Madonna Now

70 YEARS AND GROWING

Art Class - Presentation Junior College - 1943

Academic Building - Madonna College - 1963

Library - Madonna University - 1984

Science and Media Center - 2009

MADONNA UNIVERSITY • LIVONIA, MICHIGAN • SPRING 2007
The mission of Madonna University, a Catholic and Franciscan institution of higher learning, is to instill in its students Christian humanistic values, intellectual inquiry, a respect for diversity, and a commitment to serving others through a liberal arts education, integrated with career preparation and based on the truths and principles recognized within a Catholic tradition.

Madonna’s mission receives its spirit from these Franciscan Values:

- Respect for the dignity of each person
- Peace and justice
- Reverence for creation
- Franciscan intellectual tradition
Madonna University is the only private university in Michigan to be selected by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching for its new Community Engagement Classification. A total of 76 colleges and universities were selected nationwide.

To be chosen for this new classification, Madonna had to provide descriptions and examples of the University’s practices of community engagement and how they aligned with its mission, culture, leadership, resources and practices. The documentation, compiled by Kevin West, director of service learning, and Ernie Nolan, vice president for academic administration, proved Madonna’s commitment to curricular engagement as well as community outreach and partnerships.

“I'm extremely proud of the Madonna students, staff, and faculty members who daily demonstrate a commitment to community service and engagement,” said Sr. Rose Marie Kujawa, Madonna University president. “Our mission for the past 70 years has stressed service to others through a liberal arts education. Service learning is an integral part of our curriculum.”

Working with a team of advisors, the Carnegie Foundation created a framework to assess the nature of an institution’s community engagement efforts. Madonna University demonstrated that they have substantial commitments in not one, but all of the identified categories.

“We're delighted to be the only private university in Michigan to be awarded this new classification,” said Nolan. “It commends the University’s work to address community-identified needs and enhance community well-being, while deepening the civic and academic learning of its students and enriching the scholarship of its faculty. It is truly a win-win situation for everyone involved.”

Lee S. Shulman, president of the Carnegie Foundation, said, “The campuses participating in this elective classification provide useful models of engagement around teaching and learning and around research agendas that benefit from collaborative relationships.”
They were among the first male faculty members in an all-female college. Their early years were spent under the guidance of Sr. Danatha Suchyta, who served as the University’s fourth president from 1965-1976. Randal Hoyer, Dennis Bozyk, Jim Reilly and Ken Rust all have spent 31 or more years at Madonna. They’ve witnessed structural, academic and technological changes and the introduction of coeducational programs. Below are some of their memories.

When Dennis Bozyk arrived at Madonna College, there were few full-time male faculty. “I soon learned – in spite of all I had been taught about courtesy – that, if I wanted to get anywhere on campus in a hurry, I would have to stop holding doors open for women,” Bozyk recalled. He also discovered that it was a long walk to find a men’s restroom. When Bozyk arrived at Madonna, straight out of graduate school, the faculty was composed almost entirely of Felician Sisters. “From these good women, I learned the difference between a ‘job’ and a vocation,” he said. “They gave my work on campus a deeper meaning and a sense of purpose to my professional life that is still with me. I will always be thankful for this gift and to Sr. Mary Lauriana and Sr. Mary Danatha for bringing me to Madonna.”

In Jim Reilly’s first year as English professor, Bozyk suggested they teach an interdisciplinary course four days a week for the month of May. “The pace was frantic and a case study in improvisation,” said Reilly. “After each class, we’d head for a local eatery on Plymouth Rd., and plan the next day’s pedagogy. As chaotic as all this was, it was also a great opportunity to talk teaching and to sort out what our respective disciplines of history and literature were all about. It remains one of the best professional development experiences I’ve ever had.”

Randal Hoyer began teaching history at Madonna University in 1970, when the entire first floor was a breezeway and the largest classroom was the science auditorium that also served as a faculty meeting place. The phones on professors’ desks were only an intercom and the janitor’s closet doubled as a phone booth for incoming and outgoing calls. One day the light in the closet was burned out and Hoyer had to make a call. It must have been quite a sight to see him trying to keep the door open with one foot, to let enough light in, as he stretched to dial the rotary phone.

For Hoyer, the most significant change occurred in 1972 when Madonna opened enrollment to men. He served on the coeducational committee chaired by Reilly.
Reilly remembers being invited by Sister Danatha to lunch in the convent dining room. "She explained to the committee the advantages of making the College co-ed; for one, there were significant grants available to us if we were. As President, Sr. Danatha led with a wonderful blend of humor and persuasiveness."

Sr. Danatha Suchyta graduated from the Felician Academy and earned a bachelor’s degree in natural science from Madonna College. After graduate studies at Fordham University, she became the one-person biology department at Madonna. She later earned a doctorate from Walden University. In reminiscing about the good ol’ days she said, “I taught all the biology courses in a laboratory-lecture room before the new laboratories opened in 1963. I had to change equipment and materials before each new term, depending on the courses offered.” Today the lab is a classroom for youngsters attending the Montessori school. “I enjoyed those pioneering years and students,” she said beaming.

"We taught bio-basics to the first nursing majors, produced great biology teachers and medical technologists, and even presidents - Sr. Rose Marie and Sr. Mary Francilene."

After 10 years as head of the biology department, Sr. Danatha was appointed president of Madonna College. During her tenure, she air-conditioned the academic building, and championed the addition of career-oriented programs in criminal justice, gerontology, fire science, and sign language. Her vision and leadership helped create an environment that attracted a diverse mix of non-traditional students, and growth for the University.

“My last act as president was promoting Sr. Lauriana, my long-time friend and a woman of vision, to vice president for advancement.” (Sr. Danatha will read this story to Sr. Lauriana who is being cared for in the infirmary at the Motherhouse.) Sr. Danatha attributes her success to God’s providential and loving care, the Madonna College community, and Sr. Lauriana.

Ken Rust, who joined the faculty when Madonna launched the nation’s first four-year sign language studies degree in 1975, recalled how technology evolved over the years. “In 1975 I used legal pads and pencils to create notes for lectures. The switchboard was just that, with patchcords and all. We used typewriters to create exams on mimeograph paper which had an odor that reminded me of the fourth grade,” Rust remembered. The 80s brought personal computers and individual office phones. The Sign Language Studies Department began using video and audio equipment. Today, faculty and students enjoy a new digital lab.

Rust’s fondest Madonna memory doesn’t involve technology. “I met my wife while she was an instructor teaching English to Deaf students here. She visited my classroom in early 1976, and we haven’t been apart since.”
Sr. Rose Marie presents Bishop Walter Schoenherr with a donor recognition award at the Christmas Gathering, where several of Madonna’s donors received awards.

Music management major Nicole Phinney talks with members of Radio Pirate DJ, one of three bands that performed gratis to help MU students raise funds for the Save the Music Foundation. Phinney said the senior project was a lot of work, but a great way to apply what she’d learned in class.

At the campus Christmas Gathering Sara and Elizabeth Whybark – twin daughters of Marie Whybark, a dietetics adjunct faculty member – got a chance to tell Santa their wish list.
Teaching the Fine Art of Graphic Design

In addition to a bachelor’s degree in fine arts or visual arts, Madonna offers an undergraduate degree in graphic design. Students in Robin Ward’s graphic design courses have the opportunity to tackle projects they will get in the real world. Ward, director of the graphic design program and nearly full-time faculty, defines graphic design as communication through color, form, imagery, and typography. “I teach students professionalism, and offer them assignments that build their skills and their portfolios.”

With a bachelor of fine arts degree from the College for Creative Studies, Ward gained experience in design and illustration at several ad agencies, and now owns her own design and illustration business. In this semester’s graphic design class, students will develop advertising, packaging and billboards that could be used by real companies. “I challenge them to think outside their comfort zone, about promoting products they might not be familiar with.”

Doug Semivan, chair of the art department, supports Ward’s philosophy. “Employers are looking for employees who understand how to think creatively, and that’s what we cultivate in our students.”

Madonna’s art department continues to evolve to address industry needs. “We will add more web design and will continue to adjust our offerings to meet the demands of business,” Semivan said.

Ward knows what it takes to succeed, which is why, in addition to teaching students, she also helps them get internships and coaches them in their job searches.

Semivan believes that it’s the faculty that sets Madonna’s fine arts and graphic design programs apart from those at other colleges. “They may have all the newest technology, but they don’t have the caliber of faculty with an eye for art that Madonna has.”
Grad Studies is 25 and Thriving

January included Graduate Student Appreciation Nights, in March there will be a reception and Mass, and, in June, Grad Studies will host a trip down memory lane bowling event; all of which are part of the celebration of a quarter century of master’s degrees at Madonna University. Edie Raleigh, the hands-on, student-focused dean of grad studies for the past 10 years, has immersed herself in planning the anniversary activities, the same way she has been so deeply involved in planning, promoting and delivering graduate programs to students.

With the addition of the master of teaching autism disorders program this year, (see story on page 11) Raleigh has seen the number of master’s degrees grow from 11 to 23. In fact, in its 25th year, Graduate Studies will top 25 programs! Recently, Madonna’s master’s program achieved a third tier ranking in US News and World Reports’ Best Colleges poll. Raleigh said the future of grad studies will include doctoral programs, the first of which will be a doctor of nurse practice. “By 2015, all advanced practice degrees will be doctorates,” Raleigh said. “We’re on the cutting edge as we develop this curriculum.”

Personal attention and an open door policy are the hallmarks of Raleigh’s student-friendly philosophy. “We’ll go so far as to walk a student’s registration down to the Registrar, if need be,” said Raleigh proudly. “You don’t get that level of service at a large school.”

When asked what she enjoys most about being dean of graduate studies, Raleigh’s passion for helping students achieve success becomes evident. “I just love being in a position where I am making decisions that can impact students’ careers in a positive way,” she said. “It’s extremely rewarding to help faculty and to help students achieve success.”

Madonna President Sr. Rose Marie Kujawa was academic dean when the long range planning committee identified the need for graduate studies. “They were a very forward-thinking group and they made certain that the first two master’s programs – the Master of Science in Business Administration and the Master of Science in Nursing Administration – were made available to students rather quickly,” she said. “As I’m out in the community, I hear from employers about how well-prepared Madonna graduate students are.”

Ernest Nolan, vice president for academic administration, summed up the accomplishments of Madonna’s master’s program. “As the first dean of graduate studies, I have been extremely impressed by the growth and development of MU’s master’s programs. Not only has the University expanded into new areas, we also have been successful offering programs internationally since 1989,” Nolan said. “We deliver our programs online, on-ground, and in hybrid formats, making graduate education accessible to students whose location or schedule would make pursuing a master’s degree impossible. What a success story!”

Support the Graduate Dean’s Scholarship

Established in recognition of the 25th Anniversary of Graduate Studies, the Graduate Dean’s Scholarship will assist graduate students in their pursuit of a master’s degree.

The scholarship can grow and help more students with your gift! As an endowed scholarship, only the interest earned on the endowment is awarded each year. As the endowment increases, more interest accrues, and more scholarships can be awarded.

Your donation is completely tax deductible. It is eligible for the Michigan Tax Credit, as well as a federal income tax deduction. Contact Sr. Danatha at 734-432-5665 to talk about making a gift to the scholarship.
Behind the Scenes at the Madonna Herald

Students in Journalism 3160 and 4160 classes get together in the Mac lab every Thursday to receive assignments, turn in stories and determine the layout of the *Madonna Herald*, the monthly student newspaper for the University community.

“Michelle, where’s the abortion march story?” asks Neal Haldane, professor and faculty advisor for the Herald, while he and Herald editor Meghan Edmonds figure out the layout for the February edition.

“I’m waiting for quotes from Fr. Gonzalo [Viana] and Jeremy Priest from Campus Ministry,” replies Michelle Jacques, a senior journalism and public relations major. She has chosen to cover Campus Ministry for the Herald. “I figure if I write about events I can help Campus Ministry that way, since I live too far away to participate in on-campus activities.”

Megh Hollowell is dispatched to the office of the first-year experience to get a photo of Chris Benson, the director, to accompany her service learning OpEd. When she returns she photographs Edmonds and Kim Diedrich because they, too, have service learning point and counterpoint opinion pieces.

Haldane has been supervising production of the Herald for 15 years. He says the broadsheet paper is typically eight pages, and is printed by the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers.

Edmonds and Haldane determine which stories will be on the front page. Shannon Paul’s coverage of the “Bridging the Racial Divide” videotaping will be there, with photos that fellow student Vanessa Borunda shot. “Where are the photos?” Edmonds asks Paul, and Borunda overhears. They haven’t been downloaded yet, so Borunda must send them to Hollowell before she leaves that night.

Before the February paper is printed, Edmonds must create the story list for March. Adept at multi-tasking, she shares why she requested the independent study editor post. “If I’m going to have my name on it, I want it to be correct,” she says. “It’s a great experience. I’ve learned a lot about layout and design. It’s fun.”

Edmonds started as a management information systems major, but after taking the journalism class, switched to professional and technical writing and journalism. “This is a unique experience from learning in a classroom,” she says. “It’s not like at a larger university, where you have to compete for the experience. You get the experience as part of your education.”

Hollowell concurs. Now in her second semester as Herald photographer, she says she wishes she had known how much she would love it, because she would have switched from English to journalism. “I’m a slam poet. I never thought I’d like structured writing, but I love it,” Hollowell admits. She already has a job following graduation in May. She combined two loves and will be writing grants for the Sierra Club in Arizona.

According to Haldane, many Madonna Herald reporters and editors have gone on to editorial positions in local and regional papers. They have the hands-on experience that sets them apart.
The Madonna University athletic department has inked a two-year deal with Stretch Internet to provide online radio broadcasts of athletic events. The partnership means Crusaders fans can listen to live sporting events involving Madonna teams on a regular basis for the first time in the school’s history.

Crusaders fans can listen to games live, as well as listen to archived broadcasts and purchase their favorite games on CD. The e-scores feature lets Madonna fans sign up for free email or text messages of game scores, news items and broadcast reminders.

“We are excited to finally provide this service for our fans,” stated Matt Fancett, assistant athletic director for media relations and promotions. “We’ve had numerous requests from fans who wanted to listen to games they couldn’t attend. With a growing number of our athletes coming from around Michigan, other states and overseas, it became apparent we should make it happen.” In addition to home match-ups, Fancett hopes to take the show on the road for select tournaments and key road games.

One of the best features of the broadcasts is that they’re FREE! Crusaders fans can sign up for e-scores via the Madonna athletic department website. A sponsorship from Total Sports in Wixom, helped defray some of the start-up costs for the broadcasts.

Fans will need QuickTime installed on their computer to hear the radio broadcasts. The software can be downloaded free of charge.

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LEADING THE WAY

THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR MADONNA UNIVERSITY

WE ARE ABOUT TO MAKE HISTORY AT MADONNA UNIVERSITY.

As the sixth president of this dynamic institution, I have been entrusted with a legacy of growth that spans seven decades. Beginning with a small group of Sisters in 1937, we have steadily added more programs of study...more professors...more land—all to serve the increasing numbers of students who seek Catholic, Franciscan knowledge, spirituality and opportunity.

With 4,600 students, and some 75 undergraduate and 25 graduate programs, Madonna University has nearly outgrown its current academic building.

Today, more than 21,000 Madonna graduates are leaders in the fields of medicine, education, business and public service in the great state of Michigan and around the world. We have an international presence in China, Egypt, Taiwan, Lebanon, France, Spain, United Arab Emirates and Mexico.

Now, we are preparing to launch the most significant, comprehensive, advancement program in our history...a seven-year, $50 million capital campaign!

“We are planning to launch the most significant, comprehensive, advancement program in our history...a seven-year, $50 million capital campaign!”

We must ensure that Madonna University continues to grow—to attract bright, motivated, deserving students; to engage, inspire, and retain outstanding faculty; and to provide the finest teaching/learning environment.

Join us...and together we will make history at Madonna University.
As the first stand-alone building constructed at Madonna University in 40 years, the Science and Media Center will reflect the Franciscan reverence for nature. It will adhere to the principles of “green” design by:

- providing a healthy indoor environment
- conserving energy and resources
- allowing for safe and easy maintenance and operation
PREPARING TOMORROW’S LEADERS

Imagine standing in a brick plaza looking up at a gorgeous two-story wall of glass, with tranquil St. Francis pond at your back. You are about to enter the new state-of-the-art Madonna University Science and Media Center.

Today’s computer-generated sketches and architectural plans will culminate in a late 2007 groundbreaking... and ultimately a 60,000 square-foot, sustainable, high-tech center.

Situated in the heart of our campus, the $20 million Science and Media facility will house research and instructional labs replete with the latest science tools, techniques and technology—as well as a tiered lecture hall, television studio, classrooms, and student gathering spaces.

“With this outstanding center, Madonna will enhance the academic experience that prepares students for careers in science and technology—thus meeting the growing demand for these professionals,” explained Dr. Ted Biermann, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics.

The Science and Media Center will foster new opportunities for intellectual creativity, critical thinking, and student-centered learning. The project is in the capable hands of the Detroit office of SmithGroup, the oldest architectural firm in the country, and a leader in the design of sustainable environments.
Leaders
Leading the Way

The Madonna University Board of Trustees made a historic decision at its meeting in July 2005 to establish a Foundation Board of Directors.

I have been asked to help Lead the Way by becoming its Honorary Chair. Honored and humbled to have been asked, I gladly accepted the invitation to serve.

The purpose of the Madonna University Foundation Board of Directors is to ensure that the mission of Madonna University is fulfilled and that its vision is realized. To accomplish this purpose the Foundation Board of Directors will be asked to build long-lasting relationships with the public and to help marshal the necessary resources.

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Walter Knysz, Jr., Chairman, Great Expressions Dental Centers, has accepted our invitation to be the founding chair of this new board. Dr. Knysz’s leadership and experience are extremely valuable to our University and we thank him for joining us.

Each of the foundation board members is asked to bring and maintain his or her “A” game.

be an Ambassador...be an Advisor...be an Advocate,
provide Access...provide Affluence...provide Assistance.

Our task is great—yet the rewards will be substantial.

We accept the challenge to position Madonna University from very good...to better than ever...to the best university possible!
Teachers now can earn a master of art degree in Teaching: Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) at Madonna University.

“There is a high demand for teachers certified in this area of special education,” said Jill Robinson, coordinator of graduate studies in Learning Disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorders, who holds a doctorate in educational administration.

With this degree, certified teachers will be prepared to work with ASD students. Madonna students will learn to analyze strategies and address ASD in educational placements.

This program is yet another demonstration of the University’s commitment to the Franciscan ideal of respect for the dignity of all people.

Students enrolled in the program may choose whether to pursue ASD for their master’s degree or for an endorsement.

“There are five courses for an endorsement in ASD when it’s cross-referenced with Learning Disabilities (LD),” said Robinson. This certification is very easily combined with an LD major.

Founded on a multidisciplinary approach, ASD combines the theory of treating all symptoms along with all aspects of the child. It also provides the best learning environment for the autistic child.

Robinson received a letter of support from the executive director of Oakland County, where 750 autistic children were enrolled in the 2004/2005 school year, and 1,200 currently are enrolled.

The program launched in January with two courses – Foundation Issues in Autism Spectrum Disorders taught by Ira Glovinsky, and Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorder Educational Implications taught by Steven Schwartz.

“Many students already are planning to take these courses,” said Robinson.

Students studying ASD will learn to interpret formal and informal assessment procedures, as well as the best interventions and practices.

Madonna student Cheryl Evans, whose daughter is autistic, plans to add the ASD endorsement to her bachelor’s degree in social studies and master’s in learning disabilities, so that she can help others.

“At first I wanted to teach special education; I wasn’t thinking autism. Now I want to teach seventh- to twelfth-grade autistic children,” said Evans. “It’s an incredible experience.”

Upon completion of the ASD program students should have the skills to:

• Describe ASD, and provide assessment, instruction and planning

• Analyze treatments and provide intervention to address problems such as communication and academic symptoms

• Discuss with parents, educators and providers in educational planning, the modifications and considerations for students

• Evaluate students with ASD in special and general education settings

For more information about the ASD program, contact Jill Robinson at jrobinson@madonna.edu.
Nancy Mauter, MSBA '88, is a proposal coordinator at Wade Trim, a civil engineering firm founded in Michigan in 1926.

Linda Shaheen, ACT '80, MSBA '90, is a part-time instructor at the University of Phoenix Orlando Campus in Florida. She retired from Ford Motor Company as a dealer operations manager after 32 years of service.

Mary Beth (Prochnow) Moning, PSY '82, was promoted to executive director of Angela Hospice in Livonia, Mich. She has worked there for thirteen years and will oversee the facility and its 145 employees who provide care to those who are terminally ill or in declining health.

Bruce D. Leidal, CSA '83, was named chief information officer at Hayes Lemmerz International in Northville, Mich. Hayes Lemmerz is the leading global supplier of wheels to the automotive industry with 33 locations in 13 countries and $2.4 billion in sales.

Dina (Lamerato) Faucher, NUR '84, MSN '90, is nursing program director at Apollo College/US Education Corporation in Phoenix, Ariz. She was selected as one of 16 nursing educators to sit on the panel as an item writer for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensure Examination (NCLEX). She was nominated by the Arizona State Board of Nursing on the basis of her background and nursing experience.

Moulouk Berry, PSY '92, has been named interim director of the Center for Arab American Studies at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. The Center offers academic, social and cultural programs about the history and role of Arabs in America, and serves as a hub for research and a platform for discussion of Arab American issues. She has been a member of the UM-Dearborn faculty since 2002 and is director of the campus' Arabic language and culture program.

Linda Harden, NUR '95, has been appointed nursing administrator for the Henry Ford Medical Group. She will be responsible for nursing initiatives, clinical development, standardization of practice, and service excellence standards for nursing to ensure quality, safe clinical practices and regulatory compliance. Her leadership has been recognized with the Nightingale Award for Nursing Administration, the Crain's Detroit Business Healthcare Award, and the Detroit Free Press Michigan Registered Nurse of the Year honor in 2002.

Carrie (Tynan) Barrepski, SW '96, is a weekly columnist for The Republican newspaper in Springfield, Mass. and a motivational speaker. She draws on her experiences as a multi-disabled individual to help and inspire people with disabilities and works as an advocate to raise awareness of disability issues in society.
Christine Benson, CMA ’96, MTL ’06, director of the Office of the First Year Experience at Madonna University, has been accepted to the Doctoral Program in Higher, Adult and Lifelong Education at Michigan State University.

Bill Rudnicki, MSBA ’99, was named director of quality by Jervis B. Webb Company in Farmington Hills, Mich. He will be responsible for Webb’s International Standards Organization (ISO) certification, as well as the company’s lean manufacturing and lean office efforts in the United States and Canada.

Michael D. Parise, MKG ’80, MSBA ’00, is an administrative specialist (Logistics) at the University of Michigan Nanotechnology Institute for Medicine and Biological Sciences. He also is a part-time faculty instructor for adult basic education at Washtenaw Community College and a retired U.S. Navy storekeeper chief.

James W. Egged, FS ’92, GSC ’02, was honored among the top five percent of this country’s most respected teachers by Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. He is a special education resource room teacher in Dearborn Public Schools and recently completed a master’s degree in emotional impairment from the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Krysten Taperek-Riegel, ES ’93, MAT ’96, is a reading recovery teacher in the Walled Lake School District. She earned a specialist degree (Ed.S) from Oakland University in 2005 and is married to Madonna graduate James Riegel, SSH ’92.

Marian Gonsior, MTESOL ’03, is assistant coordinator for the American Language and Culture Program at the University of Detroit Mercy.

Brad Litwin, MKG ’05, is in his third year as affiliate manager at KowaBunga! Technologies, a Westland, Mich. company that creates online marketing products and services for the performance-marketing industry. In October 2006, he ran his first full 26.2 mile marathon, and plans on doing so again this fall.

Catherine Wright-Volante, MSBA ’05, has been a public service officer with the Taylor, Mich. Police Department since 1996.

Jacquelyn R. Jones, MTESOL ’06, is an adjunct instructor in English as a Second Language at Madonna University and Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge.

Maria Valen, THL ’06, is a secondary theology teacher at St. Labre Catholic Indian School in Ashland, Mont.. She is pursuing certification in secondary education as well as a master of arts in teaching from the University of Great Falls.

Keep in touch with fellow alums, faculty and staff, through the Alumni Office. We want to hear about your latest job, move, volunteer activity or family! Looking to meet alumni in your area? Call us and we’ll help you.

Send your news to Carole Booms, director of alumni, at cbooms@madonna.edu or call 734-432-5811. Be sure to update your address at www.alumni.madonna.edu or call the office.
Stellar Student/Volunteer Earns St. Catherine Award

Ashley Higgins, daughter of Roger and Janet Higgins, was selected by the faculty and administration to receive the St. Catherine Undergraduate Achievement Award for the 2006-2007 academic year.

The St. Catherine Medal honors a junior student who represents the high ideals of a Catholic college education and maintains a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.25. Higgins, with a 3.8 GPA, was selected based on her academic achievement, and leadership roles in church, campus and community.

Besides several community activities, Higgins does more than attend classes at Madonna. A member of Sigma Zeta National Science and Mathematics Honor Society, she also represented Madonna at the Young Women Strong Leaders Conference in Lansing, and she is a member of the Trustee Committee on Student Services. She pushed herself to complete a bachelor’s degree in biology, with a minor in chemistry and an associate’s degree in pre-pharmacy in three years. She graduates in May 2007.

Governor Granholm

Madonna students and faculty were on hand when Governor Jennifer Granholm signed the lead testing law, which requires that 80 percent of high risk children be tested for lead by Oct. 1, 2007. As part of their senior project, several Madonna nursing students helped Senator Martha Scott develop SB1198, and testified before the legislature on this important measure. Pictured here with Governor Granholm are, L-R: Senator Martha Scott, student Lillian Anderson, Gov. Granholm, Marge Gorman, MU associate professor of nursing, and student Rhonda Bryant.

Students Showcase Pablo Davis Documentary

Members of Madonna’s Broadcast Club held a free screening of “The Life and Art of Pablo Davis,” a documentary they produced with the Progressive Artists and Educators Committee. The film was shown in Kresge Hall and sponsored by the Michigan Campus Compact and Madonna’s Office of Service Learning.

Davis is the last living associate artist who helped the great Mexican muralist Diego Rivera paint the famous “Detroit Industry” murals in the Detroit Institute of Arts. In 1932, Davis also assisted Diego on the auto industry masterpiece in the Ford Rouge plant.
Madonna Marks MLK Day with Service, Music, and Dialogue

Madonna University’s Martin Luther King celebration began with “A Day of Caring” service-learning partnership with the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Henry Ford Community College, Wayne State University and the United Way of Southeast Michigan. Each volunteer received a t-shirt bearing the inspirational phrase “... the time is always ripe to do right.” from King's Letter from Birmingham Jail.

The following evening, Jan. 16, urban folk poet, singer and songwriter Blair, awed, delighted, and inspired the audience with his original poems, and songs. Alicia Diaz, a community and arts activist, spoke about keeping Martin Luther King’s dream of peace and justice alive. She shared Latino experiences from across the Midwest.

Students and Staff Inducted into Honor Society

A private induction ceremony and public reception was held at Madonna University recently for the first class of nine students and three honorary members to be inducted into the Epsilon Gamma Chapter of Chi Alpha Epsilon, a national honor society. Elbert Saddler, founder of the Epsilon Gamma Chapter, presided over the ceremony for the first class of inductees at Madonna.

Founded in 1989, Chi Alpha Epsilon recognizes the academic achievements of students admitted to colleges and universities through non-traditional criteria.

Members of XAE are role models, who tutor, mentor, and encourage others to strive toward the “tassel” – the Honor cord worn at academic events including graduation. The nine students inducted into XAE are from the Student Support Services TRiO program within Madonna’s Center for Personalized Instruction.

Students and honorary members of XAE include: Front row L-R: (in red) Bailee Cieslak-English major, (in black) Zofia Sperka-international business and economics major, and (in tweed) Donna Sharp-senior family and consumer science major.

Back row L-R: Chapter Founder Elbert Saddle, Kristy Bock-nursing major, Daye Marie Moner-forensic science major, Jennifer Pless-Spanish major, Andrea Howard-English major, Mary Therese LaPalm-social work major, honorary XAE member Connie Rose Tingson-Gatuz-CPI director and honorary XAE member, Errin Brooks-vocal performance major; honorary XAE members Sr. Nancy Marie Jamroz-vice president for student services and Sr. Joan Marie Roosa-CPI academic advisor.
Public Television Show Shot on Campus

Former WDIV anchorman Emery King taped part two of his “Bridging the Racial Divide” series at Madonna University. The panel discussion was interspersed with taped interviews of southeast Michigan residents, including Madonna students and staff. The show focused on the cost of segregation; to the community, education, and business. A few Madonna professors brought their classes and several community members attended. The show aired on WTVS-Channel 56 in early Feb.

The panel was moderated by King and WJR radio host Paul W. Smith. The panel members were United Way’s Kurt Metzger, DTE’s Paul Hillegonds, Detroit Free Press columnist Rochelle Riley, Detroit News columnist Nolan Finley, Oakland University Professor Toni Walters and University of Michigan Professor L’Heureux Lewis.

Gorman Honored for Community Service

Marge Gorman, associate professor of nursing with a doctorate in nursing, was honored with a Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award. This prestigious award is the highest MCC bestows on faculty and staff in the state of Michigan.

Gorman was designated by peers as the person on campus who has made the most outstanding contributions in service-learning and community service. This award recognizes her influence on and engagement of students through modeling, instructing and special projects.

The award is not about me,” Gorman said. “It’s about the students who came up with the idea for lead testing children in clinics for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). These same students asked Sen. Martha G. Scott to sponsor the legislation. She challenged them to write the bill, and they did. They even testified at the hearings and were there when the Governor signed the bill into law. (See photo page 14) The students deserve the credit.”

Gorman is passionate about engaging students in service learning projects. “They give students the opportunity to experience first hand the mission of Madonna University which is to ‘instill in its students Christian humanistic values, intellectual inquiry, a respect for diversity, and commitment to serving others’. In our materialistic culture, service learning reinforces that it is more blessed to give than to receive.”

Be Part of our Studio Audience

Students in the television and video communications program produce the Madonna Magazine television show on Wednesdays in the television studio on the main campus in Livonia. The show features interesting guests and topics. All shows are free and open to the public. Classes and groups of all ages are welcome. Contact 734-432-5576 for reservations.
Elegant Gala Benefits Students, Honors Donors

With a new name, new venue, new sponsorships and new format, the Crystal Madonna Gala promises to be even more exciting. True to its goal, the Gala will raise funds for student scholarships through the silent and live auctions, and table sponsorships, while guests enjoy a lovely dinner and are entertained by Madonna students – this year sign language students will perform pop songs.

What’s new is the inaugural presentation of the Crystal Madonna Award, which features Sr. Mary Francis Lewandowski’s original design of a Madonna etched in crystal.

The Gala event committee is busy soliciting sponsorships, auction items and program ads. To date, Ave Maria Mutual Funds has committed to a $3,000 Bronze Sponsorship.

As Trustee donors at the pinnacle of the DeSales Lifetime Giving Society, the couples receiving the Crystal Madonna award are: James and Earlene Bonadeo, William and Bridget Phillips, and John and Elizabeth Stevens.

Leadership, Guidance and Support for over a Quarter Century

The Bonadeos
Chairman of Bonadeo Builders in Plymouth, James Bonadeo has been a member of Madonna’s board of trustees since 1989. Having established an endowed scholarship, he and wife Earlene are members in the President’s Cabinet of annual donors. For 20 years, James assisted with the Annual Fund campaign – several years as co-chairman and chairman – raising funds from corporations and foundations. The Bonadeos have always been strong supporters of the scholarship gala, and other fundraising efforts.

The Phillips
William Phillips, founder and chairman of Phillips Service Industries Inc., served as Chairman of the Madonna Board, as well as a board member for 18 years. Along with Bridget, his wife, Phillips established the endowed chair of management and professional leadership in support of the School of Business at Madonna. They are lifetime President’s Cabinet members whose gifts have supported all aspects of the University, from scholarships to the library, science wing and residence hall renovations.

The Stevens
Elizabeth DeSeranno Stevens, chairman of the board of Cold Heading Company and former trustee of Madonna University, continues her family’s tradition of supporting Madonna. Her mother and father also served on Madonna’s board. Their generosity made possible the purchase of the Maertens building, which houses the School of Business and Continuing Education and Professional Studies. Elizabeth, along with husband John and son Derek, president of Cold Heading Foundation, continue to invest in the mission of Madonna University.
In early February, Madonna students and faculty in Michigan braved below zero temperatures to get to class. While over in Jinan, China, Madonna students and faculty enjoyed temperatures in the high 40s and low 50s as they attended a graduation ceremony. Whatever the weather, they all share in a quality Madonna education. Due to the outstanding work of Stuart Arends, dean of the School of Business, and his faculty and staff, Madonna now boasts 60 graduates in Jinan. They all completed the requirements of the executive MBA program in healthcare management. Some seven or eight Madonna faculty members teach in Jinan. MBA projects and group work are exchanged via email.

“Word of our quality programs in Shanghai spread very quickly, which led to us starting a cohort in Jinan,” said Arends. “Only five or six U.S. schools are approved to offer degrees there, and Madonna is one of them.”

After attending the graduation, President Sr. Rose Marie Kujawa took the opportunity to review future programs to be offered in China, and to visit with several of our 400-plus alumni. Arends and Bill McMillan, business professor, also led and/or participated in eight days of activities in Shanghai, Jinan and nearby areas.

Ernie Nolan, vice president for academic administration, and Jonathon Swift, director of international relations, later joined Sr. Rose Marie. They visited South Korea, Madonna’s largest feeder of residential students, and Taiwan where they met with some of the 600 alumni living there.

McMillan excitedly reported that the trip resulted in a signed memo of cooperation with the Jinan Health Bureau, Jinan Health School and the Shanghai Institute of International Finance for another EMBA in hospital management. A contract also was signed with the Shanghai Institute of International Finance to offer an MSBA in Leadership Studies. In collaboration with Chinese professors, it will be delivered online, on site and on video.

Growing Internationally

As early as this fall, Madonna students will have the opportunity to take part in an exchange program with Jaume I University in Spain. This summer, Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo, assistant professor of Spanish, and Tom DeGalan, criminal justice professor, will travel to Spain to arrange study abroad opportunities for Madonna criminal justice students. The objective of this program is to allow MU students to obtain credits toward their criminal justice degree while studying in Spain. “The formula that we’ve found works best,” said Campoy, “is for students to take an online course here, and then finish the course by spending a week at Jaume I University in Spain. Students then will gain the academic content as well as the cultural experience. Jaume I University courses will be taught in English and Spanish.
Future Power Lunch Topics:

April 18

May 16
“Portrait of a Successful Inventor”

September 19
“How to Buy a Business or Franchise”

October 17
“How To Avoid the Top Seven Response-Killing Marketing Mistakes”

November 21
“Developing the Leader in You”

December 19
“Women & Smart Personal Finance Choices”

For registration information, contact the Office of Continuing Education & Professional Studies at 734-432-5804.

Power Lunches offer fresh ideas for entrepreneurs

Small-business owners and entrepreneurs will benefit from monthly Power Lunches offered at Madonna University. The first lunch is “Feed Your Brain for Success” Wed., Mar. 21, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and features Biochemist Sandy Baumann. She’ll explain the link between nutrition and learning, as well as strategies for enhancing your memory, improving sleep habits, reducing stress and boosting your ability to learn new tasks.

“From nutrition to negotiation, each luncheon will deliver fresh approaches for cultivating your business,” said Joan Stephens, director of Madonna’s office of continuing education and professional development and series organizer.

Each business luncheon costs $15 and takes place in the University Center, 14221 Levan Rd., Livonia, Mich.
Madonna University continues to offer something unique, something beyond a diploma. Through the Office of Service Learning, and the Office of the First-Year Experience, our students volunteer more than 25,000 hours each year from Detroit, to South Carolina, to Mexico. They make a difference at Habitat for Humanity (pictured here), Gleaners Food Bank, American Red Cross and countless other community organizations. These experiences prepare students to lead, serve, and affect our world in positive ways.