

Spirit

A newsletter for faculty and staff

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Catch up on building plans, Hamilton to Ruby

One might need a road map to keep up with all the changes occurring or planned on campus, from rejuvenation of the Fuller Building on the west end, to creation of a new tennis center on the east end. Here's a project rundown:

- A 160,000-square-foot student center is planned for the east 700 block of DeSmet. The COG will be razed, and its parking lot will be part of the new building's footprint. The building will include dining services, a greatly expanded bookstore, at least two dozen offices and a conference room. An auditorium/concert hall and ballroom divisible into multipurpose spaces may be included, depending upon project costs. Construction on the \$45 million project could begin in 2009. A single anonymous donor has provided funding for most of this project.
- Russell Theatre will be renovated, including new HVAC, electrical and wiring systems. New comfortable and more spacious seating will horseshoe around the stage. A new lobby will be built. Meanwhile, the dance studio will be moved to the back of the music annex building on Boone, and a practice theater will be constructed there as well.
- Renovation is under way on the Fuller Building in the east 100 block of DeSmet. The first floor will be converted into six classrooms, and a new exterior will be created. This portion will be completed by fall 2008. Phase II will include construction of new offices on the second and third floors. Several options are under consideration for which program(s) will occupy this space. Several plans for the fourth floor are being considered.
- In order to build the new student center, parking, the bookstore and dining services need to find a new home. A 650-space, multi-level parking garage is planned for the block at DeSmet and Cincinnati. A separate building facing onto

Hamilton between DeSmet and Boone will eventually house retailers on the first and second floors. However, while the new student center is under construction, Sodexo Dining Services and the bookstore are likely to occupy this space.

- Contingent on how the University's growth plan progresses, a freshman residence hall is planned for the practice soccer field south of Catherine-Monica. This would house 300 students (in the first phase of construction).
- In the meantime, work will begin soon on rebuilding the main soccer field west of Martin Centre, installing improved drainage, berm seating and a fence. A new practice field would be built north of the main soccer field, where the tennis courts are located. A new tennis facility is in planning stages for University property east of the Academy near the Centennial Trail, just south of Mission Park. Fund raising is under way for both of these projects. Phase II of the soccer project would include addition of grandstand seating. Phase III would include locker rooms, rest rooms, concession areas and lighting.
- To add more activity space, the Jundt lawn will



PACCAR Center for Applied Science is rising fast just south of the Herak Engineering Building. Huffman Contractors' crew will focus on interior work with the onset of cold weather.

be developed for recreation and intramural use.

- Meanwhile construction of the new West Mall will be completed by spring, including a 12-foot-wide brick pathway, lighting, landscaping and irrigation. By late March the statue of St. Ignatius Loyola should stand at its post in front of College Hall, framed by the archway of the building's front entrance. A 20-foot-diameter, polished black granite, three-tier reflecting pool should be in place by early April, in time for a late-April dedication.
- Kennedy Apartment Phase II is on schedule to be completed for occupation by 195 students in fall 2008, and the PACCAR Center for Applied Science will be completed about the same time.
- New rock-and-metal campus display signs will be installed on Ruby and Sharp to welcome people to campus. This should be completed by September.

Mission awards go to Lori Leonard, Jean Pugh

Smiles, tears, standing ovations and many congratulations accompanied the Outstanding Service in Support of Mission Awards recently presented to **Lori Leonard** and **Jean Pugh**. Father Pat Lee, S.J., vice president for mission, presided at the ceremony, which was held during the Staff Assembly's open fall meeting.

A switchboard operator since 1990, Leonard was nominated as "a living example of the ethos of the University."

"She is the face of Gonzaga. It is her contagious smile and effervescent personality that has greeted staff, students and visitors alike... Her life has been devoted to Gonzaga. She is always thinking of ways to make things better for her co-workers and for others in the community. She goes out of her way to help everyone. As a supervisor, my biggest problem was teaching her to say no," wrote Rae Anna Victor in her nominating letter.

While the award caught Leonard by surprise, Pugh must have known something was up. At this all-staff event, she was surrounded by several of the 21 faculty who nominated her. Pugh is the administrative assistant for the social sciences faculty.

"She exemplifies the values of the Gonzaga mission through her interaction with faculty, fellow staff members, and the many frustrated and, in their minds, desperate students who enter her doorway," wrote one of the nominators. "She projects a serenity and natural kindness that diffuses tension and soothes students



Jean Pugh, Fr. Pat Lee, and Lori Leonard

who are convinced their lives are ruined due to long waitlists for classes. She is especially patient and helpful with our newest colleagues, who are endlessly grateful for her assistance. She is entirely non-judgmental and accepting of others, and is always compassionate; these characteristics represent the highest of humanistic, Jesuit and Christian values."

The Outstanding Service in Support of Mission Award is given to two recipients each fall and each spring. Each award includes a \$100 gift certificate. Honorees' names are engraved on the award plaque.

A nominating form for the spring awards is available on the Staff Assembly's Web page.

Winter break proposal goes to Fr. Spitzer

A formal proposal for a paid winter break for staff was recently presented to Father **Robert Spitzer**, S.J. The proposed break would run Christmas Eve to New Year's Day.

The concept has been developed by an ad hoc committee; an update on the project was given at the Staff Assembly open fall meeting.

Staff member **Tana Dugan** explained that proponents do not expect any change in the holiday schedule this year. If this proposal does not meet with success, they plan to continue work on the concept, in order to meet any concerns that are raised.

In other business, Staff Assembly will launch a series of Conversations on Mission in January, with each session focusing on a different element of mission.

Spirit back in February

Due to the absence of most faculty from campus during the first half of January, the Spirit newsletter will hibernate for a month. Expect to see Spirit emerge in February.

AROUND CAMPUS

- The **Academic Vice President Search Committee** has received 35 applicants for the position. Committee chair **Paul Buller** said the committee hoped to identify finalists by Dec. 20, with campus visits set in late January or early February. The campus community will have chances to interact with each finalist during these campus visits. The committee hopes to send recommendations to the president by March 1.
- **Foley Center Library** has acquired **RefWorks**, software that allows users to organize research material, easily insert citations and create bibliographies. More information on this new service will be available in spring semester.
- The **Foley Center Christmas Party** falls on Dec. 11 from 2-4 p.m., in the Rare Books Room, with the annual Basket Raffle.
- The **Wellness Christmas Party** runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Dec. 12 in the Cataldo Globe Room. Enjoy a light lunch and treats, and a presentation on how to reduce stress.
- The **ROTC Christmas Party** will start at 2 p.m., Dec. 13 in the ROTC offices AD 045. Mr. Tom Williams is expected to supply his meatballs once again.
- The **President's Christmas Party** will be held 7-9 p.m., Dec. 14, in the Cataldo Globe Room.

Campus Kitchen really, truly needs you

Starting in Finals Week, Campus Kitchen will be seriously low on volunteers needed to serve 120 meals weekly through the holidays and the rest of Winter Break.

If you've ever wondered how Campus Kitchen operates, Rebecca Teichman offers the following facts and true stories from this year's Turkeypalooza:

- ◆ We cooked 29 turkeys and distributed 24 frozen turkeys.
- ◆ Jesuit House alone donated 23 turkeys.
- ◆ Due to a catering event, on Thursday we unexpectedly had to cancel the five-hour cooking shift scheduled for Friday and had to cook all the food on Saturday.
- ◆ On Sunday, I found 18 unbaked pumpkin pies that had sat out overnight due to a lack of communication.
- ◆ We underestimated the time it would take to reheat food (turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, green bean casse-

role, etc) for the 150 people expected to show up at the American Indian Community Center. So after looking for the new location on the left side of Second Avenue for 15 minutes, when it was really on the right side, we were an hour late. Those 150 people sure didn't mind once we started filling their plates with food.

- ◆ University Ministry employees and Plant Services employee Ed Fitzgerald and his daughter helped on Friday. We washed, buttered and spiced all 29 turkeys so they were ready to bake Saturday morning. Last year, I did all (23) turkeys by myself, so I was very appreciative of their help.

To volunteer contact Teichmann at (teichmann@gonzaga.edu). Volunteers are needed Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Times vary by the day.

NOTEWORTHY

Focus On ... **A fixture at Hughes Hall**

New Hires:

Kenneth Wessling, custodian, Plant Services; **Erik Gunning**, assistant trainer, Athletics; **Melissa Tevlin**, medical assistant, Health Center; **George Kocsis**, program specialist assistive tech, DSS; **David Alsept**, painter, Plant Services; **Connie Caddis**, grad recruit & enrollment specialist, Organizational Leadership; **Steve Pharr**, painter, Plant Services.

Goodbyes:

Sundae Garner, shipping/receiving clerk, bookstore; **Paige Kramer**, human resources generalist, Human Resources.

Promotions/New Assignments:

Sean Ahern, to custodian II, Plant Services; **Elvedin Alimanovic**, to custodian III, Plant Services; **Teresa Crane**, to program assistant III, Organizational Leadership; **David Gurr**, to painter IV, Plant Services; **Patty Hallinan**, to shipping & receiving clerk, Bookstore; **Laura Hathorn**, to library tech III, Foley; **Samuel Jennings**, to custodian I, Plant Services; **Eric Loran**, to custodian II, Plant Services; **Michael Luce**, to custodian I, Plant Services; **Adrian Pauw**, to evening/weekend assistant, Library Services; **Ronald Prindle**, to human resources generalist, Human Resources; **David Rovick**, to coordinator of student activities, Student Life; **Sergey Tsyukalo**, to painter III, Plant Services.

Anniversaries:

15 **Kathleen A. Burrow**, university scheduler/office coordinator, Campus Services.

10 **Sheron A. Ruffner**, cashier, Student Accounts; **Donna M. Ryan**, program coordinator, Study Abroad.

5 **Brenton Snyder**, user services tech, CCNSS; **Greg Stapleton**, electrician II, Plant Services.

Cradle Call:

Monica Bartlett, assistant professor, Psychology, and husband **Aaron Schneider**, are the parents of **Wesley Thomas Bartlett Schneider**. Born Nov. 12, he was 9 lbs and 4 ounces; **Heather Broom**, assistant, Student Accounts, and husband **Craig** are the parents of **Brooke Elizabeth**. Born Nov. 16, she was 5 lbs, 12 oz and 18 inches; **Dan Xu**, assistant professor, Finance, and husband **Haitao Jiang**, are the parents of **Andre Jiang**. Born Oct. 29, he was 7 lbs 3 oz and 20 inches.

Peter Black is part of Hughes Hall and has been for a quarter-century. As the Chemistry Department's supervisor of scientific materials and labs, he oversees chemicals, labs and equipment new and old. Pete does most of the purchasing for the department, spending thousands of dollars of what he always remembers is the students' money. He works on schedules and seating charts. He designed one of the Hughes chemistry labs – and can detail its strengths and shortcomings. He tries gently and sometimes not so gently – “Get your goggles on!” he'll yell into a lab with bare-eyed students – to keep the chemistry department running smoothly. He even helps faculty brush up on current safety. Pete's primary mission is to keep the behind-the-scenes part of the chemistry department running smoothly.

In short, Pete's position includes everything but teaching.

As a boy, Pete loved playing with chemistry sets. As a young man, he moved around some, never staying in one job for longer than a few years. But this was a great fit. Pete recently celebrated his 25th year at Gonzaga. He has unusual facts at his fingertips. He tends to an NMR – shorthand for nuclear magnetic resonating spectrometer – which needs a refill of liquid nitrogen every week and liquid helium every four months. So he knows, for instance, that there's a worldwide shortage of liquid helium.

When the occasion arises, Pete adopts the role of



Peter Black keeps the chemistry department going.

matchmaker. “Take a peak at that little piece of heaven,” he says, gesturing to a photo of newborn Emma Anne Hayden on one wall. Pete introduced the baby's parents, who several years ago were work study students. “Josh (Hayden) was 6-foot-5 and Tanya was blonde and 6-foot-1, and I said to Josh, ‘I have someone you need to meet.’” The duo met in the most unromantic setting: Tanya was scrubbing down lab tables, with yellow gloves up to her elbows and soapsuds everywhere. But the right chemical reaction occurred, and today the couple lives in Bend, Ore., where she is a research chemist.

It's clear that Pete is proud of their success, and of many other young people he's mentored. His e-mail signature reads: “Twenty-sixth year serving our elite students.”

School of Education grant to buoy math teachers

Suzann Girtz of the School of Education is co-directing a grant that will strengthen the way math is taught in high-needs schools in northeastern Washington. Rural schools and schools from within the Spokane Catholic Diocese will benefit from the project.

The \$237,000 grant is focused on helping teachers to understand how to best teach math under the state's new math standards for middle and high school students, also how to align the expectations at each grade level. Washington's math standards have been criticized as lacking in certain crucial content areas, as well as specificity of student expectations.

Washington state standards for math typically start with the phrase “Students will understand...” but fail to clarify how that understanding is to be demonstrated.

Mandated by the federal No Child Left Behind Act and administered by the state Higher Education Coordinating Board, the grant creates a marriage of teaching and content. Collaborators from the Education side of the house, Associate Professor **Dennis Connors** and Assistant Professor **Charles Salina**, are working with mathematicians Assistant Professor **John Villalpando**, Associate Professor **Shannon**

Overbay and Professor **John Burke**, representing the College of Arts and Sciences.

Math may be the focus of the grant, but collaboration is the working capital that will make this project succeed.

“From the content people, we're getting depth in, for instance, certain elements of algebra,” Girtz said. “From the instructional people, we're getting stronger understanding of various teaching tools, such as algebra tiles.” Working together, the education team and the math team are helping build off each others' best practices.

Then there are the practical pieces, such as funding for substitute teachers. The grant, which is co-directed by Gonzaga and Educational Service District 101, brings together isolated math educators from such small districts as Wellpinit, Republic and Curlew, as well as schools from the Spokane diocese, into a network of like-minded professionals. Rural districts often have just one secondary math teacher.

Girtz, who teaches evaluation, research and statistics and is also a fulltime doctoral student, said she's enjoying the work. She knows what it's like to be a K-12 teacher working in a classroom, isolated from colleagues. “We're here to serve them.”

