The Mission Mongers, or Mongers for short, are members of the business faculty and staff discovering ways to integrate the University’s Mission into their everyday work. They attended conferences and studied what other universities are doing, and their passion is carrying those ideas into action.

“The conferences brought into focus what we can do, as faculty at a Jesuit institution,” said Peggy Sue Loroz, associate professor of marketing. “It’s a concept that can be readily applied in other academic disciplines, as well. Loroz, along with several other business school colleagues, attended the Business Education at Catholic Universities and the Colleagues in Jesuit Business Education conferences last summer. The BECU focuses on Catholic social thought and management education while the CJBE was founded a dozen years ago by President Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., and emphasizes the crucial juxtaposition of a Jesuit education and a business curriculum.

“We originally had 50 new ideas for animating the mission,” said Loroz. “After voting, they were narrowed to 22 with 15 faculty members committing to work toward 14 of those proposals.”

One of the proposals involves a computer simulation model. Under faculty guidance, students would hone their money management skills through a computer simulation that allows the students to act as asset managers, basing their decisions in both the ethical and business realms. Another idea faculty members plan to develop is a collaborative effort with faculty in the School of Engineering and Applied Science. The two schools plan to market socially responsible new products.

The Mongers will also lead a discussion of adding social justice to the business school curriculum at their spring faculty retreat the week of May 11. The Mongers used ‘The Wall’ exercise to generate ideas and practices, an approach originally used by Molly Pepper, assistant professor of management, and Linda Tredennick, assistant professor of English, at the 2008 Fall Faculty Conference. The premise of ‘The Wall’ is to take individual ideas and post them under specific themes. For the Mongers, the themes fell under five pillars: faith/spirituality; service/service learning; justice/social responsibility; business/professional ethics; and personal identity.

An oversized map of the ideas has since been posted in the faculty work room on the second floor of Jepson so people can easily add or modify the ideas.

The idea that garnered the most votes was to bring to campus former Jesuit, international investment banker and well-known author Chris Lowney. He has been asked to present to the business school faculty sometime next fall. Lowney is the author of “Heroic Leadership: Best Practices from a 450-Year-Old Company that Changed the World” that focuses on Jesuits and Ignatian spirituality as a model for organizational leadership.

To see the results of ‘The Wall’ exercise on campus climate that Pepper and Tredennick organized last fall, go to www.gonzaga.edu/diversity and click on “Campus Climate” on the left-hand side of the page.
People power brings May flowers

About the time summer breaks, academically speaking, the men and women of the groundskeeping crew spring into action planting nearly 18,000 flowers all over this 120-acre campus, perhaps with a little help from their friends.

A volunteer day is being planned sometime in May in hopes faculty, staff and lingering students might help the 11-person groundskeeping staff find homes for these thousands of flowers that will come in a vast assortment of colors and styles.

The grounds crew waits until the possibility of frost has passed before they begin their planting. “You don’t want to plant $3,000 worth of flowers only to see them die,” said Tim Hatcher, grounds supervisor.

Groundskeeping relies heavily on additional workers during the summer season. Our employees are responsible for mowing the grass, caring for all of the flowerbeds, and maintaining the 136 sprinkler control systems,” Hatcher said. “That’s when our small crew really feels the stress.”

Often, groundskeeping hires student workers through work-study positions, but Hatcher believes that will be more difficult this year. “I’m not sure if the economic background of our students has changed or if students would just prefer a job where they are inside,” Hatcher noted. “They used to come running to us. Now, we practically have to beg them to consider us.”

Across the board, there are more work-study positions than there are students to fill them, a concern for departments who depend on this job force. Robin Guevara, manager of Student Employment, said that it is often difficult to convince students to accept a federal work-study award for $3,000 when annual tuition is $27,000.

“What students don’t see is how much (money) this saves them over time,” said Guevara. “Not having to take out additional loans while in school will leave less to pay off after graduation.”

Writing Center finds new home at Foley, continues to serve

After more than 15 years in College Hall, the Writing Center recently moved to Foley Center Library. An open house was held March 23 to celebrate the relocation and honor the efforts of everyone involved, including the student tutors who staff the center.

“I wanted to thank everyone who was so instrumental in making this move a reality,” said John Eliason, associate professor of English and Writing Center director. “Eileen Bell-Garrison (dean, library services) and Marc Manganaro (dean, arts and sciences) were receptive to the idea when it was initially presented during the 2007-08 academic year and lobbied for its approval to Thayne McCulloh (academic vice president) who gave it the green light. Dan Butterworth, the chair of the English department, was extremely supportive of the move from the very beginning.”

The Writing Center is open to all Gonzaga students who need help with writing, whether for a research paper, scholarship application or personal statement for graduate school. “It’s a writing-across-the-curriculum-based writing center so it’s open to all of our students,” said Eliason. “A big part of our motivation is to offer more services to more students, especially during our busiest times.”

The Center is located in the old Paw Prints copy center space on Foley’s main floor, adjacent to the 24-hour study lounge. Current hours are Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Eliason, who is finishing his first year at Gonzaga, was previously the director of writing across the curriculum at Philadelphia University. “The biggest benefit of our new space is that it gives students immediate access to any reference material, resources or library staff,” Eliason said. “Tutors can even wheel in a Starboard (interactive board) if they need one.”

During fall semester, the center’s nine tutors served hundreds of students, Eliason said. Tutors are paid through the English department budget, federal work-study or the Bob and Claire McDonald fund. Students also may receive credit for their tutoring through the Writing Center Practicum.

“I want to be able to provide support to students and faculty in what is one of the most important aspects of not only academics, but life: communication.”

AROUND CAMPUS

• Father Craig Hightower, S.J., director, University Ministry, and Vicky Williams, associate professor of law, created a new Jewish student group on campus. The group is designed to provide a network of support for Jewish heritage and is open to undergraduate and graduate students, faculty members and staff. “We want to foster faith development and encourage a stronger practicing faith among all our students and staff,” Hightower said.

• The Arcade Gallery of the Jundt Art Museum is displaying the exhibition “Jacob Lawrence: Genesis,” that features the print portfolio “Eight Studies from the Book of Genesis” by world-renowned artist Jacob Lawrence (American, 1917-2000). The eight screenprints are on display now through July 31.

• The annual Academic Honors Convocation will be held April 21 at 3:30 p.m. in the Cataldo Globe Room; all faculty, staff and students are welcome to attend. Father Steve Kuder, S.J., will give the invocation; interim Academic Vice President Thayne McCulloh will serve as master of ceremonies; and biology Associate Professor Maria Bertagnolli will give the convocation address. Awards distributed at the convocation include exemplary faculty, faculty diversity, and faculty and student service-learning awards. Departmental excellence awards will also be distributed to students. A brief social will follow the convocation.

• Don’t forget to get ZAGFit! Program ends May 8. Go to www.gonzaga.edu/wellness for details.
Focus On ... Ken Johnson has passion for pastime

Ken Johnson has passion for pastime. Johnson, who was drafted in the second round of the 1968 Major League Baseball draft by the New York Yankees and played five seasons of professional ball, said that while baseball is primary emphasis at his academy, "we preach on an everyday basis lessons of life, things like value your parents and your teachers, do the right thing, work hard, approach life with a great attitude."

After his stint in pro ball, Johnson earned his teaching degree, and taught and coached high school and community college baseball in California and Washington, and did a one-year stint as an assistant coach at Washington State University. His endeavors have been noted with his induction into the Marin County Athletic and Washington State Baseball Coaches halls of fame.

Ken’s wife of 37 years, Karen, has been encouraging him in his new venture. “Her support has been there with me since day one,” Johnson said. “Coaching a team always pulled me away from home. With this I’m always around,” albeit in the batting cage.

A small price for pursuit of a passion so strong.

Heads Up Gonzaga focuses on teamwork

Heads Up Gonzaga focuses on teamwork. The annual Heads Up Gonzaga event is scheduled April 29 in the Cataldo Globe Room from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Juice and coffee will be served in the morning, as well as a complimentary lunch. Featured speaker will be Spokane-based business owner Dave Gregory, who also is a Carnegie trainer and sought-after speaker. Gregory will present a hands-on approach to enhance teamwork and relationship building.

During HUG, an all-staff photo will be taken to give to President Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., along with thanks from an appreciative group of employees for his support of staff throughout his tenure.

Send Spirit story ideas to lombard@gonzaga.edu
Marching through Bloomsday with a Bulldog bounce

It's hard enough running the 7.46 miles of Bloomsday. Imagine marching — and singing — in unison with about 94 other people for the entire course.

That's what members of Gonzaga's Bulldog Battalion have done for the past several Bloomsdays and plan on doing again this year's May 3 race, according to Sergeant First Class Joy Hudson. "It's hard to miss us, being in formation and decked out in our red ROTC T-shirts," she said. "We usually get a good spot towards the front of the pack and finish in less than 75 minutes."

Junior class members serve as leaders for the Bloomsday formation, motivating and helping the 90-plus cadets get into the "left-right-left-right" cadence. Throughout the course, bystanders can hear the cadets belt out cadences such as "When the left foot hits the ground, I want to hear a clapping sound: I used to date a beauty queen, now I date my M-16."

The Bulldog Battalion also enters Bloomsday with a competitive running team of 8 to 10 members — composed of both students and faculty. "It's all about competing, no matter what your age," said Lt. Col. Alan Westfield. "We take our fastest runners and make an ROTC elite team. Our finish times are always less than 55 minutes."

The cadets' regular exercise schedule is strenuous enough to get them ready to run Bloomsday. Their physical training, known as "PT" by the cadets, consists of calisthenics and competitive running. "We meet in the Rudolf Fitness Center three days a week from 6-7 a.m. and then hit the road for some running," said Travis Park ('09). "Anyone's welcome to join us."

Is that an order?

School is IN for summer; Miller bringing new life

When Rebecca Brant Miller arrived at Gonzaga from Oregon last November, she had a lot more to contend with than the snowstorms that pounded the area. As the new Summer Sessions manager, Miller was charged with the administration and marketing of the University’s summer program.

Miller, who came to Gonzaga with more than 15 years of higher education marketing experience, first developed a brand image and tagline for Summer Session. The bright green and yellow silhouette of a young person with outstretched arms reaches toward a sunburst with the Latin words, "Carpe Aestatem," meaning "Seize the Summer."

The courses offered during summer are as luminous as the season itself. Students can choose from such courses as Leadership in the Classical World (read course description in box), Japanese language and culture, and English and philosophy courses that include a trip to the Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Ore., to name a few.

Courses are offered in two six-week sessions (Summer I and Summer II) or one 12-week session (Full Summer). Registration began March 16 and continues through May 16 for Summer I and Full Summer, July 2 for Summer II. Go to http://zagweb.gonzaga.edu to see all course offerings, course descriptions and to register.

In an effort to attract more non-Gonzaga students, Miller has placed the new Summer Session branding in both print and social media outlets. She created ads on Facebook that appeared more than 10 million times and prompted more than 2,500 college-age students to visit the Summer Session Web site in just 10 days.

She is working with a variety of departments across campus, from financial aid and student employment to residence life, student life and food service, laying the groundwork for building a greater sense of community on campus in the summer. She enjoys being less desk-bound than she was in her previous role as magazine editor at Willamette University. "I would know who people were, but they didn’t know me. Now I’m out on campus more often, building a program rather than a magazine."

Miller has a bright outlook on future summers. "Summer Session is a great opportunity for students, especially with the discounted tuition rate for undergraduates," she said, "but I’d like it to become a prime opportunity for faculty as well. I hope to meet with deans and faculty next fall to discover what they most want to teach and how the summer format might offer them greater flexibility and creativity."

Bringing classical leaders to life over the summer

Philosophy Professor Michael Collender may be new to Gonzaga, but he knows his classics. This summer, Collender will teach a new course during Session I called "Leadership in the Classical World" (CLAS375). The graduate version is listed as "Special Topics: Leadership in the Classical World" (ORGL 689).

“Throughout history, the leaders of Classical Antiquity have stood out as some of the greatest exemplars of leadership the world has ever known,” Collender said. “This course studies their great examples, primarily from the original classical works that have become literary and historical classics of Western Civilization.” Collender will highlight examples of both wise and foolish leadership in Athenian Democracy, the Persian Wars, the Peloponnesian War, Xenophon’s March of the 10,000, and Alexander’s campaigns.