

# CSB|SJU Community

A Newsletter for the faculty and staff of the CSB/SJU undergraduate program

November 2000

## Summer English Language Program Attracts Okinawa Students to Campuses

*prepared by Jo Ann Shroyer,  
communication and marketing  
services account manager*

This summer 75 Japanese high school students will arrive at the Saint John's University campus for three weeks of English classes and some potentially life-changing experiences. At least, that is the hope of the program's planners in Japan and here on the CSB/SJU campuses. Next summer's session will mark the second year that students have come from Shogaku High School in Okinawa to study English with CSB/SJU faculty.

"They're bright, eager students from one of the best high schools in Okinawa," said Roger Young, director of international admission, who was instrumental in setting up the Okinawa program. It is the first time that Japanese high school students have participated in a CSB/SJU summer English language program; Japanese college students have been attending summer study programs here for over 10 years. Students from Bunkyo College in Tokyo have come to the Saint John's campus, while students from Shirayuri College have attended summer programs on the College of Saint Benedict campus.

The relationship that has been forged between Shogaku High School and CSB/SJU actually has a deep-rooted history. Fr. Neal Lawrence, a Benedictine priest and graduate of Saint John's who has lived in Japan for many years, recommended his alma mater when he learned that long-time friend Alex Kishaba, a representative of Shogaku High School, was on his way to the United States to visit potential sites for a summer language program. Lawrence is highly regarded in Japan for his haiku and for the recovery work he did in Okinawa after World War II.

So, Kishaba added the CSB/SJU campuses to his itinerary and later Young visited Shogaku High School while in Asia on other business. "It was Roger's visit to our island that finally cemented our relationship," said Kishaba, who added that he



Anna Murayama, center, a graduate of Shogaku High School in Okinawa and a first-year student at CSB/SJU, at the Minnesota State Fair with other international students from our campuses.

had been impressed by the CSB/SJU curriculum, the faculty, and the caliber of the liberal arts education they provide. "I also was impressed by the spirit of giving here and the comradeship among the students," said Kishaba when he visited the campuses again in October. "People know each other, greet each other and get to know their faculty." Kishaba also appreciates the natural beauty of the area and considers it an interesting destination for Japanese students who have grown up on a sub-tropical island in the East China Sea.

Although the Shogaku students stay in a dormitory, one important part of their experience is a weekend in the homes of local families. "Dormitory life is not a good representation of how Americans live," Kishaba said. "So we put them in homes so they can see how American families relate to each other." Last year's group had an overwhelmingly good response to that experience, Kishaba said. He hopes that 75 host families will offer to take next summer's Shogaku students into their homes for a weekend.

While the experience has been positive for the Shogaku teens, it may be an even greater opportunity for our CSB/SJU faculty and students, said David Bennetts, chair of the CSB/SJU history department and the person responsible for planning the



Joan Wilcox

## CAMPUS NOTES

### CSB/SJU Professor Named Nurse Educator of the Year

Joan Wilcox, associate professor of nursing at CSB/SJU, has been named Nurse Educator of the Year by the Minnesota Nurses Association (MNA). The award is given to a nurse involved in education who has demonstrated expertise in the teaching of nursing and is recognized by peers as a role model for sustained high quality teaching.

Wilcox, who specializes in psychiatric and mental health nursing, was cited for her creativity in developing local community and international learning experiences for nursing students. She currently is on sabbatical in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, creating a program for students interested in psychiatric and mental health nursing. The first group of students participating in this program will begin their semester-long study in Port Elizabeth in Sept. 2001. Wilcox has been a CSB/SJU faculty member since 1976, served as department chair for two years and has been involved in nursing curriculum development.

This is the second time a CSB/SJU nursing faculty member has received the MNA award. Adella Espelien, CSB/SJU associate professor of nursing, was named Nursing Educator of the Year in 1994.

curriculum and hiring faculty and student staff for the summer program. "The Saint John's and Saint Benedict's students we hire to be companions for the Japanese students come to do a job and end up having their lives changed. If they aren't Asian studies students already, they often become so after working in this program." CSB/SJU students get to know the Japanese teens, act as their chaperones and help them with homework.

For some of the teens, it's the first time away from home, said Sarah Pruett, ESL coordinator and, with French professor Ned Dubin, one of the main teachers in the summer program. "They were so excited to be here and sometimes stayed up too late socializing. But it's been gratifying to see, in a brief three weeks, how much progress the Okinawa students can make," Pruett added. "They're here to immerse themselves in the language and acquire conversational skills, and, being young, they are more willing to take risks. That's been fun."

The relationship with Shogaku High School also will provide interesting employment opportunities for CSB/SJU graduates. "We hope to send one or two CSB/SJU graduates to teach English there next year," said Young. These are salaried positions, with housing and transportation provided by Shogaku High School. "We think it's a perfect place for them to come right after graduation and see the world from a new perspective," Kishaba added. At the same time, Shogaku High School hopes that their graduates will be interested in entering four-year programs here.

The first Shogaku graduate started a four-year program at CSB/SJU this fall. Anna Murayama is majoring in peace studies. She has always wanted to study abroad in an international studies program. "When I told the vice principal about this, he and Alex Kishaba told me about this school," she said. "Everyone who knows these campuses told me that this is a good school and that the people here are friendly and helpful. I am learning that they were right."

Murayama struggles with loneliness, but has learned to keep busy in order to ward off homesickness. "But even without trying I am busy," she said. The young student won't go home for two years, but when she does, she hopes to surprise her family with how grown-up she's become. Meanwhile, her friends and neighbors help her cope with the stress and loneliness of her new life. "And I have achieved my first dream," Murayama said. "Now I have to study hard and make it to the next dream."



Anna Murayama with her roommate, Pam McGlennen.

## More International Students Choosing The United States And CSB/SJU for College

*prepared by Thomas Voller, associate director of marketing, Admission Office*

Nearly a half million international students — half of them undergraduate — will study at American colleges this year, and that number is growing. According to Open Doors, the annual report on international education published by the Institute of International Education, the number of international students in American colleges increased by 5 percent from 1996 to 1997, and another 2 percent from 1997 to 1998.

These numbers reflect an increased effort among U.S. colleges and universities to recruit international students, and they correspond, as well, with U.S. government policy that promotes greater global diversity within higher education.

President Clinton has underscored the importance of attracting international students to America in a recent memorandum. "... the defense of U.S. interests, the effective management of global issues, and even an understanding of our nation's diversity require ever-greater contact with, and understanding of, people and cultures beyond our borders." To underscore this importance, his memorandum included directives to governmental agencies and nongovernmental organizations to identify ways to attract more international students to the United States and to make it easier for these students to gain entry into the country.

Innocent Bash, an SJU student from Tanzania, says that he came to the United States because of the growing necessity of an international education. "I chose to study in the United States, because the country is known for its internationalism. My college education here will give me the basic grounding that is going to be required in the future."

Roger Young, CSB/SJU director of international admission, sees another reason that students from around the world are attracted to this country. "International students are interested in coming to America because our higher education system is so strong. These students see an American undergraduate degree as being the first step towards receiving a graduate degree from an American university."

CSB first-year student Magogodi Makhene, who is from South Africa, has a goal of completing a graduate degree in the United States. "I wanted to study in this country because I am interested in studying biomedical engineering, which is offered in my country but on a smaller scale," explains Makhene. "I felt that getting away from home early instead of waiting to come for graduate school would be better for me in terms of adaptation."

Young says that college guidebooks are the main



**Magogodi Makhene, a first-year student from South Africa, is one of 114 international students studying at CSB and SJU this year.**

source for inquiries to CSB and SJU. Makhene, who attended high school in California, discovered CSB and SJU through one such guidebook. "At the suggestion of one of my high school career counselors I looked through a US Today College review book, and read about Saint Ben's. I wrote to the school and when they sent me pamphlets and information about the school, I just fell in love with it."

Young finds that students are attracted to CSB and SJU for a variety of reasons. "Families like our unique partnership with a women's campus and a men's campus. They also like our religious affiliation, even if they are not Catholic. And, these families recognize Minnesota as being a safe place to send their children." Both Makhene and Bash emphasized that academic quality was a major factor in their decision to attend CSB and SJU.

Financial aid is also important. Like their American counterparts, many international students rely on financial aid to assist them with financing their education. "The scholarship package was very important to me," said Makhene. "Not many colleges offer good assistance to international students." Nationwide, studies confirm that CSB and SJU are among only 5 percent of colleges and universities that offer financial aid to international students.

Bash gives the most important reason for this international exchange. "Both international students and domestic students need to recognize that we do not only learn from books, but also from the environment around us. We all have an obligation to do our part to build understanding and tolerance."

## International Enrollments Increase

*prepared by Thomas Voller, associate director of marketing, Admission Office*

The Admission Office reports an increase in the enrollment of international students this fall, with 50 new first-year and transfer students. The colleges have enrolled a combined total of 114 international students this fall, up from last year's 101 students.

The international students represent 35 countries, led by 39 from the Bahamas. There are 12 students from Trinidad and Tobago, and six students from Kenya at CSB and SJU. While a number of countries have two or more students on campus, there are 17 international students who are the sole representative from their country at CSB and SJU.

Admission representatives from CSB and SJU annually travel to Asia, the Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago. In addition, Roger Young, director of international admission, has paid recent visits to a number of countries in Central and South America and will visit both Winnipeg and Toronto this year. Young had planned to make a recruiting trip to the Middle East. However, a scheduled trip was canceled this fall because of the current unrest in Israel and Palestine.

The Admission Office, in conjunction with academic affairs and student development, is working to increase the enrollment and retention of international students. Strategies include additional travel, increased advertising in guidebooks that target international markets and an enhanced communication plan for better outreach to prospective international students. Retention efforts include additional services to assist students with their transition.

The Admission Office has created an enrollment scenario through 2003 with an international student goal of 5 percent of total enrollment. That goal would likely ensure that CSB and SJU would have the second or third largest numbers of international students at Minnesota's private colleges. For more information on international recruitment, please contact Roger Young at ext. 2190.

## CAMPUS NOTES

### Bulletin Board Keeps You Informed

*prepared by CMS office*

Visit the Connections Bulletin Board today at <http://www.csbsju.edu/bulletinboard/campus.asp> and share your events or items of interest with the rest of the CSB/SJU community. And don't forget, the Connections Bulletin Board can be bookmarked for easy reference to ensure you receive the latest information about campus events and activities.

It is easy to submit information to the Connections Bulletin Board. Faculty, staff, and student organizations can post information about events and activities to the Connections Bulletin Board 24 hours a day. Submitted items are posted the next day. If you have an event or item of interest you would like to publicize, submissions can be made to the Connections Bulletin Board located at: <http://www.csbsju.edu/bulletinboard/campus.asp>

## Abbot Timothy Kelly Completes Term of Office

prepared by Daniel Durken OSB, abbey publicist and David Klingeman, archivist

Abbot Timothy Kelly OSB, completes his eight-year tenure as the ninth abbot of Saint John's Abbey and the chancellor of Saint John's University on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23.

During his leadership as chief executive officer of the Order of Saint Benedict, Inc., Abbot Timothy focused his wisdom and energy on a number of significant projects.

He became a sponsor of Benedictine related communities in Japan and also promoted the formation of Benedictines of East Asia and the Philippines (BEAP) to foster mutual support and communication between members of Benedictine communities in these areas.

During the past five years Abbot Timothy has visited China three times to offer support to the leaders of the Catholic Church in that country and to appreciate their spirit as it is exemplified in their suffering from the difficulties of establishing a working relationship with the Chinese government.

A major factor that Abbot Timothy has had to deal with is the inevitable aging and diminishment of abbey personnel. During his eight years as abbot no less than 45 monks of the abbey have died, and the small number of new members has not been able to fill the demographic gap. Some parishes and chaplaincies once served by members of the abbey have had to be relinquished.

Abbot Timothy's future plans include a year's sabbatical that will offer him the opportunity to do research, reading and writing. For him the words of the master in Jesus' parable of the talents are fitting: "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Come, share your master's joy" (Matthew 25:21).

## Saint John's Monks to Elect New Abbot During Thanksgiving Break

prepared by Daniel Durken OSB, abbey publicist and David Klingeman, archivist

The monks of Saint John's Abbey will begin the procedure of electing the successor of Abbot Timothy Kelly OSB, at 3 p.m. on Nov. 23, Thanksgiving Day, with a brief prayer service in the abbey church. The 186 eligible electors will then move to the auditorium of the Peter Engel Science Center to continue the process of choosing the abbey's 10th abbot who also serves as chancellor of Saint John's University.

After initial remarks by the Abbot President of the American-Cassinese Congregation of Benedictines, Abbot Melvin Valvano OSB, abbot of Newark Abbey, Newark, N.J., and the presiding officer of the election, each eligible voter will be asked to indicate by secret ballot two potential candidates for the office of abbot. The qualities of the top nominees will then be frankly discussed in the private and confidential procedure called the *scrutinium*. When that examination is completed the balloting will begin.

Eligibility for election to the office of abbot requires a monk be at least 30 years old, have been solemnly professed for at least seven years, be an ordained priest and a member of the aforementioned congregation. The term of the abbot is to the age of 75 or for eight years of service, whichever is the longer span of years. For the first three ballots, which very likely will be cast on Friday, Nov. 24, a two-thirds majority of votes is required to elect. If three more ballots are required the following day, an absolute majority of one more than half of the votes is needed to elect. In the event that no candidate is elected after six ballots, the presiding officer will appoint a temporary administrator until such time that the community feels ready to continue the election.

When the election has been completed and confirmed by the presiding officer, the community and its new abbot will return to the abbey church for a ceremony of thanksgiving and welcoming. The blessing of the new Abbot by Bishop John Kinney of the St. Cloud Diocese has been tentatively set for the afternoon of the third Sunday of Advent, Dec. 17.

In his sixth century *Rule for Monasteries*, Saint Benedict writes, "In choosing an abbot, ... goodness of life and wisdom in teaching must be the criteria for choosing the one to be made abbot, even if he is the last in community rank" (Chapter 64, The Election of an Abbot). During the past several months the monastic community, by means of panel presentations and discussions, has seriously reflected on both the challenges facing the new abbot in the next decade and the necessary qualities of the

abbey's next leader. Frequent public prayers to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit are also an essential part of the pre-election process. The prayers of the CSB/SJU community are requested for God's assistance in this important step in the abbey's 144-year history.

There is no campaigning by or for possible candidates. Whoever is chosen will realize even beforehand the truth of Saint Benedict's comment: "Once in office, the abbot must keep constantly in mind the nature of the burden he has received, and remember to whom he will have to give an account of his stewardship. Let him recognize that his goal must be profit for the monks not preeminence for himself" (*ibid*).

During the annual retreat of the monastic community early last June, Abbot Timothy informed the monks that he did not wish to be considered for re-election.

Previous abbots of Saint John's Abbey were Rupert Seidenbusch (1866-75), Alexius Edelbrock (1875-89), Bernard Locknikar (1890-1894), Peter Engel (1894-1921), Alcuin Deutsch (1921-1950), Baldwin Dworschak (1950-1971), John Eidenschink (1971-79), Jerome Theisen (1979-92), and Timothy Kelly (1992-2000).

## Summer Wrap-Up

### Faculty Participate in Summer Upward Bound

prepared by Dora Schumacher, director of Upward Bound

CSB/SJU faculty participated in the six-week Upward Bound summer residential program. Thirty-five students in grades 9-12 from area schools received instruction from Carol Ness, instructor, biology; Shobha Deshmukh, associate professor, mathematics; Greg Walker, associate professor/chair, music; and Kaarin Johnston, professor, CORE director. The students had an opportunity to get acquainted with the college faculty outside of the classroom, as well.



Upward Bound participants included (from left) Kaarin Johnston, Shobha Deshmukh, Greg Walker, Tim Gustafson, Laura Provinzio, Leanne Zanier and Carol Ness.

The CSB/SJU faculty were joined by Leanne Zainer, Hamline, who served as the curriculum coordinator; Tim Bang, Foley English instructor; Tim Gustafson, assistant professor, English, U of M, Twin Cities; and Laura Provenzino, Yale Law School.

Upward Bound is a pre-collegiate program for first-generation college students from Apollo, Tech, Foley and Willmar high schools. Students join the program in their freshman year and remain until they complete high school. Upward Bound offers a rigorous academic program each summer. During the academic year, CSB/SJU students travel weekly to the schools to provide tutoring. One Saturday a month the students come to the CSB/SJU campus for academic/social/cultural programs and for activities with their CSB/SJU mentors.

The program is part of the diversity initiative supported by the CSB/SJU campuses. The UB student body is comprised of Hispanic, Asian, African American and white students from schools served by the program. While the program cannot be used for recruiting students, exposure to the campuses and an existing relationship with faculty often factor into their selection of a post-secondary institution.

#### CSB/SJU Class of 2000 Nurses Ranks Near the Top

Nursing licensing exam (NCLEX) results for CSB/SJU nursing department rank the class of 2000 third among all nursing programs in Minnesota, with a pass rate of 94 percent. The test scores rated the CSB/SJU department in the top 100 of baccalaureate programs nationwide. The licensure examination is prepared by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and measures the competencies that newly licensed, entry-level nurses need in order to perform their duties safely and effectively.

The number of students in the department — that graduated its first senior in 1973 — is the largest ever, with 64 seniors and 53 juniors.

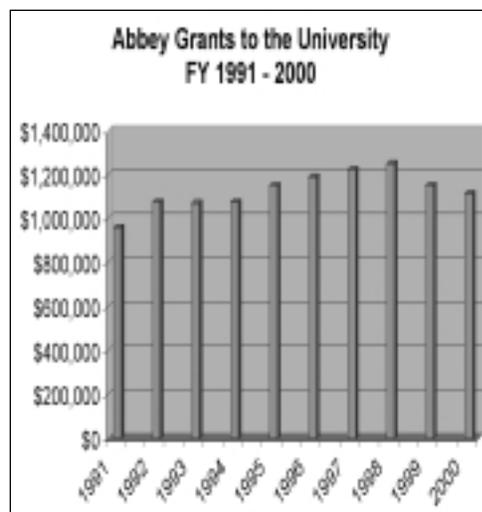
#### Parish Nurse Prep Course Offered

*prepared by Kathleen Twohy, professor and chair, nursing*

The departments of nursing at CSB/SJU and Bethel College will offer a parish nurse preparation course in January-February. The course will be held at the Bethel College campus in St. Paul on Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Feb. 1, from 8-4:30 p.m. This 40-hour continuing education offering prepares nurses to establish and maintain a nursing ministry within the context of a faith community. The program is ecumenical and is open to registered nurses interested in health ministry in their faith community.

Students in the course will develop knowledge and skills to function in the parish nursing roles of personal health counselor, health educator, referral source, facilitator of volunteers, and integrator of faith and health. Course experiences include opportunities for individual reflection, collaborative group learning, and role development in “real-world” situations. The course includes clinical experiences with an assigned mentor, a registered nurse who is presently serving a faith community as a parish nurse.

Information regarding the course fee and registration may be obtained by contacting the Parish Nurse Program, Department of Nursing, College of Saint Benedict, St. Joseph, MN 56374-2099 or by calling ext. 5404.



#### Abbey Makes Significant Annual Gift to SJU

Each year, Saint John's Abbey contributes to the University the equivalent of 55 percent of the compensation it receives for the monks who are employed by the University. This gift is commonly referred to as the Abbey Grant. This past fiscal year, the Abbey Grant totaled \$1,116,279, and over the past decade it has amounted to more than \$11 million. Without the Abbey Grant, tuition costs would increase by approximately \$600 per student, and it would take an endowment of \$180 million to replace this income.

“We are deeply grateful to the monastic community for their annual support of the University,” noted Rob Culligan, vice president for institutional advancement. “The Abbey has been the largest contributor to the University over the past 10 years. Indeed, it is the largest benefactor in our history. I encourage students, faculty and staff to join me in thanking the monks of Saint John's Abbey for their generous ongoing support.”

#### In the Media

**Bob Weber**, CSB/SJU associate professor of political science, was quoted in a Thursday, Oct. 19, Minnesota Public Radio story that profiled the seventh district congressional election. The story, by Tim Post, can be accessed on the MPR web site at [http://news.bach.mpr.org/features/200010/19\\_post\\_7dist/index.shtml](http://news.bach.mpr.org/features/200010/19_post_7dist/index.shtml)

The **SJU football team** was featured on Oct. 27 on the CNN/SI web site. Austin Murphy, the Sports Illustrated writer who spent last football season in Collegeville and currently is working on a book on John Gagliardi, the SJU football team and Saint John's, was the author of the story titled “OU-Nebraska not the only big game.” The story is in reference to SJU's football game at Bethel on Oct. 28.

The story can be accessed at [http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/inside\\_game/austin\\_murphy/news/2000/10/27/on\\_campus/](http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/inside_game/austin_murphy/news/2000/10/27/on_campus/)

**Sister Mary Jane Berger**, CSB/SJU English department, had an article, “Writing Lives: Partnering with the Community,” published in the Minnesota English Journal which features a special English class which embraced service learning and composition. The class was offered spring 2000 and will be offered again in spring 2001. The article describes some of the unique experiences of the students and residents involved in a project that resulted in the production of *Manor Memories: A Living History*.

**Aubrey Immelman**, CSB/SJU associate professor, psychology, provided personality profiles on Nov. 3 of Gov. George W. Bush and Vice President Al Gore in a psychological analysis featured on MSNBC's web site: <http://www.msnbc.com/news/485075.asp>

## Campus Notes

### Announcement to Faculty

prepared by Thom Woodward,  
director, alumni relations

Among the many important "senior" moments in the spring is the annual Senior Banquet. The banquet brings the graduating class together for only the second of three times during their four years here: the welcome dinner kicking off their first-year; the Senior Banquet; and graduation.

This year, the Class of 2001 will gather for the Senior Banquet on Wednesday, May 9. The SJU Alumni Association Board of Directors, the banquet sponsor, has looked at weekend dates but has found Wednesday to work best — with some obvious conflicts.

Faculty members with seniors in a Wednesday evening class this spring are asked to please consider options for May 9 which would allow senior Johnnies to attend the banquet, 5-8 p.m. Thank you very much. The Alumni Board — and the Class of 2001 — appreciate your consideration.

## Prayer Shawls for the Millennium at CSB

CSB is the North American exhibit site for "Kesa for the Millennium" by fiber artist Betsy Sterling Benjamin, showing now through Dec. 14, in the Benedicta Arts Center Gallery.

For Benjamin, the new millennium was a truly global event, with people on seven continents donning kesa, sacred robes worn during meditation, that she created to celebrate the wonders of the earth. She created a kesa for each continent as part of a personal quest to promote worldwide peace, healing and unity. Benjamin's goal was to change people's conception of the millennium from something to be feared into a time that represented hope for the future.

The design inspiration for this project comes from the study of the historical, sacred garment that has been worn by Buddhist priests in Asia for centuries. Made in the grid-pattern of rice fields, the robe was originally constructed of discarded cloth or rags. In Japan, kesa were produced with remnants of deceased parishioners' kimonos.

The cloths are primarily made of silk from Japan, India and China. They are backed with cotton material woven in Indonesia and Japan. Precious gold leaf, silk, metallic and polyester thread, recycled kimono cloth, and ganryo pigments are also used in many of the kesa.

The seven kesa are touring the world to be exhibited at a selected venue on each continent, with further hopes of inviting prayers for world peace and understanding.

Gallery hours for the BAC are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 12-4 p.m. on Sundays.



"Kesa for the Millennium" is showing through Dec. 14 in the Benedicta Arts Center Gallery.

ees who identify another employee for consideration of recognition for extraordinary performance. The submission deadline for the fall semester awards is 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 29. Nomination forms are available at the Human Resources Office on both campuses (Main Building 230 or Quad 127) or on the Human Resources web site at <http://www.csbsju.edu/humanresources/extraordinary%20performance%20award%202000-2001.htm>. If you would like one sent, via email or campus mail, please contact Jan Kaufman (x5500 or <mailto:jkaufman@csbsju.edu>).

We encourage you to take the time to nominate — or re-nominate! — someone you feel is deserving of this award. It will be a win-win experience for both of you. Not everyone can be chosen for the award, but each nominee is notified, and that is affirming in itself.

So get a form and nominate those extraordinary individuals deserving of this recognition. You'll be glad you did!

## FACULTY/STAFF NOTES

Saint John's and the SJU Dining Service were recognized recently by the St. Cloud Disability Awareness 2000 Task Force for its work in providing opportunities for persons with disabilities. **David Schoenberg** is director of dining services.

WACOSA, a local organization that works with individuals with disabilities, nominated Saint John's for this recognition. In nominating Saint John's, Kris Pflipsen, executive director of WACOSA, cited Saint John's as an employer that has been outstanding in providing opportunities for persons with disabilities.

**Fr. Anthony Ruff OSB**, assistant professor of theology, has recently attended and presented at several off-campus events. September 20-24 he attended in Denver the annual conference of the Society for Catholic Liturgy, including the board meeting, as he is a board member of the society. October 5-8 he was in Washington, D.C., for a Eucharistic Congress, at which he presented a paper on the role of eucharistic hymnody at Mass.

## CAMPUS NOTES

### **Wanted: Extraordinary Performance Award Nominations**

Do you work with a person who shows extraordinary commitment and enthusiasm for his/her role in the workplace and life in general? The talent and dedication of such staff members provide the high quality educational environment which allows the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University to be recognized among the premiere national liberal arts colleges. It is with this in mind that we recognize and celebrate the extraordinary performance of staff at both campuses.

Twice annually, one CSB and one SJU staff member are honored at a luncheon with an award that includes a savings bond and a personal holiday. In addition, the honoree may choose either an engraved commemorative or a donation in her or his name to a designated charity.

Nominations will be accepted from all employ-

October 9 he was in New York as the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the New York archdiocesan musicians, held at Dunwoodie Seminary.

**Gina Tagliapietra**, residence hall director in Lottie Hall on the CSB campus, received the Outstanding New Professional of the Year award at this fall's Upper Midwest Regional National Association for Campus Activities conference in Rochester. This award is presented to a new professional who has worked full time in student development for three years or less and has demonstrated innovative service, creativity, and commitment to the profession, institution and association. She is in her second year at CSB.

**Michael Kathman**, director of libraries and media, presented two sessions at the South Dakota Library Association in October. "Training Student Assistants" examined the factors necessary for a successful student employee-training program, including evaluation of a training program. He also presented a paper and led a discussion on what libraries will need to do to continue to remain relevant on campus.

**Stephen Burmeister-May**, CSB/SJU director of international education, represented CSB/SJU at the 50th anniversary celebration of the founding of our Chinese partner, Southwest China Normal University (SWCNU) in Beibei, Chongqing, P.R. China. SWCNU also dedicated a large granite monument on its foreign affairs office grounds to the 15th anniversary of its relationship with CSB/SJU. Burmeister-May presented SWCNU's president Qiu Yuhui with proclamations in honor of the events from CSB president Mary Lyons, SJU president Dietrich Reinhart and Gov. Jesse Ventura.

Burmeister-May also presented a paper, "Thinking About the 21st Century: Internationalization vs. Globalization," at the President's Symposium on Education in the 21st Century sponsored by SWCNU.

**Fr. Don Talafous OSB**, professor emeritus, Saint John's University alumni chaplain and faculty resident, is the author of homily suggestions for the two-year cycle of weekday Scripture readings for Mass. These are published by the Liturgical Press at Collegeville under the title Loose-Leaf Lectionary. Fr. Don's commentary begins with November 2000.

**Marina Martín**, CSB/SJU associate professor of Spanish, interviewed authors Luisa Valenzuela and Angélica Gorodischer, both from Argentina, during her visit to Resistencia (Argentina), July 17-August 4. The interviews focused on the authors' works and on their views on contemporary literature. The taped interviews are being used in class, and also in

Martín's research and future publication projects.

**Jean Keller**, CSB/SJU assistant professor of philosophy, presented "Friendship and Dialogue" at the International Association of Women Philosophers meeting in Zurich, Switzerland on Oct. 12. Her paper used Jürgen Habermas's discourse ethics to understand the moral significance of dialogue between friends.

**Kristin Darnall**, director of audience development, Fine Arts Programming, has been selected to serve on the Youth as Resources Board of Directors, a newly formed board associated with the United Way of St. Cloud Area.

**Anna M. Thompson**, executive director, Fine Arts Programming, was recently elected as vice president for the Board of Directors of VSA Arts of Minnesota.

Essay Seeks to Clarify Benedictine Values at CSB/SJU

*Prepared by John Klassen, OSB  
associate professor of chemistry*

John Klassen OSB, Emmanuel Renner OSB, Mary Reuter OSB have been working on an essay entitled "Catholic, Benedictine Values in an Educational Environment." The essay was conceived and written in response to a request from many faculty, staff, administrators, students and alumni/ae for a clear statement of the Benedictine values that guide the spirit of the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University. The authors wished to provide as comprehensive a view as possible and have situated the relationship of the Benedictine character of CSB and SJU within the larger Catholic heritage. So often this relationship is either ignored or unclear, and consequently a source of discomfort. The essay can be read and discussed in sections with examples of application to our current situation and with questions that will stimulate further reflection and conversation on the campuses, in the monasteries, and among alumni/ae and friends of our two institutions. You are invited to review and use the essay. The authors welcome your suggestions and questions. It can be found at <http://www.osb.org/acad/benval1.html>.

*(Editor's note: In order to foster continuing dialog on this topic, Community is publishing a small excerpt from the essay and will provide in future issues a forum for comments, reflections, as they are submitted.)*



## Campus Notes

### **Santa Day is Coming! Help is needed!**

*prepared by Virginia Delles,  
director, conferences and events*

This year Santa Day will be Sunday, Dec. 10, in the Great Hall from 1-3 p.m. This event, enjoyed by children of all ages, is sponsored jointly by faculty, administrators and support staff. Volunteers are needed for this event. You can help make a happy holiday memory for a child! Without your help this event can't happen. Please contact Ginny Clendenin at 2124 or Mary Dehler at 3377 to volunteer. Children are counting on you.

## COMMUNITY

Community is published by the CSB/SJU Communications and Marketing Services staff:

**Jon McGee**, Vice President for Institutional Planning, Research and Communication

**Greg Hoye**, Executive Director of Communication and Marketing Services

**Julie Marthaler**, Office Coordinator (CSB)

**Mike Durbin**, Sports Information Director (CSB)

**Michael Hemmesch**, Associate Director of Communication; SJU Account Manager/Sports Information

**Glenda Isaacs Burgeson**, Assistant Director of Communication/Writer and Editor

**Nicole Ruhn**, Assistant Director of Communication/Electronic and Print Media

**Jo Ann Shroyer**, Associate Director of Communication/CSB Account Manager

**Greg Becker**, Senior Associate Director of Publications and Graphic Services

**Kay L. Buytaert**, Associate Director of Publications and Graphic Services

**Ron Schoonover**, Assistant Director of Communication/Graphics Services

**Louise Stenberg '03**, Community Student Coordinator

Deadline for the December issue is November 20. To share your information and story ideas, simply e-mail them directly to Community at: [community@csbsju.edu](mailto:community@csbsju.edu).

## Catholic, Benedictine Values in an Educational Environment

by *John Klassen, OSB; Emmanuel Renner, OSB and Mary Reuter, OSB, July 11, 2000*

Excerpts from Section I:

### A SACRAMENTAL VIEW OF THE WORLD

... By sacrament we mean an experience through which a human being or a human community encounters God and is given an opportunity to respond. In these experiences we are drawn into the mysteries of human life and human existence that touch its deepest meaning and significance. Changes such as the following can occur over time: insights into the human condition crystallize; intuitions about the direction of our lives clarify; priorities are ordered differently; our anger gives way to compassion and freedom; fear is replaced by a trusting embrace; despair yields to hope. We call these moments sacramental because our beings brush up against Being itself. They are graced moments.

APPLICATION (to our educational environment): ... it is conventional wisdom to argue that the focus of a college should be academic excellence, an excellence that is largely or exclusively the result of the interaction between faculty and students. A Benedictine spirituality, in contrast to this exclusive focus on intellectual growth, extends beyond this conventional wisdom in two ways. First, students

are learning skills such as accountability, teamwork, leadership, focus, time management, and confidence. This learning occurs in the classroom and independent research, on the volleyball court, through employment on campus, in student government, through writing for campus publications, through relating with roommates, or by working in campus ministry. Second, the integration of the emotional, the intellectual, and the spiritual components is the desired outcome of an education in a Christian environment, in this instance influenced by a Benedictine framework. In our situation this integration is often spoken of as balance. Often students discover themselves in one area and growth can occur and expand into another if that development is recognized, acknowledged, and encouraged. Furthermore, we need to foster an environment in which students are aware that they are in a process of faith development as well as one of choosing a field of study. This understanding chal-

lenges the false dichotomy that promotes an ongoing tension and conflict between the curricular and the co-curricular, between academic life and "the rest of life."

... Just as a monastic encounters God everywhere and not only in church, so a student encounters learning and transforming moments in classes, in friendship, and in service to others. The *Rule* (of Benedict, RB) encourages all learners — students, faculty, staff and administrators — to see the potential for growth and new insights in all areas of the campus environment and beyond the campus.

### WE REVERENCE ALL PERSONS

The spirituality of Benedict is profoundly Christocentric, that is, centered on the person of Jesus Christ. The *Rule* expresses this character in a number of sentences that act as summary statements. For example, the love of Christ is to come before all else for monastics (RB 4.21), and they are to pray for enemies out of love for Christ (RB 4:72). Christ is embodied and received in guests (RB 53.7), in the poor (RB 53:15), in the sick (RB 36.1), and in the abbot or prioress (RB 2.2, 63.13). As RB scholar, Columba Stewart, OSB, has noted, "Benedict's utter faith in the divine Son of God casts into even sharper relief his insight that this divine Christ is to be found and even adored in other human beings (RB 53.7). His incarnate presence is not limited to Jesus of Nazareth,

but remains among us in the monastic leaders, the sick, the guest, the poor, a list so inclusive as to signify Christ's presence in all whom one meets."

APPLICATION: This Christocentric character undergirds all of the core values that are described in this essay. For example, because Christ is believed to be present in all persons, the mission of our two colleges challenges us to create a learning community in which students, faculty, staff, and administrators are deeply respected for who they are as human beings. This respect is also extended to the local communities in which we live as the basis for welcoming the stranger, for creating a culture of listening, and for staying in the conversation even when there are sharp disagreements. Not everyone in our two colleges believes in Christ; however, the Second Vatican Council affirms that "everyone should look upon his (her) neighbor as another self, bearing in mind above all his (her) life and the means necessary for living it in a dignified way."

**"... Just as a monastic encounters God everywhere and not only in church, so a student encounters learning and transforming moments in classes, in friendship, and in service to others."**