

Spirit

A newsletter for faculty and staff

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Spending some quality time with Gonzaga's Jesuits

By Sabrina Jones

A brand new event, the Ignatian Gala, occurred at Gonzaga in April. Here's a peak at one sliver of the behind-the-scenes work that went into its creation.

This would be a black-tie, donor recognition affair. It would feature entertainment by Kathryn Crosby and a four-course formal dinner, all held in McCarthey Athletic Center. The highlight of the evening would be awarding the first-ever Ignatian Spirit Award, given to an individual or group of individuals who best exemplify the attributes of St. Ignatius himself: attributes such as generosity, love, spirit, service and commitment.

Who would be the ideal recipient? It didn't take long to know that they were right here in our own backyard: members of the Gonzaga Jesuit community who have been the longest-standing benefactors and most loyal supporters of the University. The real question, though, was how to honor them. The recipient of the award needed to remain "top-secret," but how does one fib to a Jesuit? Even a little white lie? Who knows where we might end up?

It was a chance we were willing to take. We phoned, e-mailed and even met them on campus to ask if they would be interested in allowing us to videotape an interview of them for, well, university marketing purposes. Yes, that was the reason. To promote the values of Gonzaga University – and that really was mostly true (at least that's what we told ourselves).

When all was said and done, interactive web designer **Matt Gollnick** and I had eight Jesuits participate in our video interviews: Fathers **Robert Spitzer**, **Barnie Coughlin**, **Pat Lee**, **Frank Costello**, **Rick Ganz**, **Gary Uhlenkott**, **Kevin Waters** and **Michael Moynahan**. Some interviews were conducted in the University Chapel, while others were held in the Jundt Art Museum and the Rare Books Room of Foley Center Library. None had difficulty finding the right words. Almost all of them wore their Roman collars and every single one shared his innermost thoughts with us.



Thirty-six Jesuits gathered for the first-ever Ignatian Gala, where they were honored with the inaugural Ignatian Spirit Award. Here, from left, are Fr. Rick Ganz, S.J., Fr. Al Morissette, S.J., Fr. Paul Luger S.J. (the oldest member of the Oregon Province and resident of the Regis Community), Fr. Spitzer, S.J., and Fr. Peter Ely, rector of the Seattle University Jesuit Community. Photo by Amy Sinisterra

As with most movies, some of the best parts never made the final cut. Matt and I know who wins Fr. Costello's vote this fall for the next U.S. president, just as we remember how Fr. Lee joked about answering questions for someone else for more than three hours, yet the final piece was just 10 minutes long (luckily we had him only 30 minutes). Fr. Coughlin reminisced about being "bugged by God" as a 19-year-old young man while Fr. Moynahan explained to us why Jesuits didn't go into forestry (you'll have to ask him yourself). Some of the best parts are simply listening to their laughter.

What an honor it was to spend time with these men of such wisdom, grace and selflessness. None of them flinched when asked about the impact the Jesuits have had – and continue to have – on Gonzaga, or how this University has helped them achieve their life's passions. Their

answers were enlightening and engaging, funny and nostalgic. It was all really good stuff. Right from the heart.

The hardest part was condensing those four hours of interviews into an eight-minute commemorative video that would somehow represent the Jesuits' immeasurable contributions. But, with a little editing magic, some nice background music and a treasure trove of photos from our very own archives, it worked. The result? More than 400 people on the evening of April 17, were treated to a taste of what it means to be a Jesuit at Gonzaga University, and, most importantly, what they mean to us.

To enjoy the video, here's the link: <http://www.gonzaga.edu/Campus-Resources/Offices-and-Services-A-Z/University-Relations/Campaign/gala/video.asp>.

New grants office pulls in nearly \$4 million

Two years ago, Gonzaga brought in \$238,000 in public grant funds. Last year, over \$1 million was awarded, this year's funding is nearly \$4 million, including a \$1.2 million Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant for the sciences.

What's making the difference? For one thing, new incentives which support and reward faculty who write grants. These "offer a thank you to faculty for their efforts in grant writing," said **Joann Waite**, director of the new Office of Sponsored Research and Programs, which operates under the AVP.

Another reason for the current success is the expanded expertise available to faculty. **Carol Bonino** and **Alli Riese** of Foundation Relations work closely with the SRP crew, including **Denny McMonigle**, **Diane Farrell**, **Diane Zemke** and **Waite**.

The Foundation Relations office has been at Gonzaga for many years, offering grant writing services supporting major university initiatives and for faculty initiatives for private grant funding. What was miss-

ing all those years, **Bonino** said, was a formalized funding submission process, an incentive program and a formal link to the AVP, and someone to build relationships with the state and federal agencies. Those are the elements **Waite** has brought to campus.

"Grants have become increasingly complicated," **Waite** said, hefting a 100-page booklet of instructions for one grant, and "faculty appreciate the services offered by our office through these complicated submission processes."

Recent grant funders include the National Science Foundation, National Institute of Health, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust and Coleman Foundation.

"Having these organizations supporting the faculty research and Gonzaga sends a message to parents that this is a place to send their student, as these organizations' funds provide experience for students necessary to meet the increasingly competitive demands of graduate programs and the workforce," **Waite** said.

Trustees, officers elected

Donald Nelles ('59), Bellevue, Wash., has been elected chair of the Gonzaga University Board of Trustees, and **John Luger**, Bellevue, Wash., has been elected vice chair. New members elected to the Board of Trustees are **Paul W. Brajcich** ('79), Shoreline, Wash., **Kevin McQuilkin** ('83), New Canaan, Conn., and **Robert Tomlinson**, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Harry Sladich, Gonzaga vice president, was elected secretary, and corporation counsel **Michael Casey** was elected assistant secretary.

Nelles, a C.P.A., was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1996, and served the past three years as vice chair. He is a retired partner of Ernst and Young in Seattle, and now runs Nelco in Bellevue. **Luger** was elected to the board in 2000. He is president of JDL Enterprises.

Plenty of thought, collaboration went into HHMI grant

The recently announced \$1.2 million Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant will nearly triple the number of undergraduate research slots in the sciences. It will enable the hiring of two new science faculty. New course content will be taught, particularly in computational and quantitative areas. Finally, new outreach opportunities will unfold for Native American and low-income K-12 students in the region.

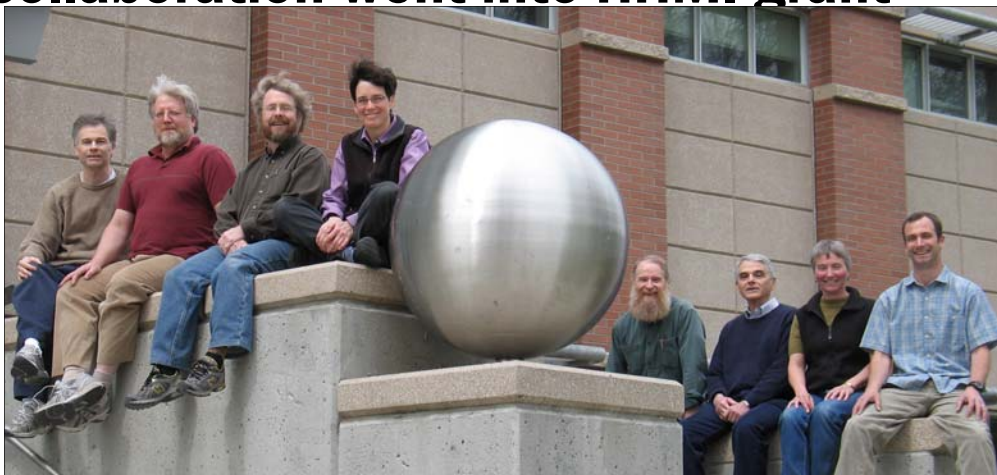
The HHMI grant, one of just 48 awarded, will put Gonzaga on the map in higher education science circles, say those involved.

So how did GU capture this prize?

You can't just apply to the Howard Hughes Medical Institute for a grant. Being one of 224 institutions invited to apply was the first step. "**Brook Swanson**, who is in his second year here, really took the initiative to make this happen," said **Nancy Staub**. These two members of the biology department took major roles in developing the \$1.2 million HHMI grant, but other faculty and staff contributed to the complex proposal.

Carol Bonino of Foundation Relations approached science faculty with the idea about a year ago, said **Swanson**. "We had a meeting with most of the biology and chemistry faculty and brainstormed ideas of what we might do, what we thought we needed to 'take our programs to the next level,'" **Swanson** said.

"**Julie Beckstead** came up with the idea of the research option to pull together a variety of dis-



Sphere of success: Among the faculty and staff who worked on the HHMI grant are (from left) Jeff Cronk, Joey Haydock, Bill Ettinger, Nancy Staub, Peter Pauw, Howard Glass, Joann Smieja and Brook Swanson.

connected ideas. **Peter Pauw** and **Kirk Anders** advanced the ideas about modernizing curriculum and adding quantitative and computational approaches, which is something that HHMI specifically wants to fund."

Raymond Reyes, **Wendy Thompson** (both of the office of intercultural relations), **Joanne Smieja**, **Bill Ettinger**, **Robert Prusch**, **Gary Chang**, **Swanson** and **Joey Haydock** were involved in the first discussions about outreach, and **Swanson** and **Haydock** made contact with the Spokane tribal community and North Central High School about outreach. All of these individuals, plus **Sara Mandel** and **Howard Glass**,

helped with the actual grant writing.

Swanson coordinated putting the application together – with a lot of logistical and editorial help from **Bonino**, **Joann Waite** and others in the Sponsored Research and Programs Office.

Was the process a rollercoaster at times?

"There was a lot of energy at the beginning of the process and we were good at getting things started. Then we all got busy with summer activities," **Swanson** said. "The last two weeks before submission were very crazy trying to pull all of the pieces together and create something that told a coherent and compelling story."

NOTEWORTHY

Focus On ... **Service learning, up close and personal in Tacoma**

New Hires:

Katherine R. Conrath, resource center specialist, School of Nursing; **Kathy Hill**, archival processing assistant, Library Technician II; **Angela Keebler**, programming assistant II, Alumni Chapters.

Goodbyes:

Doug Anderson, maintenance manager-mater dei, Ministry Institute; **Lisa Bracco**, grad and marketing programming specialist, Business-Administration; **Katie Doree**, director of Major Gifts, University Relations; **Joe Miller**, assistant controller, Controller's Office; **Ryan Mowrey**, custodian I, Plant Services; **Lynn Wells**, assistant director of alumni association, University Relations.

Promotions/New Assignments:

Nesiba Besic, custodian II, Plant Services; **KayLynn Brandon**, administration assistant, Plant Services; **William Crowley**, HVAC technician III, Plant Services; **Enes Dautovic**, custodial shift supervisor, Plant Services; **Jon McKimney**, groundkeeper irrigation specialist II, Plant Services; **Melissa Rehm**, custodian I, Plant Services; **Allison Sather**, programming assistant III, leadership and administration, School of Education; **Michael Tobin**, painter III, Plant Services; **Kenneth Wessling**, custodian I, Plant Services; **Nancy Yamaura**, custodian specialist IV, Plant Services.

Anniversaries:

20 **Laurie Hanlon**, integrated system specialist, Central Computing.

10 **Erik Blackerby**, IT communication and education services manager, TES; **Marnie Broughton**, program coordinator, Doctoral Leadership Studies; **Jason Gilman**, tech support specialist, School of Education.

5 **Larissa Fort**, night manager, Crosby; **Karen Franks-Harding**, recruiting coordinator, Career Center; **Rian Oliver**, basketball academic coordinator, Athletics.

Cradle Call:

Heidi Doolittle, instructor, English Language Center, and husband **Toby** are the parents of **Kelton**. Born on March 28, he was 8 lbs, 1 ounce, and 20½" long.

By *Megan McCormick, University Ministry*

It was my privilege to spend spring break as an advisor for Mission:Possible Tacoma. The group of nine students proved to be one of the most cohesive, friendly and open groups I have worked with this year. Some of the students knew one another before going on this immersion trip, but by the end of the week they were all forming strong friendships.

A few moments stood out. During sharing in the evenings, the students expressed the ways in which they were growing and learning during the daily service work. They were honest and frank, and they listened to one another without judgment. I was impressed by the depth of reflection as well as the optimism they held, even after interacting with sometimes difficult populations of people all day. One day we worked at St. Leo's Food Connection, and a group of six students and I hauled heavy boxes of food up and down stairs, repackaged frozen salmon fillets, and sorted food into bags for other people to hand out on the street. It was unglamorous, physical work. The students brought a spirit of joy, laughter and helpfulness to the task. They worked hard all morning to help out even though they were not met with much gratitude by the organization.

One morning we met the folks who run the needle exchange van down the street from the Catholic Worker community. The man who founded the first needle exchange program in the United States ended up being there and he



Students and staff on Mission:Possible Tacoma, including Megan McCormick ("She's got muddy knees and a red bandanna.") gathered for a "we did it!" shot at Jene's House of Prayer. The team did landscaping, weeding and planted a gingko tree as a symbol of hope and peace.

took the time to talk with us about the philosophy of the program. While we were there, men and women approached the van to exchange their needles. One woman walked up to ask the director a few questions. She was literally bent in half and could barely speak. Her hair was unwashed, and her clothes were filthy. My heart broke for her and all people who struggle with drug addictions. The daily struggles they face compared to the comfort the students and I enjoy forced me to evaluate my privilege in the world and the responsibility it carries.

I was afraid that going on a seven-day service trip would be exhausting, but it was anything but! At the end of the week, I felt rested and more a part of the community of Gonzaga than ever.

Bronze statue dedicated on brisk April afternoon



St. Ignatius will welcome students to Gonzaga for hundreds of years to come.

Dedication of the St. Ignatius monument at the main entrance to College Hall took place in the afternoon of April 17. Two hundred benefactors, faculty, staff and students gathered for the commemoration. Father **Robert Spitzer**, S.J., offered thanks to Greg Hubert, president of the Board of Regents and a 1973 alum, and his wife Teresa, primary benefactors of the sculpture.

Renowned sculptor George Carlson of Harrison, Idaho, recalled receiving the initial phone call from Fr. Spitzer, S.J., asking if he would be interested in the commission. "Are you kidding me?" Carlson responded in delight.

"When he takes on a piece like this," said Pam Carlson, the sculptor's wife, "he goes into a long period of study. He really wants to learn everything about his subject. And what I've

noticed is that he seems to really *become* that person."

Carlson's focus was the period of spiritual growth which Ignatius underwent in the cave at Manresa, leading to his development of the Society of Jesus.

"I was trying to capture the moment when he knows the seed of the idea of how he wants to spend his life," Carlson said, pointing out the meditative quality of St. Ignatius' expression, stance – even the way his hands are held.

Ripples of water from the pool at the statue's base and the concentric circles of landscaping and walkways are all intended, Carlson said, to call to mind the fertile mental and spiritual growth that can occur during meditation.



Faculty achievement recognized: Honored as Exemplary Faculty were: (back row, from left) David Cleary, chemistry; Pat McCormick, religious studies; John Villalpando, mathematics; Ellen Maccarone (who received the faculty diversity award), philosophy; (middle row, left) Brian Clayton, philosophy; William Hayes, sociology and criminal justice; Heather Easterling, English; Wayne Pomerleau, philosophy; and (front) Andrew Goldman, history; Mia Bertagnolli, biology, and adjunct Kristin Morehouse, who was honored for her use of service learning. Not pictured is honoree Kirk Besmer, philosophy.



Longtime professors honored: Awarded emeritus status on the occasion of their retirement this June were Bud Hazel, professor of communications, 37 years; Sandra Wilson, associate professor of doctoral leadership studies, 26 years; James Dallen, professor of religious studies, 26 years; and Jim Vache, professor of law, 37 years.

Three points... and a good deal more

The next phase of putting the University's Strategic Plan into action, or its operationalization, will be assembled in draft form over the coming months, Father Robert Spitzer told about 190 staff who attended the annual Heads Up Gonzaga.

The draft plan should be created by October. Faculty and staff comment on the plan will be sought. "You'll be able to vet which sorts of new things are coming to campus," Fr. Spitzer said. As funding sources are identified, new staff will be hired to handle new programs, student growth and to support new faculty.

Fr. Spitzer outlined plans for a new tennis facility on five acres just east of The Academy assisted living center, east of Hamilton. That facility is expected to include indoor and outdoor courts, as well as an indoor golf driving range that will allow for our golf teams to be more competitive against California teams. The indoor facilities are dependent on fundraising.

The PACCAR building is on schedule for completion in August.

Room is available on either end of that structure for future expansion. A needs assessment is under way for a potential new office building to the north of Hughes for science faculty and other Arts and Sciences faculty needs.

The search committee for a new vice president of Mission is being developed and will be focused on finding a Jesuit for that important role, Fr. Spitzer said. He voiced enormous confidence that the position as well as the presidency will attract interest from a number of highly qualified Jesuits.

Finally, Fr. Spitzer commented on the new compensation system. "I want to assure that we are not cutting back on funding for salaries – if anything, the opposite is true. Gonzaga is in prosperity and we have no intention of taking anything from anyone. Our desire is to give outstanding levels of compensation to you."

As with any spending at the University, compensation depends on the availability of funding.

Growth prompts change to new pre-fix

All campus phone numbers will switch to a new pre-fix, 313, on June 1. Growth is what's driving the change. In the past, explains Ken Sammon, director of Plant Services, Gonzaga has reserved blocks of phone numbers in current prefixes, 323, 324, 328 and 329.

"Every line that we reserve costs us money per month, both to use and to hold a number in reserve. What's happened is that, as the university continued to grow, we've run out of numbers that had been reserved. In the meantime, Qwest has given away unreserved numbers in our prefixes," he said. Because the university uses the last four digits of any phone number for on-campus extensions, multiple prefixes have built-in limits.

The closest available Qwest prefix was 313. And the University has reserved the entire block "so we don't have to go through this again," Sammons said.

New, improved digital communication in the works

A monthly e-newsletter, podcasts of selected lectures, and an improved web site and Morning Mail system are all scheduled for completion this year by marketing and communications and information technology services.

The e-newsletter will reach 24,000 alumni, parents and friends as well as faculty and staff. "Now, our most current method of communicating with alumni is through Gonzaga Quarterly, which means that information is three months old by the time it gets into readers' hands," said Chuck Leonhardt, assistant vice president of marketing and commu-

nications. "The e-newsletter offers a new and timely way of connecting with campus."

Pete Tormey, director of Gonzaga's news service, coordinates the podcasts. Twelve events will be chosen for podcast in the first year, with more availability expected after that.

Morning Mail improvements include more accessible searches by keyword or topic. Work is under way on a new University Web site design corresponding to the new *be inspired* visual identity. The Spirit newsletter will continue to be published and is available online as a pdf.