COMMUNICATION TAKES OFF
A YEAR OF INNOVATION

If I could sum up my first year as president of Saint Peter’s College in one word, it would be — innovation. It’s a powerful concept if you think about it. Our nation’s history is the story of those who have moved society forward by taking initiative and finding better ways to do things.

Here at Saint Peter’s College, we’re certainly moving forward. The College has responded, and responded well, to the needs of the evolving global marketplace with many new initiatives. In particular, we have expanded academic programs in science, communication, nursing and business. Pay a visit to Gannon Hall and you’ll find undergraduates learning cutting-edge practices in biotechnology or conducting immunological research with faculty members in the new department of applied science and technology.

WSPC Radio is back on the air and the television studio has been updated with new technology. As a result, our communication majors are gaining relevant experience supported by a strong liberal arts education in the Jesuit tradition.

This year we’ve joined many colleges and universities across the nation by adopting the “College and University Presidents Climate Commitment” — challenging the entire Saint Peter’s community to reduce its carbon footprint. And we’ve made significant investments in the people of our College community, as well as $5 million in capital improvements throughout the campus to bring The Jesuit College of New Jersey to its fullest potential. Even Saint Peter’s College Magazine has been redesigned and, in keeping with our commitment to sustainability, is now printed on chlorine-free recycled paper. Furthermore, to reflect the College’s innovative spirit, we’ve updated our Web site and introduced an electronic newsletter, Magis.

All of this progress has generated excitement among prospective students. This year, we received a record number of inquiries and applications for our largest freshman class in eight years, with the highest selectivity at any time in the last decade.

As I begin my second year as president, I’m proud of the way our college community has embraced innovation. Moving forward, Saint Peter’s will continue to reinvent itself as an educational leader pursuing new levels of excellence.

Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D.
President

FROM THE PRESIDENT
Marylou Yam, Ph.D., has emerged as a high-standards proponent within the College community. Since joining Saint Peter’s College as a nursing instructor nearly two decades ago, Marylou Yam, Ph.D., has emerged as a tireless advocate of high academic standards.

Recently appointed as the College’s vice president for academic affairs, Dr. Yam views her new position as an opportunity to play a major role in expanding the College’s programs to meet the changing needs of students and the global market.

“Marylou Yam, Ph.D.

The Class of 2008 has taken the words of Commencement Speaker Thomas D. Carver, Esq. ’58 to heart. “Over and over you will have the opportunity to make a difference,” Carver, the executive director of the New Jersey Casino Reinvestment Development Authority, told graduates at the College’s 117th Commencement in May. “Seize the day! You are so prepared,” he said.

Saint Peter’s graduates are utilizing their Jesuit, liberal arts education to begin careers in a variety of fields such as business, media and education. Many are also advancing their educations at prestigious graduate programs throughout the country.

Case Valedictorian Aleksandar Nikolov entered a Ph.D. program in computer science at Rutgers University. An international student from Bulgaria, Nikolov says Saint Peter’s introduced him to a world of ideas. “Had I stayed in Bulgaria,” he noted, “I would not have had the opportunity to study other subjects. I feel much richer for having studied topics so far away from my field of expertise.”

“Saint Peter’s taught me to think outside of the box,” said Dwayne Paul, a theology major who is now attending Divinity School at Yale University in pursuit of a master’s degree in religion. Sarah Anfora, an art history major and star of several Argus Eyes productions, is now studying at the Actors Studio of Pace University, where she’s pursuing a Master of Fine Arts in Acting. “My goal is not to be famous, because you can’t think that way in this wacky field of acting. But I’d be happy to teach — maybe someday at Saint Peter’s College.”

Kellann Coleman weighed several options before deciding to join the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. “I’m excited and a little nervous,” she explained, “but I’d be happy to teach — maybe someday at Saint Peter’s College.”

Students congregate in the renovated fountain area. "$5 MILLION IN CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS The College is getting a fresh new look, thanks to $5 million in improvements underway all around campus. The projects range from structural repairs in campus buildings and parking facilities to spiffy additions like new campus signage, fresh paint and new entrance doors and windows.

The goal is to make the campus more comfortable for current students and more attractive to prospective students and their families.

“All of these projects enhance the attractiveness of the College,” explained Saint Peter’s College President Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D. “Well-maintained facilities go hand in hand with enhancing the learning environment and the overall atmosphere of the College.”

A major portion of the work involves the restoration of the parking deck adjacent to the Yanitelli Recreational Life Center (RLC), and repaving of the Armory parking lot. Other structural projects include upgrading energy efficiency through new, zoned heating and cooling controls in several residence halls and McDermott Hall.

Power upgrades have also been completed at the RLC.

In addition, the College is safeguarding facades by waterproofing and sealing Murray Hall and Whelan Hall, as well as repointing the brickwork on Guarini House and Lee House, which will also have the front porch replaced.

“ ‘The difference is unbelievable,’ said Manager of College Services Anita DePaula. ‘This is an ongoing major renovation of public spaces.’ ”

Students are also benefiting from an extension of the east side of the quadrangle, as well as the renovation of the fountain area next to McDermott Hall for a more comfortable seating area.

A LIFESAVING GRANT SAINT PETER’S AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDING FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION Saint Peter’s College Center for Personal Development received funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the implementation of suicide prevention programs. Saint Peter’s is the only institution of higher learning in New Jersey to receive the grant.

“We feel very privileged,” remarked Ron Becker, LCSW, director of the center for personal development. “There were a number of applications, and we were selected based on the strong proposal we’d submitted and the cultural sensitivity of our program.”

Because of the diverse student population at Saint Peter’s, he explained, “We emphasize cultural awareness. How people from different backgrounds present symptoms, and how we can best provide them with support. Not everyone deals with life the same way.”

This grant will help fund programs to assist students, their families, faculty and staff to recognize a variety of behaviors displayed by “at-risk” young people. The center’s motto for this year is ‘S.P.C. Cares. Be a lifesaver.”

Becker and project coordinators Jessica Diola and Marni Brand will communicate these ideas to the Saint Peter’s community at campus wellness fairs and through electronic media, including e-mail, the Internet and podcasts.

Above all, Becker emphasized, “Talking to someone about how you feel is important. Nobody has to be alone. There are people here who want to help.”

The grant is administered through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

HIGH STANDARDS MARYLOU YAM, PH.D., APPOINTED VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
**MEET THE CLASS OF 2012**

NEARLY 600 FRESHMEN JOIN THE SAINT PETER’S COMMUNITY

Approximately 600 freshmen, selected from one of the largest applicant pools in more than a decade, began classes at Saint Peter’s on August 27. The College received a record number of applications totaling nearly 8,000, and is experiencing the highest selectivity than at any time in the last 10 years.

With nearly 55 per cent of freshmen residing on campus, the first-year class represents more than 17 states throughout the nation and countries from around the world, including Australia, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, France, Ghana, Israel, Italy, Nepal, Sierra Leone and South Korea.

Proximity to New York City factored prominently in Jinelly Urena’s decision to attend The Jesuit College of New Jersey. An Ignatian Scholar from Lawrence, Mass., Urena plans on majoring in biology. “If I feel right at home here,” she said, a few days after moving into Millennium Hall. “What I’m most looking forward to is expanding my horizons.”

Nikidar Benazarova, who grew up in Uzbekistan and moved to Hillsborough, N.J., several years ago, appreciates the small college environment. “College is definitely a transition, but I like my new classmates,” she said. Saint Peter’s is also attracting more student-athletes, including several volleyball players from California and a group of freshmen golfer expected to take team to a more competitive level.

**NEW VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND BUSINESS**

Kenneth Payne, appoint- ed vice president for finance and business at Saint Peter’s College in August, is quickly ad- justing to life on campus. “So far, I like Saint Peter’s a great deal,” he remarked. “Everyone I’ve met has been warm, welcoming and supportive.”

Payne, a graduate of Ohio State University and Governors State University’s College of Commerce and Public Administration, brings to Saint Peter’s extensive finan- ce experience and leadership in the academic and nonprofit fields.

He has served as chief investment officer for CARE International, Inc., one of the world’s largest private relief and economic development organization and as associate vice president of business and finance at Morehouse College in Atlanta. He also worked in finance at Illinois State University.

**BUZZ ON SAINT PETER’S**

The 4 million viewers who tuned into Good Morning America on June 10 learned there are different ways to look at autism. In a segment on neurodiversity, featuring Assistant Professor of Classics Kristina Chew, Ph.D., ABC News Correspondent Deborah Roberts interviewed the Saint Peter’s professor, who is among a growing number of parents of special-needs children who believe that a cure for autism is the wrong approach. Dr. Chew believes that autistic children like her 11-year-old son, Charlie, would benefit more from greater support services and education.

“We’re really trying to understand [Charlie] on his own terms,” she told Roberts. “Acceptance to me is the beginning of hope.”

Dr. Chew also serves as co-director of the honors program and as advisor for special scholars at the center for graduate, professional and foreign study at Saint Peter’s. She posts a daily weblog about Charlie, as well as news and issues affecting the autism community, at www.autismvox.com.
listen to WCBS Newsradio 880 in New York sometime and chances are you’ll hear Joseph Galbo’s work. You’ll also see his influence on the station’s Web site, where the 2008 Saint Peter’s graduate is helping to determine which stories will make it online.

Or perhaps you caught Mesfin Fekadu’s Associated Press (AP) interview with the rapper Ludacris that appeared in newspapers and on Web sites around the country. Also a 2008 Saint Peter’s graduate, Fekadu now works as a production coordinator for the entertainment division of the AP, where he also produces video packages for the Internet.

Galbo and Fekadu are just two of the many students benefiting from the tremendous growth the department of communication has experienced at Saint Peter’s. The strength of the academic program, as well as internships and hands-on experiences such as WSPC, the College’s streaming radio station, is helping graduates hone professional skills needed to land jobs in a very competitive business.

“There definitely is a sort of ‘radio renaissance’ going on at Saint Peter’s,” said Galbo, who hosted a news program, the 411@4, for WSPC earlier this year. “It’s a great time to be a communication student at Saint Peter’s and I’m really excited for everyone there right now.”

The growth of the College’s communication program began more than a decade ago, when the major was still a part of the English department. The number of undergrduates grew steadily, and in 2008, the program became the department of communication. Just three years later, communication is one of the fastest growing majors at the College, attracting students to its program of mass media studies including writing and publishing, journalism, media business, TV and radio production, film theory, and history.

This spring, the department marked the rebirth of the journalism minor, an addition that recent graduates like Fekadu say will enhance an already strong program.

“Saint Peter’s definitely has the resources,” the young reporter said. “I’m a good example of the fact that you can get a really good job. With the journalism minor, the College is going to draw more students.”

News writing, public speaking and advanced journalism courses with faculty members such as Fatima Shaik, M.A., and Cynthia Walker, Ph.D., were a great foundation for a career that demands people who can think on their feet. A staff writer at the student newspaper, The Prince, during his undergraduate years, Fekadu also took advantage of the College’s proximity to New York, landing internships at MTV News, Showtime and MSNBC.

Professor Shaik has seen the department expand tremendously since she began teaching at Saint Peter’s in 1991. She attributes the expansion to a greater awareness of the influence of media and technology in today’s culture.

“We’re starting to become aware of the impact technology and media have on our lives,” said Professor Shaik, the author of four trade books who is writing a fifth on free people of color in 19th century New Orleans. “Students today need to be media literate in the same way they must be writing literate. We need to teach people how to read media and understand that you can’t believe everything an ad says. I think a lot of people don’t know that.”

Department of Communication Chairman Barna W. Donovan, Ph.D., estimates that enrollment hovers between 100 and 110 students, most of whom have an interest in electronic media — radio, television and the Web. To accommodate those interests, the College revived WSPC radio, transforming it into a streaming Internet station with regularly scheduled student-led programming.

Professor Joseph Lamachia, an adjunct professor who serves as WSPC’s station manager, has guided students in establishing regular news, commentary and music programming, as well as beaming up the studios with updated technology for both radio and TV.

Last semester more than 40 students participated in producing 17 different programs regularly, ranging from current pop music to heavy metal, Euro top 10, news, sports and commentary including Rants of Reason, which provides “provocative political discourse.” The show’s hosts, Chris DePazzo ’10 and Gary Young ’10, are respectively the president and vice president of the Gannon Debating Society at Saint Peter’s.

RADIO REINCARNATED
A radio, television and ad agency professional with extensive industry experience, Professor Lamachia guides the students toward producing professional programming.

“My job is to work with students and...
give guidance similar to the classroom sit-

uation, but it happens in a hands-on envi-

ronment,” explained Professor Lamachia,

who has an active career in voiceovers.

“We’re looking at a very vital medium, not

only here at Saint Peter’s, but around the con-

ctry and the globe.”

In addition to radio, the depart-

ment is updating the campus TV

studio with the goal of starting a Saint

Peter’s television station. The Peace

War, which is celebrating its 75th anni-

versary this year, is now online at

www.epcsaintpeter’s.org.

The Jesuit, liberal arts education

offered at Saint Peter’s is a natural for

Wow

ment is updating the campus TV

instructive.”

The Pauw

Herald News

and

editor Eugene Murphy in

Washington, D.C., bureau, can recall his

“[Murphy] marked up and edited our

Dr. Walker

Professor DeMillo hopes to see students

California, hopes to inspire the next

generation of journalists at Saint Peter’s.

As for Galbo, now in his first job after

graduation, he appreciates how his Jesuit

education helps him to approach ethical

challenges with integrity.

“Ethics and reasoning have become

increasingly more important to me as my

time at WCBS goes on,” he explained. “A
day doesn’t go by that I don’t find myself

pausing to consider the consequences of

my professional actions, however small

those actions may be.”

A WELCOME ADDITION

GOOD DAY NEW YORK REPORTER JOINS SAINT PETER’S

Calling Barna Donovan, Ph.D., an action

film enthusiast is an understatement. The

chairman of the Saint Peter’s department

of communication is a noted expert with

three books on the topic.

This fall, Dr. Donovan’s first book,

The Asian Influence on Hollywood Action

Films, will hit the market. The book,

which is available through Amazon.com

and other outlets, traces how Hong Kong

and Japanese filmmaking has influenced

Hollywood styles for decades.

Two other books, Conspiracy Theory

Films: The Dark Side of American Popular

Culture and Blood, Guns and Testament:

Action Film Violence and Audiences will be

out within the next two years.

A self-described skeptic, Dr. Donovan

argues that violent films don’t translate

into increased violence in society. As pro-

fessor, he points to the relatively low crime

rates in Asian countries.

“Watching violent films does not have a

negative impact on society,” said Dr.

Donovan, who holds his doctorate in

Communication Information and Library

Studies from Rutgers University. “This is

an unfounded fear and it worries me that

people will be more tolerant of censorship.

The crime rates of Asian countries are

miniscule compared to what’s happening in

the U.S.”

Instead, the Saint Peter’s professor

points to the moral undertones of violent

films, in which good usually conquers evil.

“There’s a clear good and evil. You can

choose to do right or wrong,” he added.

“It’s a good message for young people.”

THE MISUNDERSTOOD ACTION HERO

RESEARCH BY DEPARTMENT CHAIR DEBUNKS MYTH ABOUT VIOLENT FILMS

Ask veteran news reporter Ernabel Demillo

the story she is most proud of and the

answer might surprise you. After all, the

broadcast journalist, who joined the depart-

ment of communication this fall, has

covered some major stories: the Northridge

Earthquake, former President Richard

Nixon’s funeral, the O.J. Simpson car chase

up the 405 Freeway, the Unabomber and

more.

But one story, in particular, stands out.

Demillo, a half-hour news program produced

by CBS News, was the first time she

reported on a major story. The program,

which is available through Amazon.com

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Culture and Blood, Guns and Testament:
Saint Peter’s students reach semifinals in Hispanic College Quiz Show

F

ive students from Saint Peter’s College made history this fall as part of the premiere of Know Your Heritage: Hispanic College Quiz Show, a game show produced by the Chicago-based Central City Productions (CCP) in conjunction with the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) to foster greater knowledge and appreciation of Hispanic culture. Team members — Noel Borges ’10, Stephanie Galva ’09, Alex Rivero ’09, Daisy Vargas ’11, and Daniela Villacres ’10; and their advisor Alex Trillo, Ph.D., associate professor of Latin American and Latino studies — flew to Chicago on April 8 to film four half-hour segments of the show. Its multiple choice questions were based on Juan Gonzalez’s Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America.

Competing teams came from East Los Angeles College, New Mexico State University, Our Lady of the Lake University, Whittier College, the City Colleges of Chicago, University of Houston-Victoria and San Diego State University. The series is hosted by NBC news anchor Zoraida Sambolin, and aired on stations across the country during Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 to October 15.

Borges, president of the Latin American Service Organization (LASO) at Saint Peter’s, was in the process of planning a reading circle that would focus on Harvest of Empire when he learned about the opportunity to participate in the quiz show. “I saw this as an innovative way to encourage students to read the book,” he explained. “I feel it should be required reading for everyone.” Because they were accepted only one week before filming began, the Jersey City native, a double major in political science and sociology, worked diligently with his teammates to prepare for the quiz show. “I was excited by the diversity of our group,” he commented. “Between the five of us, we represented Puerto Rican, Cuban, Colombian, Mexican and Ecuadorian backgrounds. And I was even more proud of our commitment to studying Harvest of Empire. We had a number of other obligations on our plate — intense class schedules, work and serving on executive boards — but we knew one another’s work ethics and were confident that we would do well.”

“These students really rose to the occasion,” remarked Dr. Trillo who serves with Jennifer Ayala, Ph.D., of the Education Department as advisors for LASO.

“The timing was challenging, as they were in the crunch of the semester while they were preparing,” Dr. Trillo added. “They worked early in the morning, late at night — whenever they had free time,” Dr. Trillo added.

The five team members read Harvest of Empire from cover to cover and divided the individual chapters among themselves. “We each understood that it was really important to represent Saint Peter’s,” said Galva, an international business trade major from Reading, Pa. “It was pretty hectic because we really didn’t have a lot of time to prepare, but we worked as a group and individually to get ready, often texting or calling one another to quiz each other on questions.”

When Dr. Trillo and the team arrived at Newark Liberty Airport for their flight to Chicago, they learned it had been delayed until the following morning. “We were determined to find a way to get there,” said Borges. “We desperately went from airline to airline, explaining our situation. Thankfully, a sympathetic desk attendant found six seats on a flight to Chicago that landed a half-hour before filming began.

“We only allowed ourselves 15-minute naps on the flight,” Borges explained, “so that we could continue quizzing one another.”

The Saint Peter’s team arrived in time to film their segments, scoring high enough to make the semifinals. “We were impressed by how much we knew,” Borges remarked, “especially since it was our first time on TV, and we were a little nervous.”

After their elimination from the game, the team spent the remainder of their time in Chicago exploring the city. “Dr. Trillo taught us a great deal about Latino culture in Chicago,” said Galva. “He showed us some great sites and we were also able to bond with students from the other schools. It was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime experience.”

Months later, the quiz show continues to have an effect on the Saint Peter’s participants. “Now students are at my door all the time, talking about what book they’ve read or what conference they want to attend,” said Dr. Trillo. “This experience was a wonderful example of students really being students — taking matters into their own hands, learning the material, understanding their own history and representing Saint Peter’s in the best possible way.”

Borges concurs with Dr. Trillo about the impression the show has had, “I was excited that we had so many intellectual conversations about Latino history and culture. We experienced a sense of self-discovery. I’m eager to educate others about our heritage, and Hispanic College Quiz Show was the perfect opportunity for me to do so. I hope it encourages viewers across the nation to learn more about their histories and to have some of the same discoveries that we did.”
Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures: Chairman Rev. Mark DeStephano, S.J., talks about the innovative language course he created, the Jesuit mission at Saint Peter’s and what it’s like to speak 13 different languages.

You speak 13 different languages. Which ones? Spanish, French, Italian, Latin, German, Greek, Biblical Greek — koiné and classical — Hebrew, Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese and English. I love the romance languages.

The latest additions have been the Asian languages, with the hope that I can be fluent one day — especially in Chinese. I’ve been working on my Mandarin Chinese as of late.

When did you begin speaking multiple languages at once? It began back in high school. As a freshman I liked languages so I started taking five at once — Latin, Spanish, German, French and Italian. And I carried them all throughout high school. The experience led me to see and hear the similarities in all five languages.

Is that what inspired you to begin the Romance Language Synthesis Course at Saint Peter’s in which three languages — Spanish, French and Italian — are spoken at once? It did. Through the years, I was amazed that [Romance Language Synthesis] wasn’t in any school or part of a standard curriculum. And I thought this is a great idea. The benefit of doing it here at Saint Peter’s is that we don’t have the massive administrative structure or barriers that large colleges do. Being chairman of the language department made it easier to implement, though it took some convincing from the Faculty Senate to be accepted as a core requirement. It’s been very successful.

Do the students generally have a background in all three languages? Most of them would have a background in at least one of the languages. Those who have a background in two, that’s a little rare. The students are excellent and very engaged. They are taking double the language requirement by choice, so they want to be there. When you have good students who want to be there, that’s a perfect combination.

The department of modern and classical languages and literatures has a rich history at Saint Peter’s. How would you say the department has evolved? Not only do we have the offerings that have always been at the College, we’ve been expanding into other languages. My particular rule is to help the department grow in preparation for the global economy. And I feel like we need to take this seriously by offering Chinese, Japanese and Korean. It is something we are introducing shortly. We now offer Tagalog, one of the major languages spoken in the Philippines, because for years, we’ve had a very large community in Jersey City. I’ve also brought in Arabic and am hoping to offer a course in standard Hindi or one of the Indian languages.

Since you speak 13 languages, what language do you pray in? That’s interesting. I was telling my class the other day that I pray in English, although I do a lot of work in Puerto Rico so I try to pray in the language of the country I’m in. So in Spain or Puerto Rico, I’ll pray or say the Mass in Spanish. Same thing in France, I will pray in French.

I understand you’re researching a literary criticism on the life of 19th century Spanish author Luis de Coloma, S.J. How’s it coming? Very well, thank you. I have just completed another round of research in the Jesuit archives at Alcalá de Henares. I will also make a trip to St. Louis University in October, to consult the microfiche collection of the Vatican Library regarding some issues in Coloma’s life and ministry. This study is an analysis of the author’s works in the light of new discoveries I’ve made regarding Coloma’s life both before and after his entrance into the Society of Jesus.

As a faculty member and Jesuit at Saint Peter’s for more than 15 years, how would you characterize the Jesuit mission and identity at the College today? Jersey City has to be the most diverse city in the nation and Saint Peter’s for quite a number of years has been the most diverse Jesuit college. Our role is critical, because when we talk about diversity at Saint Peter’s, we are really talking about students living, working and being friends together across religious, linguistic and racial lines. The students here speak 70 languages, come from so many different countries and yet they all come together. They all seem to enjoy one another and it is not just tolerance. It’s savoring and enjoying the differences we have while, at the same time, recognizing that so much more unites us than divides us.

Father DeStephano has been chairman of the department of modern and classical languages and literatures at Saint Peter’s since 1998. He received the George F. Johnson, S.J. Faculty Award in 2008, which recognizes a member of the faculty whose excellence in teaching results in successfully leading students to greater knowledge and understanding of their subject matter.
A few things you should know about Rev. Michael L. Braden, S.J. He was born in Butte, Mont., spent four years in Taiwan and China studying the languages and researching the cross-cultural transfer of media technology. Father Braden prefers Macs to PCs and finds his new surroundings at The Jesuit College of New Jersey simply fascinating.

“I love how diverse it is,” remarked the Jesuit, who became the vice president for mission and ministry at Saint Peter’s College in August. “You can walk down the street and hear four or five different languages just going to Journal Square.”

The job of vice president for mission and ministry is a relatively new position, created in 2007 to ensure that Saint Peter’s continues to provide a full college experience in the Jesuit tradition.

“It’s a new role at the College, and everyone has said, ‘figure it out,’” Father Braden said with a laugh. “I kind of thrive on that. I like the challenge of developing something new.”

That shouldn’t be a problem for this Jesuit who has a strong track record in creating things from scratch. As a faculty member and general manager of WLOY-TV at Loyola College in Baltimore, he established that college’s first television and radio facilities and introduced new programming and coursework in digital media.

Prior to that, Father Braden spent nine years at Loyola University in New Orleans where, in addition to teaching, he directed and produced documentary films and worked with the alumni chaplain to establish Christian Living Communities among the students.

Another passion project was Provoke Radio (www.provokeradio.com), a national series of 30-minute radio programs written by the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus that covers social justice issues from the point of Catholic social teaching and spirituality. Father Braden served on the committee that established the program, and later, worked as an editor and advisor on the project. With topics ranging from the mortgage crisis to Middle Eastern relations, the powerful series is one he envisions on WSPC Radio in the near future.

“I don’t really come with a specific agenda,” said Father Braden, who holds a doctorate in international mass communications from the University of Illinois. “My philosophy of all this is that this is a service job. Part of my job the first semester or even the first year is just to get to know the community and what people’s needs are. So if I had an agenda for the first year, it’s just to find out how this job fits in here and how I can service this community.”

“We are so pleased to welcome Father Braden to the Saint Peter’s community,” said College President Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D. “In addition to a well-rounded background in university teaching and intercultural issues, he brings to his role a strong commitment to Jesuit identity and the power of Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius as the foundation of all Jesuit ministries.”

At Loyola College, Father Braden directed Ignatian Retreat Programs for faculty, staff and students and, as Saint Ignatius once suggested, adapted the Spiritual Exercises to meet the scheduling needs of various college constituencies.

“If the Jesuits offer anything distinct to society, it is Ignatius’ Spiritual Exercises,” he said. “It’s perfectly suited spirituality for busy people because it will allow you to go as deeply as you can to get into your prayer, but it will also give you the tools to gradually become what Ignatius calls, contemplative in action. Which means that basically, you become aware of God’s presence all day.”

He would also like to introduce students to a prayer called Examination of Consciousness. “Basically, it’s a 10-minute prayer, twice a day, that simply looks back over the day and takes stock. Where was God present? Where wasn’t I paying attention? And that’s what leads to reverential, contemplative action, it really does.”

The irony of being a Jesuit, savvy in the ways of new media, in an age when college students regularly communicate via instant messaging and Facebook isn’t lost on the new vice president for mission and ministry, either. Father Braden acknowledges the challenge, but he’s not about to wring his hands about it.

“The dilemma is that, of course, when you’re trying to talk about faith, you can’t do that electronically,” he said. “The only way I can convince you that a religious experience is real and worth looking at, is for you to look me in the eye and see that I’m telling you the truth. The media’s role might be to ask questions to get you thinking in those terms, but it’s not a magic bullet. Because what you need is someone saying, ‘This is my experience.’”

Father Braden amidst the bustle of Journal Square.
Last spring, four Saint Peter’s College students and one recent graduate attended the Campus Ministry Leadership Institute (CMLI), now in its 10th year, sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and held at Saint Joseph’s University in Philadelphia. For six days, participants Peaches Dela Paz ’10, Conrad Habijan ’10, Kelly Rose Lynch ’10, Director of Campus Ministry Mary Sue Callan-Farley, Deirdre Power ’09 and Milton Bravo ’07, guided by Mary Sue Callan-Farley, director of campus ministry at Saint Peter’s, met with more than 100 other students and campus ministers from around the country to discuss and explore leadership roles within the Church and the development of a strong Catholic community on campus.

The Saint Peter’s team gave a presentation on two of the six aspects of campus ministry identified in Empowered by the Spirit: Campus Ministry Faces the Future, a treatise issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. “Forming the Faith Community” and “Facilitating Personal Development,” which included a video, PowerPoint presentation and group activity. “The idea of talking about my faith in front of 300 people was daunting,” remarked Dela Paz, a junior who hails from East Windsor, N.J. “I learned how much effort it takes to lead a national conference. We had to prepare presentations, act as role models and, most importantly, work as a team and with other student leaders.”

Their hard work and dedication paid off. “The response we received was enthusiastic and engaged,” said junior and West Hartford, Conn. native Power. “I couldn’t have been happier that we’d made the information accessible and entertaining.” Power, an English major who has been performing on stage for most of her life, added, “It seemed only natural to integrate acting into our presentation. We acted out scenes from our own lives: taking on too many activities and dealing with the pressures of college. That made our presentation real — and funny — to the audience by breaking them into smaller groups for an activity. “The idea of talking about my faith in front of 300 people was daunting,” remarked Dela Paz, a junior who hails from East Windsor, N.J. “I learned how much effort it takes to lead a national conference. We had to prepare presentations, act as role models and, most importantly, work as a team and with other student leaders.”

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The Saint Peter’s participants also involved their audience by breaking them into smaller groups for an educational game. “We put headbands on everyone that read ‘Frat Boy,’ ‘Princess,’ ‘Shy Guy’ and other stereotypes,” explained Power. “We even had a few ‘Campus Ministers.’ Nobody knew what was written on his or her own headband and had to figure it out based on the others’ reactions.” The activity, she said, “helped the students and campus ministers understand, from a first-hand perspective, the isolation that stereotypes create.”

Callan-Farley complimented the Saint Peter’s team members on their achievement. “They had to work really hard,” she commented. “Our students took everything very seriously and did really well. I was very proud of the generativity with which our students served other campus ministries, and of the way they represented Saint Peter’s core values.”

In addition to giving and attending presentations, participants spent part of each day working in teams to form concrete ministry plans to implement on their campuses. “It was inspiring to see how many students from colleges around the nation — big or small, private or public — love their faith so much that they want others to become involved in their campus ministry,” said Dela Paz. “Everyone was supportive of one another. By the end of the week, students went home with a sense of belonging and accomplishment, confident in their ability to lead their peers back home.”

Power is grateful for the opportunity to explore her faith openly at school. “CMLI was a culmination of what I had been growing toward over the past three years,” she remarked. “When I came to Saint Peter’s, having the opportunity to discuss my faith openly and act as a leader for others filled a gap that I’d been feeling. Participating as a student conference leader was a great opportunity to put it all together.”

Dela Paz added that the student leaders’ experience will help them strengthen the Catholic presence and Jesuit identity on campus this fall. “I will continue to help the faith community, and I know my fellow team members will do the same,” she said. “We have all learned a great deal about campus ministry — how to get others involved and how not to get discouraged.”

Callan-Farley is confident that the student leaders she guided will meet their goals this year. “CMLI exposed them to the great imagination, passion and giftedness that exist within the Catholic Church today,” she said. “Endowed with this experience, I believe our students will work hard to celebrate our identity, build our diverse campus community and encourage prayer and creative programs on campus.”

Clockwise from top left are: Conrad Habijan ’10, Peaches Dela Paz ’10, Director of Campus Ministry Mary Sue Callan-Farley, Deirdre Power ’09 and Kelly Rose Lynch ’10.
Tony Terracciano ’60 takes on a new challenge as Sallie Mae’s Chairman of the Board. The company manages more than $169 billion in education loans and serves 10 million student and parent customers.

Tony Terracciano ’60 has never shied away from a challenge. During his 21-year career at JPMorgan Chase (then Chase Manhattan), he rose from credit officer to vice chairman, overseeing the growth of the New York-based bank’s capital markets group. In the 1980s, he began a streak of bank rescues beginning at Mellon Bank where, as president and chief operating officer, he helped restore the troubled institution to profitability. As chairman, president and CEO of First Fidelity, Terracciano engineered what many consider one of the most successful bank turnarounds in U.S. financial history. And as chairman of Dime Bancorp, Terracciano defended the bank from a hostile takeover, re-established credibility with institutional investors and eventually sold Dime to Washington Mutual. He also helped banking regulators, as chairman, stabilize the Riggs Bank in Washington, D.C.

Now the banking veteran is taking on a new challenge as chairman of the board of Sallie Mae (SLM Corp.), the nation’s leading provider of student loans. Sallie Mae tapped Terracciano to assume the role of a non-executive chairman and help revive the ailing company earlier this year after a failed $25 billion buyout and losses stemming from recent legislation that reduced subsidies to student lenders.

Terracciano seems up to the task. A key challenge, he says, is resolving the public’s misconception that Sallie Mae and mortgage lenders Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae are all in the same heap of trouble. They’re not, he insists. “People link them in their minds because they were all quasi-governmental agencies at one time, but they’re not really connected,” said Terracciano. “There were one or two areas of Sallie Mae’s business that didn’t make any sense and they’ve been stopped, but in order of magnitude, they didn’t have the type of asset quality problems the mortgage lenders are having.”

As one of the featured speakers for Saint Peter’s 37th Annual Regents Business Symposium on November 7, Terracciano will provide students, alumni and friends with the opportunity to hear more of his insights on the banking industry and the current predicament many financial institutions face in an uncertain market. Given his ability to fix troubled companies, the theme of this year’s symposium, “Leadership and Accountability in Challenging Times,” is tailor made to Terracciano’s nearly five decades of experience. “We are delighted that Mr. Terracciano will join our distinguished faculty as the keynote speaker,” said John H. Krupicus, Jr., president of Saint Peter’s College. “His achievements and insights are sure to enrich our students as well as the broader business community.”

In up markets and down, Terracciano has always stuck to a simple principle that’s served him well: Make people explain their ideas. Clearly.
Terracciano is participating in the Business Symposium,” said Jack Harari, D.B.A., the KPMG professor of business and director of graduate business programs at Saint Peter’s College. Recalling a visit to the Saint Peter’s alumni paid to a graduate business class last year as part of the Executive in Residence series, Dr. Harpton added: “Mr. Terracciano shared with M.B.A. students his philosophy of life and business. He blazed a trail, succeeded, a quest for understanding how things really work, and a belief that integrity and energy improve our lives and society.

In financial circles, presenting to something of an anomaly. After earning a bachelor’s degree in economics from Saint Peter’s, the future banker didn’t pursue a M.B.A. — he took an unconventional route and studied philosophy at Fordham University. “Part of that was purposeful and part of that was an accident,” explained the Sallie Mae chairman, who taught high school while completing a master’s degree. Although he always assumed he’d go into teaching, circumstances changed after he finished his service as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army. “When I went into the Army, I was single. When I came out, I was married with one child and a second on the way and I thought, ‘Why not?’”

The recipient of numerous awards for both reporting and poetry, Valente’s deep spirituality has guided her on a path of decision making based on what they knew at the time. Of course, the outcome is disastrous. But what you have to get at this: In what part of the outcome does quality control play a role, and what part doesn’t? If you train yourself to make quality decisions over a reasonable period of time, then you look at the parts of decisions that you’ve made — you’ll have a better than average quality than the person who doesn’t spend the time.”

In up markets and down, Terracciano has always stuck to a simple principle that’s easy to say but hard to make people explain their ideas. Clearly. “If a guy can’t explain a deal or a complex financial instrument found in 15 to 30 minutes so that I can understand what it is, I’m not going to approve it,” he said. “If you’re not willing to spend the time to analyze the nature of the risk of what you’re being asked to approve, then you shouldn’t be in the job. And in this kind of business there may be one reason the financial press dubbed Terracciano ‘Tony the Tiger,” a nickname the erudite banker says he never quite understands. “To me, it evidenced a real lack of imagination,” he noted with a laugh. “But I think it started because I tend to be maniacal about pace. To me, the most frustrating thing in the world is to know what the right thing to do is and then to do it too slowly so that you wind up failing. Very often it determines whether you’re successful or not.”

When I turned my life over to the Holy Spirit, things begin to happen,” she said. “But it has to be a surrendering. I said to the Holy Spirit, ‘This is what I think I was meant to do. Please guide me to make it happen.’”

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TERRA TERRACCIONO

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“Therese More of a Relationship Between Banking and Philosophy Than Most People Realize”

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Love poems about life

Valente is working on a short profile for PBS to mark the 40th anniversary of the death of writer and Trappist monk Thomas Merton. One piece is “Discovering Moons,” the first full length collection of her poetry published by Virtual Artists Collective of Chicago. “I’ve always felt I had something to say through poetry,” she said. “I’m following my bliss.”

Today, she and her husband, Illinois Circuit Court Judge Charles G. Reynard, who is also a poet, tour the country to present workshops on finding the sacred through poetry. They have presented at book stores, churches, retreat houses, community centers, schools and even juvenile detention centers. Their goal is to encourage people from all walks of life to use poetry as a means to slow down and uncover the erudite banker says he never quite understands. “To me, it evidenced a real lack of imagination,” he noted with a laugh. “But I think it started because I tend to be maniacal about pace. To me, the most frustrating thing in the world is to know what the right thing to do is and then to do it too slowly so that you wind up failing. Very often it determines whether you’re successful or not.”
Patrick Elliott says it feels good to be a Peacock. A senior administrator with a background in commercial finance, Elliott spent the next seven years directing facilities and operations for the Athletics Department at Seton Hall University. "I enjoyed my time in the city, but there's nothing better than the energy and enthusiasm of a college campus where you really can have an impact on young people's lives," recalled Elliott. "I took that opportunity and ran with it."

Those who have worked closely with Elliott say he has a talent for seizing the opportunity and running with it. "Pat has the ability to see the big picture, which is invaluable for an athletics department from a strategic planning standpoint," said Director of Athletics at St. John's University Chris Monasch. "He cares first and foremost about the student-athlete. His experience as an administrator and former coach, along with his concern and understanding for the experience of the student-athlete, is a great foundation for an athletics director."

"For every student athlete, team and coach, each game is a new opportunity to excel," said Vice President for Student Affairs Eileen Poiani, Ph.D., who also chaired the Athletic Director Search Committee. "Patrick Elliott exerts creative leadership to channel these opportunities into shaping competitive Division I teams, into building a fan base and into stimulating spirit for Peacock athletics."

Elliott says a major priority for the department will be a continued focus on balancing academics and competitive athletics. "Only a portion of a student-athlete's college experience happens between the lines on the playing field," he said. "Academics, developing a career, serving the community, all of these things are critical. My two biggest goals are the academic success of our students and their personal development. If we don't have those things in place, we're not living up to our potential."

Another goal is to make athletics more competitive at the College. "Right now we're completing a thorough analysis of where we are and where we need to get to," said Elliott. "I'm going to work very closely with members of the administration and board of trustees in identifying our gaps and how we're going to move ahead. Realistically, we're not going to do everything overnight, but the thought is to have a multi-year plan in place that gets us moving forward."

Despite knowing all the challenges a NCAA Division I program faces in the urban area, Elliott can't help but see the opportunities. "New York City is right down the street and we need to continue to build on that," he said. "We're recruiting nationally, we're bringing students in nationally. What we'd like to do is get out and have more people see us, reinforce that message and continue to build the brand of Saint Peter's College athletics."

"The thought is to have a multi-year plan in place that gets us moving forward." - Patrick Elliott, Director of Athletics

Six years ago, the NCAA granted official recognition to women's collegiate bowling teams, and already, the ladies of Saint Peter's College, competing in Division I, are ranked 17th in the nation. "I am really proud of our team," said Head Coach Bud Whitman, now entering his third year as bowling coach at Saint Peter's. "These young women work hard. They come here willing to listen and learn, and they are very determined and feisty — that's what I love about them."

Senior captain Maggie King '09, a double major in mathematics and psychology from Upper Darby, Pa., commented, "The most rewarding part of competing on the team has been watching our program grow. I am really excited about the upcoming year." Kristin Thompson '10, an elementary education major and the team's junior captain, who hails from Old Bridge, N.J., added, "Our team's combination of athletic ability and spirit is what makes us successful."

In 2008-09, the Saint Peter's team will expand from seven members to eight members, including Stacy Parsons of Delran, N.J., the state's top-ranked high school singles bowler this year. "I am extremely excited," remarked Whitman. "I think this will be our best season ever because of these talented and dedicated women." King also anticipates a triumphant year. "With our strong returning athletes and talented recruits, I think we will be able to move up in the national ranking and bring home more wins." Bowling is gaining momentum as a legitimate college sport, with varsity teams in 19 states. "We are in the grow stage. We’re working on some issues with the NCAA, but being a part of it is working out extremely well," said Whitman. "When all is said and done, the game is still the game." King, a three-year veteran of the team, remarked that bowling at Saint Peter's has meant a great deal to her over the years. "My proudest moment on the team was when we placed second at the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference championship in 2007," she said. "We bowled together as a team and came from behind to finish second." She added that she "would strongly encourage a senior bowler in high school to consider Saint Peter's. The team has been steadily growing in strength, and I'm sure there are many more victories in store."

Thompson also counts the team's second-place win at the ECAC championship among her proudest moments. "The experience of bowling for Saint Peter's has already been more than I could ask for," she commented. "Coach Whitman is a great teacher who makes everyone's game better. I am so lucky to be involved with a talented team at a school that I love."
Shortly after graduating from Saint Peter’s last spring, 22-year-old baseball player Santo Maertz traded his Peacock uniform for a Redbirds cap and jersey. Maertz, a right-handed pitcher who played for Saint Peter’s for four years, was drafted in the 44th round of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft in June. He began his professional career in Tennessee with the Johnson City Cardinals, an A-level minor league team affiliated with the Saint Louis Cardinals. “This is a very exciting time in my life,” said Maertz, a native of Clark, N.J. “I am especially looking forward to spring training with the major league players.”

“Santo is very talented — strong, with a great throwing arm, and a very good hitter,” commented Derek England, head baseball coach at Saint Peter’s, of the 6’2”, 215-pound pitcher, whose specialty pitch is the fastball. “When he was a freshman,” England remembered, “he was talented, but a little shy and quiet. He opened up during his sophomore year, and by junior year, he was one of the most popular guys on the team. As a senior, Santo was very much a team leader.”

“Going to Saint Peter’s really helped me, not just with baseball, but with life,” said Maertz. “Derek is a teacher to everyone on the team and he provides a good perspective on the game. Playing for him helped me to become a good pitcher. I also loved my professors and I made great friends at college.” While he’s thrilled to be living his childhood dream, Maertz, who finished his first season in professional baseball with a 4-0 record and an ERA of 3.15, added that his future goals also include “returning to Saint Peter’s for a graduate degree in business.”

COMING SOON

JAROSCHAK FIELD GETS A MAKEOVER

When Peacock and Peahen teams resumed practices this fall, they discovered a significant improvement to Joseph J. Jaroschak Field: permanent outfield fencing installed around the athletic facility that now separates the baseball, softball and soccer fields, giving each team a more defined area to play. Head Women’s Soccer Coach Shawn Tarquino said that the new fencing is a welcome addition, providing each sport its own identity and field.

“A lot of what catches potential student-athletes’ eyes are the facilities,” explained Tarquino. “At Jaroschak Field is proportioned to our needs, it becomes a better facility to operate the team in-season, out-of-season and share with potential student-athletes.”

Located in Lincoln Park, Jaroschak Field has served the College’s soccer, baseball and softball programs for the last 18 years. It is also used by local high schools and recreation programs. Funds raised from the Annual Golf Outing, sponsored by the department of athletics, made the improvements possible.

According to recently retired Director of Athletics Bill Stein, a new field house for Jaroschak Field is in the planning stages. Plans for the new facility include locker rooms, a training area and storage for the teams that practice and host games at the field. “These are all good improvements to help us and the program at Saint Peter’s,” said Stein.

FROM PEACOCK BLUE TO CARDINAL RED

Santo Maertz ‘08 at bat for Saint Peter’s in 2008 (above) and on the mound for the Johnson City Cardinals (left).
1940
Arthur Monteverde and his wife, Jean, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. Monteverde also celebrated his 90th birthday recently. He retired from teaching in 1980 and now lives in Palm Coast, Fla.

1948
Edward J. Grant, former editor of the Catholic Advocate, completed the New Jersey Track and Field Computing Guide.

1950s
1955
Joseph A. Kelly, M.D., was recently published in George’s Medicine Magazine. The article, “Operation Deep Freeze,” recounts his adventures as a physician in Antarctica in 1960-61 with the U.S. Navy.

1956
Walter F. Searrett, Jr., was recently awarded a Certificate of Recognition for his Cold War service in West Germany from 1957 to 1960.

1957
At the invitation of the Free University of Berlin, Ronald W. Tobin, Ph.D., gave a lecture on French literature to inaugurate the new French center at the University of Berlin. He remained in Berlin for the opening of the new American Embassy at the Brandenburg Gate on July 4.

1960
Ted Dachowski’s wife, Barbara, has been designated a “Master Patina” by the Patina Society of America. Her work has been shown in many exhibitions, for example, the Butler Institute of Art, the National Arts Club, The Salamanca Club, the Philadelphia Watercolor Club, The Polish Consulate in New York and The Renee Fonssan Gallery.

1963
Andy George and wife, Kathleen, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary, in the company of their four daughters, two sons-in-law and two grandchildren.

1965
Walt Jankowski and his wife, Maryanne, flew to Prague for a wedding anniversary on June 21. While there, they visited Saint Clementine’s Church, where the Jesuits have been for hundreds of years. Walt said “I could not help but think of Saint Peter’s and the wonderful men who dedicated their lives to trying to educate us.”

1966
Gene Kray has discovered the way to eliminate all the tensions of a career in academia: cruising — on boats, that is. He and his wife have now done 50 cruises and counting.

1969
Michael J. Morose completed 36 years of teaching in New Jersey at Passaic H.B., Emerson and New Brunswick High Schools. He was also the recipient of the Ten Year Award from the Hudson County Track Coaches Association.

1970

1975
James E. McKearney, Jr. and his wife, Mary, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 21. McKearney also attended his 50th college reunion earlier that month and caught up with several classmates and friends.

1980
After a wonderful vacation in Lake Tahoe, Don Nowacki is back to his existence volunteering as a member of the Board of Catholic Charities and the Sonoma Task Force for the Homeless.

1985
James E. McKearney, Jr. and his wife, Mary, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 21. McKearney also attended his 50th college reunion earlier that month and caught up with several classmates and friends.

1990
Lt. Martin J. Higgins ’39 (far left) shortly after commanding the Last Battalion in October 1944.

Higgins was sent to a POW camp in Poland and then forced on a 350-mile winter death march in subzero temperatures. Six weeks after arriving at Stalag 8A in Germany, Higgins and several POWs escaped and reached American lines.

Like many members of the Greatest Generation, Higgins returned to civilian life with little fanfare. “He rarely spoke about being a POW,” recalls his son, who ultimately learned the details of his father’s service through military papers and the Battalion journal. Higgins shared near the end of his life, “He wouldn’t do it for his father.”

Higgins passed away at 91 in February 2007. He was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.
1970s

1971
Ellen Lemos Spaldie, Ph.D., was the recipient of the 2008 Steven J. Rosen Mentor Award from the New Jersey College English Association. Spaldie is assistant professor of English and director of writing at the Metropolitan Campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University. She is also a professor of philosophy (and alumna of Argos Eyes). She recently appeared in New York City in The Hand That Froze You, a new play by Greg Turner, and directed a new play by Greg Turner, and City in Fairleigh Dickinson University. Director of Writing at the English Association. Spaldie is from the New Jersey College.

Steven J. Rosen Mentor Award was the recipient of the 2008 Ellen Lanese Spaldio, Ph.D., 1971 of 1958 Clockwise from top: Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D., and AnnMarie Cornacchia hosted a President's Reception at Guarini House for alumni; two members of the Class of 2011, Bill Briggs and Tom Carey, and their wives Carolyne and Mary Jane at the Reunion BBQ; Linda Garrison and family members represented the late Thomas J. Gumina `58 at the 50th anniversary reunion. Next page: the Reunion BBQ was a real family affair with children of alumni of all ages.

1973
Vincent L. D’Elia was named president and chief executive officer of Family and Children’s Services.

1974
William M. Eisenhofer, most recent video project was Beyond Beijing, a four-part documentary series keyed to the 2008 Olympics seen in 39 countries by an estimated audience of 250 million viewers.

1975
The contract of Commissioner Robert B. Ensor of the Metro Atlanta Athletic Conference (MAAC) has been extended through June 30, 2011. Ensor, who has held the post since 1988, has been instrumental in the conference’s expansion in the last 20 years. During his tenure, the MAAC has nearly doubled its number of sponsored sports, from 13 to 25.

1976
Virginia C. Buczakowski was elected to a one-year term as president of the Hudson chapter of the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants (NJCPA). Buczakowski, a sole practitioner in Bayonne, joined the New Jersey Society of CPAs in 1992. In the Hudson chapter, she has served as vice president and treasurer.

1977
Peter L. DeSciscio, D.M.D., serves on the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry and was elected president in 2007-2008. He also has a faculty appointment as clinical associate professor at UMDNJ-New Jersey Dental School in the department of restorative dentistry: Dr. DeSciscio proudly celebrated the 20th anniversary of his dental practice, which is located in the historic waterfront section of Perth Amboy, N.J.

1978
Louis Stancampiano was named vice president of The Jersey Journal. He has also served as vice president of Advertising for The Record of Bergen County, Morning Call in Allentown, Pa., and, most recently, the Orlando Sentinel.

1980s

1981
Louis Michael P. Londrigan was named chairperson of the merchandising department of LIM - The College for the Business of Fashion. Most recently, he was a full-time instructor in the fashion merchandising department at Berkley College and an adjunct professor in Westchester Community College’s business department.

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1986
Donna M. Graziano received a master’s degree from Mercy College in Childhood Education with additional certification in special education. She graduated with distinction, maintaining a 4.0 GPA and is a member of Phi Delta Kappa.

1990s

1994
Mark Smith announced his candidacy for mayor of Bayonne.

1996
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1998
Frederick D. Johnson, Ed.D., was recently awarded a doctorate degree from Rowan University in Glassboro, N.J.

2000s

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2007
Curt J. Philipczak was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants (NJCPA). Philipczak was also appointed secretary of NJ CPA Political Action Committee (NJ CPA-PAC).

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In Memoriam

Shields ’75

Clockwise from top: Rosemary Servidio, director of Alumni Relations (left) and (right) Carmelo Galasso ’79, president of the Alumni Association; (left to right) Joan Shields ’75, Ana Grano, director of Advancement and Planned Giving, Carmelo Galasso ’79, and Ann Marie Gillispie ’84, Saint Peter’s alumni rep for the St. Yankees.

Three alumni turned out to see the Staten Island Yankees take on the Vermont Lake Monsters on August 17 during an SPC Family Baseball Game at Richmond County Bank Park.

The afternoon didn’t disappoint; the Baby Bombers completed a three-game sweep of the Lake Monsters with a 2–1 win.

The SI Yankees are members of the New York–Penn League, a Class A minor league. Besides the Yankees, another SPC Family entity, the Ocean County Fire Department, sponsored a fire truck that roamed throughout the stadium.

For information about activities planned to celebrate the 75 years of excellence in journalism at Saint Peter’s College, visit www.spc.edu/pauwwow or email pauwwow@spc.edu.

How to save a life

Michael Garvey ’08 rescues four swimmers in distress

It was a perilous summer for rip currents on the Jersey Shore. Fortunately for four swimmers caught in a rip tide off Seaside Park on June 10, Michael Garvey ’08 was nearby.

A Seaside Park seasonal patrol officer, Garvey was investigating a traffic dispute that evening when a woman ran up the beach and said that four swimmers were in trouble.

In a flash, Garvey grabbed the rescue torpédos (floats) from his patrol car and dove in to help the two men and two women, who were caught in a rip tide.

As one of the men swam to shore, Garvey swam out to the women and told them to hold onto the torpédos. With the remaining man beginning to panic and swallow water, Garvey called for him to relax and swim over.

To Garvey’s relief, an off-duty lifeguard who was on school in Florida swam out to help. A scuba team in its rescue boat was also not far behind. Together, they loaded the swimmers into the boat and brought them to safety.

A Toms River native who now resides in Seaside Park, Garvey received a commendation from the town in August for his quick action and unflinching bravery. He credits two Saint Peter’s professors for supporting his studies in Criminal Justice at the College and his attendance at the Ocean County Police Academy. Garvey logged 800 hours of instruction, 14 credits and real-life experience attending the academy.

“I can’t thank them enough for that opportunity,” Garvey said of Dr. Hank J. Brightman, then-chairperson of the criminal justice program, and Professor Raymond R. Rainville.

The two professors speak with pride of their former student. Professor Rainville, who recently took the reins of the department from Dr. Brightman, called Garvey “a special young man.” Dr. Brightman said his former student is “a true example of Saint Peter’s developing men and women for others.”

The young officer, who was vice president of the Delta Alpha Chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society last year, is pursuing a master’s of Public Administration with a criminal justice option at Kean University.

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How to save a life

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I’ve found a tremendous ENERGY in newsrooms. They serve a CRITICAL MISSION in that they’re the ONLY SOURCE OF LOCAL NEWS in many areas...

That changed after I finished my business degree from Saint Peter’s in 1975. Like many of the College’s graduates at the time, I was going into New York for job interviews, but decided the city wasn’t where I wanted to be. So I went the other way and moved to South Jersey — where it was much quieter, rural even — and worked for the Press of Atlantic City selling advertising. It was my first job out of college and I’ve been in the newspaper business ever since.

There’s a lot of freedom if you’re on the business side of newspapers. You can be creative in terms of advertising. It was my first job out of college and I’ve been in the newspaper business ever since.

That was the reality for me and for a lot of us.

Louis Stancampiano ’75 became vice president of The Jersey Journal in August. Prior to that he was vice president of advertising at the Orlando Sentinel. He resides in Springfield, N.J., with his wife, JoAnne.
I’M INVESTED

“Because I was a scholarship recipient, I feel indebted to the alumni and donors who gave me my opportunity. In that same spirit, I want to ensure the next generation has the chance to attend and enrich Saint Peter’s.”

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