



# The Servant Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTER FOR VOCATION AND SERVANT LEADERSHIP

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## Scholars Abroad: World Youth Day

FOUR Servant Leader Scholars were among the seven Seton Hall students who traveled to Australia for World Youth Day (WYD) and a three-credit course at Campion College. The trip was organized by the Center for Catholic Studies and supported by the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership.

The course covered the

historical interaction between Catholicism and Australian society and politics since 1788. The unique component was the opportunity to attend WYD events, from the opening Mass to the vigil and closing Mass.

The theme of WYD was “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you: and you will be my witnesses” (Acts

1:8). The Pope’s message was one of hope and strength; he challenged the students to draw upon the gifts of the Holy Spirit received through the

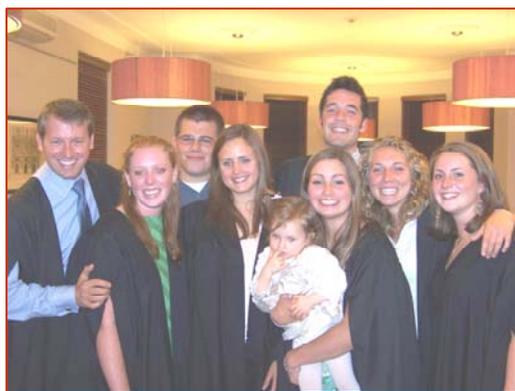
sacrament of Confirmation.

Matthew DiCarlo states, “Praying the rosary while walking along the Harbor Bridge was a pivotal moment in my WYD experience. The final Mass, with the Holy Father presiding, was a joyous celebration of our faith. It could not have been better. At the end, I felt sad that it was over but thrilled that I was fortunate enough to be a part of it. The experience changed my life and my faith forever.”

Peter Peregrin remembers, “I think the highlight for me was the final Mass with Pope Benedict. It showed the Church is young and enthused! What a testament to our faith! WYD is another encouragement for all Catholics, young and old, to keep running the race and fight-

ing the good fight. Christ is worth it all!”

Dana Esposito recalls, “One of the most memorable moments for me at World Youth Day would have to be at the overnight vigil at Randwick racecourse. We sat underneath the Southern Cross in the great Australian sky listening to the Pope’s address. I looked around and saw a sea of flames. That ‘snapshot’ in time is representative of being a Catholic youth in today’s world.”



Associate Dean Chris Kaiser (far left) led the study trip to Australia. Students are, l-r, Leslie Davis, Matthew DiCarlo, Margaret Wessel, Dana Esposito (holding Courtney Kaiser), Peter Peregrin, Katie Andreski, and Elizabeth Head.

## Faculty Retreat

ON December 4, 2008, our Center will cosponsor an *Interfaith Conversation on Faith and Academic Work* with the Center for Catholic Studies. It will be facilitated by John Haughey, S.J., Senior Researcher at Woodstock Theological Center. Its pur-

pose will be to understand how faculty of different faiths approach the connection between academic work and personal faith.

A similar program was offered by Father Haughey last February. The result was a renewed appreciation for

the spiritual life and a deeper sense of shared purpose. We look forward to an equally enriching experience.

Please contact Dr. David Foster (ext. 6042) with any questions.



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## New FOCUS Team



This year's FOCUS team members are: front row, Digger Rank, Elizabeth Lange, Michael Landers; back row, Jennifer Harnish, Andy Day, and Renee Burke-Drazba.

FOCUS is excited to welcome a new initiative to Seton Hall this year called Varsity Catholic, which is an outreach to college athletes. Seton Hall is the second campus in the nation to be served by Varsity Catholic. At Seton Hall the Varsity Catholic team is Donald (Digger) Rank and

Elizabeth Lange. Digger is in his second year with Varsity Catholic, after serving at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Digger graduated from the University of Redlands in California in 2007, where he played on the varsity golf team. Elizabeth is in her first year with FOCUS. She graduated in May from the University of Nebraska—Lincoln, where she competed on the varsity cross-country and track teams.

FOCUS is also pleased to welcome back the returning members of last year's

team: Renee Burke-Drazba, Michael Landers, Jennifer Harnish, and Andy Day, who will again serve as the Team Director. Some events planned for the upcoming year are: a student-leadership retreat in September, and a men's/women's formation weekend in October. FOCUS will also host three "Pack the Chapel" events this semester, allowing students the opportunity for Eucharistic adoration, confession, and prayer, with time for fellowship afterward.

## Faculty Summer Seminar 2008

NO one was disappointed with the Faculty Summer Seminar in May. This annual gathering of faculty,

led by a visiting scholar, focuses on some aspect of academic or personal vocation. Twenty faculty mem-

bers gathered to discuss "Kierkegaard and/or Catholicism: A Matter of Conjunctions." The seminar was facilitated by William Cahoy, Dean of the School of Theology and Seminary at Saint John's University, Collegeville, MN. Professor Cahoy's dissertation at Yale was on Kierkegaard's view

of the self in community. He lectures on issues in the Catholic intellectual tradition, Catholic higher education, and faith and reason.

Dr. Anthony Sciglitano of the Religious Studies Department organized this event, which is cosponsored by the Center for Catholic Studies and the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership.



Twenty faculty members gathered for the Faculty Summer Seminar on "Kierkegaard and/or Catholicism: A Matter of Conjunctions" with Dr. William Cahoy.

*Kierkegaard and/or  
Catholicism:  
A Matter of Conjunctions*

## Upcoming Events

October 3–5

Hall Retreat #9

October 20

International Week - Speaker Immaculée Ilibagiza

December 4

Faculty Retreat with Father Haughey



## It's Your Call: Vocation Profile

### Jason Marker

JASON knows well the meaning of John 15:13: “There is no greater love than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” He enlisted in the Army after graduating from Basking Ridge High School in 1998. He served two tours in Iraq, returning in November 2005. Grateful for all the Army had given him, in May 2006 he decided that it was time for something new. Jason transferred to Seton Hall’s School of Diplomacy in September 2006. He plans to graduate in May 2009 and work in post-conflict reconstruction (peace building).

Jason was one of four recipients of Seton Hall’s Student Servant Leader Award in February 2008.

He volunteers 25 hours a week with immigrants who are seeking political asylum, most of whom have been the victims of horrific crimes in their countries. Through the International Institute of NJ, located in Jersey City, he helps with their asylum applications, work authorizations, and securing medical and financial aid.

In his answers below, you will notice that his hero is Rick Herrema, a fellow soldier killed in a helicopter assault outside of Baghdad. Jason said that Rick always gave his all, no matter what he did. Even now, he feels Rick pushing him to do better or do more, because what really matters is not failing anyone who depends

on him. We think Jason is a wonderful example of that military ethic here in civilian life.

#### 1. What do you feel called to do?

“Learn to do good; seek justice, reprove the ruthless; defend the orphan, plead for the widow.” Is 1:17

#### 2. A defining moment in your life was . . .

Every day is a defining moment; some just go better than others.

#### 3. What is your favorite song or poem?

My own poems.

#### 4. What is your favorite book?

I don’t know, but I am reading *What is the*

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## Vocation Profile

(Continued from page 3)

What? by one of the “lost boys” of Sudan; it’s pretty amazing.

### 5. What is your favorite Scripture passage?

Probably the Beatitudes (Mt 5:3-10), since you cannot help people without being each one of these. And when you question your service (everyone does), it is these words that bring you

back.

### 6. Who is your hero?

Rick Herrema.

### 7. If you could spend 24 hours with anyone, living or dead, who would it be? Rick.

8. What wakes you up in the morning? Not failing anyone who depends on me for something.

### 9. What change would

you like to make at Seton Hall? I would like to see more involvement in service to the city of Newark. I think there is a lot, but we could definitely do more; we can always do more (in anything). Or at least publicize student and faculty/administration efforts more on campus.

### 10. A perfect day

would have to include .... The Pittsburgh Pirates winning the World Series.

11. What would you like on your tombstone? “I fought the good fight, I finished the race, I have kept the faith” (2 Tim 4:7) – but only if it is true.

12. Describe what you do in two words. Help people.

## From the Director's Desk: A Seminar on Mission

EVERY generation of Setonians needs to reflect upon the University’s history and mission and make it their own. Too seldom do we as colleagues make time to consider what is most important to us as a University community.

To address these needs, the *Office for Mission and Ministry* and the *Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership* will organize seminars on the history and mission of Seton Hall University. To better understand the vocation of the University and our individual vocations, faculty and

administrators are invited to a sustained reflection on the University’s mission in light of its history and Catholic character.

Participants will discuss seminal texts and contemporary commentary on the mission of a Catholic university and the unique mission of Seton Hall University. To facilitate discussion, each seminar will be limited to 14 participants. The seminar will meet seven times during a semester and will be offered each semester. Eligible faculty will receive a \$700 stipend.

In order to understand

Seton Hall’s mission, it is imperative to know the characters that give it character. The seminar will start with a reading on the history of Seton Hall, and include such topics as the impact of *Ex corde Ecclesiae*, academic freedom at a Catholic university, and the relationship between faith and reason.

The seminar is intended to be an ongoing feature of Seton Hall life. The Fall seminar will begin



on October 1 from 2:30 – 4:30 P.M. and continue for seven weeks. The Spring seminar will begin Tuesday, January 27, from 9:00 – 11:00 A.M. and continue for seven weeks.

Members of the faculty and administration are invited to apply for the Fall or Spring seminars by contacting David Foster or Linda Garofalo at [csl@shu.edu](mailto:csl@shu.edu) or by calling the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership at 973-313-6042.