

# Saint Benedict's

MAGAZINE

FALL 2011

## Taking the Long View

College of Saint Benedict  
prepares for next century



COLLEGE OF  
Saint Benedict



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## *Saint Benedict's Magazine*

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*The mission of the College of Saint Benedict is to provide for women the very best residential liberal arts education in the Catholic university tradition. The college fosters integrated learning, exceptional leadership for change, and wisdom for a lifetime.*

## Sustained by bold dreams

In June, I was making the hour-long drive back to Saint Joseph from a board meeting in the Twin Cities, savoring the time to catch up on the news of the world. My radio was tuned to MPR and I happened upon outgoing FDIC Chairwoman Sheila Bair's final speech at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

The key theme of her message was strikingly meaningful to me. She drew the listener's attention to what she called *short-termism*. This is essentially the short-term thinking that today plagues everything from basic consumer spending habits to legislative action. She noted that we are afflicted by "myopic decision making" that focuses on the immediate present rather than on long-term consequences and sustainable decisions. As a psychologist, I would say that we have lost the ability to delay gratification. Bair credited much of the banking crisis and the recession to this kind of thinking. And retrospectively, it is clear that the debt crisis decision-making process in Washington proved her point again.

Throughout Bair's speech, I found myself assessing College of Saint Benedict and my approach to leadership through this lens of short-termism.

The Sisters of Saint Benedict, the founders of College of Saint Benedict, trace their roots to Saint Walburg Abbey in Eichstätt, Bavaria. The original small band of Sisters, led by 27-year-old Benedicta Riepp, made their way to St. Joseph in 1863, after a stay in St. Cloud. They came to teach children of European settlers and to live a monastic life on the new frontier. But their thinking and planning did not stop there.

Their commitment to education – and strengthening and sustaining community – led them to establish or serve at 163 schools in the United States. In 1878, they founded Saint Benedict's Academy, which evolved into the College of Saint Benedict in 1913. They also founded six hospitals, orphanages, homes for the elderly, and eleven daughter monasteries in four countries. When the time was right, they made provisions for the future of each of these entities. Nothing was short term in their planning or in their commitment to the common good.

The Sisters have taught us that dynamic responsiveness to change, critical self-assessment, and bold dreams are the keys to strengthening and sustaining our world. Our history tells us we must embrace the changing world, advance new ideas, and encourage bold ambitions. This risk taking and audacity is in our DNA. It is in honor of this rich, transformative heritage that College of Saint Benedict embarks on its bold ideas for the next century.



But risk taking cannot occur without sustained long-term planning and the courage to stay the course even when there are bumps in the road. Each and every decision we make today at College of Saint Benedict has a "tail" or a ripple effect. Fortunately, long-term thinking and planning are indelible parts of Benedictine life. The Rule of Benedict teaches us to live by the values of stability and stewardship. As good stewards of this college, we consistently consider the impact of today's decisions on the college's future.

This issue of *Saint Benedict's* magazine calls attention to the living and learning spaces that will usher in the next century of College of Saint Benedict history. These facilities are not quick fixes to current space challenges nor are they tributes to my tenure as president. Instead, they are keystones of a master plan that strategically attends to the needs of Bennies (and their brother Johnnies) 25, 50, and 100 years from now. Every aspect of facility planning evokes how CSB plans unparalleled and distinctive opportunities for women and exemplary undergraduate education for women and men. Every decision is filtered through the lenses of academic excellence, environmental leadership, and financial sustainability. Every element of design, from the building materials to the technology to the location on campus, considers how it will influence future students—our future policy makers, caregivers, educators, and bridge builders.

Short-term thinking has no place here. The College of Saint Benedict of today – as it has been everyday throughout our history – is focused on its future. I consider my tenure at the college to be a tribute to the bold, visionary, and values-based legacy of the Sisters and those who have led the college before me. My responsibility and that of my "alumnae sisters," is to leave a similarly strong legacy.

*Margaret Bassing*

# CSB COMMENCEMENT 2011

*483 women of courage, strength and boldness*





## Science innovation gets a boost

by Mike Killeen

For the past three years, members of the chemistry department at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University sought to establish a bold and innovative chemistry curriculum.

"We have developed a consensus that we want to be a department at the forefront of change in how chemistry is taught," said Henry Jakubowski, professor of chemistry at CSB and SJU and the chair of the department. "To catalyze that change, we wanted additional resources."

CSB met the challenge and was awarded funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support the chemistry department's curriculum revision and equipment purchases. The grant in the amount of \$199,632 was awarded in June from the NSF's Transforming Undergraduate Education in Science, Technology, Engineering and

Mathematics program.

It is one of two recent NSF grants awarded to CSB for the chemistry department, and one of four NSF grants the college has received since 2009, totaling nearly \$1.8 million. The other recent grant, at \$600,000, was awarded in July and is the largest grant ever received by CSB from the NSF. (For details on this grant, please see accompanying story.)

"We are a much more dynamic and cohesive department than we were, one that is leading the way in developing new models to teach chemistry instead of following more established approaches developed decades ago," Jakubowski said.

Rather than use a traditional chemistry model with separate focus areas, first- and second-year students will see a new model that is integrated among organic chemistry, inorganic chemistry and biochemistry. In addition, labs will be separated from classes, providing a focus on laboratory skills instead of using labs to simply reiterate principles learned in class.

"Students will have an experience that initially looks pretty different from what their friends see in chemistry courses at

most other colleges," said Chris Schaller, associate professor of chemistry at CSB and SJU and the grant's principal investigator. "Our hope is that the decompartmentalization of these topics and the use of analogies in different systems will make our students more adaptable to solving problems in new situations. It increases the level of practical scientific skills in graduates entering the workforce, helping these students to get jobs."

Why has CSB been so successful attracting grants from the NSF in the last two-plus years?

Jakubowski cited the support given by CSB President MaryAnn Baenninger and CSB's external grants office. Together, those efforts have supported undergraduate research and curricular changes in chemistry, especially as it encourages women to enter and persist in the sciences.

The recent string of successes in obtaining NSF funds was dependent on increased collaboration within the department, a strong commitment to provide the best chemistry education possible and younger faculty with more interdisciplinary interests who have catalyzed change in



# Frank Ardolf

Frank Ardolf, Jr., who died on June 27, was a great man who loved to build. The College of Saint Benedict has been blessed with his vision and generosity which built the Ardolf Science Center (that houses the CSB/SJU chemistry and nutrition departments), the Lottie and Frank Ardolf residence hall and Lottie Boulevard on the south end of campus. His lasting legacy survives in the lives of the thousands of Bennies who directly benefit from his altruism.

The last time Frank visited campus, President MaryAnn Baenninger presented him with an Honorary Doctorate in Philanthropy at commencement in 2006. At his funeral, his widow Fran told a CSB delegation that receiving the honorary degree was one of the happiest days in his life.

the department, Jakubowski said.

“Success begets success,” Jakubowski said. “As we’ve collaborated more, we’ve had more success in obtaining grants, and have established a department culture in which these efforts will persist. The more we work together, the better we do.”

“There’s an energy that develops,” Jakubowski added. “There are heightened expectations, now that we are on a roll, of how we want to move the field of chemistry forward in regards to how chemistry is taught. The expectations for each other have actually gone up.”

## Shattering the scientific glass ceiling

As an undergraduate student majoring in chemistry in the late 1980s at Montana State University, Kate Graham was a novelty.

“Certainly, in a lot of my classes, I was one of the only women,” said Graham, now an associate professor of chemistry at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University. “The one class that sticks in my memory was a physics class, which was a pre-requisite,” Graham recalled. “It was a class of probably 200 students, mostly engineers, physics majors and hard sciences. And, there were three women out of 200 students in that class.

“I had the class for three quarters — we were on the quarter system. And, I think by the end, there were two of us.”

These days, Graham and others are attempting to change that.

CSB has received a \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation’s Scholarship for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (S-STEM) program to fund chemistry scholarships for groups historically underrepresented in science. It is the largest grant ever received by CSB from the NSF and is one of two recent NSF grants CSB has received.

The grant will fund scholarships and academic support for four cohorts of 10 students each from groups underrepresented in chemistry, biochemistry or a chemistry-related field. Those groups include women and students of color. The first cohort will start in the summer of 2012 or 2013.

Each cohort will participate in a summer program immediately before their class begins the fall semester. Besides



The number of Bennies in the Ardolf Science Center lab is expected to increase as a result of scholarships.

the introductory chemistry course, students will participate in advising sessions on how to succeed in chemistry and their first year of college, and on the academic and social resources available on each campus.

“One of the goals having them here in the summer is that they are going to be teaching assistants right away, when their non-cohort peers show up,” said Graham, the principal investigator of the grant. “They’ll have these leadership roles right away.”

The mentoring and support to be given to the cohorts are a big part of the equation. That was something Graham did not receive when she was at Montana State for her undergraduate work, or at Cornell University for her graduate work.

“We (the three women in that class) sat in the back, and we were probably not fully engaged,” Graham said, laughing. “The examples weren’t geared toward women. I remember there were a lot of golf examples, or bowling. We were supposed to be interested in those as applications of physics, but there was no interest in trying to engage us.”

How did she survive?

“I chose to live in the women’s dorm at Montana State, and I made friends with probably four or five in my freshman dorm who were chemical engineering, chemistry or math majors,” Graham said. “And, we hung out and did all our homework and everything together. We built our own cohort.”

## Saint Ben's makes honor roll with distinction

College of Saint Benedict continues to earn recognition in a national arena. Saint Ben's has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction by the Corporation for National and Community Service. This recognition is reserved for colleges and universities who have made a strong commitment to community service programs. College of Saint Benedict was one of three Minnesota schools honored with distinction or higher. During the 2009-10 academic year, 982 College of Saint Benedict students contributed approximately 15,000 hours of community service.



Kristin Lundberg '13 paints a mural in Avon, Minn., as part of a community service project undertaken by a group of art majors.

## College guide takes note of CSB/SJU

*Fiske Guide to Colleges* included CSB/SJU in its 49 Best Buy Colleges in the 2012 edition of *The Fiske Guide to Colleges*.



“The schools’ small sizes and strong sense of tradition give rise to the tight-knit community,” the Fiske guide said in its review of CSB/SJU. The guide took note of investments at the schools, many of which were on the CSB campus. “Together, the colleges have invested millions in facilities in recent years, including new and renovated facilities for art, music, theater and athletics; two new science centers; residential halls and a dining and conference center.”

## CSB catering guide earns kudos

College of Saint Benedict has received a Bronze Award for its catering guide in the 2011 Loyal E. Horton Dining Awards, sponsored by the National Association for College and University Food Services. The publication earned the distinction with its photo displays, creative presentation, menu selection and overall “wow factor.” The creative team responsible includes Wendy Bechtold, Cindy Rodenwalf, and JoAnn Weir of events and catering; Adam Konzcewski of media services; and Heidi Everett, Chad Stanton ’10 and Emily Dobesh ’11 of Institutional Advancement. In the spirit of Benedictine hospitality, CSB hosts more than 25,000 visitors on campus each year for conferences, camps, expos, weddings, and special events.



photos by Adam Konzcewski

## Raise your glass on October 13

### *Saint Ben's marks 50 years of separate incorporation*

1961 marks a milestone in the history of College of Saint Benedict. In that year the Sisters of the Order of Saint Benedict separately incorporated the college.

The Sisters had the foresight to look at the very best governance structure for the future of the college. Separate incorporation allowed for more direct and effective leadership by a Board of Trustees who were focused solely on the college, said S. Colman O’Connell, former president and current senior development officer for Institutional Advancement. The president reported directly to the newly established board of trustees. In addition, separate incorporation ensured a better response to state and federal government demands for accountability, eased the financial responsibilities of the religious community, and allowed Saint Ben’s to be eligible for government funding.

Although the official date of separate incorporation is Oct. 13, 1961, the process took years to work out the day-to-day complexities of separating two entities that had operated as one institution for nearly 50 years. Thankfully, the Sisters continue to be involved in the life and leadership of the college. Five Sisters serve on the CSB Board of Trustees.



# In conversation with Professor Madhu Mitra



*Editor's note:*

*Last semester, faculty director Madhu Mitra, professor of English, led a group of 10 CSB students and two SJU students on the first CSB/SJU semester-long study abroad experience in India. Based in Kolkata, the academic program was hosted by St. Xavier's College, a Jesuit institution which conducts all classes in English. Our students studied the Bengali language, folk arts, ethnology and culture, and also enrolled in regular classes with St. Xavier's students. Maureen Opitz, director of donor relations in Institutional Advancement, interviewed Professor Mitra about her impressions of this ambitious undertaking.*

**Opitz: Overall, what is your assessment of this new study abroad program in India?**

**Mitra:** In some respects the program succeeded beyond everyone's expectations, and in others we learned a lot about the challenges of expanding an academic program to include theoretical as well as cultural dimensions. The most valuable thing that happened was that the students, all of whom had rather naïve and simple ideas about India, came back with an infinitely more complex understanding of Indian society.

**Opitz: Let's start with academics. What sort of challenges did you encounter as a result of differences in our higher education system?**

**Mitra:** Academically, India's higher education system is fundamentally different than U.S. higher education. On our campus, students take classes for four years, usually choose both a major and a minor, and take many common curriculum classes and electives outside of their majors. St. Xavier's students complete their degrees in three years, take classes on Saturdays, and focus almost completely on one discipline. Their end-of-term tests are cumulative and evaluated at least partially by faculty members from other institutions. At home, our students



Haley Yseth met her friend Lara, a Ph.D. candidate from Spain, when they volunteered together at Prayasam.



Students in formal Indian dress.

are expected to ask questions, participate in discussions, write papers, and share their research and creative projects. To some degree, they have a responsibility to enhance the learning of other students as well as their own. St. Xavier's students attend lectures, take detailed notes, and have responsibility for a highly focused, cumulative, and comprehensive understanding of their disciplines.

Through a certain degree of creativity and a great deal of negotiation, I was able to forge an academically coherent experience for the students. As a result, our students reported that being able to share classes with Indian students was very enriching.

**Opitz: How did our students handle the multitude of cultural differences?**

**Mitra:** Culturally, CSB and SJU students on the India program, as well as students in the wide array of other study abroad programs, have a great capacity to participate in and appreciate many aspects of other cultures. In Kolkata, they learned folk dances and had the opportunity to participate in theater, dance and intramural sports. They enthusiastically enjoyed the food and immediately learned Bengali table manners. They became close to both their Indian classmates and their host families. They also learned to cope with a very challenging public transportation system. Many of them took a combination of buses, auto rickshaws and the metro to get to class. Their daily commutes would be considered brutal by many mid-westerners. In other words, they learned to function in a city of 12 million people.

**Opitz: You mentioned your hopes to expand the theoretical aspect of the study abroad experience. What did you have in mind?**

**Mitra:** On the theoretical level, India is a great place to learn about inequities because the unequal distribution of resources is so visible. Every one of our students understood that they were lucky to have access to so many resources, but they found it much more challenging to examine the ways in which their privileged position in the United States relates to global inequities elsewhere.

Our students are quick to assume individual moral responsibility for the oppression they encounter but are less experienced with investigating the systemic failures inherent in that oppression. They are willing to explore everything they define as "cultural" but have more trouble examining the economic, political or historical interpretation of global interrelationships. Developing this understanding was the central focus of my course, *Cricket, Computers and Holy Cows*. To borrow a phrase from my syllabus, they found it difficult to examine "why they see what they see." Of course this is not an uncommon condition, but my goal was to expand their lens and create better educated global citizens.

## Not the 'Bollywood' she expected

CSB students Brynn Haugen and Kia Lor said they didn't mind one bit being the "trailblazers" for the new India study abroad program. Haugen, a senior art and environmental studies major and Lor, a junior communication major, were in awe of the sheer number of people there. "It was so chaotic on every single street. The people-watching was really interesting," Haugen said.

Lor described her biggest eye-opener: "I was expecting more of the high class, modern Bollywood India. There was such contradiction in what we saw. Things were either really nice or really dirty. People were either really rich or really poor."

Lor created a video about her experience. "So (deep breath), This is India" was a finalist for the 2011 Go Abroad Innovation Video Awards from GoAbroad.com. To view the video go to <http://blog.goabroad.com/2011/05/09/2011-goabroad-innovation-awards-student-video-finalist-deep-breath-india/>



Author Amitav Ghosh talked to students about his work.



# TAKING THE LONG

## *a vision of Saint Ben's future*

By Diane Hageman

For decades St. Teresa Hall (now Main), served College of Saint Benedict as its only building. Then, mid-20th century, the Sisters of the Order of Saint Benedict took the long view and imagined a performing arts center in a field where corn grew. The Benedicta Arts Center is now recognized as one of the finest performing arts centers in the Midwest. As the college flourished through the years, its physical plant expanded.

Now, college leaders are looking ahead in anticipation of new generations of students, and they are moving forward with an ambitious 20-year master plan.

"This is a very exciting time in the history of Saint Ben's," said CSB President MaryAnn Baenninger. "We are improving current facilities and are in the planning stages for three significant building projects that will transform living and learning on campus. As we approach our 100th anniversary in 2013, these projects lay the foundation for the next century."

Key elements of the master plan include a new academic building to anchor the southern gateway to campus, and a renovation and expansion of the Haehn Campus Center. In addition, two other building projects top the list in the master plan.

### **Nursing renovation**

First is the renovation and expansion of nursing department space on the fourth floor of the Main Building.

The nursing program opened in 1973 on the fourth floor of the Main Building. Last renovated in the 1980s, the current 1,600-square-foot area will be expanded to roughly 5,500 square feet of student learning space.

"The new space will place students in real-life situations in a controlled setting with state-of-the-art technology," said Carie Braun, chair of the nursing department. "The themed simulation rooms closely reflect the specialized care students experience today. They'll be working in a critical care unit, labor and delivery, mental health, pediatrics, long-term care and even a homeless shelter. I can't emphasize enough that these real-life simulations are a critical component of today's nursing education."

The CSB/SJU nursing program has a long track record of being one of the strongest baccalaureate nursing programs in the United States. Graduates pass the national licensure exam at rates well above 90 percent, and the program maintains rigorous accreditation standards.



**(Left) Haehn Campus Center**

A renovated and expanded Haehn Campus Center will complete an ambitious master plan to transform the campus.

*For tomorrow belongs  
to the people who  
prepare for it today.*

– African proverb

There is plenty of private space, yet ample common space for impromptu and planned get-togethers or study sessions,” Terhaar noted.

**Academic building for the second century**

Plans are underway to build a new 110,000-square-foot, \$55 million academic building to be located between the Benedicta Arts Center and Haehn Campus Center, serving as the south gateway to campus. The new building will be the premiere academic center on campus, housing the computer science, economics, mathematics and psychology departments.

“Our new academic building will provide faculty and students in the four departments with innovative classrooms, inviting study spaces designed for individual and group work, faculty offices that will encourage interaction with students, and modern laboratory facilities,” said Pam Bacon, associate professor of psychology and “project shepherd” for the new building. “Connecting these four departments will foster cross-disciplinary research collaboration and interdisciplinary teaching and learning in emerging fields such as behavioral economics.

“Based on feedback from the CSB community, the architects and planning committee have designed the building to ensure functionality, sustainability, and beauty, which support our Benedictine values of stewardship and community and will make this a building that will serve CSB for the next 100 years,” Bacon added. “The facility will provide faculty and students with state-of-the-art, flexible space that will adapt to evolving best practices in teaching and learning for the 21st century both inside and outside the traditional classroom.”

Bacon also noted that housing these departments at CSB will help increase the number of female students who enter traditionally male-dominated fields such as economics and computer science.

Plans are to build the facility to LEED Platinum Standards, making it the greenest building on campus.

**Haehn Campus Center transformation**

A significant piece of the master plan is the \$75 million renovation and expansion of the Haehn Campus Center. The first

# VIEW

“Employers consistently praise the quality of our graduates, and our alums hold some of the top leadership positions in the Midwest and beyond,” Braun said. “These changes are needed to remain competitive in recruiting the top students and helping them to achieve the highest standards in nursing education.

Braun says the goal is to start renovation work in December or January in time to be completed for fall 2012 classes. Total cost of the project is \$3 million and about \$650,000 had been raised by the end of July.

**A new residential experience**

The second project, also slated to begin this year, is the construction of residential units to house 125 upper-class women.

Construction is planned to begin in October on new residential units to be located on College Avenue across from the East Apartments. The residential units will be a series of smaller buildings made up of four-person, two-story, town-house units. According to Jody Terhaar, dean of students, each two-story unit will include two full baths, laundry facilities, full kitchen with seating space for dining, living room and storage space. There will also be a town-house unit for the residence director, a live-in, professional staff member.

A community center will provide multipurpose rooms for programming and student gatherings as well as a kitchen, fitness room, a computer lab, and small-group study rooms.

“We’ve planned these units to accommodate the needs of today’s busy college students, and have truly taken the needs of our junior and senior women into consideration in the design.

phase (\$20 million) begins the transformation to a state-of-the-art “campus center” that better meets the athletic and recreational needs of students and provides enhanced gathering space for community interaction. This phase includes a complete redesign and expansion of the fitness and wellness center, upgrades to the dining spaces in the building and moves the bookstore into a larger, more centralized space.

The second phase expands the athletic facilities to include a competition-sized hockey arena, field house and pool.

“CSB’s living and learning environment must support the breadth and scope of student engagement and students’ rising expectations for top-notch facilities on campus,” said Mary Geller, vice president of student development. In addition, many of the

Blazer sports teams cannot practice or compete at CSB. “The renovation and expansion of Haehn Campus Center will change that” she added.

“This project renews student life and development by creating facilities and programs that support holistic development of women—intellectually, socially, physically and emotionally,” Geller added.

“We fiercely believe women deserve to have access to the best education, the best facilities, and the best opportunities,” Baenninger said. “Investing in a campus environment that supports living and learning for the next 100 years is essential to the continued success of the Saint Ben’s experience.”



### New Academic Building

A new academic building as envisioned in these renderings will anchor the south gateway to campus and serve as the premier academic center.



For complete news and notes from classmates,  
log on to [www.csbsju.edu/csbalum/news](http://www.csbsju.edu/csbalum/news)



Space permitting, the class notes section will contain milestones or professional updates. Marriages, births and deaths will be printed if they have taken place in the past 12 months.

For a full version of class notes, please check [www.csbsju.edu/csbalum/classpages](http://www.csbsju.edu/csbalum/classpages)

For current updates from classmates and to post your notes go to the online community:

[www.csbsju.edu/csbalum/community](http://www.csbsju.edu/csbalum/community)

## 1961

**Charlotte Kunkel Klose** and her husband Gerhard '61 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 12.

## 1973

**Jennifer Dean-Dwyer** received the P.A. of the Year Award from the Minnesota Academy of Physician Assistants.

## 1975

**Mary Wotzka Lagaard** received a D.N.P. degree in 2010.

**Mary Rose Pettis's** paintings were featured at the Stillwater Public Library in May and June in an exhibit titled "Abroad and Back: Selected Images from My Travels and My Back Yard."

## 1980

**Dr. Mary Helen Tintes-Schuermann** is currently on the faculty of the Vienna Conservatory in Austria.

**Leslie Sinner McEvoy** is pleased to announce the release of her newest publication, *The Minnesota ADR Handbook: A Guide to Mediation, Arbitration and Other Processes for Advocates and Neutrals*, written by three local alternative dispute resolution experts — Gary Weissman, Linda Mealey-Lohmann and Leslie Sinner McEvoy.

## 1982

**Kate Lenci Maguire** is now the Superintendent of Schools at ISD #279 — Osseo area schools.

**Kim Ebert Colella** was chosen as the 2010 Laureate of the Greater Tacoma Peace Prize. This award included a trip for her and her family to Oslo, Norway, to be present during the Nobel Peace Prize events.

## 1983

**Janice Jarocki Terry** was recently appointed the president of Superior Federation of Labor.

## 1986

**Marie Rickmyer** received a M.B.A. from Capella University in December 2010. She has also launched a new marketing and advertising company Silverdog Marketing and Advertising.

**Kathy Neumann-Ciesiak** received her education doctorate (Ed.D.) from University of North Dakota in August, 2011. Kathy is currently the assistant principal at Fargo North High School in Fargo, N.D., where she lives with her husband of 16 years, Rich.

## 1990

**Margaret Murphy** was selected as one of 25 industry leaders by *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal* in their 2011 Women in Business Awards.

## 1991

**Amy Patton** was recently promoted to vice president of information technology at Digital River, Inc.

## 1993

**Michelle Marso** received her M.B.A. from Cardinal Stritch University in June 2011.

## 1996

**Andrea Williams Wan** is currently working as a senior court attorney for the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court in Brooklyn, N.Y. Her responsibilities are to read and evaluate appeals, report on them, and recommend action to the panel of judges hearing the appeals.

## 1998

**Ann Beissel Sinon** received her master's degree from St. Thomas in December 2010.

## 1999

**Kelly Grinsteinner** has been promoted to editor of the *Hibbing Daily Tribune* and assumed her duties August 15, 2011. She began at the *Tribune* as a staff writer upon graduating Saint Ben's, and then became an assistant editor in 2006. In her new position, Kelly will be a member of a four-person leadership team, replacing the *Tribune's* former general manager.

**Shannon Roers Jones** received a J.D. from the University of North Dakota School of Law in May 2011.

## 2001

**Sandy Sanford** received a Master of Science degree in school counseling from University of Wisconsin-Superior in December 2009.

**Jessie Ahlschlager Sandoval** was promoted to Director of Alumnae Relations at the College of Saint Benedict.

## 2002

**Tiffany Rocha Landkammer** earned her double master's in management and health and human services administration from St. Mary's University.

**Rachel Prosser** received her Ph.D. in nursing from the University of Michigan. She has earned her masters in community health nursing, family nurse practitioner track and a certificate of international health and social development. She works as the research manager for the HIV/AIDS research at Minneapolis Medical Research Foundation and serves as co-investigator and sub-investigator on grants. She sees patients in the Positive Care Center Clinic and is the HIV specialist for the State of Minnesota, Department of Corrections.

**Tina Schochow Greazel** was promoted at The Travelers Companies to the position of tax director.

**Anna Moll Johanson** received a masters in social work from Minnesota State University-Mankato in 2010.

**Dr. Gina O'Neill Wesley** was awarded Minnesota's Young Optometrist of the Year for 2011. This award is peer-nominated and peer-voted, and represents involvement within the profession, strong dedication to both patients and peers, and potential for future success. Dr. Wesley practices in Medina, M.N. where she started Complete Eye Care in 2008.

## 2004

**Lisa Kingsley** received a M.B.A. from Carlson School of Business at the University of Minnesota in May 2011. At Carlson, Lisa participated in two global enrichment programs in Brussels, Belgium/London, England and Saõ Paulo, Brazil. Lisa is employed in corporate marketing at Polaris Industries.

## ALUMNAE MILESTONES



### Judy Zimmer '84

#### Attention CSB alumnae: Prepare to be motivated

Judy Zimmer '84 brings a professional pizzazz to her role as president of the College of Saint Benedict Alumnae Association. As a business coach, motivational speaker, small business owner and author, she is passionate about connecting individuals for personal and professional growth. Now she is passionate about connecting Bennies with each other and their alma mater.

Judy comes on board just as the college leadership is advancing a master plan to secure a strong future for the college. She said she is inspired by a comment CSB President MaryAnn Baenninger made at the Young Alumnae President's Circle gathering in June. "She said it's our responsibility as alumnae of Saint Ben's to continue to raise the profile of the college," Judy recalled. "As alumnae, we are the sisterhood that will expand the legacy of our founding order for Saint Ben's next 100 years," she continued. "This is our moment."

Judy invites all Bennies to visit Saint Ben's website to discover the many ways to stay connected.

### 2005

**Layne Grover** received a M.B.A. from Bethel University in December 2009.

**Ann Mailander Steingraeber** received her J.D. from the University of Minnesota Law School in May 2011.

### 2006

**Liz (Leslie) Housman** received her masters of education in teaching and learning from Saint Mary's in May 2011.

**Tammy Hoese** graduated from the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy in May 2011 with a doctor of pharmacy degree. She will be working for Walgreens in the Twin Cities metro area.

**Mary Winzenburg Uran** brought a chapter of the international non-profit "Girls on the Run" to the Twin Cities. "Girls on the Run" (GOTR) is an experiential learning, wellness and development program designed for girls in grades 3–5.

### 2007

**Abby Johnstone** recently received her doctor of pharmacy degree (PharmD) from the University of Minnesota, College of Pharmacy with honors, Magna Cum Laude. Abby has since accepted a residency at the University of Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview where she will be focused in pediatrics working at the newly opened University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital.

**Katie Yeager** received her J.D. degree from William Mitchell College of Law in 2011.

**Kelly Prosen** received a M.A. Systematics from Saint John's University School of Theology in December 2010.

**Amanda Kack Flannery** completed her Master's Degree from the University of Minnesota School of Nursing as a pediatric nurse Practitioner in May 2011.

**Tanya Lindquist-Fleegel** was promoted to director of marketing at GrandStay Hospitality, LLC.

### 2008

**Susanna Matlon** discerned her first year at Saint Ben's she was called to become a nun. She found her new home after about two years of searching. She is very happy as a Carmelite and is now S. Mary Joseph of Jesus, with the Convent of Jesus Mary and Joseph in Pennsylvania.

**Brittany Billehus Sele** received a juris doctor degree from the University of Minnesota Law School on May 14, 2011.



**Cheri Supalla '06** to Scott Mathiowetz, Oct. '10

### 2009

**Stephanie Majka-Nava** received a masters of social work degree, with honors, from University of Denver in June 2011.

**Abby Milton** received a masters of athletic training (MATrg) from North Dakota State University in May 2011.

### 2010

As a graduate student at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science at the College of William & Mary, **Hadley McIntosh** was awarded the Craig Smith Memorial Scholarship for her outstanding contributions to research.

**Stephanie Mackenthun** has been accepted into and will be attending the University of Minnesota Medical School this fall.

**Elizabeth Hauth** will be serving as a United States Peace Corps volunteer in Burkina Faso, Africa, for the next 27 months. She will primarily be working as a high school math teacher, with additional work in HIV/AIDS prevention, girls' education and empowerment, and other community outreach programs.

### 2011

**Anna Burgason** was hired as the new alumnae relations associate in alumnae relations at the College of Saint Benedict. She was previously working as an Alternative Spring Break Experience coordinator for CSB Campus Ministry.



**Lisa Marie Wolff '05** to Jonathan Wittig, May '11



**Danielle Di Fabio '08** to Joseph Moravec '08, Oct. '10

**Carrie Vandelac** began her role as the executive assistant to the vice president of institutional advancement at the College of Saint Benedict in July 2011. She most recently served as the director of the Institute for Women's Leadership at CSB.

### From this day forward

- 1984 **Sheila Koser** to Hoadley Harris, Feb. '11
- 1995 **Jill Funk** to Brent Simons, April '10
- 1998 **Heidi Gohl** to Jeff Peterson, May '11
- 2000 **Rachael Rudeen** to Jeff Klos, June '10
- 2001 **Dawn Bauerly** to Corey Pieper, Dec. '10
- 2001 **Callie Danner** to Ryan Brown, Oct. '10
- 2001 **Barbara Young** to Robb Reimer, April '10
- 2002 **Janine Luhtala** to Benjamin Loetscher, May '11
- 2003 **Stacy Roers** to Christopher Irmen, March '11
- 2004 **Amy Rhodes** to Eric Loney, July '10
- 2005 **Emily van der Hagen** to Richard Martinson '04, Oct. '10
- 2005 **Kelli Doschadis** to Brent Petersen '05, Sept. '10
- 2005 **Amanda Anderson** to Christopher Duffy '04, June '11
- 2005 **Amy Nordstrand** to Jeffrey Sik, June '11
- 2006 **Katelyn Ostlund** to Andrew Ward '06, Oct. '10
- 2006 **Catherine Claeys** to Jake Scott, Nov. '10
- 2006 **Kate Anderson** to Sean Abernathy '06, Oct. '10

- 2006 **Anne Mills** to Dan Hanson, Oct. '10
- 2006 **Jessica Koskela** to Kurt Johnson, Feb. '11
- 2006 **Nicole Goeden** to Alex Ubbelohde, Sept. '10
- 2006 **Dana Gervais** to Michael Seifert '06, May '11
- 2006 **Pari Allen** to Raymond Luna '02, June '11
- 2006 **Jennifer Bryant** to Kevin Christen '06, June '11
- 2006 **Sarah Groebner** to Stephen Szczek '07, Jan. '11
- 2007 **Danie Delwiche** to Ben Oelhafen '06, Dec. '10
- 2007 **Christine Synnott** to Jason Prostrollo '07, July '10
- 2007 **Amanda Kack** to Lance Flannery '06, Aug. '10
- 2007 **Kirsten Van Loh** to Phillip Ehresmann, April '11
- 2007 **Nora Kain** to Tyler Tholl '08, May '11
- 2008 **Charity Murray** to Benjamin Hans, May '10
- 2008 **Nikki Bender** to Peter DeLisi '08, June '11
- 2008 **Katie Ranallo** to Kevin Boegel '08, June '11
- 2009 **Liz Otremba** to Levi Berg, Dec. '10
- 2009 **Sarah Roth** to Anthony Von Ruden '08, Nov. '10
- 2009 **Angie Ballman** to Kyle Punton '09, Jan. '11
- 2009 **Stephanie Majka** to Antonio Nava, Jr. '09, July '11



**Dr. Linda Bishop Bohn '71**

### Distinguished Alumna Award

This award is given to an alumna for outstanding and distinguished achievements in her profession and whose daily life reflects the Benedictine ideals and mission of the College. Linda has made a lasting contribution in her field and is a role model for all alumnae.

Linda's life has come full circle. She began her career as a teacher. Then she went to medical school and practiced in radiology for 20 years and taught in the Department of Radiology at the University of Minnesota. In 1994, she became the first woman president of the Ramsey Medical Society in the organization's 124 years. She also founded the first dedicated Breast Cancer Detection Center in the Twin Cities. In 2001, Linda was diagnosed with a tumor of the pituitary gland and after complications from surgery, she had to retire from medicine. Using the gift of teaching, she has since taught Sunday school and tutors students in Saint Paul. She recently became a master gardener, putting her expertise to use volunteering to maintain public gardens.

**Reunion 2011  
Award Winner**



**Susan Lynch Vento '76**

**Benedictine Service Award**

This award honors an alumna for her continued commitment and contributions to community service and social justice. Susan demonstrates a commitment to the Benedictine spirit of giving, hospitality, love of others, listening, and social stewardship.

Susan's motto might well be "Speak up! Speak out!" She has done that throughout her life, for 27 years as a political organizer and lobbyist for the Minnesota Education Association and currently serving on three National Education Association training teams. Following her husband's death from mesothelioma in 2001, Susan began lobbying on behalf of mesothelioma patients and their families and co-authored the book, *100 Questions and Answers about Mesothelioma*. Susan serves on the Neighborhood House Board of Directors and is chair of Ramsey County's largest food shelf. She's also involved with the Carmen Pampa Fund, supporting a Catholic university in an impoverished area of Bolivia.

**Reunion 2011  
Award Winner**



**Jamie Frost Kingston '02** & Vince Kingston, Girl, Audrey Fiona, May '10



**Shannon Verly Wiger '04** & Nicolas Wiger, Twins, Jack and Owen, May '11

- 2010 **Ashley Fulton** to **Tyler Miller '09**, July '10
- 2010 **Katie Tri** to Lucas Benson, Feb. '11
- 2010 **Katelyn Mattson** to **Peter Schoen '10**, Jan. '11
- 2010 **Steph Maher** to **Todd Fredrickson '10**, Aug. '10
- 2010 **Ashley Theisen May** to Rick May, May '11
- 2010 **Brooke Tuohy** to **Caleb Wenzel '11**, June '11
- 2010 **Melissa Marquardt** to **Alex Ludescher '10**, June '11

**Bundles of joy**

- 1989 **Betsy Jacobs Cutrara & Sam Cutrara '89**, Boy, Theodore, May '11
- 1991 **Janel Halverson Goff & Brian Goff**, Boy, Jett, April '10
- 1991 **Paula Koshiol Kraus & Tom Kraus**, Girl, Mary Jo, Feb. '11
- 1992 **Nancy Dockendorf Lauer & Tim Lauer**, Boy, Anthony, Dec. '10
- 1992 **Brenda Brambrink Kaschmitter & Brian Kaschmitter**, Girl, Emma, March '11
- 1993 **Annie Cepress Clark & John Clark**, Boy, Matthew, Oct. '10
- 1993 **Tracy Moline McNulty & George McNulty**, Boy, Pierce, Sept. '09
- 1993 **Karen Dahlheimer Reseland & Richard Reseland**, Girl, Emily, Aug. '10
- 1993 **Pam Lenertz Pundsack & Kris Pundsack '95**, Girl, Whitney, Feb. '11
- 1993 **Leslie Prischmann Flugstad & Matthew Flugstad**, Girl, Lucia, Feb '11
- 1995 **Tori Lee Makela & Karl Makela**, Girl, Avery, Oct. '10
- 1995 **Colleen Hicks Gregg & Chris Gregg '95**, Boy, Henry, Dec. '10
- 1995 **Lara Grove Zuleger & James Zuleger**, Girl, Alise, May '11
- 1995 **Libby Mudd Wenderski & Jason Wenderski**, Girl, Kyla, Jan. '11
- 1996 **Anjanette Sofie Conway & Scott Conway '98**, Twin Boys, Samuel and Steven, Dec. '10
- 1997 **Rachel Green Rebman & Ryan Rebman**, Boy, Soren, Sept. '10
- 1997 **Melina Canlas Koch & Jon Koch '97**, Boy, Leo, Nov. '10
- 1997 **Julie Olsem Ludwig & John Ludwig**, Boy, Xavier, Nov. '10
- 1997 **Tanya Hanson Leither & Eric Leither**, Boy, Easton, Dec. '10
- 1997 **Patty Malone Gramke & Jim Gramke**, Girl, Katherine, Dec. '10
- 1997 **Lacey Kelash Monnier & Jeremy Monnier**, Girl, Madellyn, Jan. '11
- 1997 **Amy Unterberger & Casey Wright**, Boy, Drew, Dec. '10
- 1997 **Heather Rogers Yin & Dara Yin**, Girl, Penelope, Dec. '10
- 1997 **Lisa Schmitz Brennan & Jeff Brennan**, Girl, Ellie, June '10
- 1997 **Kelly Gates Willette & Michael Willette '97**, Boy, Joseph, Oct. '10
- 1997 **Heidi Fleischacker Gallus & Carey Gallus**, Boy, Max, Jan. '11
- 1997 **Melissa Valiant Sackett & Paul Sackett**, Boy, Lukas, Jan. '11
- 1997 **Laura Torborg Peichel & Greg Peichel '96**, Girl, Charlotte, April '11
- 1997 **Michelle Lentz Kimman & Duane Kimman**, Boy, Benjamin, May '11
- 1998 **Eleanor Mamer Kiel & Micah Kiel '98**, Boy, Brendan, Oct. '10
- 1998 **Allison Keable Driggins & Carl Driggins**, Boy, Carlyle, June '10
- 1998 **Jennifer Siebenaler Metz & Joel Metz**, Girl, Molly, Oct. '10
- 1998 **Sarah Graff Wotipka & Michael Wotipka**, Girl, Frances, Nov. '10
- 1998 **Nicole Needham Welle & Andy Welle**, Girl, Rebecca, Dec. '10



**Danni Phillips Anderson '98 & Steven Anderson, Twins, Steven & Daviana, Oct. '10**



**Jessie Ahlschlager Sandoval '01 & Jesus Sandoval, Girl, Natalia Elena Sandoval, Jan. '11**



**Kristi Kubista-Hovis '01**

- 1998 **Angela Broskoff Klemmensen & Cory Klemmensen '98**, Boy, Brogan, Dec. '10
- 1998 **Becky Allard Hoskins & Sean Hoskins**, Boy, James, Dec. '10
- 1998 **Bridget McAllister Bowden & Ross Bowden**, Girl, Margaret, July '10
- 1998 **Jennifer Kelm Peterson & Brett Peterson**, Boy, Olivier, Jan. '11
- 1998 **Sara Anderson O'Rourke & Cap O'Rourke '98**, Boy, Mason, Sept. '10
- 1999 **Jennifer Cereck Jost & Kevin Jost '99**, Girl, Morgan, May '10
- 1999 **Jennifer Neegaard Flinn & Dugan Flinn '99**, Boy, Deacon, Dec. '10
- 1999 **Jennifer Ward Hesli & Todd Hesli '99**, Boy, Blake, April '10
- 1999 **Lindsay Vedder Thomas & Ryan Thomas**, Boy, Mason, Feb. '11
- 1999 **Sara McElmury Freid & Paul Freid '99**, Girl, Louise, Oct. '10
- 1999 **Angie Illies Lieser & Brad Lieser**, Girl, Abigail, March '11
- 1999 **Heidi Hiemenz Schaefer & Daryl Schaefer**, Boy, Zachary, April '11
- 1999 **Jennifer Carling List & Jeremy List '99**, Boy, Tyler, May '11
- 1999 **Shannon Shimota Hanlon & Steve Hanlon**, Boy, Charlie, May '11
- 2000 **Kristi Kelly Laliberte & David Laliberte '00**, Boy, Patrick, Nov. '10
- 2000 **Denise Ross Christie & Jeremy Christie '00**, Boy, Jackson, Nov. '10
- 2000 **Christy Lauer Sexton & Jim Sexton**, Girl, Claire, Nov. '10
- 2000 **Betsy Dynan Schmucker & Aaron Schmucker '98**, Boy, Evan, Sept. '10
- 2000 **Sarah Fritz Woodworth & Terry Woodworth**, Girl, Elizabeth, Oct. '10
- 2000 **Deirdre McCarrell Otis & James Otis**, Girl, Lucy, Jan. '11
- 2000 **Anne Panian Sinna & Gabe Sinna '00**, Boy, Jacob, Jan. '11
- 2000 **Brenda Dukerschein Krotzer & Jacob Krotzer '00**, Girl, Nicole, Feb. '11

- 2000 **Sarah Pangerl Hildebrand & Jeff Hildebrand '00**, Boy, Jacob, April '11
- 2000 **Jocelyn Rossman Hirschfeld & Josh Hirschfeld**, Boy, Ben, April '11
- 2000 **Meagan Conlin Phillips & Michael Phillips**, Girl, Abigail, April '11
- 2000 **Lisa Neu & Anthony Kapinos '00**, Boy, Mathias, June '11
- 2001 **Mindi Kvaal Anderson & Benjamin Anderson '00**, Girl, Samantha, Sept. '10
- 2001 **Justine Rubendall Zirbes & Brian Zirbes '01**, Twin Girls, Hazel and Ruby, Dec. '10
- 2001 **Reyna Manley Hartley & David Hartley '01**, Girl, Fiona, Jan. '11
- 2001 **Jessica Lessard Maslow & John Maslow '00**, Girl, Lucy, Oct. '10
- 2001 **Colleen Salzer Reiland & Daniel Reiland '99**, Girl, Nora, Nov. '10
- 2001 **Barbie Walden Gruenhagen & Dan Gruenhagen**, Boy, Max, Jan. '11
- 2001 **Alicia Baumgarn Radel & Travis Radel '01**, Boy, Gavin, April '10
- 2001 **Stacy Kaye Nagassar & Nigel Nagassar '00**, Girl, Kayleigh, Dec. '10
- 2001 **Melissa Hemmelgarn Fox & Michael Fox '01**, Girl, Tenley, Feb. '11
- 2001 **Julie Frieler Deters & Robbie Deters**, Boy, Riley, March '11
- 2001 **Alison Bormann & Brian Bell**, Girl, Keira, Nov. '10
- 2001 **Leah Meyer Swenson & Jeffrey Swenson '01**, Girl, Abigail, April '11
- 2001 **Rebecca Penfold Murray & Michael Murray '01**, Twins, Margaret & Peter, March '11
- 2001 **Bethany Hise Nienhuis & Marcel Nienhuis**, Girl, Nya, April '11
- 2001 **Lisa Kuechle Ed & Chris Ed**, Boy, Alexander, Dec. '10

### Decade Award

The Decade Award honors a 2001 alumna for outstanding achievements in her profession. Kristi is a great role model for younger alums and represents global consciousness and community involvement.

During her time at Saint Ben's, Kristi learned to see the big picture as well as the devilish details. Later, as an environmental statistician, she understood how minor events can lead to wide-spread changes in an ecosystem, and how wide-spread changes in an ecosystem can impact a single species. These insights apply in both her professional and personal life, as she understands the impact a single individual can have. She serves as senior policy advisor to the Rural Business Service Administration, an organization that creates economic development programs in rural communities. Kristi also co-leads a women's group and acts as the Pillar Life Chair for St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Capitol Hill.

**Reunion 2011  
Award Winner**



# WHY I GIVE...

“As a proud alum and employee, I feel and witness the Saint Ben's experience every day. Women leave Saint Ben's truly changed; they are inspired, confident, compassionate, and eager to follow their life's passion. Bennies experience a highly esteemed education and countless opportunities, empowering them to become leaders and ultimately create their own destiny. The world needs more Bennies. I believe in helping make their tomorrow possible.”

Erica Rademacher '03

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
*Career Services*



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## CSB Reunion 2011

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view class pages, upcoming events and volunteer opportunities



## Young Alumnae President's Circle

The inaugural Young Alum President's Circle celebration was held at Le Meridien Chambers in Minneapolis, Minn. President MaryAnn Baenninger provided an update on the college, and attendees reminisced and celebrated their commitment to the Saint Ben's community over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Pictured: Katie Kenefick '11, Joy Pohland '10, Tiffany De Leon '10, Alison Gresback '11, Ashley VerBurg '10



## President's Circle

Over 200 members of CSB's President's Circle of Donors attended the 2011 President's Circle Dinner at Interlachen Country Club in Edina in May. Among the evening's events were student vocal performances, an address given by Dr. Manuel Campos, professor of Biology, and plenty of laughs.



John and Lois Welshons '61



Manuel Campos, MaryAnn Baenninger, Beth Dinndorf '73 and Patty Maas

# Buon appetito!

## Describe your work:

I am a sales rep for Accardi Foods, a 35-year-old, family owned, specialty foods distributor in the Boston area. We provide Italian products as well as other specialty items to fine dining establishments and specialty retailers in the New England area.

My days are never the same, but in general I travel throughout the Boston area and visit customers. Sometimes we discuss and sample new items with the producers, other weeks I just drop in and answer questions about items we might have for an upcoming event or new menu.

## How did you end up doing what you're doing?

I was looking to develop an understanding of a different side of the food industry. After CSB, I completed a degree in culinary arts at Johnson and Wales University in Denver. That led me into the professional kitchen, a route I knew I wanted to dabble in for a while; though ultimately it was not my goal. After my time in the restaurant, I cooked for a couple of families as a personal chef, which was a very rewarding experience. Upon moving to Boston, it was time to step into another aspect of the food industry, the specialty retailer. I was a buyer for Savor's Market and followed that with a position as general manager for Bina Alimentari. Buying for specialty retailers allowed me to be on the forefront of new food trends and also allowed me to develop a relationship with the people producing or importing those items. Through those relationships, I learned about the distributor side of the industry. When it was time to move on I decided to round out my knowledge and spend some time working with a distributor.

## Which aspects of your CSB experiences helped you in your later achievements?

The emphasis on balance and becoming a well-rounded person has helped me in my life and my career. I have made an effort to develop an understanding of several aspects of the food industry to better understand how all of the pieces work together to make a cohesive system. At CSB there was always a focus on balance in one's life. That value on balance has stayed with me. I currently volunteer with community organizations and regularly take time to rejuvenate myself at the climbing wall or walking along the beach.

## What is exciting or rewarding in your work?

The most rewarding part of my work is when I am able to use my experience and help a customer with menu development. I find it exciting to conduct tastings with customers of cheeses or olive oils and to educate their staff about the products they will be using.

## Does the public typically misunderstand your work?

The public often thinks that my work is based out of my home. It is in reality based out of my car. I am out visiting customers all day and delivering items that might have been forgotten when a chef placed his order. My territory is a 10-mile radius from my home, and I drive about 250 miles a week in that small circle.



## Rachel Giannotti '01

### What advice do you have for current students who might be interested in your work — or just general advice to all students?

For those interested in hospitality, it is a great field, but be prepared to work long, hard hours when starting out. It is a field where we work while most people play. It is an exciting field with amazing opportunities that is growing quickly.

My advice to all students is to take advantage of networking sessions. You never know who you will meet and how your paths might cross. Never be afraid to tell someone what your goals are. They might be able to help you reach them.



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**INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT**

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