“There are moments when it hits me. Sometimes it’s while driving or giving a lecture. Other times it’s while writing a letter to the faculty when, suddenly, I cannot act, speak or think a single thought without the intrusion of the memory of that city.”

Has the aroma of a really good cappuccino ever transported you suddenly and involuntarily from your April morning in, say, Seattle or wherever you may be into another time? Does the taste take you to another table at another coffee bar, one like Giacosa’s on Via de’ Tournabuoni? Are you flooded with images and feelings so vibrant you think you are living them again? Are you there with your girlfriend or boyfriend, as if you are 20 again and in love in the Renaissance City?

This is a past that, in spite of us, rejuvenates itself. It lives secretly in our present moments, still structuring their flow toward the future. This is a past with experiences so powerful they have given us the courage, self-confidence and independence to sustain who we are today. So please, do not talk to me about transformation unless you have spent a year, or at least a semester, at Gonzaga-in-Florence.

There are moments when it hits me. Sometimes it’s while driving or giving a lecture. Other times it’s while writing a letter to the faculty when, suddenly, I cannot act, speak or think a single thought without the intrusion of the memory of that city. I’ll recall that autumn that formed me in my very bones and in whose depths and colors and textures I remain immersed as surely as fish are immersed in the sea. As an alumnus from 2006 recently said to me, “The dreams never stop. The cobblestones, the bricks, the bells…”. Call it Florence Madness if you wish. But for many of us, there is (Continued)
The Gonzaghini

50/50 Recap

Thank you to all who helped support our 50/50 Challenge this year. We are happy to report that over $65,000 was raised in gifts and pledges, combined with a $60,000 match from the McCarrthey Family – resulting in over $120,000 toward the Gonzaga-in-Florence Program.

Alumni Reflection

Joe Kozlak (’96) often says the most important decision he ever made was to transfer to Gonzaga. If so, a close second would be studying abroad in Italy. He likely would not be where he is today without either.

After spending his freshman year of college at Arizona State, Kozlak decided he needed a change. He considered transferring to the University of St. Thomas, near his hometown of Golden Valley, Minn., but something kept pulling him to Gonzaga.

“The atmosphere at Gonzaga was one that allowed you to pursue your dreams,” he said, “no matter how crazy they were.”

Kozlak’s introduction to Gonzaga-in-Florence occurred on a cold November weekend during a SEARCH Retreat. A group of recently returned Florentines regaled him with tales of European exploration and the legends of Frs. Anthony Via and Bruno Segatta. He was sold. He knew he had to experience G-I-F for himself.

Kozlak, who majored in international studies while at Gonzaga, studied in Florence during the 1994-95 academic year. He says his experience was a great mixture of academics and adventure, one that allowed him to develop lifelong friendships and a lifetime of memories.

“The time spent in Florence opened my eyes,” he said. “There is so much more outside of our normal comfort zone, and amazing things happen if you challenge yourself to be open to new adventures.”

One of Kozlak’s European adventures included a Thanksgiving trip to Poland, the home of his great grandfather. Kozlak spent part of the holiday weekend exploring an Auschwitz concentration camp as well as the Polish cities of Warsaw and Krakow.

“I immediately fell in love,” he said, “and saw great potential for Poland at that time.”

Following graduation, Kozlak spent three years working in logistics in Detroit and Dallas. But (Continued)
Gonzaga-in-Florence 50th Anniversary Celebration at Gonzaga University
Spokane, WA

Friday, Oct. 18, 2013
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM – Check in on Gonzaga campus, Quad lawn
7:00-9:00 PM – Welcome social along with your Gonzaga reunion classes. Location TBA.
7:00-9:00 PM – Check in available at welcome reception
9:30-11:30 PM – Private G-I-F Reception at Barrister Winery located at 1213 Railroad Avenue in Downtown Spokane.

Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013
9:00 AM-2:00 PM – Check in on Gonzaga campus, Quad lawn
9:00 AM Fun Run – Come out for a nice jog down memory lane in a fun 5K trot around the GU campus and Centennial Trail area. This event is free and open to walkers, runners and stroller pushers. No dogs please! Check in at the Bronze Bulldog.
10:00 AM – Take a tour of campus led by a Gonzaga Ambassador. See how much campus has changed since the last time you were here! Leave from the St. Ignatius statue in front of College Hall (formerly known as the Administration Building)
Morning lectures held throughout campus with Mercedes Carrara, Dean Patrick Burke, and other G-I-F faculty
11:30 AM – 2:00 PM – Oktoberfest on the Quad lawn – Enjoy an Italian-style lunch with your favorite wine and beer pairings. We’ll have several varietals from some outstanding Pacific Northwest wineries to choose from and the music to take you right back to Florence!
1:00 PM – Take a tour of campus led by a Gonzaga Ambassador. See how much campus has changed since the last time you were here! Leave from the lunch tent on the Quad.
Afternoon lectures held throughout campus with Mercedes Carrara, Dean Patrick Burke, and other G-I-F faculty
5:00 PM – All-G-I-F Reunion Mass held at The Davenport Hotel, Marie Antoinette Ballroom.
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM – Cocktail Hour held on the 2nd-floor veranda at The Davenport Hotel
7:00 PM – Enjoy a wonderful soiree with heavy hors d’oeuvres, wines, and Tuscan-themed foods throughout the 2nd floor of The Davenport Hotel including the Hall of Doges, Grand Pennington, and the Elizabethan Room. There will be several silent auction items available for bid, along with some G-I-F merchandise for sale.

Sunday, Oct. 20, 2013
NO FORMAL EVENTS PLANNED

To register for the October Florence Reunion, please log-on to www.gonzaga.edu/gif50th

There is a Gonzaga-in-Florence room rate at The Davenport Hotel available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please call The Davenport Hotel directly to make your reservation at 1-800-899-1482.

Gonzaga-in-Florence 50th Anniversary Celebration in Florence, Italy

Thursday, April 24, 2014
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Opening Reception held at the historic Palazzo Vecchio, Florence’s city hall. We will commemorate our last 50 years in Florence with a welcome from the Mayor of Florence and an invitation to enjoy another 50 years in Florence. We will gather in the Salone Dei Cinquecento, “Room of the 500”. The Room depicts large frescoes along with the ceiling constructed of 39 panels painted by Giorgio Varsari, an Italian painter and architect, along with other Renaissance works of art. Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will follow in the Hall of Armor.

Friday, April 25, 2014
9:30 AM-2:30 PM – Gonzaga-in-Florence Campus Open House and lectures with Mercedes Carrara, Dean Patrick Burke, and other faculty throughout the day. A walking tour of Florence will also be offered.
Evening – No-host Class Dinners: Several local restaurants will be secured for class dinners ranging from 25-100+ people, with varying price ranges. Guests will pay a pre-determined amount when they register to secure space(s).

Saturday, April 26, 2014
11:00 AM – Mass will be celebrated by the Cardinal of Florence, His Eminence, Giuseppe Betori, at the Chiesa SS Trinita.
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM – Reception and Open House to be held at the Palazzo Antinori, former home of the Gonzaga-in-Florence program.
6:00 PM – Gala Dinner celebrating 50 years of G-I-F to be held at the Palazzo Corsini, a beautiful Renaissance era Palazzo located on the banks overlooking the River Arno.

Sunday, April 27, 2014
NO FORMAL EVENTS PLANNED
No-host Antinori Winery tours - Arno Travel to arrange shuttle from 11 AM - 2:00 PM

We have secured several Gonzaga-in-Florence rates at a variety of hotels in Florence. The list of hotels will be included in the formal G-I-F invitation that will be mailed to you in the middle of July.

Registration for the April Florence Reunion will begin in July at www.gonzaga.edu/gif50th.
Optional Tours

Both tours can only be carried out with a minimum of 25 participants, and no more than 40. Timely pre-reservations are welcome in order to guarantee the hotel reservations throughout and relevant services. Contact Ms. Francesca at Arno Travel (francesca@arnotravel.it) to book your tour.

Pre-Tour
April 18-21, 2014 U.S.A. - ROME
Arrive in the “Eternal City.” You will be met at the airport and transferred by private conveyance to the hotel reserved. The rest of the day is at leisure for rest. Possibility of attending the “Via Crucis” at Colosseum (papal procession).

During these days, you will explore the beauty and unparallel artistic and historic riches of Rome and Vatican City. Your guided tours will include the Vatican Museum, St. Peter's Basilica, the Coliseum, the Roman Forum, the church of St. Peter in Chains, etc. There will be time to toss a coin and make a wish at the Trevi Fountain and free time to shop in some of Rome's elegant boutiques. There will be a get-together cocktail party on arrival and a marvelous fellowship dinner at one of the famous “trattorias” of Rome to sample the authentic food of this unique city.

April 22, 2014 ROME - (ORVIETO) - ASSISI
After breakfast, we will depart by coach and travel through the enchanting Italian countryside, to Orvieto, a pleasant city with its wealth of historic buildings, enjoying a remarkable site of the top of a plug of volcanic rock. We will visit its Romanesque- Gothic-style Cathedral, begun in 1290, and other impressive additional sights such as St. Patrick’s Well, the People's Palace and the Old Quarter.

There will be time for a snack or light lunch on your own and in the afternoon proceed to Assisi, a splendid, walled medieval city, closely associated with St. Francis and related in the numerous accounts of his life and work. We will have dinner and stay overnight in this city of birds and silence under the protection of St. Francis.

April 23, 2014 ASSISI - FLORENCE
The town, which is still enclosed by ramparts, has hardly changed since the middle ages. Mementoes of St. Francis and St. Clara combined with such a poetic setting and a gentle light, give Assisi a moving beauty all its own. After breakfast, the morning is dedicated to a guided visit of this city: St. Mary of the Angels Basilica, the Cathedral, St. Clara’s Church, the temple of Minerva and St. Francis Basilica.

After lunch at your hotel we depart by coach to your hotel in Florence, the “Cradle of the Renaissance.”

Pricing –
$1767 per person, sharing twin
$2290 per person, for single accommodation

All taxes, VAT and service charges are included.

Post-Tour
April 28, 2014 FLORENCE - VENICE
After your breakfast at the hotel, you will be transferred to the railroad station on time to catch your AV (high speed) fast train to Venice (2 hours ride). Bags will be taken by separate truck/motorboat from the hotel in Florence to the hotel in Venice. Upon arrival in Venice, our private motor launch will transfer you to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure to wander through the city with dinner free on your own.

April 29, 2014 VENICE
This city is simply stunning and completely unique. Built on many small islands at the head of the Adriatic Sea, it is without doubt one of the most beautiful and popular cities in the world and always admired by the many tourists that visit throughout the year. After your breakfast at the hotel, the morning is dedicated to a guided tour of the city to include the major sights such as St. Mark's Square, St. Mark's Basilica, Doge's Palace and the Bridge of Sighs. The lunch is free on your own as well as the afternoon for independent actions and dinner.

April 30, 2014 VENICE - (VERONA) - LAKE COMO
After breakfast, you will be transferred by private motor launch to the bus terminal and from here by private motor coach to the nearby city of Verona. Verona, after Venice, is the finest art centre in Venetia. It is often referred to as “Italy's little Rome” due to its rich history and is the setting of Shakespeare's famous fictional play Romeo and Juliet. Our guided tour will take you to visit the most important sights: Piazza delle Erbe, Piazza dei Signori, Roman Arena, the old Scaligero Castle and the church of San Zeno. A light lunch is included in itinerary. At completion of the visit, we continue by motor coach to Lake Como. Dinner is on your own and overnight.

May 1, 2014 LAKE COMO
This is by far the most beautiful of all the Italian lakes. Villages filled with smiling faces, tiny ports, splendid villas and shady exotic gardens succeeded one another along the banks of this lake. After breakfast, we board our private motor launch for a full-day excursion along the lake shores with visits of Villa Balbianello and Bellagio, where you will have time at leisure to stroll around this beautiful village and enjoy a light lunch/snack on your own. Return to your hotel for a farewell dinner included and overnight.

May 2, 2014 LAKE COMO - (MILAN AIRPORT) - USA
After breakfast, you will be transferred by private motor coach to Malpensa airport in connection with your flight to onward destinations.

Pricing –
$1767 per person, sharing twin
$2290 per person, for single accommodation

All taxes, VAT and service charges are included.
Alumni Reflection (Continued from previous page) because of his time in Florence, and especially his excursion to his great grandfather's homeland, he always had the itch to return to Europe. It's no surprise, then, that in 2000 he took a job at a brewery in Poland, which is “never bad for a Gonzaga graduate,” he quipped.

Kozlak eventually transitioned back to logistics. Since 2008, he has been working in Wroclaw, a city of more than 600,000 people in Western Poland with a history that dates to the 10th century. Kozlak serves as the branch manager in the Wroclaw office of C.H. Robinson, a global third-party logistics provider and Fortune 500 company.

“It was the Gonzaga Experience as a whole that steered me toward this career,” he said. “The lessons I learned about working with different people and cultures continue to play a role in my everyday life here in Poland.”

In fall 2006, we (several staff members and perhaps 80 or 90 students) were staying in Medjugorje, a small Bosnian town that has become a popular pilgrimage site since six local Catholics first reported seeing visions of the Virgin Mary in 1981. On this particular day, our destination was Mostar, a city 16 miles to the northeast, for a tour and a meeting with university students.

To reach Mostar, we were required to navigate one-lane country roads in our huge 55-passenger buses. All went well until we approached a church. It was All Saints’ Day, and it seemed like everyone from the entire country of Bosnia had come to this small church. They parked their cars along both sides of the one-lane road, making it a tight fit for the bus. It seemed to stress out our driver.

Suddenly, we stopped. One of the cars alongside the road had been parked by someone who had clearly failed the parallel parking test. The rear end of the car was sticking out so much that our bus could not pass. We were stuck. There was no turning back and we had to be in Mostar within the hour. There really was only one solution. The travel director gathered up a few strong students and had them lift the car so it was in a perfect line with all the others. Within a few minutes, we were on our way. We even arrived on time in Mostar for our tour.

Receive text message updates regarding the Gonzaga-in-Florence 50th Anniversary. Visit www.gonzaga.edu/text and enter your mobile number to receive text messages.
“When I was 9 years old, my parents took me and their 6 other children to visit my sister, Mikie Camarata Joyce (G-I-F 1967-68) in Firenze. I will never forget the moment I walked up the stairs of Palazzo Antinori and ran into Father Tony. He began talking to me and I knew then and there that I was going to come back there someday to go to school. 12 years later I walked those same stairs with Father Tony as my Dean and my eventual lifelong friend.”

Celle Camarata Schoustra, GIF 1979-80

“I must say to this day ’81-82 was the best time in my life.”

Tom O’Dea, GIF 1981-82

“T’m so glad I went to “Flo” before cell phones and social media. We left everything behind and created tight bonds that will never die. Our focus was to enjoy and appreciate every tiny detail of each experience and each other.”

Elena Gumina Angeli, GIF 1996-97

We would like more submissions from GIF Alumni for our Generations of Florentines Photo Challenge. Every month, we’ll randomly select a winner among the entries for some Zag Swag! Visit http://bit.ly/GIFphotos for complete details.

WWW.SHOPGIGLIO.COM
Looking for some Gonzaga-in-Florence merchandise? Shop Giglio is your destination for all things Gonzaga-in-Florence, and the best part? All profits from product sales go directly into a scholarship fund that will benefit Gonzaga-in-Florence students.