a neurologist to illuminating sleep’s mysteries. “He was one of the pioneers in bringing sleep medicine into the forefront of neurology and recognized the interconnection of sleep with virtually every aspect of neurology — from stroke, in epilepsy, to neuromuscular diseases,” says neurologist Beth Malow, medical director of the Vanderbilt Sleep Disorders Center at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

After founding Sleep Medicine, Chokroverty went on to establish the World Association of Sleep Medicine, an organization of healthcare professionals supporting sleep research and promoting the prevention and treatment of sleep disorders. He has also written two books for the general public, 100 Questions and Answers About Sleep and Sleep Disorders and the forthcoming 100 Questions and Answers About Restless Legs Syndrome.

Does sleep really need an advocate? It seems such a simple phenomenon: Just lie down in the dark at the end of the day, and you’ll wake up in the morning refreshed. For many of us, including the 50 million to 70 million Americans afflicted by insomnia and other sleep disorders, this fundamental biological mechanism is not so simple. We know that when our sleep is disrupted, we suffer poor concentration and lost productivity. We have more accidents at work and on the roads, more than a quarter of respondents in the National Sleep Foundation’s 2009 “Sleep in America” poll admitted to having fallen asleep behind the wheel in the last year.

But the effects of sleep debt go beyond our ability to stay awake the next day. “Heart attacks, high blood pressure, stroke, diabetes, memory problems, obesity: All of these have been connected to lack of sleep,” Chokroverty says. “But people — and not just the public but physicians as well — are not aware that a lack of sleep can cause these things.”

A doctor may treat a patient’s cardiovascular disease without ever identifying the sleep apnea that may be a contributing cause. Or a patient with insomnia may be prescribed sleeping pills while another underlying sleep disorder goes untreated. These are not hypothetical situations; the National Institutes of Health estimates that 50 percent of sleep disorders remain undiagnosed. Dostoyevsky’s delayed sleep phase syndrome might have gone unrecognized even today.

But it’s not only because Dostoyevsky’s doctor missed a diagnosis that the case is relevant to the healthcare professionals who read Sleep Medicine. In identifying the author’s sleep disorder, Chokroverty could as easily have been describing the case of a contemporary writer. Many circadian rhythm sleep disorders, like jet lag disorder and shift work disorder, are on the increase in modern times. “We don’t view sleep as a serious thing, and we’re all so busy working, moving ahead, competing, that there’s no time’ to get more rest,” he says. “So a large percentage of the population is sleep-deprived. But too many of us are not aware of the consequences.”

Tricia Brick is a writer based in New York.
THE SIMPLE POWER OF ‘Thank You’

MIDDLE-SCHOOL TEACHER DANIEL KOCSIS ’69 GIVES HIS STUDENTS LESSONS IN HISTORY — AND LIFE — WITH AN INSPIRED CLASS ASSIGNMENT.

Twelve years ago, Daniel Kocsis paused on Veterans Day to make a few phone calls.

The New Hampshire middle-school teacher dialed his good friend Dan O’Leary, a Vietnam veteran. He also called his father-in-law, Eugene Schmidt, and another friend, John Saveriana, both World War II veterans.

Kocsis’ purpose was simple. He thanked them for their military service.

“It was just something I thought I should do,” says Kocsis. “I wasn’t watching ‘Coming Home’ or any military movie.”

Although Kocsis never served in the armed forces himself — he completed mandatory ROTC training during his freshman year at Seton Hall but drew a high number in the January 1970 draft lottery and wasn’t conscripted — he had developed a deep appreciation for those who had. His father, John Kocsis, served in the Army before World War II, and three of his uncles served during the war. A cousin, Gary Kocsis, served in Vietnam, and two high-school acquaintances — a classmate and a volunteer football coach — died there.

For O’Leary, the call was a pleasant surprise. “Vietnam veterans in particular spent many years without being thanked,” he says. “It was pretty meaningful.”

Kocsis’ conversations that Veterans Day gave him another idea. “I thought, ‘Wouldn’t it be nice if I could have my kids write letters?’” he says.

He started collecting veterans’ addresses and having his students write letters of thanks each Veterans Day. As Nov. 11, 2009, approached, 84 students in Kocsis’ fourth-seventh-grade English classes wrote 800 letters of gratitude to about 300 veterans whose addresses Kocsis gathered by soliciting VFW chapters, parents and even strangers — he obtained one address in a LensCrafters store from a man he saw wearing a hat that said “World War II Veteran,” he says.

Within a few weeks, the students had received about 100 responses, many containing photos and other mementos. And most of the veterans who wrote back shared stories from their time in the military.

Although the exercise helps the students develop writing skills, it has a broader aim. “It takes a humanities approach,” Kocsis says. “If they write letters like this, they’re learning we serve the community. I figure this is one way kids can reach out to the community.”

With the United States still at war in Iraq and Afghanistan, the veterans’ responses offer the students real-life examples of military sacrifice.

“I wrote that I admired their bravery, and they said they had no choice in being brave. They had to do what they were told,” says Emily Lachance, the 12-year-old daughter of a veteran, who wrote 46 letters.

Adds Maggie Boisvert, also 12: “I didn’t realize how many things people went through.”

In Allendale, N.J., Vietnam veteran Everett Lang received eight letters from Kocsis’ students. They were the first letters of recognition he had received since his 1967-68 tour of duty, he wrote in a response.

Lang, a retired Wall Street executive battling cancer that he says was caused by wartime Agent Orange exposure, became emotional reading one of the students’ letters over the phone.

“I think the children are good for doing this,” he says. “I think it begins to do two things. It thanks veterans for what they did, and it educates the students about what happened and what continues to happen as they get older. We’ve never been completely out of a war.”

While Kocsis fosters gratitude for veterans, he does so with mixed emotions: a “certain amount of guilt” over others’ sacrifices, and the religious belief that “we shouldn’t be killing people.”

“So you’re caught in the middle,” he says. Kocsis credits Seton Hall for instilling the Christian values he espouses. Raised in Clifton, N.J., he graduated with a sociology degree before earning a master of arts in teaching in 1971. He got his first teaching job at Montclair Kimberley Academy in 1974 and has been shaping young minds since.

A New Hampshire resident since 1978, Kocsis lives in Concord with Nancy, his wife of 40 years. An avid runner who has completed 18 marathons, he is also a church cantor who sang the national anthem before a Boston Red Sox baseball game at storied Fenway Park in 2007.

Among his experiences, however, Kocsis holds dear his years at Seton Hall, where he became the first member of his family to attend college and earn a degree.

“I have a lot of great memories of going there,” he says. “It was a very special time in my life.”

Mike Cullity is a reporter for the New Hampshire Union Leader and a freelance writer.

“I wrote that I admired their bravery, and they said they had no choice in being brave.”

— Emily Lachance, 12, who wrote 46 letters to veterans
The Sheeran Presidency
1995-2010
When
In 1996 Monsignor Sheenan asked me to return to a
loane at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University
to work on the Catholic identity and mission of Seton Hall, my first
thought was about the centrality of the faculty.
A line from a 1952 article by Bernard Lonergan came to mind:
"A university is a reproductive organ of cultural community," he wrote.
"Its constitutive endowment lies not in buildings or equipment,
civil status or revenues, but in the intellectual life of its professors.
Its central function is the communication of
intellectual development."
In other words, students come to a university, and within four or
five years, they leave. But faculty members stay for 20, 30,
perhaps even 50 years. (Albert B. Hakim, professor emeritus of
philosophy, comes to mind!) The intellectual and cultural develop-
ment of the faculty is "the product" of the university. That is what
our students pay for.
And so in 1997, Monsignor Sheenan enthusiastically endorsed
the creation of a Center for Catholic Studies, whose primary focus
would be faculty development and interdisciplinary dialogue.
Among the centers many activities were the faculty seminars
that have taken place for three or four days every May since then.
More than 150 faculty members
have participated in these seminars from virtually every department and
school of the University: Catholics and Protestants, Jews and Muslims, Hindus
and those professing no religion.
The seminars have allowed faculty
to gather in small groups, to get to
know one another, and to engage in
dialogue about the meaning of being human in the light of the Catholic
intellectual tradition.
All of these seminars have been
guided by outside facilitators who are
able to spark questioning and dialogue among the participants.
The result is that community has been built, deep issues vented,
and good will generated. Among other results has been the creation
of the University’s new core curriculum.
Here is just one evaluative
comment from a Jewish participant who attended the seminar "Divine
Madness" in 1999:
"Please know that to this day, that
week remains the most intellectually
stimulating week I’ve had with rel-
tleagues to date. We faculty in
attendance came from diverse back-
grounds, and the discussion crossed
religious boundaries, yet helped us
all see that within the Catholic philos-
ophy discussed was core content
that not only applied to all of our lives
but (also) enriched our perceptions of
Catholic thought. The faculty being
involved during that week, even years later,
is still alive among so many of us.
I, for one, would like to pay great tribute to Monsignor Sheenan
for his great courage and leadership in establishing the Center
for Catholic Studies and for all that he has done during these years for
the intellectual and cultural development of the faculty of Seton Hall.

December 1995
Monsignor Sheenan
RTS is appointed president of
Seton Hall by the University’s Board
of Regents.

1996
RTS continues to live in
Kane Hall as part of the Priests
in-Residence program.

A pilot mobile computing
project is launched with 12 faculty
members and 20 students.

The National Coalition Building
Institute’s diversity workshops are
launched for all incoming students.

The Center for Catholic
Studies is founded, and RTS asks
Monsignor Richard Liddy to return
from Georgetown to be its director.

June
Boland Hall is opened.

The School of Diplomacy and
International Relations is founded.

The University receives the
EDUCUSE Award for DARcence
in Campus Networking.

The Barley Project, a review of
the ethical dimensions of life at
Seton Hall, is completed.

The University’s crest,
consumer mark and athletics mark
are redesigned.

Seton Hall hosts a conference
on the ethical dimensions of inter-
national debt, attended by leaders
of the World Bank and the IMF.

The University-wide mobile
computing project is formally
launched and laptops become
mandatory for all incoming under-
graduates.

The University receives the
Kane Hall as part of the Priests
in-Residence program.

October
The University’s Board of Regents
appoints Monsignor Richard Liddy to
return from Georgetown to be its director.

September
Boland Hall opens.
The Institute is fully wired
with network and

Five seminars have been
launched and laptops become
mandatory for all incoming under-
graduates.

August
The University’s crest,
consumer mark and athletics mark
are redesigned.

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May
Monsignor Richard M. Liddy, S.T.D., Ph.D., professor of religious studies
and director of the Center for Catholic Studies

April
A ceremony is held
for the groundbreaking of the
Boland Hall Memorial Garden.

March
A fire in Boland
Hall takes the lives of three students,
Aaron Nouri, Frank Calabritto Jr.,
and John Graziano, and injures five
others. In April, a bell tower is dedi-
cated in honor of the lost students.

February
A memo asks the
University to redesign Seton Hall’s
core curriculum.

January
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2000
Angelo Cardinal Sodano,
Secretary of State of the Holy See,
visits campus at the time
of the terrorist attacks.

1999
A committee is convened to
redesign Seton Hall’s core curriculum
over a seven-year period.

1998
The John Templeton Foundation
announces the establishment of the
"Teaching as an Ethical Act" 2010

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The Scholarship and Interdisciplinary
Relations is founded.

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March
A fire in Boland
Hall takes the lives of three students,
Aaron Nouri, Frank Calabritto Jr.,
and John Graziano, and injures five
others. In April, a bell tower is dedi-
cated in honor of the lost students.

1999
A committee is convened to
redesign Seton Hall’s core curriculum
over a seven-year period.
As a three-time alum of Seton Hall and a member of Monsignor’s cabinet for eight years, I have many wonderful memories that will last a lifetime. My favorite times were spent with Monsignor after the a.m. Mass. He would always start my day off with a good laugh. Even on my most challenging days, Monsignor would remind me “to lighten up” if I came across overly concerned about an issue. Within months of my arrival at Seton Hall, Monsignor developed a hand signal to remind me to “lighten up,” and as soon as he lifted his hand I would know he was about to laugh.

His quick wit was one of his most precious gifts to us all and brought us through the good times and the tough ones.

— Mary Menchette ’72/M.A.’74/Ph.D.’01, president of Avossa College in Milwaukee, Wis., and former executive vice president for strategy and community at Seton Hall.

I first met Father Bob, as we called him, as a very young parishioner in the early 1970s at St. Michael’s in Cranford, N.J. My parents always held him in high regard—for many reasons—not the least of which was his genuine love of Catholic life and faith.

When I decided to enroll at Seton Hall, I had the chance to realize a relationship that was a great honor for me. I would see him on campus regularly and the first thing that stood out to all of the students was the way he related so easily with us. We would often comment on his calm demeanor and genuine concern and interest in whatever we were doing.

We even used to play racquetball against him in the new gym, and it took me awhile to get used to beating a priest. But many times he returned the favor, and it quickly became clear he didn’t seem to be bothered by the thought of beating us, which he did regularly.

A few years later, he became president of the University. But the person, the priest and the friend never changed from the many years I have known him.

Monsignor Sheenan was a great priest first, before he was a president. And for those of us who know him, respect him and have been served by him, we have always known what was most important to him. What a great witness for all of us who seek to follow the same Lord he serves so well.

I am sure he still has a lot to do for many more people. I would bet on it.

— Daniel Gephardt ’90

I thank Monsignor Sheenan from the bottom of my heart for his friendship and for his strong support of the Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall. The school could not have had the great success it has had without his strong hand and wise judgments over the years. I am proud of the school and proud of his support.

— John C. Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations

On December 17, 2002, Monsignor Sheenan was at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel ballroom with more than 1,800 guests to celebrate the Whitehead School of Diplomacy. Just three or four days later, he was in Cisarua, Fla., with about 30 people for an alumni reunion at the University of Miami’s Brach School. Monsignor mingled with the guests at the cocktail hour, chatting with each person. After dinner, he rose to give an impressive 20-minute talk. During his speech, he explained each guest by first name without a hitch. We all were impressed and knew that Seton Hall had chosen the right person to lead the University into the 21st century.

— Ignatius and Frank Spatuzzi ’39/M.A.’42

A few years ago, I was an adjunct professor in the Department of Public and Healthcare Administration teaching an evening graduate course. I was sitting alone in the library prepping for my class when Monsignor Sheenan saw me and went out of his way to come over and say hello to me. He asked me who I was and what I was doing. I mentioned that I was an adjunct professor. He then proceeded to tell me how important the adjunct faculty was to the University and thanked me for all my efforts.

As an adjunct teaching a single evening class, one can sometimes feel isolated and on your own. That five-minute conversation with Monsignor Sheenan made that isolation go away and made me feel that I was in fact an important part of the University family.

— Mark Gallagher, Ph.D. ’10

Back in 2007, Monsignor Sheenan embroiled us with launching a campuswide task force to advance internationalization at Seton Hall. Being asked to take part in an initiative that has been a cornerstone of Monsignor Sheenan’s tenure was a great honor.

Our task-force team, made up of more than 50 faculty members and administrators, was selected to participate in the Internationalization Laboratory, a rigorous, two-year institutional research program sponsored by the American Council on Education (ACE).

As part of the endeavor, we attended workshops in Washington, D.C., and hosted ACE administrators and peer reviewers from other universities here on campus. Our work, the product of this collaboration, ultimately translated into a comprehensive report that offered fresh insights into our institutional history and culture and proposed a set of strategic recommendations to guide the University as it moves toward comprehensive internationalization.

Seton Hall’s selection for the comprehensive internationalization process certainly benefited from Monsignor’s longstanding track record with ACE, first in 1992 as an ACE Fellow, and ever since as a member who continues to serve the council in manifold ways.

Seton Hall has only been the most recent and prominent manifestation of Monsignor’s vision for the University’s place in the world. His life experience and education already demonstrated an international perspective. His high school and college years in the Garden State preceded intense sipsums abroad (including his education for the priesthood in Rome).

A voracious traveler, Monsignor’s life journey not only testifies to the evolution of a spiritual leader and a cosmopolitan thinker, but also embodies the very spirit of the University’s mission to form “servant leaders” in a global society.

His institutional stewardship of internationalization echoes other, equally significant advancements that demonstrate his expansive thinking: the launching of a mobile computing initiative, the development of a new core curriculum, and the founding of the Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations.

Other examples include Monsignor’s efforts to transform the campus into a world stage for political leaders and influential voices that include, among others, Tony Blair, Mohammad Khatami, Mikhail Gorbachev, Tony Morrison, Shimon Peres and Lech Walesa.

Yet, aside from such distinguished initiatives, I would like to offer a lesser-known view of Monsignor Sheenan’s engagement with the world, a unique perspective I obtained thanks to the privilege of working closely with him. It is best described as his human-centered view of higher education in a global context.

Be it his hosting of a 1998 conference about ethical dimensions of poverty and international debt, or his decision to join Law School faculty on their 2008 journey to Zanzibar to probe modern-day slavery and human trafficking, Monsignor Sheenan’s view of internationalization consistently explains the world’s deepest needs while never losing sight of human suffering in the world.

As a result, his understanding of internationalizing higher education markedly differs from current trends in which universities embrace the world merely as a tool for revenue growth and institutional prestige.

Important as that may be, the world’s recent economic meltdown not only shows the perils and shortcomings of such approaches, but also reminds us that Seton Hall, as a Catholic university, does well in drawing from its long tradition of approaching such approaches, but also reminds us that Seton Hall, as a Catholic university, does well in drawing from its long tradition of approaching internationalization consistently register the world’s deepest needs while never losing sight of human suffering in the world.

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In 1989 I was vacationing in Florida, golfing, visiting retired co-workers and just enjoying the warmer winter weather away from New Jersey. By the dinner time I read William F. Buckley’s “Down the Rabbit Hole”, and the beliefs of some very impressive intellectuals including Ronald Koos and Malcolm Muggeridge, both of whom converted to Catholicism later in life.

My own faith journey was a study in lazy and lapsed belief, which began surprisingly enough at Seton Hall in the early 1980s and was sustained unabated for almost 30 years. But the stories Buckley related, the true faith of people hugely smarter than I, about my very own. How square I shrugged off the mysteries of my faith while smarter people professed them and grew stronger in their love of God.

On returning home I needed very badly to talk to a priest; I needed not just talk, but confession, absolution, forgiveness and redemption. I was reduced to the tears of prayer because it chronicled the beliefs of others who converted to Catholicism later in life.

I applied to become a resident assistant in 1994 and remember being so proud to be offered the job. Then I learned that I was assigned to Xavier Hall, and that I was going to have a very special resident – none other than Monsignor Sheeran.

What I will always remember is when Monsignor Sheeran called me over and told me that I was to host an Italian dinner for the priest in the spirit of community, and to make baked ziti from scratch. From scratch! He said even the sauce should be homemade. This was a tradition on his floor.

So with some other residents, I made my first baked ziti with a recipe from my mother. To this day when I make sauce from scratch, when I roll down the tomatoes, I think back to the first time I ever attempted it, with the encouragement of Monsignor Sheeran.

I remember the high community standards he believed in and promoted and how he both supported and was a member of our floor.

I’d like to express my deepest gratitude to Monsignor Sheeran for what he has done as Seton Hall president. I had the honor of befriending this remarkable man in the early 1990s. He has shown us how a vision-driven leader can transform an institution. And most importantly, he should be commended for leading a life of service to others. He has led by example.

God be with Ye.

– Roman Cubero ’95

A LEADER’S TRUE MARK

What is the true measure of the impact of leaders on the people they lead? In higher education, outside observers would look at changes in student SAT scores, and retention, graduation and job placement rates. Others would focus on increases in faculty scholarships, grants secured, growth in academic programs and academic status; similar measures. All others would look at the success of the last capital campaign, the financial situation, or the attractiveness of the campus.

By these standards, Monsignor Sheeran’s tenure has exceeded a very successful presidency. All student success factors – SAT scores, retention rates, graduate rates – have seen a steady and significant increase. Academic initiatives, including the new core curriculum and the Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations, were launched. Seton Hall’s academic profile was significantly increased, and a number of academic programs are now nationally recognized.

As president, Monsignor Sheeran led the most successful capital campaign in the history of the institution, which raised more than $153 million. He also strengthened the University’s fiscal health and initiated and completed a number of key capital projects, including renovations of the Science, Technology and Engineering Center and the renovation of the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception.

He enhanced our Catholic identity through the establishment of the Office of Mission and Ministry. He helped secure grants that foster faith development and servant leadership.

However, these indicators are useful only if Monsignor Sheeran’s primary legacy could be neatly categorized and measured. How do we start to quantify the lives the president has transformed and influenced?

One can note his frequent interaction with students, the subsequent conversations about how an uncle or member of a family was a former student, and a student’s look of pride when they recognize Seton Hall as part of their family. Their legacy of personalizing the Seton Hall experience has created and heightened many students’ experiences.

How do you quantify a letter from a proud parent whose daughter or son had been transformed by their educational experience at Seton Hall and become extremely successful? Where would one categorize the personal congratulations the president extends to a junior faculty member upon accomplishing a significant milestone? Or the president extending a comforting hand and prayer to someone who just lost a loved one?

All of these are part of his legacy.

But I believe Monsignor Sheeran’s greatest legacy is that of shaping us all, being able to see what a tremendous leader. His commitment to being a servant to all members of the University community and his Compassion, integrity and understanding of the Catholic Church will be how we will remember his presidency.

Every year at the freshman convocation, Monsignor Sheeran speaks about how students live at Seton Hall are like a book yet to be written. He speaks to students about how it is in their grasp as to how their individual stories at Seton Hall will be told.

Over four decades ago, as a freshman at Seton Hall, Robert T. Sheeran started his own book at this preeminent University. This book continues to be written, and we can only hope and pray that his next chapter will still involve his life at Seton Hall.
As a graduate student, I worked in Cerrigan Hall for the computer science department. I played softball as a "walk-on" during my time there. Every steering would become a miss-steering. The person would be so irresistible that the computer science department would have been more than willing to pay me for it. Without Monsignor’s interventions, these accomplishments would not have been part of my life’s plan. After all, I was a Hudson County native whose parents did not have any educational experience except a high-school diploma.

After an hour of this, Monsignor Sheeran was helpless with laughter and Professor Shannon, suddenly wide awake, was speaking about his living will. Monsignor Cusack drew on regard. It was too old for a coffee break, when he started the car in reverse gear, that Professor Shannon discovered a moral duty to his wife and children to take the wheel. If anyone tells you that being a college presi- dent is all honor and glory, don’t believe him. — Derede Quine, professor of history

As alumni of Seton Hall, we often receive mail that tells us what is going on currently at the Hall. It is our remaining connection to the place where things began for my husband and me. However, one day that connection became a bit stronger. We received a personal letter from Monsignor Sheeran. He took the time to reach out to us with such enthusiasm and kind words. I remember reading the letter with my husband and feeling so proud and appreciated. We immediately responded, and caught up with Monsignor a few times after that — to dinner, alumni basketball games or other alumni gatherings. The personal touch of caring showed my husband and me that we weren’t just alumni; we were still family. Because of Monsignor’s willingness to care, it allowed us to stay con- nected and still feel very much a part of the Seton Hall family — long after graduation! — Audrey ’88 and Adrian’96 Griffin

Finding me in college was a miracle in and of itself. I could have never imagined graduating from Seton Hall, completing two master’s degrees from Columbia University, and earning a Ph.D. from Fordham University. It wasn’t imagination but inspiration that made it possible. I have been the direct beneficiary of Monsignor Sheeran’s belief in “faith that does justice.” I have taken the gifts of my Catholic Hall education and used them as he always instructed. “Never forget,” he has told graduating seniors, “the price that love has paid in bringing you to this step in your lives. Be servant leaders and give back what you have been so freely given.” I am blessed to have been an educator for the past 28 years — the last five as assistant superintendent of the Burgerfield Public School system — and I hope that in my vocation I will help others to realizes their potential. Because I know that any success I enjoy would not have been realized without the mentorship, guidance, support, and encouragement of Monsignor Sheeran.

In 1989, Pope John Paul II recognized Father Robert Sheenan’s commitment to the Catholic Church and bestowed on him the Church’s title of distinction: Monsignor. For a man who has done so much for the Church, Catholic education, and Seton Hall University, it is a well-deserved honor. I must admit, though, that while I always respect my mentor and have adjusted to speaking his name and title — Monsignor — when I do, my heart will always echo “Father.”

— Michael D. Kuchar, ’82

As a college education, he was fond of pointing out, is a tremendous gift. And from those who have been fortunate enough to receive this gift, a great deal will be required. Seton Hall graduates should be marked by a difference in the world and all because they are acutely aware of the great gift of knowledge and wisdom — and faith — that they themselves have received.

There is no one idea that lies at the heart of Monsignor Sheeran’s own leadership — if there is an idea that might be called his legacy — I believe that “servant leadership” is the idea that ran throughout his whole presidency and affected us all. I have been proud all these years that he invited me to join him in the adventure of bringing that theme to life!

— Anne Marie Freda ’85, M.M.A.’89

I met Monsignor Sheeran just after graduating from Seton Hall and, over the 33 years that followed, I can safely say that no other man has had a greater effect on my professional life. Five years into his presidency, Monsignor Sheeran put a great deal of trust in me with my surprising invitation to become the University’s first vice president for Mission and Ministry. Few things are more important than an institution’s mission and identity, and for a Catholic university in the 21st century, nothing is more fraught with challenges or more crucial to its success. It was clear from the outset that Monsignor Sheeran had already set Seton Hall on its very firm ground: “We are here, he said, “to form servant leaders for a global society.”

I immediately took that mandate to be derived from the Gospel of Luke: “The one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant.”

In other words, we at Seton Hall want our students not to lead, and then serve; we want them to lead through service. But I soon came to understand that Monsignor located the genesis of servant leadership in an entire different chapter of Luke’s Gospel. He came to explain in innumerable talks to students and parents, to professors and staff, to journalists, to anyone who would listen, in this way: “Whom much is given, much is expected.”

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— Father Paul Holmes ’77, S.T.D., executive vice president for administration
Along for The Ride

The Gowanus, the BQE, the LIE, the GW, the dreaded Cross Bronx — the arteries were hardening again at the start of another week, another Monday rush hour, and also, as it turned out, another era in the annals of commuting in the New York metropolitan area. Because on this morning, Dec. 3, 1979, someone was watching the bumper-car mayhem more closely than ever before, taking its measure in a radically new way for the first time.

In a nondescript office building on Route 22 in North Jersey, a gang of kids barely out of college was busy assembling a portrait of the morning’s traffic. The wait at the tunnels was how long? An accident had closed a lane on what expressway? What bridge was backed up the farthest? What expressway? What bridge was backed up the farthest? The traffic woes still plagued the metropolitan region each morning. After Shadow, even the smallest stations did broadcast anything more than the most rudimentary information about what was happening out on the highways each morning. Before Shadow, only a handful of radio stations had their air clearances, granted by an upperclassman who would think the former heavyweight champion was giving morning traffic updates. WYNY was the biggest of the stations his fellow students and having wide coverage area.

Shadow Traffic in 1982, and is now the traffic voice on 1010 WINS every weekday morning. In 1979, they helped transform the dreaded morning commute.

When a Team of Seton Hall Alumni Joined the Launch of Shadow Traffic in 1979, They Helped Transform the Dreaded Morning Commute.

None of them were old enough yet to truly understand the dispiriting implications of a jackknifed tractor-trailer on the Turnpike, but they quickly became the voices of authority to drivers trying to find the clearest passage between home and work.

“When we got to the last traffic report of that morning rush hour it was like, ‘Oh my gosh, we did it. It came off and there were no major goofs and everything worked, and can you believe it, it was a success,’” said Wagenblast, whose previous commuting experience had consisted mainly of driving his Chevy Nova from his Cranford home to the campus whose radio station had beckoned him since he was a boy. WSOU was an early occupant of the FM band, staking out a wide listening area from the time it began broadcasting from the basement of the University’s recreation center in 1948. It was a beacon, too, to many New Jersey kids who had dream of spinning Beatles record on the air or calling a basketball game, or reporting the latest news.

“I knew I wanted to be in radio from when I was in elementary school,” Wagenblast said. WNJK-AM was his station. William B. Williams, Klavan and Finch, Ted Brown — they were who he wanted to be, and Seton Hall, he reasoned, was his best route there. “WSOU was the unique combination in the tri-state area of both being run by the undergraduate students and having a wide coverage area.”

He signed up at the station as soon as he arrived on campus for freshman orientation. Within a few months he had his air clearance, granted by an upperclassman who would later become a colleague at Shadow, Pete Tauriello.

“I did my homework long before I got to Seton Hall,” said Tauriello ’76, who was first nudged toward the university by his fifth-grade teacher in Old Bridge, a Seton Hall man whose boyhood bathrobe was imprinted with a pattern of TV cameras and mics. In high school he broadcast a show each morning through the dorm’s public-address system. He worked as program director for WEBA in Plainfield before joining his former WSOU colleagues on Shadow Traffic in 1982. “It was the Seton Hall mafia,” Tauriello said about Shadow.

“It wasn’t high-tech at all, but it was very high-tech looking — lots of flashing lights, guys with headsets talking in two-way radios, a lot of things that looked very cool,” said Nolan, whose studio had its own low-tech tool: a window that meant he didn’t have to rely on anyone else to tell him what was happening on Route 22. “It was earth-shattering back then to have one person be on multiple stations at the same time — it was unheard of.”

That day, Shadow Traffic — which had debuted earlier in Philadelphia and Chicago — changed the drive-time habits of millions of commuters in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Before Shadow, only a handful of radio stations broadcast anything more than the most rudimentary information about what was happening out on the highways each morning. After Shadow, even the smallest stations did.

Traffic woes still plagued the metropolitan region each rush hour, and while the Shadow reporters couldn’t cure the affliction, they were able to diagnose it more precisely. And in those first years of Shadow, the majority of its voices were trained at a single college station, WSOU. “The first time that I was talking on the radio and being paid for it was on WYNY, which was at that time NBC-owned and broadcasting from the ninth floor of 30 Rock,” said Forman, who had graduated just a few months earlier, and whose Shadow handle was “G.W.,” so no bleary drivers would think the former heavyweight champion was giving traffic updates. WYNY was the biggest of the stations his fellow students and having wide coverage area.

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George Forman had his own epigraph in seventh grade, when he visited the Ocean County Fair with his grandparents and was enthralled by the two radio stations that had set up remote broadcasts there: WJLK and WORBM. He joined WSOU his first week on campus and by November he was hosting "Take It Easy," a midnight show that played music tagged with an adjective much employed in the 1970s: mellow. He still remembers his first set: The Rolling Stones’ "As Tears Go By," the Beatles’ "She’s Leaving Home," and Emerson Lake and Palmer’s "Still You Turn Me On."

He covered news, too, and managed to get onto the White House lawn when President Jimmy Carter presided over Sadat. When Pope John Paul II made his first trip to the United States in the fall of 1979, the loyal Polish listeners of Cousin Stan Kosakowski’s Polka Party show on WSOU sent enough donations to pay for Nolan to follow the first Polish pope. Nolan traveled to Washington, D.C., too, for the pope’s final stop. "I remember walking back to the hotel and it was getting dark and I had lost my train ticket," he said. ‘I thought I was dead, I had lost Cousin Stan’s train ticket, and I remember just blessing myself and saying a little prayer and I remember saying, ‘John Paul the Second, please pray for me,’ and I walked back to the hotel and sure enough within 30 seconds I found that train ticket.’

"Everybody had to know how to do everything else, no matter what their interest was.

Nolan is still getting up long before dawn, and driving into the WABC-TV studios in Manhattan to give traffic updates every seven minutes. Pete Tarriello is the traffic voice on 1010 WINS every weekday morning, broadcasting from the Rutherford studios of the company now known as Metro/Shadow Traffic. George Forman is a weekend DJ on WORBM in Toms River, and works for a company that produces DVDs. Donna Fiducia has worked just about everywhere, on both TV and radio, because radio is so spontaneous – nothing is scripted. You’re not just reading a teleprompter. You have to be able to ad lib and you have to be informative and you have to sound good, and I really think that does go back to WSOU, because that really was a great training ground."

Bernie Wagenblast is back on WINS part-time after a long series of transportation-related jobs, and he edits several transportation newsletters. His is also the voice you hear in the airport trains at Newark and JFK. And the best commuting tip he has for anyone headed to his alma mater — where the biggest problem usually isn’t getting there, but finding a place to park once you do — is to do what he always did: wake up early, and be there first.

“It’s a recurring theme,” he said. “Getting there early and beating the crowds."

Kevin Coyne is a New Jersey writer who teaches at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism.

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Soon after he came home, he got the call to audition for Shadow while still a junior at Seton Hall. “Fred Feldman hired me,” he said, referring to the veteran helicopter reporter who ran Shadow’s traffic operations, “and the rest is history, all because of the pope, and Cousin Stan.”

When Shadow was hiring its first traffic reporters — a job category that had barely existed before — WSOU alumni were a natural target: young, plentiful and technically skilled beyond their years.

“It was the opportunity of a lifetime — none of us knew it at the time, but it really was,” Nolan said. “We were out there working on big-time radio stations. We were at 21, 22, 23. The bosses were 24. It wasn’t like you were walking into a corporate environment at all. You were walking into basically what you had been doing the whole time at Seton Hall.”

They worked a split shift: 6 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. for the morning rush hour, then back again from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. as the tide reversed. “It was almost like an extension of college,” Fiducia said. “All our friends were there. We were young. It was a lot of fun to do, and we were getting paid for what we wanted to do.”

And after the last report on Friday nights, they made their own brief commute, to a restaurant called Beggars Banquet in Union. “Fred Feldman used to say, ‘You guys are like a fighter squadron after a mission,’” Nolan said. “We were all single, we were all basically still college kids and we had our own money for the first time in our lives.”

Nolan was a big basketball fan, and he was soon broadcasting Pirates games. “People hear you,” said Joe Nolan, whose grandfather was police chief in Jersey City, and whose father was a St. Peter’s grad not too thrilled that his countrywhere you’re heard in the cafeteria and the parking lot. Everybody had to know how to do everything else, no matter what theirinterest was.”

Joe Nolan and Donna Fiducia came to Seton Hall with different career ambitions, each expecting it to be a prelude to law school. WSOU lured them down another path.

“WSOU really taught you the basics,” said Fiducia ’79, who also hosted “Take It Easy.” “That station, no matter what happened, never went off the air. You stayed there until the next person came on the air. The show went on.”

Wyatt was a natural fit for Shadow Traffic Above, Wagenblast, taking calls and Matt Stankiewicz on the air.

"Everybody had to know how to do everything else, no matter what their interest was.”

Soon after he came home, he got the call to audition for Shadow while still a junior at Seton Hall. “Fred Feldman hired me,” he said, referring to the veteran helicopter reporter who ran Shadow’s traffic operations, “and the rest is history, all because of the pope, and Cousin Stan.”

When Shadow was hiring its first traffic reporters — a job category that had barely existed before — WSOU alumni were a natural target: young, plentiful and technically skilled beyond their years.

“It was the opportunity of a lifetime — none of us knew it at the time, but it really was,” Nolan said. “We were out there working on big-time radio stations. We were at 21, 22, 23. The bosses were 24. It wasn’t like you were walking into a corporate environment at all. You were walking into basically what you had been doing the whole time at Seton Hall.”

They worked a split shift: 6 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. for the morning rush hour, then back again from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. as the tide reversed. “It was almost like an extension of college,” Fiducia said. “All our friends were there. We were young. It was a lot of fun to do, and we were getting paid for what we wanted to do.”

And after the last report on Friday nights, they made their own brief commute, to a restaurant called Beggars Banquet in Union. “Fred Feldman used to say, ‘You guys are like a fighter squadron after a mission,’” Nolan said. “We were all single, we were all basically still college kids and we had our own money for the first time in our lives.”

Nolan is still getting up long before dawn, and driving into the WABC TV studios in Manhattan to give traffic updates every seven minutes. Pete Tarriello is the traffic voice on 1010 WINS every weekday morning, broadcasting from the Rutherford studios of the company now known as Metro/Shadow Traffic. George Forman is a weekend DJ on WORBM in Toms River, and works for a company that produces DVDs. Donna Fiducia has worked just about everywhere, on both TV and radio, from Howard Stern to WNEW to Fox News. She now raises horses on a farm in Georgia.

“I could hold down the fort for two hours,” she said about her stints hosting television broadcasts when news was breaking, like the death of Princess Diana. “I attribute that to radio, because radio is so spontaneous — nothing is scripted. You’re not just reading a teleprompter. You have to be able to ad lib and you have to be informative and you have to sound good, and I really think that does go back to WSOU, because that really was a great training ground.”

Bernie Wagenblast is back on WINS part-time after a long series of transportation-related jobs, and he edits several transportation newsletters. His is also the voice you hear in the airport trains at Newark and JFK. And the best commuting tip he has for anyone headed to his alma mater — where the biggest problem usually isn’t getting there, but finding a place to park once you do — is to do what he always did: wake up early, and be there first.

“It’s a recurring theme,” he said. “Getting there early and beating the crowds.”
BASEBALL
A WINNING COMBO
OF OLD AND NEW

Head baseball coach Rob Sheppard enters his seventh season with an influx of new talent and fresh faces, but enough experienced players to lead the team to the BIG EAST Tournament. Although 25 of the 35 players on the Pirates’ 2010 roster are freshmen and sophomores, Sheppard expects his returning juniors and seniors to help guide the team to its second conference tournament trip in three years.

On the mound, junior right-hander Joe DiRocco, the only returning starter from Seton Hall’s 2008 conference tournament appearance, will be the ace of the young pitching staff. During the last two years, DiRocco has posted 110 innings on the hill with seven wins, one save, and 65 strikeouts. Also returning, as the closer, will be fifth-year senior Matt Singer, who has improved each season on the mound. In the past three campaigns, the right-hander has made 56 appearances from the bullpen, posting a 10-4 record with seven saves and 49 strikeouts in 89 and one-third innings of work. Last season, Singer set career highs with 48 innings, six wins, and 28 strikeouts, and a conference-leading 29 appearances en route to being named to the All-BIG EAST third team.

In the field, A.J. Rusbarsky will anchor the defense as he has the past two years with his strong play at shortstop. Entering his third season, Rusbarsky ranks seventh all-time in the career record books with 327 assists.

Senior Michael Rogers will lead the outfield, having been a mainstay in right field last season, when he started a career-high 43 games, picking up four assists in the field and 46 hits at the plate.

SPORTS
PIRATES TO HOST 2011 NCAA REGIONAL

Seton Hall University has been named a host institute for the Regional Round of the 2011 NCAA Men’s Basketball Championship. The Prudential Center will be the competition venue for two games of the regional semifinals on March 25, 2011, and the regional final on March 27, 2011. It will mark the first time the City of Newark has hosted the event, and the first time Seton Hall has hosted a round of the NCAA Men’s Basketball Championship since 1999.

BASEBALL
READY FOR ANOTHER CROWN?

Year after year, the Seton Hall Pirates have been a nation’s ranked team and a contending team in the BIG EAST. The Pirates have always been a team that has the potential to be a top team in the conference and beyond. This year, the Pirates are looking to make another run at the conference title and take the next step towards a national title. The Pirates have a young team with a mix of experienced and talented players. The team is lead by senior pitcher Ashley Forsyth, who has won 18 career games, and has pitched in a number of big games. Junior Matt Singer has been used sparingly in two years with the Pirates but has an impressive fall season. The team believes they have the potential to be a top team in the conference and beyond.

The Pirates have a deep pitching staff with a mix of experienced and talented players. The team is lead by senior pitcher Ashley Forsyth, who has won 18 career games, and has pitched in a number of big games. Junior Matt Singer has been used sparingly in two years with the Pirates but has an impressive fall season. The team believes they have the potential to be a top team in the conference and beyond.

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A YEAR AFTER UPSETTING TWO NATIONALLY RANKED TEAMS AND EARNING A BIG EAST CHAMPIONSHIP APPEARANCE, THE SOFTBALL TEAM FEELS READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP AND CONTEND FOR ITS THIRD CONFERENCE CROWN.

The Pirates played their best ball down the stretch in 2009, winning key games against the University of South Florida, Villanova, and Rutgers to earn the eighth seed at the conference tournament. Head coach Ray Vander May saw the team mature as the season wore on and says this year’s team has tremendous potential.

Returning are sophomore Kristen Kaelin and junior Nalin Bennett, who each earned All-BIG EAST Third Team honors last year. Kaelin hit .310 with five home runs and 39 RBIs as a freshman, and will shift from the outfield to first base this season. Bennett, who patrols centerfield, put up solid overall offensive numbers last year but showed her best in conference play, batting a team-high .346 and leading the conference with 11 stolen bases.

Also returning are juniors Brittany Schillizzi and Michelle Reed. Schillizzi, who will move from shortstop to second base this year, hit .320 with five home runs and a team-high 39 RBIs last season. Reed, the team’s leadoff hitter, broke the school’s single-season record with 27 stolen bases, while batting .328.

Vander May has a deep pitching staff and intends to “mix-and-match” his hurlers. Senior Ashley Forsyth has won 18 career games in just two seasons, and has pitched in a number of big games. Junior Joe DiRocco has been used sparingly in two years with the Pirates but has an impressive fall season. Vander May believes she can earn a starting position. Senior Danielle Zanazali has improved each of her three years, and has shown she can keep teams off-balance with her off-speed pitches.

Yet the team’s ace just may be a freshman. Hannah Hill is a hard-throwing, two-time Gatorade Player of the Year from a winning high-school program in Maine. She led Fryeburg Academy to a pair of state championships and posted a career record of 64-12 with an ERA of 0.57 and 912 strikeouts.

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SPORTS |

VOLLEYBALL BACK IN TOURNAMENT PLAY

After just missing trips to the BIG EAST Championship the last two seasons, the Seton Hall volleyball team finally broke through this year and made its first conference tournament appearance since 1994.

The road was not easy for the Pirates, who much of the year were on the outside looking in at the eight playoff positions. The team came up with a big 3-1 road victory against a tough West Virginia team on the final day of the regular season, but had to await the outcome of a later match to see if they had clinched.

“We were on the bus ride home with our cell phones and computers on trying to keep up with the score of the other matches,” fourth-year head coach Kris Zeitersaid. “When we saw the result we needed to get in, the team was so excited. I was so happy for the girls, especially the seniors who worked so hard to achieve this goal.”

On the eve of November 18, the Pirates flew to Louisville, Ky., to face top-seeded Notre Dame in the quarterfinals of the BIG EAST Championship. The team was scheduled for an afternoon practice at the Kentucky International Convention Center the next day, but had to await the outcome of a later match to see if they had clinched.

“It was kind of cool because we weren’t expected to be there and we proved a lot of people wrong,” said the coach. “It got the monkey off our backs.”

The Pirates took the floor on the first day of the tournament, knowing they would have a tough game against the #23-ranked Irish. Seton Hall got off to a quick start in the first set, leading 8-4, but ultimately lost to Notre Dame in straight sets.

Zeiter sees the short stay at the BIG EAST tournament as a stepping stone in the program’s development.

“Just to be there was a huge accomplishment for us,” said the coach. “It got the monkey off our backs a little bit and now the returning players know what it takes to get there. I think we’ll be a better team next year after going through this experience, so I don’t expect another 15-year gap between post-season appearances.”

Mike Nowalsky

When they announced that Seton Hall was making its first tournament appearance in 15 years, everyone looked at our table and started talking, Mattern said. “It was kind of cool because we weren’t expected to be there and we proved a lot of people wrong.”

The Pirates qualified for the BIG EAST Championships for the first time since 1994 after beating West Virginia on the final day of the regular season. Senior Allie Mattern broke Seton Hall’s career and single-season dig records and recorded double-figure digs in all eight straight matches, which was the nation’s longest active streak. Mattern was also named Second Team All-BIG EAST for the second straight year. Freshman setter Olivia Trudeaud led the conference, averaging 11.73 assists per set in BIG EAST matches.

Women’s Soccer

5-12-1, 1-9-1 (B.E.)

Sophomore Danielle Schummann earned a team-high six goals and 14 points, followed by junior captain Nikki Gross. 13 points (four goals and a team-high five assists). Gross ended her third season fifth in the career record books in points, eighth in goals, and ninth in assists, while also adding her first BIG EAST Player of the Week honor.

Men’s Soccer

4-10-2, 1-7-2 (B.E.)

It was a rare down year in men’s soccer, but the Pirates did see several players receive individual accolades. Juniors Brajan Martinez and Andrew Welker were named to All-BIG EAST Third Team. Welker, who led the team in both goals and assists, was also named a CoSIDA Academic All-District selection. Team highlights include a 3-1 victory over Syracuse and a tie with 15th ranked St. John’s.

Volleyball

12-10, 6-8 (B.E.)

The Pirates finished third, led by freshman Elske Paredes, while freshman Jared Hanks paced the men on route to a fifth-place finish.

Cross Country

N/A

The Seton Hall women’s cross-country team placed 15th and the men took 14th at the BIG EAST Championships. Both squads’ best performances came at the Monmouth Invitational. The women finished third, led by senior Allie Mattern. The men finished fifth, led by junior Andrew Welker who had a team-best 74.92 stroke average.

Golf

N/A

All five golf tournaments the Pirates competed in this fall resulted in Top-10 finishes. The best team effort was at the Navy Fall Classic, a 6-over-par, 574-performance, which was good enough to earn third place among 17 schools. Five golfers averaged 76 strokes per round or lower during the fall. Seton Hall was led by freshman Brandon Park, who had a team-best 74.92 stroke average.

Women’s Tennis

N/A

The Pirates sent sophomores Courtney Klariski and Lizette Verow to the ITA East Regionals in New Haven, Conn. Klariski played her way into the main draw by winning a qualifying match against the second-ranked player from Boston College. Klariski and Verow also played in the doubles portion of the event.

Junior Alexa Mikels led the men’s tennis team in points and goals. Junior Sarah Branan earned her 100th career kill in October. Junior captain Nikki Gross earned her first BIG EAST Player of the Week honor last season.

FALL ROUNDUP

TEAM | FINAL RECORDS | HIGHLIGHTS

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Called from the Jews and from the Gentiles
By Father Pablo T. Gadenz, S.T.D., assistant professor of theology (Mohr Siebeck, $135)
In Called from the Jews and from the Gentiles, Father Pablo T. Gadenz examines Paul’s view of the Church in Romans 9–11. Using rhetorical analysis and considering the scriptural background of the chapters, Father Gadenz investigates Paul’s understanding of the network of relationships between Israel and the nations.

Voices From the Void:
Poems & Prose Poems
By Thomas D. Jones ’97 (The Poet’s Press, $14.95)
Voices From the Void is an eclectic collection of poems that takes the reader on a journey from the mundane to the surreal. Each poem acts like an open window into places that are common, poignant, bizarre and capricious. The author moves from recent news headlines to the world of myth and whimsy with cave dwellers and Egyptian mummies.

The Dark Side of Educational Leadership:
Superintendents and the Professional Victim Syndrome
By Peter R. Litsko ’03, Walter S. Polka
Many school superintendents do not expect, when they take their positions of power, that there is a potential to have their reputations tarnished by a board of education that may not be well-informed or well-intended. The Dark Side of Educational Leadership provides insights into the “professional victim” syndrome, as well as the factors that may help superintendents become resilient to it.

Marketing Public Relations:
A Marketer’s Approach to Public Relations and Social Media
By Gaetan T. Giannini Jr., M.B.A.’93 (Pearson, $96)
Marketing Public Relations takes a fresh approach to public relations by using a marketing, rather than a communications studies or journalistic, approach. This text recognizes the similarities between public relations, word-of-mouth, and social networking media and creates a framework for constructing marketing strategies that incorporate these cost-effective tools.

A Lenten Journey with Jesus Christ and St. Thérèse of Lisieux
A Lenten Journey with Jesus Christ and St. Thérèse of Lisieux is a compilation of spiritual wisdom. It begins with a brief biography of Saint Thérèse, one of the “greatest saints of modern times,” then moves into an overview of the Carmelite order and concludes with a section on the Lenten season. Each day of Lent is discussed and accompanied by a Gospel reading, a selection from the writings of St. Thérèse, a reflection and a prayer.

Celebrating the Obama Family in Pictures
By Jane Katirgis ’87 (Enslow Publishers Inc., $22.60)
Celebrating the Obama Family in Pictures is a close-up look at the nation’s first family: President Barack Obama, his wife Michelle, their daughters Malia and Sasha and the first dog, Bo. This book captures family moments — from the Obamas’ wedding to the day the first family moved into the White House, and many memorable moments in between.

Note to authors:
To have your commercially published book considered for “Pirates in Print,” send your information and a review copy to Seton Hall magazine, 457 Centre Street, South Orange, NJ 07079. Please request our guidelines first by writing to shuwriter@shu.edu.

Book descriptions contain direct quotes from book covers and publisher-provided materials.
For the Love of a Country

During a live tribute to Pope John Paul II held in Wallington, N.J., in 2005, a CNN correspondent proclaimed, “Polish pride and Catholicism are inseparable in Wallington.” In life and legacy, Edward J. Loyas ’53, exemplified the strength of that bond. A longtime resident of Wallington until his death in 2008, Loyas left more than $2 million to Seton Hall to fund scholarships for any student who has a demonstrated appreciation of Polish culture and tradition. Loyas devoted his life to sharing his heritage. “He was especially proud of his Polish Highlander background,” says Jane Gromada Kedron, a distant cousin. He spoke Polish like a native, she says, even though he had never been to Poland.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, Loyas actively participated in a popular Polish Tatra Highlanders Folk Dance Group and a dramatic society led by Kedron’s father. Loyas was a “marvelous actor” who in his teens “could play an old man beautifully,” says Kedron.

Loyas also served for 10 years on the editorial staff of The Tatra Eagle, a bilingual folkloric quarterly founded in 1947 by Kedron and her brother, Thaddeus “Ted” Gromada ’51.

During the time Loyas attended Seton Hall, the University had a loyal following in the Polish community. WSOU began carrying Polish music programming, and in 1953, the Polish University Club of New Jersey, which counts many Seton Hall alumni among its members, inaugurated an Institute of Polish Culture at the University. New Jersey’s Polish parishes, such as Bayonne’s Our Lady of Mount Carmel, began offering scholarships for students to attend Seton Hall. The increased focus led many young people from these communities to enroll.

Loyas’ gift will help maintain that connection between Seton Hall and the Polish community. Twenty-seven students will receive the first Loyas Scholarships totaling $125,000 this academic year, an amount the committee expects to award each year going forward.

Professor Richard Hunter, Father James Spera (both of Polish ancestry), Professor Anna Kuchta and Assistant Director of Admissions Kacie Miklaszewski Krause ‘06 have the task of reviewing applications, identifying recipients and promoting the scholarships.

Patricia Bargielski, a junior majoring in diplomacy and international relations and a Loyas Scholarship recipient, typifies the type of student Loyas, a former teacher in the Clifton school system, must have envisioned as a deserving beneficiary of his legacy.

“I applied for the scholarship because it provides evidence of how I’m connected with my Polish heritage,” she says.

Born and raised in the United States, Bargielski has traveled to Poland often and speaks the language. She joined the Polish Cultural Society as a high school student and remains active in her Bayonne community.

She also serves as a vice president of Seton Hall’s Slavic Club, which Kuchta established in 1990. The club, one of the most active student organizations on campus, provides Bargielski with the opportunity to meet with other students who share her love of Poland and its culture and history.

As the first person on either side of her family to attend an American university, Bargielski says that while her parents help out where they can, she works a lot to support her education. She considers the Loyas Scholarship a “special gift.”

The scholarship emphasizes to students the necessity of giving back to their own communities, says Hunter: “It’s also a great opportunity for students to think about how Polish culture affects their own lives in terms of family, faith and education.”

THE EDWARD J. LOYAS SCHOLARSHIP

The Loyas Scholarship is available to incoming or current undergraduate students who:

- demonstrate an appreciation of Polish tradition, culture, history and/or community life;
- establish financial need; and
- apply with (and maintain) a minimum GPA of 3.0.

POLISH AND PROUD OF IT: The late Edward J. Loyas ’53 was active in the Tatra Highlanders Folk Dance Group. Patricia Bargielski, right, is one of the first Seton Hall students to receive a Loyas Scholarship.

NEW JERSEY’S LARGEST POLISH AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

Wallington, N.J., has one of the largest percentages of residents (more than 51.5 percent) of Polish ancestry in the nation. Per capita levels in other New Jersey cities:

Manville – 23.1 percent
Garfield – 22.9 percent
South Amboy – 20.6 percent
Bayonne – 17.9 percent

Source: 2000 U.S. Census
Married in the Chapel on November 14 were Andrew Fiorenza ’07 and Jennifer Shelton, shown with best man, Chris Fiorenza, a Seton Hall director in University Advancement.

... [Further text containing news and notes on alumni and events]...
Do you receive the alumni e-newsletter? Subscribe and receive exclusive discounts on Seton Hall merchandise as well as special promotions. To subscribe, email Alumni Relations at alumni@shu.edu.

Twitter Follow Alumni Relations on Twitter, @shualumni. Get timely updates on campus happenings.

Facebook First Alumni Relations on Facebook and learn about events being held on campus (or in your area), the most recent alumni news, and the latest updates from your fellow classmates. Search for the Seton Hall University Alumni page and become a fan.

Social Networks
LinkedIn
Seton Hall’s LinkedIn group can help you manage your network of career and professional contacts. Search for the Seton Hall University Alumni Network.

NEWS & NOTES

Charles M. Naso, J.D., ‘85, of Pitman, N.J., was announced as a partner in the business transaction group at the law firm Deel, Primal, Blum & Mavity, PC. …

Marianne Pollitt, ’95, of Lincoln Park, N.J., was promoted to first senior vice president of Valley National Bank’s special assets department. …

Maria Tartozel, ’86, M.B.A., ’86, of Diggles, Idaho, is celebrating her first anniversary as owner of the restaurant Mia Hunty. …

John Sibilia Jr., ’87, of Bridgewater, N.J., was promoted to western division manager/senior vice president at Valley National Bank. …

Ken Bardi of Hamilton, N.J., is president and producer of Throwing Muses, an original comedy for FOX Network, which he co-founded in 2005 in Hamilton, N.J.

So, have you received a newsletter, a newsletter and exclusive discounts on Seton Hall merchandise as well as special promotions. To subscribe, email Alumni Relations at alumni@shu.edu.

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Pirate Pride

Pirates in the San Francisco Bay Area gathered for the annual Chapter Christmas Dinner on December 13, 2009. Alumni of both Seton Hall Prep and the University were in attendance. Pictured (from left) are Bob Mulhen ’70, Father Mike Russo ’67 and Frank Maxwell ’70.

Lucinda Ferreri Pantano ’95 (left) and Jeannette Pautulis Sera, M.S. ’01, showed their Pirate pride at Hillsborough Middle School in Hillsborough, N.J., where both work.

Request your Pirate Pride bandana at www.shu.edu/alumni. If you have requested a bandana, we want your photo! Email your photos to alumni@shu.edu or mail prints to Alumni Relations, 457 Centre Street, South Orange, NJ 07079. (Digital photo must be high-resolution JPEG or TIFF files that are at least one megabyte in size.)

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Marriages

John P. Major Jr. ’50 to Jennifer Allen …

Kirsten A. Connor ’98 to A. Akul ’00

Felicia Vanderberg ’93 to Candy Hartmann …

Din K. Kelly ’10 to Christopher J. McGinnis …

Megan E. Soley ’06 to Anthony K. Rizzuto ’05.

Joseph Medin Jr. ’03 to Anna Simonsen ’06/M.A. ’09 …

Matthew Shields ’03 to Victoria Jacinio …

Michelle Kownes ’04 to Chip Chaffee …

Rosanne L. Tangney ’04 to Giuseppe Solitano …

Garrett Brooks ’05 to Erin Frances Kow …

Jeanne John ’05/M.A.E. ’06 to Jordan Scott Goldberg …

Thomas J. Hughes ’06 to Melissa Mathewson …

Katrina Mettman ’07/M.S.P.A. ’10 to Peter Tubb ’07 …

Michelle Gold ’09 to Ryan Stern …

Powerto the People

I grew up going to rallies at the beach to stop nuclear power. When asked how she came to be involved with community leadership, Skowronski says: “My community position herself. “I don’t ask people to do anything that I’m not doing,” says Skowronski. As a member of the Human Relations Council of Plainsboro, Skowronski helps to make sure the diversity of her town is celebrated and promoted through culturally informed programs.

Skowronski believes that when reports of corruption in government become common, there is a need for motivated individuals to step outside their own self-interests and better their community. “I believe that we can tap into the apathy and frustration that is out there and motivate people,” she says, “because if we get to them before they throw their hands up and walk away for good, we can harness their energy for change and really do something meaningful with it.”

| LARISSA MALEY

SETON HALL MAGAZINE | WINTER/SPRING 2010

T

engage and empower New Jerseyers — that’s what Lauren Skowronski ’98 is trying to do. As state campaign director for the Citizens’ Campaign, a nonpartisan organization that helps people become servant leaders, Skowronski works to educate individuals about the importance of community involvement.

Created by New Jersey’s Center for Civic Responsibility, the Citizens’ Campaign provides the tools for people to take up political office and provide quality representation in government. The initiative aims to recruit at least 5,000 new leaders to positions in New Jersey over the next few years and to put a stop to corruption and waste.

“I feel that I’m at my best when I’m in the community, educating folks on their powers as citizens,” Skowronski says. She recently ran a leadership forum at the City Hall of Jersey City to educate people about the process of leadership and policymaking. An indictment against another local government had just occurred that summer so I didn’t know what to expect, says Skowronski. “But 200 people showed up engaged and ready to work toward changing the culture of corruption.”

When asked how she came to be involved with community leadership, Skowronski says: “My parents were very civicly and politically active. I grew up going to rallies at the beach to stop ocean pollution and starting stoplights at the local political party Headquarters.”
HONORING THE PRESIDENT
Alumni, students and friends gathered at the ‘21 Club in New York on November 5, 2009, to celebrate Monsignor Robert Sheeran’s 15 years as president.

To learn more about the many things you can do to honor the legacy of Monsignor Sheeran ‘67, please visit www.shu.edu/go/getinvolved.

In Memoriam

In Memoriam

Moving to New York on November 5, 2009, to celebrate honoring the legacy of Monsignor Sheeran ‘67, please visit www.shu.edu/go/getinvolved.

Babyl Pirates

Michael Zeres’94 and Jennifer, a girl, Ewina, November 13, 2009
Frank J. Carrega ‘88 and Holly, a boy, Anthony Joseph ‘99, October 1, 2009
William F. Becker ‘93 and Holly, a boy, Connor Christopher, February 26, 2009
Zaria Smith ‘02, a girl, Kian An Seeg, June 4, 2009
Jessie (Gallego) Orth ‘83 and Derek, a girl, Kyle Grace, May 3, 2009
Ann (Fitzsimmons) Tennak ‘94 and Robert, a boy, Matthew Joseph, May 5, 2009
Anthony Falcone ‘96 and Slay, a girl, Jamie Sophia, July 20, 2009
Janine M. (Vathal) Ferrante, M.A.E. ‘97 and Lawrence, a boy, Michael Joseph, September 18, 2009
Cara K. (Plankey) Donal ‘95 (and ‘02) and Matthew, J.D. ‘12, a boy, Christopher Anthony, May 27, 2009
Alicia James ‘99 and Narn Wise, a girl, Ava Simone, August 11, 2009
Shannon (Rommel) Levine ‘99 and Damien, a boy, Joseph Rommel, November 19, 2008
Volkta (Gudeva) Hope ‘90, S.O. ’95, and Jason, a girl, Eva Stefani, May 6, 2009
Alexandra A. (Ignat) Paschalski ‘00, and Thomas, a girl, Ewina, February 27, 2009
Briona (Koko) Bledso ‘01 and Vincent ‘02, a girl, Natalie Ann, January 12, 2009
Megan (Peerless) Schilling ‘02 and Scott, a girl, Madison Elizabeth, September 16, 2009
Beth Hicks, M.D.A. ‘04 and Thomas, a girl, Ryne Elizabeth, October 2, 2009

Roanne E. Flores ‘80
Reem R. Barakat ‘83
Thomas F. Dunn ‘81
George P. Frederickson ‘81
Donald R. McLaughlin ‘81
Donald D. Rutherford ‘81
Henry E. Beiger Jr. ‘82
William F. Cashell ‘82
Gerald F. Harson, M.D. ‘82
Robert G. McCormack ‘62, J.D. ‘70
John W. Wade Jr., J.D. ‘70
Joseph Barbara ‘73
Sister M. Judith Biva ‘73
Ruth C. Banchio ‘73
Linda G. Roberts-Davies, M.A.E., ‘83
Salvatore Pacarro ‘83
Philip J. Lee Sr., J.D. ‘83
Henry Connolly ‘84
Merlth Dhalwah ‘84
Vincent C. Zuerrett ‘84
Eugene C. Austin ‘85
Paul G. Corriss, M.D. ‘85
Father William J. Piosek ‘85

Ronald E. Illino ‘80
Reem R. Barakat ‘83
Thomas F. Dunn ‘81
George P. Frederickson ‘81
Donald R. McLaughlin ‘81
Donald D. Rutherford ‘81
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Merlth Dhalwah ‘84
Vincent C. Zuerrett ‘84
Eugene C. Austin ‘85
Paul G. Corriss, M.D. ‘85
Father William J. Piosek ‘85

Sylvia N. Levine, M.A.E. ‘88
Sister Mary Madalene (Mary Theresa Steffen) ‘88
Gloria Peterson, M.A.E. ‘88
Stefanina R. Reifer ‘88
Helen C. Rush ‘88
John D. Woldwsky ‘88
Jeffrey A. Baranowski, M.B.A. ‘87
Richard Keeney, J.D. ‘87
Andrew M. Lauren ‘87
Paul L. MacKay ‘87
John Rako ’87
John A. Zimmerman ‘87
Monsignor Michael J. Alvens ‘85/M.A.E. ‘75
Seymour Brody, M.A.E. ‘89
William Gormek, M.A.E. ‘90
John Warm, M.A.E. ‘90
Michael C. Ripane, M.A.E. ‘70
Joseph Hurri, M.A.E. ‘70
Joseph Luongo ‘70
Harold Mavros, M.A.E. ‘70
Joseph F. Morahan ‘71
Joseph A. Gigante, M.B.A. ‘71

Richard T. Philips, J.D. ‘71
James I. Roman ‘71
Jean H. Wallack, J.D. ‘71
Joseph C. Hoffman, J.D. ‘72
Robert A. Fuldman, M.T., ‘72
Robert J. Stop, M.A.E. ‘72
Arnak A. Weir, M.A.E. ‘72
Dwain B. Campbell ‘73
Thomas J. Daisy ‘73
Robert W. Doherty, M.A. ‘73
Vincent J. Squillaro ‘73
Richard J. Stanga ‘73
Karen L. D’Amico ‘74
Darlene K. Mangold, M.A.E. ‘74
Patricia A. Novak ‘74
Don P. Cherry ‘75
William F. Mahoney ‘75
Mary Wilcox ‘75
Elizabeth M. Connelly, M.A.E., ‘76
Mark A. Infante TT/11, ‘80
Lyla Connolly ‘79
William F. Schlaudbeck, M.D.M. ‘79
Jeron S. Sangiovanni ‘82

Anne M. De Milie ‘85
James R. Bautch ‘86
Nancy M. Hoffman, M.B.A. ‘81
Deborah L. Utter, J.D. ‘91
Paul Vigors ‘93
Joshua D. Weiser ‘94
David W. Lemiers, M.A.E., ‘71
Agnieszka Piotrowska ‘81

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Athletic Achievers

To read about these Hall of Fame inductees, visit www.shupirates.com and search for 2010 Hall of Fame.

Eight alumni were inducted into the Seton Hall Athletics Hall of Fame on February 4. The sports standouts were:

Phili Cundari ’89, Baseball ○ Adriam Griffin ’96, Men’s Basketball
Peter Matsichak ’89, Men’s Soccer ○ Megan Meyor ’05, Softball
Geraline Saintilus Smith ’89, Women’s Basketball ○ Eugene Smith ’01, Golf
George Ring ’65/M.B.A. ’71, Honorary Recipient ○ Mark Whitford ’93, Honorary Recipient
Have you been promoted? Earned an advanced degree? Been honored for professional or personal achievements? Recently married? Added a baby Pirate to the ranks? We want to know! Visit us at www.shu.edu/alumni and share your success. Your news may be published in a future issue of Seton Hall magazine.

If you can't logon to www.shu.edu/alumni, fill out the form below with your news and send it to:

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457 Centre St., South Orange, NJ 07079
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Class Year(s) and Degree(s) from Seton Hall
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Phone
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News to Share:

Above: Jamie Sophia, born on July 20, 2009, to Stacy and Anthony Falcone '96.

Nivah Odwori and Maria Magdalena Roman, program manager for the master's in Strategic Communication program.

U.N. Volunteer Dies in Haiti Earthquake

United Nations volunteer Nivah Odwori, M.A. '06, died in the January 12 earthquake in Haiti, where she had been working as an elections adviser. She was 36. She had earned two master's degrees from Seton Hall, one in strategic communication from the College of Arts and Sciences and another in diplomacy and international relations from the Whitehead School, where she completed her thesis on conflict resolution challenges in Sudan and India.

“She was a wonderful woman whose passion for doing good was palpable,” said Patricia Kuchon, Ph.D., who as a member of the graduate faculty in the Strategic Communication and Leadership program was Odwori's thesis adviser.

Odwori had been in Haiti since July 2009, working as a district coordinator of the U.N.'s mission to stabilize the elections process. Previously she had been a United Nations elections adviser in Nepal, and had also worked with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. She was buried in her native Kenya.

Lights, Camera, History!

Seton Hall students are traveling the country interviewing alumni on camera about their experiences at the University. Interviews can be seen now on the Student Alumni Association's YouTube page. To learn more about the Traditions Project, visit www.shu.edu/go/mytime.

View the YouTube gallery at www.youtube.com/setonhallsaa

Many Are One
Honoring Monsignor Robert Sheeran

Join us for the 24th annual Many Are One Alumni Awards Gala on Friday, June 4, 2010, Hyatt Regency Jersey City, Jersey City, N.J.

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SETON HALL MAGAZINE | WINTER/SPRING 2010

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Men and women aren’t the only ones who have trouble understanding one another. Misunderstandings plague students and professors, too. That’s what Rebecca Cox, assistant professor of education, found in her research. In her book, *The College Fear Factor*, Cox explores the basis for a worrying conundrum: that 69 percent of high-school seniors say they intend to get a four-year college degree and yet only 28 percent of 25-to-34-year-olds end up with one. Cox spent years studying community-college students, and she believes that despite a national emphasis on getting students ready for college, colleges also need to better prepare for the students coming to them for an education. Her work has gotten strong reviews. *Washington Post* columnist Jay Mathews recently wrote that the book “tells more about why undergraduates don’t succeed than anything I have ever read.”

Seton Hall interviewed Cox to learn more.

What is the “college fear factor”? It’s that horrible, overwhelming feeling many students have as first-semester freshmen.

What counterproductive behaviors did students use to deal with their fears? One was not saying anything in class, whether it was to avoid being called on, or so the professor wouldn’t even see them. I had people tell me, “I sat in the front in the beginning, but now I sit in the back just hoping the professor doesn’t see me.”

Then there were people who decided not to hand in assignments so that they wouldn’t be assessed negatively. This was obviously counterproductive. They wouldn’t get an “F,” but they wouldn’t do well or pass the class either.

Students failing to live up to their potential: does it all boil down to this fear? The fear is part of it, but there’s another big piece: expectations.

A lot of students told me their expectations for college teaching were that they should go to an auditorium and hear a lecture. People would tell me “there was no teaching going on” in a class, when I saw many creative strategies being used. But students said, “No. It’s not teaching unless the teacher goes up to the board, writes something down, or shows a PowerPoint that has lecture points on it.”

And many professors were thinking that a motivated college student would be interactive in class. So you had a misunderstanding there, too. Even I had that misunderstanding after witnessing students in class; they were doing things that made them look like people who didn’t want to be there and weren’t interested. But it wasn’t that.

How big of a problem is this? I see this is a wide-scale issue. It comes up throughout the community college interviews I have looked at. I believe it affects four-year colleges as well.

If students are intimidated, is that a universal problem? Yes, and it’s not the case that the intimidated students were the least well prepared. There were students who had gotten into prestigious four-year colleges and then got nervous. They said, “Okay, maybe I can’t handle that my first year so I’ll try the community college” first.

What can professors do to deal with the problem? Most of the writing instructors I observed had journal assignments throughout the semester. But when they assigned those pieces and how they graded them was important. Some started with a free-write. If you were in class, you received credit for what you wrote, but it wasn’t evaluated as a grade. It was meant to start a conversation — a personal interaction — between student and professor. So there was evaluated writing done before the first graded paper.

One instructor explicitly addressed people’s fears in her classroom. That made a difference as well.

What can parents do? One message parents can give is to not give up and to encourage students to take action. Ask how the semester is going, and urge the child to speak to the professor. Also, encourage the student to seek out other people in the college, whether it’s an adviser or counselor, who might be able to give advice about how to get past some of those fears.

Is there anything else readers should know? Sometimes when I talk about this, the response is: “Don’t you think these are the students who aren’t ready for college or aren’t college material?”

I don’t think that’s the case. I was looking at students whom both the university — based on assessment tests — and professors considered able to “handle the work academically” and able to succeed.

There’s a need for institutions to be more aware of where students are and to help them integrate into the institution.
Does Seton Hall Measure Up?

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