

Buddhist monk visits Gonzaga as global scholar in residence

The Venerable Geshe **Thupten Phelgye**, a Tibetan Buddhist monk since 1973, is spending the academic year on campus as Gonzaga's first global scholar in residence. He is teaching in the religious studies department and this semester is co-teaching a course titled "Religions of Asia" with **John Sheveland**, associate professor.

The idea of such a visiting scholar grew out of work done by a faculty Diversity Committee that convened last year. The concept is to bring "a steady diet of important voices to the campus who are, at present, under-represented in our current faculty composition," Sheveland said. In addition to teaching, Phelgye is giving lectures and leading meditation sessions open to the campus community.

Phelgye lives in a Twohy apartment alongside freshmen and sophomores. "Many people are concerned, they ask me 'Are you OK? Is it super noisy, annoying?' It's OK. I say 'This is their time. We were young, this is their time.' It's fine, no problem."

After all, Phelgye, himself, was young once. "In 1972, when I was still in school, His Holiness the Dalai Lama visited our school. He gave a very short, simple teaching that really touched my heart. I was 17. I had been wild, a naughty boy, but at the same time I was president of the school. When I went to visit the monastery I was very inspired and I decided not to return back to school. I wrote a letter to my school that I would miss them. The headmaster decided to read my letter in the assembly and the students hardly could believe it, especially girls," he said, laughing.

He moved to the monastery, disappointing parents who wanted him to keep up the family lineage. Tibetan bloodlines are carried through the father, and Phelgye can trace his back hundreds of years to Indian saints. Although his sister is married with children, Phelgye and his brother both chose to join the monastery, effectively ending the family line.

When he first joined the monastery, he worked 20-hour days. "Even now, if I have four hours of sleep, I'm fine. If it goes less than four hours, it's a little difficult and I feel tired the next day," he said. His days were spent studying, chanting, praying, and doing manual labor on the monastery farm. Each year, he memorized 100 pages from the Buddhist root texts. After 16 years, in 1989, he finished his studies and received the "geshe" degree.

Phelgye sought a private audience with the Dalai Lama to receive his blessing to move to the mountains



Geshe Thupten Phelgye (geh-shay thup-tun pell-gay) seeks harmony between religions.

and meditate – and did just that from 1993-97. "On full moon day I came down to the temple, we had a ceremony. That's the day you do a little shopping and then go back to the mountain. From the little town to my little cave up the mountain it was four hours climbing," he said, gesturing that this wasn't steep hiking but more like rock climbing. "It was the happiest time of my life."

"I would still be there but my father passed away on Nov. 17, 1993. I had to rush down south and all I got was his ashes, I didn't see him. That was the saddest part of my life. I took my mother from the village because she couldn't survive there, she was 100 percent dependent on my father. I took her with me to live in Dharamsala."

Phelgye joined the Tibetan Parliament in Exile. Feeling selfish for having focused entirely on his own spiritual development, he used his annual leave to travel the world and teach. He taught at Harvard,

where a few of his students organized a speaking tour. One of those speaking engagements led him to Gonzaga. He gave annual speeches on campus for three or four years until last year, when he mentioned that he would not return to parliament. "After the talk, John Sheveland came to me and said 'Are you interested in coming here to teach?' and I said 'Well, why not?'"

"In the two months since I came here, I have not met a single person not liking me. I always feel very welcome, very warm, and that's very precious for me," Phelgye said. "I represent Buddhism, I'm monastic.... One of my key interests is to try to work on interfaith dialogue and bring harmony between religions. That has been my work. So I very much honor and appreciate this opportunity."

"It makes very good sense," Sheveland said, "to not only have a Buddhist monk here with us for the year as a global scholar in residence, but to have him in the classroom interacting with students."



AROUND CAMPUS

- The Staff Assembly Fall Open Meeting will occur on Nov. 2, 8:30-10 a.m., in the Globe Room, with breakfast available at 8:15. Speakers will include **Rodolfo Pagsanjan**, Staff Assembly president, **Heather Murray** of Human Resources, President **Thayne McCulloh** and Fr. **Frank Case**, S.J., who will assist in recognizing the Mission Award recipients.
- Jennifer Shepherd**, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, has received a \$241,355 grant from the National Institutes of Health to continue her research that could lead to development of new anti-parasitic drugs to help battle infections afflicting billions of people worldwide.
- Flu shots are available for free through the Health Center. The seasonal vaccine is available as long as supplies last.
- Biggest Loser: Technology Edition** is going on through Nov. 4. There are millions of items in the Exchange email system and on Aquinas that are slowing down Gonzaga's computer systems. The department that decreases its electronic storage space the most wins a pizza party from ITS. For more information, contact the Help Desk.
- On Nov. 2, Ron Sims, former deputy secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, will participate in a "Fishbowl" interview. **Josh Armstrong**, director of the Comprehensive Leadership Program, will talk with Sims about his journey in leadership. Sims spent 12 years as King County executive.
- Take Your Turkey to Work Day is Nov. 16. Campus Kitchens encourages all employees to donate a turkey and/or any ingredients for a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Please bring these items to the loading dock behind Cataldo Hall from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, contact **Emily Paulson** at paulsone@gonzaga.edu.
- Fr. Greg Boyle's book, "Tattoos on the Heart," has won a 2011 PEN Center USA Literary Award for creative nonfiction. Fr. Boyle visited campus in October.

Alumna designs landscape improvements

"The outdoor portion of the campus affects everybody every single day. There's a lot of emphasis on buildings and classes, and the outdoors sometimes doesn't take first place in our minds," said **Mary Beth Shinn ('69)**. "But it's important to recognize how much time everyone spends outside, even just walking to class. Just like a dorm room can be comfortable and a church can lift our spirits, our environment impacts our quality of life."

When her husband died three years ago, she set to work to carry out his will. "My husband wanted to give to Gonzaga, but I think he was waiting for the right cause," she said. For Shinn, a master gardener, outdoor beautification came naturally.

She has worked with **Judy Rogers**, director of planned giving, and **Tim Hatcher**, grounds supervisor, to find ways to beautify the campus. Hatcher had a list of areas that he hoped to improve. Last year, a donation from Shinn removed one tree from a dangerous location and other trees that were buckling the asphalt in the parking lot by the McCarthy Athletic Center. This year, she worked with Hatcher again to develop a landscaping plan for the area between McCarthy and the baseball field.

One orphaned strip of grass – not a part of McCarthy, yet not part of the parking lot – receives tons plowed snow each winter,



This strip south of McCarthy Athletic Center received new landscaping thanks to alumna Mary Shinn.

so Shinn designed a landscape to accommodate that. The project required about 350 yards of fill dirt, 80 boulders, 35 bushes, 35 dwarf spruce trees and "a whole lot of mulch," she said. The landscaping behind McCarthy should be finished by the end of November, although, like any landscape, it will take a while to fill in and reach its full potential.

Shinn hopes to work with Hatcher on future projects.

PRIMO makes research easy

Between the library catalog, partner libraries, databases and digital collections, many research resources are available to the Gonzaga community. Accessing them, however, can be a little difficult. It used to require many searches to find all of the resources available, said **Paula Foster**, WIN project manager. The Foley and Chastek catalogs had to be searched separately, as well as each individual database, of which there are dozens. Many faculty resorted to recommending a single database for their students to search, because the sheer numbers made it overwhelming to search all resources.

Over the summer, Foster and IT liaison **Brenda Warrington** set up PRIMO, a new search system that solves that challenge. "PRIMO is a discovery layer that sits on top of all of our catalogs, our digital collections and our online articles," Foster said.

The system, which was purchased from Ex Libris, the same company that provided the old search interface, searches about 85 percent of the material in the databases. For specialized searches, students may need to look into the databases themselves, but PRIMO will suffice for most research at the undergraduate level, Warrington said.

The new system has additional features. A mobile app makes it possible to search library materials and place a hold from your phone. PRIMO is tightly integrated with Gonzaga's partner libraries such as University of Idaho, Whitworth and the Spokane community colleges and allows for holds to be placed on their materials and then delivered to Foley with as much ease as a hold directly from Foley. PRIMO also supports user reviews of materials and allows users to create lists of resources that they have used or are interested in using to save them for future search.

Celebrating 20 years of women's studies

In 1991, **Eloise Buker** and six others founded the Gonzaga Women's and Gender Studies program. Two years ago it grew from a concentration to a minor with about 40 students enrolled. And on Nov. 3 and 4, the program celebrates its 20th anniversary.

The celebration is intended to honor the seven founders of the program, four of whom are still at Gonzaga: **Jane Rinehart**, **Rose Mary Volbrecht**, **Kathie Yerion** and **ReGena DeAragon**. **Maureen Sheridan** retired from GU's Counseling Center last year, and the seventh founder, **Mary Jo Bona**, teaches at SUNY Sony Brook.

Buker will speak on "Carrying on in Women's Studies: Creating Gender Justice 1991 – 2011. She is a professor emerita at Saint

Louis University and has been involved in women's and gender studies at other universities. A roundtable discussion about the highlights and challenges of the program takes place the next day.

We hope that the celebration will be a reminder of where we've been, how far we've come, and reenergize people for how far we still have to go," said **Patsy Fowler**, program director.

The program is continuing to grow. It is in the process of hiring its first full-time tenure-track faculty. And Fowler hopes to cross-list more courses, with the eventual goal of creating a major.

Buker will lecture at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 3 in the Globe Room, with a reception to follow. The roundtable discussion will take place on Nov. 4; time and location to be announced.

NOTEWORTHY

NEW HIRES:

Marilyn Johnson, technical services librarian, Law Library; **David Pendergraft**, director of athletic giving; **Kimberly Vore**, travel coordinator, athletics; **Lori Wilbanks**, ARE/COT II, Admission; **Bailey Wootton**, mentoring program coordinator, CCASL.

PROMOTIONS/NEW POSITIONS:

Patrick Baraza, lecturer to senior lecturer, religion; **John Caputo**, professor, communication arts, to professor, communication leadership; **Sydney Chambers**, assistant to associate professor, Foley; **Brian Cooney**, assistant to associate professor, English; **Carolyn Cunningham**, assistant professor, communication arts, to assistant professor, communication leadership; **David Fague**, lecturer to senior lecturer, music; **Patrick Ferro**, assistant to associate professor, mechanical engineering, Engineering; **Geneva Finley**, administrative secretary II, stewardship, to administrative assistant, president's office; **Vikas Gumbhir**, assistant to associate professor, sociology; **William Hayes**, assistant to associate professor, sociology; **Kevin Henrickson**, assistant to associate professor, economics, Business; **Grant Lenarduzzi**, lecturer to assistant professor, Education; **Ellen Maccarone**, assistant to associate professor, philosophy; **Richard McClelland**, associate professor to professor, philosophy; **Anna Marie Medina**, assistant to associate professor, psychology; **Sara Melendy**, assistant to associate professor, accounting, Business; **Ann Murphy**, associate professor to professor, Law; **Vivek Patil**, assistant to associate professor, marketing, Business; **Charles Salina**, assistant to associate professor, Education; **Erik Schmidt**, assistant to associate professor, philosophy; **Jennifer Shepherd**, associate professor to professor, chemistry; **John Sheveland**, assistant to associate professor, religious studies; **Catherine Siejk**, associate professor to professor, religious studies; **Georgie Ann Weatherby**, associate professor to professor, sociology; **Dan Xu**, assistant to associate professor, finance, Business.

GOODBYES:

Erik Hildebrand, compliance officer, Athletics; **Benjamin Jackman**, custodial specialist, Plant.

ANNIVERSARIES:

30 Susie Prusch, manager, special university events.
25 Gayle Clayton, administrative secretary II, athletics.
20 Barbara Williams, user services technician, client support services.
15 Stuart Davis, associate director of housing operations; residence life; **Barbara Kolbet**, assistant to the chancellor.
10 Doug Wayman, library technician III, library services.
5 Thomas Brown, athletic turf manager, athletics; **Kerri Conger**, assistant director of the fitness center, athletics; **Dennis Kalina**, associate athletic director, communications; **Michael Roden**, assistant athletic director, student-athlete support services; **Vicki Tiffany**, cheerleading coach, athletics; **Autumn Vargas**, academic curriculum specialist, registrar; **Melissa Wessman**, library technician III, library services.

CRADLE CALL:

Jason Schnagl, Unix system administrator, and his wife recently had a baby girl. Felicity was born on Sept. 6.

FOCUS ON ...

Amy Walker keeps parents connected

Every Orientation, a thousand pairs of parents leave their child at Gonzaga and drive away. Parent and family coordinator **Amy Walker**'s job is to teach them how to do that.

Parents today are different from parents 10 years ago," she said. "They've been extremely involved in their kids' lives up to now, so walking away doesn't feel natural."

The parent-family coordinator acts as a single point of contact within the University to help these parents. Walker sends out monthly newsletters discussing campus events and offering tips on how to interact with these young adult children now that they're out of the house. When parents are worried because their son or daughter hasn't called lately, Walker reassures them that this is normal. A Parent Advisory Council weighs in on programming and, at the end of the year, Gonzaga hosts a celebration honoring the Parents of the Year from the senior class.

"We try to empower them to be coaches from afar," Walker said. The office was created three years ago because of the increasing demands of parents, and is the fastest-growing field in student affairs in universities nationwide. "Parents send their kids to college and expect programming for themselves," Walker said.

During Orientation, she meets with families to speak about the transition to a new relationship

with their child, and how Gonzaga can help them accomplish that. "We want parents to know that they are vital, and we want them to know that this is a place where they can feel comfortable leaving their son or daughter," she said.

Every once in a while, a parent may not quite understand this new environment. "I've had a mom call to ask if the pep band could go to her daughter's dorm room and play her happy birthday. Once I explained that the pep band is made up of other students with busy schedules, she understood why we couldn't really do that," Walker said.

Most of her interaction is with freshman parents, but she works with parents whose students are all ages. "The most emotionally difficult thing is when a student is in crisis," she said. "But that is also the most rewarding because the parents are so appreciative."



Amy Walker does a lot of listening in her work with Gonzaga parents.

CTA expands with new workshops, faculty fellows

Patricia Hutchings of the Carnegie Institute has come to Gonzaga this fall to study the University's educational process and to suggest new professional development options. Hutchings is interviewing department chairs in the College of Arts and Sciences to identify possibilities for enhanced support and professional development. She also is consulting on issues of learning and assessment.

It's an honor to be part of the Gonzaga community, with its clear focus on the learning and experience of students," Hutchings said.

As well, the Center for Teaching and Advising, now in its sixth year, is offering a series of workshops on Ignatian pedagogy, particularly on incorporating into the classroom the five components of context, experience, reflection, action, and evaluation. Seventeen faculty are participating in the monthly discussions, which are led by **David Boose**, associate professor of biology and director of the center.

Faculty, well-educated in their specialty, can arrive at Gonzaga never having been taught how to teach. That's where the CTA comes in. "We're all trained in our disciplines, as scholars," Boose said, "but what we

know about teaching largely came from how we were taught."

Established in 2006-07, the goal of the center is to help faculty become better teachers and advisors. Incoming faculty go through a year-long new faculty orientation. In their second year, they take part in the Advising Academy, another year-long program that provides basic information and skills for advising undergraduate students.

This year's expansion into programming for more experienced faculty has led Boose to seek assistance in the form of faculty fellows. "I didn't have time to be the director and chief content provider for CTA programs" he said. Each faculty fellow takes the lead in providing one of the main programs of the CTA. Currently, **Gemma d'Ambruoso**, chemistry and biochemistry, is leading the Advising Academy, and **Rob Bryant**, math, is heading up programs on teaching with technology.

Boose hopes to gain more fellows in the future. He also hopes to continue to grow the center, bringing in a wider variety of workshops and ongoing education for experienced faculty.

Jundt artists diverge: nature vs. metaphor

This fall, the main exhibit in the Jundt Art Museum is titled "Lang and Rue: Verses." Melissa Lang and Stephen Rue are both local artists who work with bright colors on a large scale. "They make a really dramatic exhibit. They're large and colorful, so when you put them together in a room it's very dramatic," said **Karen Kaiser**, assistant curator for education.

That is where the two artists diverge. Lang's work is abstract, focusing on the raw power of nature. She takes as her inspiration natural objects such as rocks, waterfalls, and insects and then explores the color, life, and movement inherent in even the most mundane of things. Her paintings are lively and bright, and often viewers are left to come to their own ideas about meaning.

Rue's work, on the other hand, almost begs to be analyzed. He takes classic religious themes, such as communion, the creation of Adam and the crucifixion, and paints them in contemporary settings. His paintings look realistic, yet also offer a window into basic human truths.

The exhibit is open until Dec. 10. An exhibition of selected work from the Sahlin Foundation Collection opens Nov. 30.



Golgotha, by Stephen Rue, on exhibit at the Jundt Art Museum.

Student-of-concern form allows quick intervention

Gonzaga students are also young adults, going through the challenging transition of moving from their parents' care to independence. Student Life is there to help them along the way. However locating every student in need of help is always a challenge.

This year, Student Life has created a student-of-concern form that can be filled out online and anonymously. "A lot of students used to come to us and ask us to help their friend, but not to give their name," said **Jill Yashinsky**, case manager for Student Life. "Now

we can follow up with a student and still be truly anonymous."

The online form is quick and convenient – and it's working. The office receives about one form per week. "Now, you're never alone. You don't have to know what to do, you just have to contact us," Yashinsky said. Student Life staff seek out and talk with those students who have been reported. "Usually, a student feels touched. They are glad to know that someone cared enough to find them help," added Yashinsky. Detailed

information about specific behaviors or incidents that are raising concern help Student Life know how best to approach a student.

The Early Warning System, handled through the Academic Advising and Assistance office, continues to apply to students with academic difficulties.

The student-of-concern form can be found at gonzaga.edu/student-life/Student-of-Concern.

Seeking performers for 'Rising Stars'

Gonzaga is partnering with First Night Spokane to sponsor "Catch a Rising Star," a new live-performance program connected with First Friday, the monthly arts festival downtown.

The sponsorship was organized by **Mary Joan Hahn**, director of community and public relations. Each month, Gonzaga will host two hours of live performances, 7:30-9:30 p.m., by members of the Gonzaga community or other universities in the area. Spokane Public Schools will also host two hours of live performances, 5:30-7:30 p.m., featuring area K-12 students.

The first Rising Star event occurred in October. The Big Bang Theory and actors from "The Three Musketeers" both performed at the River Park Square atrium.

Hahn hopes that the program will grow to include more performers. Five performance spaces are available for Rising Star, each month. Contact Hahn at hahn@gonzaga.edu if you are interested in performing.

The audience for First Friday performances is fluid, and averaged about fifty people during the October event. First Friday, which is coordinated by Gonzaga alumna **Tammy Pruitt**, is popular with the Spokane community.

Our principal goal is to showcase the great talent in performing arts at Gonzaga – to give students, faculty and staff a stage before audiences that might not otherwise get to experience them," Hahn said.

Ignatian retreat for faculty and staff

A faculty/staff Ignatian retreat will take place from 4 p.m., Friday, Nov. 11, to noon, Sunday, Nov. 13., at Gonzaga's Bozarth Mansion and Retreat Center. All employees of the University are welcome. The weekend will offer an opportunity for prayer and silent reflection with conversations at meals. Spiritual directors will meet daily to offer guidance to participants over the course of the

weekend.

This is the first faculty/staff retreat to be offered in several years. The weekend will be limited to 20 participants on a first come basis. Registration, including meals and lodging, is \$75. Bozarth is located in north Spokane and is a 20 minute drive from campus. For more information, contact **Shanea Giroux** at giroux@gonzaga.edu or extension 6191.