

Spirit

A newsletter for faculty and staff

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Phi Beta Kappa visit marks big opportunity for Gonzaga

Gonzaga is applying for membership into Phi Beta Kappa, the original undergraduate honor society in the United States, whose mission is to foster and recognize excellence in the liberal arts and sciences.

A three-member team from Phi Beta Kappa will visit Gonzaga on Feb. 27 and 28, exploring the University and talking with faculty, staff and students. The team will recommend whether GU should be granted a chapter. The final decision won't come for many months, though, not until after Phi Beta Kappa's national meeting in 2009.

Phi Beta Kappa was founded in 1776 at William and Mary College in Virginia. The honor society has moved generally from the East Coast toward the West. In many regions of the country, the name is immediately recognized as a distinctive mark of intellectual accomplishment.

Why does this matter to Gonzaga?

"A Phi Beta Kappa chapter would be an honor for GU and especially for the College of Arts and Sciences. It would put us in the company of the finest colleges and universities in the country," said Paul De Palma, professor of computer science.

"It's good for our students," said Kirk Besmer, assistant professor of philosophy. "This honors the students who have demonstrated a high level of academic excellence, hard work and diligence. It's not easy to be a 19-year-old intellectual in today's world."

De Palma and Besmer co-chaired the faculty team that assembled the 250-plus page application. DePalma gained his Phi Beta Kappa key in 1969 at St. Louis University, while Besmer was inducted in 1992 at the University of Dallas. Garrin Hertel, institutional research data analyst, gathered much of the data in the application. "Garrin's help made all the difference," Besmer said.

Previous attempts for a Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Gonzaga have not succeeded. The first attempt came in 1964. Several more occurred in the '80s and another in 2003. This is the first time Gonzaga has gotten this far in the application process.

If this bid succeeds, it will be the faculty, not the University itself that gains the Phi Beta Kappa charter – and specifically the 23 fulltime tenured or tenure-track faculty who earned Phi Beta Kappa status as undergraduates. These faculty will establish and run the chapter within the organization's national guidelines. The top 10 percent of students may be inducted, although a



Members of Gonzaga's Phi Beta Kappa faculty are preparing for the site visit on Feb. 27 and 28.

more rigorous standard typically is set.

Phi Beta Kappa chapters bring in visiting scholars, create scholarships, help to fund research opportunities for students, send students to conferences, support co-curricular activities and generally support scholarly opportunities for students.

Phi Beta Kappa is highly selective with 276 chapters nationwide, representing 10 percent of colleges and universities nationwide.

FACTS ABOUT ΦBK

- ◆ The Greek characters ΦBK stand for "Love of learning is the guide of life."
- ◆ Harvard and Yale gained Phi Beta Kappa status in 1781. Notre Dame was accepted in 1968.
- ◆ Twelve Jesuit universities have chapters, while 16 do not. Fordham was first to gain its chapter in 1962. Santa Clara was admitted in 1977.
- ◆ Members of Phi Beta Kappa include Nathaniel Hawthorne, Benazir Bhutto, seven of the nine current U.S. Supreme Court justices, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, Gloria Steinem and Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon.
- ◆ Induction ceremonies vary widely, but are often held in tandem with commencement. Professor Wayne Pomerleau, philosophy, recalls his induction at Georgetown University as being "very formal and so grim that no one cracked a smile." But Richard McClellan, associate professor of philosophy, remembers his induction at Reed College occurring over a breakfast of champagne and strawberries.

Adaptation of growth proposal takes advantage of fertile ground

Father Robert Spitzer, S.J., opened the spring semester by presenting to faculty an amended growth plan, as well as five critical needs expressed by faculty and a plan to meet those needs through the Strategic Plan. Together, these initiatives and measures will secure an exceptional future for the University, the president stated.

This version of the growth plan taps several sources for continuing revenue:

- ◆ Lifting the annual tuition increase from 6.25 to 6.5 percent annually.
- ◆ Increasing spending of the University's endowment funds from 4.6 to 5 percent annually.
- ◆ Adding 25 freshmen per year for the next four years, rather than 50 per year. This change should help to ease concerns about the potential loss of connection and intimacy, Fr. Spitzer said.
- ◆ Adding capacity to online graduate programs
- ◆ Adding enrollment to the ESL/TESL programs.
- ◆ Increasing enrollment in the summer programs and creating new summer institutes and camps on campus.

These six measures are expected to raise a net \$1.7 million annually. That funding will allow greater capacity in University Relations to conduct the upcoming endowment campaign, as well as funding goals of the Strategic Plan. Enhancing the quality of the University's academic and cross-academic programs, a concern that has been expressed by many campus community members,

will be addressed through the Strategic Plan.

During a Q&A session, Fr. Spitzer addressed the following topics:

- ◆ Why do we want to grow in the face of an expected demographic downturn? The need for strong financial aid in coming years will be met by the growth in Gonzaga's endowment. Analysis shows that added financial aid will allow the University to compete successfully for academically strong students. "We will have no trouble in translating those applicants into highly qualified freshmen, thereby maintaining a level enrollment at the end of this growth plan," Spitzer said.
- ◆ Adding summer programming, an idea advanced by the deans, is a particularly valuable option for the University. Current summer institutes are limited to athletics and debate. Additional programs will bring new populations of motivated, bright potential students onto campus.
- ◆ The new parking garage is mandated by city regulations, given the advent of the new student center, which is currently in design.
- ◆ Responses to the need for more classrooms and lab space are under way, with new classrooms coming on line in the PACCAR Center and the Fuller Building, as well as more lab space being equipped in Hughes Hall.

Also, Spitzer announced the renovation of Russell Theatre, made possible by a recent gift. "It will

become unrecognizable from the current theater," he said. A practice theater area will be located behind the music annex.

What I Hear You Saying

Comment sessions were held last fall for faculty, staff and students on the initial growth plan. Those sessions yielded widespread acknowledgment that the University needs a more substantial endowment. Father Spitzer also talked about the major concerns voiced during the sessions, including what he termed the five critical concerns:

- ◆ More resources for advising.
- ◆ More tenure-track faculty teaching Core Curriculum classes.
- ◆ Resources for more creative delivery of the Core Curriculum.
- ◆ A revolving technology fund, especially for the sciences and engineering.
- ◆ Resources for more faculty development and enrichment.

These items do not exhaust the concerns of the academic area, nor do they include the concerns of the cross-academic areas. These will be determined in the process of creating the Operational Plan for the Strategic Plan. Once a funding mechanism is put in place (such as the one suggested by Fr. Spitzer in the presentation), the specifics of the Operational Plan can be determined.

AROUND CAMPUS

• Father Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., has approved the following faculty promotions effective Sept. 1:

From assistant to associate professor: Jonathan Isacoff, College of Arts and Sciences; Vickie Williams, School of Law; and Steven Zemke, School of Engineering and Applied Science.

From associate to full professor: Mia Bertagnolli, College of Arts and Sciences; Beth Cooley, College of Arts and Sciences; Ron Large, College of Arts and Sciences; Joy Milos, CSJ, College of Arts and Sciences; Mark Shrader, School of Business Administration; and Kimberly Weber, School of Education.

• Foley Center's Christmas Basket Raffle raised \$680. The donation was divided equally between CCASL on campus and the Spokane Neighborhood Action Plan.

• Classes were canceled at Gonzaga Jan. 31, the first time since Ice Storm in the mid-1990s that such an action has taken place. Poor road and weather conditions necessitated the decision, said Chuck Murphy, vice president for finance. The only other time classes have been cancelled in the past 50 years was during summer school session in May 1980 when Mount St. Helens blew its top. In both cases, many of the city's services were curtailed by the condition.

Interviewing under way for three AVP finalists

Three finalists for the academic vice president's position and their interview schedules have been announced by Professor Paul Buller, chair of the AVP Search Committee.

Candidate Jeremy Haefner visited campus on Jan. 24 and 25. Haefner is associate vice chancellor for research and innovation, dean of the Graduate School and the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs.

Dennis Horn, dean of Gonzaga's School of Engineering and Applied Science, will interview on Feb. 7-8.

Joseph Fedock, senior vice provost, Montana State University, will be on campus Feb. 11-12 for interviews.

"We encourage all members of the University community to participate in these sessions and become acquainted with the candidates. We will provide survey forms



Jeremy Haefner

Dennis Horn

Joseph Fedock

to solicit your feedback on each candidate. The committee will consider the feedback from all of the constituent groups and make its recommendations to the president by March 1," Buller said. Thirty-six applications were received and thoroughly reviewed by the AVP Search Committee.

Schedules for the candidates, their cover letters and resumes are posted on the AVP Search web page at: <http://www.gonzaga.edu/campus-resources/Offices-and-Services-A-Z/Academic-Vice-President/avp-search/default.asp>

NOTEWORTHY

New Hires:

Heather Brotherton, wireless net technician, Central Computing and Network Support Services; Timothy Buchanan, security officer, Security; Shane Hatcher, field officer I of major gifts, University Relations; Janice Huston, academic records evaluator/computer operations technician, Admissions; Karen Oshaughnessey, program assistant, Washington-Idaho Network, Foley; Jennifer Raudebaugh, photographer, Marketing and Communications; Scott Roberts, shipping and records supervisor, Bulldog Store; Barbara Welk, cashier, Bulldog Store; Diane Zemke, grant writer, Sponsored Research and Programming.

Goodbyes:

Theresa Castillo, accounting assistant II, Student Accounts; Cathryn Perry, administrative secretary/receptionist, Counseling; Richard Dallen, professor, Religious Studies; Joan Dezember, secretary of leadership and administration, School of Education; Kristine Lennemann, visit office specialist, Admissions.

Promotions/New Assignments:

Todd Coleman, groundskeeper II, Plant Services; Craig Ebert, custodian lead, Plant Services; Glen Frappier, senior lecturer, Debate; Colleen Goodwin, senior lecturer, Mathematics; Jose Hernandez, director of fitness center, Athletics; Seiko Katsushima, senior lecturer, Modern Languages; Vitaliy Kuzmenkov, groundkeeper III, Plant Services; Ben Meyer, custodian II, Plant-Arena Services; Michele Pajer, senior lecturer, English; Shelly Radtke, associate director of the fitness center, Athletics; Ellen Rowland, custodian services assistant II, Plant Services; Greg Stapleton, electrician III, Plant Services; Rosanne Whitney, custodian shift supervisor V, Plant Services; Michael Woods, assistant professor, Religious Studies.

Anniversaries:

30 Stephen Balzarini, associate professor, History.

20 Joanne Smieja, professor, Chemistry.

15 Chris Standiford, senior associate athletic director, Athletics; Michiko Tra, programmer/analyst, Central Computing and Network Support Services.

5 Susan Bowen, administrator secretary II, Law Dean; Darryl McLeod, custodial shift supervisor, Plant Services; Phillip Taylor, technical coordinator-media, Arts & Sciences; Mary Water, library technician III, Library Services.

Cradle Call:

Jason Gilman, computer support specialist, School of Education, and wife Mary, are the parents of Nathan. Born Dec. 5, he was 6 lbs, 1 ounce, and 18½" long.

Focus On . . . Boose on the loose

Associate Professor David Boose, biology, was recently named director of the Center for Teaching and Advising, after a unanimous recommendation from the CTA search committee.

It's been quite a year-and-a-half for Boose. Last year, he was on sabbatical with a busy schedule:

"I had two main projects – the evolution and diversification of a group of plants that inhabit temporary wetlands known as vernal pools, and a molecular genetic investigation of a fungus that infects and kills cheat-grass seeds," Boose said. "In addition to those two, I wrote the growth chamber grant proposal; contributed to a grant proposal to the USDA on the cheat-grass fungus; finished a departmental review; and reviewed two manuscripts for professional journals, a grant proposal for the National Science Foundation, two ecology lab manuals and two textbooks."

For the vernal pool project, Boose collaborated with colleagues at Brigham Young University. He will do genetic analysis of the cheat-grass fungus, while Assistant Professor Julie Beckstead, biology, and other biologists at BYU pursue ecological studies of it.

The growth chambers, granted through the E.L. Wiegand Foundation, are expected to be installed later this month, and will allow students to measure different rates of photosynthesis in plants.

One other sabbatical project: "I also got to enjoy being involved in my son's second-grade class, which



David Boose working with his son and classmates on a Turnbull field trip last summer.

made five trips out to Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge to monitor a dozen bluebird boxes and record the status of the nests throughout the spring and summer," Boose said.

This fall, Boose served as interim director for the CTA, implementing the new mentoring program. His three-year term as director will begin this summer.

"The CTA is becoming one of the most important resources on campus for our faculty," said Thayne McCulloh, interim AVP, in remarks at the start of the spring semester. "It will be in good hands with David Boose at the helm."



Bishop White construction start slated for June

Groundbreaking for the new home of Bishop White Seminary is expected to occur June 1. The 22,000-square-foot facility will include a chapel, conference center, kitchen and dining room, offices and three stories of living space. It will be built on the present seminary site.

"We are very excited about this project. This will probably be the first seminary in the United States in many decades to be built from the ground up," said Father Darrin Connall, rector of the seminary. "It is historic for our diocese and for the Gonzaga community."

The new facility on the northwest corner of Sharp and Addison will house up to 20 seminarians and three priest faculty members. Seminarians will occupy simple individual rooms. The residential portion of the seminary building will look similar to the Corkery apartments.

The Bishop White brick mansion will be given to Gonzaga University, Connall said, and will be moved across Addison. The remaining seminary buildings will be demolished.

The anticipated budget is \$4.1 million. The bulk of the construction costs will be paid for through the "Here I am Lord, Send Me" campaign for the education and formation of seminarians by the Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Spokane. In addition, there have been recent additional and substantial gifts to the construction fund.

Construction is expected to be complete in 10 to 11 months, with an anticipated move-in date in April 2009. The seminary will rent three houses on Sinto Avenue from Gonzaga during the construction process. The contractor will be Bouten Construction and the architect is Architects West in Coeur d'Alene.

College athletics as a business? Roth makes one distinction

Gonzaga Athletic Director Mike Roth told an audience at the Jepson Center's Wolff Auditorium recently that college athletics is remarkably similar to most other businesses with one major exception: emotion.

"Why are people calling for my head on a platter over ESPNU?" Roth asked the crowd assembled Dec. 5 for the Gonzaga Dean's Business Forum breakfast, sponsored by the School of Business Administration. "College athletics is emotionally based."

ESPNU, a new pay channel offered by ESPN, airs college sports exclusively. Roth was referring to that channel's airing of the Gonzaga vs. Washington State men's basketball game. ESPN contracts with the West Coast Conference to broadcast a certain number of games. This year the contract calls for airing 16 games, nine of which are Gonzaga games, as well as the WCC men's tournament semifinal and championship games. The fact that ESPNU was carrying the much-awaited WSU vs. GU game made some Zags fans angry. After all, they've grown accustomed to watching almost every GU men's game live on either Fox Sports Northwest, KHQ-TV, the NBC

network affiliate in Spokane, ESPN or ESPN2.

Roth said the emotion surrounding Gonzaga basketball is stunning at times, and continues to grow in fans' response to success. "They're not just coming in and buying a widget," he said. "They're buying emotion. Success breeds that emotion." As a result, Roth said he has emphasized the importance of athletics personnel embracing emotion and its accompanying stress.

"In some ways, the more emotion involved the better off we are going to be," he said. "We need people to be involved and that means reaching for your wallet. Our tickets are expensive but we

need that in order to be successful."

Although more success brings more stress, Roth said it's a nice problem.

"I'm not complaining," he said. "We want that. We work every single day at Gonzaga athletics to have this."

Roth said the strategic business plan for Gonzaga athletics centers on each person working hard every day to get better.

"What we do today is to be better tomorrow than we were yesterday," he said. "We're never satisfied with what we've done."



Student-athletes roll off the leased jet made possible this season by Zag supporters for men's and women's basketball teams.

Rare book exhibit at Foley, online

A 1484 Roman missal and first editions of 20th century Catholic novelist Evelyn Waugh, some illustrated by Waugh, are among the highlights to be displayed in Gonzaga University's "Treasures from the Vault: Rare Books from the Jesuit Heritage."

This debut exhibition, which opens Feb. 4 in the Rare Books Room of Foley Center, runs through June 6. The collection includes more than 3,000 volumes of rare books and manuscripts in philosophy, theology, literature and art, including the original edition of the Douai-Rheims Bible (New Testament in 1582, Old Testament in 1609).

The exhibition showcases what had been known as "The Mount St. Michael's Collection," the rare books from the Jesuit seminary at Mount Saint Michael's, just north of Spokane and other scholasticates in the Pacific Northwest. The books were transferred to Gonzaga when those institutions closed in the 1960s and in 1970, and were purchased



by Gonzaga from the Oregon Province of the Society of Jesus. The collection has been renamed "The Gonzaga Collection: Rare Books from the Jesuit Oregon Province."

An expanded version of the exhibition is posted on the Rare

Book Room's web page. A public reception will be held Feb. 29, 7-8:30 p.m.

Docent tours are available. For more information, contact Catherine Tkacz, an independent scholar and curator of the exhibition, at 484-5562.

Employee professional development a priority

Human Resources will offer four sessions of a new management development program in February and March. The one-day program will cover the legal and procedural aspects of managing today's workforce and how to apply this knowledge effectively within Gonzaga's unique mission and work environment.

Participation in the Management Development Program will be required for all non-faculty managers and supervisors. Topics will include understanding liability, recognizing harassment and discrimination, understanding the federal Family and Medical Leave Act and Americans with Disabilities Act. Other topics covered are employee relations and workplace violence.

For anyone unable to attend one of these four sessions, the program will be offered once per quarter. For more information, contact Jason Swain, manager of employee and organizational development, ext. 6124.

Hauntingly beautiful 'Crane Wife' on stage at Russell

"The Crane Wife," based on a Japanese folktale, will be presented in Russell Theatre, at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 1-2 and 8-9. The production includes puppetry masks, dance elements, and an original musical score by student Jeff Rosick.

Directed by Suzanne Ostersmith, the play tells

the hauntingly beautiful story of Kokuro, a poor peasant whose kindness brings him great fortune. Overcome by greed, his actions cost him the most precious thing in his life.

Gonzaga's Japanese Club helped to develop this production.

