SJU Commencement Activities to be Held May 13

Bob Abernethy, executive editor and host of “Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly,” will deliver the commencement address at SJU at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 13, in the Saint John’s Abbey Church. This year’s commencement ceremony at Saint John’s celebrates the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1857.

Abernethy will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree, while Ambassador John W. McDonald, co-founder and chairman of the Institute for Multi-track Diplomacy and distinguished visiting professor at George Mason University, will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Also during the commencement ceremony, Saint John’s Abbey and University will present its Pax Christi Award to the Most Rev. Michael L. Fitzgerald, archbishop, apostolic nuncio in Egypt and delegate to the League of Arab States.

Paul Storm, a political science major from Fargo, N.D., will be the student commencement speaker, as selected by this year’s SJU senior class.

The 2007 Saint John’s graduating class includes 432 undergraduate men and 30 School of Theology Seminary graduates. When combined with the College of Saint Benedict’s 467 graduates, this year’s combined undergraduate graduating class is 899.

A veteran television correspondent with a longtime personal interest in religion, Abernethy developed and created the show “Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly” in response to widespread criticism of American television’s lack of attention to religious news. Now in its 10th season, with Abernethy as executive editor and host, this half-hour newsmagazine has been widely praised by critics and has won numerous awards for its thoughtful public exploration of religion, ethics and spirituality in American life. It airs on more than 250 public stations nationwide. Before launching “Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly,” Abernethy served as a correspondent for NBC News for more than four decades, reporting from across the nation and around the world, including Moscow, where he covered the end of the Cold War and the collapse of communism and the Soviet Union.

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CSB Commencement Activities to be Held May 12

S. Ephrem Hollermann, CSB/SJU associate professor of theology and incoming CSB Koch Chair in Catholic Thought and Culture, will deliver the commencement address during the 92nd annual commencement ceremony at CSB at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 12, in the CSB Haehn Campus Center/Clemens Field House.

During the commencement ceremony, CSB will present its President’s Medal to the Sisters of Saint Benedict’s Monastery. Also receiving the President’s Medal will be Jacquelynn and the late Sylvester “Shorty” Haehn. Barbara “Babs” Gray Koch will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. Carliene Quist, a peace studies and Spanish major from St. Cloud, will be the student commencement speaker, as selected by this year’s CSB senior class.

The 2007 CSB graduation class includes 467 women. When combined with Saint John’s 432 undergraduate men, this year’s combined undergraduate graduating class is 899.

Hollermann was recently appointed as the Koch Chair in Catholic Thought and Culture for a three-year term beginning July 1. This appointment recognizes Hollermann’s excellent teaching record, her work as a scholar in the fields of American Catholic studies and Benedictine women’s history, and her distinguished service to CSB/SJU as a faculty member and former prioress of her monastic community at Saint Benedict’s Monastery.

During her term as Koch Chair, Hollermann will continue her scholarship on Benedictine women and their contribution to the Catholic identity of CSB. Through this scholarship, she will help the institutions to expand the awareness and discussion of the Catholic intellectual tradition and culture at

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McDonald is a lawyer, diplomat, former international civil servant, development expert and peace-builder. He spent 20 years in Western Europe and the Middle East, and worked for 16 years on United Nations economic and social affairs. He was appointed ambassador twice each by Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan to represent the United States at various U.N. World Conferences and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1994. He is currently chairman and co-founder of the Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy in Washington D.C., which focuses on national and international ethnic conflicts. In February 1992, he was named distinguished visiting professor at George Mason University’s Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, in Fairfax, Va.

British-born Archbishop Fitzgerald, widely considered the best informed and most capable scholar working on Christian-Islamic relations in the senior leadership of the Catholic Church today, is currently apostolic nuncio to the Arab Republic of Egypt and delegate to the organization of the League of Arab States for the Vatican. Prior to these appointments, he was secretary and later president of the Pontifical Council for Inter-Religious Dialogue from 1986-2006. In these positions, he made significant strides in promoting good relationships between the Roman Catholic Church and the world’s other faiths, particularly Islam.

As the highest honor awarded by Saint John’s, the Pax Christi Award recognizes those who have devoted themselves to God by working in the tradition of Benedictine monasticism to serve others and to build a heritage of faith in the world. CSB continued, page 2

both CSB and SJU. Hollermann’s scholarship on Benedictine women is a particularly appropriate focus for a college for women.

Saint Benedict’s Monastery in St. Joseph was founded on July 4, 1857. Beyond the large number of hospitals, nursing homes, nursing schools and social services founded by the sisters, they also founded 137 schools, including CSB. More than 18,000 CSB alumnae were influenced by the Benedictine sisters. CSB will recognize a very special relationship – that of the people of the college to the women of Saint Benedict’s Monastery.

This year marks the sesquicentennial of Saint Benedict’s Monastery. In recognition of their vision, compassion and trust, CSB will award the President’s Medal to the Sisters of Saint Benedict’s Monastery. Accepting the medal on their behalf will be S. Nancy Bauer, OSB, prioress of Saint Benedict’s Monastery.

In 1941, Sylvester “Shorty” Haehn moved to San Diego with three friends and with everything they owned tied to the running boards of the car. He was a man of vision and strong work ethic. After dabbling as an aircraft mechanic and in auto sales, Haehn ventured into construction in 1952. He prepared designs, directed all construction and did much of the work himself. His leadership and craftsmanship over the next three decades netted many treasures that he and his wife, Jacquelynn, felt compelled to share. Their love of art, travel and music paralleled their love of enriching the lives of others. The Haehns believed in the work of CSB and demonstrated this through their time on the Board of Trustees and Resource Development Committee. The Haehns have also given frequent gifts to the annual fund, president’s fund and endowed scholarships. The Haehn Campus Center on the CSB campus and the Haehn Museum at the Art and Heritage Place at Saint Benedict’s Monastery are daily visual reminders of their belief in CSB’s important mission. On Dec. 30, 2006, after a long fight with Parkinson’s disease, Shorty Haehn passed away peacefully at his home in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., at the age of 84. Accepting the medal on their behalf will be Jacquelynn Haehn.

The President’s Medal is on occasion awarded to those members of the CSB community who have demonstrated extraordinary loyalty, dedication and service to the college and its mission of liberal arts education in the Benedictine tradition.

Compassion and conviction are at the heart of Barbara “Babs” Gray Koch’s philanthropic leadership. In 2002, CSB received a commitment to establish its first academic chair, the Koch Chair in Catholic Thought and Culture, from Koch and her husband, David Koch, of Long Lake, Minn. The Koches share a long history of business, community and philanthropic achievement. Both Koches have been honored numerous times for their philanthropic and volunteer commitments. Barbara and David Koch have led the way as fund-raising volunteers as well as donors. They have both been acknowledged for their excellence as campaign leaders. Barbara Koch served on the Board of Trustees at CSB from 1995-2004 and also served as the chair of the Resource Development Committee for CSB.

Barbara Koch is being honored for her leadership and generosity, which have strengthened the intellectual, spiritual and physical well being of thousands of CSB students and imparted wisdom for a lifetime.
National Media Take Notice of CSB Student’s Research

Research presented by CSB senior Elizabeth Donovan at an American Heart Association conference has received substantial national media coverage, including notice in the May 7 issue of Time Magazine.

Donovan, a biology/nutrition science major from Morris, Minn., reported her findings that college-age students who drink heavily may increase their risk for future heart disease on April 19, at the American Heart Association’s 8th Annual Conference on Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology.

In her study, she found that a group of college students who drank heavily had higher levels of C-reactive protein (CRP), a blood marker for inflammation that can increase the risk for heart disease. Increased CRP placed heavy drinkers at moderate risk for cardiovascular disease in early adulthood. Moderate drinkers had the lowest CRP levels.

“These students may be setting themselves up for an increased risk for cardiovascular disease,” Elizabeth Donovan said. “This highlights an additional reason to be concerned about heavy drinking in college-age individuals.”

Besides Time Magazine, Donovan’s research has been featured in over 100 media outlets throughout the country, including CBS News, The Washington Post, MSNBC, UPI, Reuters, Scientific American, Bloomberg News and WebMD.

Donovan conducted her research with Amy Olson, CSB/SJU professor of nutrition.

U.S. Poet Laureate Gave Reading at CSB

Donald Hall, U.S. poet laureate, gave a public reading on April 24, at the CSB Alumnae Hall, Haehn Campus Center. Hall was appointed poet laureate June 14, 2006, replacing Ted Kooser. His reading was sponsored by the CSB Literary Arts Institute.

Hall is the second sitting poet laureate to visit the CSB campus in the last eight years. Robert Pinsky, poet laureate from 1997-2000, had a public reading in 1999 at CSB.

E.J. Dionne Inaugural Speaker at Eugene J. McCarthy Lecture

Gene McCarthy admired the writings of Washington Post newspaper columnnist, author and commentator E.J. Dionne, Jr. That admiration was mutual.

As the inaugural speaker in the Eugene J. McCarthy Lecture on April 19, at the SJU Stephen B. Humphrey Theater, Dionne honored McCarthy for his courage to speak out alone in a time of war in his speech, “The Promise and Limits of Politics: What Gene McCarthy Taught Us.”

Dionne is noted for a keen intellect that delivers reasoned analysis with a passion for people – traits that also applied to the late U.S. representative and senator from Minnesota and SJU graduate. Dionne’s op-ed column – which began in 1993 in the Post – appears in syndication to more than 100 newspapers. He joined the staff of the Post in 1990 as a reporter. He is a regular political analyst on National Public Radio, and is a frequent commentator on CNN and NBC’s “Meet the Press.”

How Sweet It Is!

More than 600 people, including CSB/SJU faculty, staff, students, volunteers and area residents turned out for the annual tradition of maple syruping in the woods of Saint John’s Arboretum over two weekends in late March. The arboretum’s most popular event of the year involves sap collecting, syrup cooking, horse-drawn rides, demonstrations, and hot maple syrup sundaes.

The syruping season also provides educational opportunities for CSB/SJU classes. Students in biology labs rate the field trip to the sugar bush as an annual favorite. In addition, education majors incorporate the experience as part of a lesson plan on conducting field trips.

Professor Doniger Spoke during CSB Renaissance Residency Program

Professor Wendy Doniger, whose research and teaching interests revolve around Hinduism and mythology, spoke on April 12, at the CSB Main Building.

“The Clever Wife and the Magic Ring in South Asian and European Myth” examined issues of gender in ancient myths across different cultures and explored what those issues reveal about cultural comparison.

Her speech was part of the CSB Renaissance Residency Program and was cosponsored by the CSB/SJU Asian studies program. Doniger was in residence April 12-13, and met with CSB/SJU students studying literature and gender.

The Renaissance Residency Program brings distinguished professionals or intellectuals to CSB to share their expertise and to serve as role models to the student body. Through public talks and classroom visits, Renaissance Residents encourage students to explore new ideas and expand their intellectual and professional horizons.

Caritas Awards Ceremony Recognizes Commitment to Service and Social Justice

The CSB/SJU campus ministry offices hosted the annual Caritas Awards Ceremony April 16, at the CSB Main Building.

This year’s recipients of the award are CSB senior liberal studies major Kristin Roel from Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.; SJU senior French major Dylan Sheldon from Battle Lake, Minn.; CSB ‘04 alumna Samantha Henningson; and ’94 alumnus Jeffrey Corey.
Kling Honored with SJU Colman Barry Award

SJU presented the 15th Colman J. Barry Award to William H. Kling, in honor of his pioneering role in public radio in the United States. The award was presented in conjunction with Saint John’s Day activities April 20, at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul.

Kling, a 1964 graduate of SJU, is the founding president of Minnesota Public Radio (MPR), which originated at SJU and is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. It is the second largest public radio entity in the nation.

Kling is president and CEO of American Public Media Group, the non-profit parent company of MPR, Southern California Public Radio, American Public Media and the for-profit Greenspring Company. He was an incorporator and founding director of National Public Radio and the founding chair and president of Public Radio International.

Kling has been recognized as one of the 100 influential Minnesotans of the 20th century by the Star Tribune newspaper. He received the national Edward R. Murrow Award recognizing outstanding contributions to the broadcast industry and the Channels Magazine Award for Excellence recognizing those in electronic media who have achieved business success while maintaining a commitment to excellence. In 2004, he was inducted into the Pavek Museum of Broadcasting’s Hall of Fame.

The Rev. Colman J. Barry was president of SJU from 1964 to 1971. He left an enormous legacy at Saint John’s, including the creation of Minnesota Public Radio, the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library and the Jay Phillips Center for Jewish-Christian Learning. The Colman J. Barry Award for Distinguished Contributions to Religion and Society is given annually to those who, like Barry, have made significant contributions to human knowledge, understanding or communication in religion and society.

HMML to Undertake Largest Manuscript Digitization Project in History

Fr. Columba Stewart, executive director of the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library (HMML), signed a formal agreement April 13, with the Matenadaran Mashtots Institute of Ancient Manuscripts in Yerevan, Armenia, that will allow HMML to undertake the largest manuscript digitization project in history.

Students and Faculty Honored at Inspiring Leadership Banquet

CSB and SJU students and faculty were honored at the Inspiring Leadership 2007 recognition banquet April 22, at Guild Hall, SJU.

The event, which was sponsored by CSB/SJU Student Activities and Leadership Development, featured a keynote speech from Bruce Jackson, CEO of the C. Charles Jackson Foundation.

CSB student Carliene Quist received the “Excellence in Leadership Award.” Quist, a senior from St. Cloud, is majoring in peace studies and Spanish. The award was presented by Gar Kellom, SJU vice president of student development.

Quist also shared the “Inspire a Shared Vision” award with CSB student Melissa Rosenthal, a senior theology major from Red Wing, Minn.

Additional awards were presented as follows:

“Emerging Leader” – CSB student Kathryn Green (sophomore, environmental studies and peace studies, Blaine, Minn.) and SJU student Andrew Zimmerman (sophomore, history, Gainesville, Fla.);

“Model the Way” – CSB students Angela Minke (senior communication, St. Cloud) and Kristina Senden, (senior theology, Marshall, Minn.);

“Challenge the Process” – CSB students Jennifer Kling (senior, nursing, Wyoming, Minn.) and Kristin Roehl (senior, liberal studies, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.);

“Enable Others to Act” – SJU students Matthew Brossart (senior, humanities, Arden Hills, Minn.) and Colt Edin (senior, biology, Askov, Minn.);

“Encourage the Heart” – CSB students Jessica Bartos (senior, elementary education, Maple Plain, Minn.) and Alison Frank (senior, English and theology, Minneapolis);

“Club of the Year” – Magis, a Christian outreach organization for students at CSB/SJU;

“Advisor of the Year” – Paul Marsnik, CSB/SJU associate professor of management, who advises Students in Free Enterprise.

New to CSB/SJU this year, the Inspiring Leaders Certificate Program (ILCP) seeks to prepare students for leadership roles and responsibilities in service to the college and community.

SJU Student Receives Presser Foundation Scholarship

SJU student Matthew Haider is the recipient of the Presser Undergraduate Scholar Award for the 2007-08 academic year. Haider, a junior music major with a concentration in piano performance, was selected by the CSB/SJU music faculty in recognition of excellence and merit. He will receive a certificate and a $4,500 scholarship for his senior year, and be known as a Presser Undergraduate Scholar. Funding for the scholarship was provided by The Presser Foundation, in recognition of the quality of the CSB/SJU music department.

Haider has taken private piano lessons from Fr. Robert Koopmann, voice lessons from Carolyn Finley and organ lessons from Kraig Windschitl. Haider is currently a member of the CSB/SJU Chamber Choir and has been a member of the CSB/SJU Wind Ensemble. In his first three years on campus, Haider has accompanied over 15 vocal/instrumental recitals. He has also served as rehearsal accompanist for

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three of the music department’s Opera Workshop productions. Haider is the pianist for the campus ministry student mass on Sunday nights, and a student employee for The Saint John’s Boys’ Choir, where his duties include office work and accompanying.

The Presser Foundation was established in 1916 by Theodore Presser for the purpose of promoting music education in institutions of learning.

CSB Student Presents Biology Research on Capitol Hill
CSB senior Lindy Watanaskul presented her poster, “Ageing Effects on Heart Rate and Heart Arrhythmia in Drosophila melanogaster (fruit flies),” at the 11th annual Council on Undergraduate Research “Posters on the Hill” event April 25, at the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington D.C.

She was one of approximately 80 students from across the country who displayed their research. It marks the second consecutive year that a CSB student has been selected to display her research at the event. Last year, Erin Saupe presented research on oil and gas deposits in the Gulf Coast region of the United States.

“I believe that the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University is a great place for research,” said Watanaskul, a senior biology and English major from St. Cloud.

“I think the biology department offers great opportunities and encourages students to take part in many research projects both outside and as part of a course,” she said.

The importance of doing a larger scale research experience like this is “that the work has greater potential for actually contributing to our understanding,” said Charles Rodell, professor of biology at CSB/SJU and Watanaskul’s advisor on the project.

Faculty/Staff News
Laura Rodgers, CSB/SJU professor of nursing, presented a research paper, “A Preliminary Assessment of Adjustment Disorder (DSM-IV-TR) among First Year College Students,” in Montreal at the International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses Annual Conference April 27. Adolescents are at a higher developmental risk to react to the stress of the college environment and thus vulnerable to develop Adjustment Disorder (AD) according to the DSM-IV-TR criteria. AD among adolescents is associated with suicide attempts, suicide, excessive substance use, development of other serious psychiatric disorders, and somatic complaints. The overall purpose of this study was to complete a needs assessment among first-year college students to lay the groundwork for designing appropriate mental health services and interventions for students who may have adjustment difficulties related to the DSM-IV-TR criteria for AD.

Michael Hemmesch, director of media relations, was a panel presenter during the University-Community Relations graduate class at St. Cloud State University on April 13. Hemmesch discussed tips for working with reporters/university administrators, ideas for how to build relationships with the media, conflicts of interest, ethical considerations and breaking news.

A team of SJU students advised by Bob Hesse, CSB/SJU associate professor of mathematics, received an honorable mention for competition in the 2007 Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM). Juniors Ryan Meger, Derek Neal and Mackenzie “Mack” Schow worked on and submitted a detailed solution to a question about gerrymandering over the days Feb. 8-12. This is the sixth year that Hesse has advised students for this contest. This year, 949 teams from 12 countries competed.

CSB students Jenny Dietz, a Regina Hall R.A., and Katie Davis, a Corona Hall R.A., recently took third place in the case study competition at the University of Northern Iowa Annual RA Conference. Over 500 people attended the conference.

Aric Putnam, assistant professor of communication, has published “Ethiopia is Now: J.A. Rogers and the Rhetoric of Black Anti-Colonialism during the Great Depression” in Rhetoric and Public Affairs, the top rated journal in rhetoric and public address.

Erin Saupe, CSB senior in natural science (geology), presented a paper at the Geological Society of America meetings at the University of Kansas in Lawrence on April 12. Her presentation was “Test Morphology, Ontogenetic Morphometry and Phylogenetic Classification of the Planktonic Foraminiferal Genus Gublerina Iikoine, 1948 (Late Campanian-Maastrichtian).” Erin was presenting the results of her summer research in the Paleontology Department at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.

CSB students Ashley Strobel, Nicole Kempenich and Caitlin Moodie presented at the Statewide Social Work Conference on March 30, hosted by Metropolitan State University. Ashley and Nicole’s presentation was entitled “An Intervention in Affordable Housing in Central Minnesota.” Caitlin’s presentation was entitled “Kinship Care in Minnesota.” Their presentations were well received with good feedback and positive comments by the audience. Nicole and Ashley plan to continue their research focusing on policy changes and solutions that will be both eco-sensitive
and serve the populations at greatest risk of not being able to find affordable and safe housing.

**Maribeth Overland**, director of student activities and leadership development, received a Top Five Program Outstanding Showcase Program Award at the National Orientation Directors Association (NODA) Regional V Conference, held in Waterloo, Iowa on April 14. Her presentation was entitled, “Tap the Potential of Your Team.” The conference is attended by professional, graduate and student staff working with new student and transfer orientation programs.

CSB student **Kate Sinner** and **Derek Larson**, associate professor of history and director of environmental studies, were selected by the National Audubon Society for a Washington, D.C. workshop on grassroots lobbying and climate change March 17-20. Fifteen people from around the country were invited to the workshop, which featured sessions by professional lobbyists, Congressional staff, and climate experts as well as Audubon scientists reporting on the impact of climate change on birds. After the workshop they attended the Climate Crisis Coalition’s rally on the Capitol lawn on March 20, and then met with staffers from Minnesota and North Dakota congressional delegations to request support for a package of climate change legislation. Kate was the only college student selected for the training.

**Stuart Perry**, director of financial aid at Saint John’s, presented a session entitled “Decoding the Language of Financial Aid” at the College Board Midwestern Regional Forum in Chicago Feb. 25-27. The forum provides an opportunity for college admission and financial aid representatives to interact with high school teachers and guidance counselors from the Midwest. Perry attended the forum with other members of the CSB/SJU Admission and Financial Aid staff.

**In the Media**

CSB/SJU students were featured April 15, in a *St. Cloud Times* article, “Climate change is focus of assembly.”

CSB/SJU students were featured April 14, in a *St. Cloud Times* article, “CSB/SJU honor student employees.”

CSB/SJU was cited April 14, in a *St. Cloud Times* editorial.

CSB/SJU was featured April 13, in a *St. Cloud Times* article, “$1 million grants to help college students.”

U.S. Poet Laureate Donald Hall’s visit to CSB was featured April 13, in a *St. Cloud Times* article, “U.S. poet laureate Hall to speak in St. Joseph.”

Gregory Walker, professor of music, and Gregory Schroeder, associate professor of history, were quoted April 13, in a *St. Cloud Times* article, “Vonnegut’s works live on at schools.”

Getatchew Haile, cataloger emeritus/Ethiopia at HMML, was featured April 8, in a *St. Cloud Times* article, “Joy amid struggle: Avon scholar survives violence in Ethiopia.”

The Rev. Vincent Tegeder, OSB ’33, professor emeritus of American history and SJU archivist, died on April 4. His obituary appeared in the *St. Cloud Times* and *Star Tribune.*

Parker Wheatley, assistant professor of economics, was quoted April 5, in a *St. Cloud Times* article, “Area housing market adjusts to downturn.”