Br. Dietrich Reinhart, OSB, SJU President Emeritus, passed away peacefully in his sleep Dec. 29, 2008, in the retirement center at Saint John’s Abbey, in the presence of fellow monks. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 6, in the Abbey Church, and a memorial service was held Jan. 15 in the Abbey Church. He is survived by a brother, Stephen; and two sisters, Susan; and Mary Blocker.

Thomas Edward Reinhart was born on May 17, 1949, to Donald and Eleanor (Noonan) Reinhart as the eldest child of four in Minneapolis. He entered Saint John’s University in 1967 and graduated magna cum laude in history in 1971. He entered the novitiate of Saint John’s Abbey in 1971, and asked for the name of Dietrich in honor of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the great German Lutheran theologian who was a participant in the resistance movement against Nazism.

Br. Dietrich attended the Saint John’s School of Theology from 1972 to 1974, but history endured as his major interest. In 1975, he entered Brown University, Providence, R. I., and received a master’s degree in history in 1976 and the doctorate in 1984. From 1978 to 1980, he conducted research for his dissertation, “The Parliamentary Visitation of Oxford University, 1646-1652,” at Oxford University where he matriculated in the university as a member of Saint Benet’s Hall and as a recognized student in the faculty of modern history that included his sometime mentor, Hugh Trevor-Roper.

In 1991, Br. Dietrich became the first non-ordained monk to be president of the university, and he hoped to be part of the process of defining what it means to be a Catholic college at the end of the second millennium.

During his 17-year tenure many campus construction projects were completed: Metten Court Apartments; Sexton Commons; Vincent Court Apartments; Donald McNeely Spectrum, McKendrick Hall, Clemens Stadium; Science Center; Saints Maur and Placid. Also during his tenure calligrapher Donald Jackson was commissioned to undertake writing The Saint John’s Bible. Br. Dietrich also was instrumental in having Saint John’s recognized as an arboretum.

Over the years, Br. Dietrich garnered many awards and honors. In 1992 DeLaSalle High School,

Continued on page 5
Forum Details CSB/SJU
Fiscal Outlook
Prepared by Glenda Isaacs Burgeson
Community editor
CSB/SJU Communication & Marketing

Sometimes smaller is better.
One of the benefits of a modest endowment is a modest dependency on endowment income. CSB and SJU faculty and staff learned that lesson in a higher education economics 101 forum conducted Dec. 16 on each campus by Presidents MaryAnn Baenninger and Dan Whalen.

Speaking to overflow crowds, the presidents reported the overall fiscal health of the institutions is sound for the immediate and near future, and they discussed contingency planning for the uncertainties that lie ahead.

“Operationally we are fine,” Baenninger said. Revenues are in line with budgeted expectations, she said. Students have registered for spring classes, have paid their bills and are able to secure loans as needed.

Like the stock market, endowments are down, she said, but a small endowment is a good thing in this environment.

“We depend comparatively little on endowment income,” she said, unlike some higher education institutions known for their more muscular endowments which have plummeted in recent months.

The endowment at CSB has dropped 22.9 percent. As a precaution, Baenninger said, the college will not spend as much of the draw on income from the endowment as policy permits.

At SJU, no adjustment is expected in the draw on income from the endowment, Whalen said. Although the endowment has dropped 22.4 percent since July and is now at $112 million, its value is now the same as three years ago. Because draw rates are determined on a three-year rolling average of the portfolio value, the school’s draw rate of five percent remains the same.

While Harvard, MIT, Dartmouth and Boston University among others have announced hiring freezes and budget cuts to offset plunging endowments, CSB and SJU have initiated a “hiring pause” as they develop strategies to best serve students. These strategies focus on three areas – conservation of resources, contingency planning and communication – aligned with a set of principles.

The first principle is community. “CSB and SJU are a community,” Baenninger said. “We want to maintain our core strengths and emerge stronger than before.”

A second principle at CSB is to protect the lowest paid employees, she said. To that effect, she announced that she and the CSB cabinet will forego raises in the next fiscal year.

“We want to avoid layoffs and we don’t expect layoffs,” she said.

A third principle is to protect the academic core and essential programming for students.

The presidents pledged transparency as decisions are made to deal with the economic challenges and said they need the trust of the CSB/SJU community that they are acting in the institutions’ best interests.

To foster communication, the presidents will conduct three additional forums next semester. They also plan informal talks with smaller groups, and a Web site has been set up at http://www.csbsju.edu/fromthepresidents/ with current information. The site includes a link for users to post questions and comments.

Whalen stressed the importance of a positive attitude. “We need to emphasize the positive ways that we transform lives and show that we add value. We need to be very self aware of how we can do more with what we’ve got.”

Students Trace Links to Ancestors
Prepared by Benjamin Besasie ’12
Communication & Marketing editorial assistant

Have you heard of the Human Genome Project? Maybe you have watched forensic scientists on “CSI” use DNA analysis to solve a murder. These two applications of DNA analysis are only a few grains of sand in a biological playground.

Last fall, CSB/SJU first-year biology students analyzed DNA not to find a murderer, but to look at evolutionary relationships among other human individuals.

During a series of four laboratories, students collected mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) from their own cheek cells. They then isolated their mtDNA and amplified it by making many copies. Later, they analyzed their DNA sequence to find possible ancestral origins.

“These are complex and challenging techniques that are at a very early stage of the students’ biology career,” said Carol Jansky, CSB/SJU biology lab coordinator. “DNA sequencing is just the beginning, because there are a lot of applications of DNA analysis.”

In the last lab of the sequence, students loaded their DNA in the CEQ8000 Genetic Analysis System, which was purchased recently with a $60,000 grant from Beckman Coulter. Barbara May, CSB/SJU assistant professor of biology, secured the grant. CSB and SJU provided an additional $47,000 for the equipment.

“This shows the support that the schools have for continuing research and introducing new research technologies to students,” May said.

Students used large databases to analyze their results. National Geographic, in cooperation with other groups, started a five-year study, the Genographic Project, evaluating ancient human migration worldwide using DNA analysis. Students interpreted their results through the Genographic Project to identify their most probable ancestral groups.

“The neatest aspect of these labs is that the students get to use this complex technology while they have a personal attachment to the project. To be able to look at your own ancestral lineage makes research much more exciting,” May said.
Program to Examine Poetry and Protest

The role of poetry as protest during wartime is the topic of a presentation at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, in HCC Alumnae Hall, CSB. “Peace, Poetry and Politics” examines the role of poetry as a form of social protest and as a means of calling for peace and justice. The program is sponsored by the Literary Arts Institute at CSB and the Eugene McCarthy Center for Public Policy and Civic Engagement, in collaboration with Graywolf Press.

Three writers will respond to the topic: Fred Marchant, a Graywolf poet and one of the first Marine officers honorably discharged as a conscientious objector during the Vietnam War; Brenda Hillman, a noted poet with seven books of poetry who is also an anti-war activist with Code Pink; and Nick Flynn, also a Graywolf poet and memoirist who has just completed a new book exploring Abu Ghraib and torture.

The program will recall the poetry of protest in World War II and in Vietnam, highlighting Graywolf’s recent publication of a collection of poems by William Stafford titled Another World Instead. The book centers on Stafford’s experience as a conscientious objector during World War II. Eugene McCarthy, an alumnus of St. John’s, was an admirer of Stafford; in fact, he read Stafford’s poems on the Senate floor and was able to recite the poems from memory. And McCarthy was himself a poet.

As these past events and experiences illuminate the situation on the current war-fronts, participants will explore these questions: do words have any effect on a nation at war? Is the declaration of conscientious objection a public or private act? How does a nation imagine itself at war and can that imagination be enlarged or transformed?

The program also will be presented at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, in Minnesota Public Radio’s UBS Forum in St. Paul. Registration is required for the St. Paul event.

SJU’s Vocation Project Renamed

The Vocation Project has been renamed “Corad” from the Latin, “cor ad cor loqui-tor” or “heart speaks to heart,” in honor of the late Dr. Art Spring.

An ardent supporter of the work of the Vocation Project since its inception in 2000, Spring helped initiate and led an on-line mentoring service that he named “corad.” His use of this phrase was inspired by the Intercordia movement, founded in Canada by Jean Vanier.

The staff of the Vocation Project decided on the new name, in consultation with its advisory board and the SJU administration, because it is consistent with their efforts to lead experiences related to the exploration of vocation.

“The types of conversations that invite deep reflection on life’s meaning and its relation to faith certainly come from the depths of our hearts and require another listening heart,” said Marian Diaz, director of Corad at SJU and Companions on a Journey at CSB.

CSB, SJU and Maryknolls in China: Ten Years and Counting

Representatives of CSB, SJU and the Hong Kong-based Maryknoll China Service Project celebrated their decade-long partnership at a dinner-ceremony Nov. 6 in the Teresa Reception Center at CSB.

On behalf of President MaryAnn Baeninger and President Emeritus Dietrich Reinhart, Abbot John Klassen presented a joint presidential citation of appreciation to the Maryknoll Vicar-General, and CSB/SJU Associate Provost and Academic Dean Joe Desjardins expressed institutional appreciation for this unique program which has placed nearly 100 CSB and SJU students and graduates in teaching positions in China in the past 10 years.

Kevin Clancy SJU ’00, who taught in the program for several years prior to becoming its educational coordinator, spoke of the program’s benefits to his professional and personal development. The Vicar-General expressed Maryknoll’s appreciation of the partnership and presented Abbot John with a plaque expressing gratitude to CSB/SJU. The ceremony concluded with each partner expressing hopes for expanded cooperation in the future, including the addition of a service learning component in China.

In addition to Clancy and the Vicar-General, guests included Fr. Scott Harris, founder and director of the program; Mareta McKenna, its U.S.-based assistant educational coordinator; and Dave Harrison, SJU ’99, former educational coordinator.

CSB/SJU Competes in ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest

Two teams of students representing the CSB/SJU computer science department placed second and fourth among 16 teams competing at an area site as part of an international programming contest. The ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) is a five-hour competition during which teams of three work to solve the most problems in the least amount of time. Four CSB/SJU teams were among 16 teams from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, University of Minnesota-Morris and Bethel University competing at the U of M’s Twin Cities site. The site is part of the North Central Region which includes Minnesota, Wisconsin, Ontario, Manitoba, Michigan, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas. The CSB/SJU teams, coached by Imad Rahal, CSB/SJU assistant professor of computer science, placed at the Twin Cities site as follows:

Team Skynet, 2nd place: Jonathon Walz, Peter Ohmann and Y Zhang
Team Mooses & Deers, 4th place: Cameron Christensen, Curtis Groebner and William Tice
Team 11 Musketeers, 10th place: Sean Landman, Nathan Stocker and Alexander Helwig
Team NUKL, 12th place: Joe Meyer, Pheng Her and Cong Van

Overall, 202 teams participated in the ACM ICPC’s North Central Region.
with CSB/SJU teams ranked as follows:
Team SkyNet: 26th place
Team Mooses & Deers: 34th place
Team 11 Musketeers: 59th place
Team NUKL: 76th place.

Faculty/Staff Notes

Tom Sibley, CSB/SJU professor of mathematics, published “Subliminal Analysis” in the December issue of Mathematics Magazine. The article evolved from a question in Math 343.

A photo by John Biasi, SJU assistant director, advancement communication & marketing design, was selected for the “Daily Dozen” on National Geographic’s website: http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/your-shot/daily-dozen. The photo, featuring Fr. Wilfred Theisen, professor emeritus of physics, with an indigo bunting perched on his hand, was published in the autumn 2008 issue of Saint John’s Magazine.

Richard Bohr, CSB/SJU professor of history and director of Asian studies spoke during the fall semester on U.S.-China trade at a dozen Twin Cities senior citizens groups in the 2008-09 “Great Decisions” series produced by the Foreign Policy Association.
- On Sept. 23, he spoke on “U.S.-China Relations Before and After the Olympics” at the Lennox Senior Center in Saint Louis Park.
- On Oct. 12, he was a panelist on the “Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Contemporary China” at the 57th annual meeting of the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, St. Olaf College and Carleton College.
- On Oct. 18, Bohr spoke on “Advancing the Teaching of East Asian Studies in Minnesota Schools,” at the fall conference of the National Consortium for the Teaching of Asia, Indianapolis.
- On Nov. 11, Bohr presented a speech entitled “All Eyes Are on China” before the St. Paul American Association of University Women.
- On Nov. 18, he spoke on “U.S.-China Relations and Africa” and Professor Emmanuel Mentan spoke on “Sino-Africa Relations” at a forum on “China, the U.S., and Africa: The New Race for Africa,” sponsored by Peace Studies, Asian Studies, and the Africa Learning Community. The session was moderated by James Kimeu, SJU junior political science major.
- On Nov. 11, Bohr presented a speech entitled “All Eyes Are on China” before the St. Paul American Association of University Women.

James Read, CSB/SJU professor of political science, is author of an essay titled “Madison’s Response to Nullification” in the edited volume James Madison: Philosopher, Founder, and Statesman, recently published by Ohio University Press.

Arrogant Bones, a new book of poetry by Larry Schug, CSB recycling coordinator and winner of a 2008 McKnight grant, has just been published. The book is available at the CSB/SJU Bookstores.


Imad Rahal, CSB/SJU assistant professor of computer science, published and presented a paper, “Towards Efficient Source Code Plagiarism Detection: An N-gram-based Approach,” at the 21st International Conference on Computers and Their Applications in Industry and Engineering (CAINE-2008) held Nov. 12-14, in Honolulu, Hawaii. This paper focuses on plagiarism in academia which has become a serious problem requiring the attention of the academic community at large. The problem is common in written works, especially among university students due to various reasons such as time pressure, lack of understanding of what constitutes plagiarism, and the wealth of digital resources available on the Internet which make “copy/paste” activities almost natural. In order to deter students from submitting plagiarized work, educators must have a practical way to detect plagiarism.

The importance of this summer work is two-fold. First, it relates to a large National Science Foundation proposal that Dr. Rahal and Dr. Schnepf plan to submit next year. Presenting the work at CAINE’08 will strengthen the NSF proposal, as it will provide reviewers with convincing scientific evidence for the viability of the proposed work. Second, this work comes out of an honor’s thesis done by Joseph Dejiovanni (SJU’08) under Dr. Rahal’s supervision. During summer of 2008, Dr. Rahal worked closely with Joe to take this work to the second level: from an honor’s thesis to a research publication at an international conference.

Dr. Rahal is involved in another research paper which was published and presented at the prestigious IEEE International Conference on Data Mining (ICDM) 2008 workshop on “High Performance Data Mining,” Dec. 15-19 in Pisa Italy. In this paper, Dr. Wang (Waynesburg University, Pa.), Dr. Qin Ding (East Carolina University, N.C.) and Dr. Rahal worked closely and intensively to devise a parallel implementation for a proposed clustering algorithm using technologies such as the Message Passing Interface (MPI) while keeping load balancing concerns in mind in order to achieve better efficiency.

In the Media


Derek Larson, associate professor of history and environmental studies program director, was featured Jan. 7, in a St.
Community

January 2009

Community

Women

Central Minnesota

of auxiliary services, was featured in a "Shine."

Cities Business article "Let Your Light So

prise

article "Facebook assists colleges with

Park Rapids Enter-

quoted Dec. 17, in a "Illustrated Bible reproduction given to

Mercury News

San Jose, Calif.) article

San Jose

was featured Dec. 17, in a "Grad Durbin reaches milestone."

Mount Vernon

was featured Dec. 23, in a Wall Street Journal article "Prophet

Sharing: The Good Book Is the Best

Seller."

The Rev. Columba Stewart, HMML

executive director, was quoted and

The Saint John's Bible Heritage Edition was mentioned Dec. 23, in a Wall Street Journal article "Prophet Sharing: The Good Book Is the Best Seller."

Louis Johnston, associate professor of economics, was quoted Dec. 21, in a St. Louis Post-Dispatch (St. Louis, Mo.) article "Recession causing repair shops to flourish."

Mike Durbin, CSB basketball coach, was featured Dec. 17, in a Mount Vernon News (Mount Vernon, Ohio) story "EK grad Durbin reaches milestone."

The Saint John's Bible Heritage Edition was featured Dec. 17, in a San Jose Mercury News (San Jose, Calif.) article "Illustrated Bible reproduction given to Santa Clara University."

Matt Beirne, director of admission, was quoted Dec. 17, in a Park Rapids Enterprise article "Facebook assists colleges with admission criteria."

The Saint John's Bible Heritage Edition was featured in a December 2008 Twin Cities Business article "Let Your Light So Shine."

Sonja Gidlow, CSB executive director of auxiliary services, was featured in a Dec. 2008/Jan. 2009 Central Minnesota Women magazine story "Sonja Gidlow: Revitalizing St. Joe."

Saint John's was featured Dec. 14, in a Minneapolis Star Tribune article "Architects of the inevitable."

Mike Durbin, CSB basketball coach, was featured Dec. 12, in a St. Paul Pioneer Press Bob Sansevere column "On and on with St. Benedict women's basketball coach Mike Durbin."

Mike Durbin was featured Dec. 10, in a MinnPost.com story "St. Ben's coach going for landmark win tonight with women's basketball team."

Matt Beirne, director of admission, was quoted Dec. 9, in a MinnPost.com story "Uh-oh: Some college admissions staffs check Facebook."

CSB and SJU were included Dec. 7, in a St. Cloud Times story and multi-media Web presentation "Historic project, concert transforms area musicians' perspectives on life, humanity."

Ernie Diedrich, professor of economics and environmental studies, was featured Dec. 6, in a St. Cloud Times article "Interest grows for environmentally friendly burials."

Nicholas Truso, SJU senior, was featured Dec. 6, in a St. Cloud Times Your Turn piece "Minnesota proves itself as 'civic state'."

Louis Johnston, associate professor of economics, was quoted Dec. 5, in a St. Cloud Times article "State deficit hits $5.2 billion."

Jody Terhaar, CSB dean of students, was quoted Dec. 3, in a St. Cloud Times story "How not to be a paratrooper parent."

MaryAnn Baenninger, CSB president, was highlighted Dec. 1, in a Minnesota Women's Press story "She rules the school: Minnesota women college presidents."

The Saint John's Bible was featured Nov. 30, in a Hattiesburg American (Hattiesburg, Miss.) article "Exhibit draws on spirituality."

CSB and SJU were mentioned Nov. 29, in a Los Angeles Times article "Out-of-state colleges boost recruiting efforts in California."

CSB was mentioned Nov. 29, in a thebahamaseweekly.com story "Grand Bahama: Retirement luncheon for Damaris Thompson."

Andrew Walesch, SJU junior, was featured Nov. 28, in a St. Cloud Times article "Man mixes jazz, heart in concert."

Louis Johnston, associate professor of economics, was quoted Nov. 28, in a St. Cloud Times article "Auto dealers surviving, but keeping close eye on potential bailout of Big 3."

MaryAnn Baenninger, CSB president, was featured Nov. 25, in a Chronicle of Higher Education video "Private-College Presidents Discuss the Economy."

MaryAnn Baenninger, CSB president, was mentioned Nov. 25, in a Springfield News-Sun (Dayton, Ohio) story "Pru
dence and self-promotion: small colleges approach to economic crisis."

Br. Dietrich, continued from page 1

his alma mater, awarded him the LaSal
dian Award. In 2000 he was given The
Saint Gregory Award for his support in
founding The Saint John's Boys' Choir.
In October 2008, the Board of Regents
announced the establishment of The
Benedictine Institute at SJU in his honor.
Br. Dietrich took pride in continuing
the close collaboration with the College of
Saint Benedict and co-led the creation of
the first joint strategic plan. The goals of
the coordinate relationship strengthened a
common academic program of liberal arts
and supported the Catholic intellectual
tradition informed by Benedictine values.
In September 2008, Br. Dietrich was
diagnosed with malignant metastatic
melanoma. In an interview in November,
he observed: "I came to Saint John's 42
years ago, never intending to be a monk.
What I discovered is that Saint John's is
a community where people stand by
each other — they care about each other
— and that there is always room in this
community."
Events Calendar

SPRING 2009

Jan. 22, Ethan Zohn, professional athlete, winner of Survivor Africa, and HIV/AIDS advocate, “Character. The Ultimate Survivor Too” (Campus contact: Gwen Schimek), 7 p.m., Pellegrene Auditorium, SJU.

Feb. 9-13, Dave Durenberger, former US senator, 2nd Annual McCarthy Residency, Eugene J. McCarthy Center for Public Policy and Civic Engagement (Campus contact: Matt Lindstrom), time and location TBA.

Feb. 12, Liliana Angulo, Columbian visual artist (Campus contact: Bruce Campbell), 7 p.m., location TBA.

Feb. 13-14, The Seventh Annual Conference on the College Male (Campus contact: Gar Kellom), time TBA, SJU.

Feb. 19-20, Women’s Spirituality Conference, Megan McKenna, storyteller, author, and theologian, “This Will be Remembered of Her: Weaving together Story and Action” (Campus contact: Marian Diaz), Companions on a Journey Conference, 7:30 p.m., Gorecki 204A, CSB.

Feb. 20, The Harlem Gospel Choir (Campus contact: Gwen Schimek), 8 p.m., CSB/Petters Auditorium, BAC.

March 11, Professor Hasan Jawadi, “Iran and Her Neighbors,” Global Awareness Speaker (Campus contact: Manju Parikh), 7 p.m., Gorecki 204B.

March 18, Dr. R. Stephen Humphreys, King Abdul Aziz Al Saud professor of Islam studies and professor of history, University of California, Santa Barbara, “Prosperity in Adversity: Adaptations of the Christian Communities of Syria and Mesopotamia to Muslim Rule During the Early Islamic Centuries” (Campus contact: S. Ephrem Hollermann), Koch Chair Lecture, 7:45 p.m., CSB/Gorecki 204 A & B.

March 19, Dr. Nicole von Germeten, “The History of Race in the Americas” (Campus contact: Bruce Campbell), 7 p.m., location TBA.

March 22-27, Dwight Pitcaithley (Campus contact: Annette Atkins), time and location TBA.

April 2, Virgil Elizondo, Changing Faces Conference (Campus contact: Marian Diaz), Intercultural Ministry and Hospitality Series, time TBA, SJU.

April 6, Professor Faegheh Shirazi, University of Texas, “The History of Veiling in Islam” (Campus contact: Manju Parikh), Global Awareness Speaker, 7 p.m., Gorecki 204 A&B.

April 17, Eddie Phillips, Colman Barry Award (Campus contact: Doris Matter), St. John’s Day, time TBA, SJU.

April 17-18, Professor Joe Gallion, Pi Mu Epsilon Conference (math) (Campus contact: Kris Naim), time TBA, Pellegrene Theatre and surrounding classrooms, SJU.

April 18, Dr. Laura King, social psychologist, U of Missouri, Columbia, keynote speaker at Minnesota Undergraduate Psychology Conference (Campus contact: Pam Bacon), 11 a.m., Alumnae Hall, Haehn Campus Center, CSB.

May 9, CSB Commencement, Belinda Jensen, KARE-11 Chief Meteorologist (Campus contact: Emily Cook), 2 p.m., HCC Field House, CSB.

May 10, SJU Commencement, Rev. John P. Foley (Pax Christi Award), Dr. Sharon Daloz Parks (Campus contact: Doris Matter), 2 p.m., Abbey Church, SJU.