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[www.madonna.edu](http://www.madonna.edu)
Anxious Feelings are Signs of Success

On Saturday, May 1, Madonna University officials awarded Ludger A. Beauvais and Sr. Mary Damascene Brocki, CSSF, with an honorary degree. A distinguished alumnus award was given to Wayne County Sheriff Warren C. Evans.

Of the more than 800 graduates who joined the Madonna University alumni ranks, approximately 563 earned a bachelor’s degree, associate’s degree, or certificate, and the remainder received master’s degrees.

Sr. Mary Damascene Brocki, CSSF, ’48

Doctor of Educational Administration

In her remarks, assured the students that their experiences at Madonna will be their guiding force in making decisions for the future. She encouraged them to “pray for wisdom to choose the right path, and the courage to undertake it and the strength to see it through.”

Ludger A. Beauvais

Doctor of Humanities

“You graduates will be successful because of your Madonna University education. My wish is that when you reach your final goals, you will be a benefactor of your alma mater like the Stephenson Foundation.”

Sheriff Warren Evans, ’76

Distinguished Alumnus Award

“The anxiety, excitement and intense feelings you are experiencing right now are feelings of success. You want to hold on to those anxious feelings, because they will continue to spur you on, bringing success throughout your lifetime.”
“Foundations of Excellence in the First College Year” is a 20-year-old reform movement that arose out of a partnership between the Policy Center on the First Year of College and the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC). The purpose of the partnership is to develop and evaluate a set of 11 “Foundational Dimensions” statements that describe excellence in undergraduate education during the first year of college, and an accompanying performance audit to monitor institutional achievement of these dimensions. Taken together, they create a blueprint for a successful first year of college, developed by and for CIC member campuses. The main goals of the project are to develop a comprehensive “model of excellence” in the first college year that other institutions of higher education may adopt to increase student learning and retention, and to provide a means by which colleges can measure.

During a recent campus visit, Madonna’s staff liaison from the Policy Center on the First Year of College, Dr. Betsy Barefoot, gave a presentation on national trends and best practices during the first year of college, as well as on the project itself.

“National research clearly shows that ... students are more likely to persist [toward completion of their college degree] if they participate in a learning community,” Barefoot said.

Dr. Karen Ross, dean, College of Social Sciences, and director of the Collaborative Studies Program that constitutes the first-year college experience for most Madonna University students, agreed with Barefoot.

“National research clearly shows that students are more likely to persist toward completion of their college degree if they participate in a learning community,” said Dr. Betsy Barefoot, Madonna’s staff liaison from the Policy Center on the First Year of College.

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“National research clearly shows that students are more likely to persist toward completion of their college degree if they participate in a learning community,” said Dr. Karen Ross, dean, College of Social Sciences, and director of the Collaborative Studies Program that constitutes the first-year college experience for most Madonna University students.

Students have been very enthusiastic about the recent changes to the first-year curriculum. Amanda Knight, a student in Catherine Johnstone’s English 1020 class, enjoyed the learning community aspect of her Collaborative Studies classes.

“I think Collaborative Studies is a great idea,” Knight said. “It’s much easier to get to know other students, and you feel more part of a group. Students come to college and they don’t always know what they want to do, and Collaborative Studies can open up new opportunities.”

Also in Johnstone’s class, Katie Galazka said that Collaborative Studies helped her to understand the topics covered in her History 1010 course because she could also discuss them in her English class, as well as on the web board.

“I became a better writer because I understood the questions and topics more thoroughly,” Galazka said. “Since the same students were in both of my classes, we got to know each other well, making it easier for us to critique each other’s work, which helped us to open our minds and acknowledge each others’ opinions.”

Providing a tool to evaluate and improve the learning environment for first-year students, the 11 "dimensions" of the Foundations’ Project enable colleges and universities to identify strengths as well as areas that need improvement.
These dimensions provide a set of guidelines for institutions that wish to design an exemplary first-year college experience for their students:

- **Philosophy:** an intentional philosophy of the first year informs relevant institutional policies and practices
- **Organization:** organizational structures and policies provide a comprehensive, integrated, and coordinated approach to the first year
- **Educated Person:** students gain an understanding of what it means to be an educated person according to the institutional mission and values
- **Transitions:** recruitment, admissions, and student transitions are facilitated with policies and practices that are intentional and aligned with the institutional mission
- **Faculty:** elevate the first college year to a high priority for the faculty
- **All Students:** all first-year students are served according to their varied needs
- **Institutional Commitment:** commitment of first-year students to the institution is built through a clear articulation of its identity and ethos

- **Engagement:** students are engaged, both in and out of the classroom, in order to develop attitudes, behaviors, and skills consistent with the institution’s philosophy and mission
- **Diversity:** all first-year students experience diverse ideas, views, and peoples as a means of enhancing learning and preparing them to become members of pluralistic communities
- **Life Purpose:** all students are involved in an exploration of their life purpose through instructional content and reflections on their life experiences
- **Improvement:** self-assessment is conducted and associations with other institutions and professional organizations are maintained in order to achieve ongoing first-year improvement

Involving two main phases of activity, Phase I of the project called for each participating institution to appoint a Task Force to review an initial draft set of Dimensions developed by the Policy Center on the First Year of College, and review its own approaches to first-year education. Meeting on a monthly basis, Madonna’s 30-member Task Force drafted a list of all policies and practices that affect first-year students, and then reported its progress. A survey on the first-year college experience was administered to faculty and to the chief academic and student life officers.

In Phase II, first-year students are surveyed by the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) to determine the extent to which they are involved in sound educational practices both in and out of the classroom. Designed to measure academic and cognitive skills, psychosocial development, attitudes and values, and persistence in college to the second year, the NSSE survey was given to students at the end of this past winter term.

The selection process for participation in the Project was quite competitive. More than 100 institutions of higher education applied to participate in Phase I of the CIC Founding Institutions pilot project. Only 12 institutions, including Madonna University, were selected to participate in Phase II of the project as “CIC Founding Institutions,” although 54 institutions applied.

Dr. Ernest Nolan, vice president for academic administration, added that the Foundations of Excellence project “connects with our ongoing efforts to strengthen and enrich the program for first-year students, particularly traditional-age students. Our experience has taught us that these students learn best when they have shared experiences outside the classroom, such as service learning. We also recognize that faculty members have their own training needs so that they can be effective in this dynamic learning situation.”
identify methodologies that can be utilized to retain these students in nursing education programs.

Entitled “Diversity in Nursing: High School and University Partnerships,” the grant is for a two-year period in the amount of $68,150.

“A partnership has been established with three urban high schools — Fordson High School in Dearborn, Detroit’s Southwestern, and Hamtramck High School — all of which have large student bodies from multiethnic and multiracial backgrounds,” said Project Director Dr. Patricia Vint, who is a professor and director of the Instruction Center, College of Nursing and Health. “We have developed an advisory committee with members from the participating schools and Madonna to address issues of mutual interest and concern.”

Each high school is assigned a Madonna University nursing faculty mentor. The high school counselors/staff will work closely with the rest of the advisory committee to plan activities that are tailored to the schools’ individual needs.

With a grant from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation, Madonna University will increase the number of students from diversified backgrounds entering nursing education programs from high school. This will be accomplished through a series of academic activities in the sophomore, junior, and senior levels, which will prepare students for success in a college/university curricula. The project will

“Awareness programs provide high school students opportunities to understand nursing, socialize with members of the profession and see nurses in their career roles,” added Vint. “Also, through tutoring, academic skills will be improved which will result in increased retention.”

Vint stated that to deliver culturally sensitive care, one must be aware of the various forces and values of our rapidly changing country and, therefore, it is extremely imperative that the secondary students in widely diversified urban high schools be considered as prospective candidates and future nursing professionals.

Sue Morgan, a counselor at Southwestern High School who serves on the advisory committee, expressed her gratitude to Madonna University for this program and said, “We anticipate that this program will educate our students in what it really means to work in health care. Students don’t realize that there are many health care choices available to them.”

Therese Jamison, MSN, APRN-BC, assistant professor, served as Schrag’s faculty advisor for the Madonna University Nursing Student Association (MUNSA). She nominated Schrag for her high academic achievement, her outstanding leadership skills and her commitment to the underserved.

“As MUNSA president, Emily organized many professional and service-oriented activities,” Jamison said. “It was largely because of her guidance and determination that MUNSA won the Chapter Achievement Award, and the Scrapbook Award at the Michigan Nursing Student Association (MNSA) in February. She was also awarded a scholarship by MNSA for her creative writing.”

Schrag recently accepted a job as an oncology nurse on the hematology/oncology/bone marrow transplant unit at U of M Hospital in Ann Arbor.

“I feel thoroughly prepared for the world of nursing because of the outstanding education I received here,” Schrag added. “Madonna provided me with an excellent environment in which to grow and learn.”
HELPING HANDS:

Students Awarded for Commitment to Service

This spring, Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) recognized three Madonna University students for their outstanding contributions to community and commitment of service to others. Nominated by staff and faculty, students submitted an application and reflective essay that described their level of community involvement and leadership, linking their service activities to their own personal and academic growth.

The Commitment to Service Award is given to one student per campus for the depth of their community involvement. Recipients may have devoted years to a single program, or have demonstrated leadership skills by making multiple contributions to his or her respective institution and community. This year’s recipient is Jennifer Jablonski, a junior majoring in psychology.

“Although I am very honored by this award, it seems quite extraordinary for such simple tasks of sincerity,” Jablonski said. “My contributions are small acts of kindness that I do out of love for others.”

On a mission trip to Mexico in 2003, Jablonski helped a poor community lay the foundation for a new recreation center. She is currently organizing a follow-up trip, and continues to send clothing and first aid supplies to the village residents. Her future goal is to spend a summer vacation working in an orphanage.

Joseph Klein and Maria LeBeau are recipients of the Heart and Soul Award, which recognizes students for their time, effort and personal commitment to their communities through service.

“Receiving this award is a compliment,” said LeBeau, a first-year nursing student. “I feel that this award is like a ‘thank you’ letter because the greatest reward has been my own personal growth and character development. This is better compensation than I ever could have imagined.”

Among her many on- and off-campus activities, LeBeau has been an active volunteer at St. Christine’s Soup Kitchen. Like Jablonski, she also traveled to Mexico on a missionary trip.

A senior majoring in biology/pre-medicine, Klein helped organize Madonna’s Alternative Spring Break program, where students work in homeless shelters and low-income communities. He also volunteers his time at a local nursing home and works with the American Red Cross, where he trains future nurse assistants.

“To me, this award is a nice way of saying ‘keep up the good work,’” he explained. “I hope that other students will see this as an incentive to give community service a try. Helping others is just something you continue to do, even after you graduate.”

Sr. Nancy Marie Jamroz, CSSF, Ph.D., vice president for student services, commented that “seeing the dedication of our students and how they have touched the lives of others through service is truly inspiring. They have helped raise money for the hungry, promoted respect for life and raised awareness through peace and justice projects. These truly are students who make this world a better, brighter place.”

Madonna Becomes AmeriCorps VISTA Member Campus

Madonna University is one of 12 colleges in Michigan selected to host the AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) Program in 2004-2005. Created in 2003, the Michigan Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA (MCC VISTA) program was developed in response to the needs of member campuses, which act as partnering agents within their neighboring communities.

Among some of the activities planned for the first year of service, Madonna University will partner with a community outreach center in Southwest Detroit and with Dearborn schools. Part of the program’s goal is to recruit 15 new students to the Certificate in Community Leadership Program by winter 2005 and to build an online “community engagement” database that contains service learning guidelines, course descriptions and community service options.

“I am very excited about this new program with Michigan Campus Compact,” said Kevin West, director of Madonna’s service learning program. “Currently, we have anywhere from 200 to 250 students per term doing service learning activities from across the curriculum. The program will help strengthen our focus on partnerships with community organizations that serve youth from low-income areas.”

To participate in the program or for more information, contact Kevin West at kwest@madonna.edu or at (734) 432-5704.
Housed within the College of Education, the new program in Sport Management was designed to train and develop new professionals within the sports industry. Based on the propositions of the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) and the North American Society for Sports Management (NASSM), the program offers concentrations in either the journalism or business track.

“The sport industry offers several main themes,” explained Education Professor Dr. Karen Obsniuk. “There is the sport competition itself, recreational sports, the role of sport in society and in the media, and service positions such as agents, event managers and sponsors.”

During the winter semester, Kevin King, who has worked in the media relations departments for World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc./XFL, LLC, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Minnesota Vikings, and the Detroit Lions, was the instructor of the new course, Media Relations in Sport Management.

“We have designed a well-rounded program that will guide students whether they want to work for the Southfield Parks and Recreation Center, or for the Detroit Red Wings,” King said.

Currently, sport management is the 11th largest industry in the U.S., according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and generates over $200 billion annually. This growing field is producing a high demand for qualified professionals in the sport management field.

Obsniuk added that with a bachelor of science degree in sport management, “students will learn the value of teamwork, communication, and presentation skills gathered from their liberal arts education. They will be well-prepared for a broad range of career options, from professional sports teams to city recreation departments.”

For more information, contact Dr. Karen Obsniuk at (734) 432-5648 or kobsniuk@madonna.edu.

Forensic Science

The only four-year program of its kind in Michigan, Madonna University introduces its new forensic science major, which is offered through the College of Science & Mathematics with an attachment in criminal justice.

“In the past several years, the field of forensic science has grown exponentially, according to the American Association of Crime Laboratory Directors,” said Dr. Ellen Oliver Smith, professor and forensic science program director. “Our goal is to provide students with basic knowledge and laboratory skills in the biological and physical sciences that will prepare them for employment as forensic technicians. This program was designed with the assistance of regional crime lab supervisors to meet the qualifications needed for practitioners in this field.”

The employment outlook for careers in forensic science continues to remain strong as the reliance on civilian personnel by police agencies increases. Highly sophisticated scientific analysis of evidence requires extensive professional training. Private labs are frequently used by defense teams and private investigators to uncover evidence related to acts of terrorism, including microorganisms and other biohazards, Smith added.

Graduates of the program can explore careers as lab technicians, DNA technicians or investigators. Although there are required courses in criminal justice, the program is heavily grounded in the sciences, including molecular and microbiology, genetics, chemistry, physics, physiology and calculus.

Junior Wendy Stephens was a biology major with a chemistry minor when she decided to switch to forensic science this year. “This field really interests me and will open up some good career opportunities,” she said. “Hopefully, with my contribution, I will be able to help someone solve a crime.”

Barry Sherman, assistant professor and chairman, criminal justice department, added that he is “excited to be in partnership with the Science Department. We continue to be on the cutting edge in offering marketable majors to students.”

For more information, contact Dr. Ellen Oliver Smith, at (734) 432-5514 or at esmith@madonna.edu.
Business Faculty Receives Quality Fellow Recognition

Thomas I. Schoenfeldt, adjunct instructor, management, marketing and economics, was elected a Fellow of the American Society for Quality (ASQ) in recognition of his significant contributions to the field of quality. Fellow membership status in ASQ is awarded to individuals who are in good standing and who have 15 years of quality-related experience.

“It is my desire to see quality principles and tools used to help companies worldwide to succeed and keep their customers happy,” Schoenfeldt said.

A faculty member in the School of Business since 1998, Schoenfeldt has been involved in updating the quality and project management curriculum to reflect what is currently happening in the world. He is on the Business Advisory Committee and has also been involved with the Angileri Quality Institute.

“Tom has an all-around knowledge of the quality field and shares his enthusiasm with his students,” said Dr. Stuart Arends, dean, School of Business.

Preparing current and future leaders for the ever-changing organizational business environment, the master of science in business administration (MSBA) degree offers options to both the traditional student and the adult learner who wish to complete their graduate education.

The specialty in leadership studies is designed for the graduate student interested in advancing in a key leadership role in business or other complex organization. Emphasizing professional and managerial leadership, this program focuses on developing human resources within the framework of social and environmental constraints that affect performance in the workplace.

Through a systematic approach to quality and project management, the new specialty in quality and project management assists students in manufacturing, government or service environments, including non-profit organizations. Its focus is on producing quality services or products and creating the infrastructure to manage projects that are on time, on budget, and meet customer requirements.

Dr. Charlotte Neuhauser, professor, management, marketing and economics, said that quality and project management, in particular, is a “fast growing area. The MSBA degree is the only one in Michigan, and one of the few in the county. We have combined project management practices with ethical and professional leadership, team building, quality management, and change management to make it a degree which meets industry standards and needs.”

Dean Knox, a Quality Systems supervisor at Visteon in Ypsilanti, heard about the MSBA program from a former fellow employee. He has been employed at Visteon since 2001.

“I enrolled [in the program] for several reasons, but primarily to expand my knowledge of quality and operations,” Knox said. “Two things I very much appreciated were the class sizes and the access to the faculty.”

MSBA PROGRAMS: UNIQUE, CUTTING EDGE

RICHARD T. FOX, PH.D.
Professor of Economics and Management
Graduate Research Coordinator
William and Bridget Phillips Chair of Management and Leadership

Q: How long have you taught at Madonna? What is your primary area of expertise?
A: I have taught both undergraduate and graduate economics courses for 11 years, and my primary interest is in health care administration and research.

Q: Please describe your activities as this year’s Chair.

A: In March, I presented a research paper at the International Atlantic Economic Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, discussing the future management and organization of health care in the U.S. In addition, officials from The University of Goteborg in Goteborg, Sweden, asked me to give several seminars relating to the management of health care institutions to their graduate students. I also participated in discussions concerning hospital productivity in southeast Sweden.

Q: What do you see are the benefits as Chair?
A: My hope is that my experience in Sweden will help train future health care leaders in the U.S. The extra time and financial support has allowed me to design a course which examines the economics of health care.
The Polish Studies and Eastern/Central European Studies Program offers a unique insight into the history, culture and modern issues of Polish and East/Central European people. Students interested in business or government careers may opt to earn a Certificate of Completion in Polish Translation, which will enhance their marketability.

“The dramatic changes in 1989 and 1990 brought unprecedented economic and social changes to the nations of the former Communist block,” explained Dr. Janusz Wrobel, professor of Polish Studies and director of the program. “As a result, new markets are open to Western interests, and businesses of all sizes are exploring a whole new range of investment opportunities.”

Assistant Professor Mariusz Szajnert teaches Polish as a Second Language courses for beginning, intermediate and advanced level speakers. He also offers classes on Polish grammar and cultural sensitivity for business professionals.

“Polish is an exciting and challenging language with limitless creative possibilities in syntax and morphology,” Szajnert said. “The language itself expresses the spirit of this powerful country, the drive for independence, and the love of freedom.”

For more information, contact Dr. Janusz Wrobel at (248) 683-0339 or jwrobel@madonna.edu.

Polish Studies Director and Professor Dr. Janusz Wrobel recently received a Venture Grant from the Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) for his course/project entitled Children After Communism. It was designed to help students develop a deeper understanding of the circumstances that led to the plight of many orphaned children living in East/Central Europe.

As part of the project, students will be assigned case studies on a child/group of children living in orphanages or foster care situations in East/Central Europe. Students will be working with the American Polish Assistance Association (APAA) to collect and distribute packages to the children, as well as maintaining correspondence with orphanages and foster homes.

“This project perfectly fulfills the service component of our mission,” Wrobel said. “It not only increases student awareness, but brings much needed tangible help to the children.”
Professor Jozef Kubik (seated, right), vice president for education and head of the Institute of Environmental Mechanics and Applied Computer Science at Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz, Poland, recently visited Madonna University to discuss the establishment of a ‘twin’ exchange program.

Pictured with Dr. Kubik are Madonna University President Sr. Rose Marie Kujawa (seated), Dr. Ernest Nolan (left), vice president for academic administration, Sr. Nancy Marie Jamroz, vice president for student services, and Frank Hribar, vice president for planning and enrollment management.

On April 13, Sr. Rose Marie Kujawa, Dr. Ernest Nolan, and Dr. Jonathan Swift visited Pachuca, Mexico, to sign an agreement with the State of Hidalgo that will enable Mexican students and faculty members to study at Madonna University. This opportunity will be made available to students in Hidalgo’s four-year and two-year colleges and universities, which number around 50. Here, Sr. Rose Marie presents a certificate of appreciation to Onésimo Serrano González, director general of the Instituto Hildalguense de Educación Media Superior y Superior.

AUCTION SUPPORTS STUDENTS

This year’s “Down Under” Wine Tasting and Auction Gala event raised $200,000, with proceeds going toward scholarships and educational projects. Guests had the opportunity to sample 86 different Australian wines that were personally selected by John Jonna of Merchants Fine Wines. For a second year, general chairs were Michael Obloy, chairman of Madonna’s board of trustees (right) and his wife, Jo (left). Pictured with the Obloys are Dr. Walter and Jan Knysz of Lake Angelus.

The lucky winners of the 2004 Chevrolet Corvette car raffle, courtesy of Madonna University and Tennyson Chevrolet, Livonia, were Henry and Patricia Bawol of Allen Park. The Bawol’s have purchased a car raffle ticket for several consecutive years and have supported the auction and a number of educational projects at Madonna University. He is the nephew of the late Sr. Mary Rachel who was a professor of English and the director of the TRIO program at Madonna University.

Faculty, staff, friends and alumni gathered to celebrate a wee bit o’Irish at Madonna’s “Irish Night” on Saturday, March 6, which included a traditional Irish buffet, wines and a silent auction. Dr. Edie Raleigh, dean, graduate studies, puts in her bid at the silent auction to benefit scholarships and educational projects.
Madonna University Softball Coach Al White propelled himself to the top of Madonna’s softball coaching records by picking up his 158th career victory in a 7-4 win over Spring Arbor University on April 6.

In his eighth year as head coach, White surpassed the previous mark of 157 set by current Madonna volleyball coach and former softball coach, Jerry Abraham. Coach White continued to ‘get the job done’ this season, adding the University’s first-ever Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC) softball championship to his resume, as well as being named the WHAC Coach-of-the-Year on May 6.

The team advanced to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Region VIII tournament by virtue of their regular season title, with three players honored on the All-Conference first team. Shortstop Emily Cunningham who led the team in hitting (.365), at-bats (181), runs scored (39), hits (66) and fielding percentage (.960) joined teammates Arin Fowler and Kelly Nilson on the squad. This is the second selection to the All-Conference team for both Fowler and Cunningham, and Nilson makes her first appearance in her freshman year at Madonna. The Crusaders also placed four players on the Academic All-Conference list, honoring athletes with a 3.25 or higher cumulative GPA and at least junior status. Mary Warchuck (3.32 GPA) and Krystal Shina (3.61 GPA) joined Fowler (3.54 GPA) and Kathy Day (3.44 GPA) on the list.

On Thursday, February 19, the Athletic Department hosted a “Champions of Character” Summit by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). The campaign is an NAIA initiative that stresses character, sportsmanship, respect, integrity, servant leadership and responsibility among students, student-athletes, fans, officials, and anyone associated with athletics. Rob Miller, director, Champions of Character Initiatives, and Bruce Brown gave group presentations and smaller workshop sessions.

GIVING BACK:
Baseball Players Are Good Neighbors

When Madonna University began building the new University Ballpark near the Marybrook/Marywood Nursing Home last summer, many residents and visitors at the facility did not know what to expect. Residents watched as the ballpark was built from the ground up, but also endured the constant noise of the construction crew.

Now that the ballpark is finished and the Crusaders have completed the home portion of their schedule, the team felt that they should take some time to meet their neighbors. After a pair of home victories over Ohio Dominican University on April 27, 40 members from the team walked over to Marybrook to deliver cookies and smiles to the residents and the staff.

“I think it is important for the players to take a few minutes of their time to make a difference in the lives of others,” said head coach Greg Haeger.

The team spent an hour visiting with the residents, many of them big baseball fans, and celebrated the 104th birthday of one resident, breaking into a loud chorus of “Happy Birthday.”

“We tend to get so wrapped up in what we are doing on the field,” said sophomore center fielder Preston Picard. “To see the smiles on the faces of all the people here, and to see them really appreciate us visiting, was a good feeling. It made us realize that there is much more to life than just baseball.”

The Crusaders have made the new field work to their advantage, finishing second in the conference and earning a trip to the NAIA Regionals for the first time in two years.

Coach Haeger says this isn’t the last visit to Marybrook.

“I have wanted our team to become more involved in community service for quite some time, and now that we are right next door, it makes perfect sense that we continue our relationship with the residents here. We have much more in store the future.”
The bachelor of arts with a major in interdisciplinary studies accurately depicts a multi-faceted expertise in disciplines across the curriculum. Replacing the bachelor of general studies degree (BGS), this change stems from the results of an in-depth Internet search on local and national interdisciplinary programs, as well as conversations with enrollment management professionals.

Dr. Jim Novak, dean, College of Continuing and Professional Studies, stated that Madonna’s program is “special in that it encourages people to complete their bachelor’s degree by following their own interests across a variety of academic fields.”

Existing goals for the major have remained consistent, such as the development of writing, critical thinking, applied research and problem-solving skills. “These goals guide what the students do during their time in the program,” said Dr. Edie Woods, director of the interdisciplinary studies program and chair and professor, psychology. “At the beginning, during the plan of study approval process, students discuss the ways in which the major goals mesh with their personal educational goals. They also select classes from different disciplines that will help them to meet these goals. In their senior seminar course, students choose either a research project or a portfolio as their capstone project. Students who do the portfolio write reflective essays about their accomplishments relative to each of the goals for the major. In these essays, they are required to discuss how their studies in different disciplines helped them in their accomplishments.”

One of Carol Gerus’ lifelong goals was to complete her college degree. Among the first students to graduate in the Interdisciplinary Studies program, Gerus began her academic career 44 years ago. She is Madonna’s coordinator for academic administration and has worked in various capacities throughout the University since 1980.

“As I grew older, I came to realize just how much I regretted never having completed my degree,” Gerus said. “In 2000, I decided that I would begin taking classes not for a career, but for me. Interdisciplinary Studies gave me just that. I took classes that piqued my interests and that fit in with an ‘all-around’ education. Through the diversity of classes and instructors, I am involved in many more things — things I never would have considered before.”
Dr. David Wagner, professor, music, recently completed the Schirmer Book of Essential Classical CD’s, published by Omnibus Press/Schirmer Trade Books, a book that he had worked on for over three years. Contributing writers included Linette Popoff-Parks, professor and chair of the music department. The book contains biographies of over 275 composers and suggested recordings of their works. It is scheduled for release in September 2004.

Elizabeth Bozyk, adjunct assistant professor, natural science, and her husband, Dennis Bozyk, associate professor, history, presented “Sexual Differences in Brain Function: An Inquiry-Based Model” at the Michigan Science Teachers Association Conference in Lansing on Saturday, March 6.

Brendie Vega Mkwnanazi, city planner, City of Detroit Planning and Development, recently spoke to Dr. Jerry Charbonneau’s SOC 4420 Urban Community class.

Mike Fenchel, adjunct assistant professor and supervisor of teacher assistants, was recently named interim principal at Harper Woods Secondary Schools.


In May, Sr. Ann Stamm received an honoris causa Doctor of Divinity degree from the Graduate Theological Foundation (GTF), South Bend, IN. The ceremonies took place at Notre Dame at the Century Civic Center. Dr. John H. Morgan, President of GTF, cited Sr. Ann for her work as educator, police chaplain, administrator of GTF, and her service to humanity over the years.

In October, the College of Arts and Humanities hosted Sarah Smith, a bestselling author of several books, including Chasing Shakespeare. She was a guest lecturer in several English classes and talked about her books, creative writing, and how to get published.

In Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday and Black History Month, the Office of Multicultural Affairs sponsored several activities and lectures, including a small group discussion session about the legacy of Dr. King by Lila Cabill (left), director of the Multicultural Experiential Leadership Development (MELD).

Adjunct Assistant Professor Douglas Dent, education, recently addressed a group of Western Wayne County educators on “The Electoral College and the 2000 Election.” Dent was an electoral college advisor to the State McCarthy campaign in 1976, as well as to Republican State Chair Mel Larsen during the 1980 and 1984 elections.

Joe Scheidler, national director of the Pro-Life Action League in Chicago, spoke at the Orchard Lake Center in October. Scheidler is an expert on the spiritual dimension of pro-life activism.

Anne Lanier, a graduate student in the hospice education program, recently published her first book of poetry entitled “Walking the Path of Grief.” A hospice nurse at Angela Hospice in Livonia, Lanier wrote the book while healing from the loss of many loved ones, including her mother and brother. She and her husband, John, have three children.

This past March, Dr. Ellen Oliver Smith, professor and director, forensic science program, gave a presentation about “The Youngest Nurse at Annapolis” and her genealogical research on background family information to the Dearborn Genealogical Society.

Barbara Sykes, a long-term care administration major, met with Gov. Jennifer Granholm after sending her a letter as part of a class assignment. Sykes, who is a nurse and pharmacy technician, discussed some of the difficulties that senior adults are having with paying for prescription medication. The Governor invited her to talk about some of the specific ways that the State of Michigan could help.

In January, Madonna University hosted a preview screening of Detroit Public Television’s Academy Award nominated documentary “Why Can’t We Be a Family Again?” A panel discussion, moderated by Barry Sherman, chair, criminal justice, followed the film and included: Jane Kessler, adjunct associate professor, psychology and administrative director, Madonna University Psychological Services Clinic; Dr. Karen Neuman, associate professor and chair, and Marcia Boehm, adjunct associate professor, social work.

Madonna University’s website was chosen as “Website of the Month” by the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber. It was featured on the Chamber’s home page with a link for the entire month of February, and was announced in the Chamber’s March issue of its Business Connection magazine and E-News broadcast e-mail newsletter.

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Madonna University was host to the 31st Annual Rally For Life on Sunday, January 18, sponsored by Right to Life-Lifespan of Metro Detroit. Junior Elizabeth Vier, co-chair of the Respect Life Committee, gave the invocation, and senior Sr. Clare Marie Klein, CSSF, was one of the presenters. (left) Rep. Thaddeus McCotter joins with students, Sr. Rose Marie and Sr. Nancy (right). Student representatives from Campus Ministry in Livonia and St. Mary’s Orchard Lake also participated in the March For Life in Washington, D.C.

Martha Bloom, program director for the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, spoke on the workings of community foundations and the review process during Beth Spencer’s grant writing class in November. In January, Spencer, an assistant professor in the gerontology department, and Dr. Anita Herman, professor and chair, gerontology, joined with 15 other professionals at Detroit Public Television studios during a PBS documentary entitled “The Forgetting” to take calls from family caregivers who had concerns about dementia.

Adam Guth and Christina Warren, television and video communications (TVC) majors who graduated this May, created Madonna University’s Broadcast Club at the beginning of the winter semester. As part of the Club’s activities, members sponsored an inaugural Internet “Broadcast Day” in April, using the outlet “live365.com”. With faculty assistance, Warren and Guth applied for a mini-grant through Michigan Campus Compact to help fund the future production of a documentary on the Diego Rivera mural at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Guth also called the live action via Internet broadcasting at several of the men’s and women’s basketball games this season.

Nationally known speaker and pro-life advocate Dr. Janet Smith, chair of life issues, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, spoke on Catholic Education and the Path to Holiness at the January Faculty Development Workshop at the Orchard Lake Center. She also presented a daylong workshop on Pope John Paul II’s encyclical Evangelium Vitae. In March, Dr. Russell Hittinger presented the Faculty Development Workshop entitled Centesimus Annus: On the 100th Anniversary of Rerum Novarum. Hittinger is the chair of philosophy and religion at the University of Tulsa, where he holds the William K. Warren Chair of Catholic Studies.

On December 4, Madonna’s TRIO program celebrated its 25th anniversary with a potluck and gathering of faculty, staff and students. TRIO programs are federally funded programs that offer student support services with the purpose of retaining and graduating students. There are over 1,600 TRIO programs across the nation, with approximately 60 in Michigan. Pictured left to right are TRIO/CPI staff: Susan McMullen, Sylvia Dixon, Sherry Klisz, director, and Sr. Joan Roosa.

Dr. Maureen Leen, professor, College of Nursing and Health, was honored with the Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award from Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) this winter. This prestigious annual award is the highest honor that MCC gives to faculty and staff in Michigan. Dr. Leen was designated by her peers for her outstanding dedication to a community-based nursing philosophy, as well as for her encouragement of faculty on all levels to initiate service-learning in their classes.

Dr. Anne Sullivan Smith, associate professor, nursing, was this year’s recipient of the Nightingale Award for Nursing in the Community. Given to a professional nurse who delivers innovative nursing services in a non-traditional setting, Sullivan Smith was honored with this statewide award at the 16th annual recognition dinner held this May. Dr. Sandra Wahtera, professor, nursing, was named runner-up for the education/research award. Congratulations also goes out to Betty Dornbrook, assistant professor, and AnnMarie Knoerl, adjunct assistant professor, nursing. Dornbrook received the Wayne State University College of Nursing Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Practice, and Knoerl won the Livonia Rotary Community Service Award.

This past semester, nutrition and dietetics majors in the Methods in Nutrition Education class designed a comprehensive education plan with objectives, nutritional content, and evaluation techniques. After practicing on their peers, the students visited locations appropriate to their topic, including libraries, elementary and secondary schools and senior centers. Also, dietetics student Jennifer Traub recently won a free annual membership to the American Dietetic Association for her submission of an article for the student association newsletter, the Student Scoop.

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1950s

Family, friends and colleagues gathered to honor MARY JOAN (KAMINSKI) NARDI, ART '51 on Thursday, April 29 at Sinbad’s Restaurant for her teaching career that spanned more than 50 years of classroom elementary art education. Retired from Hutchinson Elementary School in July 2003, Nardi was the organizer and monitor of the school’s art and photography clubs, and also edited the weekly summer school newspaper. She has served as president of the Madonna University Alumni Association and was a member of the Executive Board. Among her numerous cultural and educational activities, Nardi is the current president of Phi Lambda Theta, Detroit Chapter, an international education honor society and professional association, and is a member of several area choirs.

1960s

STELLA SZCZESNY, SSC ’70 is the first-ever woman to be elected president of the Polish National Alliance (PNA) Council 122. As part of her swearing-in remarks, Szczenzy said that “we are Polonia 365 days a year and for that many days, we should be visible.”

DR. DENISE KORNIEWICZ, DNSC, RN, FAAN, BSN ’74, is the associate dean for Research and Doctoral Program, and the director for the Center of Nursing Research at the University of Miami School of Nursing in Coral Gables, FL.

1970s

NANCY TOLSON, ENG ’83 was recently tenured and promoted to associate professor at Illinois State University, where she teaches children’s literature, African American literature and storytelling. She enrolled at Madonna because she wanted a smaller, more intimate educational atmosphere.

“One of the great things that I have taken with me is the way in which the faculty took time to help me,” she said. “The professors were excited about teaching, and I felt that energy and was excited about learning. I place that same type of energy into what I do – I share with my students my life experiences, and since my return from a year in Ghana, West Africa, I share with them my teaching experience overseas.”

BARBARA ZIEMAN, BSW ’86 is a senior instructional developer, document design and development, at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan in Southfield.

1980s

PAMELA (MASTANTUONO) HARRIS, MSN ’88 is a registered nurse at Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey. She has worked in many different areas of health care, including critical care, home care, insurance, legal, administration, and Medicaid HMO, ECF, UR. She and her husband, William, have a 13-year-old daughter, Amanda.

1990s

RONALD BROWN, SSB ’78 is an AVP of underwriting education at CNA Insurance Company in Chicago. He and his wife, Cecilia, have two sons, Nathaniel and Patrick, and one daughter, Mary. In September 2003, Brown was ordained a deacon for the Diocese of Joliet, IL.

LORI (RAFFERTY) MURPHY, ART ’90 and her husband have a small farm in Jasper, Ontario, Canada, and are waiting to adopt a special needs child. For the past 10 years, she has worked as a teacher for the deaf with the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario, near Ottawa, Canada. At age 16, Murphy was one of the youngest students at Madonna University in 1986 and thanks everyone for a wonderful college experience.

MICHAEL REESE, SLS ’93 is an IT Specialist with the Internal Revenue Service in Detroit. He is currently pursuing a third bachelor’s degree (mathematics) and recently married current Madonna University student Susan Sacka. From 1992-1993, Reese was president of the Deaf Club, and vice president from 1991-1992.

CJ GRADS SHINE

OFFICER MICHAEL MEISTER, ’97 AND SGT. CHARLES ROZUM, ’81, received Medals of Valor and Officers of the Year awards from the Farmington Hills Police Department.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHIEF ROBERT STEVENSON, ’86, named Chief of Police, Livonia Police Department.

HITOMI (FURUTA) FUKAHORI, ENG ’75

Breast cancer survivor Hitomi Fukahori didn’t let her illness stop her from living. After a lumpectomy and chemotherapy/radiation treatment, Fukahori joined a mountain climbing club for cancer patients and participated in monthly treks with mountain guides and supporters. Previously, she worked as an executive secretary for ABS Pacific, an American company located in central Tokyo, where she met her husband of 23 years, Kazuo. They have two daughters, Madoka, 20, and Chihiro, 19, who both attend college in Tokyo.

Fukahori is an active member of two international women’s clubs in Yokohama, the Yokohama International Women’s Club (YIWC) and Minami Circle, which focus on charity and cultural exchange programs. She is also a choir member for the English Mass at the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Yokohama.

“My college experience at Madonna University gave me the assurance of better communication skills,” said Fukahori. “With my English skills, I could work for foreign companies and teach English conversation to college students and company employees. In addition, it made me more open-hearted and outgoing. My personal motto has always been, ‘where there’s a will, there’s a way.’”

1990s
SYBIL DERDERIAN, GSC ‘95
A third grade teacher at Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak, Derderian was recently selected to attend a workshop in Murfreesboro, TN, entitled “The Hermitage: Andrew Jackson and America 1801-1861,” sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. She was one of 50 teachers chosen to participate in this one-week workshop in July.

2000s

The first-ever ANDREW TOPIC Memorial Run was held on Sunday, May 2 at Andover High School in Bloomfield Hills. Topic, who passed away in October 2003, graduated from Madonna University with a bachelor’s degree in English and education certification in 2000. Topic was a teacher and a coach at Andover.

DIANE BOSEN, MSN, ANP ’01 is working at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Oakland. In December 2003, she published her sixth article entitled “New Strategies for Treating Heart Failure” in Nursing magazine. Her seventh article on acute coronary syndrome is in the final review process.

This past fall, NICHOLAS J. NAGRANT, MSB, MQO ’01 was interviewed on WDEO AM 990 Catholic Radio for his expertise in Byzantine Catholic church music.

DIETRICH POLICE CHIEF ELLA BULLY-CUMMINGS, PA ’94 was the keynote speaker at the 2004 Women & Leadership in the Workplace Conference VIII, held on March 31 at Burton Manor in Livonia and presented by the Michigan Business and Professional Association (MBPA).

Joining the Detroit Police Department in 1977 at age 19, Bully-Cummings was promoted to Sergeant in 1987 and to Lieutenant in 1993. In 1995, she became the Commanding Officer of the Crime Prevention Section. As the first female Chief of Police of the Detroit Police Department, Bully-Cummings leads the largest municipal police department ever in the country.

“I am proud to have chosen Madonna University to pursue my higher education,” Bully-Cummings said. “I found the faculty and staff to be very attentive and concerned about my educational achievements. The University certainly equipped me with the tools to advance in my chosen profession.”

JILL (BURT) JOYCE, FA ‘94 worked as a financial analyst for 10 years at Ford Motor Company. She currently stays home with her son, Connor, and is involved with Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS), coaches girl’s basketball for CYO, and is a Eucharistic Minister at her parish.

JOSEPH COSCI, JR., MNG ‘02 was recently sworn in and commissioned a second lieutenant, U.S. Army, after successful completion of Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson, SC, and Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, GA. He will finish his Officer Basic Course in Field Artillery this June, when he relocates to his permanent station in Fort Carson, CO. He is expected to be assigned to active duty in Iraq or Afghanistan sometime this year.

MICHELLE LOOMIS, MSN, ADP ’03 gave a successful public presentation of her master’s research entitled “The Relationship Between Physiologic Measures and Quality of Life in Heart Failure Patients.”

JILL (BURT) JOYCE, FA ‘94

The first graduating class of the Southwest Detroit Women’s Educational Empowerment Project (SWEEP) celebrated together at the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) reception for graduating students on Tuesday, April 20. Pictured here are (seated, left): Marianna Vassallo and Bernada Bailey; (back row, from left): Carmen Ramos, Donnie Barnes, Jacquelyn Jones-Dodson, Katrina Woodard, Marcella Paffhausen-Ziriada, and Carmensita Buentello. Not pictured: Kimberly Averett and Linda Harper.

SYBIL DERDERIAN, GSC ‘95

During Commencement weekend, the first four RN to BSN degree completion distance learning program graduates celebrated their achievement with their families and friends. They are Gaylord residents (left) Lynn Daugherty and Maria Candela; Rogers City resident Shari McLellan; and Kathy Beltz, of St. Helen.
BUILDING THE FUTURE . . . ONE BRICK AT A TIME

MADONNA UNIVERSITY PERSONALIZED BRICK ORDER FORM

To order your brick, complete this form in its entirety, enclose payment and form and mail to:
Madonna University Brick Campaign • 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia, MI 48150

Become a permanent part of Madonna University! Now is your opportunity to be remembered, to honor your favorite teacher, or commemorate the life of a loved one.

The Madonna University personalized brick campaign allows those who share in the University's history, as alumni, students, parents or friends, to be remembered. These bricks will enhance a variety of settings across the University campus.

You may choose from two brick sizes: 4" x 8" or 8" x 8". They can be purchased by completing this form, or by ordering your brick online at www.madonna.edu. You will receive a confirmation letter and a commemorative certificate that verifies your order and notes that you are a valued participant in the Madonna University Brick Campaign.

Check off the size of the brick(s) you are ordering, and print the information exactly as you would like it to appear. Please check spelling carefully. Your message must fit within the space provided on either of the brick sizes. Madonna University is not responsible for spelling errors recorded on the original order form.

☐ 4” x 8” : $100
   12 spaces per 3 lines

☐ 8” x 8” : $200
   12 spaces per 4 lines

Purchaser’s Name  
Address:___________________________
City ____________________________
State ______ ZIP ______

Payment  
☐ My check or money order is enclosed. (Please make payable to Madonna University)
☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard     Acct. Number__________________________ Exp. Date ______
Name as it appears on card ________________________________
Signature ____________________________________________

Introducing Madonna University’s

NEW ALUMNI WEB SITE

Madonna University is proud to announce the launch of its new alumni web site! With an ever-expanding network of over 19,000 alumni, this site offers a convenient way for alumni to stay in touch with their alma mater.

WE’RE HERE TO SERVE YOU!

Getting involved means staying connected – and the site is a useful tool to do just that. At the click of a mouse, you can submit news and notes, read about the accomplishments of fellow alums, check out the schedule of events, or make a gift in support of ongoing University projects.

To access the site, visit www.alumni.madonna.edu. Please stop by often as information is regularly updated. We’d love to hear from you!
AUGUST
2, 9, 16, Transfer Student Days (Madonna Mondays), 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.,
23, 30 Rooms 1000 & 1004, 432-5339
10 Downriver Center Open House, 6-8 p.m., 324-8888
11 Deadline for web registration
18 Orchard Lake Open House, 6-8 p.m., 248/683-0523
20 Deadline for fax-in registration

SEPTEMBER
3 Final day for on-campus registration
6 Classes begin: Term 1/Fall
7-11 Add-drop period: Term 1/Fall
Student Welcome Mass/Mass of the Holy Spirit, 11:30 a.m.,
University Chapel, 432-5419
17 Golden Classic Scholarship Golf Outing, Links of Novi, 432-5421

OCTOBER
6 Schedule of classes available online: Term II/Winter
9 Alumni Reunion 2004, 432-5740
18 Printed schedule of classes available: Term II/Winter
19-21 TRIO Book Fair, Take Five Lounge
25 Fax, web & mail-in registration begins: Term II/Winter

NOVEMBER
8 In-person registration begins: Term II/Winter
18 Founders’ Day Interfaith Service - Spirit Week begins,
11:30 a.m., 432-5419
24 Thanksgiving/Founders’ Day Mass, 11:30 a.m., 432-5419
25-27 Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER
13-17 Final Exam Week
17 End of Term I

JANUARY 2005
10 Classes begin: Term II/Winter

Due to the fact that this calendar may not be all-inclusive and/or is subject to change, please check with the department sponsoring the event for verification and for additional information.
During the week of April 12, Dr. Karen Ross, dean, College of Social Sciences (third from left) and Barry Sherman, chair, criminal justice department (second from left), met with representatives from North Central Michigan College to sign an articulation agreement for the institutions’ respective criminal justice programs offered at the University Center at Gaylord.

Latinos de Livonia presented a $5,000 check to Madonna University President Sr. Rose Marie to support student scholarships for the Southwest (Detroit) Women’s Educational Empowerment Program (SWEEP). Latinos de Livonia has supported Madonna University educational endeavors since 1989.

Pictured: (left to right) Hector Ramirez, Adriana Shelley, Anna Maria Rodriguez, Manuel Reyes, Sr. Rose Marie Kujawa, CSSF, Jose Rodriguez, and Martha Rodriguez.