

The core is yours, Killen tells faculty; fine tuning proposals next

Conversation among Gonzaga faculty on three proposed University core curriculum models took center stage at the Spring Faculty Conference in January.

Two models – Disciplinary Foundations and Big Questions – have emerged from the multi-year efforts of the faculty Core Curriculum Review Committee in engaging the campus community. Both models emphasize philosophical and theological integration in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. In the fall, a small faculty group proposed a third model, Ignatian Integration.

Patricia O'Connell Killen, academic vice president, urged continued faculty engagement with the ongoing process of core revision. "The core is yours," she said.

The core revision work began in 2007-08 with broad community discussion about the characteristics of the ideal Gonzaga graduate. The fruits of this discussion informed the creation of the Baccalaureate Learning Goals, what Gonzaga intends for all its graduates. Using these as a basis, the core committee created a set of proposed university core learning objectives. Each of the three proposed models addresses these core learning objectives, though the Ignatian Integration model alters them.

A wealth of detail about the core review process and the two committee-based models can be found online. A brief summary of each model looks like this:

Disciplinary Foundations

This proposed model focuses on blocks of linked classes, completed by a senior capstone. Each block of classes – first-year, intermediate and senior – adds a new level of exposure and learning, culminating in classes which call for the building of and reflection upon knowledge and skills, with a focus on religious and ethical questions.

Global studies and social justice have a strong presence in this model. Writing intensive classes are emphasized. The senior capstone experience integrates knowledge and skills from the previous stages and addresses a significant question.

Big Questions

This proposed model hinges around cross-disciplinary coursework, often delivered via team-teaching. The big questions include these: How do we know what we know? What does it mean to be human? What does it mean to have faith? What does it mean to be a member of society? This model uses these questions as the structure through which students are taught skills, methods of inquiry, ethics, religious studies, science and other disciplines. A core capstone is required.



Professor and Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences Patricia Terry has overseen the development of the core curriculum evaluation.

Ignatian Integration

This model emphasizes philosophy and religious studies even more than does the current core. It focuses primarily on dimensions of the Catholic intellectual tradition, adding both natural science and social science requirements. Its senior capstone course aims to integrate intellect and spirituality. This model was developed by Doug Kries and David Calhoun, both of the philosophy department.

Questions and thoughts voiced about the three models at the spring faculty conference addressed topics such as these:

- One of the concerns about the current core is the lack of horizontal – or interdisciplinary – integration. How would the Disciplinary Foundations model expand interdisciplinary integration?
- How much of a foundation in Western culture is necessary before students can learn to appreciate other cultures?
- Would the Big Questions model sufficiently expose students to disciplines that they might otherwise not discover?
- None of the models mentions language studies. Is Gonzaga comfortable continuing with a University core that lacks any requirement for foreign language study?

- How can students in such majors as nursing and engineering handle a core with more than the currently required 31 credits?
- Will the process ensure that faculty will not be asked to teach outside their expertise?

At the conclusion of a lively exchange of questions and answers, Faculty Senate President Rose Mary Volbrecht said, "These are the kinds of questions that will make up the 'sense-of-the-faculty' survey," which was taken at the end of January.

"You are doing exactly the work that faculty are called to do," Killen said. "This is a time of discernment about the core."

Killen reminded the audience that the three proposals are models, so each one needs to be developed more fully. Ancillary questions to be worked out around the adoption of a new core range from what changes must be made to the faculty handbook, to how the core will be valued in the tenure process.

After the sense of the faculty vote, the Academic Council will advise Killen on the core model to be developed by the core curriculum committee. Once a developed core proposal is formed, faculty conversation will continue and, through the president, discussion with the Board of Trustees initiated.

AROUND
CAMPUS

- Former Colombian senator and presidential candidate, international peace and justice advocate, and Nobel nominee **Ingrid Betancourt** will speak at the McCarthey Athletic Center March 28, 7 p.m., as part of the Presidential Speaker Series. Betancourt gained international recognition as an advocate for democracy in Colombia, was kidnapped by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia and held hostage for six years in the rain forest.
- The School of Business Administration has maintained its prestigious accreditations for business and accounting by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business-International. Only 643 schools of business – less than 5 percent worldwide – have earned AACSB business accreditation; of those, only 176 institutions have earned AACSB's additional accounting accreditation (28 percent of accredited members).
- The Real Winning Edge television program, which airs on Fox and highlights inspirational stories about teen role models, is shooting a piece on Gonzaga's **Gabe Castellanos**, a blind computer science major and student Regent from Tempe, Ariz. The show featured now-Gonzaga alumnus **Justin Platon** four years ago.
- Director **Jennifer Gellner** and the Law School's Low Income Tax Payer Clinic received a \$90,000 award from the Internal Revenue Service for their Federal Tax Clinic work.
- Gonzaga has climbed one spot to rank No. 2 nationwide among small colleges and universities whose graduates serve in the Peace Corps. Twenty-six Gonzaga undergraduate alumni are serving overseas as Peace Corps volunteers, lifting Gonzaga's historical total to 298 alumni with Peace Corps service.
- **Kris Morehouse**, lecturer in journalism and communications arts, was among 16 professors selected nationwide to attend the 2012 Business Journalism Professors Seminar Jan. 2-5 at Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication in Phoenix.

Course corrections inevitable, McCulloh says

While addressing faculty in January, President **Thayne McCulloh** likened the University's economic situation to a recent turbulent plane ride.

The flight crew was doing everything possible to keep passenger concerns under control, but the captain eventually confessed that he could not find any smooth air, and he asked everyone to buckle in and remain seated for the rest of the flight.

"I do find this image an apt comparison to our own situation," Dr. McCulloh said.

Federal and state government aid to higher education and college students is decreasing. The age of information technology is changing the culture. Increased online opportunities have caused government agencies to pour more money into online programs than ever before. Combine these factors with the decrease in high school age students in the years ahead, a 21-percent decrease in middle-class family income since the 1970s, and the University's need to put some funding into aging facilities.

"There's no smooth air ahead," Dr. McCulloh warned. "We are entering a period of prolonged turbulence, one which will test our nerves and our resolve, one which will require us to make

frequent course corrections," he said.

The president suggested we deal with challenge and seize opportunity as follows:

- A commitment to the education and welfare of our students, evaluating everything with an eye toward what students are learning.
- A commitment to effective communications, particularly regarding difficult issues.
- Support for creative and innovative teaching and scholarship.
- A commitment by every faculty and staff member to give his or her best time and energy to address issues, solve problems and make every day a good day at Gonzaga.

McCulloh announced a goal to increase freshman class enrollment in the fall to 1,150, an increase of 20 students from last fall's freshman class. He was also pleased to state that the fundraising campaign is "moving forward with determination." Finally, he announced plans to begin construction this spring on a parking garage, which is a precursor to construction of a new University center.

Make dance be still, and stillness dance;
Ostersmith, students capture three
dimensional art form in two dimensions

Dance Program Director **Suzanne Ostersmith** and her students present their paintings, drawings and photography capturing the beauty of dance in still form as part of Spokane's Winter Art Tour, Feb. 3, 5-8 p.m., at the Kress Gallery in River Park Square. The exhibit is titled, the "Essence of Dance."

In addition, they will showcase a short dance video on the creative exploration of dance, and create a live dance sculpture. Refreshments will be

served. Gonzaga's storied a cappella singing group, Big Bing Theory, will perform from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Food Court, followed by the jazz band and musical combos from Odessey School.

Ostersmith is an accomplished fine artist as well as dance instructor. The work of Ostersmith and her students will remain on exhibit through Feb. 26. The event and display is made possible by First Night Rising Stars, sponsored by Gonzaga.

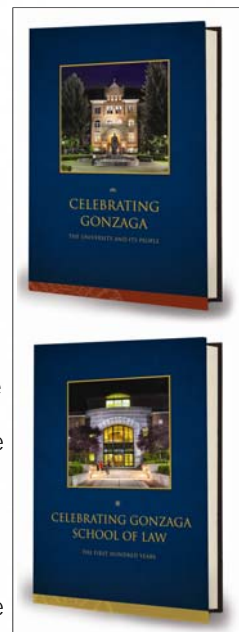


The visual arts work of Suzanne Ostersmith and her dance students will be featured at First Friday Feb. 3 at River Park Square.

Reserve your
Anniversary, Law
Centennial books
now

Reservations are being taken for two hard-bound books celebrating Gonzaga University, one focused on University lore, tradition and transformation on the occasion of its 125th anniversary, and one featuring a historical look at the Law School, its creators and characters on the occasion of its centennial. Reservations are non-binding, but with a limited run on these beautifully depicted keepsake books it ensures you get your copy. Books are expected to be released in fall 2012.

To make your reservation, and find out more about the books, go to gonzaga.edu/anniversarybooks. For more information, contact **Dale Goodwin** at 313-6133.



NOTEWORTHY

New Hires:

Bailee Neyland, assistant director of development marketing, University Relations; **Gail Marrs**, chapters coordinator, Alumni Relations; **Connie Tevlin**, library technician II, Law Library; **Joanie Eppinga**, research assistant, DELA; **Tomson Spink**, maintenance and grounds manager, Plant; **Hugh Bell**, custodian, Plant; **Adriane Leithauser**, alumni outreach and accreditation specialist, Business.

Goodbyes:

Teresa Burnham, visiting professor, Legal Research and Writing, Law; **Foster Walsh**, associate professor, Teacher Education; **Daniel Bubb**, coordinator of outcomes assessment

Promotions/New Positions:

Paula Foster, academic technical applications coordinator/WIN project manager, Foley; **Brenda Warrington**, academic technical applications coordinator, Foley; **Ann Price**, administrative assistant to interim executive director, Center for Global Engagement; **Raymond Reyes**, associate academic vice president/chief diversity officer

In Remembrance:

Tammy Gifford, custodian V, Plant

Anniversaries:

25 **Scott Coble**, S.J., assistant professor, Mathematics; **Mike Roth**, athletic director, Athletics

20 **Jennifer Nelson**, professor, Teacher Education

10 **Susan English**, associate professor, Communication Arts; **Michelle Wis-sink**, mail services clerk III

5 **Katie Herzog**, coordinator, Leadership Resource Center; **Sabrina Jones**, public relations specialist, Marketing and Communications; **Kimberlie Madsen**, Web applications support specialist, CCNSS; **Jilliene McKinstry**, assistant director, Transmission and Distribution, Engineering; **Cory Mitchell**, groundskeeper I, Plant; **Suzanne Oster-smith**, lecturer, Theater/Communication Arts; **Shannon Sanders**, custodial lead, Plant; **Frank Slak**, lecturer-International Relations, Communication Arts; **Patricia Whitcomb**, field officer, Annual Giving, University Relations

Cradle Call:

Kurt Heimbigner, director of marketing services, Marketing and Communications, and his wife Leah, had a baby boy. Nash was born on Jan. 17. **Tony Osborne**, associate professor, Communication Arts, and wife Diana had a baby boy. Tommy was born Dec. 7.

FOCUS ON ...Jo Merwin, still 'sewing' strong

For almost half a century, **Jo Merwin** has worked with the Jesuits, sewing and repairing countless cassocks, shirts and anything else a priest may need.

Her table in the basement of Jesuit House is mostly covered by a sewing machine and a buttonless men's shirt. Behind her are boxes of fabric and the closet on the opposing wall holds an endless supply of garments needing repair. On the wall to her left are pictures of the dozens – maybe hundreds – of Jesuits she has befriended over the years who have since passed on.

Years ago, before her formal retirement in 1977, hers was a paid position. But when budget cuts in the '90s meant the Jesuits would have to take their clothes to the cleaners for repairs, Merwin came back as a volunteer.

"I just couldn't picture Father Dussault taking his pajamas to the dry cleaner to have his buttons sewn on," she said. "His pajamas were always losing buttons."

She's been a part of the Gonzaga community longer than almost anyone else, meeting her husband **Gordon Merwin** ('40) at his graduation. She sewed uniforms for the first cheerleading teams – never more than eight inches above the knee. She holds a season ticket to the basketball games and has for 25 years, even though she doesn't appreciate some of the chants from the student section.

She shows up to work eight-hour days on Mondays and Fridays, every week, with no signs of stopping. "I still like to sew, even if I'm a little slower than I was when I was 50 years old. I'm 94 now and that slows you down," she said. "But I still have pretty good eyes and I can thread a needle."



Jo Merwin has worked as seamstress for the Jesuits for nearly 50 years.

NOTE OF APOLOGY

Dear Readers,

We apologize for inadvertently omitting August 2011 anniversaries from our September issue of Spirit. We haven't forgotten you.

-Dale Goodwin, Editor

August 2011 Anniversaries

25 **Pamela Siedhoff**, administrative assistant to VP of Finance.

20 **Lynn Daggett**, professor, Law; **Stephen Sepinuck**, professor, Law.

15 **James Beebe**, professor, Leadership Studies; **Nick Carter**, ship/receive clerk, Bookstore; **Shann Ferch**, professor, Leadership Studies; **Susan Harmon**, assistant to dean, Law; **Jeanne Hayes**, administrative secretary III, Military Science; **Carol Schoentrup**, accounting assistant I/cashier, Student Accounts.

10 **Mark DeForrest**, associate professor, research and writing, Law; **Daniel Morrissey**, professor, Law.

5 **Gerhard Barone**, assistant professor, accounting, Business; **Monica Bartlett**, assistant professor, Psychology; **Abby Bennett**, administrative secretary III, Athletics; **Andrea Bertotti Metoyer**, assistant professor, Sociology; **Amanda Boose**, biology lab specialist, Biology; **Cheryl Carney**, senior faculty assistant, Music; **Brian Cooney**, associate professor, English; **Patricia Crowley**, assistant professor, Computer Science; **Claire Silva**, assistant dean, Admissions; **Chris Francovich**, assistant professor, Leadership Studies; **Luis Garcia-Torvisco**, assistant professor, Spanish; **Don Hackney**, assistant professor, Business; **Kevin Henrickson**, associate professor, economics, Business; **Debby Hutchins**, assistant professor, Philosophy; **Matthew Lamsma**, senior associate director, Residence

Life, Housing; **Laura Michels**, SNJM, coordinator of liturgy/chaplain, University Ministry; **Jeffrey Miller**, associate professor, English; **Jeff Reed**, assistant professor, Sport and Physical Education; **Karen Rickel**, assistant professor, Sport and Physical Education; **Eric Ross**, assistant professor, Chemistry; **Brian Russo**, associate professor, Communication Arts; **John Sheveland**, associate professor, Religious Studies; **Christopher Smith**, associate professor, Computer Science; **Shelley Story**, associate dean, Gonzaga-in-Florence; **Brook Swanson**, associate professor, Biology; **Ashish Thatte**, assistant professor, operations management, Business; **Rae Anna Victor**, communications coordinator, Switchboard; **Joann Waite**, director of sponsored research and programs, Grants; **Jeffrey Watson**, assistant professor, Chemistry.

Parking garage rekindles campus construction

Gonzaga will break ground on a new parking garage and retail space in April to provide 650 parking spaces and retail space that will be leased to help fund construction of the complex, said **Chuck Murphy**, vice president for finance. It is bordered by Hamilton, DeSmet, Cincinnati and Boone streets.

The \$12 million parking garage is a precursor to the eventual construction of a new University center which is likely to cover the footprint of the COG and its parking lot to the east. Funds continue to be raised for both projects.

The garage will provide parking for the University center and

its many events, McCarthy Athletic Center events, retail customers, and students, staff and faculty, Murphy said. Completion is expected in early 2013. The space planned for retail use bordering Hamilton will remain empty initially to house Sodexo dining services during construction of the University center. Retail space along Cincinnati is being considered for possible location of the Bookstore.

Coughlin Hall was Gonzaga's last major construction project, completed in August 2009.



This is an artist's rendering of one possible design for the parking garage at the corner of Cincinnati and DeSmet.

Payroll reporting transition smooth

Linda Grigsby is all smiles these days. Gonzaga's payroll director and her staff have successfully converted the University to online payroll reporting, and with little difficulty.

Everyone met the deadline," Grigsby said. "We did some reaching out on the 17th and 18th of the month to make sure all supervisors had received and approved hourly reporting for their employees."

Grigsby reminded all non-exempt staff to input holiday hours, something not done previously on the paper time sheets. Holidays are not listed on exempt employees' time sheets.

She attributed the ease of transition to the training faculty and staff members underwent prior to the changeover Jan. 1. Grigsby said her primary emphasis this pay period (Jan. 16-31) will be on supporting students' reporting as only about 200 of 1,200 student employees worked the first pay period in January.

NCAA women's basketball tourney coming to GU March 17-19, tickets available

When **Heather Gores** came to Gonzaga in 1994 as a women's basketball assistant coach she could never have imagined the success that program would later achieve.

Now the Bulldogs are poised to host their second straight NCAA women's basketball tournament, and fine tune a few minor details in an otherwise well-oiled tournament mechanism that Associate Athletic Director Gores, Tournament Director/Assistant Athletic Director **Joel Morgan** and Media Coordinator/Associate Athletic Director **Dennis Kalina** and their crews put together last year when both the first and second rounds of the tournament sold out.

As of last week 3,191 all-session passes had been sold to the March 17 and 19 games at McCarthy Athletic Center. This is up 300 tickets from this time last year. Tickets may be purchased for \$38 for adults, \$26 for youth (12 and under). If tickets remain the week of the event, single-game tickets will go on sale, said **Chris Johnson**, director of ticket operations. Tickets may be purchased at the GU athletic ticket office, online at GoZags.com, or at any Ticketwest outlet in Spokane. Should GU qualify for the tournament the Zags will play at McCarthy.

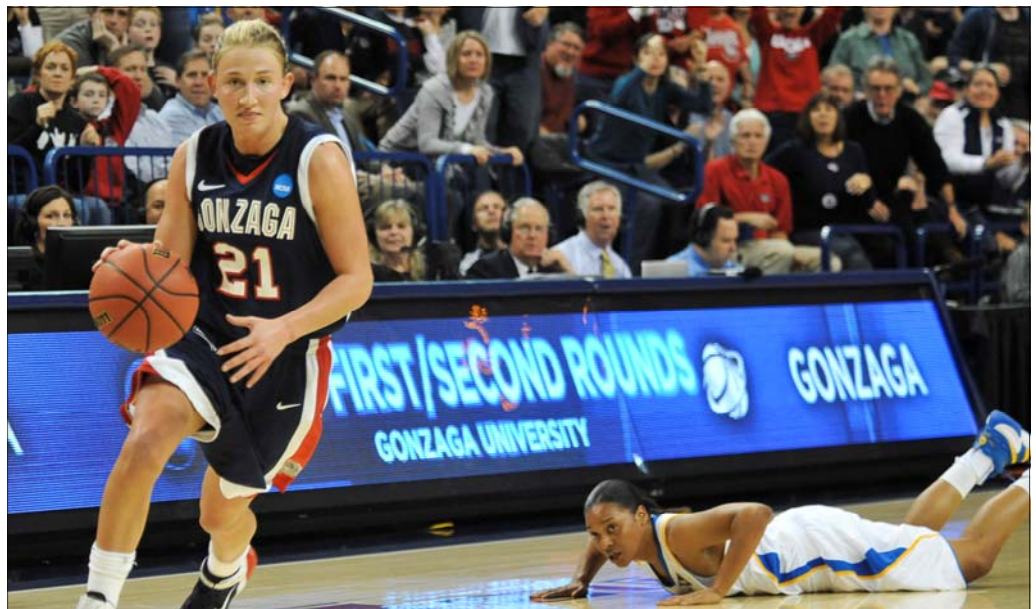
"The NCAA women's basketball staff was very pleased with our site, not only that we sold both events out, but at the electric atmosphere that we were able to create here in Spokane," said Gores, who is completing her fifth and final year on the NCAA Women's Basketball Committee.

"Even the feedback from the teams was very positive – other than having to play us on our home floor," Gores said. "From hospitality to facility setup to catering and community support; I think we hit it outta the park."

One of the nuances of NCAA tournament events is that everyone is set up the same way. So all existing advertising in the building has to be covered. All public

address announcements are structured in the same way. The NCAA sets the format for the event, and it doesn't deviate.

"We learned from actually having done it last year," Gores said. "We'll start facility set up one day earlier so we don't feel pressed at the wire. We'll make just a few minor tweaks."



Gonzaga played to sold out audiences in last year's NCAA tourney in McCarthy Center.