44 Pounds of Hope
The GONZAGA QUARTERLY staff welcomes you.
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Regular Contributors

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Cover: Sarah Arpin helped to organize Be Hope to Her, a new event that calls attention to water needs in Africa. Jennifer Raudebaugh photo

Falling for you
New school year, new happenings. This year Fall Family Weekend grows to include Alumni Reunion Weekend. Both will take place Oct. 23-25, bringing current students and alumni together with families and friends. Reconnect, rekindle and rejoice with old friends and new acquaintances. For more information and to register go to www.zagsonline.org/reunion2009.

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Regular Contributors
Ensuring continuity

The past several months have been, for me, a wonderful opportunity to experience – in a new and special way – the extended Gonzaga community of which I am so proud to be a part. Whether during my visits with alumni or at on-campus events, the tremendous affection that people have for Gonzaga is everywhere in evidence. I am so thankful to all of you: our alumni and many friends, parents and family members – for the constant support you give to Gonzaga and especially the students we are here to serve.

While my appointment as interim president was both unexpected and humbling, in accepting the appointment I made the commitment to do everything in my power to ensure the continuity of this University’s remarkable story of success. In setting out a vision for this next phase of the university’s story, I have shared the following three goals with the GU community.

First, we seek in all ways, across all of our endeavors, to advance Gonzaga’s institutional mission and its distinctive Jesuit, Catholic identity. Gonzaga is a wonderful community of dedicated students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents and friends; it is its focus on the personal experience of each student that remains a hallmark of the institution. It is not enough, however, merely to seek to educate; we are and must remain a place dedicated to developing men and women capable of providing leadership within their communities and dedicated to the sustenance of others – particularly those who are most in need.

While many colleges and universities struggle with how to remain faithful to their institutional mission, I see Gonzaga as an exemplar of what it means to be a Jesuit, Catholic university in America today.

Second, we must continue to make educational, and therefore institutional, excellence our aim. An image most frequently associated with the Society of Jesus is that of intellectual brilliance; the Jesuits are the scholars of the Church, and in many times and in many places the Jesuits have been at the foundations and frontiers of new discovery and learning. As a Jesuit institution, our heritage and our primary obligation is to ensure that our students have the best possible opportunity to do their learning in an academically rigorous, intellectually stimulating, and contemporary environment. To do this, we must support our faculty by providing them with the time and the resources to effectively teach, advise and engage – both themselves, and with their students – in meaningful scholarship. We are proud of our students, who continue to inspire us with their excitement, their passion and their achievements; our goal is to relieve as much of the financial burden from them as we can, and to support them through a successful graduation.

The accomplishment of our goal of institutional excellence is articulated in the University’s current strategic plan, Vision 2012. This coming year, we will revisit this plan and, in conjunction with the Board of Trustees, work to assure ourselves that the goals and objectives stated within it are appropriate given the current economic realities facing the University, and our society.

Third, we must make a comprehensive – that is, an institution-wide – commitment to financial health and sustainability. Gonzaga understands itself as a non-profit educational institution and a religious mission; thus, it has always sought ways of doing its work in a manner reflective of this reality. At the same time, the past 20 years have brought unprecedented growth and complexity to an organization that now employs over 1,000 people and is a major economic force in the Spokane community. These difficult economic times underscore the perpetual reality that we must thoughtfully engage in practices which will assure our sustainability for future generations of Gonzaga students.

Father Spitzer has left Gonzaga with a robust legacy upon which we can, and will, meaningfully build. I bring to my new role both the excitement that I always feel at the start of an academic year and a sense of urgency. We have a great deal to accomplish. Together with your continued support and prayers, we are assured of success in our ongoing quest to make Gonzaga University an ever greater institution, dedicated as always Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam. May the Holy Spirit continue to bless and guide you and your loved ones; indeed, may God continue to bless us all. Thank you.

Thayne McCulloh
Gonzaga interim president
Moving day — and all those boxes

School begins anew. Students arrive on campus for the start of the semester, refreshed from summer vacation. A row of SUVs bisects the lawn in front of DeSmet Hall. It’s moving day.

Gonzaga’s residence directors distribute keys, contracts and a welcoming smile for new and returning students. Parents and students carry in boxes, backpacks, bedding and more. It’s amazing how much gear students can stash in their rooms. Here’s a sample of items left behind last spring after students moved out:

• Several tons (literally) of clothing that went to the Salvation Army
• One American flag
• Unopened package of squirrel food
• A few (very few) items that reflect youthful spirits. We’ll say no more.
• A collection of Halloween costumes
• A number of ugly Christmas sweaters left over from the holidays

“The students are the ones who keep this job so interesting,” said Ben Cramer, residence hall director.

— Laura Christianson

This Jesuit reaches across borders

Compassionate in nature, faithful in dreams, and just in his work, Father Mark McGregor, S.J., aims to educate the world through faith and film. He arrived at Gonzaga in 2008 and divided his time last year between University Ministry and the communication arts department. This fall he moves to teaching full time.

Fr. McGregor wrote, directed and produced “Posada,” an award-winning documentary that follows the lives of three unaccompanied immigrant children. He created and oversees the Posadas Project, a national faith-based initiative, educating others about the Catholic Church’s initiatives for immigration reform.

Fr. McGregor entered the Society of Jesus in 1984 after graduating from Seattle University. He graduated with a degree in economics, but his passion lies in film. “The degree you have doesn’t mold and mint you into just doing ‘X,’” said Fr. McGregor. “My degree helped me listen to people. I was able to ask, ‘What is going on right now?’ and find ways to bring people together through film.”

Why did he choose the Jesuits?

“Jesuit spirituality is not cookie-cutter. It is a community spirituality and an active spirituality.” Through his Jesuit education, Fr. McGregor learned to value and enter into the stories of others. “I learned what it means to be human, what it means to suffer, and how to speak of hope,” he said. Though he majored in economics, McGregor found his way to film. “Our culture is awash with visual imagery,” he said. “I try to find a way to bring people together through film using the medium to continue conversation.”

He is a man of passion and purpose, aiming for social justice. He turns often to this prayer from St. Ignatius, “Dear friend, teach me to be generous.”

And generous he is, be it with time, talent or a smile from across campus.

— Autumn Jones (‘10)
I was involved in this game and I was not just a try to always be doing something to show that whole body. At all times during a game, there's communicate by your hands and the motion of your communicate through the look on your face. So don't quite understand how much you normally expressions when you wear a costume. People about being Spike is that you don't have facial expressions. “One thing that people don’t understand What makes a great Spike?

What else did you deal with?

“One of interesting parts of being Spike comes at the end of each game, after I’ve changed my clothes and left the costume hanging on its mannequin. This transformation is strange. Once I rejoin the crowd that is still leaving the exits, I find myself thinking how just minutes ago the kids could not stop playing with me, and now I am just a regular person again. If only they knew.”

Lamb expects to graduate in 2010 from Gonzaga’s Masters in Organizational Leadership program. His career goal is to become a high school athletic director. And while he is no longer Spike, the GU mascot continues to prove its worth to him.

When Lamb goes on a job interview, particularly in the Spokane region, his prospective employer usually hustles right through the formal questions. Everyone wants to know what it’s like being Spike.

What's it like in there, Spike?

Some things at Gonzaga are simply not divulged. For instance, any student who romps – and sweats – his or her way through athletic events as Spike is sworn to secrecy. But once Spike has retired – the person, that is, not the mascot – he or she is free to tell all. Nick Lamb ’08, put his heart, lungs and super-extended personality into Spike for three years. Now a Gonzaga graduate student and a pre-school teacher at St. Aloysius Catholic School – Can you see a theme emerging here? Lots of adulation, and his fans are still shorter than he is – Lamb offers this handful of Spike treats:

What makes a great Spike?

“One thing that people don’t understand about being Spike is that you don’t have facial expressions when you wear a costume. People don’t quite understand how much you normally communicate through the look on your face. So when you’re a mascot, you always have to communicate by your hands and the motion of your whole body. At all times during a game, there’s probably at least one person in the McCarthy Athletic Center who is looking at Spike. I would try to always be doing something to show that I was involved in this game and I was not just a large stuffed animal on the sidelines.”

How hot does it get in the costume?

“Disgustingly hot,” Lamb said. Before each game he would hydrate for two days, drinking a gallon and a half each day. After the game, he said, “changing back to my civilian clothes was gross. I would bring a plastic bag to put my clothes into. They looked as if I just jumped into a pool and I smelled as if I just jumped into a swamp.” He would head home for a shower – and more water to drink.

Career Center, GAMP plan broader outreach

The Career Center and Gonzaga’s Alumni Mentor Program want to ensure they reach every student with a systematic set of “career formation” services. These services range from workshops, internships and career fairs, to Spring Treks to Seattle, Portland, Silicon Valley, San Francisco and NewYork employers. Good timing is crucial. “It’s not only important to get relevant and accurate career information to students,” said Mary Heitkemper, director of the Career Center, “but to do so at a time when students are ready to learn that specific information.” The Career Center expects to collaborate with faculty in each college or school, framing appropriate material for students with different majors and acting as a resource for internships.
Sometimes educating the whole person just means having fun together. Here, students enjoy Battle of the Blocks.

Financial aid strategy puts students, families first

As Wall Street crumbled last fall and universities everywhere worried about enrollment for 2009, Gonzaga forged an aggressive strategy that focused on the needs of incoming students and their families. The University earmarked an additional $3 million in freshman financial aid, more than any year before.

The outcome of GU’s financial aid strategy was as unprecedented as the plan itself: At the start of May, 1,284 students had accepted Gonzaga’s offer of enrollment. By late August, the freshman class total had settled in around 1,245. Modest growth for this freshman class had been the plan; then-president Father Robert Spitzer, S.J., had pinpointed a goal of 1,080 incoming freshmen for the year.

“The current economic conditions have affected higher education immensely,” said Julie McCullough, dean of admissions. “We were surprised by the number of students choosing Gonzaga. However, Gonzaga University rose as an outstanding choice given the educational opportunities – and value – in an uncertain educational market.”

Assembling a new class of Gonzaga freshmen is painstaking work – a labor of love, really – particularly for the financial aid office. By now, freshman financial aid counselor Sherri Peterson has received her reward, as she does each year during freshman orientation. “That’s when I get to meet the students behind the voices on the phone,” Peterson says. In her office, she keeps photos of students who have become close friends over the years – all because of her work and care in financial aid.

“From the end of January through April, Peterson and the two other freshman counselors work ultra-long days (and nights) with prospective students and parents. During that time, the counselors handled twice as many appeals for extra financial aid as they received in all of the previous year. Much of their work involves seeking ways to adjust students’ financial aid packages, so that Gonzaga moves from being a dream school to a reality. “It’s never easy and in some cases it is never enough,” Peterson said.

This year, many families were overwhelmed by the sour economy, making the financial aid process an emotional marathon. Counselors deal with extremely personal situations. Some parents and prospective students found themselves in the nightmarish position of knowing that – even with solid financial aid – they were courting the possible loss of their jobs or even their homes. Others phoned the financial aid counselors to apologize after anxiety seeped into anger.

“This has been an extremely difficult year for a lot of families,” said counselor Danielle Hodge. “But, I am proud of the financial aid Gonzaga has been able to give this year; it has made a big impact.”

The extra funding that Gonzaga designated as financial aid for this year’s freshmen is revenue the University chose to forego. Other measures to keep expenses down for families include a smaller than usual tuition increase of 4.92 percent.

This summer’s completion of the first phase of Coughlin Hall adds space for 324 students, mostly sophomores. With the year’s strong enrollment, 80 students will occupy a wing of the Red Lion River Inn adjacent to campus. Gonzaga has used this option several times during its recent years of growth.

Net of sacred spaces reaches Kennedy Apartments

Named after the first Jesuit chapel in Spokane, the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel is expected to open late this fall in the Kennedy Apartments. One stained glass window remained from the restoration of the original St. Michael chapel. The window, along with a sanctuary light from another local parish and artwork from local artisans, will create an intimate environment for prayer, Mass and gatherings.

“[The chapel] will tie into the historical roots of the University as a Catholic institution,” said Fr. Craig Hightower, S.J., director of University Ministry. “There are a lot of people who want to be tied to faith. They just need the venues and the support.”

The chapel will seat 85-90 people. The site formerly served as retail space for the Zagshop on the ground floor of Kennedy.

Once the chapel is complete, Gonzaga will have created a net of sacred spaces that stretching from Kennedy on the west, to the Chapel of St. Ignatius of Loyola in the Law School and the Oratory of Our lady of Montserrat in Marian Hall to the east, with, of course, the centrally located University Chapel in College Hall.

Gonzaga holds No. 3 in U.S. News ranking

Gonzaga University remains the No. 3 best university in the West in U.S. News & World Report’s 2009 college rankings. Gonzaga also remains No. 3 in the West for best value, while the undergraduate engineering program is ranked No. 26 in the nation. With 23 percent of undergraduate alumni contributing to GU, the University also ranks No. 3 for alumni giving.

GU is compared with other universities that offer a full complement of masters’ programs. The ratings mark the 19th consecutive year (22nd in the past 25 years) that Gonzaga has been ranked among the West’s best universities.

Student center awaits green light

Plans for a new student center to be constructed where the CoG now sits are on hold until an anonymous benefactor, who has agreed to fund the center, gives the go-ahead, said Gonzaga Interim President Thayne McCullough.

“The student center is dependent on the benefactor being able to fund the project. At this point he has expressed the intention, the desire and has given us the sense that he is in the process of creating the room to do that,” McCullough said. Discussions to date call for a building that could be as large as 200,000 square feet.

The city of Spokane requires new parking spaces on campus before the facility is built. A 640-vehicle parking garage is planned on Hamilton between Boone and Desmet. The garage will include ground-level retail space, which initially will house the interior student center. The student center is under construction.

Law School among top innovators

Gonzaga’s School of Law has been named among the 10 Most Innovative Law Schools in the nation by PreLaw magazine, as well as being ranked within the nation’s top 100 law schools by U.S. News & World Report. This fall the Law School is launching a new curriculum that reinforces the school’s commitment to skills training while promoting professionalism.

The curriculum changes mean that first-year students will take a litigation lab in their first semester and a transactions lab in their second. The goal of the labs is to educate the students on
good lawyering skills early in their law school careers and to start developing the foundation they will need to be ethical advocates for their clients.

Changes to the second-year program will give students a chance to refer back to simulations from their lab experiences during their second-year legal research and writing courses. This will help the students fully understand the issues that were covered in those first year courses. The recursive nature of the curriculum will enhance the students’ practice skills and continually expose them to the professional challenges they will likely experience as attorneys.

“This is a grand investment,” said Law School Dean Earl Martin. “I’m so proud of our faculty for committing themselves to this.” The most significant change is a renewed integration between every course, addressing Gonzaga’s core values of imparting knowledge, professionalism and skill enhancement, Martin said.

PreLaw magazine noted, “These law schools are shunning tradition and trying new, extraordinary methods to help their students jet to the top of their profession.”

Fulbrighters head to Ireland, Germany

Religious studies Professor Ron Large has been named a Fulbright Scholar and will teach this fall in Dublin at the Irish School of Ecumenics in the International Peace Studies Program. The Irish School of Ecumenics is affiliated with Trinity College-Dublin. Large will teach conflict resolution and nonviolence, and he’ll team-teach a course on the politics of peace and conflict. During the semester, he will research the influence of Martin Luther King and Mohandas Gandhi on the Irish peace process.

Molly McEwen ’09 of Toledo, Ohio, has been awarded a Fulbright Student scholarship to Germany in Teaching English As A Foreign Language for the coming school year. McEwen, a biology major who went through the Honors Program, spent her junior year in Munich and enjoyed it so much she vowed to return. She will teach in two high schools near Munich.

The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and was established in 1946.

Memories at the 50-year mark

I just received the summer issue of Gonzaga Quarterly and was disappointed to find not one mention of the Gold Club reunion held on campus May 8-10. Surely we deserve at least a mention, if not a photograph marking this milestone. Many of us have been long-term contributors to Gonzaga over the years as well as faithful followers of GU activities and events.

Here’s what I found remarkable while I was on campus: Like anyone who hasn’t visited for a long time, I was struck with the contrast between what campus looked like during my student days and today. So many new buildings now!

Also, there’s a real change in the students today. They express themselves far more freely, compared to our behavior as students with our stricter upbringing. They seem to be very good people, mind you, but more outspoken and willing to challenge the status quo.

Finally, members of our class of ’59 had a great time reconnecting, observing the changes that time has wrought in us all, and getting updates on families, children and grandchildren.

Fifty or more years is noteworthy, don’t you think?

Delpha J. Stevens Camp ’59
Eugene, Ore.

Yearbooks of Yore

A blast from the past, a window in time: Fifty-six Gonzaga yearbooks are available on the University’s Web site. The digital collection starts with the 1923-24 edition, the first yearbook produced at Gonzaga, and goes through 1998. Each issue shown is available cover to cover at http://contentdm.gonzaga.edu. The yearbooks are searchable, allowing a user to type in a name; the database will search and highlight all the yearbooks and pages with that name.
McCulloh upholds the Jesuit work, and, given his life, it’s difficult to imagine any other outcome.

Partner, collaborator

Thayne and Julie McCulloh, with daughters Emily, left, Katie and Annie, are very much a Gonzaga family.
By Marny Lombard

regionally, nationally and globally, Jesuits have for years expressed their desire to work in true partnership and collaboration with their lay companions in mission and ministry. And this they have successfully done; in becoming Jesuit, Gonzaga’s interim president this July, Thayne McCulloh embodies the Jesuits’ faith in this model of collaboration.

What makes Gonzaga truly distinctive is the fact that its people, as a community, are fundamentally dedicated to the education and welfare of students. They are aware of their responsibility as partners in mission – and carry out the Jesuit, Catholic, and humanistic mission in their daily work,” he says. The institution’s Jesuit identity and the spirit of collaboration are all-important aspects of Gonzaga’s future. McCulloh intends to support the Gonzaga community in preparing for a future that will continue to rely on Jesuit leadership. He knows, too, that that same collaboration are all-important aspects of Gonzaga’s future. McCulloh intends to support the Gonzaga community in preparing for a future that will continue to rely on Jesuit leadership. He knows, too, that that same collaboration are all-important aspects of Gonzaga’s future. McCulloh intends to support the Gonzaga community in preparing for a future that will continue to rely on Jesuit leadership. He knows, too, that that same collaboration are all-important aspects of Gonzaga’s future.

In ways small and large, McCulloh has participated in and fostered collaboration. Along with three colleagues, in 2006 he represented Gonzaga in an unprecedented “Congregation of Lay Colleagues” called by the Superior of the Oregon Province. Its purpose was to recommend – from the perspective of lay collaborators in the work – what priorities Jesuits might consider in contemplating the future of the Society of Jesus prior to the 35th General Congregation, an international gathering of the Society of Jesus.

However, to appreciate McCulloh’s core reasons for caring so deeply about Gonzaga’s Jesuit heart, it helps to know something of his earlier years, which carried their fair share of turmoil.

“I had done poorly enough in high school that I wasn’t ready for college,” McCulloh said. “I simply did not qualify for admission.” In 1982, during his senior year at Bishop Blanchet High School in Seattle, he took the Greyhound bus to visit a friend who attended Gonzaga. He sat in on a few of Father Steve Kuder’s Old and New Testament class and a lecture by Professor Mike McBride, both of whom still teach today. The classes were fascinating; the sense of caring and camaraderie he experienced, even as a visitor, was profound. He slept on the floor of his friend’s room in Roncalli Hall, and even an encounter with a campus security officer showed McCulloh Gonzaga’s ethos of caring. This brief visit to Gonzaga gave the struggling teenager a reason to hope during a particularly difficult period in his life.

During and following high school, McCulloh lived on his own and worked various jobs. Between food and rent, he made little headway toward his goal of saving money for anything, much less college tuition.

He turned to a time-honored solution, military service. Learning that the Army offered exceptional educational benefits, McCulloh enlisted and served three years in food service, largely at Louisiana’s Fort Polk. McCulloh learned to cook, all right, but discovered much more. The Army’s structure helped him excel; his education, troubled or not, gave him an advantage over many of his fellow soldiers. McCulloh handled increasingly complex situations, including procurement and transportation of food for thousands of soldiers on exercises in the U.S. and California desert. After three challenging years, he was honorably discharged a sergeant (E-5).

“Going to school at Gonzaga was an inspiration to me throughout my time in the Army. I wanted to come back here and without that hope, I don’t know how my life would have turned out;” McCulloh said. “I came out of the military with a renewed sense of my own capabilities. Every day, the military asks extraordinary things of ordinary people. I had been through things and done things I never knew I would – or could have done.”

McCulloh enrolled at GU in the fall of 1986 – the university’s centennial year. Only at the beginning of his second semester did he really latch onto the foundation he needed – his emphasis on building faith within a caring community, and the concept of growing to appreciate, and share, the unique gifts each person possesses. These retreats connected McCulloh with students, campus ministers and Jesuits – Fr. Jim Meehan, S.J., Winifred “Fred” Hayes-Adams, Fr. Ken Kralj, S.J., Sr. Laura Michels, S.N.J.M., and others – who invited him in to work with their.

By his second year at Gonzaga, he had begun to serve as a resident assistant in St. Catherine-St. Monica Hall. His residence hall experience taught him the value of living in community, a distinguishing characteristic of Jesuit education.

“In order to function inside a respectful environment, people have to come to consensus on how to behave,” he said. “Being part of a community means creating a whole host of norms and customs. Being engaged in that project was important to me. I still believe residence hall staff plays an essential role in the Gonzaga experience.” His third year, McCulloh became residence director of Catherine-Monica, “I, together with the other staff members, felt a deep sense of responsibility for those students. We had fun, but we had serious incidents too. All were important.”

McCulloh’s academic experience was also transformational. Among many, professors Jane Rinehart, Mike McBride and Ed Vacha prepared him well for graduate school. That part of his education began with a master’s degree in experimental psychology at Oxford University, an endeavor which lasted – initially at least – for only one year.

“I ran out of money,” McCulloh says. “Fortunately, an encounter with a Jesuit (Weizt vice president for student life) offered me an entry-level position for two years, working with the residence hall staff.” It was during this time that McCulloh met and made friends with Julie Lopash, a student from Helena, Mont., who shared his fascination with psychology, literature, movies and people. The two also shared a commitment to social justice and to helping those in need. They were married in Helena in the summer of 1993, after McCulloh’s second year of Oxford residency was completed.

“Julie is my wife and my best friend. We want what’s best for each other and we’ve always kept that, and the nurturing of our family, at the heart of our life together,” McCulloh said.

On campus, both McCullohs deepened their relationships with lay colleagues and Jesuits. Among others, Fr. Frank Costello, S.J., Fr. Pat Lee, S.J. and Fr. Steve Kuder, S.J., have been their good friends through the years. Julie and Thayne worked with Fr. Tony Lehmann, S.J., on marriage preparation retreats. Father Pat Ford, S.J., academic vice president from 1987 to 2000, shared Thanksgiving with the McCulloh family nearly every year and baptized each of their three girls at Jesuit House in Spokane.

“Thayne McCulloh is really honest, forthright, thoughtful and he calls it the way he sees it,” said Fr. Kuder, rector of Gonzaga’s Jesuit Community. “He understands Gonzaga.”

So, the imprint of Gonzaga’s Jesuit charism has significantly shaped and informed McCulloh’s life, both as a student and an employee. Gonzaga’s recent search for a Jesuit successor to Fr. Spitzer has occasioned some questions and concerns about how the university will fare moving forward. Gonzaga Province Father Pat Lee, in a meeting this spring with the other U.S. provincials, offered a gracious and appreciative response to their questions about McCulloh’s appointment as interim president. “There is nothing but grace working here,” Fr. Lee said.

Clearly moved by the statement, McCulloh responded, “That is a high compliment – to have a Jesuit provincial say that about a lay colleague – and clear evidence that this is indeed an environment in which we, as partners, can all participate in the Jesuit mission.”

"Julie is my wife, and best friend. We want what’s best for each other and we’ve always kept that, and the nurturing of our family at the heart of our life together."
In the spring issue, students weighed in on great teachers at Gonzaga. Here, five professors who received 2009 Exemplary Faculty and other awards reflect on how they sharpen their craft.
Top, Professor Noel Bormann, photographed with the Filipino bolo knife he uses in his martial arts, was among eight professors honored with Exemplary Faculty Awards for 2009. Below, Associate Professor Mary Jeannot received the Diversity Leadership Award for 2009.

By Sabrina Jones

The question was simple: What makes for a great teacher? But the answers we collected from a handful of Gonzaga professors are anything but.

Kevin Henrickson
assistant professor of economics

“Talk about a loaded question,” said Henrickson. “A great teacher is someone who does not believe that he or she is a great teacher. As soon as you think you have teaching mastered and don’t need to work on it is when you start having problems. I think everyone should feel that there is improvement to be made somewhere in their courses.

“Teaching is much more than covering a specific set of topics or a checklist of material. From my experience as a student, courses taught this way didn’t impact my education and were not my favorite classes.

“In my opinion, mastery – from the perspective of the educator – is actually undesirable. Students change from semester to semester and year to year, and in many disciplines the course material itself evolves over time as well. These changes represent opportunities for teachers to find new ways of connecting with these ever-changing factors. I feel that every time I teach a course I stumble upon better examples, student interests and new material which require constant adaptation in my courses, making mastery impossible. I am always experimenting with new teaching and testing strategies to try and engage my students in the course material. I could easily recycle my same courses from year to year, but I think constantly looking for ways to improve these courses leads to better outcomes for the students.”

Mary Jeannot
associate professor, founder and director of MA/Teaching English as a Second Language

“I am quite comfortable in my own skin and I think students can sense that,” said Jeannot. “Ever since I stepped onto this campus I’ve been interdisciplinary, and I think that’s been a huge advantage to me and the students I teach. When we as educators are given – or when we take – the opportunity to teach cross-disciplinary it not only opens our eyes to new content, but it forces us to be a bit uncomfortable and perhaps rely on the expertise of others, including our students. “In order to be diverse and meet our students’ needs, we need to be inventive. Good teaching allows for that kind of creation and discovery in the classroom. It’s like scaffolding: there are times when you build upon others’ support and expertise, times when you need to collaborate. Then there are other times when individual work and reflection stand alone.

“Being a great teacher also means developing a creative syllabus and asking yourself, ‘How will the content drive the method?’ The syllabus is really a contract between the teacher and the students.

“To me, great teaching is all about diversifying and divulging the expertise. Great teachers model that. A classroom doesn’t just happen; a classroom gets invented.”

Joey Haydock
associate professor of biology

“Research is a huge part of great teaching and this holds especially true in the sciences,” Haydock said.

Haydock should know. For 15 years, he has been researching the acorn woodpecker, a species that came into existence in just 1973 and whose native habitat ranges from Oregon to Colombia, South America. Haydock spends a great deal of time each summer collaborating with Gonzaga students in the woodpecker research, whether conducting molecular work or analyzing the species’ unique cooperative breeding system known as polygynandry. (Not quite 5 percent of birds use this breeding system, in which two or more partners of either sex have exclusive relationships.)

“I demand a lot from my students, regardless if it’s a core or upper-division course,” Haydock said. “I strive for rigor in my classroom while doing my best to make the information interesting and relevant to my students.

“I enjoy working with students to a great degree, especially when I have the opportunity to do some individual mentoring. Research is the ideal avenue for that.”

This past summer, Haydock had a prime opportunity for some individual mentoring as he led a field course to Ecuador for 25 days. He and several biology students conducted research in the Galapagos Islands and the Amazon jungle.

Noel Bormann
chair and professor of civil engineering

Noel Bormann’s concept of what it means to be a great teacher went through a phase of change eight years ago when he became a martial arts instructor.

“I learned that you can’t judge someone the first time you meet,” Bormann said. “When I first met my martial arts instructor, he had a rough exterior and seemed almost unapproachable. But as time went on and we both got to know each other, he became concerned with not only what I was learning in his class, but he was truly concerned for me as a person.

“It’s about the relationships we form with our students. It’s about developing trust, being gentle and respecting the work they do. There’s a quote by Theodore Roosevelt that states: ‘Nobody cares how much you know until they know how much you care.’ That holds true in what we do each day as educators.

“Regardless of whether I’m teaching an engineering course here at Gonzaga or a martial arts lesson, I strive to find that place where my students can’t help but feel comfortable on their own. And that’s something I can’t do by myself; I need the students to work toward that goal, too. It’s imperative that they are active partners, taking responsibility for what they hope to learn and how they choose to be in my classroom.”

Peggy Sue Loroz
associate professor of marketing

“There is a standard list of qualities that a great teacher must possess. She must have mastery of the material and a love of learning that is contagious. She must challenge students’ existing points of view and encourage them to look at things in new ways (while also being able to adopt new perspectives herself). She must have high expectations and motivate students to meet them. She must care about her students, inside and outside of the classroom. She must recognize that her students have varying learning styles and needs. She must be a great communicator. She must be fair, organized, humble, and resilient. I don’t think any of these points are new or particularly insightful or unique.

“I think to be a great teacher at a school like Gonzaga requires also that one take the mission of the university to heart and bring it into the classroom in one’s treatment of the students (cura personalis), in one’s treatment of the subject matter (how it relates to Catholic Social Teaching, ethics, personal and professional responsibility), and in one’s challenge to the students to use their education to promote the common good (pursuit of the magis, becoming men and women for others).

“As applied particularly to my own classroom, I have several goals. I want my students to leave my classes as more savvy consumers and more enlightened marketers than when they came in. I want them to have a greater appreciation of the breadth of the marketing field and to recognize its powerful influence on society and on human behavior. I want them to question the ethics of the marketing industry, including selling practices, the promotion of materialism, and the ways advertising can manipulate consumers and promulgate harmful stereotypes. I teach because I believe that business (and marketing) can be a powerful force for social change. I want to educate and empower my students to be involved in this movement by making positive and thoughtful choices in their careers and lives.”
Gonzaga students illustrate the need for access to clean drinking water in Kenya, where the daily burden of carrying water prevents girls from getting an education.
On a bright April day, nearly 40 Gonzaga women filled five-gallon buckets with water from Lake Arthur. To cushion their heads, they used a twisted cloth called a “kanga.” The event, called Be Hope to Her, is designed to raise awareness about the international need for access to clean drinking water. Girls and young women in Kenya make daily treks for water that shape and curtail their lives.

Five gallons of water weighs 44 pounds. Gonzaga students found their arms began to tremble and their necks to ache. Girls in Kenya may spend three hours a day fetching water. For them, school is out of reach. Many who carry water will marry younger, have children younger and be more prone to contact AIDS or suffer sexual assault, explained Sarah Arpin, a Gonzaga senior and co-organizer of the event. Arpin learned about Be Hope to Her through the Comprehensive Leadership Program course she took on leadership of nonprofit organizations.

Arpin led the file of women around campus. Following them came the men, carrying signs to educate others about this cause.

“I got choked up when we started walking. Campus was pretty quiet, but with all these girls walking with buckets on their heads and the guys chanting their slogans, people really paid attention to us. It was so cool,” Arpin said.

Gonzaga was one of 11 universities participating in Be Hope to Her, designed by non-profit NURU International. NURU works to eliminate extreme poverty. The first annual Be Hope to Her raised $38,000 – enough to drill four deep wells in the Kuria district of Kenya.

To learn how to tie a kanga and more about Be Hope to Her, go to www.gonzaga.edu/GUlinks.
Facebook. We've all heard the stories. Sex offenders lurking and what a distraction! Still, the social networking site has grown at a torrid clip since its 2004 inception to more than 200 million users worldwide; 60 million-plus in the United States alone. With more people than many countries, the online community has banned its share of bad eggs. But a recent unscientific survey of Gonzaga alumni Facebook users found something even more shocking: Zags are using Facebook for the best and purest of motives. Some have found it irreplaceable for business, another parlayed his Facebook fascination into a burgeoning academic career, and many others use it to stay close to loved ones.
Walter F. Conn (’89) a University Regent, is president and CEO of Figueroa Capital Group, Los Angeles. He uses Facebook and the program LinkedIn for fun and profit.

A small investment of time in Facebook pays major dividends, he said.

“We would not still be in business in this economic downturn if we did not have the additional business we’ve closed from those two networks (Facebook and LinkedIn). That’s something about the power of networking, if used properly,” Conn noted. “In my business, at least 40 percent of our leads come from LinkedIn and Facebook.” Conn also made one hire through LinkedIn.

“I’ve been able to reconnect with about 75 classmates and several hundred GU grads and staff over the last several years, which has literally drawn me back into the GU fold,” Conn noted. Facebook has allowed Conn to make new friends, and keep in touch with former classmates, alumni, family and clients. It sparked his interest in Gonzaga’s L.A. Alumni Chapter launch.

“I actively look up Zags and try to connect, hoping they’ll connect with each other as well. We all stay better informed, and it’s led to some interesting developments,” wrote Conn, who recently used Facebook to help recruit a student to Gonzaga. “A classmate contacted me on Facebook about an accepted freshman candidate about to tour campus. She wanted to meet the cross-country coach, as she’s apparently a heavy-duty runner, and hadn’t been able to connect. Because of my classmate’s contact, I got in touch and set up a meeting with the coach.”

Janet Connolly-Giwa (’90) passed on a Facebook success story from Irvine, Calif., where she is a global clinical study manager for Allergan.

“I came across several GU classmates on Facebook and it got me looking for old photos from that era – class of 1990. I posted a photo album on my Facebook profile and got so many responses. It was great. Included was a Knights and Spurs (now Setons) photo led to even more people getting connected, she noted, "and we basically had a mini class reunion going on."

Facebook has become fertile ground for social research. A thesis by Robert McKeever (’08), a graduate of Gonzaga’s Master of Communication and Leadership Program, examined groupthink on Facebook. McKeever became enamored with Facebook and other new media after graduating from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, which led him in turn to GU’s online program. McKeever presented his thesis last summer at the national conference of the American Political Scientists Association and is pursuing his doctorate as one of eight Roy H. Park Doctoral Fellows in journalism and communication at UNC. This new media scholar was among the first Facebookers and had the good fortune, timing and ingenuity to find his niche by following his interests.

“Becoming knowledgeable about Facebook and parlaying this knowledge into my master’s thesis are intrinsically linked phenomena,” noted McKeever, who will continue studying Facebook and its implications for social psychology while exploring new ways to study computer-mediated communities.

For McKeever, the most interesting aspect of Facebook has been its explosive growth.

“My frantic attempts to ‘keep up’ with the rapid growth of Facebook have been and will continue to be borderline comical,” he wrote. Without fail, his Facebook papers had to be updated at the last minute to reflect its growth. When the site grew by 10 million users monthly, McKeever said he began questioning if his “once-bold predictions about the research possibilities present in this new digital landscape were actually underestimations.” That was when Facebook’s overwhelming impact became clear.

No person or even an entire scientific community could maintain research matching the intensity and growth of digital media, he said. McKeever even wonders if the explosive growth of social media calls for entirely new methods of social research, more applicable to our 21st century digital culture.

David Paullin (’07) finds Facebook crucial to learn of GU retreats and to stay close to alumni, faculty and students. He enjoys being a facilitator of news, even if the news is sad.

“My friends and I found out about Father Tom Kraft’s passing this year in Seattle through Facebook. We were deeply saddened and many of us went to Seattle to attend his funeral.” Paullin had met Fr. Kraft at Gonzaga in 2007.

Paullin, who is from Sheridan, Wyo., also has used Facebook to stay connected with a close friend near Seattle.

“My dear friend Beth Hanson (’08), her mom is battling cancer. I love my friends,” Paulin wrote. “I am able to support Beth, her mom, Karen Hanson, and the Hanson family through Beth’s notes, her Facebook status and wall postings,” he noted. “Her battle with cancer has raged on for a very long time. I am able to post that I am keeping Karen in my thoughts and prayers. I am able to give Beth and the rest of the Hansons moral and spiritual support.”

Paulin is legally blind. An audio program allows him to use Facebook among other internet sites. He recently created a Facebook page to inform friends of his new job with the National Park Service in Washington, D.C.

“I began to get Facebook wall postings and comments on my status from friends in a matter of minutes,” he wrote. “You learn so much about yourself and the people in your life. It is quite remarkable the things you and your friends can write to get through each and every day.”

Most of all, Paulin uses Facebook “to let people know that I care very deeply about them and that I love them as friends.”

For her part, Hanson agrees Facebook can be a powerful tool for good, as it has facilitated a group of nearly 200 people who are praying for her mother. On the other hand, Hanson believes there is no substitute for face-to-face human interaction.

“One of my struggles with Facebook is that it creates a false intimacy where people feel that they can simply look at a person’s profile, be updated on his or her life, and not feel the need to have actual human contact or investment,” Hanson said. “In some ways, it cheapens human interaction by reducing it to messages or wall postings that require little self-giving.”

She said a good question for Facebook users may be, how many people in our friends list do we talk to regularly? “David is not just my Facebook friend, he is my real-life friend” Hanson said. “The way David has reached out to my family reminds me of the real human sacrifice involved in genuine relationship, which goes far beyond Facebook-value.”

Gonzaga is online

Check out these links:
Facebook – www.facebook.com/GonzagaUniversity,
Gonzaga Alumni Community – www.zagsonline.org
Twitter – www.twitter.com/GonzagaU
LinkedIn Alumni Community – bit.ly/GUALumniLinkedIn
YouTube – www.youtube.com/gonzagau.
For more, visit www.gonzaga.edu/socialmedia.
Cross Country and Back Again

By John Blanchette

Pat Tyson’s cubicle in the Martin Centre offers no window, but his view is unobstructed. From there he sees runners in Gonzaga singlets fidgeting between those from Georgetown and Villanova at the starting line of the Penn Relays. He sees 4:20 high school milers being coaxed to walk on to his program and breaking 4 minutes sometime before they walk off the stage at commencement. He even sees a lovely track stadium – “a mini-Hayward Field” – sprouting south of the campus, and sprinters and shot putters doing their thing alongside the distance runners he’s been hired to entice, energize and excel.

But he’s near-sighted, too.
So he also sees the day – sooner, rather than later – when the rival school that’s dominated cross country in the West Coast Conference for 30 years “won’t have the luxury of running a JV team and winning the championship anymore.”

Spokane’s Pied Piper of distance running is back home and back at work – same fife, slight variation on the tune. He is a year into his latest cause as cross country and track coach at Gonzaga University, trying to turn an athletic afterthought into a bright idea. For tools, he has his tangled network of contacts from more than 35 years as a high school and college coach, camp yogi and flame keeper. He has his poster of the legendary runner Steve Prefontaine, his once-upon-a-time roommate and all-time muse, the paper tattering a bit at the edges but the image intact and vivid. He has his pen and stationery – all of the 3,000-plus recruiting letters he authored his first year on the job were hand-written. He has the articles of his faith, a philosophy of training absorbed at the running novitiate of the West, the University of Oregon – a framework, though, more than scripture.

“I don’t know if athletes are allowed to be who they are anymore,” he said, suggesting he wants to make precisely those allowances. He recalls one of his star pupils, Chris Lewis, who made some bold attacks on the 4-minute mile in high school, sometimes running his first two laps under two minutes.

“People would ask, ‘Why don’t you tell him to slow down?’” Tyson remembered. “I’d say, ‘Well, when he gets beat, we’ll talk. Until then, maybe his spirit and heart are what lead him to greatness. Why do I want to mess with that?’”

This is why, when the Gonzaga coaching position opened, Athletic Director Mike Roth was bombarded with testimonials for Tyson. It wasn’t simply his remarkable record – 12 state cross country championships in 18 years at Mead High School and 17 individual winners in events of 1,600 meters and farther. There was also the sense in Spokane’s running community – and beyond – that Tyson had managed to blend that competitive dominance with the sport’s more ethereal virtues, not the least of which is self-discovery.

Of course, you also need to prime the enthusiasm pump until the endorphins have a chance to kick in.

“Kids want to be around people who are jacked,” he said. “Pre was all about that. I was not at all about that.”

Tyson was a shy kid who grew up poor in Tacoma, the youngest of four boys raised by a single mother, his father dead before Tyson’s eighth birthday.

“There were no role models or anybody to jack me,” he said, “but I did have a great mom who never said no. I had no curfew. I could skin my knees. When I wanted to go to college at Oregon, she said there was no money – but I could go. And at Oregon, I ran for men who wanted you to grow up and fall down or fall on your face and learn from that.”

So then it wasn’t all that surprising with his Mead program on cruise control that he would bolt back to Oregon as an unpaid interim caretaker to steer his alma mater through some turmoil – and to a Pacific-10 championship in the process. Nor did it seem out of character, when he wasn’t kept on at Oregon, that he hauled himself across the country to take a stab at molding his own college program at Kentucky.

But it was too far away from what he likes to call “the buzz” of the Northwest, where champions like Pre and Spokane’s Gerry Lindgren and Rick Riley captured the imagination of a young Pat Tyson, who made it his vocation to set loose the
Hall of Famer takes Stock in his family

By Dale Goodwin

John Stockton (‘84) won’t let his induction into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame go to his head. He has too many other things going on up there, helping wife Nada (‘84) manage a schedule that includes one son playing football at University of Montana, another playing basketball at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, a third just starting his college and basketball career at Gonzaga, a daughter playing volleyball and basketball at Gonzaga Prep and their youngest two involved in everything that St. Aloysius Elementary School offers.

“We’re beyond busy,” said Stockton, 47, who in September became the first player from Gonzaga ever inducted into the basketball Hall of Fame. “But I love it. I find that the things you wouldn’t ordinarily think about enjoying, like driving kids somewhere, provides time for some of our best conversations.”

Stockton left the NBA five years ago, after 19 sterling seasons with the Utah Jazz that earned his election to the hall on his first ballot. He retired as the league’s career leader in assists, steals and games played for one franchise. He joins an august class of inductees including a pair of formidable opponents who were also Olympic teammates, Michael Jordan and David Robinson, coach Vivian Stringer and Stockton’s longtime coach at Utah, Jerry Sloan.

“The bus trips during our preparation for the Olympics are what I remember most,” said Stockton, referring to his time with Jordan and Robinson. “No media, no television, no sponsorships. It was just about planning for the Olympics are what I remember most,” said Stockton, referring to his time coach at Utah, Jerry Sloan. “It’s a lot of fun to have a group of people around you who enjoy being there. It’s like a family.”

His prospects list for next year is already twice as long, the milers more of the 4:15 variety. He’ll still be chasing Portland for some time, and he isn’t booking any flights to the Penn Relays yet.

“I love to win, but you have to be realistic,” Tyson said, “and find a way to ‘win’ even if you’re not winning championships. Can you win the athletes over to this system of training, and to the lifestyle which is Division I athletics? These kids need to know they have to do the same things that created the basketball success here, or the baseball success or the soccer success.

“We’re all tied together in this thing.”

There are no Pres in his first recruiting class, but there are some raw milers in the 4:20 range and some promising women, “and I don’t think Gonzaga’s has these kinds of kids come in before,” he said. His prospects list for next year is already twice as long, the milers more of the 4:15 variety. He’ll still be chasing Portland for some time, and he isn’t booking any flights to the Penn Relays yet.

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“We’re all tied together in this thing.”
Paul Luvera (J.D.) was named Seattle Best Lawyers Personal Injury Litigator of the Year for 2009. Luvera is the first person in Washington to be so honored by the publication. The lawyers honored have received high ratings in peer-review surveys, indicating a high level of respect among their peers for their abilities, professionalism and integrity. Luvera is a founding partner in the Seattle firm of Luvera, Barnett, Brindley, Beninger and Cunningham. He and his wife, Lita (’77 J.D.), who is a GU Regent, live in Seattle.

Douglas Head received the 2009 Blazer Award by the Wenatchee chapter of Camp Fire USA. Doug oversees programs for education and child rearing, therapeutic foster care programs, and child and family counseling for the Children’s Home Society. After graduating from Gonzaga, Doug joined the Peace Corps and served in Afghanistan for three years, after which his career in social work blossomed.

Bryan Harneitaux (’73 J.D.) presented the third in a trilogy of plays in June at the Spokane Civic Theatre. “Holding On – Letting Go” addresses end-of-life issues, as did his previous two plays, “Dusk” and “Vesta.” Harneitaux has been playwright-in-residence at the Civic since 1982. He has written more than 30 plays, 13 of which have been published by Playscripts, Inc. in New York City.

Mary Pat Theiler Cheng (far right) and Tony (Center)

Mary Pat Theiler Cheng and Tony Cheng were recently recognized for their business achievements. Their firm, Nestar Communications, Inc., was selected as a finalist for the 2009 Eastside Small Business of the Year award from the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce. In 2008, Nestar increased revenues by 47 percent and doubled its staff.

John Hanrahan (J.D.) opened a law practice in Frederick, Md., and will work in the areas of consumer and commercial bankruptcies, creditor’s rights, commercial litigation, transactional documentation, funeral industry law, estates and probate, and criminal defense.

Cap and Heidi (Crider) Perry (’93) are the parents of Grace Isabella, born Aug. 26, 2008. Grace joins siblings Courtenay, 14, Parker, 11, Emma, 9, Elisabeth, 7, and Jackson, 4. They live in Oakesdale, Wash., where Cap works in sales for the urology division of Sanofi-Aventis Pharmaceuticals.

Katherine Antwi Green (J.D.) is the newly named director of equal opportunity services at the University of Texas at Austin. She formerly worked as an assistant attorney general in Texas. Amanda (Eyre) Smith (J.D.) has become executive director of Utah’s Department of Environmental Quality. Previously she directed government relations for The Nature Conservancy. Brigit O’Meara is planning a 1992 Gonzaga-in-Florence class reunion in Florence over Thanksgiving weekend. For more information, visit www.day3travel.com/ Flo_Reunion/Benvenuto.

Karen Knechtel married Dr. Aidan deRenne on Feb. 27 in Portland, Ore. Michelle Steinmetz and Shannon (Kelly) Savage attended the wedding. The couple lives in Vancouver, Wash., where Karen is a CPA and Aidan is a pediatrician in private practice. Karen says she is very happy to be stepmom to Caitlin, 9, and Lorelei, 6. Richard Shinder, Gonzaga Regent, joined Perella Weinberg Partners, a financial services firm, as a managing director. He and his wife, Marcella, live in New York City.

Richard Shinder

Karen Knechtel

Karen Knechtel

Dan Keefe (J.D.) was named partner in the Seattle legal firm Helsell Fetterman, LLP. His practice involves trial and arbitration primarily focused on defense of personal injury cases, medical malpractice defense and defense of actions involving the Washington State Department of Health and the Medical, Nursing and Dental Quality Assurance commissions. Dan lives in Seattle.

Amy Fredeen was appointed to the Make-A-Wish Foundation board of trustees. She is chief financial officer for the Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc., directing fiscal...
functions and social enterprise operations. She lives in Anchorage, Alaska.

Robert Milligan has been promoted to partner with Seyfarth Shaw, LLP, in Los Angeles. His practice focuses on trade secret misappropriation and other intellectual property theft. Robert, his wife, Karen, and their son, Jack, live in Los Angeles. Julie Miller and James Wordeman were married Sept. 14 at Bozarth Mansion. They reside in Decatur, Ga., where Julie is a flight attendant and James is a pilot, both for World Airways.

Shannon Boroff recently became site manager of Plant 3 at ESCO Corporation in Portland, Ore. He has been with the company, which manufactures metal parts for mining and other industries, for 10 years. He and his wife Annie live in northeast Portland with their two sons, Benjamin, 3, and Zachary, 1.

Michael Tilford will graduate in September from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a master’s in real estate development. Raymond Loyola has celebrated five years with Boeing. He recently moved into the flight test engineering analysis group for 787 systems, which means he flies on the airplanes (though not as a pilot), runs tests and analyzes data to make sure the systems are running properly. His group then reports to the FAA to certify the 787 safe to fly with the public on board. Ray also volunteers with Rebuilding Together, an organization that remodels/rebuilds homes for low-income, elderly and disabled individuals. He lives in the Ballard neighborhood of Seattle with, as he says, “No kids, no pets, no congressional medals of honor,” though he is working on the last one.

Elliott Golnar is a project management consultant on the National Synchrotron Light Source II at Brookhaven National Labs in New York City. “Still single, no babies, loving Manhattan,” he said. May Zhang (M.Acct.) was hired as a senior auditor at Macias Gini & O’Connell, LLP, in Los Angeles. Her practice focuses on trade secret misappropriation and other intellectual property theft. Robert, his wife, Karen, and their son, Jack, live in Los Angeles. Julie Miller and James Wordeman were married Sept. 14 at Bozarth Mansion. They reside in Decatur, Ga., where Julie is a flight attendant and James is a pilot, both for World Airways.

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Christina Puglisi is one of 26 cheerleaders for the Denver Broncos. She danced with the Bomb Squad three years at Gonzaga. Christina was also asked to help instruct the junior cheerleaders who perform at halftime. She is pursuing a master’s degree in education and lives in Denver.

James Wilkinson (M.O.L.) joined the Berwyn Heights Town Council in Maryland. James comes from a multi-cultural family and wants to make sure there is diversity outreach in the community. Before moving to Maryland, James was executive director of the Washington International Trade Association. He and his wife Nipa Shah have three children: Taj, Anya and Kira.

John Henry Winter-Nolte is a full-time volunteer at Blessed Stephen Belle-sini O.S.A. Academy, an all-boys tuition-free school in Lawrence, Mass. He helps students improve their reading skills, supervises students during after-school activities and acts as a teacher assistant to faculty. As a volunteer through the Augustinian Volunteers, John is a role model for students and encourages them to believe in the importance of education. “I have been given many opportunities and so many people have helped me get to where I am today,” John said. “I feel like I am passing on what has been given to me.”

Pequitte Schwerin, a friend of Gonzaga, is an Ignatian volunteer for Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Arlington, Va. The diocese is preparing a transitional housing complex for families coming out of homeless shelters.

Tradition at Jack & Dan’s

Every Wednesday, Jeff Colliton (’62) and up to 20 buddies meet at Jack & Dan’s Bar and Grill. A judge, an orthopedic surgeon, several airline pilots, teachers, retired military from all branches of the service, contractors, painters, business owners, attorneys, real estate agents and politicians, they hail from the ’50s and ’60s. Most belonged to ROTC or scrambled for glory on a Gonzaga sports team. Several have known each other 50 years or more, with kids and grandkids who are or soon will become alumni.

“Regardless of our backgrounds,” said retired Army Colonel Jeff Colliton, “we have one thing in common: Gonzaga. Many of us have basketball seats and during the season we become very vocal Monday morning quarterbacks.”

With deep-bellied laughter and stories of Gonzaga, they’ve been gathering for more than 15 years, carrying on the Gonzaga tradition of community. Wednesdays in summertime are dedicated to golf and in winter it’s skiing, followed always by gathering at the bar. Every Veteran’s Day, they hold a fundraiser at Jack and Dan’s and send the proceeds to the VA home in Spokane.

“The older you get, the more you tell the same stories,” Colliton said. “They just get better every week.”

He caught ‘big mountain fever’

There are many ways to demonstrate one’s affection for Gonzaga. John Rudolf, a friend of Gonzaga and son of the late Kermit Rudolf for whom Gonzaga’s fitness center is named, has chosen to carry a Gonzaga banner to the top of the world. Several tops, actually.

Rudolf caught the big-mountain bug about 10 years ago and has climbed six of the “Seven Summits” – 23,000-foot Aconcagua in the Argentinean Andes; Europe’s highest peak, 19,000-foot Mount Elbrus in the Caucasus; Africa’s 19,000-foot Kilimanjaro; North America’s Denali, at 20,000 feet in Alaska; and Antarctica’s 16,000-foot Mount Vinson. Then, to cover his bases, Rudolf climbed both 16,000-foot Carstensz Pyramid in Papua, New Guinea, and Australia’s tallest, though of modest size, Mount Kosciusko – there is some controversy as to which peak is the proper choice for the Australian/oceanic continent.

“Challenging oneself and constantly seeking new adventures is what life is all about,” said Rudolf, “especially when combined with an effort to leave the world slightly better for one’s presence.”

Still to come: 29,000-foot Mt. Everest, which he plans to attempt next spring. If successful, Rudolf would become about the 100th person in the world to have completed the “Seven Summits” using New Guinea’s Carstensz Pyramid. Rudolf is planning to blog about his Everest climb and to plant the Zag Nation flag on top of the world’s highest peak.

– Marny Lombard

John Rudolf proves he’s a true Zag from a shoulder of the Matterhorn, which he climbed in July.
In Memoriam

Daniel “Con” Murphy ('37, M.A.) passed away April 15 in Spokane. Con played football for Gonzaga all four years. He was a devoted husband and father who impressed upon his children the importance of faith, family and character.

Antoinette Derr ('44) passed away on March 24 in Spokane. She was the first female President of GU Law Student Body and one of the first women attorneys in Washington. Antoinette and her daughter, Sara, formed the first mother daughter law partnership in the state.

John Wright, S. J. ('45, '46, M.A.) passed away April 9 in the Jesuit House Infirmary at Gonzaga. He was Flannery Professor and Lecturer at Gonzaga, 1987-1988 and lived at the Jesuit House as the writer in residence.


Dr. Philip Lenoue, Sr. ('48) passed away on March 10 in Spokane. After serving with the Army in WWII, Phil completed his pre-med studies at Gonzaga, having earned a baseball scholarship as an ace pitcher.

Jack Bennett ('49, J.D.) passed away March 18 in Spokane. He ran in the first Bloomsday Run and continued to race throughout the years. He also won many trophies as a league bowler, enjoyed cards and was an avid reader.

Curran Dempsey ('49) passed away on March 26 in Spokane. He worked as an engineer for the Washington Water Power Company, now Avista, for nearly 40 years; serving as transmission engineer and standards engineer, among other positions.

Fr. Pasquale Spoletrini, S.J., ('50) passed away on May 21 in Spokane. After study in the seminary at Subiaco in Italy, he felt drawn to missionary work in Alaska, leading him to join the Society of Jesus Oregon Province.

Dr. Joseph Lavin ('51, non-degree alum) passed away March 6 in La Jolla, Calif. He attended Gonzaga on basketball scholarship.

Clement Yuse ('51, J.D.) passed away on May 13 in Spokane. He was recognized by the Washington Bar Association for 50 years of distinguished service.

Nancy Ann Dahy ('53) passed away on May 11 in Great Falls, Mont. Nancy was involved in the American Association of University Women and enjoyed playing bridge, oil painting, singing and shopping.

John Troup ('54, J.D.) passed away on March 12 in Tacoma. A true Washington native, after attending school and opening a law firm in the state, John served as mayor of his beloved North Hill Beach on Vashon Island.

Fra Cardle ('56) passed away on April 28 in Calgary, Alberta. When she was a teacher and principal, her children's choirs were legendary, winning many city and provincial awards. Fran toured as a piano soloist with the internationally acclaimed Gonzaga Men's Glee Club.

Richard “Dick” Daday ('58) passed away this past May in Mill Creek, Wash. Richard was an avid “Zags” fan, having attended on basketball scholarship and remaining loyal to the University post-graduation.

James Dougherty ('60) passed away on April 27 in Spokane. Jim grew up on the ranch that his grandparents homesteaded in the late 1800’s and spent his formative years divided between school and chores on the ranch. He was an avid Gonzaga booster and rarely missed a televised game.

Brian Putra ('66) passed away on April 17 in Seattle. A dad first and foremost, Brian could always be counted on for love, counsel and assistance through all the many avenues passed in life. He was an avid sailor, hunter and fisherman, and was tortured by a lifelong addiction to the game of golf.

John Whiteley (non-degree alum, year not available) passed away May 26 in Lewiston, Idaho. “Jack” served in the Army, receiving the Asiatic Pacific Victory Medal and Army of Occupation Medal for his service.

Robert Trevison (friend) passed away on Feb. 27 in Spokane. His varied interests – from growing tomatoes and making antipasto to building and fixing almost anything to appreciating books, art and music – made him welcome in every walk of life.

Dick Davis (friend) passed away on March 11 in Spokane. Above all, he encouraged and inspired others with his utmost dependence on the will of God.

Victoria “Evelyn” Dieringer (friend) passed away April 14 in Portland. She was a pro-life advocate and passionate supporter of charities.

Frank W. Jenkinson (non-degree alum, year not available) passed away May 16 in Bellingham, Wash. He was Engineer of the Year in 1959 and played the bass drum in the Angus Scott Pipe Band for many years.

Diane Delaney (non-degree alum, year not available) passed away last May in Missoula, Mont. Diane appreciated a strong cup of coffee, a good glass of wine, laughter and the farmer’s market.

Richard Hayden (non-degree alum, year not available) passed away May 26 in Lewiston, Idaho. “Jack” served in the Army, receiving the Asa C. Porter Victory Medal and Army of Occupation Medal for his service.

Robert Tobin ('67) passed away on April 22 in Spokane. Jim grew up on the ranch that his grandparents homesteaded in the late 1800’s and spent his formative years divided between school and chores on the ranch. He was an avid Gonzaga booster and rarely missed a televised game.

James Dougherty ('60) passed away on April 27 in Spokane. Jim grew up on the ranch that his grandparents homesteaded in the late 1800’s and spent his formative years divided between school and chores on the ranch. He was an avid Gonzaga booster and rarely missed a televised game.

Jeanne Derr ('63) passed away on April 14 in Port Angeles. She was a pro-life advocate and passionate supporter of charities.

Frank W. Jenkinson (non-degree alum, year not available) passed away May 16 in Bellingham, Wash. He was Engineer of the Year in 1959 and played the bass drum in the Angus Scott Pipe Band for many years.

Diane Delaney (non-degree alum, year not available) passed away last May in Missoula, Mont. Diane appreciated a strong cup of coffee, a good glass of wine, laughter and the farmer’s market.

John Whiteley (non-degree alum, year not available) passed away May 26 in Lewiston, Idaho. “Jack” served in the Army, receiving the Asiatic Pacific Victory Medal and Army of Occupation Medal for his service.
Reunion Weekend is sneaking up on you

Reunion Weekend has teamed up with Fall Family Weekend Oct. 23-25, offering a packed line-up of events. Reunion Weekend is a wonderful chance to remember what made your time at GU so special and to renew your connections to the place and people who made such an impact on your life. For more information and to register go to www.zagsonline.org/reunion2009.

Reunion classes include '64, '69, '79, '84, '89, '99 and all Florence alumni

Alaska: Much fun was had at the Second Annual Halibut Derby in Homer, June 27. Blake Adolfae was the repeat winner of the derb, landing an 86-pound halibut. Interested in next year’s derby? Contact Angela Mink Korver, korverangela@hotmail.com. This event is open to all alumni, family and friends. We'd love to have participation by alumni from the lower 48. The Third Annual Wine Tasting and Social will be held Oct. 10, at the Chorage Aviation Museum. If anyone has items to donate to the silent auction or for more information, contact Jamie Crawford, jamie_crawford@hotmail.com. Proceeds go to the Gonzaga Alaska Student Fund. Watch your email for more information or contact Brandon Stanley, jstanle1@hotmail.com. Proceeds go to the Gonzaga Alaska Chorage Aviation Museum. If anyone has items to donate to the silent auction or for more information, contact Jamie Crawford, jamie_crawford@hotmail.com. Proceeds go to the Gonzaga Alaska Student Fund. Watch your email for more information or contact Brandon Stanley, jstanle1@gonzaga.edu.

Alberta: We held our inaugural alumni gathering March 19 to watch the Zags defeat Akron in the first round of the NCAA. In true GU fashion, we met at a sports bar in Calgary for dinner, a few beers and an intense basketball-watching crowd. We even adopted a few local GU fans and a couple from Scotland who had no idea what all the fuss was about. Our chapter is working to establish a current database and will attempt to contact the group for an event this fall. For more, contact Paul Storwick, pstorwic@greatwesternworth.com, 403.470.0401.

Bay Area: GUBayArea has grown by leaps and bounds since 2006, and we are calling out to our members to help us plan and execute our programs. GUBayArea needs your energy to ensure another incredible year. The Class of 2013 includes 128 students from northern California. Of those, 21 are from St. Ignatius; nine from Jesuit, seven from Bellarmine, five from Mitty, and four each from Marin Catholic and De LaSalle. The Fourth Annual Erik Hanson Memorial Golf Tournament took place Aug. 10 at the Diablo Country Club. Erik was a standout baseball player at GU. His family and friends have raised over $120,000 for an endowed athletic scholarship in his name. The chapter’s annual golf tournament will be Friday, Sept. 25, at the Italian Athletic Club. For more, contact Mike Tobin, mjtobin@gmail.com, 415.229.8974.

Boise: On June 20, alumni, friends and family sorted more than 33 pounds of food for the Idaho Food Bank. We toured the facility to learn how the Food Bank works with its partners statewide. We also learned about the backpack program, working in conjunction with the school districts to send a backpack home from school with a child on Friday filled with a weekend’s worth of food. More service projects will be held this fall. Watch for upcoming announcements. For more, contact Connie Sturdavant, chucks@cableone.net, 208.336.1184.

Chicago: Calling all Chicagoland alumni! We will obtain official chapter status this year. Our numbers have grown with each event and we have enjoyed cameo appearances from Jeremy Pargo’s high-school coach and Father Bruno Segatta, S.J. We will announce plans for the official Chapter Kick-Off soon and are looking forward to our Wrigley Field event in 2010. We’d love to have your participation and are looking to fill leadership roles, as well. If you are not receiving email about our Chicago Chapter game-watches and other events, contact Derrick Stricker, derrick.stricker@hotmail.com, 773.864.3674.

Los Angeles: We launched last September with a 125-plus alumni event at the San Antonio Winery, hosted and owned by the Riboli family, whose son is a Gonzaga student. The chapter was formed by Walter Conn (’89, Regent), Mike Dunn (’85), Karen Calder (’90) and Mike Bell (’92). Walter is traveling to New Orleans Sept. 21 with other alumni to work with the organization Rebuilding Together; see www.zagsonline.org/zagsrebuild. The L.A. Chapter is a great opportunity to network, share and find out about happenings at GU. Find us on Facebook and LinkedIn. For more, contact Mike Bell, mbell5@bradycorp.com, 626.354.8505.

Portland: It was a jackpot year for the Portland Chapter. From the visiting professor lecture, to a GAMP Trek featuring excursions to Nike, Columbia Sportswear, Trailblazers and a motivating presentation by Nike’s Greg Bui (’88), then several game watches in the Portland Kennel and a night out to see Ronny Turiaf with the Golden State Warriors. Then the icing on the cake: the Zags landed in Portland for the first round of the NCAA tournament. A new student party on Aug. 19 welcomed 98 Portland-area Zags into the Gonzaga family with the signature “bulldog cake.” We invite all Zags and their parents to join our chapter. Plans for the upcoming season are in the works. We are looking for a chapter “reporter” to write this column. If you are interested, contact John Timm, Chapter President, johnl@timmco.com, 503.288.8818.

Seattle: Seattle Chapter spring events included two beautiful cellos concerts featuring Kevin Hekmatpanah, associate professor of music, at Daniels Recital Hall downtown (owned by former chapter president Kevin Daniels). Nearly 70 alumni, parents and friends participated in the National Day of Service April 25. On June 2 over 250 gathered in Sammamish for a farewell Mass for Father Spitzer. For more, contact Steve Robinson at srobynson@kantuttle.com, 206.224.8012.

Spokane: Matt Santangelo (’99) steers the Spokane Chapter with some 1,000 members registered in only its first year of operation. Eight committees have activated Toys-for-Tots and other volunteer service sessions; game-watches for men’s and women’s basketball; a business networking group called ZAG-Link; a three-part wine education series; Adopt-A-Soldier program, sending care packages to alums serving overseas; get-togethers for Gonzaga moms and their little ones; and networking with current students for future alumni participation. In addition, the first Chapter internet newsletter, ZAG-NEWS, has been published monthly since last August. For more, contact Drew Rieder, riederod@gonzaga.edu.

Yakima Valley: Yakima is excited that Zags catcher Tyson Van Winkle was selected by the Arizona Diamondbacks and played baseball this summer for its minor league team, the Yakima Bears. The chapter held “Gonzaga Night at the ballpark” July 12 at Yakima County Stadium, not only cheering for the Yakima Bears and Van Winkle, but also enjoying a pre-game concert with alumni musician Drew Rieder (’96). Yakima is blessed with about eight members of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps each year. Local GU alumni gather together once a month for a potluck dinner to support these Jesuit Volunteers. During basketball season, fans gather at Jack-Sons Sports Bar to cheer for the team and visit with fellow alumni. Parents of prospective GU freshmen are especially welcome to come and get acquainted with the friendly Gonzaga culture. For more, contact Rosemary Rief, rief@mindspring.com, 509.453.4107.

Members and friends of the Chicago Chapter.
Building a strong foundation

By Sara Ganzerli
Associate professor, civil engineering

In this period of my life my thoughts always go to my parents, both of whom I have lost recently. My father, Luigi Ganzerli, died at 71 of lung cancer two years ago this October. My mother, Maria Teresa Valentini, never found peace after his death and was struck by a severe stroke. After three months of illness, she died at 67 in June 2008.

Who I am today, what I believe in, and what I have achieved, I owe to my parents. In fact, I am writing this essay because my parents fully supported my academic career – so fully that they never asked me to return to Italy, my native country, in spite of the fact that I am an only child. This is parents’ love.

Fall Family Weekend at Gonzaga has always been special for me; it shows the support that our students receive from their families. Although I mostly teach upper division classes, I encourage my students to bring their parents to class, or to bring their parents to meet me. When parents visit classes, I remind my students that they say “Children are blessings.” But I say “Parents are blessings, too.” I want them not to take for granted their parents’ love and care. This is what I said during the 2007 parents’ weekend – the same weekend I had to fly home after my father’s death.

I stayed in Italy for two weeks, a very long time in the middle of a semester. I was worried about my classes, but I realized that just then my mom needed me the most. My students were very supportive and displayed a maturity rare to find at their age. They did their best not to fall behind and even covered some material on their own.

When I returned, I could not resume classes as if nothing happened. Even if my students already knew why I had to leave, I felt that I should talk to them directly about my prolonged absence. I chose to do this by showing them a picture of my father which portrayed him during a site visit for a research project that we had embraced together. I later e-mailed my students the peer-reviewed article that I co-authored with my father: “The Use of Natural Stone in Valesias’ Walser Houses, published as part of the proceedings of the 10th North American Masonry Conference in June 2007.

All I have written above was about an extreme circumstance. However, I feel that I have always applied in my classroom the values that my parents taught me: fairness, dedication to studying and working, and passion for art and culture. Fall Family Weekend is special because it reminds me that most of our students’ parents care for their children’s education in the same way that my parents did for me.

Associate Professor Ganzerli teaches in Gonzaga’s civil engineering program. In addition to the ancient houses of the German Walser people, her research interests include convex models of uncertainty.
Inspiration wins here!

“We were ahead and our guys knew they’d dog-pile out on the field,” said Mark Machtolf, WCC Coach of the Year. Zags baseball slid home this summer with a record finish. Highlights to savor: 36-18, a season record 36-18; winning the WCC tournament on campus; and posting a 1-2 record at their first NCAA tournament since 1981. All that, plus the senior leadership-driven team maintained a 3.2 G.P.A. Physically strong. Mentally tough. A real team.