



LA ROCHE

MAGAZINE • SUMMER 2009



ATHLETICS:

Players Reaching Goals,
On and Off the Playing Field



From the President



Just as it has for many organizations and individuals, the current economic situation has placed added pressures on the College and on many of those we serve. But since its founding, La Roche College has demonstrated its ability to maintain the quality and accessibility of the education that we provide, no matter what challenges come our way. That continues to be the case, and even in the face of the current economic climate, we have made some major accomplishments in the past year. Foremost among them has been the consolidation of all of the College's operations on the east campus, creating new and improved facilities for many of our academic programs in the process, including totally renovated and modernized facilities for our signature programs in graphic and interior design.

And there are more improvements to our facilities still to come. We have successfully completed a campaign that raised \$1.4 million for the renovation of the John J. Wright Library. I am grateful to all of you who helped support this effort. The library renovation project began as an assignment for a class of our own interior design students, who took into consideration how contemporary students learn. Incorporating input from fellow students, the interior design students recommended that the library be refashioned to support team-learning, oral presentations and practice, interactive media, and a less-formal coffee house. With the successful completion of the fund raising effort, the students' vision can now become a reality, and the College is on its way to once again having a state-of-the-art library, which was the case 40 years ago when the Wright library was originally constructed.

The library renovation is also an indication of the changing ways in which students learn and the growing role that technology plays in the delivery of educational programs. In the past several years, our online course offerings have grown from a handful in a few programs to 75 courses being offered by 17 academic departments. Students from all programs and in all age groups benefit from online offerings. The convenience which they offer provides students with the flexibility to meet their scheduling demands, which often involve juggling work, family, student clubs, and participation in one of our 11 NCAA Division III varsity athletic programs, which, as you will read later in the magazine, play an important role at La Roche.

As a Division III program, we do not provide any athletic scholarships, so our student athletes participate because of their love for the sport. Many of them are extremely gifted athletes, but the focus of the student/athlete relationship here at La Roche remains firmly on the student side, and in many cases, their athletic accomplishments are eclipsed by their academic achievements. Along the way, they learn valuable lessons about teamwork and cooperation that will serve them well throughout their lives. And the enthusiasm and spirit of our student athletes are infectious, creating a vibrancy that is felt and enjoyed by the entire La Roche community.

I think it is fair to say that our student athletes exhibit the same dedication and determination that are the hallmark of La Roche College. As we face the challenges of today's economic climate, and whatever new challenges may come our way as we move towards the College's 50th anniversary in 2013, I can assure you that the same commitment and determination that have characterized the College throughout its history are still to be found here today.

Sister Candace Introcaso

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La Roche College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, founded and sponsored by the Congregation of the Sisters of Divine Providence, fosters global citizenship and creates a community of scholars from the region, the nation and around the world. The College integrates liberal arts and professional education in creative ways, empowering all members of our community to become lifelong learners, achieve success in their chosen careers and promote justice and peace in a constantly changing global society. La Roche College Magazine tells some of the College's many stories and provides a forum for discussion about issues of the day on which La Roche people are making an impact. La Roche College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, age, sex, place of origin or status as a veteran. La Roche College Magazine is published by the Office of Public Relations.



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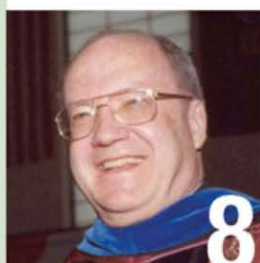
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Students Volunteer in Louisiana During Spring Break

by Colleen Pelc

While many college students were packing their bags for spring break and hitting the beach in early March, some students from La Roche College were instead packing their bags with work clothes and heading to Louisiana to help the less fortunate.

Twenty-three La Roche students, along with La Roche faculty and staff, joined members of the North Park Evangelical Presbyterian Church of McCandless Township for this year's Alternative Spring Break, where everyone helped do his part in cleaning up and rebuilding areas that were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

La Roche students who participated in the Alternative Spring Break are:

Margaret Blank
Leah Bloise
Stephanie Bass
Meghan Carey
Kateri Condor
Chris DeCrane
Emileigh Geibel
Ashley Hairston
Joseph Harakal
Joshua Litvik
Kaitlin Lusty
Jessica Miglioretti
Jibran Mushtaq
Gopal Nepali
Caity O'Connor
Henry Pinnix
Jonathan Plut
Korina Roche
Hillary Sandzimier
Dalila Scott
Gretchen Speicher
Nadia Subnaik
Amanda Trocki



Alumnus Ronald Radwanski Donates Work of Art to Gala

by Pamela Wigley

Accomplished artist and gallery owner Ronald Radwanski didn't know Sister Candace Introcaso, CDP, Ph.D., when he was a student here. When he graduated in 1977 with his bachelor's degree in art and design, Sister Candace was not yet the president of La Roche. But when they met just a year ago, Ron and Sister Candace developed an instant bond, and he has made two beautiful additions to the College's art collection since then.

In March 2008, Ron donated the first, titled "The Madonna." It hangs in the President's Dining Room at La Roche and is a contemporary piece that Ron fashioned in memory of his parents, Joseph and Ann, and in honor of his La Roche classmates. This March, almost one year to the day, he donated a colorful creation titled "Candace" to the La Roche College Founders Gala. It raised \$2,500 at the March 28 event. He said his inspiration was Sister Candace, who accepted the painting from the generous anonymous donor who purchased it for the College at the Gala.

Ron continued to give back to La Roche when he visited with Graphic & Communication Design and Interior Design students on Monday, March 30, in the Ryan Room. He highlighted his work as an artist and discussed his art career with students, many of whom hope to follow a similar career path. Faculty, staff and alumni also attended the lecture. One attendee was Ron's La Roche roommate, Mark Baldauf ('79, Administration Management and Design), who now owns and operates the Catalyst Advertising agency in Pittsburgh.



Ron Radwanski and Sister Candace Introcaso

Although his works are represented in fine galleries in the United States and various corporate and commissioned venues in Germany, England, Mexico and the Grand Cayman Islands, Ron says he will always be proud of his Aliquippa, Pa., roots. Likewise, he is proud of his La Roche degree.

"I left here prepared to build my career," he said. "It has been a great ride so far, but I appreciate my Pittsburgh roots. It's always good to come back and visit."

Visit Ron's website at www.ronradwanski.com



Alumni Association Announces New Endowed Scholarship

by Colleen Pelc

As scholarships and scholarship money become increasingly important to students preparing to enter college, La Roche College is pleased to announce its latest scholarship: the Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship.

Established by the Alumni Association Board in 2009 to benefit children, stepchildren and grandchildren of alumni, numerous alumni from all majors have given generously to make this endowed scholarship possible.

"The purpose of the Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship is to provide one scholarship each academic year to a full- or part-time incoming student in the undergraduate or graduate program at La Roche," said Rose Woolley, director of Alumni Affairs.

Criteria for the Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship are:

- Applicant must be a child (natural born or legally adopted), stepchild or grandchild of an alumnus
- Applicant must be a full-time or part-time (at least six credit hours) incoming student for either the undergraduate or graduate program
- Applicant must demonstrate academic merit (minimum 3.0 GPA)
- Applicant must be a U.S. citizen
- Applicant must complete the scholarship application form and include all documentation required by the application.

Interested students can find out more information and access the application by logging onto www.laroche.edu and choosing the "LRC Scholarships and Awards" link, under the Prospective Students tab.

De la Salle Society Recognizes Faithful Donors

by Pamela Wigley

This spring, the La Roche College Development Department created a new giving society to recognize faithful donors who have given every year for at least the last five years at any level of giving. All members will receive a commemorative lapel pin and will be invited to attend a special recognition gathering on campus later this year.

Through their dedication and commitment, these special donors have helped La Roche to provide a multitude of benefits to students, faculty, staff and the community who use our facilities. Two of the De la Salle Society members expressed why they are committed to the College and its programs.

David M. Rankin

David is a 1983 graduate of La Roche who earned his bachelor's degree in graphic arts. At the time he was at La Roche, David chose that course of study because it provided education and training in the area of printing management. The Natrona Heights, Pa., resident found the degree to be helpful in his career; he has worked in the printing industry for nearly 30 years, the last nine of which have been at Geyer Printing in Pittsburgh.

A commuter student during his La Roche days, David became a Wright Library volunteer to help pass the time between classes (he was sometimes on campus from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.), and he worked closely with Sister Georgine Sieber, CDP, there. He said he was inspired by Harvey Levinson of the Graphic Arts Department, who David considered to be a tremendous teacher. Levinson now chairs the Graphic Communications Department at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, Calif.



"I donate because I value my education from La Roche," said David, who has supported the College through general fund contributions since 1985. "I had a great experience there, and I feel blessed to have been there and for all that I've received through my education."

Carol Leet

Allison Park, Pa., resident Carol Leet has been a La Roche College donor since 2001. She has served as a member of the Board of Regents at La Roche and is a retiree of PNC Bank Consumer Lending Division. While there, Carol took advantage of PNC's Matching Gifts Program when she made her donations to La Roche, and that provided the College double the funding. She encourages people to see if their company or organization matches gifts, because it's a great way to provide extra funding to organizations.

Carol and her husband, Ken, became acquainted with La Roche through their relationship with former president Monsignor William Kerr, whom they met while attending mass on campus. She said they loved the "small community feeling of mass at Magdalen Chapel." They became involved in annual scholarship dinners; Carol chaired one and enjoyed the experience immensely. Still attendees of mass on campus, the Leets are members of the President's Circle at La Roche. They enjoy supporting a cause that's near to their hearts.

"We give to La Roche College because we became familiar with the good things that the College was doing in the community," Carol said. "We wanted to do something to help."



Faculty & Staff News

by Colleen Pelc

Professor Featured in Article by Guatemala City Journalist

Because of his expertise in the areas of history and religion, La Roche College Professor Edward Brett, Ph.D., was recently interviewed for an article by Ezra Fieser, a journalist working in Guatemala City for the Catholic News Service.

The article looked at the current role of the church in Central America and how the church's role in politics today compared to that of the 1980s. Fieser sought out Dr. Brett because of a book he authored about this particular topic and because he also recently returned from the region where he went on a fact-finding mission.



PHOTO: COLLEEN PELC

Faculty Members Contribute to Encyclopedia

PHOTO: COLLEEN PELC



Left to right: Ed Brett, Kunal Chattopadhyay, Paul LeBlanc, Richard Goff and Jean-Jacques Sene.

La Roche College on April 2 proudly hosted several authors and an editor of the recently released eight-volume edition of the *International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest* at a reception and informal discussion about their entries.

In attendance were Edward Brett, Ph.D., author and La Roche professor of history; Kunal Chattopadhyay, author, professor of history at Jadavpur University in Calcutta, and guest lecturer at La Roche; Paul LeBlanc, Ph.D., editor, author, professor of history and dean of the School of Arts & Sciences at La Roche; Richard Goff, author and field organizer for the Service Employees International Union; Jean-Jacques Sene, author and assistant professor of history, cultural and conflict studies at Chatham University; and Patricia De Marco, author and executive director of the Rachel Carson Homestead.

Lucille Adkins, author, registrar at Community College of Allegheny County and adjunct faculty for women's studies at La Roche, also contributed to the encyclopedia, but was not in attendance at the reception.

Graphic Design Professor's Artwork Part of Unique Exhibit

For nearly four months, Graphic & Communication Design Professor Lauren Lampe was one of 250 artists who had her work on display in a unique Pittsburgh exhibit.

"In the Making: 250 Years/250 Artists" was a visual art exhibit celebrating Pittsburgh's 250th anniversary with artwork by 250 area artists. It was on display at the Fe Arts Gallery in Lawrenceville from September through January.

Lampe's work titled "Nature/Nurture," a mixed media with silver, pearls and murrini glass, was chosen to be in the show. Five jurors selected work from more than 350 submissions from local artists across all 14 counties to be in the show. According to Lampe, the piece is about adoption and what we give to children vs. what they come with genetically.

"I felt honored to be included in such a well-planned and executed show showcasing such a wealth of talented artists from western Pennsylvania," Lampe said.



PHOTO: JAC EVANS

La Roche Adjunct Professor Named President of Associated Artists of Pittsburgh

Since 1977, La Roche Adjunct Professor Kitty Spangler has been a member of the Associated Artists of Pittsburgh (AAP) and now as the prestigious organization enters its 100th anniversary in 2010, Spangler has taken on the role as the organization's president.

"As president, I am learning so much more than I thought I knew," Spangler said. "Having been very active in the art world for a very long time, helping to build and run an organization like this is quite fulfilling."

According to Spangler, the organization started out in an opera house downtown with an exhibition in March 1910. The very next year, after building a relationship with the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, their annual exhibition was



moved to the Heinz Galleries, and their exhibits have been taking place there ever since.

The AAP today consists of almost 450 artist members who live within a 150-mile radius of Pittsburgh and who work in a variety of different media.

In anticipation of the organization's 100th anniversary, Spangler said that preparations to make the celebration a memorable one have already begun.

"We started planning for our many, many events over a year ago. The AAP is taking over Pittsburgh in celebration of our 100 years of continuous visual arts," she said.

Spangler is looking forward to leading the AAP into their anniversary year and believes that her experiences will only help her to become a better instructor.

"As an educator, I find many ways to engage my students in the visual arts. I try to get them out to see and do a variety of experiences and to grasp the many ways in which Pittsburgh is available to them," Spangler said.

"I bring art – my own and others' – into the classroom to show my students so they will know they have exposure to a working artist. I was always more interested in my professors who were actively involved in making art, not just talking about it. And so I often do the same work they are doing in class so they can see an instructor who actually makes and shows her art work," she added.

Bridging the Educational Gap between the U.S. and Iraq

In a continuing effort to reach prospective students not only in the United States, but also across the world, Director of Admissions Dave McFarland spent a few days in January 2009 in Iraq in conjunction with the Iraqi Education Initiative (IEI).



For more than 30 years, Iraqi students were limited as to which college or university they could attend. But beginning in fall 2009 – through the Iraqi Education Initiative (IEI) – developed by the Deputy Prime Minister Barham Salih, Ph.D., and Director of the Education Initiative Zuhair Humadi, Ph.D., more than 10,000 Iraqi students each year will be attending U.S. colleges and universities.

When the opportunity was presented to McFarland to attend a "college-fair" type of event, he jumped at the opportunity to represent La Roche and possibly garner some new students in the process. Of the 400 colleges and universities that were invited, only 22 attended the event.

"I saw this as an opportunity to gain some really good students. Iraq is producing some scholarly students, but they have not had the opportunity to experience other cultures," McFarland said.

Through the initiative, Iraqi students will determine what schools fit their interests. Students then may apply online, and a committee at the national level will match each student with the appropriate college or university in the United States or United Kingdom. An Iraqi scholarship program will allow the students to attend college.

According to McFarland, the first round of 400 IEI students are expected to come to the United States this fall, and he anticipates that La Roche will gain approximately 12 to 15 students from this first group.

McFarland, whose military background came in handy as he traveled into Iraq and navigated the country, said that he would go back again for future student recruiting.

"I'm very glad I went. I was able to see how Iraq is progressing and how they are interested in improving. I believe in education; it's very important – not only to students here, but around the world. Having been a former Army officer, I see this as a continuation of service for me, and it's also opening up opportunities for the College."



English Professor Selected to Participate in NEH Summer Institute in Arizona

Josh Bellin, Ph.D., associate professor, English Department, was selected to participate in "A Fierce Green Fire at 100: Aldo Leopold and the Roots of Environmental Ethics," funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Dr. Bellin is one of only 25 scholars selected to participate in the summer institute, which is sponsored by the Arizona State University Institute for Humanities Research. He will be in Prescott, Ariz., from June 22 to July 17.

"Personally, I am thrilled to have been chosen," Dr. Bellin said. "It's also going to be beneficial to [La Roche] from a teaching perspective, as the focus of the institute is on developing curricular materials relating to the environmental writer Aldo Leopold and environmental studies more generally."

More information on the summer institute may be found at <http://ihr.asu.edu/leopold/>



Massaro Family Honored at Successful Founders Gala

by Colleen Pelc • Photos by James Knox



On March 28, La Roche proudly hosted its fourth successful Founders Gala at the Westin Convention Center Hotel Ballroom in Pittsburgh, where more than 300 people were in attendance.

The Massaro Family was chosen as this year's recipient of the 2009 Ad Lucem Award, the award in which honorees are recognized because their vision, leadership and determination have transformed their dreams into reality. La Roche College President Sister Candace Introcaso, CDP, Ph.D., presented the Massaros with the award on behalf of La Roche College and its Board of Trustees.

Joe and Carol Massaro, both Pittsburgh natives, raised their family here and built a successful construction and real estate company. Along with their four children, David, Joe, Linda and Steven, the Massaros are known for their service to and support for the community. The family members volunteer with numerous Pittsburgh organizations; several hold board memberships for those organizations, as well. Steven will serve as the vice chair of the La Roche College Board of Trustees for the 2009-2010 academic year.

This year's Founders Gala was hosted by Honorary Chairs Ralph and Ruth Anne Papa. The gala netted \$95,000 in proceeds, all of which benefit the President's Fund for Excellence, which funds scholarships, academic programs and much more for deserving students.

1. The Massaro family was honored with the 2009 Ad Lucem Award. From left to right: David, Carol, Joe, Linda and Steven.

2. Barbara and Richard Kotarba with Sister Candace Introcaso.

3. It was a family affair as some of the Massaro children took to the dance floor following the awards ceremony.

4. La Roche student body representatives attended the gala and assisted with various duties during the evening.

5. Sister Candace Introcaso, Board Chair Kathy Kozdemba, Carol and Joe Massaro (holding the Ad Lucem Award), and Honorary Chairs Ruth Anne and Ralph Papa.



College President Contributes to Book on Women in Higher Ed

by Pam Wigley

The title of the introductory chapter within a textbook on women leaders in higher education says it all in one simple phrase – “Quiet Inspiration and Hard Work: The Impact of Women Administrators.” The authors, Jana Nidiffer and Carolyn Terry Bashaw, fill not only that chapter but also an entire book on the effects women administrators have had throughout history as they have taken leadership roles within some of the nation’s higher education institutions. Spurred by comments from a male student in her History of Higher Education Course, Nidiffer created a book titled *Women Administrators in Higher Education: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives*. Its insightful commentary through firsthand accounts provides a look at how women have moved from taking “crumbs from the boy’s table” (a chapter title) to leading a new generation of students who have benefitted from the female perspective.

La Roche College President Sister Candace Introcaso, CDP, Ph.D., was one of 11 women to contribute a chapter to the book. In “Determination in Leadership: Pioneering Roman Catholic Women Presidents,” Sister Candace writes about the women religious who have served as role models in higher education.

“It’s critical to include the sister presidents when you are looking at history,” Sister Candace noted. “Trinity College in Washington, D.C., was the first college founded by women religious, and it was a monumental event that set an example.”

In her chapter, Sister Candace provides an overview of the challenges faced by colleges founded and/or run by women. After seeing a posting requesting authors for the project, she wrote the commentary while serving as assistant vice president for academic affairs at Heritage College, located on the Yakima Indian Reservation in Toppenish, Wash. Having earned her master’s degree in sociology from Fordham University, Sister Candace was teaching when she realized that she enjoyed the administrative side of higher education. She then chose to continue her education, receiving her doctorate in higher education administration from The Claremont Graduate University. She joined the ranks of the women presidents about which she wrote when she became president of La Roche in 2004 following a stint as vice president for planning and assessment at Barry University in Miami Shores, Fla.

“I don’t look at this as a job,” Sister Candace said. “I look at it as my ministry. I believe women religious bring something to higher education that no one else does. Perhaps it’s in reaching out to the underserved, and doing so with a foundation of faith, but it’s definitely different.

“These women do what they are called to do with little fanfare, but they quietly and consistently provide an education for people who may not get it anywhere else. And that’s what’s inspiring to me.”

Women Administrators in Higher Education: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives, was distributed by State University of New York Press. For more information, visit www.sunypress.edu.

Students Create Unique Artwork for Guest Speaker

by Colleen Pelc



(From left to right) Cari David, Jackie Sipos, Melanie Highberger, Suzanne Tick, Hillary Steger, Therese Nuttall, and Kelsey Landis.

Interior Design students got to the “point” last fall when they made a unique piece of artwork for the 2008 Design Dialogue speaker, Suzanne Tick, of New York-based Suzanne Tick, Inc.

“Freshmores” (second year students in a five-year program) Therese Nuttall, Kelsey Landis, Melanie Highberger, Hillary Steger, Cari David and Jackie Sipos spent countless hours creating a pointillist-style photo of Tick, that they then presented to her while she was visiting campus for the annual Design Dialogue event in October.

The La Roche College Interior Design Advisory Board (IDAB) annually brings a nationally known design professional to Pittsburgh as part of its Design Dialogue Series, an event in which the designer delivers a presentation to the public and also spends time with the students in the Interior Design program. This year, more than 170 people were in attendance at the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh to hear Tick’s presentation titled, “Revolution Reality – Paralleling the Design Revolution of the Sixties with Today.”

To create the artwork, the students first enlarged a black and white photo of Tick to a poster size. Then using colored paper and a standard paper punch, they created more than 20,000 small colored dots. Lastly, they glued the dots onto the photo to create the image.

The artwork was on display in the Ryan Room during Tick’s student presentation, and also at the Carnegie Science Center during the public event.



Monsignor William A. Kerr La Roche College President 1992-2004



PHOTO: GREG BLACKMAN

In May, the La Roche College community mourned the loss of Monsignor William A. Kerr, who served as La Roche's president from 1992 until 2004, when he left the College to become director of the Pope John Paul II Center in Washington, D.C. Monsignor was beloved not only by those in the North Hills community who worked with him at the College or in the community, but also by those across the nation and around the world who knew him for his generosity and his work on behalf of the underserved.

Monsignor Kerr's tenure as president was marked by a period of academic development for the College. Examples of significant growth and progress in the academic area under his leadership include a 50 percent increase in the number of full-time faculty; the establishment of six new academic majors – computer science, criminal justice, facility management, information technology, marketing and real estate; the development of associate degree programs in radiologic technology and nursing; the establishment of an endowed professorship in religious studies; the establishment of affiliation programs with the University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University; and a study abroad program with the American University of Rome.

The campus saw an expansion of its physical facilities during Monsignor Kerr's tenure, including the completion of the 1,200-seat Kerr Fitness & Sports Center and the refurbishment of the athletic fields; the construction of new residence halls; and construction of a new classroom building with state-of-the-art "smart classroom" technology, new computer labs, and faculty offices.

One of the most notable aspects of Monsignor Kerr's presidency was the Pacem In Terris program. Taking to heart Pope John the 23rd's admonition to establish new relationships in human society between individual citizens and the world community as a way to bring about world peace, Monsignor Kerr established the Pacem In Terris program in 1993.

The program provided scholarships to students from conflict, post-conflict and developing regions of the world to study at La Roche. By providing these scholarships, the Pacem In Terris program brought together students from the United States and developing nations of the world, creating a microcosm of the global community that models what the world, at its best, could be – a world of respect and open dialogue in an educational setting – a world of peace.

From its beginnings in the war-ravaged remains of Yugoslavia through its expansion to the Middle East and Africa, more than 450 students from 21 countries have benefited from this extraordinary initiative. Students from around the world have pursued fields of study that will contribute to the progress and development of their homelands, while at the same time bringing a world view to the entire La Roche College community.

Pacem In Terris is but one way Monsignor Kerr will be remembered. His work lives on in the hearts and minds of many who were touched by his actions. He will be missed.



Bishop David Zubick and the Rev. Peter Horton celebrated the Memorial Mass on May 29.

Monsignor William A. Kerr Pacem In Terris Memorial Fund

For those who wish to honor the memory of Monsignor Kerr, La Roche College has established this memorial fund, through which the College may support the endowment fund for additional Pacem In Terris scholarships. This support will enable young men and women from developing and war-torn regions of the world to gain an education here in the United States so they may return home and help to rebuild and positively affect their own nations.

Since Pacem In Terris was established by Monsignor Kerr in 1993, more than 450 students have been given the gift of hope and the opportunity to improve their own lives and the lives of others in their home lands. Monsignor Kerr devoted much of his life to promoting peace and understanding among all people, and the Pacem In Terris program helps to ensure that his commitment to these principles lives on.

Your donation may be sent to:

Monsignor Kerr Memorial Fund

La Roche College
9000 Babcock Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Checks may be made payable to: La Roche College (please write Monsignor Kerr Memorial Fund on the memo line)



PHOTOS: PAM WIGLEY

From the President: Sister Candace Introcaso, CDP, Ph.D., Remembers Monsignor Kerr

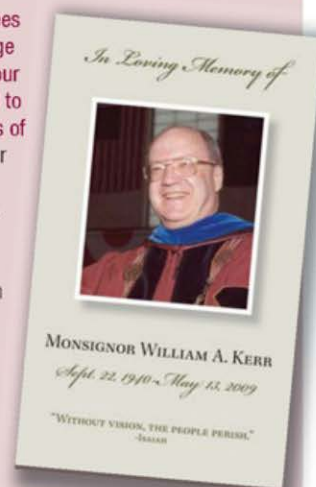
(Editor's Note: Sister Candace delivered these remarks at the Monsignor Kerr Memorial Mass on May 29 at the Kerr Fitness & Sports Center.)

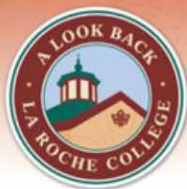
On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the entire La Roche College community, I want to convey our sincere condolences to the family and to the many colleagues and close friends of Monsignor William Kerr. We share your sense of loss and we share your grief. I also want to thank Bishop David Zubik for his graciousness in accepting our invitation to preside over this mass celebrating the life of a remarkable man of faith who touched so many lives at this College and beyond.

There is something especially touching about where we are celebrating this memorial mass, in the building that bears his name, on a campus that he helped to shape, at a College where his vision was so manifest. Monsignor Kerr is the longest serving president of La Roche College. Although that fact is noteworthy, it is not longevity of service that is the true legacy of Monsignor Kerr's presidency at La Roche. Rather, his strong belief in the power of education to transform individual lives and to bring peace to areas of the world experiencing conflict has not only transformed the lives of so many students from this region and from all over the world, but more importantly has transformed this College and imbued it with a mission and purpose far greater than originally imagined.

The remembrance card you received today quotes the prophet Isaiah: "Without vision, the people perish." Monsignor's vision for peace and justice through education is one that we embrace, and there is ample evidence that his vision has been realized in the lives of countless alumni of La Roche College, many of whom are with us today. It is seemingly easier to recognize the effect that Monsignor's vision has had on the young men and women who came to La Roche under the Pacem In Terris program and who carry on his vision for peace and justice in other parts of the world. But his vision has become so much a part of a La Roche education that all of our alumni leave the College committed to living out that quest for peace and justice in all aspects of their lives. Monsignor's is a vision that has truly yielded a cadre of La Roche graduates from the North Hills of Pittsburgh to the mountains of Rwanda who are dedicated to creating a more just and peaceful world for all.

As an educational community based in faith, I assure you that Monsignor Kerr will always have a place in our hearts and that we are committed to keeping his quest for peace and justice very much a part of all that we do at La Roche College. I believe that there is no greater way for us to honor his life than to continue this work. Thank you for joining us this afternoon as we prayerfully remember and celebrate through the Eucharist the life of Monsignor William Kerr.





A Look Back: One Couple Shares 35-Plus Years of La Roche Memories

by Colleen Pelc



The 1970s were a time of change. The world was recovering from the effects of the Vietnam War, space exploration was increased and disco fever was about to infect everyone. In Pittsburgh, two students – although strangers to one another – also were getting ready for change as they embarked on a 35-plus year journey together, with La Roche College at the center of it all.

Mary Ann Flanigan arrived at La Roche College as a freshman in fall 1969. After attending Marycrest, the preparatory school of the Sisters of Divine Providence until the school closed following her junior year, Mary Ann earned her diploma from Butler Senior High School in Butler, Pa.

"My intention was to return to Allison Park for college so I could continue as an affiliate with the Congregation [preparing to become a nun]. I chose humanities as my major, with a concentration in English," Mary Ann said.

Downtown at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh (AIP), David Nicholls was getting ready to graduate and was looking to complete his bachelor's degree.

"La Roche was offering acceptance of AIP credits toward a bachelor of science degree, and at that time it was the only school in the area making that option available," Dave said.

Upon arriving at La Roche, Dave learned that there weren't any male dorms at the College, but arrangements were made for males to be housed at the Villa Riviera, within walking distance of the College. Dave shared a two-bedroom apartment with three other students from AIP.

"My first impression of La Roche came from a meeting with Sister Mary Kenneth [Kearns]," Dave said.

"She was the financial aid administrator at the time. Here was this little nun having to deal with all of these guys coming in, all in need of financial help, and she was the kindest person I think I ever met. She helped all the guys I knew by providing financial aid or set us up with work-study jobs. It really took the worry away, and I'll never forget her," he said.

Around the same time, Mary Ann was already settled into her work-study position at the Wright Library, where she frequently worked the front desk. Fate in the form of a research paper would soon introduce Dave to Mary Ann.

"Dave located the library when Sister Barbara Marie assigned his first research paper. He stopped at the front desk and asked for some help," she said. "I went in search of the books that he would need, I marked all of the pages, and Dave fell in love!"

Following that first encounter, Dave and Mary Ann ended up being on the Student Government Association together. At that time, one of the major Student Government projects was organizing a carnival fund-raiser, giving Dave and Mary Ann "lots of opportunities to work together and to learn more about each other."

"As a real bonus, my time at La Roche gave me lifelong friends, wonderful role models and mentors with whom I still keep in touch, and brought me together with Dave." - Mary Ann Nicholls

As they learned more about each other and about life, they both agree that their college years at La Roche helped them grow – as students and individuals.

"In the '70s, La Roche was an intimate, rural college where a student could interact with faculty and administration – in the classroom and outside the classroom, where many of the students were first generation college attendees from their families, and most were on financial aid," Mary Ann said.

A Look Back



"Our facilities were limited, our resources were limited, but I never got the feeling that anything was missing. Our course offerings were excellent, as was the faculty. Many of us became fast friends with the faculty, as well, and we would spend time outside the classroom chatting with them, sharing meals and ideas. We were considered worthy of their time, and I always got the sense that they enjoyed being with us," she said.

"Everyone there seemed to be on a mission to help you succeed," Dave added.

In 1972, Dave graduated from La Roche with a bachelor's degree in design and communication, and Mary Ann followed with a bachelor's degree in humanities in 1973.

"Above all, the mission to strive for the success of students is still the top priority, and that extends beyond the development of the intellect to the creation of role models, good citizens, strong professionals and caring people in the world." - Mary Ann Nicolls

"When I graduated, I felt La Roche had balanced my education. It broadened my communications skills and gave me the foundation I needed," said Dave, who currently works at Hermann Printing and Litho, Inc., as an account manager. Prior to that, he spent 20 years in the pre-press business.

"My degree took me to the classroom to teach high school, to graduate school, to college-level positions in administration and teaching, to study in a seminary where there were few other women, to serve my community, to serve my church, to engrain in our children a love for learning, and to my current position as a director of a retreat center," said Mary Ann, who currently serves as the director of the Spiritan Center, a retreat center in Bethel Park that's owned by the Congregation of the Holy Spirit. She also teaches at La Roche in the Religious Studies Department and for the University of Dayton's Pastoral Initiatives Program.

La Roche also gave the couple something intangible: that opportunity to meet one another. Dave and Mary Ann were married on Sept. 29, 1973, in the chapel on the College's former West Campus.

"We had the 'Sound of Music' wedding, with all of the nuns attending and the Sisters of St. Joseph performing the music. Sister Michele Bisbey served as the lector and Father Gene Lauer as the celebrant. Several of our faculty members were in attendance, as well. It was a grand celebration," Mary Ann remembered.

"We began our life together there, we celebrated our wedding there, and we still celebrate our marriage after 35 years. I'd say that La Roche did well for us!" Mary Ann said.

Both agree that La Roche gave them more than they could have asked for in terms of their education and their future.

"You get out of a place what you put into it. No one institution will give you everything, but there is more to college than getting information to get a good job," Mary Ann said. "La Roche sees you as a person and helps you grow into the person you will become."

Mary Ann noted that hasn't changed during the past 30 years, nor have the College's core values.

"I am pleased to see that the relationship between the North Hills and the College has grown and that La Roche serves as an educational, cultural and social justice center for the local community. In addition, its outreach to international students is a key factor in its success in reaching the needs of the world," Mary Ann said.

"Above all, the mission to strive for the success of students is still the top priority, and that extends beyond the development of the intellect to the creation of role models, good citizens, strong professionals and caring people in the world."

Dave and Mary Ann have raised three daughters: Jenna, who lives and works in Manhattan as a designer; Molly, who lives with her husband, John, and their daughter, Sarah, in Dubois, Pa.; and Maura, who teaches high school music and lives with her husband, Rich, in Oakdale, Pa.

Dave said that retirement is in the future when he and Mary Ann will move to Dubois to spend more time with their granddaughter, whom they call a "gift from heaven."

"As a faculty member at my alma mater, I believe the qualities that endeared me to the place more than 30 years ago are still very much present. There is still an atmosphere that allows individuality and encourages creativity, there is a strong rapport among faculty and students, the curriculum is a good balance between profession and life-skill learning, and co-curricular activities are strongly student-centered," Mary Ann said.

"In the '70s, La Roche was 'home.' Today, it is 'success'," she added.





La Roche student athletes (left to right): Dalila Scott, SaQuane Milton, Veronica Sheehan, David Culp, Brittni Evans, Tim Devlin, Christina Shields, John James, Kara Jo Egelsky, Philip Avolio, Candice Snyder and Raelene Zajac



La Roche College Athletics: Reaching Goals, On and Off the Playing Field

by Ron Cichowicz

When **Stacy Grady** (pictured left) first made the long trip from Wilmington, Del., to enroll at La Roche College to play basketball at the collegiate level, he overflowed with enthusiasm.

A prep school basketball star whose team won a national championship, Grady first met La Roche head coach Scott Lang at a basketball camp; the two of them bonded almost immediately.

"Coach Lang told me that if I needed anything to give him a call," Grady recalled. "Coach said there would always be a spot on his team for me. He was very encouraging."

Eventually the 6'1" guard took Lang up on his offer. He would come to Pittsburgh to get a degree in real estate and become a Redhawk.

But neither Grady's nor Lang's enthusiasm would last very long.

La Roche competes in NCAA Division III and is a founding member of the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC). The Redhawks compete in 11 varsity sports—men's and women's basketball, men's baseball, men's and women's cross country, men's golf, men's and women's soccer, women's softball, women's tennis, women's volleyball.

The other nine members of the AMCC are: Franciscan University of Steubenville, Frostburg State University, Hilbert College, Medaille College, Mount Aloysius College, Penn State-Altoona, Penn State-Erie, the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, and the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

"The whole Division III philosophy is based on 'pay to play' because we don't offer athletic scholarships," said La Roche Athletic Director Jim Tinkey. "Any grants and scholarships are based on academics or financial need. Our students have to keep up with their studies. So it's up to our coaches to sell kids on our program."

For those who do buy in, the demands can be great but the rewards even greater.

Erica Monaco (pictured right) was a standout softball player at Pine-Richland High School when she decided to enroll at La Roche and play at the collegiate level. As she prepared to graduate this spring with a degree in sociology, Monaco reflected on her four-year career as a member of the women's softball team.

"Playing for La Roche was a lot different from playing in high school," said the two-year captain. "At times it was frustrating to balance school and sports, but I'm glad I stuck it out. Now that I've played my last game, I feel like I really accomplished something."

Athletics get in your blood. Being offered a chance to play in college is an opportunity to continue your career. Besides, through athletics, you learn life skills – working as a team, working for something, preparing yourself, staying in shape – all of these transfer over when you move on from here. — Jim Tinkey

Among the challenges for Monaco was a daily trip from her home in Gibsonia, Pa.

"I commuted all four years and softball kept me connected to school," she said. "Being on a team is like having a family at school. If not for softball, I might not have stayed."

That's not an uncommon feeling for many student athletes, or students in general.

"When you choose a college, you need to think about life beyond the classroom, as well as what you learn inside the classroom," said Thomas Schaefer, Ph.D., associate vice president for academic affairs and dean of admissions at La Roche. "When we interview students for admission, we look at what they've done academically, and we also look at what activities they've been a part of, too. We want to attract well-rounded students, and we encourage them to expand their interests at college."



PHOTO: MARTY SANTEK

"We have a bigger mission here than just winning basketball games," Lang said. "Sure we want to win. But we tell our recruits that even if we win four national championships but they leave without a degree, or without learning anything, we failed. Our bigger mission is to have them grow as individuals. Being on a team is a great way to experience life and to learn a lot you can't in a classroom or even on the job."

Grady admitted that La Roche presented him with a new perspective – and it wasn't one with which he was readily comfortable.

"The team I came from had a lot of individualism and tensions," he recalled. "It wasn't necessarily negative, but everybody wanted to be 'that guy.' We won a national championship, so there was a bit of cockiness in all of us. Our coaches had the mentality that the guy who produced was the guy who played. It was a real cutthroat atmosphere."

"At La Roche, it was different. Here, a guy might not be as good as someone else, but if he worked hard and his ethic was prominent, he got to play. And that was a big adjustment for me."

That adjustment didn't come easily, according to Lang.

"As a freshman, Stacy had all the answers," Lang said. "He had everything figured out. He didn't need anything. He thought he knew how to manipulate the system."

Eventually, the freshman guard with a ton of potential was asked to leave the team.

The Benefits of Team Work Extend Beyond the Playing Field

Although it takes tremendous discipline, hard work and commitment to be a varsity athlete at La Roche students who "make the grade" often enjoy benefits beyond the thrill of competition. Here are just some recent examples:

- Jane Arnold, M.S., department chair and associate professor of computer science who serves as Faculty Athletic Representative, worked with Athletic Director Jim Tinkey to identify four students who could attend an NCAA-sponsored Student Athlete Development Conference held this May in Orlando, Fla.

"Each student had to complete an application, including an essay," Arnold said. "From our candidates, the NCAA could choose one or two and the students have to be returning to campus next fall with athletic eligibility remaining. We had two chosen, both freshmen: John Russell, a baseball player, and Edna Robinson from the volleyball team."

- The men's basketball team played an exhibition game last fall against the University of Pittsburgh at the Petersen Events Center and a regular season game against Cleveland State.

- The women's soccer team tries to schedule a trip to Europe every three years to both play games and sightsee. Team members raise funds to pay for the trips. The next visit abroad is coming up during the 2009-2010 academic year.

- The women's softball team has ventured to Myrtle Beach, S.C., and Arizona for its spring training sessions.

Benefits from La Roche's athletic program extend beyond the coaches and athletes to positively affect the entire college and the community that surrounds it. According to Tinkey, varsity sports add vibrancy to the campus, and the student athletes often are involved in many other activities. Additionally, the athletic program at La Roche helps to create a sense of community for the surrounding neighborhoods.

"We're the only college in the North Hills," Tinkey said. "So we open our campus and have many groups that use our facilities. We have a great working relationship with the area high schools and often invite 8th grade teams to our men's games. There is a real sense of community here."

"The community also supports our athletes by attending our events," Arnold said. "Some of them really follow the team, just like they would the Steelers or Panthers, but at a smaller level. I know I enjoy attending the games because I personally know the athletes and what kind of people they are off the playing field."



PHOTOS: MARITY SANTEK



PHOTO: MARITY SANTEK



"Athletics get in your blood," Tinkey said. "Being offered a chance to play in college is an opportunity to continue your career. Besides, through athletics, you learn life skills — working as a team, working for something, preparing yourself, staying in shape — all of these transfer over when you move on from here. You're ready to take on a job or family, you learn responsibility, and how to be a team member."

Zach Kostorick (pictured left wearing No. 30) understands this. A North Catholic High School graduate, Kostorick at first had no interest in La Roche because it was too close to his North Hills home.

"But Coach [Lang] talked me into seeing the school, and I loved it," he said. "I wanted my parents to come to my games."

"The competition was great," the 6' 2" Kostorick added. "We played in a variety of facilities, some tiny gyms, some big facilities. It was a challenging conference, and you had to play hard every game."

Midway through his senior year, Kostorick, who graduated this spring with a degree in accounting and management, scored his 1,000th point as a Redhawk.

"Even more important than that, I'll remember the road trips and being with the guys—all the things you'll never experience unless you are an athlete. Sure, it's challenging, and it pushes you, but the people around you make it the ultimate experience."



After Grady left the team, he spoke to his family and some high school coaches.

"They said the easiest thing would be to quit," Grady recalled. "So I spoke to Coach Lang and said, 'As much as maybe you don't want me here, and I don't deserve to be here, I'd like to leave my past behind.' Coach respected that and gave me a clean slate."

Grady made a complete reversal prior to his last year at La Roche. During his senior year he was voted a team captain and scored more than 1,100 points for his career.

"I give all the credit to Stacy," Lang said. "We can't make anybody do anything. He was willing to work, willing to listen and willing to trust others."

This season Grady, 24, serves as one of three assistant coaches for the Redhawks while holding a full-time job as a financial adviser for First Commonwealth Bank. According to Lang, he's been particularly helpful in mentoring the young players struggling with some of the same decisions Grady himself had to make as a freshman.

"Coach said to me, 'Stace, what you've been through can have an impact on incoming players, so to not coach would do them a big disservice,'" Grady said.

He paused, then added: "Some people who come to college and say, 'OK, I'm here to play basketball and strut my stuff.' But they forget the main reason they are here. They think about four years of dribbling a basketball rather than the 36 years or more after graduation. You need to prioritize, and you'll do fine."



Women's Soccer Boasts High Achievement

Having already won its second National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Team Academic Award for the 2007-2008 academic year, the La Roche college women's soccer team could be on its way to a coveted three-peat this year.

To be eligible for the NSCAA award, a team must earn a collective 3.0 or higher grade point average. The 2007-2008 La Roche squad posted a 3.26, an achievement that also secured a place for the team among 259 women's soccer teams that achieved a team grade point average of 3.0 or better. All NCAA Division I, II and III colleges and universities, as well as NAIA, NCCAA and junior colleges are eligible for this award.

The team received its award in January at the 2009 NSCAA Convention in St. Louis, Mo.

The 2002-2003 La Roche women's soccer team also earned the NSCAA Team Academic Award and, according to Coach Miguel Lozano, the 2008-2009 team is on its way to capturing the honor again, posting a 3.26 GPA in the fall.

The La Roche women's soccer team consistently performs with distinction on the field as well as in the classroom. The team has made the playoffs each year since its inception in 1996. This success is no fluke.

"When I recruit players, I ask a lot of questions of the athletes' teachers," said Lozano, the only coach the soccer program has known. "I want to know what kind of player we are getting. I put an emphasis on student athletes. This creates fewer potential problems for the team and the school."

"But I also have a passion for the game, and I look for this in a high school student. The questions I ask the coach are: 'How is she in practice?' and 'Does she want to play?' Those who do are my ideal recruits."

When it comes to the balance between academics and athletics, Lozano says he feels a personal responsibility to his players. His two daughters play soccer at the collegiate level — one at Georgetown, the other at Penn State.

"I run my program as if my daughters were a part of it," he said. "I want my athletes to graduate and have rewarding careers. I believe they all should be able to manage their time, especially during the season and study whenever they can. I'm very proud of what this program accomplishes in the classroom and on the field every year."



Perseverance Pays Off for La Roche Graduate

by Ellen C. Horn

Patricia McDermott encompasses what La Roche strives to teach all students: commitment, passion for education, and giving back to the community. McDermott, a 2008 graduate, started her educational experience some 20 years ago. Through perseverance and dedication, she was able to earn a degree in elementary and special education from La Roche.

Her journey began at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Unfortunately, her time there was limited as McDermott experienced personal hardships.

"I was only there a year," she said. "My parents got divorced, and we had some financial difficulty. Unfortunately, I had to leave. It was sad because I was doing so well, and I loved it."

Shortly thereafter, McDermott was married and decided to focus on having a family of her own. Time passed quickly, and it wasn't until her oldest daughter was a sophomore in college that she felt something needed to change. McDermott was working as a special education teacher's aide within the Shaler Area School District when she realized that she had found her calling.

"I loved those kids, and I realized I could really bring something to their lives. The kids I worked with made me feel like I could do it," McDermott said of the defining moment that affected her decision to return to college. Yet, although she had decided to go back to school, she said she wasn't sure if she was ready. "You start to doubt if you have the brains to go to school again."

"I couldn't have done this without my family – my husband especially. Financially, morally ... he supported me so much, and I couldn't have done this without him." – Patricia McDermott

The challenge of being a non-traditional student was both daunting and appealing to McDermott. Unlike most students, who take summers off to rejuvenate, she attended year-round for four years in order to graduate on time. Although she was wary of being a non-traditional student, she soon found she had no problem fitting in with her classmates. She built great relationships with her fellow students, and they affectionately referred to her as "home-room mom."

Beyond her classmates, McDermott felt that La Roche was a perfect fit for many reasons. The size of the classes, the faculty and the availability of night classes all added to her decision to come to La Roche. Because she worked full-time, she needed classes that would fit into her schedule. At La Roche, she found there could be a perfect balance, and that even as a non-traditional student, she could still have the collegiate lifestyle that she had missed the first time she went. "It may seem odd, but I still wanted to be able to meet people and have some type of the

'college experience,'" she said. "It all worked out perfectly, and I loved it."

Of course, there were challenges. In class, she pushed herself to be the best, aiming for a high grade point average in all her coursework. Her hard work paid off; McDermott graduated summa cum laude. She attributes a lot of her success to her professors: "They had so much experience and made a big difference to me," she said.

"There were times I didn't think I could do it," she said, "but there were professors who made it easy for me to remember why I was here."

It was her own desire to help others that also kept her pushing toward her goal of obtaining her degree. Knowing she would have the ability to change a child's life helped motivate her whenever the challenges threatened to overwhelm her.

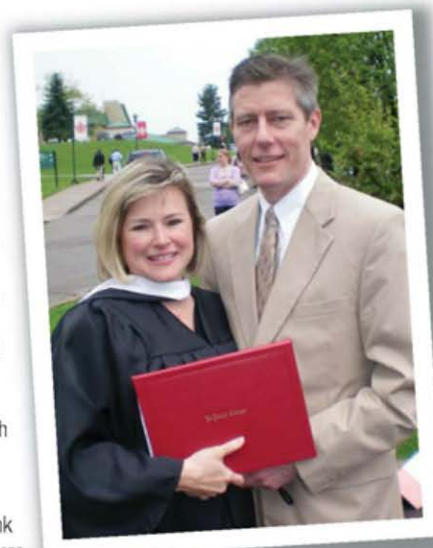
Another calming influence in her life, she notes, was her husband Mark. "I couldn't have done this without my family – my husband especially. Financially, morally ... he supported me so much, and I couldn't have done this without him."

Her children also played a large part in helping her stick with her education. "I kept telling myself that when I earned that diploma, my kids would be so proud of me."

She was not disappointed. They expressed their pride in her accomplishment, and it meant more to her than learning she had graduated at the top of her class. "Their reaction was a huge thing for me."

Now a teaching assistant within the North Hills School District, McDermott runs the inclusion support for students with emotional problems in grades seven, eight and nine. Every day is a challenge, she said, but she wouldn't have it any other way.

And each day, she looks toward the future, just as she always has done – never knowing what it might hold for her. She said she now knows that it isn't until the end that we realize how important the decisions at the beginning are. "There's a plan for me," she said. "It's amazing how accomplishing things can change your perspective."





La Roche College Joins Yellow Ribbon Program; Will Provide 100 Percent Reimbursement to U.S. Veterans

by Pamela Wigley



La Roche College will lend a hand to military veterans who are earning their degrees as part of the Yellow Ribbon Program. La Roche administration expects to accept the first students into education programs by the fall term, beginning in August 2009. Currently, the College's Office of Graduate Studies & Adult Education team is working with the Department of Veterans Affairs to finalize program details.

The program is open to veterans who have served three years of active duty to the United States Armed Forces and are eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill's full benefits. The bill, updated in June 2008, allows veterans and other qualified military personnel to obtain a benefit equal to the most expensive public campus tuition in a given state. The Yellow Ribbon Program then bridges the tuition gap between what the current GI Bill provides and what a private college's fees are, should the veteran choose to go to a private college.

"We're honored to play a role in helping our veterans reach their education and career goals. This is a time in our nation's history when education and retraining is vitally important, especially to this group of men and women who have given so much to us."

- Hope Schiffgens

At La Roche, veterans will be reimbursed 100 percent of their tuition because the college and the government will equally share costs associated with obtaining their education.

"We're honored to play a role in helping our veterans reach their education and career goals," said Hope Schiffgens, director, Office of Graduate Studies & Adult Education at La Roche. "This is a time in our nation's history when education and retraining is vitally important, especially to this group of men and women who have given so much to us."

Veterans should first talk to their Veterans Administration representatives about the Yellow Ribbon Program or may contact La Roche at 412-536-1262. In addition, the following URL will act as a reference point for people who have questions about pursuing their education through the GI Bill:
<http://www.military.com/money-for-school/gi-bill/20-top-faqs-for-new-gi-bill>

Prospective students also may contact the Department of Veterans Affairs to answer personal and specific GI Bill entitlement questions at 1-888-GIBILL-1.



Pacem In Terris Anniversary

by Colleen Pelc



1. Natasha Garrett, Chantal Shemezimana (Rwanda), Esperance Nahayo (Rwanda), and Sister Marilyn Bergt



2. Shakir Mohamed (Ethiopia), Godfrey Biravanga (Rwanda), and Sister Michele Bisbey



3. Kushtrim Kuqi and Vlora Selimi (Kosovo)

Below: Scenes from the past in Pacem In Terris

PHOTOS: COLLEEN PELC



PHOTOS: RIC EVANS



In 1993, the late Monsignor William Kerr, then La Roche College president, founded the Pacem In Terris program, which takes its name from Pope John XXIII's encyclical, "Peace on Earth." This initiative was dedicated to using educational opportunity as a means for bringing people from around the globe together in pursuit of peace, and it brought a profound change to La Roche, expanding the College's vision to a global one. The Pacem program brought students from conflict, post-conflict and developing regions of the world to study at La Roche; providing scholarships and assistance to international students, while encouraging greater global and intercultural awareness on the part of the La Roche community. The students, chosen for their academic and personal potential, promised to return to their homelands upon completion of their studies to work for peace and prosperity in their regions.

Since its inception, more than 450 young men and women from 21 different countries have found peace, understanding and a new beginning at La Roche. A number of these former students returned to the College last month for the Pacem in Terris Anniversary Reception, which provided a chance for Pacem alumni to reconnect with faculty and staff members and former host families, to discuss the successes that the program has achieved through the years, and to pay tribute to Monsignor Kerr, whose dedication created a program that has influenced the lives of many.

"The influence that program had on the young people who participated is incalculable, but there is no question that for many of them, it was transformative," said Sister Candace Introcaso, CDP, Ph.D., president of La Roche College. "But it was not only the students who were transformed by the program. The College itself underwent profound changes which resonate to this day in its mission and purpose."

The Anniversary Reception, which included a historical photo exhibit of Pacem In Terris, marked the conclusion of a series of campus events which celebrated Pacem's 15 years of contributions to international understanding. Earlier events included two films about Rwanda: "Sometimes in April," a realistic representation of the genocide, which features a La Roche student among the cast, and, "Rwanda Rising," a documentary narrated by Andrew Young, which showed the progress that Rwanda has indeed made since the genocide. La Roche's international student organization also presented an encore performance of its annual fashion show, where students showcased their national costumes and food.

This year's commencement saw the graduation of the last four Pacem In Terris students. But Sister Candace noted that this does not mean the end of the program that has had such a profound impact on the College, an impact that "resonates to this day" in the College's mission and purpose.

"That is why the Pacem In Terris program must not and will not go away. The graduation of the final four students does not mark the end of the program but, rather, just a hiatus during which we will work to restore the program to a level commensurate with our resources that will still contribute in a meaningful way to the life of the participants and the entire College community," Sister Candace said.



La Roche Suffers Tragedies With Loss of Three Students

by Colleen Pelc



The La Roche College community gathered on Earth Day to plant three trees in memory of the students who passed away this year.

The 2008-2009 academic year brought the loss of three La Roche students. In fall 2008 on the first day of school, the College community experienced the loss of sophomore Michael Bird, who collapsed while playing basketball at the Kerr Fitness & Sports Center. The cause of his death was an undiagnosed congenital condition, and the campus mourned him during a memorial service in the Magdalen Chapel.

During winter break, junior Graphic & Communication Design major Cory Linn was killed in a car accident on Dec. 29 on Route 8. A memorial service in the Magdalen Chapel on Jan. 29 allowed students, faculty and staff to remember Cory's life and time here at La Roche.

"I am so proud of the way our students, faculty, staff and administration came together in these times of sorrow. We united in prayer, in memories, in tears and in hope that we would see these loved ones again." - The Rev. Peter Horton

On Friday, Jan. 23, La Roche lost another student, Danielle Acevedo, who had returned from a leave of absence from the College following a surgery earlier this year.

The La Roche College community was shocked to lose three students who were gifted, talented and full of promise, according to Director of Campus Ministry, the Rev. Peter Horton, but he was comforted by the College community response.

"I am so proud of the way our students, faculty, staff and administration came together in these times of sorrow. We united in prayer, in memories, in tears and in hope that we would see these loved ones again. We held on to each other, we listened to each other, we wiped away tears together. We found strength in our common bond of friendship and faith," Father Peter said.

He also reminded everyone that in times of sorrow, we must continue to be the support and consolation for each other.

"There really is no easy way to get through these times, no easy way to heal the pain of loss and separation. It seems best that we continue to move on, one day at a time, never forgetting those we have lost, but to continue living as they taught us - with energy, faith, hope and passion," he said.

"This is how we best remember them as we live by the example they taught us. Our grief, though always present, grows less hurtful as we realize that we carry these beloved ones in our hearts forever."



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La Roche Class Notes

1960s

Sister Roberta Grzelak, CDP, BA '68, (formerly Sister Edward Clare), celebrated her 50th jubilee in religious life in 2008. Sister Roberta was a teacher at Colegio San Felipe, Puerto Rico, for 15 years. In 1992, Sister Roberta became the founder and director of the Office of Human Promotion and Development in the Diocese of Arecibo, Puerto Rico, where she currently ministers.

Sister Carol Kampert, CDP, BA '69, celebrated her 50th jubilee in religious life in 2008. Sister Carol began her ministry as an educator. She taught at St. Isaac Jogues in St. Clair Shores, Mich., from 1980 to 1986. From 1992 to 2002, she was manager at St. Ambrose Manor, a senior citizen facility in Spring Hill, Pa. Sister Carol has been the health insurance coordinator at Providence Heights since 2002.

Sister John Ann Mulhern, CDP, BA '68, celebrated her 50th jubilee in religious life in 2008. Sister John Ann has ministered in the field of education as a classroom teacher and as a principal. She spent 13 years at St. Anne's in Castle Shannon, Pa., from 1961 to 1974. From 1979 to 1983 and 1989 to 2003 she was at St. Bonaventure in Glenshaw, Pa. Since 2003, Sister John Ann has been the principal of Butler Catholic School in Butler, Pa.

Sister Jean René Seiler, CDP, BA '67, is a hospice chaplain for the AseraCare Hospice in the Pittsburgh area. Sister Jean René visits with those who are terminally ill and near death, in their homes, or in nursing or assisted living facilities. Sister Jean René was formerly a pastoral minister and found the move to hospice ministry a natural progression.

Sister Mary Traupman, CDP, BA '69, was privileged to give the invocation at a rally for now President Barack Obama on Oct. 27, 2008. Sister Mary had her picture taken with the current president during his campaign, and he personalized and autographed a printed copy of the invocation.

1970s

Sister Michele Bisbey, CDP, Ph.D., BA '71, presented "Women Doing Theology" along with Sister Sheila Carney, RSM, of Carlow University and Sister Patricia McCann, RSM, Convent of Mercy, on April 2, at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa. The lecture was part of several events in March and April to continue the celebration of the 25th anniversary of coeducation at St. Vincent College.

Russell L. Bynum, BS '79, is president of Bynums Marketing & Communications, Inc. Russell and his wife Kathy founded the 24-year-old marketing firm. Bynums is the creative team behind the annual PNC sponsored African-American History Contest, now in its 17th year and hosted during Black History Month.

Mary Linda Schrey Wasko, BS '73, owns and operates Primate Paradise Inc. in Osteen, Fla. Primate Paradise is a non-profit primate sanctuary for New World Primates. Linda and her husband Andrew adopted their daughter, Natasha Theresa, 9, from Russia in 2006.

1980s

Raymond Amelio, MS '86, was named managing director of Fragasso Financial Advisors in October 2008. Previously, Ray was the vice president and marketing director at Fragasso.



Alumna Named to Congresswoman Dahlkemper's Staff

In December 2009, La Roche College alumna Tina Mengine was named to the Washington, D.C., office staff of U.S. Rep. Kathy Dahlkemper, who represents the 3rd Congressional District of Pennsylvania. Mengine, who earned her bachelor's degree from La Roche in 1981, was named Congresswoman Dahlkemper's chief of staff.

Prior to this appointment, Mengine served as the Congresswoman's campaign manager. Her distinguished career also includes a stint as chief of staff to an Erie mayor and as president of a political and economic development consulting firm.

"I have very fond memories of my time at La Roche and can honestly say it prepared me well for life and my career," Mengine said.

Mark Bedillion, BA '83, was named executive director of Anthony House in September 2008. Anthony House is a homeless shelter providing transitional housing and other services for up to two years to individuals and/or families trying to turn their lives around. Anthony House is located in Zellwood, a rural area of central Florida.

Thomas Bigatel, BS '81, is an artist who has his own studio on the property where he lives in Glenshaw, Pa. He is married to Donna Casper Bigatel, BS '80.

Doris Rutkowski Dickinson, BSN '85, is manager of clinical operations for Outpatient Services at Hillman Cancer Center as of October 2008. She received the UPMC Award for Commitment and Excellence in Service in 2005, the 2001 Volunteer Award for Education from the American Cancer Society and the 2000 Volunteer Award from the Center for Grieving Children. She has worked with patients and children in Camp Raising Spirits, the Caring Place and Relay for Life events sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

Sister Charlotte Tolliver, CDP, BA '87, teaches ceramics at the Sweetwater Center for the Arts in Sewickley, Pa. Sister Charlotte participated in the center's pottery and sculpture sale on March 28. Her pottery collection "Vessels of Hospitality" was also showcased at the Sisters of Divine Providence on March 15. The "Vessels of Hospitality" collection can be seen at www.divineprovidenceweb.org/page/general.gift-shoppe.htm.



Alumna Gears up for Season with the Palm Beach Punishers

La Roche alumna Sarah Beauchamp leads a double life. By day, Beauchamp works hard as a teacher to ninth grade honors students at McArthur High School in Hollywood, Fla. But by night, the books are away and the football gear is out.

Beauchamp graduated from La Roche in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in English education and a minor in professional writing. After graduation, Beauchamp played semi-pro beach volleyball, took up boxing and eventually tried out for the Pittsburgh Passion, a local women's football team. Beauchamp played three seasons with the Passion as a defensive back, including their 2007 undefeated National Championship season.

When a career opportunity recently came up in southern Florida, Beauchamp made the decision to move and was also able to join a new women's football team, the Palm Beach Punishers.

"There is no team like the Passion – the teamwork, dedication and drive is unmatched. I feel fortunate to have been trained there, and it only makes me a bigger example and a stronger threat playing with a young team like the Punishers," Beauchamp said.

She also said that the professors at La Roche helped to mold her into the teacher that she is today.

"The lessons in the classroom and throughout my years at La Roche still inspire me today. They have certainly made me the teacher that I am and affect every aspect of my life," she added.



Graphic Design Alum Takes on Job at LUX Magazine

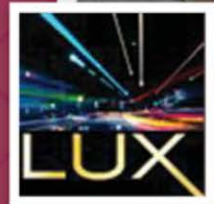
Kevin Hyland, a 2005 graduate of La Roche, has been keeping busy since graduation and moving up in the world of graphic design. His latest career move has taken him into the magazine industry at Pittsburgh-based *LUX Magazine* as a graphic designer.

"After college, I had my own business, Visual Primer, for a while with a friend. Then I did some small work for the magazine until I got hired full time," Hyland said.

According to its website, *LUX Magazine* focuses on modern thinking, art and culture, offering fashion, features, travel and photographic coverage that "illuminates the city."

Hyland currently works on the layout and design of the magazine, and he occasionally designs ads for clients.

"I like what I'm doing now. It's a start-up magazine, so I am able to be creative with what I do and do what I enjoy," he said.



1990s

Stephen M. Ferber, MS '91, is the assistant vice chancellor of Human Resources at the University of Pittsburgh. Stephen resides in Gibsonia, Pa., with his wife Nancy and daughter Morgan, 15.

Richard Helfrich, BS '96, an assistant professor at La Roche College was named the interim department chair of the Graphic & Communication Design Department at the College. Rich won a \$500 Faculty Thesis Proposal Award from the Savannah College of Art and Design, where he earned his master's of fine arts degree.

James J. Holtzman, CFP, CPA, BS '96, was recently named by *Medical Economics* magazine as one of the "150 Best Financial Advisors for Doctors" for the second consecutive year. Jim is an adviser and shareholder with Legend Financial Advisors, Inc. He lives in the Highland Park area of Pittsburgh with his wife Laura and their 2-year-old daughter Mina.

Kimberly Ness McKean, MS '98, has been hired as manager of human resources for Cygnus Manufacturing Company, located in Saxonburg, Pa. Kim's responsibilities include the development and implementation of recruitment, orientation, employee relations, and education and training programs.

Todd Moline, BS '96, joined the Mullen agency as an art director (retail) in Mullen's downtown Pittsburgh office. Previously, he worked at General Nutrition Centers Inc., as a creative manager.

James Titus, BS '98, has been working as an art director at Brabender Cox, a political advertising firm, since 2001. Jim also works on projects with David Bissel, BS '99, through their company, Bissel & Titus. Jim is married to alumna Amanda Barney Titus, BS '00. They have two children, Annabelle, 3, and Harrison, 1. They live in the Kennedy Township area of Pittsburgh.

2000s

Rebecca Bozym-Pitts, BS '01, is currently a postdoctoral associate at the University of Pittsburgh's Department of Cell Biology & Physiology. She is studying mechanisms of virus entry that allow viruses to cross the blood brain barrier. Becky and her husband, Rob, are expecting their first child this summer.

Veronica Kirish Burnsworth, BS '03, married Terry Edward Burnsworth on Aug. 30, 2008, at The Timberhouse, Rolling Acres Golf Course, in Beaver Falls, Pa. Veronica is an art director for Media Frogg Marketing and Communications in Zelienople, Pa. They reside in Monaca, Pa.

Leslie Casto, BS '03, joined Design Specialists Inc., in fall 2008. The firm is located in the O'Hara Township area of Pittsburgh.

Bonnie McGowan DeAngelis, BA '06, married Kenneth DeAngelis on July 12, 2008, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, in Glenshaw, Pa. Bonnie is a special education teacher in the Penn Hills School District. They reside in Allison Park, Pa.

Adam Egan, BA '04, is the pastor at Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa Polish National Catholic Church in Colonie, N.Y. Adam arrived at Blessed Virgin Mary Church in July 2008 as a deacon and stayed as its priest after being ordained Nov. 21 at the church. He lives in the rectory in Loudonville with his wife of seven years, Jeanne, and their 6-year-old daughter Melannie.

Raymond F. Herron, BS '00, was promoted to manager in the assurance services practice of Sisteron & Co., LLP in the summer 2008.

In Memoriam

For 48 years, Agnes K. (Duda) Marner of Shadyside was known as a nurturing and caring nurse to the many patients she tended to at the former St. Francis Hospital in Lawrenceville, Pa. Sadly, the retired director of nursing and La Roche alumnus passed away this past February.

Marner began her nursing career in 1946. She worked in the emergency room at St. Francis Hospital before learning that she would need a college degree to advance in her field. Instead of letting that stop her, Marner attended evening classes at La Roche while still working full-time.

She earned her bachelor's degree in sociology from La Roche in 1982, and she remained the director of nursing at St. Francis until she retired in 1994.



Book Authored by La Roche Alumna

After years of writing, rewriting and rejection, La Roche alumna Jessica Caputo, who earned her bachelor's degree in psychology in 2003, finally felt an "indescribable feeling of accomplishment" with the publishing of her first book, *The Other Side of War*.

"The book is about one young woman's struggle to live a normal life while her boyfriend, who later became her husband, was fighting in Iraq," Caputo said.

According to Caputo, the book is divided into two experiences: her struggle to graduate from college while her boyfriend is in the midst of the fighting in Iraq and her struggle to relocate to an unfamiliar state while awaiting her husband's return from Iraq. The book was written based entirely on Caputo's own experiences.

"I was definitely inspired by fellow military wives. We all have the same fears when our husbands are deployed, but these fears are rarely discussed," she said.

Caputo said that her experiences at La Roche and the education that she received helped her to grow as an individual.

"My professors at La Roche challenged me more than anyone ever had in my entire life. They saw my potential and never gave up on me," Caputo said. "I gained confidence in myself as a student, and that confidence gave me the courage to fulfill a dream I never realized I had."

Caputo, her husband, Anthony, and their two children currently live in Hubert, N.C.

Her book, *The Other Side of War*, is available from Author House at www.authorhouse.com. Five percent of the proceeds of this book will go to the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP), a group whose mission is to honor and empower wounded warriors.

Nicole Mesarchik Kaefer, BS '06, married Kurt Kaefer on May 2 at Saint Maurice Church in Pittsburgh. They reside in Pittsburgh.

Lori Kreke, BSID '08, joined Desmone & Associates, located in Lawrenceville, Pa., as an interior designer. In December 2008, she was working on the ballroom, lobby and corridor renovations of the DoubleTree Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh.

Jennifer Roberts, BA '07, is a digital video editing teacher at Full Sail University in Orlando, Fla. She is working towards completing her graduate degree at New School University. Jennifer worked on a graduate project that was a piece of experimental audio installation art that required audience participation. She created a national song hotline where anyone could anonymously sing, say, hum or play any song they wanted. At the end of April, the songs were compiled into a single audio track to be presented for gallery installation.

Scott Schneider, BA '02, has been promoted to general manager at Hampton Inn & Suites located in Washington, Pa., at the Meadows Racetrack & Casino. The 103-room, five-story hotel opened in September 2007.

Alumnus Exemplifies Servant Leadership

By Ellen C. Horn

Eric Ferguson has always been drawn to positions that allow him to help others. Therefore, starting an organization that aids in the betterment of nations was no surprising feat.

"I believe that the most effective form of leadership is servant leadership," he said, "but it's also the hardest to find."

After graduating from La Roche in 1995, Ferguson and his wife, Shanna, founded Metanoia Missions International, an organization dedicated to "transforming nations through the establishment of churches, schools, orphanages, micro-businesses and humanitarian aid," according to its website, www.metanoiಾಮissions.org. Located in Managua, Nicaragua, the mission team works with the local community to help enrich the lives of children and adults through humanitarian aid.

Ferguson has implemented several initiatives through the organization. Two of the largest are missionary work in the cancer ward of La Mascota, the local children's hospital, and school sponsorship programs. Through a special partnership, Metanoia helped three schools, all of which were in dire need of assistance with their physical condition and decreasing enrollment issues. Today, the schools have been improved and enrollment has increased.

Ferguson also has implemented a program that earns funds for the organization. The proceeds go back to the local community in various forms. Metanoia has an agreement with the Joybean Coffee Co., which allows the organization to purchase the beans, roast them, bag them and sell them. The money is then reinvested into the community.

Ferguson recognizes that young people today are interested in helping their communities, too. He encourages students who are a part of La Roche's community-based service groups to keep an open eye and be aware of the needs of others.

"I would just encourage [students] to keep reaching out to those who are in need and those who are less fortunate. We just need to be sensitive to the needs of others and be willing to step-out of our comfort zones," he said.

Ferguson is enjoying giving back to the world around him. He is working on finishing up a doctorate in ministry with an emphasis in leadership, which complements the diverse educational background he has earned to date: a bachelor's degree in psychology from La Roche, another bachelor's degree in biblical studies and a master's degree in pastoral counseling. He notes that all of his experiences have helped him become more dedicated to a mission shared with his alma mater, La Roche: giving back to the community and the world.

"I believe the education, the diversity of the student body, the staff and the friendships that I formed all had a part in shaping who I am today," he said.

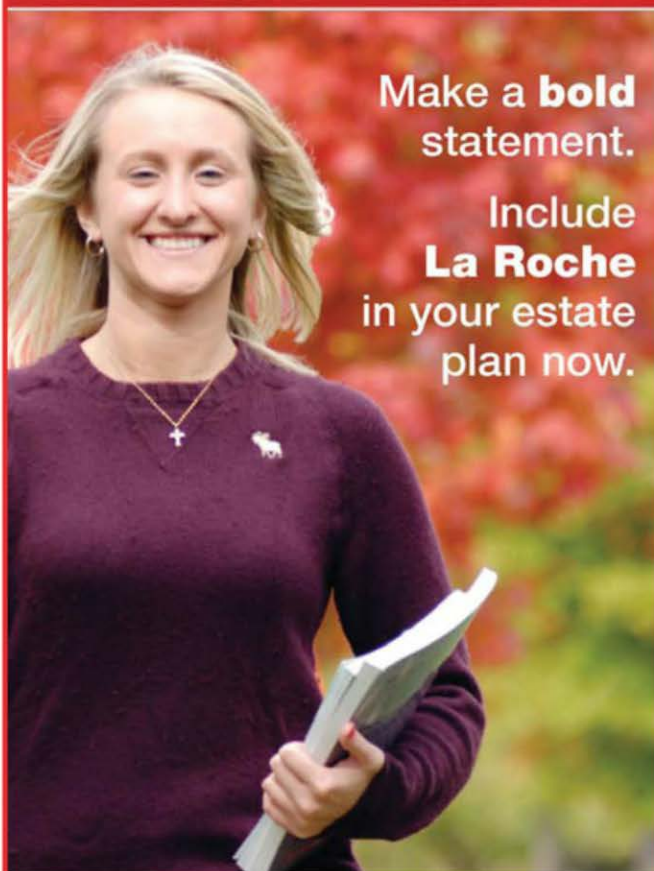
Deaths:

Anna Ruth Chalmers, BA '88, on Jan. 26, 2009

Agnes K. Duda Mamer, BA '82, on Feb. 6, 2009



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La Roche Student Has a Blast While Working With the Pirates

By Samantha Bond

College students are always looking for three things: fun, money and job experience. One student has stumbled across an opportunity that provides all three of these. She even calls it the "perfect summer job."

Katie Zeak, who graduated May 9 from La Roche College with her bachelor's degree in English education, works for the Pittsburgh Pirates as a member of the Canonball Crew.

"I found the job listing for open interviews on the Pirates Web site," Zeak said. "I decided to give it a shot, because I've always been such a fan of baseball and the team."

However, when it came time for her interview, Zeak said she was so nervous that she almost didn't go. Her interview was a success, though, and she was asked back for a tryout.

"There were so many people there," she said. "I never thought they would pick me, but they did."

Zeak is now in her third season as a member of the in-game entertainment Canonball Crew. She enjoys entertaining thousands of people and looks forward to the sold-out games when there are more than 30,000 people cheering from the stands.

"I don't know how many people can say they slingshot T-shirts and hot dogs at work every day," Zeak said. "I love going to work; I love what I do."

Auditions for the crew are open to anyone who is at least 18 years old, according to the Pittsburgh Pirates website. Zeak said she recommends the job to anyone in college because, in addition to having a blast every night, she is getting a paycheck, is building her resume and is participating in something "timeless" in Pittsburgh.

In the fall, Zeak plans to begin graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh with hopes of becoming a counselor. But for now, she is happy being a part of the Pirates.

"I plan on staying with the Canonball Crew until they tell me I'm too old to shoot a T-shirt anymore," Zeak said. "It's something that's just too awesome to give up."



PHOTO: COLLEEN PELIC

Alumni News Form

Send us your news and photos or update your information!

Let us know what's new with you (awards, marriage, births, promotions/job changes, change of address, advanced degrees, etc.) Just fill out this form and mail it with a related photo (optional) to:

La Roche College
Office of Alumni Affairs
9000 Babcock Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
(Fax) 412-536-1090

You can also e-mail your latest news or updated information to alumni@laroche.edu

We'd love to keep in touch!

Please print or type:

Name _____

Name of Spouse (if applicable) _____

Degree(s) _____

Class Year(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Preferred E-mail address _____

Employer _____

Business Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Business Phone _____

Names of children (age): _____

News _____



Keep in Touch

Alumni who send us their updated information will receive a La Roche College luggage tag. It's our way of saying thank you for keeping in touch.

Send your information along to:

Rose M. Woolley - Director of Alumni Affairs
La Roche College • 9000 Babcock Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

CAMPUS CLIPS



Winners of the Best in Show award. From L to R: Anthony Atwood, Cassandra Kaliszewski, Lindsay Tichenor, Steve Mauro.

Positive Space 2009

This year marked the 16th anniversary of Positive Space, the annual springtime art showcase for students who have taken at least one design-related course throughout their college career.

Students enter their work into eight different categories, and winners are declared in each category. A Best in Show award, sponsored by Howard Ishiyama, Ph.D., vice president of Academic Affairs, is also announced and has become the highest honor in the show.

Team members Anthony Atwood, Cassandra Kaliszewski, Steve Mauro and Lindsay Tichenor won this year's Best in Show award for their *Positive Space 2009 Poster Series*.

Because Positive Space is a juried show, every piece of work entered was reviewed by a team of outside artists, designers and educators. Out of the 367 original entries submitted, the jurors selected 142 pieces for the show or the work of 54 students.

All 142 pieces chosen for the show remained on display in the Cantellops Art Gallery throughout the month of March.

Graphic & Interior Design Senior Portfolio Show

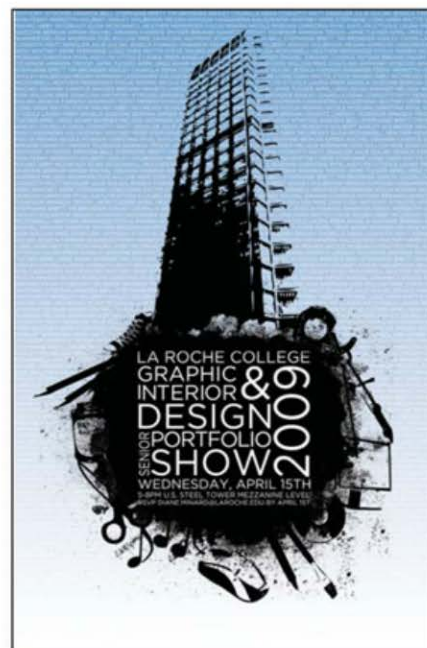
Thirty-nine talented Graphic & Communication Design and Interior Design seniors demonstrated their work in the annual Senior Portfolio Show that took place in April at the U.S. Steel Building in downtown Pittsburgh.

This marked the first year for the two departments at La Roche to host their portfolio show together. In years past, the Interior Design department would host the show at the U.S. Steel Building, while the Graphic & Communication Design Department would host its show at the College.

"The portfolio show marks a major achievement for our students. In the craziness of the senior year, it is a time for students to pull together their work and showcase it to friends, family, and most importantly, to potential employers," said Nicole Bieak Kreidler, chair of the Interior Design Department.

"This show is also a time of reflection for students to see how much they have grown during the past four or five years and to be proud of not only their work, but of their classmates as well. This year was especially important because not only did we introduce the senior interior design class to the 'real world,' but we also shared this event with the senior graphic design students.

"We hope this experience will be one of many enabling the design disciplines to nurture relationships for future collaborations," she added.





Student Nurses Meet the "Challenge"

Six La Roche nursing students competed in the Second Annual Student Nurse Challenge in Western Pennsylvania in March on the Penn State-New Kensington campus in New Kensington, Pa., and took home third place honors in the competition. The students competed against 12 other nursing schools, including the University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University.

According to Terri Liberto, M.S.N., R.N., assistant professor of nursing at La Roche, the Student Nurse Challenge is based on the College Bowl Program, whereby each participating school enters a team of five members and one alternate. The students competed by answering competitive, in-depth questions related to the field of nursing.

Participating on behalf of La Roche were: Jennifer Popich, of Highland Park; Nichole Vrahas of Shaler; Sarah Lilly of Grove City; Michelle Plan of McKeesport; Victoria Andromalos-Dale of Hampton; and alternate Christian Condrick of Johnstown.

"I was very proud of the team," Liberto said. "It was a great competition, and the students did very well."



GLOBAL PROBLEMS, GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

Saving our earth and its people.

Since its inception at La Roche College in 2004, the annual Global Problems, Global Solutions conference has been focusing on promoting awareness of important global issues. This year was no exception as Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, hosted the sixth annual conference in February.

This year's conference celebrated human rights in conjunction with the 60th anniversary of the universal declaration of human rights and featured two days of speakers, panels and workshops. The conference also featured a viewing of the internationally acclaimed play by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Ariel Dorfman, "Speak Power to Truth," based on interviews with more than 50 activists from around the world.

La Roche sponsored this year's event along with a host of other universities and organizations.

CAMPUS CLIPS



La Roche Dance Theatre Takes the Stage in New York and Pittsburgh

Springtime is always busy for the La Roche College Dance Theatre (LRCDT) dancers, and this year they took the stage not only locally at the Byham in Pittsburgh, but also at the Aaron Davis Hall/Marian Anderson Theatre in New York City.

This year was the second year that the LRCDT was asked to perform in New York in March for "Manhattan Dancing Into Springtime! An Evening of Contemporary Dance," along with the GESTURES Dance Ensemble of Harbor Conservatory for the Performing Arts.

The LRCDT also celebrated "love, spring and the pursuit of happiness" with this year's performance of "Aurora's Wedding" at the Byham in April.

CAMPUS CLIPS



PHOTO: PAM WADLEY

Showing off their chairs are interior design students (seated) Sarah Hoffman and (standing) Mary Pat Blaylock.

ID Students' Creativity Yields Furniture

A cool project was under way this spring at La Roche, where the Interior Design Department's Freshman Studio class explored "ergonomics through cardboard" via their annual cardboard chairs project.

Students were required to create a chair out of corrugated cardboard, and it had to be capable of withstanding 150 pounds without tipping. No fasteners could be used, with the exception of wood glue.

The purpose of the project was for classmates to get better acquainted, to experience working in a team and to simulate the design-build process in a small-scale project, according to Department Chair Nicole Bieak-Kreidler.

The chairs were on display in the hallway outside of the bookstore through the end of the semester.



PHOTOS: PAM WADLEY

La Roche Graduates 214 at May 9 Commencement

La Roche College was pleased to announce that 214 students were honored at the 2009 Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 9, in the Kerr Fitness & Sports Center.

Giving this year's commencement address was Schuyler Foerster, Ph.D., president of the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh. Dr. Foerster is also a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy where he served 26 years with the Air Force; he is the host of Pittsburgh Global Press Conference, a weekly radio program airing on KQV AM 1410; he served for five years as National Vice Chairman on the board of the World Affairs Council of America; and he has co-authored two books and written several articles on international politics and security issues, among a host of other accomplishments.

Baccalaureate Mass kicked off Commencement Weekend on Friday, May 8, at the Sisters of Divine Providence, Mother of Divine Providence Chapel. Graduates were also honored at a special awards lunch in the Fitness Center following the mass. The lunch was a time for the College's administration and faculty to pay tribute to and celebrate the achievements of the May graduates.

Receiving this year's Brother Gregory Nugent, F.S.C., Award for Teacher Excellence at the awards lunch was Edward Bobinchock, visiting professor in the Religious Studies/Philosophy Department. At graduation, President Sister Candace Introcaso, CDP, Ph.D., presented the 2009 President's Award for Leadership and Scholarship to Sabbir Amin. Nicholas Sauer was the recipient of the Richard G. Kotarba Outstanding Honors Presentation Award.

La Roche College Calendar of Events

Please join us for these upcoming events. All are open to the public, unless otherwise noted. Phone numbers also are provided for your reference. For more information and to learn about other timely events added after press time, please visit our website at www.laroche.edu and click on Upcoming Events on the homepage.

Open House Events:

Graduate Studies & Adult Education Programs

Keepp putting off finishing a bachelor's degree or earning a master's degree because it never seems like the right time? Now is the right time. Find out about our certificate, bachelor's and master's programs – our admissions counselors will help you choose a schedule that fits into your lifestyle. More classes are being offered online, too, so call for more information at 412-536-1262. It's time to invest in yourself. For Lawrence County and Cranberry Woods locations, please call 724-741-1034.

- **Thursday, July 9 • 4 to 6 p.m.**
Cranberry Woods Campus, Regional Learning Alliance,
850 Cranberry Woods Drive, Cranberry Township, Pa. 16066
- **Monday, July 20 • 4 to 6 p.m.**
Zappala College Center, Main Campus,
9000 Babcock Boulevard, Pittsburgh
- **Monday, Aug. 3 • 4 to 6 p.m.**
Cranberry Woods Campus, Regional Learning Alliance,
850 Cranberry Woods Drive, Cranberry Township, Pa. 16066

Undergraduate Programs

Visit LRC

This is a great time of year to visit La Roche! Our annual summer event provides an opportunity for students to meet with faculty, admissions counselors and financial aid representatives, tour the campus and take a look at the all-suite residence halls. All attendees are treated to a complimentary lunch in the Zappala College Center. You can call for more information at 412-536-1272 or toll free 1-800-838-4LRC.

- **Sunday, July 19 • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
Zappala College Center, Main Campus,
9000 Babcock Boulevard, Pittsburgh

Especially for our Alumni



Alumni Night at Stomp

Friday, Sept. 18 • 8 p.m.

- Benedum Center
Seventh Street and Penn Avenue • Pittsburgh
- Pre-Show Reception
Bossa Nova
123 Seventh Street • Pittsburgh Cultural District



Alumni Seminar Series

September and October 2009



18th Annual La Roche College Golf Outing

Monday, Sept. 28

- Wildwood Golf Club • Allison Park, PA



Alumni Wine Tasting

October 2009



Alumni Night with the Rockettes

Saturday, Nov. 14 • 8 p.m.

- Benedum Center
Seventh Street and Penn Avenue • Pittsburgh
- Pre-Show Reception
Bossa Nova
123 Seventh Street • Pittsburgh Cultural District



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It's Tee Time! Mark Your Calendar

18th Annual La Roche College Golf Outing
Monday, September 28, 2009
Wildwood Golf Club • Allison Park, PA

