Living the mission: aid for New Orleans

Gonzaga faculty, staff and students lived the University’s mission for service last month with an outpouring of aid for New Orleans victims. Through the efforts of faculty, staff, Student Life, Residence Life, University Ministry, GSBA, Knights and Setons, the Academic Vice President’s Office, the Law School and more, thousands of dollars were raised for the American Red Cross. Well over 100 faculty and staff made specific offers of aid for the 22 New Orleans students who enrolled at Gonzaga for fall semester. The gestures of compassion came in all shapes: microwaves, computers and beds, home-cooked meals and shopping trips.

Six of the students – all Louisianans, also siblings, cousins and/or friends – are living together in a house furnished largely through donations. Pots and pans, dishes and furniture all helped the Louisiana Six make a home. The only thing resembling a household item brought by any of them? Tony Chachere’s Cajun Spices, six packages of it.

History Professor Betsy Downey, who opened the faculty drive for Red Cross donations, said the decision to act was simple: “The only possible reaction was ‘we’ve gotta do something.’ ”

It has been difficult to put exact totals on the various fund drives because checks made out to the Red Cross weren’t always tallied along with the cash totals.

Three hundred Gonzaga students made personal offers of help to the New Orleans students on campus. When one of the two international students from New Orleans asked if a bass guitar might be available, Gonzaga architect Mac McCandless dug his son’s guitar out of the basement. Winter coats, televisions and gifts of money kept coming, said Dean of Student Services Beth Hellwig-Olson. “Finally, I asked people to stop giving. We’re going to give some things to the Red Cross.”

Administrators bent over backwards to ensure smooth transitions for the visiting students. One of the difficulties was making placement decisions for students who had no transcripts or even course catalogs from their home universities.

Faculty, staff deserve role in capital Campaign celebration

Gonzaga faculty and staff, each and every one, are personally invited to the Capital Campaign celebration to be held on Center Court of the McCarthey Athletic Center, and justly so, as they gave to the capital campaign in impressive numbers. A total of 629 faculty and staff members contributed $1,537,417.

This celebration, however, reaches beyond the dollars raised.

“What we really want to focus on is the transformation within the university over the last seven years, and continuing into our future. It’s about the spirit of Gonzaga and how far we’ve come as a university. Come and be a part of that celebration,” said Vice President of University Relations Margot Stanfield.

The 4:30-5 p.m., Oct. 20, celebration will include multimedia presentations alternating with personal interaction. Students will wear special celebration T-shirts. Friends and major benefactors will attend. The administration hopes for a powerful presence, as well, from faculty and staff.

Educating People the World Needs Most raised $148 million, exceeding its $119 million goal. The University will continue to raise funds for unfinished priorities, such as the College of Arts and Sciences, the Performing Arts Center, faculty development and mission endowments.

The campaign, along with expanded programs and increased enrollments, academic reputation and athletic reputation, has more than doubled the size of Gonzaga’s budget, capital assets and contribution base. This will enable the University to commit to a high degree of continuing quality improvements in coming years.

Thirteen new and renovated buildings for academics and residence living; increased endowment for scholarships, enhancement of faculty and mission areas; and support for technology, the Florence program and academic programs all resulted from the contributions pledged by faculty, staff, alumni, parents and friends of the University.
**Jundt Art Museum hits 10-year milestone**

The Jundt Art Museum is celebrating its 10th anniversary in October with a party for major benefactors Jim and Joann Jundt, whose long-time interest in the visual arts and ability to see an unmet need on Gonzaga's campus resulted in the highly regarded museum.

The museum regularly exhibits student and faculty pieces, as well as exhibitions by local, regional, national and international artists, said Scott Patnode, director and curator of the museum. Ask Patnode about important exhibitions in the last 10 years, and he ticks off artists known beyond the art world: Charlie Russell, Auguste Rodin and Dale Chihuly. Additional displays have included work by British artist David Hockney, women artists of Uruguay, Central and Eastern European art, sculpture by Deborah Butterfield, Australian aboriginal prints, and numerous exhibitions from the permanent collection.

A recent technological addition at the museum is software that allows images of each work of art in the Jundt collection to be digitally cataloged. Students and other visitors now have visual and data access to the entire collection through a computer kiosk in the museum.

The past 10 years have been full of successes, as well as the inevitable moments of tension. One of those successes, which Patnode calls a late surprise, was the donation a mere three months before the museum's opening of the Chihuly chandelier in the Chancellor's Room. If that hadn't come through, "we would have had an empty ceiling space for the opening," Patnode said. The chandelier now serves as a focal point for the museum.

Also in celebration of the 10th anniversary will be an open photo exhibition jointly sponsored by the museum and the Gonzaga University Photography Club, titled "Through My Lens: Spokane 1995-2005." The exhibition will be up from Oct. 21-Dec. 14, with a preview public reception on Oct. 20.

"I wanted to get as many people involved as possible, and I thought 'What better way than a nonjuried photo exhibition?' " Patnode said. The exhibition is open to anyone living within 50 miles of Spokane. Only one photo may be entered per person. Each photo must deal with some aspect of Spokane and must have been taken within the last 10 years. Please note that photos must be entered in person. Further information can be obtained at the Jundt Art Museum.

**Speakers’ series delves into effects of war**

The lecture series, "The Other Side of War," continues this month with professors and guests.

"America's War on Terror: Effects on the Home Front," will be a panel discussion held Oct. 12 at noon in the Jundt Auditorium. Panelists are Eileen Bell-Garrison, Gonzaga's dean of library services; psychology Assistant Professor Patrick Mulick; Associate Professor Sheri Engelen and Professor James Vache, both of the Law School.

James Howard Kunstler, author of "The Geography of Nowhere" and a regular contributor to Rolling Stone magazine, will discuss on Oct. 13, 7-9 p.m., his new book, "The Long Emergency: Surviving the Converging Catastrophes of the 21st Century." The book addresses the economic, political and social implications of the end of oil. This lecture will be held in the Globe Room of Cataldo Hall.

Concluding the fall series, Professor Thomas Shannon of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute will address the topic, "Recent Catholic Thought on War and Peace" at noon, Nov. 17, in the Foley Center Teleconference Room.

**Chapters already show hint of Zags’ rivalry**

Gonzaga is reaching out to its alumni, more than 30,000 strong, with a series of alumni chapters dedicated to strengthening connections with the University. A recent alumni survey showed that although Gonzaga is important to most alums, many feel unconnected to today's University. The chapters are intended to offer resources for socializing, networking, mentoring Gonzaga students both within and beyond GAMP, and helping prospective students.

With 4,000 alums living in the Emerald City, the Seattle Chapter will celebrate its launch close to the first of the year. Portland will follow soon thereafter. Plans call for opening four chapters this year, including Seattle, Portland, Spokane, San Francisco and/or Denver.

"Seattle may be first, but the Portland chapter thinks they're going to be the best, so there's a little competition shaping up there. And Tacoma has said 'maybe we should have our own chapter.' It's neat to see how responsive people are," said Kara Hertz, the new assistant director of the Alumni Association. Her job is to organize and oversee the chapters.

Hertz graduated from Gonzaga in 2001 as a public relations major. "My first job out of college was not very normal; I was named Miss Montana in June 2001 and was on a contracted tour for the next year. I competed at Miss America in September 2001. She was in New York during Sept. 11, 2001, and learned then how important the faith nurtured by the University would be to her. Gonzaga remained a major force in her life; she met her husband-to-be, also a Zag, at a wedding of mutual GU friends.

Eventually every state may have its own alumni chapter or a smaller club, Hertz said.
New Hires:
Upendra Acharya, visiting assistant professor, Law School; Stacey Avery, development assistant III, University Relations; Patrick Baraza, instructor, Religious Studies; Gary Chang, assistant professor, Biology; Douglas Decker, associate dean, Professional Studies; Heather Easterling, assistant professor, English; Sheila Evans, part-time graphic artist, University Relations; Suzann Girtz, instructor, Education; Vikas Gumbhir, assistant professor, Sociology; John Harrelson, instructor, Chemistry; William Hayes, assistant professor, Sociology; Ingrid Herman, assistant professor, English; Kara Hertz, assistant alumni director, University Relations; Brooks Holland, assistant professor, Law School; Jodie Kaczor, assistant women’s basketball coach, Athletics; Ted Jones, instructor, Political Science;
Kristen Kovak, part-time program coordinator, Sports & Physical Education;
Jennifer Kurdy, student life assistant, Gonzaga-in-Florence; Ryan Lynch, student life assistant, Gonzaga-in-Florence; Ellen Maccarone, assistant professor, Philosophy; Andrew Malone, part-time Campus Kids coordinator, CCASL; Joseph Manning, assistant manager, Student Publications; Nancy Marcus, program assistant II, University Relations; Ryan McCauley, student life assistant, Gonzaga-in-Florence; Sara Melendy, assistant professor, Business;
Paige Merrigan, counselor, Admissions; Rene Miller, community liaison/program marketing coordinator, Nursing; Vivek Patil, assistant professor, Business; Douglas Pierce, instructor, Philosophy; Adrian Popa, assistant professor, Organizational Leadership; Matthew Raffety, assistant professor, History; Kristine Reeves, administrative assistant to associate vice president, Diversity; MaryAnn Rinderle, administrative secretary II, AVP Office; Linda Rusch, visiting professor, Law School; Sean Simpson, part-time circulation assistant II, Chastek Library;
Sadibou Sow, instructor, Modern Languages; Deborah Stevenson, intern specialty specialist, Career Center; Robert Stiger, associate professor, Mechanical Engineering; Molly Volberding, program assistant II, Admission; Gerald Wagner, assistant volleyball coach, Athletics; Brian Walker, assistant professor, Biology; Janell Williams, operator, Switchboard; Dan Xu, assistant professor, Business; Steven Zemke, assistant professor, Mechanical Engineering.

Goodbyes:
Sanra Cablo, assistant women’s crew coach, Athletics; Marlin Clark, director, Career Center; Janice Drye, visiting instructor, Clinical Law; Joanie Fowler, cashier, Controller’s Office; Pamela Gilchrist, library assistant II, Chastek Library; Greg Goral, assistant volleyball coach, Athletics; Chad Lochmiller, counselor, Institutional Student Loan Office; Colleen Robinson, administrative secretary I, School of Education; Sheila Stillian, assistant director, Law School Recruitment; Matthew Williams, mailroom clerk, Plant Services.

Promotions/New Assignments:
Douglas Anderson, to maintenance manager, Mater Dei; Molly Ayers, to full-time service learning coordinator, CCASL; Melanie Aquino, to full-time counselor, Counseling and Career Assessment Center; Megan Ballard, to associate professor, Law School; Marnie Broughton, to program coordinator, Doctoral Program; Judith Bunting, to officer, Security; Michael Carey, to direct and associate professor, MOL Online; Janice Carruthers, to client services assistant, Registrar’s Office; Karen Contardo, to interim program director, Student Life; Taresa Downey, to computer lab and tech support assistant, School of Education; Gayle Ekins, to instructor, English; Lu Embrey, to instructor, School of Education; Mike Fitzsimmons, to assistant professor, Communication Arts; Matthew Gerdes, to parking coordinator, Security; Ginger Grey, to instructor, English; Michael Hamblin, to custodian lead II, Plant Services; Troy Johnson, to custodian, Plant Services; Kassia Kain, to associate dean of student life, Gonzaga-in-Florence; Michael Kellard, to general maintenance III, Plant Services; Rosanna Peterson, to assistant professor, Law School; Kyle Pifer, to compliance officer, Athletics; Charles Salina, to assistant professor, School of Education; Leah Schaeffer, to instructor, English; Janet Snowder, to custodial shift supervisor IV, Plant Services; Mark Stickelmyer, to general maintenance I, Plant Services; Fr. Gary Uhlenkott, S.J., to chaplain and associate dean, Gonzaga-in-Florence; Alex Vallandry, to academic records evaluator, Admissions; Mary Ellen Willemsen, to WIN consortium project manager, Foley; John Wolfe, to assistant professor, Psychology; Timothy Woodard, to general maintenance III, Plant Services; Julie Zabinski, to custodian V, Plant Services.

Anniversaries:
15 Lori Leonard, operator II, Switchboard. 10 David Myers, custodian III, Plant Services. 5 Beth Cullitan, arena custodian II, Plant Services.

Cradle Call:
Leif Forrest, multimedia distance education specialist, ITSS, and wife Danielle are the parents of Lauren. Born Sept. 6, she was 8 lbs. 1 oz., and 21 inches. Rodolfo Pagsanjan, area coordinator, Housing and Residence Life, and wife Veronika are the parents of Sophia Emily. Born Aug. 31, she was 7 lbs 9 oz.; Kathi Plager, development writer, University Relations, and husband Cory are the parents of Eleanor Grace. Born Sept. 8, she was 9 lbs., 1 oz., and 20.5 inches.

Focus On … Law, baseball, Superfund Where does McCurdy find time? Law Professor Jim McCurdy has a patient way of telling his own story. Ask him how he came to be the sole representative of Washington state’s interest on the Coeur d’Alene Basin Commission, and he’ll begin by telling you about serving early in his career as legal council to several of the Sioux Tribes.

Just graduated from the University of Texas at Austin, McCurdy learned from the Sioux that mediation and strong relationships are key to success. “But none of my law courses had even mentioned mediation. We didn’t think of it then, and of course now, it’s everywhere,” McCurdy said. No surprise, then, that McCurdy’s law courses over 28 years of teaching at Gonzaga have emphasized mediation.

His career has braided several strands together: Indian law, environmental law, sports law and teaching. But there’s more. Who runs a baseball team in their spare time? Jim McCurdy does. He gathered a handful of friends several years ago to buy the Butte Copper Kings, which they owned for several years. “Jim’s personality was the glue that held the group together and made it fun,” said friend and co-owner Mike Shields (’68). McCurdy also formed the ownership of the Yakima Bears. He remains president of the Pioneer Baseball League, a position he’s held for 13 years.

In September 2002, then-Gov. Gary Locke named him to Washington’s seat on the commission. His role is to help protect the Spokane River from further heavy metals contamination. The CDA Basin Commission includes six other seats, representing Kootenai, Shoshone and Benewah counties, the state of Idaho, the EPA, and the Coeur d’Alene Tribe. Of these parties, Idaho has veto power. So does the EPA. Even the county commissioners, if they vote as a block, have veto power. Only Washington has no veto power.

The commission, McCurdy points out, is a unique body. Nowhere in Superfund history has an overseeing commission been drawn from the various stakeholders. Typically, oversight is done by one agency, one government, top-down. If this bottom-up approach works, it will be one for the history books.

Now the connection is clear. McCurdy’s mediating skills and his penchant for building relationships are absolutely essential if the commission’s work is to succeed. “I say that if any one party uses their veto more than once, the commission will fall apart,” he said. “The success of this commission absolutely depends on forging relationship.”

So far, so good. The commission, while hindered by a lack of funding, is moving forward one step at a time. McCurdy can lead you through the intricacies of working with lead and zinc on the bottom of Lake Coeur d’Alene. But that’s another story.
Theatre tells Lewis and Clark from York's point of view

When Gonzaga senior Bobby Rawlins takes the stage of Russell Theatre as York in “Lewis and Clark Part One: Manifest Destiny” he’ll be completing a leap of faith.

Rawlins has never acted before. “Not unless you count school plays in the third grade,” he said. The not-acting part didn’t bother him so much, because, as Rawlins will tell you, he loves musicals and has always hoped to sing in one. Prior to this year, he sang in Gonzaga’s Choir, as well as having sung in high school and church choirs. His final year at Gonzaga, the biology major realized, could be the best chance he would get to fulfill his dream.

What he didn’t know was how large York’s role is.

“I thought it might be a bit part,” he said. “I found out while I was trying out that it’s not.” Indeed, York, who was the slave of William Clark, is the narrator and one of the largest roles. The play opens in 1832 by which time York has become chief of a band of Crow. Trappers discover York among the Indians and learn of his travels with the famous captains.

In the bicentennial year of the Lewis and Clark expedition, it’s a fitting way for the University’s Russell Theatre to open its season. The cast is working under the guidance of Spokane Interplayers’ visiting artistic director Nike Imoru.

The musical, with story by Alan Klem and music/lyrics by Frederick Hanna, both of Creighton University, opens Oct. 21 at 8:15 p.m. Subsequent shows will be held Oct. 22 at 2 and 8 p.m., Oct. 28, 29, Nov. 4, 5 at 7:30 p.m., and Nov. 6 at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are $6 for students, $10 for GU faculty and staff, and $12 for adults.

Where will all those leaves go?

Leaf season will arrive soon.

Once it’s in full swing, all nine of Gonzaga’s groundskeepers will blow leaves into piles and vacuum them up for removal from campus.

Blowing and vacuuming? We’re long past the days of hand raking, but operating today’s backpack-style blowers is still plenty labor-intensive, said Tim Hatcher, head groundskeeper for the University. Leaf removal moves into high gear after Thanksgiving and sometimes continues until the week after Christmas. Workers will haul off what will amount to 250 cubic yards of leaves.

Where do the leaves end up? Through a Clean Green composting program run by Spokane County, Gonzaga’s leaves will provide bedding for dairy cows on an Oregon farm that prides itself on sustainable farming practices.

While some of Gonzaga’s trees seem well nigh ancient, even the blue spruces that flank the main entrance to the Ad Building appear nowhere in a 1948-1949 photograph in Rogues Gallery.

The five Lombardy poplars at the east end of the Ad Building tower over the roofs of Russell Theatre and the Ad Building and are among the oldest trees on campus. The highest point of the Ad Building roof is 86 feet tall. The trees on campus. The highest point of the Ad Building and are among the oldest spruces that flank the main entrance. The not-acting part didn’t bother him so much, because, as Rawlins will tell you, he loves musicals and has always hoped to sing in one. Prior to this year, he sang in Gonzaga’s Choir, as well as having sung in high school and church choirs. His final year at Gonzaga, the biology major realized, could be the best chance he would get to fulfill his dream.

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Campus fills to the brim for Fall Family Weekend

Fall Family Weekend will bring between 800 and 1,000 families to campus on Oct. 21-23. Registration packets went out to all undergraduate parents during Orientation, and in the following week alone 104 families registered for the annual event.

Parents, grandparents, godparents, aunts and uncles – even the occasional family dog – attend. Families are encouraged to sit in on Friday classes, as well as taking in the women’s 1 p.m. soccer game against San Diego. “Lewis and Clark Part One; Manifest Destiny” at 8:15 p.m., in the Russell Theatre, a choir concert at St. Ails at 7 p.m., or redneck comedian Jeff Foxworthy at 8 p.m. in the McCarthey Athletic Center.

Faculty will give demonstration lectures on Saturday morning. Most attendees will likely be parents, whose students just might sleep in. Families also can learn more about Study Abroad; the ROTC families can go out in the field and see their cadet in training; crew and women’s soccer parents can watch their athletes compete. On Sunday morning, Knights and Setons will have their Pancake Feed in the Globe Room of Cataldo. For more information on the weekend, www.gonzaga.edu/ffw or contact Susie Prusch, coordinator of special university events, at ext. 5571.

Barracudas attack spam on campus computers

Have you noticed a dramatic drop-off of spam in your in-box? Central Computing and Network Support Services has acquired two Barracuda Spam Firewall 400s – little black boxes that are designed to intercept spam, virus files, and any spyware sent by e-mail. For a total cost of $16,000, the Barracudas now intercept about 95 percent of all nonlegitimate messages, said Peter Hanlon of Central Computing.

Here’s an example of the Barracudas’ results: In August, Gonzaga received 5,044,942 e-mails. Only 995,796 were legitimate email and allowed into your in-boxes. Of the rest, 3,870,816 messages were blocked as spam, and 36,178 as viruses.

Because of the high number of intercepted messages, there is a chance that valid messages will be caught and never reach the intended recipient. If you believe that you are not receiving messages that you should, please contact Hanlon or Jim Jones in Central Computing.