

Spirit

A newsletter for faculty and staff

Volume 10

Issue 2

New faculty, new energy and – by now – new offices for all

Gonzaga began the academic year with the equivalent of more than 58 new faculty. Some replace former faculty, others fill one-year sabbatical openings, while many are filling new positions. The College of Arts and Sciences alone has 20 faculty who are filling new positions – and bringing an impressive level of energy to their work.

“My career goal, this year and every year, is to be a better teacher. That’s the unifying theme,” said Matthew Cremeens, a new assistant professor of chemistry. “My teaching goals include listening really well to my students, understanding my students, and learning from them, so that I can teach better. It may seem generic, but I’m really passionate about it.”

Cremeens said he’s been impressed by the levels of positive energy and serious interest in teaching among a wide range of faculty, both in the sciences and out. “I am surrounded by lots of assistant professors with lots of enthusiasm and we have lots of conversations about curriculum and syllabi and teaching methods – teaching, teaching, teaching.”

In the School of Engineering and Applied Science, newly hired Jillian Cadwell ('03), assistant professor of civil engineering, is equally

focused on student learning. Her first-year goals? “I want to engage every student and be conscious of teaching to students with a variety of learning styles. And I want to make sure my students retain material, rather than just memorizing equations that they will forget in a week.”

Dean Marc Manganaro of the College of Arts and Sciences said he’s pleased but not surprised at such reactions.

“I’d say that it is the nature of Gonzaga, its mission and emphasis upon teaching that really motivates our departments and the Dean’s Office to select those candidates who are most knowledgeable and enthused about teaching and as well show an understanding and commitment for the mission of the University. Of course part of that commitment is the research and professional development in the candidate’s particular discipline. One cannot be a superb teacher without the knowledge, skills and accomplishment in one’s own field of study.

“And keep in mind that usually those we hire have choices about how to pursue their careers. So not only are we choosing them, but they are choosing us from a number of options, often including offers from other prestigious colleges and universities.”

Preliminary numbers from the Academic Vice President’s Office show that of more than 58 new faculty 18 are tenure-track and 40-plus are fixed term.

So, what about office space for the newcomers? Even with the addition of the Fuller Building, finding offices for all new faculty has been a challenge. Colleen McMahon, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences,



Jillian Cadwell, alumna and assistant professor of civil engineering, always knew she wanted to work at Gonzaga.

praised the flexibility of department chairs. “We had very helpful departments that did a lot of doubling up among regular faculty and adjuncts.” Additionally, one classroom was modified into office space, and the College has found overflow office space in the basement of Schoenberg Center. Still, McMahon confessed she wasn’t entirely sure where some of the new people worked for the first few weeks of the semester. The College has since created a space-needs document, both for short-term and long-term, she said.

The opening of the Fuller Building on Sept. 22 meant moving-in day for the School of Professional Studies faculty and staff who vacated the Schoenberg Center. In musical-chairs fashion, Schoenberg will house the International Studies Program and the English Language Center. Their faculty and staff will be moving shortly, said Ken Sammons, head of plant services. The current ELC building will become added space for the music department. And the current ISP building will house women’s studies and the environmental studies programs.



Matthew Cremeens, assistant professor of chemistry, discovered his love for teaching while he was an undergrad at Grinnell College.

Nigerian Jesuit, author opens Writers Series

Nigerian author Father Uwem Akpan, S.J., will come to Gonzaga on Oct. 9 to open this year's Visiting Writers Series. He will speak at 7:30 p.m. in the Globe Room of Cataldo Hall. Motivated by the ways in which children all over Africa deal with danger and violence, Fr. Akpan has recently published "Say You're One of Them," a collection of short stories. Each is told from the perspective of a child.

"My continent is in distress and has been since the beginning of slavery," Fr. Akpan said in a 2005 interview with *The New Yorker*. "Leadership is a big problem. My hope is that things will change in Africa."

Fr. Akpan studied philosophy and English at Gonzaga from 1995-97. Akpan was ordained in 2003 and received a master's in creative writing from the University of Michigan in 2006. He now teaches at a Jesuit college in Harare, Zimbabwe. For more information, contact Tod Marshall at marshall@gonzaga.edu.

Assessment work picks up steam

Ken Bain, author of "What the Best College Teachers Do" and founder of four major teaching centers at U.S. universities, will speak to Gonzaga faculty on Student Learning Outcomes Day, Oct. 9. Classes are cancelled for the morning. Bain's work draws on 15 years of research into the common traits of more than 60 outstanding professors.

"Professor Bain is coming to talk to us at just the right time," said Mike Herzog, senior faculty adviser. "We have made considerable progress as faculty members in coming to recognize how good outcomes assessment work can improve our students' learning experience, and this outstanding thinker about education will help us move to the next step of thinking about these issues."

The morning will include time for departments and schools to work together and a chance for reports from groups that wish to share insights, challenges and more. The Student Learning Outcomes Day is part of Gonzaga's work on outcomes assessment. The day is intended to give faculty opportunities to improve their craft and inform their work with students.

"Assessment of student learning is at the very heart of what most of us do and it helps us understand how effective we are in helping students learn what we'd like them to learn," said Tina Geithner, professor of exercise science and chair of the Academic Council's Assessment Committee.

AROUND CAMPUS

- Barry Matthews, security officer, Matt Gerdes, parking coordinator, and Janell Williams, communications officer will be honored as Hometown Heroes by the local American Red Cross at an annual ceremony and luncheon in November. Matthews and Gerdes brought to safety a woman who slid onto the ice on Lake Arthur last winter. In February, Williams handled the switchboard during an incident in which a man was on campus with a gun.

- Raymond Reyes, associate mission vice president, will be a keynote speaker on Oct. 18 in Portland for the national conference of the Catholic Network of Volunteer Service. Reyes will speak about "The Spiritual Literacy of Self-care: Making Sense of the Nonsense that Happens to the Caregiver."

- "What Can We Learn from William James?" is the theme for presentations by Debby Hutchins, assistant professor of philosophy, and Sam Leigland, professor of psychology, to be held at 7 p.m., Oct. 22, in the Wolff Auditorium. The event is sponsored by Gonzaga's College of Arts and Sciences and the Powers Chair of the Humanities.

- The Office of Sponsored Research and Programs is holding grant-writing workshops and faculty/staff talks from experienced researchers and/or grant writers. Each session will run from noon to 1 p.m., with food provided:

- ▶ Tod Marshall, English, Visiting Writers' Series, Oct. 8, Jepson 108.
- ▶ Qualitative Research partnerships, Oct. 14, location TBA.
- ▶ Research Funding Opportunities: Public and private funding is available, Oct. 22, Jepson 108.
- ▶ Developing Programs, Projects, and Proposals: Getting your idea to a funder, Oct. 28, location TBA.

Further sessions will be held in November. For more information, contact Diane Zemke at ext. 6098 or at zemked@gonzaga.edu.

Magnuson Theatre ready for 'Starving Class' on Oct. 24

Thanks to a generous \$1 million donation from longtime Gonzaga University benefactors Harry and Colleen Magnuson, Russell Theatre starts the 2008-09 season with a fresh look and a new name. Harry Magnuson is a founding member of Gonzaga's Board of Trustees, past-chairman of the Board and current Trustee.

Now known as the Harry and Colleen Magnuson Theatre, the facility has been under construction for the past four months. When its season opens on Oct. 24 with Sam Shepard's dark comedy, "Curse of the Starving Class," patrons will be greeted by a renovated entrance and lobby. New heating and air conditioning systems will keep the audience comfortable, as will the plush new seating, handicap accessible seats and aisle lights.

Mac McCandless, Gonzaga's architect and project manager, has worked closely with Wolf Architectural Group and Walker Construction. "We started discussions on renovating the theater about a year ago," he said. "We had to ask ourselves how we were going to renovate it knowing that we didn't have another place to put the theater in the meantime. As a result, we decided to tackle it in pieces."



Summer Berry, costumer, Marcus Todd, assistant professor of communications-theater arts, and Brian Russo, associate professor of communications-theater arts, enjoy the new seats of the Harry and Colleen Magnuson Theatre.

McCandless and his crew will tackle the next phase, including the house lighting and acoustical equipment, over the semester break. Working in a 110-year-old building has its challenges, said McCandless. "More often than not, structural issues surface only after we uncover them," he said. "That's just the way it goes with buildings of this age; we don't know the condition until we peel back several layers. It definitely keeps things interesting."

The entire project is due to be complete by fall 2009.

Corrections

The Environmental Studies Program has not been upgraded to a minor; it remains a concentration. Students in Corkery Apartments this fall actually include 30 sophomores. Father Craig Hightower, S.J., taught AP government and politics at Gonzaga Prep from 2004-07 and last year taught religion at Belarmine Prep. The editor regrets these errors, which appeared in September's Spirit.

Focus On ... Living the mission, each in their own way

Stacey Boyd, Campus Public Safety & Security officer, has served as a mentor for troubled youth and low income children for the past eight years. Boyd coaches youth basketball, football and soccer in the East Central neighborhood, working with kids from age 6 on up through high school. Many of the kids he works with come from broken families. Boyd's goal is to provide his players with athleticism, teamwork, sportsmanship and community involvement. He also works with the young athletes and their parents to foster growth through positive reinforcement and responsible behavior.



Stacey Boyd

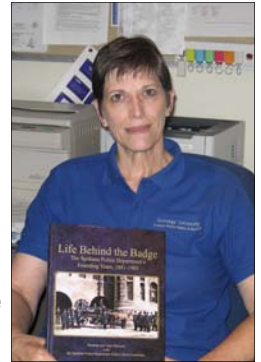
He volunteers on top of working the night shift on campus and working as a part-time reserve police officer in Moses Lake.

Suzanne Ostersmith, director of Gonzaga's dance program, has volunteered with the Green Bluff Grange's Old Orchard Theater since it began 10 years ago. The theater puts on an annual play and puts its ticket revenue into community scholarships. "I continue to love directing the silly, fun shows up there because it is true community theater," she says. Her casts range from age 11 to 80 and include community members who have never set foot on stage, alongside theater majors from GU and Whitworth. Since 2000, the theater has awarded more than \$23,000 in scholarships. Her two sons often act in the shows and her husband serves as the house manager, so it's a family affair with service at the center.



Suzanne Ostersmith

Rae Anna Victor, communications coordinator for Gonzaga's switchboard, also is a historian and reserve officer for the Spokane Police Department. She interviews police officers and their relatives. She haunts the Museum of Arts and Culture and the Northwest Room of the Spokane Public Library, using their archives and a collection of state archives in Cheney to flesh out the lives of police officers from times past. She contributed significantly to the Spokane Police History Book, a five-year effort, and helps to research and recognize officers who have died in the line of duty.



Rae Anna Victor

"I fell in love with law enforcement watching Joe Friday on Dragnet and have been involved ever since," Victor said. She began volunteering with the Spokane police in 1971 as one of the city's first female reserve officers.

NOTEWORTHY

New Hires:

Cory Adams, client services assistant, Registrar's Office; Tony Andenoro, assistant professor, Organizational Leadership; Lori Brown, lecturer, Nursing; Andrew Bisson, assistant professor, Military Science; Daniel O'Dea Bradley, assistant professor, Philosophy; Kenneth Bubb, lecturer, Classics; Jillian Cadwell, assistant professor, Civil Engineering; Michael Christensen, electrician, Plant Services; Kristen Churney, program assistant III, Registrar's Office; Ann Ciasullo, assistant professor, English; Peter Clark, assistant trainer, Athletics; Seth Coleman, assistant professor, Biology; Michael Collender, lecturer, Philosophy; Roy Colver, lecturer, Mathematics; Christopher Cooper, assistant women's soccer coach, Athletics; Vesta Coufal, assistant professor, Mathematics; Matthew Cremeens, assistant professor, Chemistry; Elizabeth Davis, assistant professor, Communication Arts; Rama Devagupta, assistant professor, Chemistry; Jennifer Draggoo, senior state work study program specialist, Student Employment; John Eliason, associate professor, English; Jennifer Gellner, assistant professor, Supervising Attorney of Law; Jennifer Gill, program assistant III, School of Law; Jessica Halliday, lecturer, English; Stephen Hayes, lecturer, Biology; Brian Henning, associate professor, Philosophy; Heidi Holland, assistant professor, School of Law; John Horsman, lecturer, Organizational Leadership; Duane Hudson, assistant professor, Military Science; Joy Hudson, assistant professor,

Military Science; Timothy Humphry, assistant professor, Chemistry; Ely Janis, lecturer, History; Vito Higgins, assistant men's soccer coach, Athletics; Craig Hightower, S.J., coordinator, University Ministry; Heather Jennings, groundskeeper, Plant Services; Cynthia Johnson, lecturer, Leadership and Administration; Erica Johnson, assistant professor, Economics; Christopher Lasota, assistant professor, Physics; Connie Lipsker, lecturer, Marketing; Jessica Maucione, assistant professor, English; Mark McGregor, S.J., coordinator, University Ministry; Leslie Miller, lecturer, Accounting; Kristina Morehouse, lecturer, Communication Arts; Michael Nelson, assistant professor, Psychology; Candice Nicolas, lecturer, Modern Languages; Margarita Paulson, lecturer, Modern Languages; Sarah Powers, lecturer, Math; Marianne Poxleitner, assistant professor, Biology; Leah Preston, program assistant II, CCASL; Ronald Prindle, assistant professor, Communication Arts; Matthew Rindge, assistant professor, Religious Studies; Stephanie Rockwell, annual giving program manager, University Relations; Elizabeth Roewe, lecturer, English; John Shea, S.J., assistant professor, Biology; Sarah Siegel, lecturer, Chemistry; Christopher Stevens, assistant professor, Entrepreneurship; Kyndrin Tenny, special projects coordinator, School of Business; Bryce Thomas, program assistant III, DREAM; Gary Thorne, assistant professor, Psychology; Lori Tochterman, lecturer, Nursing; Marcus Todd, assistant professor, Communication Arts-Theater; Jay Tully, athletics

groundskeeper, Plant Services; Tommaso Vannelli, assistant professor, Chemistry; John Van Sant, director, Security; Mark Voorhees, assistant women's rowing coach, Athletics; Christopher Wheatley, assistant director, Student Publications; Frank Winters, lecturer, History; Beth Yandell, customer service, Plant Services; Mark Young, assistant professor, Counselor Education.

Goodbyes:

McGraw Donovan, administrative secretary I, Athletics; Jackie Fulton, administrative secretary II, Athletics; Dennis Gagoain, senior counselor, Admissions; Denny McMonigle, associate director, SRP; Kyle Snell, athletics groundskeeper, Plant Services; Melissa Thompson, senior state work study program specialist, Student Employment.

Promotions/New Assignments:

Pat Skattum, senior graphic designer, University Relations.

Anniversaries:

30 Alan L. McNeil, associate professor, School of Law.
15 Kenneth A. Frybarger, groundskeeper, Plant Services; Michael N. Grabowski, computer operation specialist, Registrar's Office; Molly C. McFadden, library technician III, Library Services.
5 Cynthia J. Kirkpatrick, WIN consortium project manager, specialist for access services, Foley Center-WIN.



Peer advisors include William Gibson, Linda Grigsby, Krystal Burns, Marcia Bertholf, Cathy Dieter, Angela Ruff and Connie Hickman. Gretchen Stoup (third from right) is employee relations manager and the group's liaison with Human Resources. Susan Foster-Dow and Rick Smith are also peer advisors.

Peer Advisor Group is at your service

Let's say you have a work-related concern. You want someone objective and neutral to hear you out and help point you toward a resolution. You aren't ready to go to Human Resources, and you would rather not go to your boss. Who can you turn to?

The Peer Advisor Group is a resource for just such instances. Seven staff members from various areas in the University make up the group.

"They train us not to be advocates, but instead to listen very well and to help employees discover what the real issue is and then refer them to appropriate resources," said Angela Ruff, a peer advisor and director of continuing education.

Peer advisors handle a broad range of needs. Sometimes they educate employees about specific University policies. Other times, they help an employee prepare for a candid conversation with a co-worker.

"What's really a workplace problem that needs to be solved for the sake of the workplace environment? And what is

something else possibly more personal that needs to be taken care of in a different way?" said Ruff. She is drawn to the peer advisor process through her desire to see justice done.

Cathy Dieter, director of certification in the School of Education, describes peer advising as a great resource that is underutilized. "This gives people the opportunity to be heard and supported so that they can be empowered to resolve their work-related issues."

Peer advisors volunteer their time and treat issues brought to them as confidential.

The Peer Advisor Group was jointly developed by Human Resources and the Staff Assembly to provide employees with an additional resource to consult on a variety of workplace issues. Employees may contact a peer advisor – by reaching Gretchen Stoup at stoup@gonzaga.edu or x6909 or check out the list of advisors on the Staff assembly website at <http://www.gonzaga.edu/Faculty-and-Staff/Staff-Assembly/>.

Climate survey wants each and every voice

Staff members are currently being asked to complete the Campus Climate Survey, and faculty will have their chance with the survey later this fall. Committee member Linda Tredennick, assistant professor of English, said she hopes that every individual will participate in the survey.

The campus climate survey began when Raymond Reyes, associate mission vice president, and a small group of administrators known informally as the Think Tank – at the time, Fr. Pat Lee, former associate vice president for mission; Stephen Friedman, former academic vice president; and Sue Weitz, dean of student life – decided that the University needed to do some research on the state of the campus climate, Tredennick said.

How did the campus feel about AHANA – or minority – students? How did the campus as whole feel about diversity issues? How did the various parts of the campus feel about the University's efforts to increase diversity?

The Think Tank constituted a committee to be chaired by Reyes. He invited Molly Pepper, assistant professor of business-management, and Tredennick to join to give faculty representation on the committee and because he knew each of them had an interest in campus climate.

"As an outcome of the surveys, we hope to get an accurate picture of what our campus climate is, right now," Tredennick said. "The surveys themselves are part of a larger project to identify places where, as an organization, we can better serve all of our members – students, staff, and faculty – as well as identifying what we do well so that we can build on those efforts."

GU keeps No. 3 value ranking in US News

Gonzaga University remained the No. 3 best university in the West in U.S. News & World Report's annual college rankings for "Universities–Master's" and is No. 3 for best value as its engineering program rose four spots to No. 21.

Gonzaga also ranked No. 3 among the top 53 schools in its classification for alumni giving as 25 percent of GU alumni gave to their alma mater in 2005-06 and 2006-07. The School of Engineering and Applied Science tied with five other schools as the No. 21 best undergraduate engineering program in the nation among engineering schools without a doctoral program; it was ranked No. 25 last year.

1,107 freshmen represent all states, 12 nations

This year's freshman class includes 1,107 students, according to 10-day enrollment figures from the registrar's office.

The freshmen bring with them an average SAT score of 1180 and an average 3.66 GPA. A total of 15.1 percent of the class reported as students of color, the second highest percentage of any GU entering class. The class represents students from every state in the union and about a dozen foreign nations.