In This Issue...

• Messaggio Del Preside
  Page One

• Reflections from Father Via
  Page Two

• Gonzaga-in-Florence
  Reunion at Gonzaga University
  Page Three

• Gonzaga-in-Florence
  Reunion in Florence, Italy
  Page Three

• Pre and Post-Reunion Tours
  Page Three

• Alumni Feature
  Page Four

MESSAGGIO DEL PRESIDE
Patrick Burke, Dean, Gonzaga-in-Florence

Dear Alumni of Gonzaga-in-Florence, it is with great pleasure that I welcome and invite you to celebrate the first 50 years of the program whose profound impact shapes us even today. There is never a moment when G-I-F alumni gather that we don’t recall those remarkable events in far-away places that strengthened and transformed us in incomparable ways. In my years as dean, many of you have returned to visit our new campus and have reported how the year or semester at Gonzaga-in-Florence helped you discover your true gifts and aptitudes as well the freedom and courage to realize them. One alumna from the Class of 1966, a “Mud Angel,” said it all when she claimed that, “Gonzaga-in-Florence opened our imaginations in such a way that we dared to be dangerous dreamers of new and creative possibilities, resulting in new ways of thinking and feeling, a life-long passion for travel and intercultural encounters, and the call to lead extraordinary lives both spiritually and religiously and, for many, to pursue careers that would render the social world more just and humane.” At our 50th Anniversary celebration, we will remember the boy or girl to whom our parents bid farewell at the airport in Spokane, Seattle or San Francisco, at the train station in Butte or Boise or perhaps even at the harbor in Hoboken. We will remember that boy or girl who came back as an independent and self-confident man or woman and with a different attitude toward the USA and other cultures, having learned through study and travel what is unavailable during a similar period of time on the home campus. (Continued)
The program, then, was launched in the fall of 1963 and whatever it may have had or not had, it remained true to its goal: to let these students from the towns of the Pacific Northwest experience the world. The academic program was serious (study hard the first four days of the week and see the world on weekends). And every subsequent director has remained true to this format. Weekend travel, as well as the Christmas tour, the Russia tour and the Egypt tour, all went far in fulfilling the program’s goals.

It has to be a source of great satisfaction to the administration of Gonzaga University to know that the program, envisioned by its founders 50 years ago, has remained true to its objectives. Frequent visits and evaluations by the Boards of Trustees and Regents have kept the program secure in its direction and confident in its support. But whatever it is we celebrate on our anniversary, in the last analysis it is the people who count the most, the friendships we have made and the wonderful memories we all share. Who can think of Florence without thinking of Frs. Clement Regimbal, Joe Conwell, Tony Lehman and Bruno Segatta (that’s his last name!) as well as Rod, Dolores, Una, Alessandro, Francesca, Mercedes and a collection of many truly fine professors?

Gonzaga’s theme for the 125th Anniversary celebration is “Tradition and Transformation.” The Florence experience has provided for its students a realization of Gonzaga’s tradition and, through the experience it has offered to its students, the program has brought about the transformation that prepares them for a life of cultural enrichment.

Auguri, Firenze, e buon compleanno!

Anthony P. Via, S.J.
Professor of History

1950s and ’60s, had assumed a leadership role in the world and that Gonzaga could and should participate no matter how great or small its role would be; neither one of those two men suffered from an inferiority complex. Students from the small towns of Washington, Idaho, Montana and Oregon needed to broaden their horizons, to look beyond the narrow confines of their limited experiences, to see and do things that would enrich them, as well as the world of achievement they would eventually enter. In their naiveté, Frs. Leary and McCluskey wanted to transform the Gonzaga student into the Renaissance man or woman, hence, Florence. Educators have to be dreamers; otherwise, they would have become bankers!

Messagio (Continued from page one) I look forward to commemorating with you the energy and vision of the Jesuits who founded Gonzaga-in-Florence, an energy and vision that still sustains us and that plunged us into the greatest interpersonal and intercultural dynamic we have ever known. We will celebrate our shared past through stories about our travels, perhaps about the opening tour, the Christmas tour or the tours we designed on our own. We will celebrate the teachers and courses that left, in some deep way, their signature on us. We will celebrate the gracious religious and lay staff who served us so faithfully. And we will celebrate each other, how we began as friends of the road and ended as friends of the heart. What about the next 50 years? I look forward to discussing with you various ways to improve the Gonzaga-in-Florence experience so that its students may flourish in even more exemplary ways. I envision, for instance, attuning courses more rigorously to place and travel, a more intensive commitment to cultural immersion in Florence and an effort to bolster the humanities by weaving them in an interdisciplinary way into all the courses, such as business, the social sciences, engineering and teacher education. I would like to get your ideas on a more expansive approach to journeying as part of the students’ educational experience that builds on the G-I-F history with travel. Together we can thoughtfully construct a more robust model of integrated learning in relation to semester coursework and to the free and adventurous spirit of our students passing through the global gateway that is Gonzaga-in-Florence. I look forward to greeting you at the reunion in Spokane or in Florence.

Patrick Burke
Dean, Gonzaga-in-Florence
Gonzaga-in-Florence Reunion at Gonzaga University
Spokane, WA

Friday, Oct. 18, 2013
Noon – 5 p.m. Check in on Gonzaga campus, Quad lawn

5 p.m. – Socials/dinners by decade at various locations TBD – Join your G-I-F classmates for a toast and dinner at several of Spokane’s finest Florence-friendly locations. Gatherings will be arranged by decade. Feel free to visit more than one location throughout the night, as we’re hoping to keep these within walking distance of one another. Feel free to nominate your favorite gathering place!

Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013
Join the schedule of events for Gonzaga’s traditional Reunion Weekend enhanced with several Gonzaga-in-Florence themed events as well. Events include campus tours, beloved professor lectures, sporting events and masses.

Noon – Oktoberfest on the Quad lawn – Enjoy an Italian-style lunch with your favorite wine and beer pairings. We’ll have several varietals to choose from and the music to take you right back to Florence!

5 p.m. – All-G-I-F Reunion Cocktail Social – Doubletree Hotel Grand Ballroom

6:30 p.m. – All-G-I-F Reunion Dinner and Program – Doubletree Hotel Grand Ballroom

Sunday, Oct. 20, 2013
10 a.m. – Gonzaga-in-Florence Alumni and Memorial Mass

11 a.m. – Reception on the Gonzaga campus

For questions or suggestions regarding the Spokane Gonzaga-in-Florence Reunion, please contact the Alumni Office at 509-313-5999.

Gonzaga-in-Florence Reunion in Florence, Italy

Thursday, April 24, 2014
Morning tour of Palazzo Vecchio
Monumental Apartments of Medici Family

Light lunch on your own or shopping

Afternoon and evening – Palazzo Vecchio, Salone Dei Cinquecento “Room of the 500.” Office of the Mayor will welcome G-I-F to its next 50 years. Cocktail hour will conclude the evening, with dinner on your own.

Friday, April 25, 2014
Morning and afternoon – Master classes will be offered as well as a walking tour of Florence, and several additional excursion options.

Evening – Hosted dinners with your class, decade, etc. will be offered at venues around the city of Florence.

Saturday, April 26, 2014
Morning – Mass will be celebrated by the Cardinal of Florence, His Eminence, Giuseppe Betori, at the Chiesa SS Trinita.

Afternoon – Master classes will be offered as well as a walking tour of Florence, along with several additional excursion options.

Evening – Gala Dinner

Pre- and Post-Reunion Tours, Courtesy of Arno Travel

Pre-tour April 18-23, 2014
April 18-21 Rome
April 22 Orvieto and Assisi
April 23 Assisi and Florence

Post-tour April 28-May 2, 2014
April 28 Florence and Venice
April 29 Venice
April 30 Venice, Verona, and Lake Como
May 1 Lake Como
May 2 Depart Lake Como for Milan Airport

For more detailed information about the pre and post tours, and to help us gauge interest in offering these tours, please log on to our website at www.gonzaga.edu/gif50th.
Florence was an amazing experience! My parents were worried I would meet someone and fall in love and never come back. They were right about the falling in love part, but the man I fell in love with grew up just 20 minutes from me in Portland! We were at Gonzaga our first two years, but did not meet until Florence, an amazing place to start dating and fall in love! We are celebrating our 10-year wedding anniversary this summer and have three future Zags – Samson (6), Elsie (4) and Greta (18 months).

By Sadie Barsotti Hjorth, Class of 1997-98

Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/gif50th and tell us What was the funniest thing that happened during your year?

All vintners and brewers who would like to be featured as a part of our Oktoberfest next fall, please contact Katie Doree at doree@gonzaga.edu. We would love to feature your wines and brews in October 2013!

**FOREVER FLORENCE TILE OPPORTUNITY**

What a great Christmas idea -- Honor your experience by placing your name, class year, and/or name of a loved one on a tile in The Mozilo Center.

**Individual Recognition Tiles (3-5 year pledge period available)**

- Founder Society -- $5000
- Patron Society -- $2500
- Friend Society -- $1000

Please visit www.gonzaga.edu/florentiles for more information about how to secure a tile in time for Christmas! Or contact, Katie Doree for more information at 509-868-2908 or doree@gonzaga.edu

By Sadie Barsotti Hjorth, Class of 1997-98