CSB/SJU Ranked No. 2 in National Study-Abroad Report

CSB/SJU ranked No. 2 nationally among baccalaureate institutions for total number of study abroad students in the annual report on international education, *Open Doors 2006*, published by the Institute of International Education (IIE).

The two schools had a total of 569 students study abroad during the 2004-05 academic year, according to data released by IIE. Highlights from the *Open Doors* publication are released each November.

About six in 10 CSB students study internationally before they graduate, a participation rate nearly twice the national average for liberal arts colleges. For the past three years, Saint Benedict and Saint John's together have been among the top three undergraduate liberal arts colleges nationally in the number of students participating in international study programs.

Before graduating, half of all CSB/SJU students will participate in one of CSB/SJU’s 17 semester-long programs. The programs, located in 13 countries on six continents, are led by faculty.

“I am absolutely thrilled that we have moved up in the rankings. Once again, we are showing that the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University are fully committed to preparing our students for a global future,” said Kristi Kremers, CSB/SJU global education coordinator. “The educational value of study abroad is clearly recognized by our students, faculty, staff and administration. It is with their support that we have been able to build a truly remarkable nationally-recognized program that complements the high quality liberal arts educational opportunities offered on campus.

“Our students stand out when competing for jobs and other opportunities because they are willing to step out of their comfort zone, can understand diverse perspectives and have developed exceptional initiative as a result of their experiences abroad,” Kremers added.

A total of 205,983 U.S. students studied abroad in 2004-05, an increase of 7.7 percent from the previous year. Over the past decade, the number of U.S. students studying abroad has more than doubled, according to the IIE.

You take a bow at the end of any play or performance.

The CSB Benedicta Arts Center took a bow Dec. 1, for its expanded performing arts facility affirming CSB’s leadership in the fine arts.

The expansion to the building was one of 10 projects receiving an Honor Award by the American Institute of Architects Minnesota. The award was formally presented Dec. 1, at the Metropolitan Ballroom, Minneapolis.

The expansion was designed by Hammel, Green and Abrahamson – the same firm that designed the original BAC (the firm was then known as Hammel and Green). Although the BAC has received numerous design prizes since its opening in 1964, this is the first honor for the expanded facility.

“The new BAC will facilitate our students’ mastery of theatrical, musical, visual arts and dance skills,” CSB President MaryAnn Baenninger said Sept. 16, during the dedication and blessing of the new space. “This rich variety of venues will inspire a new burst of creativity.”

A total of 130 projects were submitted for consideration for the Honor Awards. The projects must be completed and designed by AIA Minnesota members or firms.

“The addition has the same DNA as the existing modernist building, but it’s also different,” said the three-person jury which evaluated the nominees for the Honor Award. “The design is simple but very efficient, with a consistent quality from inside to out.”

The $8.9 million expansion and renovation was a component of the CSB Capital Campaign, “Our Place in the World, A Campaign to Inspire and Transform.” The BAC is now comprised of 173,000 square feet of creative space including:

• A new Colman Theater, a flexible 125-seat black box theater named for S. Colman O’Connell, OSB, past president and theater professor of CSB and currently senior development officer;
• A new Darnall Amphitheater, with lawn seating for 200-plus people which allows students to put on more casual performances;
• A new Helgeson Dance Studio, which features a sprung floor and state of the art acoustical treatments;
• An instrumental music rehearsal hall;
• A chamber ensemble room;
• New box office and administrative offices for fine arts programming;
• A renovated 1,078-seat Peters Auditorium, including new sound and light systems and new seating;
• A renovated 300-seat Gorecki Family Theater, including new seating;
• And, updates to the air conditioning system and accessibility improvements throughout the building.

The addition of these performance and rehearsal spaces allows for expansion in the academic and public programming for CSB. Longer extended residencies with visiting artists in dance and theater will be possible as well as year-round programming in multiple theater spaces. In addition to classes, lessons and student performances, the BAC hosts 200 public events each year, including being the only venue outside of the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area offering an annual Minnesota Orchestra series.

“The BAC is the gateway building to the campus. As such it is a defining element, along with the Mall, of arrival. The design of the expansion strengthens the experience of arrival by giving more built definition to the Mall while bridging the stand alone BAC to the rest of campus,” said Tim Carl, vice president at HGA who was the lead design architect for the BAC expansion.

“While the design of the original (BAC) is revered, its opaque monastic walls hide activity and the identity of programs within. The expansion provides a more visible and compelling presence for the arts on campus,” Carl said.

A Campus Holiday Shopping Sing-A-Long

Prepared by Kristal Sawatzke ’10, Community Editorial Assistant

The Christmas spirit is alive at CSB/SJU, and, if you are in need of the perfect gift for family or friends, look no further than the CSB/SJU “city sidewalks” for holiday shopping.

“Oh come all ye faithful” to the Whitby gift shop and gallery located in the Art & Heritage Place, west of the Saint Benedict’s Monastery Sacred Heart Chapel, where you can find items handmade by the Benedictine Sisters and other local artisans. Some of these “joyful and triumphant” treasures include candles, cards, jewelry, journals, needlework, pottery, religious items, books, scarves and fine art. So “come and behold” the beauty of these creations while experiencing Benedictine hospitality between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

“Angels we have heard on high” shop at the SJU Bookstore for clothing, the gold medallion gift collection and various SJU gifts fit for any price range. Are you looking for something to give to wear? “Don we now our gay apparel” from the SJU Bookstore, all sizes, and all varieties are offered for everyone of all ages. “All is calm, all is bright” during open hours, which are 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

“Good tidings we bring, to you and your kin” from the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library (HMML), home of *The Saint John’s Bible*, located in the Bush Center at SJU. “Do you see what I see?” It is *The Saint John’s Bible* display, which is free of charge and open to the public during regular business hours on weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. After visiting the serenity of the display, and with Christmas gift ideas on your mind,
you may be thinking, “we won’t go until we’ve got some” Saint John’s Bible memorabilia or other touching collectibles.

“The first Noel, the angels did say” visit the CSB Bookstore for all of your Christmas shopping list needs from CDs to coffee mugs, caps, books, blankets and an endless supply of gift ideas. Your shopping experience will certainly be pleasant with “children laughing, people passing, meeting smile after smile” during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

After you are finished “rockin’ around the Christmas tree at the Christmas party hop” you can “sleep in heavenly peace” knowing that all of your holiday gifts may be taken care of right here on the CSB/SJU campuses.

CSB Tennis Coach Wins 2006 USTA/ITA Community Service Award

Scott Larsen, the head tennis coach at CSB, received the 2006 USTA/ITA Community Service Award. This award honors an ITA coach for significant contributions in developing community-based tennis programs through community centers, schools, parks, community tennis associations, inner city, suburban or rural programs.

Larsen runs the Blazer Tennis Clinic at CSB for high school players. The clinic emphasizes stroke development, good nutrition, mental toughness, setting goals and conditioning to help youth develop as well-rounded players. He also hosts the Granite City Tennis Tournament at CSB, a sanctioned junior tournament and non-sanctioned adult tournament.

For 10 years, Larsen has organized the Sartell Summer Tennis Program for students in the town of Sartell. The program offers eight-week sessions for beginners and advanced players emphasizing stroke development and strategy. He also has been involved for eight years with Carlson Tennis Camps, for which he and Gustavus women’s tennis coach Jon Carlson travel to towns in out-state Minnesota putting on three-day camps.

Larsen also worked with the Buffalo Excellence Program last year. The program included two eight-week sessions for junior high, junior varsity and varsity high school groups emphasizing stroke development, strategy and on-one instruction for each participant throughout the summer. Larsen also has run weekly evening drills for area high school students.

Larsen is bringing summer tennis camps back to CSB and has two camps scheduled for summer 2007.

Kronos Quartet Performs Premier at CSB

Fine Arts Programming at the CSB/SJU presented the Kronos Quartet on Dec. 3.

The acclaimed Kronos Quartet performed a world premier of Stephen Prutsman’s Particle 423 at its Dec. 3 concert in Petters Auditorium, Benedicta Arts Center of the College of Saint Benedict.

CSB commissioned the work, in celebration of the expansion and renovation of the BAC.

The Kronos Quartet is one of the most celebrated and influential ensembles of our time, performing thousands of concerts worldwide and releasing more than 40 recordings. This group has garnered numerous awards, including a Grammy for “Best Chamber Music Performance” (2004) and “Musicians of the Year” (2003) from Musical America.

Students Compete at International Collegiate Programming Contest

A CSB/SJU computer science team recently finished first against eight teams in a regional venue during the International Collegiate Programming Contest at the University of Minnesota – Morris, and ranked 29th regionally.

The event involves competitions at multiple hosting sites in 42 regions worldwide. The Morris site, which included teams from Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, was one of several venues in the North Central North America Region, which includes schools and universities from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Western Ontario, Manitoba, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas. The CSB/SJU team ranked 29th among all 181 teams competing in the North Central North America region.

Team members were senior Mike Evans, first-year student David Harrison and junior Jared Meyer. The team is coached by Imad Rahal, assistant professor of computer science.

Pederson and Students Lead Workshop on Intercultural Competency

Cindy Pederson, CSB/SJU service-learning coordinator, along with first-year students Christen Beckstrand and Trevor Drake, spoke at a Minnesota Campus Compact (MNCC) conference entitled “Campuses Are Citizens: What’s Your Story” on Oct. 13, at the Earl Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center. The workshop, “Bridging the Great Divide: Effective Methods for Shifting Paradigms Regarding Ethnicity, Race and Class,” focused on identifying personal cultural values and perceptions to help increase intercultural skills.

Pederson, a lead facilitator, along
with Bethel University professor and co-presenter Verona Mitchell-Agbemadi, suggested processes in which concepts of ethnicity, race and class can be introduced at predominately white college campuses.

In preparation for this workshop, Beckstrand and Drake attended the first CSB/SJU World Leaders camp in July at which Pederson taught. At the camp, students discussed ethnicity, race and class. The camp also stressed the importance of creating opportunities for increasing cultural understanding.

Similar to the World Leaders Camp, the goal of the MNCC workshop was to increase intercultural skills. Pederson spoke about increasing intercultural communication. Pederson believes that becoming more competent in our roles will result in more effective leadership in our global community.

Beckstrand and Drake spoke of their lives before, during and after the camp. Both students concentrated on consciousness and comfort as two major roadblocks to intercultural awareness. Recognizing and becoming familiar with intercultural differences, as well as breaking through comfort zones, can help overcome these roadblocks.

Department of Theater Invites Participants for 24-Hour Play Festival

Attention aspiring actors, would-be writers and/or theater buffs. Faculty, staff and alumnae/i are invited to join students in creating six new plays to be performed at the end of a very long night and day. The marathon begins Friday evening, Jan. 19, and concludes with a production at 9 p.m. Jan. 20, in Gorecki Theater in the CSB Benedicta Arts Center.

The 24-Hour Play Festival is a hyper-compression of the theatrical process produced by the CSB/SJU Theater Department. Festival participants write, rehearse and perform plays in literally 24 hours. The department has produced an annual 24-Hour Play Festival for students for the last four years. This year, as part of the celebration of the BAC expansion, faculty, staff and alumnae/i are invited to participate as well.

Festival orientation begins at 9 p.m. Jan. 19, in the BAC Gallery Lounge. Writers then collaborate in teams of two on an eight-minute play. The catch is that the writers have eight hours—and only eight hours—to finish their script. They begin at 10 p.m. Friday. At 8 a.m. Saturday, the directors, designers and actors frantically begin rehearsing the various scripts, for the show goes on at 9 p.m., no matter what! From page to stage, the entire process takes 24 hours.

Want to participate? Register by Monday, Jan. 15 at http://www.csbsju.edu/theater/

CSB IA Welcomes New Member

I am very pleased to announce that Heidi Everett has accepted the position of director of advancement communications at CSB. She began her work with Institutional Advancement on Nov. 27.

She comes to Saint Ben’s from Creative Memories World Headquarters, where she served most recently as the communications and creative services manager. In that capacity, she directed the creation and production of four monthly magazines, promotional materials, product packaging, Web site content, training materials and public correspondence. She was the lead staff member for a team of 31.

Prior to this, Everett served the company as the community relations manager, communications special projects manager and editorial director for Lasting Moments magazine. She is also the owner of the Watab Writing Center, which offers strategic communication and marketing consultation services. Everett also teaches business communication strategies, business and technical writing, and rhetorical and analytical writing at Saint Cloud State University.

Everett earned both her B.A. and M.A. degrees in English from St. Cloud State University.

She brings to Saint Ben’s skills in planning, developing messages, writing and design, as well as exceptional creativity, facilitation skills, a commitment to higher education for women and a perspective from the world of international business.

Please join me in welcoming her to our Institutional Advancement team.

Stuart G. Lang
Vice President
CSB Institutional Advancement
If you have questions, contact Adam Houghton, assistant professor of theater, at ahoughton@csbsju.edu. Admission to the performance is free but donations are requested of either food or money for the St. Joseph Food Shelf.

**Faculty/Staff News**

**Imad Rahal**, assistant professor of computer science, was the co-program chair for the Data Engineering track at the 15th International Conference on Software Engineering and Data Engineering (SEDE-2006) in Los Angeles, July 6-8. He received a recognition award for commitment and dedication as a program co-chair from the ISCA computer society. At the conference, he presented a paper, "BITRAGE: Biological, Intelligent Text-based Ranking of Genes," which was accepted for publication in the conference's proceedings.

In October, a chapter he wrote was accepted for publication in the *American Journal of Health Studies*. The department also acknowledges LaFontaine, with co-authors Mary Neisen and Rachelle Parsons of the department of nursing, has had accepted for publication an article entitled "Wellness Factors in First Year College Students" in the *American Journal of Health Studies*.

**Dale White**, professor of brass/wind ensemble, and Ed Turley, associate professor of piano and chair of music, have released the CD, "Take Two: More Music for Trumpet and Piano."

**Diane Veale Jones**, professor of nutrition, presented "Food and Culture in Minnesota" at the Fourth Annual Children of Multiple Cultures: Paths to Cultural Understanding Conference on Nov. 18, in St. Cloud. The conference was sponsored by Create Community: Respect and Opportunity for All and the United Migrant Opportunity Service. Event organizers included AmeriCorps/ St. Cloud State University, Anna Marie’s Alliance, Boy Scouts of America—Central Minnesota Council, CentraCare Health System, Child Care Choices, St. Cloud Area Legal Services and United Way of Central Minnesota. Attendees included Head Start teachers, child care providers, social workers, SCSU students, elementary school teachers, parents, foster care providers and members of AmeriCorps.

**Philip I. Kramer**, director of academic assessment for CSB/SJU and assistant professor of education, published “Assessment and the Fear of Punishment: How..."
the Protection of Anonymity Positively Influenced the Design and Outcomes of Postsecondary Assessment” in the international Journal of Assessment and Evaluation in Higher Education in October 2006. On Nov. 2, Dr. Kramer chaired a panel presentation at the annual American Evaluation Association conference in Portland, Ore. The panel presentation, part of a longitudinal research study funded by the National Science Foundation, was entitled, “A Culture of Conflict: The Evaluation of School-University Math-Science Partnership and the Challenges of Change.” His individual presentation was “Involving University Science Faculty in the Preparation of Teachers: The Call and the Challenge of Participation.”


Mark Asuzu, assistant professor of accounting and finance, Diane Veale Jones, professor of nutrition, and Ann Marie Biermaier OSB, professor and chair of education, have been elected to serve for a three-year term on the SASSO (St. Cloud Area Somali Salvation Organization) Board of Directors.

Jeff Kamakahi, associate professor of sociology, presented a lecture entitled “Doomsday vs. Rapture: Two Political Schemas in the United States” to faculty at Bunkyo Gakuin University on Nov. 25. He is currently director of the CSB|SJU Study Abroad Program in Japan and is doing research on native Hawaiian music and dance in Japan.

The Welcome Mat
We welcome the following to the CSB/SJU community:
Roxanne Schramel, Enrollment, Planning and Public Affairs
Carl Masog, Power Plant
Kristin Welch, Security
Chandra Ziegler, Athletics
Leslie Hanlon, Fine Arts
Katherine Sass, Bookstore
Martina Talic, Campus Ministry
Jonathan Ruis, Institutional Advancement
Carla Durand-Demarais, Ecumenical Institute
Rachael Gieschen, Liturgical Press
Wally Stang, Abbey Guesthouse
Kristin Welch, Security
Heidi Goebel, Institutional Advancement

Farewell to Friends
Mary Mueller, IT Services
Amy VanSurskum, Academic Advising

In the Media
The Saint John’s Bible was featured Nov. 10, in a Wall Street Journal article. “The Bible — in Longhand.”
CSB/SJU was featured in Nov. 14 media coverage of the Open Doors 2006 study abroad report in the St. Cloud Times, Minneapolis Star Tribune and St. Paul Pioneer Press.
Radhika Lal Snyder ‘03 was mentioned Nov. 14, in a Minneapolis Star Tribune article, “Asians, whites nearing even in earnings.”
Ka Youa Vang, CSB senior social work major, was featured in the 2006-07 edition of Future Choices from the Minnesota Office of Higher Education.
Saint John’s School of Theology was featured Nov. 16, in The Catholic Spirit article, “Sant’Egidio group: ‘If you pray with us, you’re in.’”
Benedicta Arts Center of CSB was mentioned Nov. 17, in a Minneapolis Star Tribune article, “Spectacular buildings honored” for being among 10 winners of the 2006 Honor Awards, presented by the American Institute of Architects Minnesota.
CSB/SJU mentioned Nov. 18, in a St. Cloud Times editorial “Our view.”
Louis Johnston, associate professor of economics, was quoted Nov. 19, in a St. Cloud Times article, “Domestic vehicles reign in area.”
Crystal Schoon ’07 was featured Nov. 19, in a St. Cloud Times opinion piece, “Don’t forget to tip food servers fairly for their work.”
SJU mentioned Nov. 18, in a St. Cloud Times editorial “Our view.”

Community 7 December 2006
# Events Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location/Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 14</td>
<td>LAST DAY FALL CLASSES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 15</td>
<td>SPRING CLASSES BEGIN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 27</td>
<td>CSB/SJU Fine Arts Series: Luna Negra Dance Theater</td>
<td>CSB Petters Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Eduardo Vilaro, Artistic Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 28-Feb. 3</td>
<td>The Mystical Arts of Tibet Photography Exhibit</td>
<td>SJU Art Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 1-3</td>
<td>CSB/SJU Fine Arts Education Series: The Mystical Arts of Tibet</td>
<td>SJU Stephen B. Humphrey Theater, 9:15 &amp; 11:15 a.m. Feb. 1; 8 p.m. Feb. 2; 2 p.m. Feb. 3.</td>
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<td>Feb. 4</td>
<td>African American Read In</td>
<td>SJU Board Room, Main Building, 2 p.m.</td>
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<td>Feb. 7</td>
<td>S. Mariella Gable Award Reading</td>
<td>CSB Alumnae Hall, HCC, 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Feb. 9</td>
<td>Pastiche</td>
<td>SJU Stephen B. Humphrey Theater, 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 13-17</td>
<td>Mark Lundholm Theater Residence “Addicted: A Comedy of Substance”</td>
<td>CSB Gorecki Theater, 7 and 9:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 15-16</td>
<td>Conference on Women’s Spiritualities “Following our Foremothers for the Sake of the World”</td>
<td>Keynote: Mary Swander, CSB Alumnae Hall, HCC, 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 16-17</td>
<td>4th Annual Conference on the College Male</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>Shirber Lecture</td>
<td>SJU Quad 264, 7:30 p.m. CSB Gorecki Theater, 9:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>Carol Finley</td>
<td>CSB Petters Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td>Wind/Jazz Ensemble</td>
<td>CSB Petters Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 26-Mar. 2</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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For recent updates on calendar events, visit [http://www.csbsju.edu/calendar/](http://www.csbsju.edu/calendar/).

To submit calendar items, send information to Glenda Burgeson at gburgeson@csbsju.edu