

# GONZAGA UNIVERSITY SPIRIT NEWSLETTER

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## McCulloh covers a lot of ground, from graduation rates to biomedical engineering at Fall Staff Assembly

The Fall Staff Assembly Open Meeting gave President **Thayne McCulloh** the opportunity to talk about several challenges facing the University, returning repeatedly to express his faith in finding solutions through the power of collaboration among colleagues.

First, he cited one consequence of several years of transition in GU's administration – a backlog of issues that need attention by Academic Vice President **Patricia O'Connell Killen**. "As an interim, you don't feel that it's your place to stake a claim on the big issues," said McCulloh, who served two years as interim academic vice president.

He touched on Gonzaga's four-year graduation rate, which is 63 percent, with another 17 percent of students graduating in the following two years. "We would love it if every student who wants to graduate in four years could. But that can't happen. Why is that? We are expensive. And the longer it takes to graduate the fewer students will last. Many will 'expense' out."

McCulloh acknowledged the multiple challenges that make up summertime on campus – which increasingly is busy with programs and the hard work of preparing for the opening of a new academic year. "It's not like summer's a vacation around here," he said. "I owe a debt of gratitude to all of you."

He mentioned recent conversations on campus about Gonzaga's Catholic identity.

"I am obliged, as director of the work (a Jesuit term for the chief officer), to be involved with and on good terms with the local ordinary – the bishop. So, are we Catholic? Here is one way of answering that question:

"It was *huge* that the bishop of the Spokane Diocese accepted our invitation to be installed next door (in the McCarthy Athletic Center) and that the pope's representative in the U.S., the papal nuncio, read from the papal bull (the official document announcing the new bishop). That is a sacred document. Not everyone is allowed to touch that. This is why so many bishops come to an installation – seeing the papal nuncio. And the installation was a springboard to begin a dialogue and a wealth of dialogue – with Bishop **Blase Cupich**. He was on campus three times just this week; he tells me he would like to move



*President Thayne McCulloh discussed many facets of Gonzaga's future.*

in here. He has a Gonzaga ID card and uses the Rudolf Fitness Center. So, Bishop Cupich and our relationship with him is one way of defining our religious standing."

"What does it mean to be Jesuit, Catholic university now? That is our real task. In my view: We are Catholic and Jesuit in the work that we go about daily. But the question must be asked and answered regularly," he said.

Educating students so they are prepared to engage in solving real problems: The president voiced this idea as key to Gonzaga's future. McCulloh also touched on issues that the campus community will hear more about in the next few years: the need for strategic facilities, including a new student center; the need for enrollment management; the need for strategic acquisitions; and an upcoming financial campaign that will focus on student scholarships and key facilities. He spoke of the need to create centers for excellence across the University, citing a potential biomed-

ical engineering center as a possibility.

"We live in the middle of a health sciences mecca. Faculty and administrators want to see us grapple with these areas, and we want to ensure students are prepared to go out in the world and be ready to work on related problems."

Questioned from the audience about merit pay, Dr. McCulloh said that pay for performance "makes lots of sense in the for-profit environment. But it makes less sense in a non-profit environment like ours. You can expect to see fair and appropriate compensation – you will see that in the budget. Where we go beyond that, we will see."

The president closed his remarks with a request for faculty and staff to communicate with him on important issues. "One of the things I miss is having colleagues around all the time," he said. "I can't do this job without getting a sense of how the people who make this work happen feel about these things."

## Programs lauded for innovation

**G**ary Weber, Sara Melendy and their accounting faculty colleagues in the School of Business Administration have won the 2010 Mark Chain/Federation of Accountancy Teaching Innovation Award for the Justice for Fraud Victims Project. The project helps victims of financial fraud, while graduate accounting students practice forensic accounting skills. The award will be presented in August 2011. The program also was honored last spring by the Spokane Police Department.

At the National Communication Association's convention in San Francisco, **John Caputo** accepted the Innovative Master's Program Award for the Communication and Leadership Studies program in the School of Professional Studies. The award acknowledged the program's strong focus and global outreach, including both its delivery by distance education and the summer programming in Caglia, Italy.

## Mission honors to Guevara, Lamsma

**R**obin Guevara and Matt Lamsma were named the winners of the Outstanding Service in Support of Mission Award, bestowed at the fall Staff Assembly Open Meeting.

Manager of Student Employment, Guevara was honored via cell phone, as she was in California. Her nominators described her as an exemplar of Gonzaga's mission, someone who gives to others on a daily basis and does much more than her job calls for. Guevara works behind the scenes on several scholarship programs, including the Mary Stuart Rogers Scholarship Program, the McDonald Work Award Program and the College Success Foundation's Achievers Program. She partnered with IT to ensure that students in need of laptop computers were able to access them.

"At Gonzaga we hope that all our graduates will live creative, productive and moral lives, seeking to fulfill their own aspirations and at the same time, actively supporting the aspirations of others by a generous sharing of their gifts. This line from our mission statement is Robin Guevara," wrote her nominators. "She believes in the people around her, sees the goodness in the world and in our students, and breathes life into Gonzaga... There are few others that carry themselves with such grace, patience, love and kindness — Robin Guevara, licorice giver to all."

Lamsma is associate director of Housing-Residence Life. Those nominating him described him as a servant leader, a boundary spanner, someone who inspires and empowers others, and "the reason to work in Residence Life at Gonzaga."



Robin Guevara and Matt Lamsma

Lamsma has brought his work ethic and passion to the Campus Climate Committee. He "has worked incredibly hard to bring the University community close to the achievement of Goal Four of the Strategic Plan, to increase diversity and affirm the value of human difference," his nominators wrote.

In Residence Life, he urges his subordinates to challenge themselves, and he seeks out funding to help with programs and initiatives they want to start. Above all, Lamsma was praised for his personification of *cura personalis*, caring for the entire person, in his work with both students and staff.

## Small conferences bring community visitors to campus

**T**is the season for packed basketball games, but during the academic year, smaller events also bring guests to campus for an impressive array of topics. Here are some examples:

**Fashion:** The Fourth Annual Business in Fashion Conference brought 200 high school students to campus in November for a day of learning how to succeed in the competitive world of fashion. Coordinated by **Summer Berry**, this year's event included a fashion show with about 40 students modeling costumes and vintage apparel.

**Engineering:** In October, 130 science-hungry Girl Scouts came to campus for Expand Your Horizon, a day of activities in science, technology, engineering and math fields through the School of Engineering and Applied Science. Twenty-five engineering students helped

the teens learn to build electric cars, turn the Northwest Power Grid on and off (on a simulator!) and turn dirty water into clean drinking water. Gonzaga's engineering school also hosts hundreds of students each year in lab activities through partnerships with the local schools and MESA (Math, Engineering & Science Achievement).

**First in your family:** Education Professor **Chuck Salinas** brought 20 high school students from Sunnyside to spend a day on campus, and inspire them to consider a college education. This event occurred because Salinas is spending the year as an on-loan principal at Sunnyside High School.

**Nursing:** Sixty or more visitors from Osaka, Japan, are hosted each fall by Gonzaga's nursing program.

**Teaching, counseling:** The School of Education hosted a regional conference on behavior analysis in

October, with two nationally known keynote speakers and a handful of education students presenting research.

**Physical education:** Trinity Catholic Elementary School sends 200 students to campus each spring for Day in Motion, an event organized by Professor **Diane Tunnell** over the past 12 years, focusing on physical education and more recently health education.

**Law:** The Washington State Supreme Court Justices spent two days on campus in October, hearing arguments and presenting to students.

**Family businesses:** The Business School offered its second annual Family-Owned Business Conference in October with about 50 attendees. Topics were geared toward such issues as the value of a board of directors.

## Directory changes

- In the Department Pages under Travel, the phone number is 327-9585.
- In the Department Pages under Campus Services, the extension is changed to 6854.
- In the Faculty and Staff pages, Erica Johnson's e-mail is [johnsone@jepson.gonzaga.edu](mailto:johnsone@jepson.gonzaga.edu)

## Campus Climate Committee hosts discussion

**A** town hall meeting titled, "Too Catholic or Not Catholic Enough" drew an audience of 115, largely students, with a sprinkling of faculty and staff. The impetus for the session was from the results of campus climate surveys taken in 2008 and last spring.

"The purpose of the town hall meeting was to begin the conversation on understanding our identity as Gonzaga," said **Molly Pepper**, associate professor of management and co-chair of the committee.

The meeting resulted in about 75 questions being gathered from those attending. Answers to the questions will appear on Gonzaga's Web site; search for Campus Climate Committee.

The committee expects to hold further sessions this year, including discussions around socioeconomics and sexual orientations.

The town hall meeting was awarded as Educational Program of the Month by the Gonzaga National Hall Residence Honorary, an organization of student residence assistants.

"Engaging in civil dialogue and holding rigorous discussions of difficult topics are the foundation of the educational experience," Pepper said. "The university is a safe place to question and to talk about all kinds of ideas. We do not have to agree or resolve the issues we discuss, but we are called to remain in dialogue with one another, to hear and to be heard."

## Secret notes light a trail of smiles

You've heard of random acts of kindness? Well, random sticky notes of grace and good cheer have been appearing in College Hall and Crosby Student Center. "You are loved." "Your smile is like sunshine."

The results are "pure surprise, coupled with joy," said **Rebecca Brant**, summer sessions manager. "That someone would take the time to encourage others and build their self-esteem – that's pure kindness."

"I have begun writing back to the sender, saying how much I love getting these little 'feel good' notes. They always make me feel loved," e-mailed **Susie Prusch**, University events manager.

The notes are often found in the main entry of College Hall, on the cross beams of the main hallway, on stained-glass windows between the first and second floor, and in other out-of-the-way spots.

Are the notes left by a student? Or staff member? No one's certain. Recipients say they hope the writer's identity is never known.

## Save these Christmas dates!

### ROTC Christmas Party

Dec. 14, 1:30-4:30 p.m., ROTC area at the east end of College Hall, lower floor.

This traditional party offers holiday punch, Swedish meatballs and other great food, as well as the finest of company.

### The Foley Center Christmas Party

Dec. 16, 2-4 p.m., Rare Books Room on the 3rd floor. Please bring a food drive donation. Also, bring your invitation to be entered in a door prize drawing.

### The President's Christmas Party

Dec. 17, 7-9 p.m., Martin Centre, Field House. Individual invitations will be forthcoming. Please join your colleagues for an evening of great food and festivities.

## NOTEWORTHY

### Anniversaries:

**25** Fr. **George Morris**, S.J., sacramental minister/spiritual director, University Ministry.

**5** **Sam Anderson**, security officer, security; **Todd Coleman**, groundskeeper II, Plant Services; **Wes Oliver**, field officer in major gifts, University Relations.

### Cradle Call:

**Jared Hertz**, assistant athletics director, and **Kara Hertz**, associate director in alumni, recently had a baby girl, **Finley**, born Oct. 30. **David Fague**, director of jazz studies in music, and his wife recently had a baby boy, **Jacob**, born Nov. 4.

## FOCUS ON . . .

### Now, *that's* an early wake-up call

**Abby Davis** begins her day at 2 a.m. She gets to her job as a custodian at Gonzaga by 3:30 a.m. and works until noon. But while her co-workers head for home, Davis's day isn't close to being done. She has homework to complete and classes on campus until 5 p.m.

Although Davis jokes that she already has a "masters in custodial arts," she is pursuing her bachelor's degree in art while working fulltime.

Davis is one of nearly 100 employees who are taking advantage of Gonzaga's tuition waiver this semester. Out of 98 employees now enrolled in classes, 68 are staff, 23 are administrative or professional, and seven are faculty.

Davis takes nine credits per semester and quips that she is a "sixth-year junior."

"It's all about time management," Davis said. "I use the two hours before class to do my class work."

Davis is on the fence about what art concentration she wants to go into but she sees her career path clearly.

"I want to own my own gallery, but I'm a realist," Davis said. "I know that in the art world you don't just emerge. Things don't just happen. You have to make a name for yourself."

Davis hopes to make that name for herself as an art teacher, as well as an artist.

"It was pretty clear to me after I graduated from high school, the direction I would go," Davis said. "My plan is to get teacher certified so I can teach what I love and work on my art simultaneously."

After a long day of work and classes, Davis is happy with her life and her plans.



*Custodian Abby Davis is pursuing art education*

"Before I came to Gonzaga I worked at a café and was terribly miserable," Davis said.

After a friend told Davis she should try working at Gonzaga, Davis applied for a job. Two years later, she's glad she did.

"I love the institution as an educational place and I love working for Gonzaga as well. They have good benefits and a lot of great people."

## Facebook channels Zag spirit

So, why exactly does Gonzaga need a Facebook page?

Think of Facebook as a digital funnel into which flows Gonzaga news, information for prospective students, and a generous dose of community-building Zag culture.

"Gonzaga's Facebook page is meant to mimic the sense of community that being on campus brings. Not only do we focus on keeping our fans informed, but we aim to provide them with an opportunity to walk down memory lane and see new developments on campus via photo albums," said **Mychal Ferger**, a junior student assistant who is MarCom's Facebook maven.

But there's more to it. Facebook is, for increasing numbers of people, replacing e-mail.

"Having a Facebook page enables us to engage alumni using something that many of them, younger and older, use every day," said **Bob Finn**, director of alumni. "Many alums say they rarely check their e-mails anymore, that most of their communications between friends and groups is done via Face-

book. Just as we have evolved from snail mail to e-mail we must make the next step to other forms of communication such as Facebook.

"At events I see other alums posting updates and pictures directly to both our Facebook page and also to their own page. I even had one alum tell me to quit posting so much "stuff" on Facebook because his cell phone was constantly beeping."

Gonzaga's page launched in May 2009 and has 10,709 fans. Actually, had. The number grows daily. New fans, posts, comments and "likes" were particularly heavy during Fall Family Weekend, Reunion and the inauguration in October.

"Providing our fans with the latest news updates and photos is our small way of keeping them in touch with the community, whether they live in Spokane or on the east coast," Ferger said.

If you aren't a fan of Gonzaga's Facebook page, you are missing out. Go to [gonzaga.edu/social-media](http://gonzaga.edu/social-media) to see all of GU's social media options.

## Family atmosphere breeds care, crowds for women's basketball

There is a marked difference in the McCarthey Athletic Center atmosphere when the Gonzaga women's basketball team plays there. Sure, the lady Zags are every bit as competitive as the men's team. But at the women's games you see more families, grandparents with grandkids, and school and AAU youth teams in uniforms, waving signs.

This family atmosphere didn't happen by accident. Coach **Kelly Graves**, his assistants and players understand the value in engaging with their audiences.

Before FanFest in October the players milled through the crowd, shaking hands and high-fiving. After every home game, they come back to the court to sign autographs and chat with the fans, many of them under 12.

Coupled with an increased marketing emphasis on women's basketball, the McCarthey Center crowd has been growing steadily. The Zags have called the new Kennel home for six years, and have won six straight league titles. Average game attendance and season

tickets sales have continued to increase. Every Zags game is broadcast on radio (1050 AM), both home and away, and this year 12 games will be televised.

"Our men's games sell out every night, so that allows us to put our marketing efforts into women's basketball," said Athletic Director **Mike Roth**. "**Matt Beckman** and his team have done a great job of getting the word out, and our attendance reflects that . . . and it doesn't hurt that we're winning."

Here are the numbers:

Season	Avg Attendance	Season Tickets Sold	Record	Post-season	Key Players
2004-05	1,817	886	28-4	WNIT, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rd	Shannon Mathews, Ashley Burke, Ashley Anderson
2005-06	1,595	932	16-14		Ashley Anderson, Stephanie Hawk
2006-07	1,492	928	24-10	NCAA, 1 <sup>st</sup> Rd	Stephanie Hawk
2007-08	1,848	1,215	25-9	WNIT, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rd	Heather Bowman
2008-09	2,399	1,814	27-7	NCAA, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rd	Courtney Vandersloot, Heather Bowman
2009-10	2,931	1,986	29-5	NCAA, Sweet 16	Courtney Vandersloot, Heather Bowman, Vivian Friesen
2010-11		2,690			

## Honor Roll for Faculty and Staff

Gonzaga would like to recognize the faculty and staff who contributed to the University during the 2009-10 fiscal year. Thank you for the many blessings you bring to our students throughout the year. Merry Christmas!

Mellad Abeid	Paul Brown	Amy Edwards	Sandy Hank	Richard Kuhling	Dan Morrissey	Stephanie Rockwell	Anne Thomas
Mark Alfino	Kim Brus	Brooke Ellis	Susan Harmon	Debby LaRocco	Ann Murphy	Michael Roden	Don Thomas
Joan Allbery	Paul Buller	Danny Evans	Bryan Harnettiaux	Linda Leonard	Chuck Murphy	Judy Rogers	Anne-Marie
Allen Allen	Juliana Burnett	Brent Fales	Shane Hatcher	Connie Lipsker	Linda Murphy	Chris Roof	Thompson
Jerry Almanza	Jillian Cadwell	Shann Ferch	Scott Hedin	Marry Lombard	Tom Murphy	Michael Rorholm	Bud Thompson
Ken Anderson	John Cadwell	Nancy Fike	Missa Heid	Michael Love	Mike Nilson	Mike Roth	Phil Thompson
Brie Andrews	John Caputo	Bob Finn	Jim Helgeson	Victoria Loveland	Kathleen Niita	Donna Ryan	Einar Thorarinnsson
Steve Balzarini	Kay Carnes	Sheri Fitzthum	Jose Hernandez	Melissa Lowdon	Susan Norwood	Eric Sachtjen	Michael Tkacz
Bud Barnes	Bob Carriker	Melissa Flint	Jared Hertz	Christopher Lynch	Kathleen O'Connor	Lance Sadler	Pete Torkey
Shonna Bartlett	Michael Casey	Whitney Franklin	Kara Hertz	John Lyons	Sherry Oberst	Ken Sammons	Rev. Michael
Carole Baumgartner	Monica Chapman	Scott Franz	Steve Hertz	Ellen Maccarone	Rian Oliver	Dick Sayre	Treleaven, S.J.
Judith Bean	Nancy Chase	Maribeth Frazier	Victoria Hertz	Carol Magnuson	Wes Oliver	Karen Sayre	Mary Pat Treuthart
Mark Beattie	Stacey Chatman	Chris Frye	Michael Herzog	Rick Magnuson	Vicki Olson	Carol Schoenstrup	Diane Tunnell
John Beck	Brian Clayton	Dave Gantt	Jane Hession	Colleen Mallon	Carol Osenga	Kevin Selland	Kai Uahinui
Cheryl Beckett	Gayle Clayton	Dan Garrity	Kent Hickman	Earl Martin	Shannon Overbay	Kevin Shelley	Rae Anna Victor
James Beebe	Joshua Comfort	Blaine Garvin	Erik Hildebrand	John Maurice	Gina Paolucci	Maureen Sheridan	Mark Voorhees
Eileen Bell-Garrison	Stephanie Conlin	Laura Gatewood	Carl Hueber	Mac McCandless	Scott Patnode	Kathy Sherrick	Sharon Wade
Steve Bennett	Jim Coombes	Daniel Gehn	Dan Hughes	Linda McClure	Larry Perkins	Joanne Shiosaki	Joann Waite
Dan Berryman	Terry Coombes	Kim Gieber	Rob Joyce	Julie McCulloh	Ellen Peters	Mark Shrader	Gary Weber
Bob Bialozor	Amy Corey	Terry Gieber	Diana Justice	Thayne McCulloh	Sherri Peterson	Pat Skattum	Jolanta Weber
Martha Lou Billeter	Therese Covert	Lindsay Gilbert	John Kafentziz	Linda McDonald	Oliver Pierce	Joanne Smieja	Carie Weeks
Diane Birginal	Jonas Cox	Chris Gill	Kassi Kain	Mary McFarland	Jinny Piskel	Joseph Smith	Lawrence Weiser
Eddy Birrer	Megan Cozza	Bob Gilmore	Dennis Kalina	Kathryn McKinley	Joe Poss	David Sonntag	Sue Weitz
Julia Bjordahl	Vicki Craigen	Matthew Gollnick	Roxy Kasman	Tim McLaughlin	Megan Poss	Dori Sonntag	Christopher Wheatley
Catherine Black	George Critchlow	Dale Goodwin	Rob Kavon	James McLean	Kevin Pratt	Kristin Souers	Patti Whitcomb
Pete Black	Lynn Daggett	Heather Gores	Michael Keegan	Aaron McMurray	Ann Price	Chris Standiford	Frankie White
Carolyn Boese	Abbie Davis	Brian Gosline	Doreen Keller	Alan McNeil	Bethany Prince	Margot Stanfield	Richard White
Tony Bonanzino	Annette Davis	Robert Gray	Amy Kelley-Peacock	Angela McNutt	Michael Pringle	Sonja Steele	Janell Williams
Carol Bonino	Claire Davis	Ginger Grey	Michael Kelsey	Matthew McPherson	Rob Prusch	Buck Sterling	Randy Williams
Gina Bowman	Gillian Davis	Ramona Griffin	Marinlika Kimbro	Sara Melendy	Susie Prusch	Shannon Strahl	Linda Wilson
Carl Bozman	Steve Delong	Linda Grigsby	Eric Kincanon	Tom Miller	Bryan Putnam	Jon Sunderland	Heidi Wohl
Lisa Bradley	Catherine Dieter	Robin Guevara	Astrid Kingsford	Cheryl Mitchell	Shari Rasmussen	Jim Sutterman	Timothy Woodard
Holly Brajcich	Maureen Duclos	Alison Guzenski	Colleen Kinney	Andrea Mize	Chris Rehwald	Shea Swoboda	Kathie Yerion
Robin Briley	Todd Dunfield	Courtney Haase	Barbara Kolbet	Mary Jo Moore	Raymond Reyes	Walter Teets	Jana Young
Gabriella Brooke	Dustin Duvanich	Don Hackney	Brooke Kuhl	Joel Morgan	Jane Rinehart	Will Terpening	