Koopmann Inaugurated as 12th President of SJU

Fr. Robert Koopmann called upon all members of the Saint John's community to help Saint John's serve the needs of an ever changing world, in remarks during his inauguration Oct. 1, as the 12th president of SJU.

The inauguration ceremony marks the formal beginning of the new presidency and celebrates the intellectual mission of the university. The day began with Mass, celebrated by St. Cloud Bishop John Kinney in Saint John's Abbey Church.

Fr. Bob, a 1968 graduate of SJU, has been a professor of music at CSB/SJU since 1975, and the inauguration provided a showcase for colleagues and students in the music department. Other highlights included ecumenical blessings extended by representatives of different faith traditions.

Fr. Bob drew upon the Saint John's heritage, including his own experience as a student, to express his vision for Saint John's future under his administration.

“Looking to the future has always been the tradition of Saint John's,” he said, recalling the motto of Saint John's founder, Archabbot Boniface Wimmer: “Forward, always forward, ever forward!”

He traced how, from Saint John's Abbey's beginning in 1856, the monastery has renewed itself to address contemporary problems, while remaining grounded in core Benedictine values. He recalled his first impression of SJU in 1964, how he was attracted by the campus beauty and hospitality, and the prospects for academic rigor.

Fr. Bob described a transformational undergraduate experience that opened his mind and heart to ideas and different ways of thinking and living, including Frederic Nietzsche's conviction that "great music profoundly changes listeners and performers."

“I had never thought of that before, but this statement has influenced my attitude toward music to this day,” he said.

He continued to discover different perspectives in his travels in Europe and throughout the United States with the Men's Chorus.

“I wouldn't be the person I am today without Saint John's,” he said.

As he reflected on the contemporary problems of the world — “conflict, lack of respect for others, an absence of hope for the future, and the tragic consequences of division, discord, and difference” — Fr. Bob declared that Saint John's is the perfect place to build a future of hope, dialogue and harmony among all peoples.

“We are the ideal place to study ideas and subjects of deep significance, to learn to live together in peace and harmony, and to be a positive influence to the world around us, which now includes the entire globe,” he said.

For complete coverage of the inauguration, please visit the Web site: www.csbsju.edu/sjuinauguration/
CSB Board of Trustees Begins National Search

The CSB Board of Trustees has taken steps to begin a national search for a new president, assisted by a search consultant, Academic Search, Inc. Kathleen Cooney, chair of the CSB Board of Trustees announced the names of the 15-member search committee in a campus e-mail Oct. 7, and outlined the search timeline. The committee is charged with recommending candidates to the board in April 2010. The board expects to have the new president in place by July 1, 2010.

Cooney will co-chair the committee, along with fellow CSB trustee Beth Dindorf. The following individuals have been named to the committee: Barb Melsen, trustee; Thomas Schlough, trustee; Harvey Jewett, trustee; Ann Hunteods, SJU regent; Dr. David Arnott, faculty; Mary Jepperson, faculty; Dr. Mani Campos, faculty; S. Jean Juennemann, OSB, Saint Benedict’s Monastery; S. Kara Hennes, OSB, Saint Benedict’s Monastery; Rita Knuesel, CSB Cabinet; Sue Palmer, CSB Cabinet; Tonya Dolezal, CSB alumna; Kathryn Hauff, CSB student trustee.

CSB President MaryAnn Baenninger had earlier announced her plans to leave the college next June. Cooney described her as an outstanding leader, who has positioned the college among the top liberal arts institutions in the country. She noted that, during MaryAnn's six-year tenure as president, the college:

- successfully completed an $82.7 million capital campaign, the largest in its history;
- significantly raised the national reputation of its stellar academic and undergraduate experience;
- implemented a dynamic strategic plan;
- completed a major expansion of the Benedicta Arts Center, built a state-of-the art dining and conference center, and developed a bold campus master plan to support education for future generations of students;
- completed a successful accreditation from The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools;
- was granted a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, a significant achievement recognizing excellence in the liberal arts and sciences.

“We deeply appreciate MaryAnn’s dedicated and dynamic service to the college,” Cooney said. “She taught us to see CSB as a bigger, bolder experience. Thanks to her vision and energy, the College of Saint Benedict is in an excellent position to continue its forward momentum. The Board of Trustees is firmly committed to the college’s aspiration to position itself among the finest liberal arts colleges in the country.

“We are grateful for the leadership, vision and direction MaryAnn has provided to CSB since 2004. The strength of the institution is at a high level and we look forward to soaring to new heights with the next president.”

Energy Audits to Raise Awareness

Prepared by Allison Garrity ’10

This fall, 20 CSB and SJU environmental studies students will be trained to conduct audits at SJU that will help raise awareness of energy use among students. The audits will measure lighting demand, individual appliance and device demand, and daily hours-of-use estimation for all devices. By the spring semester, the students will train more students to continue the audits.

The program is an initiative of the campus Green Fund, which recently received an $8,000 gift designated for SJU from the MacLeod Trust. The Green Fund was established in 2007 by Professors Ernie Dietrich and Derek Larson and is administered by them with the goal of supporting student, faculty and staff projects that create a more sustainable environment on the two campuses.

The program will have three phases: training, implementation and data analysis. The goal is to complete 250 audits during the 2009-2010 academic year. Auditors will use that data to create a spreadsheet that estimates electrical demand for each room, and identifies opportunities for conservation. Auditors will also create a report for the residents recommending strategies to reduce demand through simple practices.

A long-term goal is to establish a database that will allow students to compare demand estimates between buildings and campuses.

2008 CSB Award Winner Earns American Book Award

The literary awards continue to accumulate for Linda Gregg.

The poet, who was awarded the Sister Mariella Gable Prize by the Literary Arts Institute (LAI) at the College of Saint Benedict in 2008, has been honored with a 2009 American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation for her book, All of it Singing: New and Selected Poems.

The S. Mariella Gable Award is given each year by CSB for an important work of literature published by Graywolf Press, Minneapolis. Other recognitions earned by Gregg include a Sara Teasdale Award, a Whiting Writer’s Award, a Jackson Prize from Poets & Writers, the Lenore Marshall Prize from the Academy of American Poets and The Nation, multiple Pushcart Prizes, a PEN/Voelcker Award for Poetry and a William Carlos Williams award.

The American Book Awards were established in 1978 by the Before Columbus Foundation to reward distinguished literary achievement in America. The awards are not limited to a specific genre of literature, and seek to recognize authors from across “the entire spectrum of America’s literary community,” according to the foundation’s Web site.

The LAI was founded to foster creative writing, publishing and interaction between students and writers. The LAI brings nationally recognized authors to CSB, promotes literary events, holds conferences, supports publications through the S. Mariella Gable Prize and encourages the artistry of fine letterpress in its Book Arts Studio.
SJU Marks 40th Anniversary of Jay Phillips Chair with Colman Barry Award

In 1969, Jay Phillips (1898-1992), chairman of the Ed Phillips and Sons Company and president of the Phillips Foundation of Minneapolis, endowed the Jay Phillips Chair in Jewish Studies at Saint John’s University — the first chair in Jewish studies at a Christian college or university in the United States.

SJU presented the 17th Colman J. Barry Award for Distinguished Contributions to Religion and Society to Edward J. Phillips, grandson of Jay Phillips, in honor of his outstanding leadership and participation in civic and humanitarian organizations and for continuing his family’s commitment to Jewish-Christian dialogue and learning. The award was presented Oct. 12 at SJU.

The chair was established to permanently fund a faculty position for a Jewish scholar to offer courses in the study of Judaism and Jewish-Christian dialogue at Saint John’s and to sponsor programs for the wider public.

In 1996, The Jay Phillips Chair in Jewish Studies at SJU and the Center for Jewish-Christian Learning at the University of St. Thomas were brought together to establish the Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning. The chair remains at Saint John’s and continues to be an integral part of the center. In 2009, the center changed its name to the Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning to reflect its expanded mission to promote interfaith learning and friendship among people of various religions.

Edward J. Phillips is chairman and chief executive officer of Phillips Beverage Company. He is an alumnus of Stanford University, and received a master’s degree in child clinical psychology from the University of Minnesota, where he also graduated from law school. He is also a graduate of the advanced management program at Harvard University.

He serves as a trustee and a member of the executive committee of The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation, the charitable foundation established by his grandparents in 1944. Phillips is a founder of The Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning and serves as a member of its advisory board.

Phillips has been chairman of the executive committee of Children’s Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, and served on the SJU Board of Regents from 1987-93. He has held board positions with numerous organizations and championed an unprecedented Alzheimer’s research grant to the Mayo Clinic in honor of his mother.

The Rev. Colman J. Barry was president of SJU from 1964-71. 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 Interfaith 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.

New Members Named to CSB Board of Trustees

Six new members have been appointed to the CSB Board of Trustees.

S. Carol Berg, OSB, Iris Cornelius, Ph.D., Tonya Dolezal, Diana Lam, Kimberly Motes and Carolyn Smallwood each began serving a three-year term on the board July 1. The board consists of 43 members.

Berg serves as editor of the Benedictine Community newsletter and as assistant for special events in the Saint Benedict’s Monastery Development Office. Prior to that, she taught history at CSB for more than 30 years. In addition, she was an elementary school teacher for 10 years in schools in St. Cloud, Breckenridge, Melrose and Meire Grove. Berg received a bachelor of arts degree in 1966 from CSB and her master’s degree in history from the University of Arizona. She earned her doctorate degree at the University of Minnesota. Berg has written several book reviews and articles for academic journals and given lectures on Native Americans and Asian history.

Cornelius is a psychologist and president of Cornelius & Associates, where she specializes in intergenerational transition and succession planning of families. She founded a non-profit educational company IaM Resources and developed a Saturday School at Ames Elementary School in St. Paul. In addition, Cornelius has held various teaching positions at Macalester College, University of Minnesota and St. Catherine’s University. She has a bachelor of science degree in psychology from Brown University, a master’s degree from Howard University and a doctorate degree in clinical psychology from the University of Washington. She has served on the boards of SJU and Catholic Charities of Minneapolis/St. Paul and is the co-founder of Women Leaders Connect.

Dolezal, an ex-officio member, began her role as CSB Alumnae Council president July 1. She graduated from CSB with a bachelor of arts in sociology in 1993 and earned her master’s degree in human development from St. Mary’s University in Minneapolis. She has worked as a vocational counselor with Dakota County, an adjunct instructor at Dakota County Technical College, registrar and director of Admission at Walden University and director of the Academic Quality Improvement Program at Walden University.

Lam is an authority on educational policy and change strategies for public schools and is president of the international consulting firm SATA. She has served as superintendent of schools in four communities in Texas, Iowa, Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Lam has also served as deputy chancellor for teaching and learning for New York City Public Schools. A native of Lima, Peru, Lam received a full scholarship to study at CSB and graduated in 1969. She also received a master’s degree from the University of Massachusetts, completed doctoral work at Boston University and received an honorary doctorate from Johnson & Whales.
University. She was the CSB commencement speaker in 1990 and received the Distinguished Alumnae Award in 1994.

Motes has devoted her career to arts administration. She recently left her position as executive director of the Minnesota Shubert Performing Arts and Education Center in Minneapolis to become managing director of Theater Latte Da Company, Minneapolis. She has held positions at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and was director of development at the Arena Stage in Washington, the oldest producing theater in the country. She received her bachelor of arts degree in music from CSB in 1989. She has served as the president and vice president of the CSB/SJU Alumnae/i Chapter in Washington, D.C.

Smallwood is executive director of Way to Grow, a non-profit organization in Minneapolis, which empowers parents to nurture healthy development and to teach their children through everyday interaction and play activities. She previously served as executive director of the Minnesota Minority Supplier Development Council. Prior to entering the nonprofit world, she held a variety of senior executive positions with ADC, the Broadband Company and US Bancorp. She is also an active volunteer in the Twin Cities and has been widely involved in diversity issues and non-profit management. Smallwood holds a bachelor of arts degree in marketing and finance from the University of Saint Thomas, St. Paul.

New Members Named to SJU Board of Regents

SJU recently named James Sexton; Anton (Tony) J. Christianson; Br. David Klingeman, OSB; the Rev. Mark Thamert, OSB; the Rev. Michael Naughton, OSB; and the Rev. Jerome Tupa, OSB, to its board of regents. Noreen Herzfeld is the new faculty regent and Kamau Joseph is the new student regent.

Sexton, a 1981 graduate of SJU, is president and founder of Sexton Benefit Resources, Inc., Oakbrook Terrace, Ill. Sexton has a bachelor's degree in social science and business management from SJU. Prior to opening his own employee benefit practice in 2002, he was vice president of sales and marketing for Celtic Health Plans in Chicago, and regional district manager for Old Northwest Agent, Inc. in Houston, Texas. Sexton rejoins the board of regents after serving from 2000-08. He lives in La Grange, Ill., with his two children.

Christianson, a 1974 graduate of SJU, is chairman and managing partner of Cherry Tree Companies in Minneapolis. Christianson has spent more than 27 years in the venture capital and private equity communities in a variety of capacities. Christianson received a bachelor's degree in accounting from SJU, and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. He has served on the board of directors of over 40 companies. He and his wife, Paige, have six children and reside in Wayzata, Minn.

Klingeman is director of the Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse and the abbey archivist. Klingeman has a bachelor's degree in music from Wartburg College and a master's degree in library science from Simmons College. He completed post-graduate studies in archival administration at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Klingeman was the SJU archivist from 1996-2006. He has been a member of the Abbey since 1980.

Thamert, a 1973 graduate of SJU, is a CSB/SJU associate professor of German. Thamert received both his bachelor's degree in German and master of divinity degree from Saint John's. He earned his doctorate from Princeton University. Thamert was headmaster of Saint John's Preparatory School from 1994-98. He has led more than 20 groups of undergraduate students on CSB/SJU study abroad programs. He entered the monastery in 1973 and was ordained a priest in 1979. Thamert rejoined the board after serving from 1984-91.

Naughton is serving a one-year term on the board of regents. A 1962 graduate of SJU, Naughton professed vows at Saint John's Abbey in 1960 and was ordained a priest in 1966. He has his advanced degree in psychology. Naughton directed the Liturgical Press for several years and initiated the Press’ ongoing, successful participation in the annual Frankfurt (Germany) Book Fair. Naughton is currently prior at Collegio di Sant’Anselmo in Rome, Italy, and will be returning to Minnesota to become pastor at Seven Dolors Parish in Albany.

Tupa, a 1969 graduate of SJU, is chaplain of SJU and director of the recently opened McKeown Center on campus. Tupa received a master's and doctorate in French literature from the Sorbonne in Paris. Tupa has been a monk of Saint John's Abbey since 1962 and was ordained a priest in 1982. Tupa taught French at CSB and SJU from 1971-2003. Much of his work has consisted of directing study abroad programs in France, Italy, Greece and the Middle East. In 2004, he was named artist-in-residence at Saint John's with exhibits in many American and European cities. His latest series of art shows were displayed in museums in California, Florida, Washington, D.C. and New York City. From 2005-09, Tupa was SJU director of campus ministry.

Herzfeld is a CSB/SJU professor of theology and computer science. She holds master's degrees in computer science and mathematics from Pennsylvania State University and a doctorate in theology from the Graduate Theological Union. Herzfeld is the author of numerous books and articles on diverse topics such as cyberspace as a venue for spiritual experience, and the prospects for reconciliation among Christians and Muslims in Bosnia.

Joseph is an SJU junior political science and computer science double major from Trinidad and Tobago. During a year off after high school, Joseph took interest in the United Nations Association of Trinidad and Tobago and later helped co-found the first youth United Nations Association in his country. At SJU, he is involved with Student Senate, the Joint Events Council and the Cultural Affairs Board.

New members began their term on the board July 1. Their terms are renewable every three years, and board members
Jay Phillips Center
Merkle Named Director of
Presented by SOT

Chittister Lecture
Presented by SOT

S. Joan Chittister, OSB, spoke on “Monasticism as Radical Christianity” Oct. 9 at SJU. The lecture was sponsored by the Conversatio Lifelong Learning Program at Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary.

Chittister is an internationally known lecturer on topics of justice, peace, human rights, women’s issues and contemporary spirituality. The best-selling author of over 40 books, she is founder and executive director of Benetvision, a resource for spiritual seekers. She received the annual Outstanding Leadership Award from the Leadership Conference of Women Religious at its 2007 national assembly. She writes a regular column for the National Catholic Reporter.

The Conversatio Lifelong Learning Program at Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary provides continuing formation and education for ecclesial ministers. The program provides opportunities for lay and ordained ministers to gather, reflect and discern God’s will so that they may draw support and encouragement from one another.

Merkle Named Director of
Jay Phillips Center

John Merkle, CSB/SJU professor of theology, has been named director of the Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning, which is co-sponsored by SJU and the University of St. Thomas.

The announcement was made jointly by Rita Knuesel, CSB/SJU provost, and Susan Huber, executive vice president and chief academic officer at St. Thomas.

“For more than three decades, John Merkle has been making major contributions to interfaith learning, particularly in the field of Christian-Jewish relations,” Knuesel said. “Under his leadership the Jay Phillips Center is bound to excel in fostering interfaith understanding and cooperation and to thereby honor the legacy of Jay Phillips and the other generous benefactors who have made this center possible.”

“Dr. John Merkle’s appointment brings both intellectual energy and organizational stability to the Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning,” Huber said. “His unique blend of scholarship in the field and his administrative ability make him especially suited for directing the center. We feel privileged to work cooperatively with Dr. Merkle and to co-sponsor the Jay Phillips Center with Saint John’s.”

Merkle served as associate director of the Jay Phillips Center for 13 years before becoming its interim director earlier this year after the retirement of Rabbi Barry Cytron.

A scholar who has been involved in interfaith relations since the 1970s, Merkle has been the chair of the Christian Scholars Group on Christian-Jewish Relations, a national organization of Christian scholars engaged in the study of Judaism and of Christianity in relation to Judaism, and co-editor of Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations, the electronic journal of the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations.

In addition to dozens of published articles, Merkle has written and edited four books, including the 2003 Faith Transformed: Christian Encounters with Jews and Judaism and the 2009 Approaching God: The Way of Abraham Joshua Heschel, both published by Liturgical Press.

“We at the Jay Phillips Center remain committed as ever to fostering interfaith learning and friendship between Christians and Jews, while we also embrace the challenge of doing whatever we can to promote interfaith understanding and harmony among people of various religious traditions,” Merkle said.

The center sponsors a host of interfaith activities, including courses and programs for college and high school students, workshops for clergy and religious educators, and art exhibits and lectures for the general public. The events are held at the two sponsoring universities and other schools, as well as at churches, synagogues, mosques and other places of worship.

Clemens Lecturer Applies Medieval Franciscan Ideas to 21st Century Economic Problems

Stefano Zamagni, professor of economics at the University of Bologna, spoke on “The Civil Market: Medieval Franciscan Ideas to Solve 21st Century Economic Problems” in the 21st Clemens Lecture Oct. 5 at SJU.

He argued that the older idea of civil markets can provide a way forward in an era when capitalist markets have shown severe inadequacy.

Zamagni received his bachelor’s degree in economics from Catholic University in Milan in 1966, and did his graduate work in economics at Oxford University. Since 1979, he has been a professor at the University of Bologna. He has written several books, including Microeconomic Theory and Civil Economy and Paradoxes of Growth, both published in 1997. He has co-authored a number of books, including his most recent book Markets, Money and History: Hicksian Economics for the 21st Century.

For his accomplishments, he has been honored several times. In 2007, he was awarded the title of Knight of the Order of St. Gregory the Great. He also served as one of Pope Benedict’s advisers in the drafting of his recent encyclical, Charity in Truth, and is a consultant to the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace.

The Clemens Lecture Series was founded in 1987 to further conversation on the ways economics can speak to the larger problems of our society and culture. It brings to Saint John’s outstanding economists noted for their abilities to address the economic dimensions of social issues and to sustain dialogue with the other fields of the liberal arts.

The Clemens Chair in Economics and the Liberal Arts and the Clemens Lecture Series have been made possible by the generosity of William and Virginia Clemens.
Peace Studies Conference Fociuses on Race and Racism

The 22nd annual Peace Studies Conference focused on the topic “Have We Overcome? Race and Racism in the Age of Obama” in sessions Sept. 28 at SJU.

Jeb Middlebrook, one of the most sought after anti-racist speakers and organizers today, delivered the keynote address. He is the director of the Solidarity Institute — a national non-profit that uses research, events and projects to connect diverse communities in a collective vision for social justice. Middlebrook holds a bachelor’s in ethnic studies from the University of Minnesota and a master’s in American studies & ethnicity from the University of Southern California, where he is earning his doctorate.

Drawing from historical and contemporary examples, his talks demonstrate the power of campus and community organizing in building a world free of racism. Middlebrook has spoken to thousands of people in over 10 states and over 25 high schools and college campuses including Yale, California Berkeley and the Universities of Colorado, St. Louis and Kansas, and has been a regular speaker at the annual White Privilege Conference.

The film “Trouble the Water” was shown. This powerful documentary took viewers inside Hurricane Katrina in a way never seen on screen. Incorporating remarkable home footage shot by Kimberly Rivers Roberts — an aspiring rap artist trapped with her husband in the Ninth Ward of New Orleans — directors/producers Tia Lessin and Carl Deal weave this insider’s view of Katrina with a devastating portrait of the hurricane’s aftermath. “Trouble the Water” is not only about the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, but about the underlying issues that remained when the flood waters receded — failing public schools, record high levels of incarceration, poverty, structural racism and lack of government accountability.

The opening talk was given by Bill Green, superintendent of Minneapolis Public Schools. Green is an associate professor of history at Augsburg College. He also serves as an adjunct professor at CSB and SJU. Green served on the Minneapolis Board of Education from 1993-2001 and was board chair from 1996-98. He holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Gustavus Adolphus College, a master’s degree in educational psychology, a doctorate in education, and a juris doctorate from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. A native of New Orleans, Green has contributed more than 30 articles to scholarly and popular press publications.

Theological Bioethicist Speaks on Health Care Reform

S. Shawnee Daniels-Sykes, SSND, the first African-American Catholic female theological bioethicist in the United States, delivered the first speech in a new Moral Theology Lecture Series Sept. 28 at CSB.

She spoke on “Health Care Reform and Catholic Social Teaching: Is Health Care a Right or a Privilege?”

Daniels-Sykes is an assistant professor of theology at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, where she was born. Daniels-Sykes is also part of a volunteer adjunct teaching team at the Medical College of Wisconsin’s Center for Underserved Children. As a bioethicist at the center, she works with a health lawyer and a pediatric surgeon or a neonatologist to assist pediatric residents in their ethical decision-making processes.

She has a bachelor’s degree in biology and biochemistry from Spelman College; an undergraduate degree in nursing from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; a master’s degree in pastoral studies/theology with a specialization in theological ethics and bioethics from St. Francis Seminary; and a doctorate in religious studies/theological ethics with a subspecialty in bioethics from Marquette University.

Daniels-Sykes became a postulant in 1990 with the School Sisters of Notre Dame, and professed first vows in 1994. She has previously worked as a registered nurse and as a public health care nurse in Milwaukee. She also served as director of the office of African-American ministry for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Her presentation was sponsored by the CSB/SJU theology and nursing departments, and the Moral Theology Lecture Series. The goal of the series is to bring distinguished moral theologians to the CSB and SJU campuses to address pressing issues in contemporary life.

SJU Alumni Receive First McCarthy Distinguished Public Service Awards

Two distinguished alumni from SJU received the first Eugene McCarthy Distinguished Public Service Awards Sept. 23 for their outstanding public service.

John Brandl, ’59, and Gerald Christenson, ’53, were honored posthumously during the third annual McCarthy Lecture and Dinner.

“Jerry Christenson’s and John Brandl’s contributions to public policy and their years of dedicated service to the public best exemplify the Benedictine values of the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University and pay honor to the memory of Eugene McCarthy,” said Vic Moore, co-chair of the board of directors of the CSB and SJU Policy and Politics Alumnae/i Chapters. The chapters co-sponsor the award, along with the Eugene J. McCarthy for Public Policy and Civic Engagement.

Brandl graduated cum laude from Saint John’s with a degree in economics and went on to earn master’s and doctorate degrees in economics from Harvard University. He served as a Distinguished Professor of Public Policy at CSB/SJU, and was a professor and former dean of the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota.

He had his highest profile jobs in the administration of President Lyndon Johnson in the 1960s, first as an analyst with the Defense Department and later as a deputy assistant secretary in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Brandl later served 12 years in the Minnesota Legislature — eight years in the Minnesota House and four years in the Minnesota Senate — representing parts of south Minneapolis.

McCarthy Distinguished Public Service Awards Sept. 23 for their outstanding public service.
Brandl, who served as a regent at Saint John’s from 1991-2000, was instrumental in the establishment of the Eugene J. McCarthy for Public Policy and Civic Engagement. In July of 2008, less than a month before his passing, the John Brandl Scholars program was endowed at SJU thanks to a generous gift from Dan and Katharine Whalen.

Christenson, a native of Litchfield, Minn., helped design Minnesota’s school funding system. It was called the “Minnesota Miracle” because it shifted most of the responsibility of funding public education to the state. He also helped create a federal youth employment program during the 1960s, thanks to an appointment from then-Vice President Hubert Humphrey.

His long public service career included being chancellor of the Minnesota Community College system. He was also the first commissioner of the state’s Department of Finance, where Christenson instituted the revenue forecast, which is now the basis for state budget preparations.

Christenson served as a chief of staff for Fourth District Congressman Joe Karth, and was a candidate for lieutenant governor in 1966 under Sandy Keith. He passed away in 2005.

“I believe Jerry has had a greater impact on important public policy in Minnesota policy than any other elected or appointed official in the last 40 years,” wrote former Gov. and Sen. Wendell Anderson in a forward to Christenson’s biography, A Minnesota Citizen.

James Read, CSB/SJU professor of political science and Joseph P. Farry Professor of Public Policy, delivered the Constitution Day Address at the University of South Carolina on Sept. 17. His address was titled: “What Kind of Constitution? James Madison, John C. Calhoun, and the Problem of Majority Rule.” On the following day he made a presentation to faculty and students of the University of South Carolina Political Science Department titled: “John C. Calhoun’s Consensus Theory and its Contemporary Echoes.” The two talks were adapted from his recently published book, Majority Rule versus Consensus: The Political Thought of John C. Calhoun.


Marina Martín, CSB/SJU associate professor of Hispanic studies, has recently published her article “Cuentan Julia, A Vindication of Muslim Spain” included in the volume Entre pureza y revolución, edited by Candelas Gala and Anne Hardcastle. Delaware: Juan de la Cuesta Hispanic Monographs, 2009. Martín also presented the following papers: (a) “En diálogo con el tiempo: Notas sobre la reciente lírica hispana” at the Asociación Hispánica de Humanidades (AHH), Seville, June 24-27; and (b) “Suero y marginación en el cine de Carlos Saura” at the XXIX Asamblea Internacional de la ALDEEU, Alcalá de Henares (Spain), June 29-July 1. Martín also attended and participated at the Judáismo Hispano, IV Summer Course in Segovia, July 8-10.

Lisa Lindgren, CSB/SJU associate professor of management, has been recognized again by MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching). Based on her contributions as a peer reviewer last year, Lindgren has been again invited to join the Business Editorial Board.

MERLOT is supported by 24 systems and institutions of higher education as well as the National Science Foundation. MERLOT is also endorsed by the Educational Learning Initiative (ELI) of EDUCAUSE. Over 200 faculty members from these institutions have been performing the peer review of instructional technology, modeled after the peer review process for research and scholarship.

The Saint John’s Bible won gold in this year’s 2009 Gold Ink Awards in the category of Fine Art Lithography. The Gold Ink Awards are widely regarded as the print industry’s most prestigious awards. A Web site design for The Saint John’s Bible has won a WebAward for Arts Standard of Excellence from the Web Marketing Association. The design was by Larsen, a communications design agency in Minneapolis and San Francisco. The Web Marketing Association’s annual WebAward Competition has been setting the standard of excellence for Web site development for the past 12 years. Independent expert judges from around the world review sites in 96 industries; the best are recognized with a WebAward.

Faculty/Staff News


James Read, CSB/SJU professor of political science and Joseph P. Farry Professor of Public Policy, delivered the Constitution Day Address at the University of South Carolina on Sept. 17. His address was titled: “What Kind of Constitution? James Madison, John C. Calhoun, and the Problem of Majority Rule.” On the following day he made a presentation to faculty and students of the University of South Carolina Political Science Department titled: “John C. Calhoun’s Consensus Theory and its Contemporary Echoes.” The two talks were adapted from his recently published book, Majority Rule versus Consensus: The Political Thought of John C. Calhoun.


Marina Martín, CSB/SJU associate professor of Hispanic studies, has recently published her article “Cuentan Julia, A Vindication of Muslim Spain” included in the volume Entre pureza y revolución, edited by Candelas Gala and Anne Hardcastle. Delaware: Juan de la Cuesta Hispanic Monographs, 2009. Martín also presented the following papers: (a) “En diálogo con el tiempo: Notas sobre la reciente lírica hispana” at the Asociación Hispánica de Humanidades (AHH), Seville, June 24-27; and (b) “Suero y marginación en el cine de Carlos Saura” at the XXIX Asamblea Internacional de la ALDEEU, Alcalá de Henares (Spain), June 29-July 1. Martín also attended and participated at the Judáismo Hispano, IV Summer Course in Segovia, July 8-10.

Lisa Lindgren, CSB/SJU associate professor of management, has been recognized again by MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching). Based on her contributions as a peer reviewer last year, Lindgren has been again invited to join the Business Editorial Board.

MERLOT is supported by 24 systems and institutions of higher education as well as the National Science Foundation. MERLOT is also endorsed by the Educational Learning Initiative (ELI) of EDUCAUSE. Over 200 faculty members from these institutions have been performing the peer review of instructional technology, modeled after the peer review process for research and scholarship.

The Saint John’s Bible won gold in this year’s 2009 Gold Ink Awards in the category of Fine Art Lithography. The Gold Ink Awards are widely regarded as the print industry’s most prestigious awards. A Web site design for The Saint John’s Bible has won a WebAward for Arts Standard of Excellence from the Web Marketing Association. The design was by Larsen, a communications design agency in Minneapolis and San Francisco. The Web Marketing Association’s annual WebAward Competition has been setting the standard of excellence for Web site development for the past 12 years. Independent expert judges from around the world review sites in 96 industries; the best are recognized with a WebAward.
**Events Calendar**

**FALL 2009**

**Nov. 5,** “Effective Learning Activities: What Do Seniors Think?” a Collegial Conversation by Amy Olson, professor of nutrition, and Kathy Twohy, professor of nursing, 5:30 p.m., Gorecki 204A, CSB (Campus contact: Scott Richardson).

**Nov. 6-7,** National Conference for Campus Based Men’s Gender Equality and Antiviolence Groups, presenters include Michael Kimmel, Michael Kaufman, and Jackson Katz, time and locations TBD, SJU (Campus contact: Ozzie Mayers or Gar Kellom), http://www.csbsju.edu/menscenter/projects/equality.htm


**Nov. 14,** Eighth annual Red Mass, Sacred Heart Chapel, CSB.

**Jan. 14,** Moral Theology Lecture with Fr. Agbonkhianmeghe Orobator, S.J. Speaking on Religion and Politics in Africa, 8 p.m., Alumni Lounge, SJU (Campus contact: Dan Finn).

**Feb. 4,** Michael Perry, author of *Population, 485* and other books, Book Lovers Night, 6:15 p.m., optional refreshments, 6:45 p.m., community readers discussion, 7 p.m. author presentation, Alumnae Hall, HCC, CSB (Campus contact: Kathy Parker).

**Feb. 8,** Anousheh Ansari, 2009-10 Renaissance Speaker, first female private space explorer, CEO, chairman, and co-founder, Prodea Systems, Inc; “Reaching for the Stars and Getting There,” 7 p.m., Gorecki 204, CSB (Campus contact: Ozzie Mayers or Emily Cook).

**Feb. 19,** An Evening with Louise Erdrich, co-sponsored by LAI and FAP, 7:30 p.m., Petters Auditorium, BAC, CSB (Campus contact: Mark Conway).

**March 11,** Dr. Cheryl Crozier Garcia, associate professor, Hawaii Pacific University in Honolulu, “Timeless Values for Twenty-First Century Careers,” Spring Lecture, Koch Chair in Catholic Thought and Culture,” 7:45 p.m., Gorecki 204A & B, CSB (Campus contact S. Ephrem Hollermann).

**March 12,** FAP presents humorist David Rakoff, 8 p.m., Stephen B. Humphrey Theater, SJU. (Campus contact: Brian Jose).

**April 13,** Julie Kramer, WCCO-TV news producer and mystery novelist, Book Lovers Night, 6:15 p.m., optional refreshments, 6:45 p.m., community readers discussion, 7 p.m. author presentation, CSB location TBA, (Campus contact: Kathy Parker).

**April 16-17,** Pi Mu Epsilon Conference, Claudia Neuhauser, time and location TBD (Campus contact: Kris Nairn).

**April 28,** Scholarship and Creativity Day, William Cronon (Campus contact: Annette Atkins).

**June 24,** Judith Koll Healey, author of *The Rebel Princess*, Book Lovers Night, 6:15 p.m., optional refreshments, 6:45 p.m., community readers discussion, 7 p.m. author presentation, CSB location TBA. (Campus contact: Kathy Parker).