

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2004

Applause for Servant Leader Scholars

At the recent Charter Day celebration, the University's Servant Leader Scholars were publicly recognized for the first time. The following are the remarks of Father Paul Holmes on the occasion.

"On this Charter Day 2004, as we celebrate our history and rededicate ourselves to our mission, we would like to recognize those students who are among the first to become the University's 'Servant Leader Scholars.'

"In cooperation with Enrollment Services, the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership awards scholarships to further the University's

mission to 'form servant leaders for a global society.' We recognize that, in order to fulfill that mission, our students can benefit most from having 'models' in our midst – a cohort of students who are honing their servant leader 'skills' and reminding us of what we are all called to be.

"As our proposal to the Lilly Endowment explained, 'The purpose of this initiative is to cele-



Servant Leader Scholars Recognized on Charter Day

brate those students who exemplify the spirit of our patroness, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. By publicly celebrating their achievements, it is our hope that they will serve as a source of inspiration for the entire University community. We anticipate that the recipients will reflect not only the diversity of our student population, but that they will also represent a myriad of creative responses

to their own vocational calls.'

"Our present cohort surely embodies those hopes." (See roster of Servant Leader Scholars on page 4.)

The Director's Corner

In March, the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership is moving into its new home: a freshly renovated office on the lower level of Presidents Hall.

With its more central location, I hope the Center will have a more visible role in the life of the University.

I am anxious to put our new office to work and invite you to visit our new home during the month of April. I want to thank our immediate neighbors for their patience with the inevitable dust and noise of the renovation.

A special "thank you" must go to Immaculate Conception Seminary for providing me an office that has been the de facto **Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership** until now. I would also like to thank the Seminary for the donation of office furniture for the new Center.

> Dr. David Foster Director

Look Inside:

- Faith and Vocation through the Arts
- F.O.C.U.S.
- LEADERSHIP CONFER-ENCE
- DR. TOTH SPEAKS ON LEADERSHIP
- INTRODUCTION TO
 LILLY PROPOSAL



Faith and Vocation through the Arts

"PROPOSED PROJECTS CAN EXPLORE THE ART AND CULTURE OF BOTH THE CATHOLIC FAITH AND THE OTHER FAITHS REPRESENTATED AT OUR UNIVERSITY."

The **Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership** in cooperation with the College of Arts and Sciences will distribute \$80,000 over the next four years to support an exploration of faith and vocation through the arts.

A request for proposals was recently issued by Molly Smith, Dean of Arts and Sciences, entitled *Exploring Faith and Vocation Through the Arts* to all students, faculty, and staff. Funded by the Lilly Grant, the program will distribute \$20,000 annually to encourage arts programs across the University that explore religious faith, justice, and vocation. Proposed projects can explore the art and culture of both the Catholic faith and the other faiths represented at our University.

Requests for an application may be addressed to Miriam Lyons-Frolow, College of Arts and Sciences (x9698 or <u>lyonsfmi@shu.edu</u>) or Dr. David Foster, Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership (x9733 or <u>fosterda@shu.edu</u>). The submission deadline is April 2, 2004.

F.O.C.U.S.

Four members of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students have been on campus since September. This fellowship, or FOCUS for short, was started in 1997 by



Focus Team visits Archbishop Myers at the Cathedral Residence

Curtis Martin to foster among college students a faith in Jesus Christ within the framework of the Catholic Church.

The FOCUS outreach happens through small group Bible studies, larger social events, and plenty of personal one-on-one time. Through authentic friendships the FOCUS ministers try to model for students a life of chastity, sobriety and excellence. The FOCUS team encourages students to discuss the challenges of trying to live such a life on a university campus. Such discussions often occur in the Bible studies when students begin to discover the Word of God in Scriptures.

The FOCUS team on our campus includes: Tom Wurtz from Arizona who has a BS in Biology from

Benedictine College; Kate Ebeler from St. Louis who has a BS in Biology and Psychology from the University of Denver; Margot Capocci from Philadelphia who has a BS in Speech Pathology and Audiology from Illinois State University; and Matthew Cyriac from Chicago who has a BS in Economics from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.



Leadership Conference

On January 16-18, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) hosted a conference on Leadership in Denver, Colorado. With 23 students from Seton Hall, and 1300 college students from across the country, it was the largest FOCUS conference to date.

The main talks were on Christian leadership, a Christian approach to dating, and the courage to be Catholic. Break-out sessions included dating, living out chastity, sobriety and excellence, true feminism, the new age movement, being a Catholic doctor, and ethical struggles in the military.

A highlight of the conference was a private screening of the movie "The Passion of the Christ" and a talk by Jim Cavezial, the actor who portrayed Jesus in the film. Thomas Wurtz, campus director of FOCUS at Seton Hall, said that he "was immensely moved by the portrayal of Christ's suffering." For further information regarding the conference or future conferences. visit their website at:

www.focusonline.org



Seton Hall Team at FOCUS Leadership Conference

"SETON HALL'S TEAM OF 23 STUDENTS JOINED 1300 COLLEGE STUDENTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY AT THE DENVER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE."

Dr. Toth Speaks on Leadership

Dr. William Toth, associate professor of moral theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary and Co-Director of the Institute on Work, delivered a paper entitled "Leadership Development in the Catholic University" at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota in October 2003. The full text of the paper is available at our website: http:// mission.shu.edu/center.

Dr. Toth invites readers to submit their comments and reflections to tothbill@shu.edu. The following is taken from a summary of the paper.

"The Lilly Grant has given Seton Hall University a magnificent opportunity to engage its administration, students, faculty, alumni, and staff in leadership development. In an era when many of our public institutions seem to be overmanaged and under-led, the calling to be a leader is a rich and vital resource that must be recognized and embraced. To form servant leaders constitutes the distinct mission of Seton Hall University. This essay is an introductory reflection on how a leadership development process might be conceived and undertaken at Seton Hall."

"THE CALLING TO BE A LEADER IS A RICH AND VITAL RESOURCE THAT MUST BE RECOGNIZED AND EMBRACED."

DR. WILLIAM TOTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE LILLY GRANT



SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

400 South Orange Avenue South Orange, NJ 07079

From the University's Proposal to the Lilly Endowment:

Fourteen miles from Ground Zero, the Seton Hall University community has experienced the deepest sorrow and loss. Long before September 11, we had always known how important our faith is in time of trial. Our own private grief over the loss of three students in a residence hall fire was not even two years old when the eyes of the world turned to the World Trade Center. From the depths of both sorrows, we stand today ever more convinced that the strong assurance of God's ever healing grace can bind us more closely into a community of love and service to the world.

A year has passed since September 11, and it seems our world has grown colder and more fearful. We find ourselves now immersed in a rush of realities that can truly chill the human spirit: terrorism at home and abroad, suicide bombers and American hostage murders, gigantic corporate failures linked to corporate accounting scandals, recession, expanding trade deficits and massive layoffs and, if this were not enough, despicable sexual predatory acts committed by trusted religious leaders upon our young. New and virulent strains of greed and aggression have surfaced to poison the wellspring of our culture. Our personalities are being whipped into a frenzied spiral of acquiring more, doing more, and doing it all faster, while our souls can often feel empty and yearn for renewal. If ever there was a need to incite our young and our old to heed 'the better angels' of their natures, it is now. If ever there was a time for us to hear and obey the deep callings to personal and cultural authenticity that miraculously persist and continue to well up within us, it is now. If ever there was a season for servant leaders to surface and shine in our midst, it is now.

That we need transformative leaders in our churches and in our workplaces is most evident to us at Seton Hall University. A drive out of our main gate reveals a microcosm of the challenges America currently faces. A turn in one direction, and one finds a comfortable middle-American sort of downtown with shops, restaurants and tidy homes. A turn in the other direction, and one encounters rundown buildings, few viable businesses, men in their twenties standing on street corners with fewer employment options than were offered during the Great Depression. And in the background of both vistas is a train that whisks commuters to Manhattan traveling just fast enough for its passengers not to notice what they are passing through. We can do better than this — and we will do better with faith-filled men and women who in their education at our University hear a call of vocation as a call to serve others.

We're on the Web! http://mission.shu.edu/ center

We believe that the programs of The Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership will allow us to transform our teaching, research, service, governance and administration in a manner that will **Inspire**, **Motivate**, and **Promote A Call To Service** in the Church and in the world.

Congratulations to Our Servant Leader Scholars!

The following students have received Servant Leader scholarships: Jesse Abreu, freshman, Arts & Sciences Alexei Aitouganov, senior, Catholic Studies Rafina Alli, freshman, Arts & Sciences Jacqueline Barresi, freshman, Math John Bellocchio, senior, Diplomacy Stephen Burns, graduate, Theology Mark Camiolo, senior, Biology Fatima Cardoso, freshman, Biology Sheena Collum, sophomore, Political Science Jennifer Costa, senior, Diplomacy Jennifer Dressler, freshman, Psychology Tara DiDomizio, junior, Diplomacy Richard Fetter, freshman, Sports Management Gregory Floyd, graduate, Theology Jodi Kastel, graduate, Corporate Communications Sarah Kish, sophomore, Nursing Sheila Larang, junior, Special Education Rebecca Levenberg, graduate, Museum Studies Lian Mah, sophomore, Communication John McKenna, freshman, Accounting Dane Martin, sophomore, Religious Studies Vincenzo Mogavero, junior, Political Science Fonda Mojka, sophomore, Psychology Tan Nguyen, freshman, Psychology Elky Reyes, graduate, Theology Francisco Rodriguez, senior, Education Rochell Roldan, freshman, Diplomacy Yasin Samatar, senior, Diplomacy Colleen Smith, freshman, Arts & Sciences Peter Touhill, freshman, Sports Management Robert Walsh, graduate, Theology