The Loughran Legacy

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This magazine was going to press when Rev. Daniel A. Degnan, S.J., former President of Saint Peter’s College died on March 16. A tribute in his memory can be found online at www.spc.edu.
REMEMBERING JAMES N. LOUGHRAN, S.J.

College president for 11 years.
In a homily delivered at the funeral Mass, Rev. Raymond A. Schroth, S.J., remembered Father Loughran as a gifted leader in the movement to revive Jesuit institutions. “Our lifetime has, in many ways, been a golden age of Jesuit colleges and universities, and here Jim Loughran literally poured himself out in love and work for this school,” he said. “Jim was proud of the fact that Saint Peter’s had the most racially, economically and ethnically diverse collection of students in the country. He and the faculty have both loved every student as he or she is today but challenged each one to be a better student tomorrow.”

“Jim Loughran was, as Saint Paul instructed, at home with men and women from every station and status. He remembered not only the names of bishops and politicians he met but of student workers.” Recalling a conversation in which Father Loughran acknowledged Saint Peter’s College as the place he most belonged, Kelly went on to liken Jersey City to the Jesuit’s beloved Brooklyn, where “people’s dreams defied their reality, where ambition never outraced family and friendship, where need and justice prompted one’s scholarship, where scholarship was rooted in cura personalis, where intellect was challenged by faith.”

Numerous officials throughout the state and country offered condolences on Father Loughran’s sudden passing. “Father Jim Loughran brought energy, compassion and intelligence to his role as president of Saint Peter’s,” said Rev. Charles Currie, S.J., president of the Association for Jesuit Colleges and Universities. “The Jesuit college and university presidents will miss him as a friend and colleague and will remember his strong commitment to making Jesuit education accessible to all students.”

On January 17, the beginning of the spring semester, the campus


James N. Loughran, S.J., was all of these things and more to the Jesuit brothers, family members, students, faculty, administration, alumni, College trustees and friends who twice honored Saint Peter’s late president; first at a funeral Mass of Christian burial on December 30 at Saint Aedan’s Church in Jersey City and then at a memorial Mass on January 17 at Saint Peter’s College.

One by one they shared reflections of Father Loughran and recalled his impact on their lives and the College he served. Father Loughran, who died December 24 at his residence at Saint Peter’s College, was 66, and had been Saint Peter’s

REMEMBERING JAMES N. LOUGHRAN, S.J.

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Late Saint Peter's College President James N. Loughran, S.J.
community remembered Father Loughran at a Mass at Roy Irving Theatre. While delivering the memorial Mass homily, Rev. James F. Kuntz, S.J., revealed one of Father Loughran’s most cherished Saint Peter’s memories — a Glee Club reunion held last fall. “A man with four college presidencies, well-traveled, sophisticated, with more than his fair share of acquaintance with wealth, power, prestige, achievement, academic excellence — the Glee Club reunion?” asked Fr. Kuntz. To Father Loughran, the alumni singers belting out the College fight song alongside today’s Rev. Aidan McMullen, S.J., Chorale represented the active loving presence that was, and is, Saint Peter’s. “He saw and loved that. He was deeply moved,” noted Fr. Kuntz. “Honestly, I never saw him cry, but he choked up, there was profound emotion, there was community and love at the heart of this man.”

Dr. Eileen Poiani, vice president for student affairs, observed that it was difficult to reflect on Father Loughran’s life without contemplating time. “Check your watch — just about 45 minutes ago, Father Loughran would be walking with a lively step along the Boulevard to his office, proudly wearing his fisherman or straw hat, swinging a canvas bag filled with overstuffed manila folders and lots of dictaphone tapes.” Noting Father Loughran’s special instinct about time, Dr. Poiani pointed out that despite the demands of the presidency, he always made time for family and students.

Saint Peter’s College junior Deirdre Powell agreed, recalling a story Father Loughran told to keep her spirits up after an arduous final exam. “I looked back on our last conversation and knew that he lived the life he wanted,” said Powell. “He just kept moving, doing everything he could for the school he loved, as long as he could. The sharp wit, the indelible spirit, the truth in his eyes conveyed that message to each member of the school he loved.”

Physics professor Dr. Jose Lopez ’00 remembered Father Loughran as an influential teacher and mentor during his undergraduate years at Saint Peter’s. “He always looked to help others pursue and achieve their own happiness. He was truly one of God’s instruments to help others pursue happiness. Seeing others happy with their lives is what made him even happier,” recalled Dr. Lopez, who joined the Saint Peter’s faculty in 2005. “We all best honor him by continuing our own pursuits of happiness. And when we achieve happiness, share it with others. I will do my best along with all my colleagues to carry on and keep up the good work.”

For more remembrances of James N. Loughran, S.J., or to share your own memories, please go to www.spc.edu.
The Loughran Legacy

LEADING SAINT PE’

Saint Peter’s College has come a long way since James N. Loughran, S.J., became its 21st president in 1995. Welcoming the opportunity to return to Saint Peter’s after teaching philosophy here in the 1960s, Father Loughran challenged the entire College community to raise its sights, envisioning a thriving liberal arts institution rooted in the tradition of welcoming first generation college students but whose reach extended far beyond Jersey City.

Under his leadership, a decade of renewal began. Academic standards rose. Scholarship increased and the College expanded its undergraduate and graduate offerings, creating new opportunities for the diverse student

1995 Father Loughran inaugurated as President of Saint Peter’s College. A philosophy teacher at heart, he teaches “The Moral Philosophy of Aristotle and Plato” in the early years of his presidency.

1996 Saint Peter’s expands its graduate offerings with new MBA programs in Management, International Business and Accounting. Over the next few years, the College introduces an M.S. in Nursing and MBA programs in Finance and Marketing.

1998 Under Father Loughran’s leadership Saint Peter’s strengthens its undergraduate program by adding new programs and majors. A B.A. in Communication is introduced and a B.A. in Criminal Justice follows in 2000. Interdisciplinary programs in Social Justice and Women’s Studies are also added to academic offerings.

1999 Millennium Hall, the College’s fourth residence hall, is dedicated and Saint Peter’s continues to attract a growing number of residential students. Today, more than half of the Class of 2010 resides on campus.

2000 $8.2 million renovation and modernization of Gannon Hall, the College’s science building, is completed. The Schuh Scholarship, a program for undergraduates pursuing medical careers, begins the following year. Additional federal grants in 2006 allow for lab upgrades and state-of-the-art equipment to support a new Biotechnology program.

2001 Father Loughran welcomes Presidential Scholars, select students awarded full tuition scholarships based on outstanding grade point average and SAT scores. With his support, the diverse group of
body it serves. The endowment tripled. And New Jersey’s Jesuit College moved beyond its status as a commuter school, attracting students from around the state, country and world, all while strengthening its commitment to Jesuit ideals and service.

When the 10th anniversary of his presidency approached, Father Loughran resisted the idea of a tribute in this magazine. That was, after all, his nature. Here we highlight some lasting accomplishments made possible by his leadership, vision and ultimate love of Saint Peter’s.

2002 Work begins on Saint Peter’s Walkway, a pedestrian bridge linking the East and West sides of the campus. The College campus is further enhanced with the renovation of Dinneen Hall in 2006, a new entrance to the East campus in 2004 and a makeover for the campus quadrangle in 2006.

2003 Father Loughran and Dr. Cecile Friedman, dean of UMDNJ Dental School, sign an agreement creating a seven-year dental program — the third joint degree program between the two institutions. Recognizing the value of these programs, the College introduces a joint six-year undergraduate and law degree program with Seton Hall University in 2006.

2004 Father Loughran provides the leadership in launching a strategic marketing initiative to raise awareness of New Jersey’s only Jesuit College and advance enrollment.

2005 Father Loughran initiates the Catholic and Jesuit Identity Series featuring noted authors and speakers on Jesuit education, service and world events. During his tenure, Father Loughran sustained the College’s Jesuit mission by engaging lay faculty in fulfilling the Jesuit ideals of service and cura personalis.

2006 Following two years of discussion with the campus community, the Board of Trustees and Father Loughran announce plans for a future campus center at Saint Peter’s College.
Preserving and enhancing the Jesuit and Catholic identity of Saint Peter’s College was a priority for James N. Loughran, S.J. He chaired the Catholic and Jesuit Identity Committee at the College for many years and established a speaker series on topics relative to the Catholic intellectual tradition. In the planning process for the next capital campaign, Father Loughran outlined his vision for the future of Saint Peter’s:

No doubt there will always be Jesuits at Saint Peter’s College. But, for the foreseeable future, they will be fewer in number and not necessarily in charge. More and more of their colleagues are taking on responsibility for the leadership of the College. Just as Jesuits receive support to keep their commitment strong and vibrant, something similar is necessary for their colleagues. In this “Age of Laity,” all sorts of opportunities are available for workshops, retreats and other renewal programs for faculty and staff.

In 2006, Father Loughran appointed Dr. Joseph McLaughlin ’77 of the Urban Studies Department as the faculty coordinator for Jesuit Mission and Identity. “Father Loughran took a leadership role exploring the ways in which all American Jesuit colleges and universities must respond to maintain and expand their Jesuit mission in the coming years despite a decline in vocations,” said Dr. McLaughlin. “He saw an expanded role for the laity at all levels of teaching and administration as essential.”

To memorialize Father Loughran’s vision of growing the College’s core Jesuit mission, Saint Peter’s College established the James N. Loughran, S.J., Endowed Fund for Catholic and Jesuit Identity. Gifts to the fund will support the Catholic and Jesuit Identity Series, as well as programs for the formation of lay faculty, staff and administrators.

To make a gift, make checks payable to: Saint Peter’s College, James N. Loughran, S.J., Fund, Office of Advancement, Saint Peter’s College, 2641 Kennedy Boulevard, Jersey City, NJ 07306. Gifts can be made online at: http://alumni.spc.edu/donations/ — Click on James N. Loughran, S.J., Fund.
Donors Who Make a Difference

Saint Peter’s College President James N. Loughran, S.J., can claim many achievements. No doubt, he would have considered the substantial rise in the College’s endowment to $30 million as one of his proudest. In an unpublished speech discovered shortly after his death, Father Loughran began by recognizing donors whose recent gifts to the endowment make a world of difference to students and to furthering the mission of Saint Peter’s College. Looking ahead, he outlined the need to grow the endowment even further and asked benefactors to invest in the College’s future by considering planned gifts for New Jersey’s Jesuit College.

Here, a few of the Saint Peter’s benefactors mentioned in that speech share their reasons for giving to the College endowment.
Helping First Generation College Students

Circumstances prevented Anna Maria Aloi and Joseph Anthony Scerbo, Sr. from attending college, but they worked long hours to ensure their youngest son Frank A. Scerbo '71, received a Saint Peter's education.

"My mother taught us how to have faith, but my father taught us how to work," said Scerbo, who with his wife, Susan M. Scerbo, established the The Scerbo & Aloi Family Endowed Scholarship. Their generous gift, intended for first generation college students, will benefit students from New Jersey who major in Business, Biology or Chemistry with demonstrated financial need and academic merit.

Today, Scerbo is an attorney and general counsel for McPhail Corporation and splits his time between Michigan and Arizona. In addition to his parents, he credits Susan — "without her, none of this would have happened" — for their current success. Endowing the Saint Peter's scholarship is a way to give back and share their good fortune. "We've been blessed," noted Scerbo. "Why not share it?"

A Belief in Jesuit Education

Jesuit education had a profound impact on Marshall Rozzi '67 and he wanted to ensure that future generations at Saint Peter's College would enjoy the same opportunities. "It's part of giving back," said Rozzi, who, with his wife, Caroline, made an additional gift this year to the Marshall V. and Caroline H. Rozzi Endowed Scholarship, established in 1999.

"It is very satisfying to see how a little help can really make a difference in the life of a student." The scholarship is awarded each year to a full-time student enrolled on the Jersey City campus who demonstrates need and merit. What prompted the couple's generosity? "I always think back to my own life and that of my family," said Rozzi. "Education is about getting a start. With an education you can do a lot for yourself and others. It opens up the possibilities and opens a path to achieve your goals."

After graduating from Saint Peter's, Rozzi considered numerous options and pursued a master's degree in Medical Care Administration at the University of Michigan. He spent most of his career as a health care executive and is the former Chief Executive Officer of Planlinx Inc., a web-based, self-service health management care service based in Chicago. Today, he teaches at the Lake Forest Graduate School of Management, where he draws upon lessons learned from Jesuits and lay teachers. "I always think back to my professors at Saint Peter's College."
and their values — hard work, discipline and personal care," he said. "The Jesuits taught me that an individual can make a difference and I’ve carried those values with me."

**Making Saint Peter’s A Little Richer**

Journalist Paula Butturini discussed the fall of communism in Eastern Europe and its impact on the lives of ordinary citizens. Rev. Keith Pecklers ’80 S.J., one of the foremost authorities on Catholic liturgy, spoke about “Catholic Liturgy in the 21st Century and the Mission of the Church.” Both of these lectures were made possible by a gift to the endowment by former NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue in honor of his brother, John Tagliabue ’67.

**A Stepping Stone to Success**

For many first generation college students like Joseph Yewaisis ’61, where you went to college depended on the city bus route. Fortunately for Yewaisis, who was born and raised in Newark, the bus carried him to Saint Peter’s College each day. There, with the help of the Jesuits, he discovered a wealth of opportunities that would propel him farther in life than he imagined.

After graduating from Saint Peter’s, Yewaisis joined Peat Marwick Main & Co. (now KPMG), a public accounting firm, and rose in the banking industry, serving as president of First Savings Bank for 24 years until his death in 1996. He was also a leader in the community, serving as Chairman of the Board of Raritan Bay Medical Center in Perth Amboy and Chairman of the Board of Regents at Saint Peter’s College.

"My husband always appreciated and loved to go back to Saint Peter’s," said Nancy Yewaisis, wife of the late alumnus. "He knew the College opened doors for him that changed his life completely."

With that sentiment in mind, Nancy established the Joseph Yewaisis Scholarship to help a new generation of Accounting majors achieve the level of success her late husband enjoyed. "The Jesuits were like a family. They brought recruiters to campus and opened doors into a society men like my husband never knew. The discipline and learning from Saint Peter’s carried them through their whole lives."

Today, Nancy continues the Yewaisis tradition of giving back as a member of Saint Peter’s College Board of Regents. Each summer, she hosts a reception for Saint Peter’s College alumni and friends at her Lavallette home on the Jersey shore. "I love it," she said regarding her involvement with the College. "I’ve met a lot of nice people. Everyone has been so nice and gracious to me."
King-Kairos House Dedicated

Rev. Daniel J. Berrigan, S.J., founder of the Kairos Peace Community.

More than 100 members of the Saint Peter's community turned out for the outdoor Mass and dedication of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.–Kairos House on October 4, 2006. The newly-dedicated facility will serve as the center for the College’s Social Justice program. “The Social Justice House provides a central place on campus for our students and the community to research, discuss and engage in the peace movement and nonviolent resolution of conflicts worldwide,” said Dr. Anna Brown, director of the social justice program at Saint Peter’s College and professor in the Political Science Department.

Rev. Daniel J. Berrigan, S.J., founder of the Kairos Peace Community and author of more than 70 books on nonviolence, delivered the homily. “Kairos” in Greek is defined as “a time of creative possibility and opportunity.” The Kairos Peace Community is committed to living out the principles of peace with justice, hospitality, spirituality and care of creation. A poetry reading by Father Berrigan and an evening screening of Spike Lee’s “When the Levees Broke” followed the dedication.

Located at 125 Glenwood Avenue, the Social Justice House contains archives donated by the Kairos community, including works in philosophy, literature and the Civil Rights Movement. The collection also includes many of Father Berrigan’s works, sound recordings and works of art.

Saint Peter’s College Student Lands Prestigious Internship

Saint Peter’s College junior Ivan Petkov is one of a handful of college students chosen for a highly selective internship at Sandler O’Neill & Partners, L.P. this summer. An Economics major who hails from Bulgaria, Petkov says he is thrilled to land the internship and looks forward to gaining hands-on experience at the prestigious New York investment banking firm. “I hope to see if I fit in well with the company and find out if I’m a good fit,” said Petkov, who is currently writing an honors thesis on Bulgaria’s financial crisis in moving from a communist state to an open market.

Petkov learned about the opportunity at the investment banking firm from Richard P. Libretti ’65, a principal of the firm since 1999. Libretti spoke at the Executive Scholars Seminar class at Saint Peter’s last fall and announced the Sandler O’Neill internship. Soon after, Petkov submitted his resume. He will be assigned to the Quantitative Analysis Department and hopes to work on economic research and policy for a financial institution in the future. For the present, he is focusing on the opportunity at hand, especially after a recent meeting at Sandler O’Neill about the internship. “In the hallway everyone was talking about economic policies and where the economy is going,” he recalled. “It was very rejuvenating.”

Saint Peter’s Senior Named Rhodes Scholarship Finalist

Thousands apply and only a few hundred are chosen. Saint Peter’s College senior Kris Gryte was one of 207 college students selected as a finalist for the Rhodes Scholarship, the oldest and most prestigious...
Rhodes Scholar Finalist

Center for Social Justice program opens

Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D., named Acting President

Award for international study. Created in 1902, the scholarship is awarded to 32 American men and women to study at Oxford University in England. “I was very excited and overjoyed that I made it to the interview process. That was an accomplishment in itself,” said Gryte, a Missouri native majoring in Physics, Mathematics and Philosophy at Saint Peter’s College.

Rhodes Scholar applicants are selected for their academic achievement, integrity and potential for leadership. Gryte credits a number of professors for encouraging him to apply and for seeing him through the rigorous process. “It is such an incredible honor,” he said. “It was a great experience to meet other finalists from all over the world and to compete to study at Oxford University.”

As a triple major with a minor in Biology, the Rhodes finalist admitted to not getting much sleep during his undergraduate years. “Saint Peter’s has allowed me to be flexible in scheduling my classes,” he noted. “I’ve had a lot of support from my professors, so it has all worked out.” After graduation in May, Gryte hopes to work as a science research intern or work for a pharmaceutical company. His long-term goals include graduate school and a Ph.D. in Biophysics.

New Appointments

The Board of Trustees named Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D., Acting President of Saint Peter’s College on January 3. Dr. Cornacchia joined Saint Peter’s in 1981 and served the College in a number of roles, most recently serving as Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. The appointment was made shortly after the death of College President James N. Loughran, S.J., in December. “The Board is fully confident that Dr. Cornacchia is qualified to lead the College at this important time,” said Frank Ziegler ’63, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

In other appointments, the College appointed Jon E. Yellin as Vice President for Finance and Business. Prior to joining Saint Peter’s, Yellin served as Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration at the North Carolina School for the Arts. He has extensive experience in finance and administration with the federal government, City College in New York and Spring Hill College in Mobile, AL.
Saint Peter's Remedy for the Nursing Shortage

Marie Mesidor '10 is a Saint Peter's undergraduate studying for a BSN.
Kuleena Kanunkal always wanted to be a nurse. So when the Bogota High School graduate learned about Saint Peter's College's new Generic Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree last year, she was intrigued. “I want to work in a hospital setting, so I need a bachelor's degree,” she said. “Later, when I met the faculty, they were amazing!”

Kanunkal is now a freshman in the program, initiated last fall on Saint Peter's Jersey City campus with a class of more than 60. Its students are high school graduates, transfer students and others with no prior nursing experience. At the end of four years, said Ann Tritak, Ed.D., RN, associate dean of nursing at the College, “They will have gained both classroom and clinical experience in all areas of practice, and will be prepared to become licensed Registered Nurses (RN). This is the only Generic BSN program in Hudson County.”

The program serves not only its students, but the community at large. “There is a dire shortage of nurses across the country that is predicted to continue well into the next decade,” said Marylou Yam, Ph.D., RN, the newly-appointed dean of the College of Arts and Sciences/School of Business Administration at Saint Peter’s Jersey City campus, and former associate dean of nursing. “We want to expand the opportunities for our students.”

Which is good news for neighboring hospitals. “I applaud Saint Peter's for identifying this problem and supporting the education of nurses,” said Bonnie Michaels, vice president of patient care services at Holy Name Hospital in Teaneck, one of several hospitals that recruits Saint Peter's graduates. “The program can only help us as we try to meet our patients’ needs and as we look ahead to the needs of the aging baby boom generation.”

Other avenues to becoming a licensed RN include two-year community college associate’s programs and hospital-based diploma programs. “With a bachelor’s degree, you have a wider variety of healthcare settings in which you can work,” said Dr. Yam. “You are also prepared for graduate study and you have greater earning potential.”

Saint Peter's offers both Bachelor of Science and Master of Science nursing degrees at its Englewood Cliffs campus. Unlike the new BSN, the Englewood Cliffs bachelor degree, launched in 1982, is an RN-to-BSN program, a two-year program for those who have already attained their RN license. The 10-year-old Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) has two components: Primary Care/Adult Nurse Practitioner and Case Management/Nursing Administration.

An RN-to-MSN Bridge Program is an option for those who are already RNs and who possess a bachelor’s degree in a different field; after completing the designated bridge courses, participants are eligible to apply to the MSN program. All of the nursing programs are fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.
The Generic BSN program boasts a state-of-the-art computer teaching lab and small classes averaging 13 students, which appealed to Sergio Garcia, a Saint Peter’s sophomore who postponed his graduation a year in order to join the program. Garcia knew he wanted to work in the healthcare profession and learned of the Generic BSN program at a Saint Peter’s career fair last year. “At other universities, I might be in classes with 80 kids and a professor who doesn’t know my name,” he said.

In addition to being one of the few sophomores in the program, Garcia is also in the minority as a male. “I want to break the stereotype,” he said. “I want to show that I as a male am just as capable of caring for a patient as a female.”

Dr. Enda Nolan, director of Saint Peter’s undergraduate nursing program, praised the College’s decision to institute the Generic BSN. “Saint Peter’s is being proactive in addressing the nursing shortage. And the fact that it’s in Jersey City, where many are underserved and uninsured, provides students with a wealth of clinical opportunities.”

The program, she continued, serves Saint Peter’s Jesuit tradition of educating students individually. Students may also be eligible for The James N. Loughran BSN Scholarship, founded by John Gerard in Father Loughran’s honor last year. “Ours is a pro-student education,” said Dr. Nolan. “There is a lot of individual attention.”

Dr. Yam connected this to the College’s philosophy of cura personalis. “We nurture our students,” she said. “This same philosophy is in place in the new BSN program.”

Another aspect of the Jesuit influence is the theme of social justice. “Nurses have to be advocates for their patients,” Dr. Yam said. “So they need a good understanding of ethics.” This is highlighted in a mandatory senior year capstone course called “Social Justice, Ethics and Healthcare,” which culminates in a community-based project in which students work with various patient populations.

Hundreds of nurses have graduated from Saint Peter’s existing programs; many have taken on leadership roles in the healthcare field. “We are proud of them,” said Dr. Yam. “We hope that graduates of our new BSN program follow in their footsteps.”

The Nurses of Note: Where Saint Peter’s Graduates Are Now

- Michele Gilbert ’03/’06 is education coordinator for the Heart Failure and Pulmonary Hypertension Program at Hackensack University Medical Center. Recently, she presented a program on “Optimizing Treatment for Acute Decompensated Heart Failure” at the Emergency Care Conference for the Emergency Nurses Association. Gilbert received a BSN and MSN in Adult Primary Care from Saint Peter’s College.

- Lenore Blank ’06 is administrative manager for the Heart Failure and Pulmonary Hypertension Program at Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC). Prior to HUMC, she launched a successful heart failure program at another institution and received a nursing recognition award from the New Jersey League of Nursing. Blank received an MSN in Adult Primary Care from Saint Peter’s College.

- Scott Crounquist ’04 is administrative director of Nursing, Critical Care Services at Hackensack University Medical Center. He received an MSN in Case Management/Nursing Administration from Saint Peter’s College.
Q: You taught at Rutgers University and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School for nearly 30 years before Saint Peter’s. What’s it like going from an environment focused on research and clinical activity to an undergraduate one?

A: This is nice. I like this. Undergraduates are trying to decide what to do with their lives. You try and guide them toward a career choice. It’s almost like being a coach. And I love the kids here. It’s a diverse group of students who are eager to learn. This is a school that really cares a great deal about undergraduate teaching. And about making it possible for students to go to a graduate school, a medical school or a dental school so they’re prepared and can succeed. That’s the purpose of Saint Peter’s, to prepare you for the next step in life.

Q: How would you describe your approach to teaching and learning?

A: My approach to teaching and learning is that you learn the basics. There are always advances in a field like biotechnology, so you have to give students enough basis, enough fundamental understanding of the principles so that they can deal with all the changes they’re going to see. And because these things change very quickly, you need people that are smart, adaptable, honest, have a lot of integrity and are willing to be able to keep up all the time — constant lifelong learners that go right with the principles of Saint Peter’s.

Q: Speaking of biotechnology, Saint Peter’s recently launched a Biotechnology Program, which may become a major next fall. What are your plans for the program?

A: What we want to do is to make biotechnology a track, like we’ve always had a biochemistry track. It’s a directed way of learning biochemistry, but spending more of an emphasis on nucleic acid and protein chemistry. And biotechnology is a type of major where you can find a job almost immediately in the pharmaceutical industry because there are so many applications. There are many, many jobs out there, so we think this would be a good program to introduce at Saint Peter’s.

Q: How do you address some of the more controversial aspects of biotechnology, such as stem cell research and genetic engineering?

A: We have to teach it. We teach it and talk about it and show the importance of it and how these things like genetic engineering can be used. And they’re used all the time. The nice thing about Saint Peter’s is it’s a school that provides a strong basis in ethics. All of these kids will take bio and medical ethics. And it’s like anything else in this world isn’t it? A lot of potential for good, but there are always possibilities for misuse. And so hopefully we’re developing a group of scientists who understand right from wrong, good from bad.

Q: What do you tell prospective health science majors about Saint Peter’s College?

A: It’s a Jesuit college and though you’re learning science and technology as a major, you still have to take a core curriculum in which you learn language, art, history and social sciences.
The York Street Project is one of several local non-profits that has received assistance from the William E. Simon Foundation and Saint Peter’s College.
Early one January morning as the sun was just coming up over the horizon, Saint Peter’s College senior Timothy Sacerdote was already at work. Bundled up against the 10-degree cold gripping the Northeast, Sacerdote set out for a three-hour trek through some of Jersey City’s grittiest neighborhoods. His mission: to join a team of Saint Peter’s students and faculty members counting the local homeless population.

In their travels along Route 440 and Society Hill, through Lincoln Park and the Journal Square PATH station, down West Side Avenue and around Society Hill, they found just one person, a woman begging for change.

“She said she wasn’t homeless, so I have to take her word for it,” said Sacerdote, a Sociology major who noted that many homeless people that night sought relief from the cold in shelters. “But she was asking for change from people.”

Other teams of Saint Peter’s students ventured forth other nights to complete the count, which was conducted for the Hudson-Bergen Chapter of the United Way and the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Developing an accurate count is crucial to agencies like the United Way, since funding for programs to assist the homeless is based on the total number of homeless people in the area.

“It’s really important because the better number they get, the more accurate the funding they receive from the government,” said Sacerdote, a Connecticut native who plans on pursuing a career in social work after earning his master’s degree.

Funded by a grant from the William E. Simon Foundation, the work of the Saint Peter’s team was one of several projects designed to provide crucial assistance to local social service agencies assisting some of society’s most vulnerable people.
Men and Women for Others

— at-risk children, the unemployed and the homeless.

The Simon Foundation has dedicated approximately $117,400 over two years to the Saint Peter’s effort.

The Simon Foundation has dedicated approximately $117,400 over two years to the Saint Peter’s effort.

“‘In an effort to best serve people in need, the William E. Simon Foundation has established as a primary objective the strengthening of core institutions that make up the foundations of urban communities,’” said Co-Chairman Peter Simon. “Saint Peter’s Urban Research and Action Project (URAP) is an ideal partner in working toward this objective in that it provides guidance and support to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of nonprofit organizations. Groups who participate in URAP make concrete changes that better equip them to fulfill their missions and serve the people of Jersey City.”

In addition to the United Way and HUD, the grant has funded projects to assist groups including the York Street Project, Learning Community Charter School, the Calgary CME Church, the Fairmount Housing Corporation, Jersey City Head Start and the New City Kids after-school program.

“‘To me, this is really a unique project,’” said Leah Leto, director of corporate, foundation and major gifts at the College. “‘At its core, this project fulfills the mission of both the Simon Foundation and the College, which is to develop men and women for others.’”

The individual projects have involved hands-on fieldwork by approximately 65 Saint Peter’s students and six faculty members. In addition to reaching out locally, the grant will eventually involve sharing the College’s work with other institutions of higher education through a national conference, according to Leto.

“The mission of this grant is for us to help these organizations become more efficient and effective in carrying out their own missions,’” explained Professor of Sociology Donal Malone, who coordinated the student/faculty effort.

“In addition to helping the agencies, this gives our students a better understanding of the social issues and problems people face.”

Fieldwork directed by Saint Peter’s faculty members enriched the experiences of the students, who took part in the project to complete course requirements in the Department of Sociology and Urban Studies.

“I think that’s what sociology is all about,” said Sacerdote. “It’s easy to say there’s a problem. It’s much better to go out and research exactly what the problem is so you have a better understanding of how to address it.”

In addition to the count of the homeless population, Saint Peter’s students assisted the Fairmount Housing Corporation to locate sites in the city on which to build affordable housing. The students culled data from the Jersey City tax assessor’s office and other records before scouring the area for sites that meet

Working with the York Street Project, Saint Peter’s students compiled data to help the agency advocate for better policies to help the homeless.
the criteria for construction of affordable housing.

New City Kids, an after-school program located near Saint Peter’s, requested help studying best practices of other urban programs and then adapting those practices to meet the organization’s mission. The students completed the research last year. This year they are working directly with New City Kids personnel to implement the new approaches.

“Most of these groups are strapped for staff, time and money,” explained Prof. Malone. “Our goal is to provide the support they need now so the staff can take on these duties next year.”

At the York Street Project, which has the capacity to house 22 families for up to 18 months, the students last year compiled an up-to-date listing of services available locally for the agency’s clients, as well as new policies from the Department of Housing and Urban Development on Homelessness. York Street later used the data to advocate for better local policies to help the homeless.

While the listing provided vital information for York Street’s staff, Susanne Byrne, a casework advocate for the agency, said the student involvement reaped a bigger reward in educating a new generation of potential social service workers.

“I think for me, one of the best things was getting us more involved with Saint Peter’s and the students, as well as getting the message out about homeless families and the need for services in general,” she said. “The long-term benefit of the Simon Foundation grant is to open their eyes to a world they’ve never seen before. Through the grant, we’re training the next generation of social service workers and that’s pretty valuable.”

For Sociology Professor Malone, one of the big payoffs was seeing the enthusiasm of the Saint Peter’s students who embraced their projects wholeheartedly.

For Professor Malone, one of the big payoffs was seeing the enthusiasm of the Saint Peter’s students who embraced their projects wholeheartedly.

“They really felt like they made a difference,” he said. “There’s been a lot of discussion nationally about college students not being active in social issues. I find that they want to do this kind of work. They really do care and are taken aback by the problems locally. They’re learning about social issues in a very practical way.”
Student organizations with a long and proud history at Saint Peter’s are enjoying a rebirth, thanks to the support of late College President James N. Loughran, S.J. Today, these “signature clubs” are once again placing Saint Peter’s on the map.

When Kathleen Tyrrell ’73 signed on as coach of the newly reborn Gannon Debate Team last year, she had some pretty big shoes to fill. Previous coaches had shepherded the team to national championships and even wins over Oxford and Cambridge universities in the 1950s.

“They were a national presence,” said Tyrrell, an attorney who had coached a number of high school teams before returning to her alma mater last year.

In the 1980s, the national powerhouse Gannon Debate Team disbanded, a victim of a national trend away from classical debating emphasizing public speaking and critical thinking skills in favor of rapid-fire fact recitation few schools cared to promote.

But today, along with several other premier Saint Peter’s clubs, Gannon Debate is enjoying an amazing comeback. The trio of clubs — known as “signature clubs” for their rich tradition of excellence at the College — also includes the Argus Eyes drama society and the Rev. Aidan McMullen, S.J., Chorale, today’s incarnation of the Glee Club.

All three held a special place in the heart of late College President James N. Loughran, S.J.

“These activities were very near and dear to Father Loughran because they’ve had a rich history here at Saint Peter’s,” said Dr. Eileen L. Poiani, vice president for student affairs. “Reviving these clubs was an important goal for him and their resurgence in the past couple of years gave him great joy.”

The Revival of Gannon Debate

The Gannon Debate Team revival began two years ago, when an anonymous donor contributed seed money for computers and other materials for a small group of fledgling debaters.
A handful of students interested in debate began working with Professor Alain Sanders of the Political Science Department, staging an informal debate for their fellow Saint Peter’s students and another with Monmouth University.

Tyrrell began coaching the squad last spring. In addition to focusing on debating and public speaking techniques, research and analytical skills, Tyrrell traveled with the team to Washington, D.C., to observe a session of Congress, which she calls “the debate of all times.”

Now Gannon Debate is a member of the National Educational Debate Association, a 30-member league that promotes classical debating skills.

Last fall, Saint Peter’s hosted seven teams from around the nation, including Duquesne University and Ball State University, for a two-day tournament that drew more than 100 participants and judges. “We won more than half of our debates,” said Gannon Debate’s delighted coach, who noted that Saint Peter’s debater Juan Gomez was selected one of the best speakers in crossfire debate. “That in itself is amazing, since he’s originally from Honduras and English is his second language. I can’t say enough about how wonderful these kids are. They’re very high achievers.”

The Saint Peter’s squad, which has now grown to 15 members, also includes a Rhodes Scholar finalist and a Venezuelan immigrant who was chosen to monitor voting in that country’s recent elections.

In fact, the group is so impressive that Tyrrell’s husband, who works for an international legal firm, has hired three of the debaters. Attorneys for the firm have also volunteered to serve as judges for the team’s competitions.

A Flair for the Arts
Excellence seems to mark the performance of students involved in Argus Eyes and the Aidan McMullen Chorale as well.

Argus Eyes has traditionally attracted well-rounded students with a flair for the arts. Like Gannon Debate, the drama society has seen a revival on campus in recent years and has stepped up its schedule of performances.

In the fall, the group presented Arthur Miller’s drama “The Crucible,” about events surrounding the Salem witch trials, in Roy Irving Theatre, which is named for the legendary Saint Peter’s director. A series of variety shows featuring musical performances, comedy improvisation and a one-act play followed the fall production and the troupe is currently in rehearsal for “Godspell,” to be presented in April.

Many of the same students staffing Argus Eyes also perform with the Aidan McMullen Chorale, which has nearly tripled in size since last year.
Several students, whom the group’s conductor, Kevin Cummines, calls “pioneers,” banded together to revive the Glee Club tradition that once brought national attention to the Saint Peter’s campus.

“Thirty years ago the Glee Club tradition here was massive,” said Cummines, noting that the men’s Glee Club once won a national competition.

The choice of a name for today’s chorale blends the rich traditions of the past with the promise of the group’s future, according to Alumni Association President Carmel Galasso, a Glee Club alumna.

“Father McMullen was a big supporter of the Glee Club for years,” she recalled. “When you were performing, he would wave a white program in the back of the theater to let you know you were doing well.”

At a Glee Club reunion held in October that drew approximately 60 alumni, Cummines was struck by the camaraderie of alumni and their rousing performance of “Io Pavo,” which for years has stood as the club’s signature piece.

In fact, he is now working on a new four-part arrangement for the Saint Peter’s standard originally arranged for male voices.

“It bolsters campus pride,” he said of the song, “When there’s a song it gives students the sense of something larger than themselves, which is a feeling a college is supposed to give.”

The reunion honored Patrick Clynes, the legendary men’s Glee Club conductor in the 1960s who passed away a year ago. It also marked the 85th birthday of George Hansler, the women’s Glee Club conductor for two decades beginning in the 1960s.

In addition to performing, Glee Club alumni established the Patrick R. Clynes Scholarship which will be awarded to a member of the McMullen Chorale. Dr. Theresa Zesiewicz-Staffetti ’82 also created an annual scholarship for deserving students in memory of Father McMullen. Dr. Zesiewicz-Staffetti said she was grateful for the scholarship she received as an undergraduate and appreciates all that Father McMullen did to assist her and her sister. In addition to performing at the Glee Club reunion, the chorale stepped up its performance schedule last fall, appearing at the President’s Reception to open the school year, as well as at other events for classmates, trustees, alumni and the general public.

“It was such a blessing that we had a lot of opportunities to perform for Father Loughran,” said Cummines. “He was a big fan of our work and loved what we did.”

The reborn Gannon Debate Team is now a member of the National Educational Debate Association, which promotes classical debating skills.

The reborn Gannon Debate Team is now a member of the National Educational Debate Association, which promotes classical debating skills.

John H. Canavan ’35:  
Captain of NYC Police Department (retired)

Thomas J. Stuart, M.D. ’50:  
Neurologist, Lancaster General Hospital (retired)

Reginald Stanton, ’56, H ’03:  
Attorney, Drinker Biddle

Thomas J. Whalen, Esq. ’60:  
Partner, Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellot, LLC

James T. Conneen ’61:  
Chairman, A.T. Hudson & Co Inc.

John P. Fahy ’62:  
Executive Vice President, Total Personal Services Administration Group LLC

John E. McGill Jr. ’66:  
Teacher/Coordinator, Passaic County Human Services

Joseph V. Doria, Jr. ’68:  
Mayor of Bayonne and New Jersey State Senator

Anne-Marie Milczarski, Ph.D. ’70:  
Director of Education, National Hemophilia Association

Robert L. Tortoriello, Esq. ’71:  
Partner, Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton

Kathleen Gilvey Tyrell, Esq. ’73:  
Pro-bono Attorney

Kathleen McKenna, Esq. ’75:  
Partner, Proskauer Rose LLP

Saint Peter’s Gannon Debate Team, circa 1957.
THE LIFELONG INFLUENCE OF SAINT PETER’S

Saint Peter’s College’s lifelong influence on Cecilia (Ceil) Ann Michalik ’73, now an executive vice president at Ford Credit, a subsidiary of Ford Motor Company, took root long before she enrolled at the school. It started when she was six years old, when she and her sister would spend Saturdays at the College with their father, Benjamin Michalik, a professor who established Saint Peter’s Economics Department and taught at the College well into his 70s.

“Long before ‘Take Your Daughters to Work Day,’ my father brought my sister and me to the College to give our mom a break and to keep us out of trouble,” recalled Michalik, who now lives in Northville, MI, and is a member of the Saint Peter’s College Board of Trustees. “While he was teaching, our job was to dust his books, one at a time. Our treat was to have lunch in the faculty dining room with the professors.”

The Michaliks, who lived in Jersey City until Cecilia was in fourth grade, spent a lot of time at the College. “The Jesuits were regular Sunday dinner guests at our house,” she said. “They were as much a part of our family as we were part of the Saint Peter’s family.”

In honor of Helen and Benjamin Michalik’s 49th wedding anniversary and Benjamin’s 80th birthday, the family created the Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin A. Michalik Endowed Scholarship. “Next to my mom and family, Saint Peter’s was the love of my father’s life,” Michalik said. And the College has continued to play a role in the alumna’s life. She became a student shortly after Saint Peter’s became coeducational and completed a bachelor’s degree in Economics in two-and-a-half years. Michalik credits her professors with helping her learn to grow up and speak out. “I know the tagline of Saint Peter’s is ‘Education. One student at a time,’ and that’s truly how it was for me,” she said. “The professors were always available, always fair and always challenging.”

After working for a year following graduation, Michalik earned her MBA at Boston College. She says Saint Peter’s prepared her for both business school and the business world — indeed, a sector of the business world, the automotive industry — that remains primarily male. She joined Ford Credit in 1976 and soon became the first female branch manager in Portland, ME. She climbed the ranks to become vice president of marketing and staff operations, and then regional manager for the Atlantic region. In 1996, she became managing director of Ford Credit Britain, and lived overseas until 1999. On her return to the U.S., she was named vice president of global process management. For the past eight years, she has been executive vice president of quality, customer satisfaction and process management, a position she says is, “the most challenging and the most enjoyable.”

Throughout her career, Michalik relied on habits developed at Saint Peter’s. “In college, I learned to be in the moment,” she explained. “To take advantage of what the professors were saying instead of worrying or getting distracted, I find that equally important in meetings — not to get distracted, to be engaged in the present.”

Saint Peter’s is a part of Michalik’s present. In addition to her work as a Trustee, she is a member of the Board’s Development Committee. Last October, she hosted an alumni event at her home and is now working on an outreach program for female graduates of the school. “We are trying to engage both female graduates and current students,” she said, “and to strengthen the relationship between them.” She hopes to develop opportunities for alumnae to serve as coaches or mentors for current students. “We are looking for ways to bring graduates back to Saint Peter’s — to help with its financial needs, to keep alive the spirit of Jesuit education and to have fun.”

“I know the tagline of Saint Peter’s is ‘Education. One student at a time,’ and that’s truly how it was for me. The professors were always available, always fair and always challenging.”
Making Waves
The Men’s Swimming and Diving team finished up a stellar season with an 11th place finish at the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championships held at Harvard University in Boston in February. The team sent six swimmers to the event, the most Saint Peter's has ever sent to the ECACs. Highlights included Mikas Zuravliovas’ second place finish in the 100 Freestyle, the team’s highest finish. Ramunas Radzevicius placed third in the 200 Butterfly.

The Swimming and Diving teams brought home a sixth place finish at the MAAC Championships, held at Loyola College in February, the Peacocks’ best performance at the MAACs to date. The 400 Medley Relay squad of Donald Knaus, John Virack, Radzevicius and Zuravliovas earned a fifth-place finish. Radzevicius was the 2007 MAAC Champion in the men’s 100-yard Butterfly and the 200-yard Butterfly. Zuravliovas finished third in the 200 Freestyle and the 100 Freestyle. The Peacocks placed sixth in the 800 Freestyle, seventh in the 400 IM, eighth in the 200 Medley Relay, ninth in the 100 Breaststroke and seventh in the 400 Freestyle Relay.

The Peacocks finished fifth out of 10 schools participating in the Orange Bowl Classic, held this January in Key Largo, FL.

Zuravliovas finished first in the 100 Freestyle and 50 Freestyle. He was also a member of the 200 Freestyle Relay team with Radzevicius, Knaus and Michael Fitzmaurice, which finished in second place.

Fitzmaurice and Knaus were also recognized with MAAC All-Academic honors for their stellar academics throughout the season.

Three Peahens Earn All MAAC Honors
The Saint Peter’s College Women’s Basketball team had three players selected to the All MAAC teams. Junior Johnell Burts and sophomore Tania Kennedy were named to the All-MAAC Third Team and freshman Natasha Morris earned a spot on the All-MAAC Rookie Team. The All-MAAC Teams were selected by the league’s head coaches.

Peacock Baseball — Season Preview
The Men's Baseball Team is looking to bounce back from an injury-plagued 2006 season, which resulted in a 10th place finish, on the strength of experienced veterans, promising newcomers and the leadership of Head Coach Derek England’s third season at the helm.

With the recovery of some players and the acquisition of new talent, the Peacocks are looking to improve their pitching staff in 2007. Sophomore Jeff Bayse, last season’s top pitcher, is returning this year and could see some time coming out of the bullpen as well. Junior Chris Innis is expected to become a solid member of the pitching staff and outfielder Kevin Kallert will get a few starts this season. Senior Adam Myers is looking to recover from an injury-plagued season. Senior Jose Pinto will be a key component of the spring pitching staff and returning junior Frank Flynn who led the Peacocks with four wins last year, will be a key weapon in the bullpen.

This year’s season opens with 19 road games including a doubleheader in Virginia against the Longwood University Lancers. The Peacocks return home for MAAC play in March against the Marist Red Foxes. The Peacocks will play 27 games against MAAC teams. Non-conference games include FDU, Wagner, LIU, Monmouth and NJIT. This year’s MAAC tournament is slated for May 24–26 in Poughkeepsie, NY.

Peahen Softball — Season Preview
The Women’s Softball Team will hit the field in 2007 with a great combination of veteran and rookie players. Under new Head Coach Mike Pelegriano, the Peahens are looking to re-establish the chemistry that made them so successful in the early part of the decade.

The 2007 schedule starts as it has for the past two seasons at the Rebel Games in Orlando, FL. The Peahens then head north to participate in the Delaware State Tournament. In addition to conference games, the Peahens host home games against Lafayette, FDU and Georgetown, with road trips to Monmouth, Stony Brook, Seton Hall and Columbia. The season concludes with the MAAC Tournament from May 11–13 at Fairfield University.
1950s

1953
Edward A. Loniewski, D.O was awarded a Distinguished Service Certificate during the 2006 American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Convention and Scientific Seminar in Las Vegas.

1957 – 50th YEAR REUNION – GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY
June 1, 2 & 3, 2007

1957
Eugene J. Kray, Ed.D. was elected Vice Chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

1960s

1960
John A. Jung was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate by Bishop Robert Muench for the diocese of Baton Rouge. Jack has two assignments, working with nursing homes in the diocese and assisting the pastor and staff at Saint Aloysius Church. His wife Jane will be assisting him with both assignments.

Thomas J. Whalen, Esq. recently published an article entitled “Lift the Sanctions” in the October issue of Airline Business magazine. Tom practices aviation law at the firm of Eckert, Seamans, Cherin and Mellott in Washington DC.

1962
Harold Kurfehs of Coldwell Banker Commercial – Scalzo Group, was listed in the newly published “Who’s Who in America” for 2007. As a measure of exclusivity, Hal is one of the only a dozen individuals so honored in the state of Connecticut under Real Estate, distinguishing him as one of the leading industry achievers from around the country.

1963

1964
James J. Damato, Ph.D. was appointed senior quality manager for the Food and Drug Administration Pandemic Influenza Program. His new duties will be devoted to reviewing and approving various vaccines that are being produced to address the anticipated pandemic caused by this and related viruses.

1965
Robert Roggenstein was named “Principal of the Year” by the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association. Robert is principal of McNair Academic High School in Jersey City. US News and World Report ranked MAHS number 15 in the top 100 high schools in the country in 2005 and it is the highest ranked school in the State of New Jersey.

1967 – 40th YEAR REUNION
June 2, 2007

1967
Joseph A. DeSciscio and his wife Judy were presented with their first grandchild, Alessandra, by son Michael and daughter-in-law Letitia. Joe is the director of human resources at Saint Peter’s College.

Frederick J. Tomkins was appointed to the Hoboken Hospital Authority. The board was created by special legislation that saved Saint Mary Hospital from closing. Mayor David Roberts appointed six board members and the hospital’s medical staff selected two.

A reception for southern New Jersey alumni was hosted by Nancy Yewaisis last fall. Additional alumni events took place in Chicago, Detroit, North Carolina and Washington D.C.
1968
Dr. Julian E. De Lia received the 2006 March of Dimes Saving Babies, Together Leadership Award for Prevention — specifically for infant mortality and birth defects. He was recognized for his outstanding work by the International Institute for the Treatment of Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome, researching and treating complications of identical twin pregnancy. He pioneered the intrauterine placental laser surgery, which is now being performed throughout the world.

1969
Robert C. Hinkle was presented the 1841 Award at Fordham University. The medal was presented by Fordham President, Rev. Joseph M. McShane, S.J. The 1841 Award is for clerical or maintenance employees who have worked at Fordham for 20 years.

1970s

1970
John P. Ferguson, president and chief executive officer of Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC), was honored by Bergen Catholic High School as one of the leaders who has made significant contributions to the Bergen County community. The celebration took place at the Knickerbocker Country Club as part of the school’s 50-year celebration. The keynote speaker was Senate President Richard J. Codey. John was also selected as one of the 100 most powerful people in healthcare by Modern Healthcare Magazine.

Gary S. Horan, president and chief executive officer of Trinitas Hospital, Elizabeth, was elected to the Board of Directors of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce.

1971
Walter J. Greenhalgh, Esq. was recently appointed to the Board of Directors by the American Board of Certification. The American Board of Certification (ABC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the public and improving the quality of the bankruptcy and creditors’ rights bar.

1972
Jerry Coyle appeared in the off Broadway play “Room Service” this winter. Jerry played Dr. Glass in this 12-actor screwball comedy. He also had a small feature role in the Robert DeNiro film “The Good Shepherd” which was released in December. Jerry has been teaching acting at the West-Barron Studios in New York City and the Connecticut School of Broadcasting. Over the past 10 years he has been a guest teacher at the Film Acting School in Cologne, Germany and the Wien Filmschule in Vienna.

Carol (Wago) Kelly was the 2005–2006 recipient of the State of New Jersey Title 1 Distinguished Teacher Award.

1974
Angelo A. Caprio, M.D. was awarded a Master of Medical Management degree by Tulane University at the school’s commencement ceremony in New Orleans.

Anthony Origlieri, M.D. was named Man of the Year by the Federation of Italian American Societies of New Jersey.

Edward A. Hogan, Esq. facilitated an environmental roundtable sponsored by the Environmental Business Council of the Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey (CIANJ) in September. Ed served as event chairman and also spoke at a seminar entitled “How to Comply with State Environmental Regulations,” sponsored by the New Jersey Business & Industry Association (NJBIA) in November as well as the Underground Storage Tanks: NJDEP’s Regulatory Training seminar.

Kevin V. Mahoney has joined Chemtura Today as senior vice president and corporate controller. Mahoney comes to Chemtura after 18 years with American Express Company, where he most recently was Senior Vice President of Corporate Reporting, responsible for financial reporting globally.
 Dominic Scalzi was appointed managing director and senior private banker by Deutche Bank, in its US Private Wealth Management (PWM) business. Dominic joins the firm from Bank of America Private Bank, where he spent many years as a Private Client Advisor. He will work with ultra-high-net-worth individuals and families as well as select institutions, with a primary focus on structured finance solutions for real estate developers and investors.

1977 – 30th YEAR REUNION
June 2, 2007

1978
Raymond R. Berger was elected Minister of St. Thomas More Fraternity Secular Franciscan Order.

1979
After 10 years as program manager for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark Hudson County Parish Access Center, Carmel Galasso has accepted a position as director of housing services with the United Way of Hudson County. Carmel will help to coordinate the alliance to end homelessness in Hudson County, a 10-year plan.

Carla (Braker) Settle has joined The Provident Bank as Branch Manager of the Greenville branch in Jersey City. She is responsible for business development, community relations, internal and external sales, staff development, operations and compliance within the branch. Carla was with JP Morgan Chase for more than 25 years in a variety of positions including sales manager and branch manager at several Manhattan locations. Her last assignment was as manager of the Greenwich Village branch for eight years. She began her banking career at The Trust Company.

BIRTHS

Jennifer (Petriello) Eng ’94 and Darren Eng, daughter – Caitlin Rose, April 06, 2006.


Hilary (Stockwell) Bowden ’01 and James Bowden ’01, daughter – Natalie Jane, December 26, 2006.

Angela (Vastola) Kelly ’01 and Kevin M. Kelly, son – John Michael, June 12, 2006.

Stephen Hankins ’03 and Holly (DeFilippo) Hankins ’03, daughter – Kacie Rose, March 18, 2006.

Michele (Clossey) Lassiter ’02 and Charles S. Lassiter ’03, daughter – Abigail Jane, August 19, 2006.
MOVING UP

New Jerseyans elected Robert Menendez ’76 to a six-year term in the U.S. Senate in November 2006. He is the first Saint Peter's College graduate to serve as Senator.

Senator Menendez, who resides in Hoboken, NJ, serves on the committee for Banking and Urban Affairs, Budget, Energy and Natural Resources, and Foreign Relations. In public life since the age of 19, Senator Menendez was the third-highest ranking Democrat in the House of Representatives before taking office in the Senate in 2006 after Jon Corzine resigned his seat to become Governor of New Jersey.

Albio Sires ’74 was elected to serve the 13th Congressional District of New Jersey in the U.S. House of Representatives in November 2006. Congressman Sires served four terms as a New Jersey Assemblyman including two as New Jersey Speaker of the General Assembly and had been the Mayor of West New York since 1995. As a congressman, he currently serves on the House Financial Services Committee and the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

of New Jersey as a part-time teller while she was attending Saint Peter's College.

Carla Settle

1980s

1980

John T. Ward, a freelance journalist, is now also the publisher of redbankgreen.com, an independent news and features web site focused on Red Bank, NJ and the surrounding towns. John's wife, graphic designer Trish Russoniello, creates all the visual elements of redbankgreen, which has quickly won national attention for its innovative use of graphics.

1982 – 25th YEAR REUNION – SILVER ANNIVERSARY
June 2, 2007

Col. Edwin Domingo will assume command of the United States Army Garrison at Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico. Fort Buchanan is the Army's only active Installation in Puerto Rico and the Antilles and provides educational, recreational, community and commercial programs in support of military family members and the federal civilian communities. It supports approximately 74,815 individuals.

Thomas I. Fitzpatrick won the Installation Management Agency’s Regional Stalwart Award. The IMA Stalwart Award recognizes the outstanding accomplishments and inspirational example of IMA employees who perform in an exemplary manner, set the standards as agents for change in installation management and contribute significantly to the agency’s success in carrying out the IMA mission. Tom Fitzpatrick is the Garrison Operations Manager at Fort Gordon in Georgia.

WEDDINGS

Brian McKay ’90 was married to Suzanne Cisek on July 22, 2006 on Saint Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

James J. Albro ’00 and Lisa Anne Matt of Fort Lee, were married on August 5, 2006 at The Historic Church of the Madonna in Fort Lee. The couple resides in East Rutherford, NJ.

Kelly A. Policastro ’00 was married to Alex Calleros on November 11, 2006 at Our Lady of the Valley Church in Orange, NJ.

Jonna Lee Buttacavoli ’03 was married to Michael Henry Meyers on July 28, 2006 at Saint Dominic’s Church in Brick, NJ.

Michele Clossey ’02 was married to Charles S. Lassiter ’03 on January 8, 2005 in Saint Peter Chapel. Rev. T. Patrick Lynch, S.J., performed the nuptials.
1987 – 20th YEAR REUNION  
June 2, 2007  

1987  
Andrew A. Pallito was recently appointed to the position of Deputy Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Corrections. For the previous six years, he was in the role of Management Executive and supervised the administrative, financial, information technology and human resource development functions of the Department. The Vermont Department of Corrections consists of nine in-state facilities, one out-of-state contracted facility and 12 parole and probation offices.

1990s  

1992 – 15th YEAR REUNION  
June 2, 2007  

1992  
Mary Ann (Cloran) Konopka, along with her twin sister, Helen (Cloran) Barsocchi were inducted into the Palmyra High School Athletic Hall of Fame in February 2007.

Richard Nugent was promoted to special counsel at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP. He is an attorney in the Tax Department. A transactional lawyer with significant expertise in the tax aspects of public and private corporate mergers, acquisitions and spin-offs, he also has experience advising clients on cross-border tax planning strategies, the tax consequences of restructurings and bankruptcies and financing transactions. He received his B.A., summa cum laude, from Saint Peter’s College, his J.D. with honors, from Rutgers School of Law and his LL.M., with distinction, from Georgetown University Law Center. Following law school, he clerked for The Honorable Robert P. Ruwe of the United States Tax Court and The Honorable Richard F. Suhrheinrich of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

1993  
Sabahat R. Khan was a guest speaker at the Student Alumni Association Snapshot of the Real World speaker series. Sabahat’s presentation was entitled “The Reality of the Business World” and focused on the differences between college life and the reality of the work environment. Sabahat is the Director of Process Engineering at the Depository Trust & Clearing Corp.

1994  
John P. Direnzo was inducted into the Coaches Hall of Fame of Bergen County and Bergen Catholic High School.

1997 – 10th YEAR REUNION  
May 18 & June 2, 2007  

2000s  

2001  
Brian J. Kaszuba was recently hired as deputy director for intergovernmental affairs for the NYC Public Advocate’s Office.

2002 – 5th YEAR REUNION  
May 18 & June 2, 2007  

2002  
Anton J. Meindl recently started his own business, Evolution Plastics, LLC, an importer of flexible packaging material from China. Anton is also engaged and the wedding is planned for November 29, 2008.

2005  
Steven M. Bari performed in the fall of 2006 with the Boomerang Theater Company. The group performs at the CenterStage Theater in New York.

2006  
Keydren “KeeKee” Clark is now playing professional basketball in Greece. In one of the first Egaleo games this season, Kee Kee scored 51 points and helped his team to thrash their rivals AEL 83–61. The whole game was one-man show, and his stats were as follows: 8/10 two pointers, 9/11 three pointers, 8/8 free throws, two rebounds, 2 steals, all done in 34 minutes!!

Douglas Sanford was appointed assistant principal at Westfield High School in September, 2006.

Show your Peacock Pride

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‘Doc’ Benson, a Giant at Saint Peter’s

By Paul D. Colford ’75

Dr. John C. Benson was, quite simply, a giant at Saint Peter’s.

For many, especially those of us who were Classics majors and studied with him semester after semester, he was the pillar of a rich, scholarly tradition in which the ancients were ever alive, ever relevant and ever demanding of our inquiry.

His death at age 75 on January 7, 2007 summoned warm memories of many mornings around a handsome oak table, in a hideaway of an office on Glenwood Avenue, when he led us on Aeneas’ voyage and through the lyrical verse of Horace and Catullus. For others, “Doc” Benson was a master showman they encountered in a much larger venue — Pope Lecture Hall, where he screened slides of the pyramids and the Acropolis in his always-popular archeology course.

This goateed, jolly bear of a man, who was rarely on time for class but always made time for his students long after class had ended, did more than convey his lessons; he radiated learning and raised the bar. A tireless impresario outside the classroom, he exposed students to the wider world of ballet, museums and his beloved opera across the Hudson. He also encouraged a number of his Classics majors to take greater leaps of daring by flying off to spend their junior years studying Latin and Greek at universities in Turin, Bologna, Florence and other Italian centers.

Three of us will never forget how he cut through the crowds and chaos at New York’s Italian Consulate one summer morning in 1973 to help obtain the visas and other documents we needed for our junior year abroad. Indeed, it was 12 months of study, travel, adventure and fun, just as he had promised.

Another time in the early 1970s, a few students sheepishly confessed they had bought tickets to see the Moody Blues, the popular British rock group, at Madison Square Garden and so would be unable to accept his free tickets to the Metropolitan Opera for that same night. Never had he seemed so appalled!

Yet he also found the poetic in the pop mainstream — he appreciated John Hartford’s song “Gentle on My Mind,” for example — and he could expound on the use of train whistles and amuse us with such Bensonisms as: “The secret of English cooking is to cook it until it’s gray!”

A 1953 graduate of Saint Peter’s who earned his doctorate at the University of Turin, Dr. Benson taught at the College for 48 years, in both the Classics and Modern Languages departments.

What an impact he had.
Hail and farewell.

Ave atque vale.

Paul Colford ’75, is a staff writer with the Daily News, covering the rebuilding of the World Trade Center site and other New York development projects.
Business Symposium Draws a Crowd

More than 300 members of the business community turned out to hear Pulitzer Prize winning-journalist David S. Broder, former NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue, Thomas P. Mac Mahon ’68, chairman, president and chief executive officer of LabCorp and Angie McGuire, deputy chief of Governor Jon Corzine’s Office of Economic Growth at the 35th Annual Board of Regents Business Symposium on November 9. The theme of the 2006 Symposium was “Managing Change: 21st Century Perspectives.” Fidelity Investments was the platinum sponsor for this event.


STAY CONNECTED TO SAINT PETER'S COLLEGE

Your fellow Peacocks and Peahens want to know what you’ve been up to. To submit an item to Alumni News and Notes, be sure to include your class year and class year of any other alumni you mention in the note. Feel free to send a snapshot with your news; photos will be published on a space-available basis. We are unable to return photos, so please do not send your only copy. High-resolution jpeg files sent via email are also acceptable.

Please submit your note through the alumni web site http://alumni.spc.edu or send it directly to:

Office of Alumni Relations
2641 Kennedy Boulevard
Cushing Alumni House
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Be sure to update your contact information when you send your note. We look forward to hearing from you!

Name: ____________________________
Class Year: _______________________
Home Address: ___________________
City/State/Zip: ____________________
Home Phone: _____________________
Business Name: ____________________
Business Address: __________________
City/State/Zip: ____________________
Business Phone: ____________________
Preferred Email Address:_____________
Making Good Things Happen

by Eugene J. Cornachia, Ph.D.

I first met James N. Loughran, S.J., in 1995. I had started my last year as Faculty Senate president and could not know then that I would come to work closely with him as an administrator. One day, Father pointed out to me that when I was an undergraduate at Fordham, he was my dean. When he noticed the look of surprise on my face, he told me that was not really surprising since he tended to only see the very bad or the very good students. He always called it as he saw it.

Father Loughran often said that our purpose at Saint Peter’s College was “to make good things happen in the hearts and minds of students.”

He had a tremendous impact on the students of Saint Peter’s College and the community. First, Father Loughran was a tireless advocate for the College — he was proud of Saint Peter’s diversity and proud of Jersey City. He urged us to appreciate and respect the important work we do here. Second, Father was a powerful voice for higher standards — for students, for faculty, for all of us in the College community. Finally, he cared deeply about people and constantly pushed us all to demonstrate personal care for our students and for each other, and to appreciate our time together.

Father must be remembered for his fidelity to our mission, his commitment to academic excellence and his affection for this community. His legacy is one of major accomplishments: growing enrollment, a residential campus, strengthened financial status, expanded programs and opportunities for students and a deepening of our commitment to Jesuit and Catholic traditions.

As Father Loughran would have wanted — no, insisted — good things will continue to happen at Saint Peter’s College.

We will continue to demand high expectations of our students, to push them to achieve their full potential and be fully engaged as members of this learning community. In order to strengthen our academic reputation we will once again focus greater attention on raising the academic profile of our freshman classes and accepting students who appreciate our special gift of intellectual and spiritual community to get the most out of a Saint Peter’s College education.

We will persist in laying a stronger curricular foundation for future growth. This is not the time to be static. Successful colleges today are dynamic, constantly scanning the environment to identify opportunities for new programs consistent with their mission and traditions. We need to be creative, flexible and nimble in adapting to the changing needs of our current and future students.

Looking ahead, I believe we must do more to make our curriculum and our students’ experiences more relevant to the world they will live in with particular attention to globalization, service and ethics. We need to be more deliberate and comprehensive in our efforts to inculcate in each of our students an appreciation and understanding of the forces of globalization, the responsibility to give back to the community through service and the critical importance of living one’s life — personally and professionally — in accord with high ethical standards.

The Loughran Legacy includes a vision of what was yet to come: a gleaming new campus center, a new residence hall and endowments to better support academic excellence and our Jesuit mission and Catholic identity. Father Loughran laid a strong foundation for us to build upon. It is now up to us to fulfill the vision.

— Eugene Cornachia has been a member of the Saint Peter’s community since 1981, most recently as Provost and Academic Vice President. He now serves as Acting President of Saint Peter’s College.
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Visit http://alumni.spc.edu for additional information.

### APRIL

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., 4/12</td>
<td>Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pleasantdale Chateau</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/12–15</td>
<td>Argus Eyes presents “Godspell”</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/19–21</td>
<td>Argus Eyes presents “Godspell”</td>
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<td>Sat., 4/21</td>
<td>Admissions Spring Open House</td>
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<td>Sun., 4/22</td>
<td>Alumni &amp; Friends of Jesuits in Hawaii Lecture</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Honolulu, HI</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/24 &amp; 4/25</td>
<td>Graduation Salute</td>
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<td>Jersey City Campus</td>
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### MAY

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<tr>
<td>Tues., 5/1</td>
<td>Graduation Salute</td>
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<td>Englewood Cliffs Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs., 5/3</td>
<td>Alumni Golf Outing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Old Orchard Country Club, Eatontown</td>
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<td>Fri., 5/11</td>
<td>Delaney Reception</td>
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<td>Casino in the Park, Jersey City</td>
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<td>Wed., 5/16</td>
<td>Baccalaureate Mass</td>
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<td>Englewood Cliffs</td>
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<td>Fri., 5/18</td>
<td>Young Alumni Happy Hour</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bar Majestic, Jersey City</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., 5/19</td>
<td>Baccalaureate Mass</td>
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<td>Jersey City</td>
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<td>Sun., 5/20</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<td>PNC Arts Center, Holmdel, NJ</td>
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<td>5/23 – 6/2</td>
<td>Adventures to Italy Tour</td>
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### JUNE

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<tr>
<td>Fri., 6/1</td>
<td>Reunion Weekend – Class of 1957</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Welcome Cocktail Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., 6/2</td>
<td>Reunion Weekend – Barbeque, Dinner Dance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun., 6/3</td>
<td>Reunion Weekend – Golden Peacock Mass &amp; Brunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/18–6/22</td>
<td>California Alumni Receptions</td>
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### AUGUST

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<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., 8/18</td>
<td>Alumni BBQ – Bar Anticipation, Lake Como, NJ</td>
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Go back in time — just for a day or two — at the Saint Peter’s College Reunion 2007. Whatever your class year, there are a number of opportunities to reminisce and reconnect with classmates and friends.

Reelin’ in the Years...

Reunion events include:

Young Alumni Happy Hour and Reunion
Friday, May 18, 2007: Classes of 1997–2006

Reunion Gala Dinner Dance
Saturday, June 2, 2007: All Reunion Classes
A celebration of Mass, cocktails, class photos and dinner and dancing

Golden Peacock Celebration
A celebration of Mass, brunch and a special medal presentation honoring the Class of 1957

For further information, call (201) 915-9204 or visit http://alumni.spc.edu