

The background of the entire page is a close-up, slightly blurred photograph of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in shades of blue, red, and white.

Spirit

Winter 2009

The Magazine of Saint Leo University

35 years

THE ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF SERVING

THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF MILITARY STUDENTS



Spirit the magazine for Saint Leo University

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Winter 2009

Arthur F. Kirk Jr., Ed.D.
President

David Ostrander
Vice President
University Advancement

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Editorial Staff

Susan Shoulet, Editor
Director of Public Relations

Jo-Ann Johnston, Feature Writer
Staff Writer & Media Coordinator

Molly-Dodd Adams, Contributing Writer
Communications Manager

Karolina Johansson
Graphic Designer

Jenny Timms
Staff Assistant

Printing
Rinaldi Printing

Photography
Mike Carlson
Public Relations Staff

Illustration
Lauren Minco

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director, S.H.R.C.

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We at Saint Leo University have entered the year 2009 warily, as have so many other universities, businesses and households. This is a period of global economic distress unprecedented in the lifetimes of today's adults. The financial industry meltdown, the foreclosure crisis, and rising unemployment threaten so many in our nation. No school is immune to these ill winds, and we cannot yet tell when economic conditions will improve. We have become increasingly cautious and fiscally conservative in these troubling times. We recognize, as always, our solemn responsibility to manage the tuition dollars we collect and the financial gifts entrusted to us by our donors with the utmost care and respect.

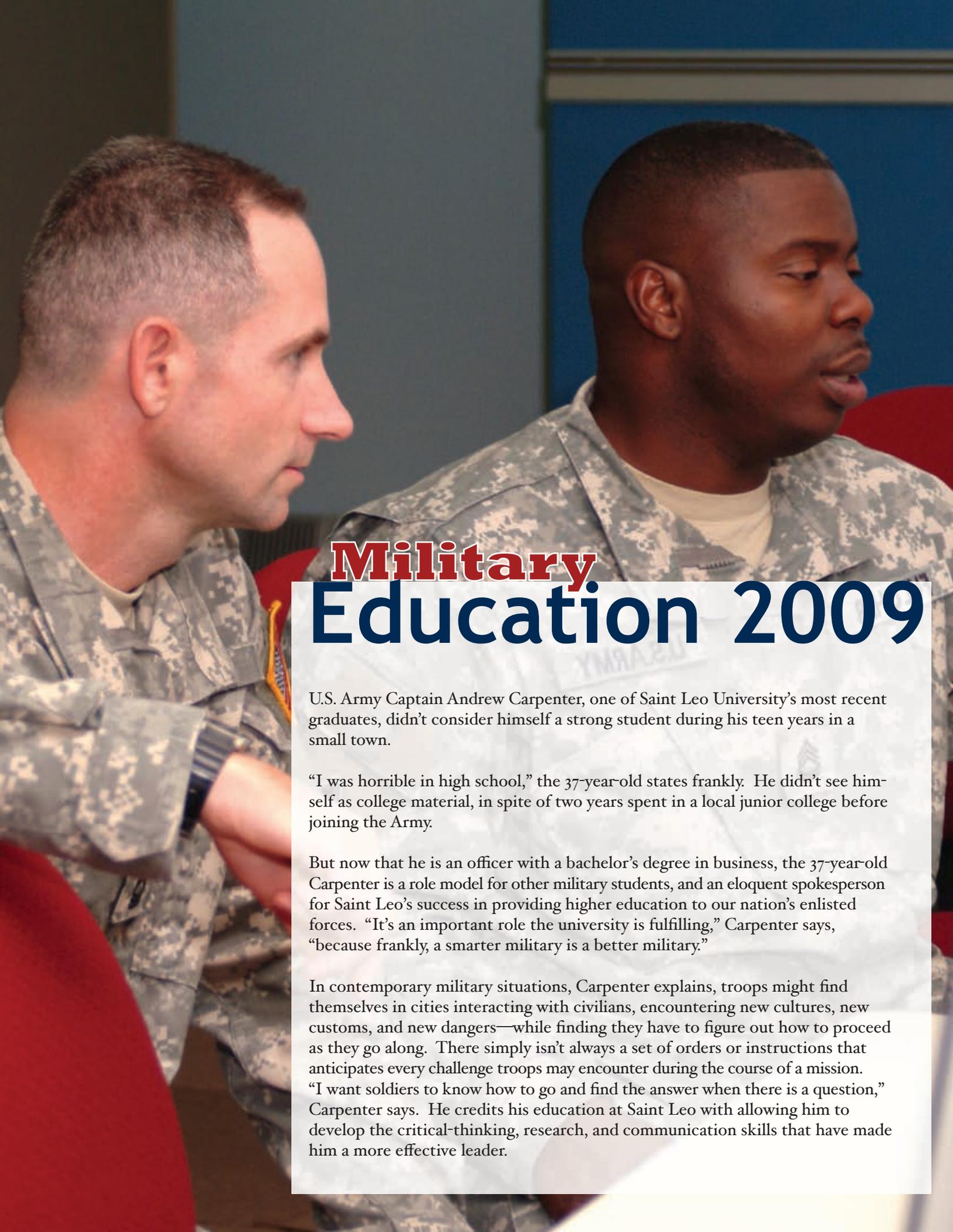


We also know that we cannot afford to stand still during this turbulence. Institutions that become immobilized by fear or that retreat from engaged competition now may never recover. But the smart, the focused, the courageous, and the united organizations will find new opportunities during this time, and set themselves apart from their competition. Saint Leo is one of those institutions. We will stay true to our mission of excelling as a Catholic teaching university of international consequence. This means we will continue to increase enrollments and provide a supportive, student-centered teaching environment in our classrooms and online platforms. Our faculty will continue to enhance their already impressive teaching skills and methods. We will perfect our new online courses and business model for the growing population of students who study away from a campus environment, including our military students. Along the way, we will look to you, our friends and alumni, for support as we continue to raise money for academic programs, for student-scholarship needs, and for a new School of Business building on our main campus. I have faith we can meet all these challenges, and that Saint Leo can emerge from this period stronger than ever.



You may wonder how I can be so confident of this. I am sure because I have been privileged to meet so many of the strong, resilient people who study, work and teach at Saint Leo. You will meet some of them yourselves in this issue of *Spirit*, which celebrates Saint Leo's 35-year anniversary of service to the armed forces. The people you will encounter in this issue are men and women who earned academic degrees in spite of foreign deployments, and teachers who found ways to adapt to the unusual demands of the military lifestyle. They are an inspiration and example for us all to follow.

Arthur F. Kirk, Jr.
President



Military Education 2009

U.S. Army Captain Andrew Carpenter, one of Saint Leo University's most recent graduates, didn't consider himself a strong student during his teen years in a small town.

"I was horrible in high school," the 37-year-old states frankly. He didn't see himself as college material, in spite of two years spent in a local junior college before joining the Army.

But now that he is an officer with a bachelor's degree in business, the 37-year-old Carpenter is a role model for other military students, and an eloquent spokesperson for Saint Leo's success in providing higher education to our nation's enlisted forces. "It's an important role the university is fulfilling," Carpenter says, "because frankly, a smarter military is a better military."

In contemporary military situations, Carpenter explains, troops might find themselves in cities interacting with civilians, encountering new cultures, new customs, and new dangers—while finding they have to figure out how to proceed as they go along. There simply isn't always a set of orders or instructions that anticipates every challenge troops may encounter during the course of a mission. "I want soldiers to know how to go and find the answer when there is a question," Carpenter says. He credits his education at Saint Leo with allowing him to develop the critical-thinking, research, and communication skills that have made him a more effective leader.

Saint Leo University President Arthur F. Kirk, Jr., has heard variations on Carpenter's story time and again from faculty and administrators who have helped make the university one of the foremost providers of educational opportunities for the military.



Many of the young enlisted forces come into the service without much confidence in their academic abilities, Kirk says. They tell their Saint Leo advisers and teachers: "I was a high school drop-out," or "I was told I wasn't college material," or "Nobody from my family ever went to college and my father said it just wasn't going to happen."

"So they enter the Saint Leo program with great trepidation," Kirk continues. "The staff, then the faculty, help them to get their feet under them, and start to appreciate their intellectual and academic abilities that were heretofore never energized or cultivated."

In Carpenter's view, Saint Leo has successfully assembled a special teaching and advising corps attuned to the population of military students. It's not just that Saint Leo goes on base to teach students, or that the university developed an accelerated eight-week term schedule to better fit the military calendar. Saint Leo's teachers know how the military has trained its forces to think and to work, and are willing to adapt their teaching techniques to the students, he says.

Larry Lubbs is one example of the kind of teacher Dr. Kirk and Capt. Carpenter praise. Lubbs joined Saint Leo to teach students in Virginia after spending 34 years in the U.S. Navy, with a long stint working in the personnel area in leadership

training. The transition to a second career teaching political science to military students at Saint Leo was a natural one for him, he says. But for the students, Lubbs agrees, it is often true that the journey from seaman or soldier to serious student is intimidating. So part of the teacher's job is to pinpoint the students' academic insecurities—even if those fears are temporarily masked by a stoic military demeanor—and work to overcome their apprehension.

Lubbs says he likes to start each semester by going around the room and asking students to share their past educational backgrounds. "It's easy to pick up on that anxiety, especially in classes with fewer than 20 students," he says.

Saint Leo teachers and staff at military centers also are mindful that these anxious new students find academia to be an unfamiliar culture, with its own language and rules, says Susan Paulson, assistant vice president of continuing education for Saint Leo.

Teaching and advising military students "need to be 'high-touch' in the beginning," says Paulson, who, as the spouse of a retired Marine, enjoys serving the military community because military life has been so important to her family. "We need to understand these students aren't familiar with terms like 'academic pre-requisite.' We may need to explain more than we do when



This beautiful medallion was created as a special presentation piece to mark the university's 35 years of service to the United States military. The university logo is depicted on the front of the coin, surrounded by the emblems of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard. The inscription, "Saint Leo University celebrates its 35 year commitment to serving the educational needs of those who serve our nation" appears on the reverse.

Commemorative/challenge coins became a tradition popular in the U.S. military during World War I. Soldiers carried a coin representing their unit and were required to present it when "challenged" to prove their affiliation. Those who could not produce a coin suffered any one of a number of consequences—the most popular requiring the soldier to buy a round of drinks. The practice of collecting these coins is still popular today.

teaching students on a traditional campus.”

That doesn't mean “talking down” to students, Paulson says, but pacing the early classes to allow time to translate academic shorthand and processes that students find foreign. That can also mean taking the time to outline the objective or “mission” of an assignment or course—expressly defining what topics will be explored and the purpose they will serve, Paulson notes, to make assignments more relatable to students from a military culture. Any academic anxiety that students are carrying when they start a new course might linger until they get back their first exam or paper, Lubbs has found. That's when they find they do have the skills to make it in college.

“The success breeds confidence,” Carpenter says, drawing from his own experience. Students will actually sit in class differently, after earning good marks on their assignments, notices Professor Marilyn Mallue, one of Saint Leo's longtime faculty members, who teaches psychology, statistics, and research design in Virginia. “They will make more eye contact.”

Teaching military students carries other special rewards and some unique challenges, Saint Leo educators say.

Classes are filled with disciplined, mature students who reflect the rich ethnic and social diversity of the contemporary armed forces, Mallue says. “It adds an interesting flavor to the class. I've had Spanish speakers, Russian speakers, and Turkish. A large part of the military has been posted abroad. I've had family men from traditional families, single parents, and single people.”

The work experiences military students bring to their classrooms also broaden classroom discussions, teachers say.

“When I teach, there's never a semester that goes by that I don't learn something from a student,” says Paulson, who sometimes still teaches courses in



U.S. Army Captain and SLU alumnus Andy Carpenter on active duty with the Afghan mountains in the background.

psychology, such as crisis intervention. “They certainly have experiences that civilians don't have.”

“Military students tend to come to class eager for discussions and lessons,” Lubbs says. “They soak up the knowledge. The last set of papers I graded (in December 2008) are among the best I've seen...these are good, solid students. They want a straight, unvarnished educa-

tion.” In Carpenter's case, that means they want the coursework to be as rigorous for military students as it is for any other student. Soldiers shouldn't get easy grading because of their military obligations, he says: “That completely contradicts what I stand for.” He respects Saint Leo teachers for sharing his expectations.

“They never sacrificed any of their standards, and that's what I found refreshing,” Carpenter says. “All of them followed the same philosophy. They understood what we were going through. They said, ‘I know you have families. I know you're working. But here's the syllabus and it's unwavering.’ It was very refreshing to see.”

How and when military students complete their work might have to vary from semester to semester or from student to student, both Carpenter and Saint Leo's teachers say. That's part of the university's commitment to the military.

Deployments and military assignments can and will disrupt routines and attendance, Paulson says. Even though many military students are experienced with completing work online from posts all over the world, sometimes communications are cut off for security reasons. “You can't take a cell phone or a PDA to Afghanistan,” Paulson says.

Sometimes students have to take incompletes in a given semester and complete the courses later, Paulson says frankly. Sometimes students try to complete work early, if they get word they are going to be deployed. “There simply has to be some flexibility with the schedule,” Mallue agrees.



Susan Paulson, assistant vice president, Continuing Education Division

Marilyn M. Mallue, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Virginia Region



Larry Lubbs teaches at the South Hampton Roads Center.

Sometimes Mallue has held weekend tutoring sessions for her students at the coffee bar of a local bookstore so they can have a review session, or, if necessary, catch up on work.

In other cases, Saint Leo students will sometimes ask their teachers to send information to remote locations for them, as Carpenter once did when he was deployed abroad and needed to file a degree completion form. Such practical challenges can be common, and “probably foster creativity on everybody’s part,” Paulson says.

And the university has been eager to use technology to help its military students, notes Mallue, so that they can enroll in courses away from the military center classrooms, if necessary. “Many of our courses are Web enhanced. Some are blended. Some are online.”

On a broader scale, the university keeps in close contact with the various branches of the service to understand what courses, degree programs, or new teaching centers the armed forces needs in the 21st century. Saint Leo will continue to carry out its commitment to the military with the same creativity and dedication that has marked our first 35 years of service to the armed forces, our administrators say.

In just one example, Saint Leo is extending through 2009 special tuition offer to spouses of military members who enroll in degree programs at selected centers. The program permits a spouse to take a third course tuition free, after completing two previous courses, explains Dr. Edward Dadez, vice president of continuing education and student services.

“We are also initiating a number of refer-a-friend programs,” Dadez says. “It is our belief that our best ambassadors are our current successful students who are in the military and who will strongly recommend Saint Leo University to their friends and family.”

Perhaps the most visible program change this year will come with the introduction of the new GI Bill in August 2009. Though the original GI Bill, introduced after World War II, helped veterans from that era move into America’s growing middle class, our nation’s more recent veterans haven’t been able to cover contemporary education costs. The new bill updates benefits to make college more affordable.

Although the legislation deals with veterans rather than active-duty military members such as Capt. Carpenter, Saint Leo University considers all who have served our country part of our community, and is gearing up to help veterans use the benefits (see related story on page 6). “It’s great for the military,” Dr. Kirk says of the new GI Bill, “and it’s great for our country.”

Reported and written by Jo-Ann Johnston, SLU media coordinator. Jo-Ann can be reached at jo-ann.johnston@saintleo.edu.

Colleges and universities including Saint Leo are expecting even more military service members and veterans to begin looking at higher education opportunities by the fall. The recent wave of interest comes with the passage of the Post-9/11 GI Bill. This federal legislation significantly improves the educational benefits available to those who have served at least 90 days on active duty since September 10, 2001. Eligible veterans can begin using the program to pay for certain educational costs starting on August 1, 2009.

Gary Bracken, vice president of enrollment, and Lora Lavery-Broda, associate registrar, are excited about the opportunities the legislation affords prospective students at Saint Leo.

Question: Basically, what are the most significant benefits veterans and their families will enjoy under the new GI Bill?

Gary Bracken: More money for courses, a book stipend, and a housing allowance for the service member. And a service member may be able to transfer the tuition benefits to another family member. The housing allowance is a big deal. In all, it is making education more affordable to many more veterans, analogous to the old GI Bill after World War II.

Question: How is Saint Leo preparing to help veterans and their families use these benefits to advance their education? And which Saint Leo teaching locations might be most involved in this effort?

Lora Lavery-Broda: Our Virginia military education locations will certainly be very involved with these veterans. The impact may vary by state because the tuition benefit



The New GI Bill

extends only up to the highest-cost public institution in the state. Our tuition rates compete with the public institutions in Virginia, so students living near military bases there will naturally look at Saint Leo.

In Florida, the tuition at the public colleges is much lower than at private schools including Saint Leo, so cost may be a factor.

But Saint Leo will ask to join a program that shares the cost with the Veterans Administration, up to a certain dollar amount of the tuition costs above the Florida state university system level. We want to do that so the costs to the student will be comparable to a state university.

Gary Bracken: In general, the bill will have a big benefit wherever we have military centers (at sites in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, Mississippi, Texas and California). A lot of those folks will retire, or leave the service after their initial enlistment, and settle right there. So they'll know us, they'll know our brand. They'll be able to use the benefit right there. They'll have access to the bases.

Question: Will the benefits apply to online courses as well as on-ground courses?

Lora Lavery-Broda: The tuition benefit will. The housing allowance will not. If a student takes both on-ground and online courses, the housing allowance is pro-rated to the on-ground credits.

Question: Can the benefits be used only for associate and bachelor degree programs, or can students also use the tuition benefits for a master's degree?

Lora Lavery-Broda: They can use the benefits for any degree we offer.

Question: Where might our readers refer friends and family who are interested in using the new GI Bill at Saint Leo?

Gary Bracken: They need to keep checking the SLU Web site. The Veterans Administration is still releasing details of how the program will work, so as soon as we know something it will be up there on the Web site.

Lora Lavery-Broda: Also, every educational center has someone who verifies to the Veterans Administration that a student is enrolled. That job title is called the VA certifying official. Over time, that person will also get more details, and be able to help advise students.



For the 2008 Veterans Day ceremony on the main campus, the organizing committee wanted to include a written message from a Saint Leo student or alumnus on military assignment, and therefore unable to attend in person. The audience heard the following message from Coast Guard Lieutenant Michael C. Gris II. Lt. Gris, of Palm Harbor, Florida, is pursuing a master's degree in criminal justice at Saint Leo. He earned a bachelor's degree in government from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 2002.

To Saint Leo University,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate from afar in Saint Leo University's Veterans Day ceremonies. While I wish that I could be there in person to thank the University, the faculty and staff, I am deeply honored to be able to pass on a few words of appreciation from my current duty station in Charleston, South Carolina.

As a proud member of the U.S. Coast Guard, I wanted to continue my professional education at a university that shares my personal, as well as my service's core values of Honor, Respect and Devotion to duty. In Saint Leo University, I have found our common values to be the foundation upon which an institution has been built, where ethics and education walk hand in hand. Unique to the duties of the Coast Guard amongst our brothers and sisters of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps is the responsibility to serve as a federal law enforcement agency while simultaneously providing for our national defense. Saint Leo University, with its exceptional faculty, superior curriculum, and remarkable flexibility, has given me the opportunity to continue my journey of lifetime learning while serving my country from virtually anywhere in the world. As a criminal justice graduate student, Saint Leo University is enabling me to expand my skills as a military leader and law enforcement officer, skills that I will use to help ensure the safety and security of our great and beloved nation.

Having been deployed all over the world and most recently to Iraq, I am personally grateful for the opportunities that Saint Leo has provided me to learn and grow while serving away from home. Staying connected has an incredible effect on the morale of our troops. In that way, Saint Leo University is serving along side our military throughout the globe.

I came to Saint Leo because this university "honors the person that you already are and supports the person you want to become," in my case as a service member and as a law enforcement professional. The university has met and exceeded all my expectations. On this day in which we honor those who served before us, please allow me to extend my appreciation to the men and women of Saint Leo University for their role in shaping our nation's leaders of character.

Semper Paratus and God Bless!

Respectfully,

Charlie Gris
Lieutenant, United States Coast Guard

Service, Commitment, and Accomplishment

Thousands of students from all branches of our nation's armed services have earned their degrees from Saint Leo over the past 35 years and each individual has enriched the fabric of the university. We salute all our military students and alumni for their service, commitment, and accomplishments. The following brief profiles highlight six recent Saint Leo military graduates and former faculty member Jose Coll '02.

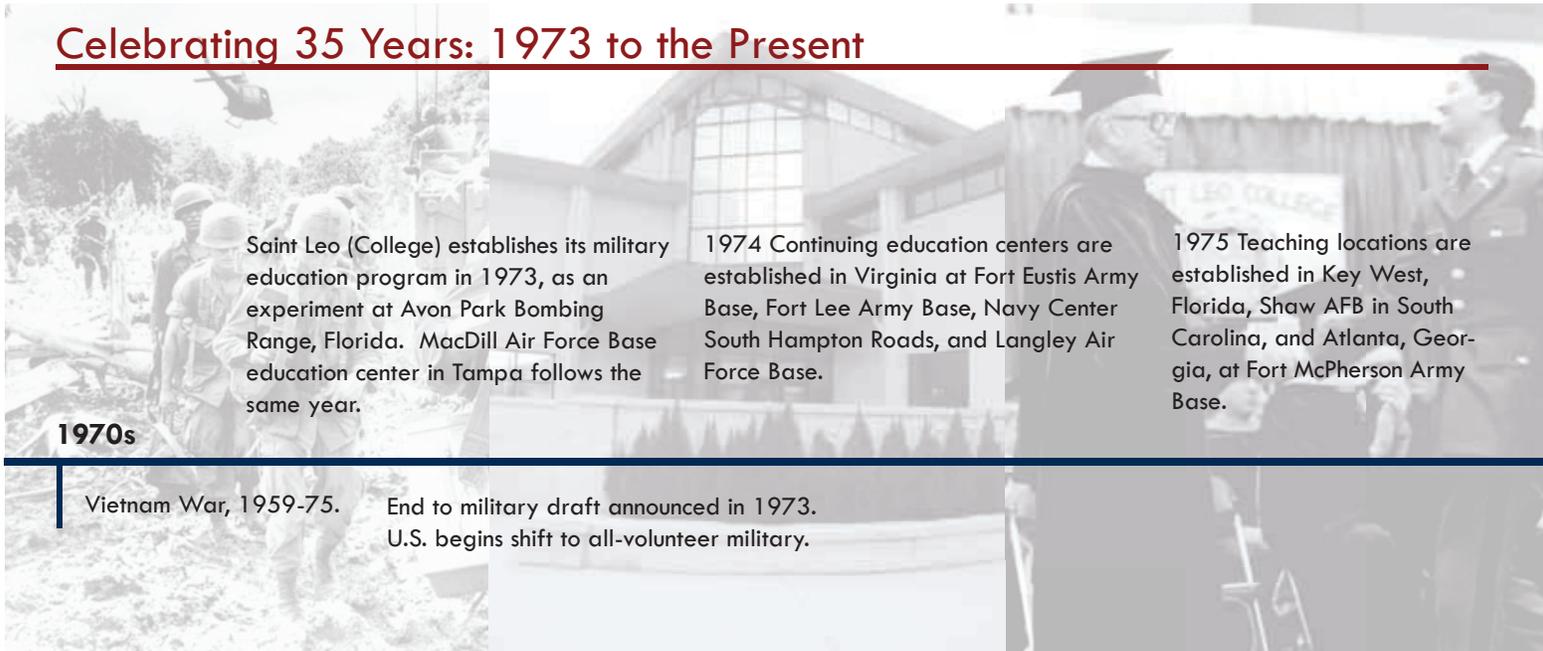


Technical Sergeant Faith Althouse '08 serves in the U.S. Air Force and earned her bachelor's degree in psychology at SLU's Langley Air Force Base Center. Following her dream to become an educator, Faith hopes to be the first person in her family to earn a master's degree. She began college right after high school at another Catholic university, but soon realized she needed to postpone her education until she could afford to continue. The Air Force provided that opportunity and she was delighted to find Saint Leo University at Langley. Not only did she feel at home in a Catholic university setting, but she was grateful to have classmates who understood the demands of military life. "Most of our students are military personnel, their family members, or public service personnel. A lot of police officers and firefighters are also with us," she says. "We understand what's going on in each other's lives and some of the hard times that we face, so we're better able to support each other."



Gary Bonds, Sr. '08 retired from the U.S. Army in 2003 as a Sergeant First Class. He served our nation for 20 years. Last June, he received a bachelor's degree in human resources administration at Saint Leo's Atlanta Center at Fort Gillem. He chose Saint Leo over other educational options when he was stationed in Virginia. He began taking classes at Langley Air Force Base Center, knowing that he was due to transfer with the Army to Atlanta where Saint Leo also offers classes. The transition was easy and he did not have to take any time off from his studies. Gary hopes to make just as smooth a transition from military human resources to an HR career in the civilian world. He says, "I'm looking forward to the next 20 years and some good paying jobs." The first of his father's children to earn a bachelor's degree, Gary says, "I'm trying to set a really good example for my daughter to see that higher education gives you more opportunities in life."

Celebrating 35 Years: 1973 to the Present



Saint Leo (College) establishes its military education program in 1973, as an experiment at Avon Park Bombing Range, Florida. MacDill Air Force Base education center in Tampa follows the same year.

1974 Continuing education centers are established in Virginia at Fort Eustis Army Base, Fort Lee Army Base, Navy Center South Hampton Roads, and Langley Air Force Base.

1975 Teaching locations are established in Key West, Florida, Shaw AFB in South Carolina, and Atlanta, Georgia, at Fort McPherson Army Base.

1970s

Vietnam War, 1959-75.

End to military draft announced in 1973. U.S. begins shift to all-volunteer military.



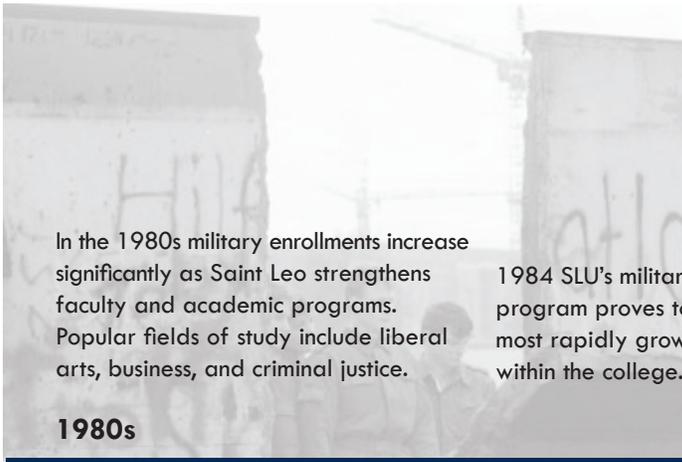
Thomas Edison '08 retired from the U.S. Army in 1997 after 20 years of service. He completed his bachelor's degree in human resources administration at Saint Leo's Fort McPherson Center last year. He is now a business consultant working with small- to medium-size businesses. He says the most significant reason he chose SLU over another college or university is the variety of course formats and schedules Saint Leo offers. "I typically work 55-60 hours a week, so having the option of doing evening classes, weekend classes, or online classes, just helps me in my everyday life," he says. "I could spend time with my family and work and still accomplish my degree."

Thomas takes pride in having earned his degree while running his business and raising two sons. Commenting on the adult learning experience he says, "You're a little more prepared. You understand the value of education and you work a little harder to earn your degree. And I think you appreciate it more."



Jane Jackson-Butler '08 served in the U.S. Army for 22 years. She did four tours in Korea and served at stations across the continental U.S., including Fort Campbell, Fort Sill, and Fort Gillem. Initially, she chose Saint Leo because the eight-week course schedule would allow her to earn her degree more quickly than a traditional evening college program. Over time, Jane believes that the support she found at Saint Leo and the values integrated into the coursework strengthened the values she embraced in the Army.

Continuing her pursuit of integrity, personal development, and community, Jane says, "I'm going to make sure that I continue forward and I'm going to help somebody else achieve their goals. I'm not just going to stand by on the sidelines." Jane's son may be the first to benefit. She is postponing training for the Professional in Human Resources certification and her own graduate work in order to make sure her son earns his master's degree first.



In the 1980s military enrollments increase significantly as Saint Leo strengthens faculty and academic programs. Popular fields of study include liberal arts, business, and criminal justice.

1980s

1984 SLU's military education program proves to be the most rapidly growing area within the college.



Saint Leo continues to build its reputation within the military community.

1988 Iranian mining of the Persian Gulf results in damage to an American warship.

Cold War persists at start of decade but communism eventually begins to crumble. The Berlin Wall, a powerful symbol of the Cold War, falls in 1989.



James Flowers '08 retired from the U.S. Army after nearly 27 years of service. He spent the last 13 years of service working on recruiting and retention, so it was a natural step for him to earn a bachelor's degree in human resources administration. He completed his degree at Saint Leo's Fort McPherson Center in Atlanta. Among his many reasons for earning a bachelor's degree was to set an example for his teenage son to encourage him to pursue higher education after high school.

James says he appreciated the accessibility of Saint Leo's faculty and staff who were always supportive, available, and sensitive to the demands on their adult and military students. James was especially impressed with instructor Lawsey Thomas '96, who is also retired from the military (U.S. Navy). James says, "He used not only the [text] book, but his life and work experience as a teaching tool. And I think that was excellent."



Technical Sergeant Jeffrey Strazzere '07/'09 earned a bachelor's degree at SLU's MacDill Center in 2007. On September 11, 2001, Jeff, who was a member of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, was driving to a job interview when the World Trade Center fell. He canceled the interview. Later that day he was called to duty and has made a career of his military service ever since.

Jeff appreciates that Saint Leo faculty understand the unique demands on military students. When called to duty during Hurricane Katrina, he packed his text books and hit the road to Alabama. For two weeks, he continued his studies from the storm-ravaged Gulf Coast. Though he had to postpone his mid-term exam, he finished the class with flying colors. Jeff will complete SLU's online MBA program this summer. He says, "I used to prefer taking classes on-ground, but I found I like online classes because I can work at my own pace and on my own time. For working professionals, time is important."

1990s

Persian Gulf War temporarily depresses military enrollments.

Expansion to the new Ingleside Naval Station Education Center in Texas in 1995, then to Mayport Naval Station near Jacksonville, Florida, in 1996.

Saint Leo begins offering programs over the Internet in 1998 and in 1999 becomes Saint Leo University.

SLU expands its reach through partnerships with community colleges, which help veterans and civilians attain bachelors degrees.

1990-91 U.S. and its allies defeat Iraq in the first Persian Gulf War, launched following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Citizens enjoy relative peace and prosperity in the latter part of the decade.

SLU ends the decade with a new president and an improved outlook for revenues and enrollments.

Jose Coll '02 is a clinical associate professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Southern California and director of the school's new Veteran Services Program. He is also a Marine Corps veteran, a valued alumnus, and a former faculty member. Jose received his bachelor's degree in social work from Saint Leo in 2002. He pursued his education with the aid of the GI Bill. He earned an MSW from the University of Central Florida in 2003 and his doctorate in counseling education and supervision from the University of South Florida in 2007.

Jose joined SLU's faculty in 2004 and served as chair of the social work program from 2007 until 2008, when he accepted his current position at USC. While at Saint Leo, he was an active member of the



university community, guiding a faculty research team to Cuba and participating in several faculty-student SERVE trips to Honduras that promoted community values, social justice, and student awareness of economic realities. Jose has authored numerous publications, including a recently published book titled *A Civilian Counselor's Primer for Counseling Veterans* (Linus Publications, Inc.). He says, "I feel a great amount of gratitude and pleasure to have received my BSW from Saint Leo and later to have chaired the

social work program. It was this experience that has led me to meet all of these goals while maintaining our [Saint Leo] core values."

USC's Veteran Services Program is the first of its kind at a major research university in the United States. It is located at USC's San Marcos Academic Center, not far from Camp Pendleton, where more than 60,000 personnel work. As program director, Jose will focus on the challenges faced by military personnel and their families.

The U.S. and allies begin a military offensive in Iraq in March 2003.

More military students are able to study online as the Center for Online Learning grows.

The San Diego Naval Station Office opens in December 2005. Some SLU military students are deployed multiple times.

SLU expands to Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, and to the U.S. Naval Weapons Air Station Charleston in South Carolina in 2008.

Saint Leo opens a new teaching location in January 2009, in Chesapeake, Virginia, anticipating both military and civilian enrollments.

Midnight celebrations across the country and around the world welcome a new century.

2000s

Terror attacks in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C., on September 11, 2001, kill 3,000 people. U.S. and allied troops begin fighting in Afghanistan.

The U.S. appears to be winding down military operations in Iraq, while some political leaders and military advisers call for more forces in Afghanistan.

New GI Bill goes into effect August 2009.



Career diplomat shares his global education with Saint Leo

Saint Leo University was honored to welcome former Ambassador Robert Hunter, who spoke at the main campus on the topic: “Hitting the Ground Running: President Obama and Foreign Policy on Day One.” In addition, the Ambassador granted Saint Leo a wide-ranging interview.

Ambassador Hunter served in advisory roles to several top Democratic candidates and party officials. In the years 1993-98, he served in the Clinton Administration as U.S. Ambassador to NATO and the Western European Union and

helped force an end to the war then taking place in Bosnia. He has traveled to 90 countries over the course of his career.

Ambassador Hunter is now a senior advisor at the Rand Corporation, a prominent research organization in Washington, D.C., and he continues to offer counsel on national security and foreign policy issues.

The ambassador’s appearance was the first event of Saint Leo University’s Distinguished Speakers Series for the 2008-2009 academic year.



Congratulations to Father James Hoge, O.S.B.

On January 8, the university community helped celebrate Father James Hoge’s 70th anniversary jubilee during Community Day exercises held on the main campus. Dr. Kirk marked the occasion with a heartfelt tribute.

“Seventy years ago, a young man from West Virginia by way of Lakeland, Florida, presented himself to Abbot Francis Sadlier and his brother monks of Saint Leo Abbey to profess his vows of poverty, chastity, obedience and stability,” said Dr. Kirk. “Five years later, sixty-five years ago, the young monk, James Hoge, was ordained to the priesthood. This year marks the 70th anniversary jubilee of Fr. James as a Monk of Saint Leo Abbey, his 65th year as a priest, and, last month, his 92nd birthday.”

“For 70 years, Father James has lived the values first set down in the fifth century by Saints Benedict and Scholastica,” continued Dr. Kirk. “He has served his Abbey, and the schools his Abbey founded, loyally, wisely, and well. Father James taught in Saint Leo College Prep, and during the years of transition to a college, on the faculty of Saint Leo Junior College. He was elected to the university’s Board of Trustees in 1973 and continues to this day as a trustee emeritus. Saint Leo has not had a wiser counselor, or a better friend.”

Fall Family Festival

Parents joined students at the main campus for Fall Family Festival on the weekend of October 24. Festival highlights included a western rodeo with bucking bulls and clowns, as well as a student production of *Ubu Roi*, the early absurdist play by Alfred Jarry.





It's not just about football

When most people talk about Super Bowl XLIII, they chat about the game, its players, TV commercials, and half-time entertainment.

Reid Sigmon had a few hundred more details on his mind. As executive director of the 2009 Super Bowl, Sigmon coordinated the lodging, transportation, security, and fundraising activities the massive tourist and sporting event required.

Sigmon shared his experiences in a November Saturday session with students in the Master of Business Administration program. Because of the myriad of details involved in successfully planning such large-scale projects, students interested in sports and hospitality are well-advised to pursue an MBA degree, the executive told students. MBA grads are "able to examine things from all the different perspectives," Sigmon told his student audience.



The littlest fan



Isabella Stasio, daughter of English Professor Kathryn Stasio, Ph.D., dressed up for Halloween as her personal hero, Emily Frey, a Saint Leo student and member of the women's volleyball team.

Education majors participate in national conference

Jane Govoni, Ph.D., and Valerie Wright, Ph.D., associate professors of education, coordinated student involvement at the Florida Association of Teacher Educators (FATE) conference held in Orlando in September 2008.

Elementary education majors Jessica MacRae, Ana Navarro, and Lauren Oliver participated in the "Student Voices Program," presenting a project. In addition, these students, along with Kaitlyn Bunker, served as ambassadors for the conference,

assisting with registration and other conference needs.

Christopher Kent, a senior at Saint Leo, received the Fanchon F. Funk Award for an outstanding teacher candidate in the state of Florida. This award is presented annually to showcase student talent, work, and demonstrated dedication in the field of education. "Chris won the hearts of the FATE Board last year," said Dr. Govoni, "when he served countless hours assisting with conference needs."



The university hosted a Christmas concert featuring the Florida Orchestra Brass Quintet at the Saint Leo Abbey Church of the Holy Cross, followed by a tree lighting ceremony on the university's main campus.

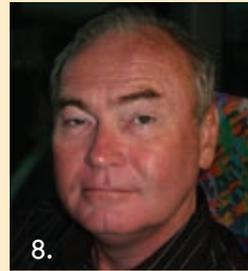
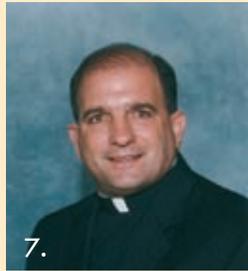
Organization of American States awards \$30,000 scholarship to Saint Leo Undergraduate

For the first time, a Saint Leo University student has been awarded an academic scholarship for undergraduate study by the Organization of American States.

Lesvie Clare, a 20-year-old junior from the Bahamas, was recently selected for the \$30,000 scholarship by the international development consortium. She is pursuing dual majors in international hospitality and tourism and in marketing. The scholarship will assist with tuition and expenses.

Faculty members Stephen Baglione and Stan McGahey encouraged her application. Eventually, Lesvie wants to work in tourism in the Bahamas, which happens to be a condition of the scholarship. She said she wants tourists to come to appreciate the cultural riches of the Bahamas.





Board of Trustees Profiles: New and Noteworthy

1. **Anthony J. Borrell, Jr.**, is president of Wilbey Industrial Services Corporation (WISCO), an investment company located in Tampa, Florida. He serves on the board of directors for the Outback Bowl, University of Tampa, Merchants Association of Florida, the Borrell Family Foundation, The Tampa Chamber of Commerce, and the Florida Business BancGroup, Inc.

2. **Right Rev. Isaac Camacho, O.S.B., '95** is Abbot of Saint Leo Abbey. Born in Mexico City, Abbot Isaac joined the Benedictine order in 1988, having previously served at Tepeyac Abbey, Mexico. He was ordained to the priesthood at Saint Leo Abbey on December 22, 2001. Most recently he served as parochial vicar at St. Mark's Catholic Church, North Tampa, Florida.

3. Student trustee **Sarah Ann Holz '10** is majoring in religion and theology and taking a minor in music at Saint Leo's main campus. She is a member of Voices of Christ, Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority, Drama Ministry, and is a University Ministry student chaplain.

4. **Thamir Kaddouri '94**, shareholder in The Law Office of Thamir A.R. Kaddouri, Jr., P.A., in Tampa, Florida, serves as president of the Saint Leo Alumni Association Board of Directors. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint Leo in 1994 and his Juris Doctorate from Suffolk University Law School in Boston, Massachusetts in 1999.

5. **Lieutenant General (Retired) William J. Lennox, Jr.**, of Alexandria, Virginia, currently serves as senior vice president, Washington, for Goodrich Corporation, a Fortune 500 aerospace firm. He retired in June 2006 as the 56th Superintendent of the United States Military Academy after a 35-year career in the Army. He and his wife, Anne, have three grown sons.

6. International jeweler **Alfredo J. Molina** is chairman and CEO of The Molina Group, based in Phoenix, Arizona, and proprietor of Black, Starr & Frost. Alfredo comes from a long line of master jewelers dating back to seventeenth century Italy. He and his wife Lisa are well-known for their charity work in Arizona.

7. **Reverend Robert F. Morris '79** is vicar general of the Diocese of St. Petersburg. He serves as vice chairman of the Board of Trustees for Catholic Charities and a member of the Presbyteral Council for the diocese. He also serves on the Board of Trustees for Academy of the Holy Names in Tampa.

8. **William Pope** is CEO of SunChase Holdings, Inc., a diversified holding company with a portfolio that includes residential and commercial real estate, golf courses, hotels, software, and international interests. Bill has completed terms on many non-profit boards, and he and his wife Linda have been recognized for service to their community.

A packed house welcomes *Mystic River* author to campus

Best-selling author Dennis Lehane read to a large and enthusiastic audience early in January. Lehane is well-known for his mystery and crime novels, including *Mystic River*, which was turned into a film by Clint Eastwood. Lehane's newest work is an historical novel set in Boston after World War I, called *The Given Day*. His appearance at Saint Leo was sponsored by the Department of English, Fine Arts and Humanities.



On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Tampa poet laureate James Tokley shared original works celebrating the civil rights leader and the inauguration of President Barack Obama.



SLU sponsors Winter Baseball Meetings in Las Vegas

This was the first time SLU participated as a sponsor in Minor League Baseball’s winter meetings. The annual exposition draws front-office personnel, managers, and others employed in business aspects of the sport. The sponsorship provided School of Business administrators and faculty the opportunity to promote the master of business administration program.

Additionally, 11 students studying sport business—including four MBA students and seven undergraduates—attended and worked as interns during the meetings. Their short-term assignments gave them valuable exposure to industry professionals, as well as networking opportunities.

London Calling!

Over the Thanksgiving break, a group of 40 students and alumni traveled to England and Ireland for a study-tour led by faculty members Elisabeth Aiken and Karen Bryant. The tour offered students a chance to visit locations that influenced literary greats such as William Shakespeare and James Joyce, and to see centuries of art in London’s museums.



In October, University Campus students displayed hand-painted T-shirts as part of the “Clothesline Project” to draw attention to domestic violence, a societal issue that needs continued focus.



Art and music and academic presentations marked Academic Achievement Day 2008.



Drama Ministry students presented “Seussical the Musical” to sold-out audiences in the Marmion Center on the main campus.



CruX Sancti Patris Benedicti

Landmark Clock Tower receives the Cross of Saint Benedict

Our beautiful new Student Community Center complex and its landmark Clock Tower have been enhanced to bear witness to the university's Catholic and Benedictine identity. Just before Thanksgiving 2008, custom-made Benedictine Cross replicas were affixed to the tower's north, south, and west walls so that our spiritual roots are now literally visible from across the campus.

The creation and installation of the crosses was a complicated and fascinating process. Craftsman and artist Bob Stephens constructed the works in sections at his company's shop, SkyWatch Signs. He selected weatherproof material, and modeled the design and the colors on the Benedictine Cross in the entrance way of Saint Francis Hall. The backgrounds of the Saint

Francis Hall and Clock Tower crosses bear the letters "C," "S," "P," and "B," for the Latin phrase "CruX Sancti Patris Benedicti" or "The Cross of our Holy Father Benedict."

Each Clock Tower cross weighs 200 pounds and measures 7 feet in diameter. The symbols had to be affixed to the Clock Tower walls one section at a time by two of Stephens' employees. Joe Szappan and Shane Pritchett worked together from a motorized lift, and completed the task over the course of two days.



Academic Connections

Faculty members from the School of Arts and Sciences are enjoying a banner year in terms of hosting and co-hosting meetings of academic peers. The school is happy to note its role in three statewide faculty development events over the course of 2008-09. In October, Saint Leo, along with the Ybor City Campus of Hillsborough Community College, co-hosted the 2008 Florida College English Association conference in Ybor City. President Arthur F. Kirk, Jr. spoke at one of the group's lunch meetings, several faculty presented papers, and drama students performed.

On December 5, 2008, SLU hosted the one-day Mathematical Association of America's Suncoast Regional Meeting at the main campus. Participants were welcomed by President Kirk, and several faculty members made presentations. This spring, the university is looking forward to having members of the Florida Academy of Sciences convene on the main campus, with faculty and students presenting papers.

"We are becoming more firmly connected to the academic communities of Florida," said Rich Bryan, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.



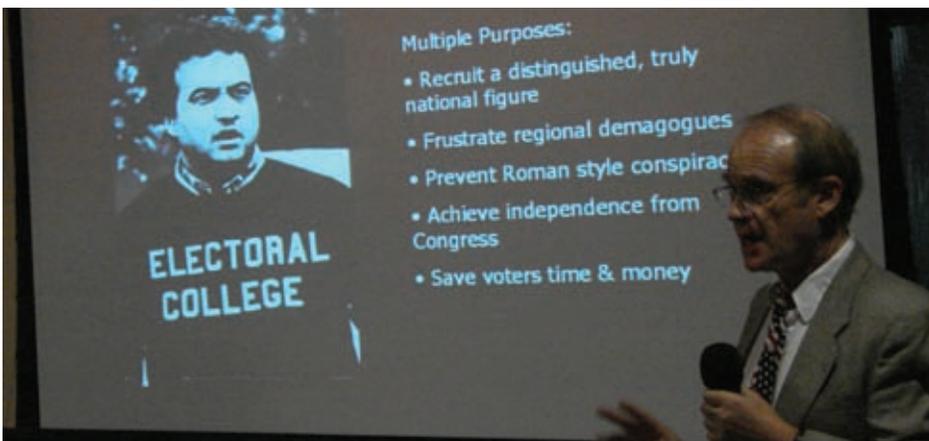
President Arthur F. Kirk, Jr. addresses members of the Florida College English Association.



Monika Vo, Ph.D., describes the components of Saint Leo's math major.



President Kirk welcomes the Mathematical Association of America's Suncoast Region.



Associate Professor of Political Science Hudson Reynolds, Ph.D., captured his audience's attention with this slide.

On September 17, with the 2008 presidential election only weeks away, five political science and history professors addressed the importance of the Constitution and the Electoral College during the university's Constitution Day celebration.

Midnight Breakfast

At the end of each semester on University Campus, Saint Leo students get a treat: a free "Midnight Breakfast" to encourage them through the long hours of study for their final exams. Dining hall staff and volunteers from the faculty and other university offices served about 700 meals in December.





Instructional Design Team marries technology with teaching

Saint Leo's Instructional Design Team works with faculty to develop online courses and to help integrate technology into traditional classrooms. The team consists of instructional designers, graphic and multimedia artists, a quality control specialist, and a project manager. The Instructional Design team offers group instruction sessions and individual consultations for faculty on the uses of technology in teaching and learning.

Members of the Instructional Design Team recently attended the Association for Educational Communications and Technology national conference and made presentations on a variety of topics.

Instructional Designer Claudia Ruiz presented a paper on "Systemic Change Around a Common Pedagogical Model."

Instructional Designer Michelle Stewart, Ph.D., teamed with Graphic/Multimedia Artist Melissa Atteberry for a presentation titled "Teamwork for Success."

Instructional Designer Matt Marzullo and Graphic/Multimedia Artist Mike Maihack presented "Serving PIE Online." (PIE is an acronym for a teaching model that emphasizes preparation, interaction, and evaluation.)

Project Manager Ophelia Frazier-Brown and Director of Instructional Technology Susan Colaric, Ph.D., presented a paper titled "150 Courses in 18 Months: Project Management of Instructional Design."

Several staff members presented more than once at the conference. Dr. Colaric presented a second paper titled "Mentoring Faculty in Applying the PIE Model in the Creation of an Online Course." Instructional Designer Oma Singh presented a paper, "A New Option for Instructional Technology Researchers: Using Design-Based Research to Guide Development and Validation of a Web-Based Module."

Instructional Designer Michelle Stewart, Ph.D., presented two additional papers, one on "Transforming Education" and the other, which was written as her Ph.D. dissertation, on "Instructional Strategies that Promote Learning-Centered Synchronous Dialogue Online."

1. **Stephen L. Baglione, Ph.D.**, professor of marketing and quantitative methods, was published in several professional journals recently. Among his published articles are "Predicting Illegal Downloading of Movies and Television Shows" in the *Review of Business Research*; "The Influence of Internal Ethics and Values and External Perceptions of Values and Needs on Profitability: An Empirical Study of U.S. Executives" in the *Review of Business Research*; and "Employee Benefits and Work Conditions by Demographic Categories" in the *Journal of Academy of Business and Economics*.

Patrick Crerand, Ph.D., assistant professor of English, was recognized with a special mention in *The Best American Non-Required Reading of 2008* for his short story, "Letters from a Midwestern Superhero." Two additional stories are scheduled for publication in *Sentence Magazine: A Journal of Prose, Poetics and Conjunctions*. In October, Dr. Crerand presented a short fiction piece at the 2008 Florida College English Association conference in Ybor City, Tampa.

Passard Dean, D.B.A., and **Dan Braswell, Ph.D.**, co-authored an article titled "Are Academic Institutions Meeting the Need for Derivatives Accountants?" It was accepted for presentation at the 2008 International

Conference of the Business Economics Institute. Both Dr. Dean and Dr. Braswell are accounting professors in the School of Business.

Yvette Ghormley, Ph.D., associate professor of business at the South Hampton Roads Center, authored two chapters and edited several others in the new reference book, *Handbook of Research on Information Security and Assurance*.

William Gooden, M.S.A., assistant professor of human resource administration at the Fort Lee Center, recently was elected one of three vice commanders in the Virginia American Legion.

Rande W. Matteson, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of the Criminal Justice Department is the author of a new book, *Bully Beware! How to fight back with Florida Law on your Side*, Cedar Hill Publishing. The book takes a look at bullying and abusive behavior: who is apt to be a bully, where bullying might occur, and what to do if it happens to you. Dr. Matteson also is scheduled to make presentations on a variety of related topics at several professional conferences in 2009. They include the American Criminal Justice Society Annual Conference in Boston, Massachusetts; the Southern Criminal Justice Association Conference on Leadership and Negative Stress, Columbia



South Carolina; and the National Youth Crime Prevention Conference on Abuse, Bullying and the Legal System in Orlando, Florida. Dr. Matteson serves as a reviewer for *Investigative Sciences*, an e-Journal targeted at academicians, criminal investigators, private investigators, police administrators, and attorneys

6. Carol G. Walker, Ph.D., associate professor of education and dean of the School of Education and Social Services co-authored a recently published article with Dr. Matteson titled, "The Law Enforcement Executives Guide to Understanding Bullying Behavior in Schools and in the Workplace." The

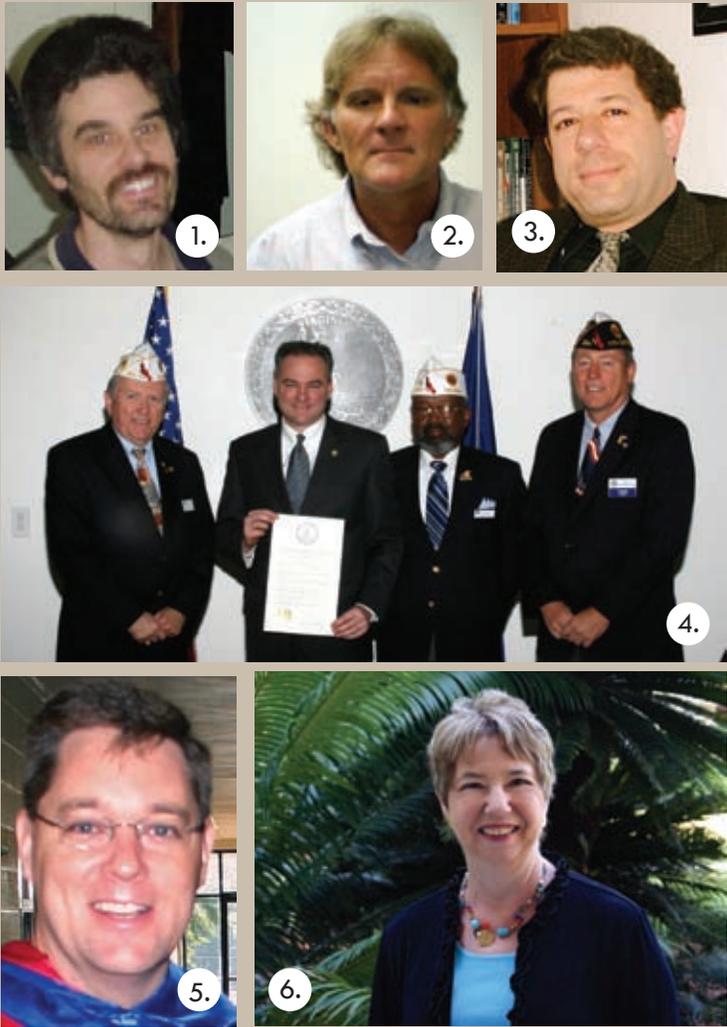
3. Marco Rimanelli, Ph.D., professor of political science, authored a new book titled the *Historical Dictionary of NATO and Other International Security Organizations*. The book covers the Atlantic alliance's origins, structure, and organization, and provides information about other NATO-related regional organizations with security responsibilities in Europe and worldwide.

Randall "Woody" Woodard, Ph.D., associate professor of religion and philosophy, made a guest appearance on Spirit FM radio to discuss the presidential election from the Catholic perspective. Woodard was interviewed by the hosts of the popular FM station about an important guide issued several years ago by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to help American Catholics consider voting choices from the perspective of Catholic teachings. The guide, titled *Faithful Citizenship*, does not direct voters to choose any particular candidate or party. Instead it helps voters through many complex social and public-policy issues Catholic leaders feel parishioners need to weigh.

Robert W. Robertson, Ph.D., director of Graduate Business Studies, was appointed to the Executive Committee for the Florida Planning Association, Sun Coast Chapter, as a director for Pasco County, Florida. In addition, he is a new member of the Pasco County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, appointed by the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners. Dr. Robertson appeared on Tampa TV's Channel 10 program "Studio 10." He addressed the importance of green initiatives in city planning and management and posited a number of green issues that members of the general public rarely consider.

Corinne B. Young, Ph.D., associate professor of management and international business delivered a paper in November at the Third Annual International Management Conference held at the University of the West Indies in Barbados. Young co-authored the paper, titled "Educating the Global Citizen: Definitions, Meanings and Approaches," with Jose de la Torre of Florida International University.

5. Michael J. Tkacik, Ph.D., director of the Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies at Saint Leo, traveled to Sacred Heart University in Connecticut for the annual Conference of the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations.



with an interest in the field of investigation. The journal publishes original research reports, evaluated practices, and legal and policy analyses related to the investigative process.

article appeared in the *Law Enforcement Executive Forum*, a publication of the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board Executive Institute.



SLU makes donation to USS Bush library

In celebration of Saint Leo's 35 years of providing educational opportunities to the United States Navy, the university made a gift of books to the library of the USS George H. W. Bush (CVN 77), the Navy's newest aircraft carrier. Faculty and staff

made the gift in support of sailors seeking personal enrichment and a college degree. The donation was organized by South Hampton Roads Center Director Ernie Everett with the help of Cannon Memorial Library Director Brent Short and

the generous donations of many faculty and staff. A Saint Leo University book plate was placed in each of the nearly 100 books. The aircraft carrier was commissioned January 10, 2009, and the event was covered by White House photographers.

New center opens at Columbus Air Force Base



Saint Leo has opened a regional education center at Columbus Air Force Base in eastern Mississippi, headed by Center Director Dew White. The center offers programs leading to the bachelor's degree in business administration, criminal justice, or psychology. Courses are taught at the center, online, and through the distance-learning program. Columbus AFB is the home of the 14th Flying Training Wing and equips beginning military pilots with fundamental skills. To reach out to the base community, Saint Leo also entered a pact with East Mississippi Community College to permit

EMCC graduates with associate degrees to enroll in SLU as juniors and continue their educational paths toward bachelor's degrees.

Charleston, South Carolina joins SLU family

Along with its new base location in Mississippi, Saint Leo opened a smaller teaching location at the U.S. Naval Weapons Air Station Charleston. Students can earn an associate degree in liberal arts or business administration, or enroll in Saint Leo's certificate program (requiring 18 hours of academic study) in homeland security. Saint Leo has assigned Academic Advisor Frank Osage to work with Charleston students.

Virginia adds Chesapeake location

In January, Saint Leo opened a teaching location in Chesapeake, Virginia, to offer working adults a variety of degree programs at the associate, bachelor- and master-degree levels. Areas of study include business, computer information systems, health care management, social work, criminal justice, and theology.

Steve Judas is the assistant director and Susan Craft is the assistant director of admission.



Fort Eustis-Fort Lee Center earns military education award

Every year at the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE) conference, the Commission on Military Education and Training (CMET) presents several awards. Saint Leo University's Fort Eustis and Fort Lee Centers have been selected as this year's recipient of the Ray Ehrensberger Award for Institutional Excellence in Military Education. The award recognizes an educational institution that serves a predominantly military student population and distinguishes



itself through innovation and commitment to lifelong learning of adults in the military.

Susan Paulson, assistant vice president of continuing education, commented about Center Director Bud Hayes and the award, "Bud and his staff are doing a great job and I am proud of the centers' accomplishments as well as the honor bestowed on them."

Atlanta/Gwinnett in close cooperation with technical schools

Saint Leo University has signed agreements with two institutions, Gwinnett Technical College and DeKalb Technical College, to make it easier for graduates of the schools to continue their studies and earn a bachelor's degree from Saint Leo in their local Georgia communities. Saint Leo University will allow GWT and DeKalb graduates with associate degrees to enter SLU as juniors and study with SLU at its Gwinnett County location in Duluth.

Alumna and student receive honors in Hampton Roads

Each year at the beginning of Fleet Week, the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce names a Military Citizen of the Year. The honor goes to a man or woman who makes major contributions to the community and who is an outstanding sailor. In 2008, Yeoman 1st Class Irana L. Abrams '03, and Personnel Specialist 1st Class Natasha Hunter, a student at SLU's Center for Online Learning, were among 13 finalists nominated by the committee for making significant contributions to their communities. Petty Officer Abrams, who earned a B.A. in criminal justice from Saint Leo, has helped raise more than

\$300,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Petty Officer Hunter has worked countless hours providing aid to underprivileged children, the homeless, and adolescent girls, and has worked to recruit others to volunteer for these projects.

Gainesville Center accomplishments in the news

Recent coverage in the Bradford County (Fla.) Telegraph noted the importance of Saint Leo University in the community. Partly because of Saint Leo's presence, the former Sante Fe Community College is now known as Sante Fe College. Saint Leo partners with the host school to allow its students, many of whom are working adults, to continue studies locally for a bachelor's degree. Saint Leo offers bachelor's degrees in business administration, criminal justice, elementary and middle grades education, psychology, computer information systems and more. SLU also offers additional satellite teaching locations in the area.

The Gainesville Center congratulates adjunct faculty member Eileen Stephens for her selection as Teacher of the Year for 2008-09 at J.J. Finley Elementary School in Gainesville. In addition to her full-time work at Finley, Eileen teaches courses at Saint Leo for future elementary educators in language arts and teaching English to speakers of other languages.

Northeast Florida Center extends reach in Jacksonville

Saint Leo has signed an agreement with Florida's Keiser University to smooth the way for Keiser graduates to seek higher-level degrees with Saint Leo. The pact may have the most significant effect in the Jack-

sonville, Florida market, were Keiser enrolls about 300 full-time students. Keiser is based in Fort Lauderdale, but operates throughout Florida as a private, regionally-accredited, career focused institution. At its Jacksonville campus, Keiser offers a variety of associate and bachelor's degree programs. Saint Leo's Northeast Florida Center serves students not only from Jacksonville, but also in surrounding communities.

Distance Learning Program on board with the Navy

Saint Leo was named as one of 30 institutions selected for the Navy College Program Distance Learning Partnership, another tribute to SLU's flexibility and technological capabilities in teaching. Saint Leo can offer CD-ROM instruction and other course materials for sailors who do not have access to traditional classes, or to the Internet for online course offerings.

Center for Online Learning alum on leading edge

Jeffrey Beard '03/'05 reports that he has made education his career since earning the Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration through COL. His online learning experience made him "passionate about e-learning as a viable educational option and I wanted to help others achieve what I was able to achieve through Saint Leo." He has since gone on to earn a Master of Science degree in instructional technology at the University of Tennessee, and plans to earn a doctoral degree in education with a concentration in instructional technology from UT. "I am even more an ambassador for the SLU online program that is so technically and academically solid."

2009 Athletic Hall of Fame



The Saint Leo University Department of Athletics recently announced three new members who will be inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame at its annual banquet in March.

The 2009 honorees include two Saint Leo College baseball standouts, Sean O'Connor '83 and Ricky Dale '84, as well as Saint Leo University women's tennis player Stephanie Harris '00.



The Athletic Hall of Fame was established by the university in 1986 to honor former students, coaches, and administrators who excelled in athletics and who have brought distinction, honor, and excellence to Saint Leo. The Hall of Fame and its annual induction ceremony keep the school's rich athletic history alive for alumni, students, faculty, and friends.



A committee is convened each year to select the athletes who will be honored by membership in the Hall of Fame. Committee members represent Saint Leo alumni, administrators, faculty, and athletics department staff. Nominees for the Hall of Fame are sought from Saint Leo College Prep, Junior College, College, and University.

The 2009 Hall of Fame honorees will be inducted at a ceremony on Thursday evening, March 26, 2009, at the Student Community Center following a reception and dinner that begins at 6:00 p.m. For more information about this event, please contact Vicki Fredrickson, assistant director of athletics, at vicki.fredrickson@saintleo.edu or (352) 588-8221, ext. 7314.

Champions!



The Lady Lions won the Sunshine State Conference Championship (SSC) Tournament in November 2008, after a nail-biting shootout against No. 2 seed Florida Southern. The Lions drew 1-1 with the Moccasins in regular time before defeating them in penalties, 3-2.

Accolades continued when the National Soccer Coaches Association of America announced that the team earned a place on the association's Top 25 poll. Student-athlete Hannah Beard was named SSC Player of the Year. Beard and teammate Lauren Hudson were named to the 2008 Daktronics All-South Region women's soccer team.

And here's something else to brag about!

As the final fall semester grade reports rolled in, Saint Leo University Director of Athletics Fran Reidy may have not believed the information on his desk, but then again, maybe it wasn't disbelief but rather that a long-time expectation had been realized. The cumulative grade-point average of the Lions' student-athletes had exceeded 3.0 for the first time since the NCAA began requiring their respective institutions to submit grade reports in the 1980's.

Looking at the breakdown, we see that no program was lower than a 2.79, but it was the top-half of the grade averages that tilted the list over 3.0. Eleven of the 16 teams posted higher than a 3.0 with the women's cross country team earning a 3.41 GPA to lead the way. Women's swimming posted a 3.23 and softball was right behind with a 3.19 GPA. This is a great achievement for both the Department of Athletics and Saint Leo University.

It is widely accepted among the general population that the weakest academic link in any college is its athletics, because of the time and commitment many athletes put toward their respective sports. If that is the case, then Saint Leo is in a tremendous position as their athletes, as a whole, hold greater than a 3.0 average. All of this while the Lions concluded what is arguably their best all-around fall season on record.

Reported by Evan Ortiz, Sports Information Director





The university's Department of Athletics hosted a tribute to the 23rd Annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day on Tuesday, February 3, 2009. The university, which has one of the longest-running Girls and Women in Sports Day celebrations in the state of Florida, honored former basketball player Celia Slater as the 16th Saint Leo University Women in Sports Achievement Award recipient.

Celia Slater is a Clearwater native who has played a role in developing young women athletes from high school to the professional level. She is executive director of the WinStar Foundation, which encompasses the NCAA Women Coaches Academy, Play with Purpose, and the Winning Careers in Athletics programs. Celia was a three-time state champion in women's basketball at Clearwater

CELEBRATING Girls & Women IN SPORTS

Central Catholic High School and a four-year player at Florida State University.

Honored as a "Champion Beyond the Game" by Florida State in 2004, Celia also was the senior woman administrator and head women's basketball coach at Lynn University before joining Bruce Levy Associates where she represented female athletes in the United States and Europe.



She also played a role in the development of the Women's National Basketball Association.

Celia is a facilitator for the Pursuing Victory with Honor Sports Ethics Program. She is well regarded for her depth of knowledge

and use of strategy to develop winning teams, but she is most admired for her caring approach and commitment to young women athletes.

SLU at the North Pole



The SLU men's basketball team couldn't pass up the opportunity to show Santa Claus some of that Lion Pride when they visited North Pole, Alaska, in December. The Lions played four games in eight days, traveling over 4,600 miles and across four time zones to compete with three teams from the Great Northwest. During that time, the Green & Gold went 2-2 as they visited Seattle, Washington, as well as Anchorage and Fairbanks, Alaska.

During the first-ever visit by any Saint Leo team to the 49th state, the Lions did plenty of sightseeing but never saw the temperature reach above the 15-degree mark. At the time this picture was taken, the temperature was exactly zero.



Saint Leo University *Homecoming* 2009 March 26 – 29, 2009

The 2009 Homecoming Celebration will take place March 26 through March 29 on the main campus. All alumni are invited to attend. Reunion years ending in “4” or “9”, along with sports teams, social and Greek organizations will reunite during the weekend.

Special activities are planned for the following groups.

Class of 1999
Class of 1984
Class of 1979
Class of 1974
Class of 1969
Fast Pitch Softball Alumni—25th Reunion
Alpha Sigma Chi—45th Reunion
Delta Phi Delta—45th Reunion
Kappa Alpha Sigma
Kappa Theta/Sigma Alpha Epsilon—40th Reunion
Phi Delta Omega
Sigma Beta—45th Reunion
Sigma Phi Epsilon

Event Schedule

Thursday, March 26

Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet

Friday, March 27

Be a student for a day: attend a class, lecture, and student/alumni career panel.

Green and Gold Golf Tournament

Tailgate before baseball and softball games. Enjoy dinner, games, fireworks, and live music.

Saturday, March 28

Special Reunion Lunches and Events

Alumni vs. Student-Athlete Games

Alumni Dinner Dance and Alumni Association Awards

Sunday, March 29

Mass at the Abbey Church
Farewell Brunch

For details or to register, please call the Alumni Relations office at (352) 588-8667 or send an email to alumni.relations@saintleo.edu.



Alumni Events
Spring 2009 Schedule



Homecoming 2009
March 26-29, 2009
Main Campus



Ocala
Alumni Celebration of Excellence
April 17, 2009
Webber Center at Central
Florida Community College



Savannah
Alumni-Student River Cruise
April 18, 2009
Savannah, Georgia



Class of 1959 Reunion
April 24-26, 2009
Lake Jovita Golf and Country Club
Dade City, FL



Mittel-European Tour
for Students and Alumni
May 3-17, 2009
Europe



Savannah
Alumni Breast Cancer Walk
May 8, 2009
Savannah, Georgia



For more information about these events, visit www.alumni.saintleo.edu/166.php, send an email to alumni.relations@saintleo.edu, or telephone the Alumni Office at (352) 588-8667.



Dear Fellow Alumni:

For many of us, 2009 is a year to celebrate. It's a special reunion year for all alumni who received their degrees in years ending in "4" or "9." In 1994—15 years ago—I walked across the stage and received my Saint Leo diploma. I'll be on campus for my 15-year reunion and I hope to see many of you at the Homecoming 2009 celebration from

March 26 through 29. On behalf of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, I encourage all alumni to join us for the celebration.

The Alumni Association Board of Directors continues its work to engage Saint Leo alumni on many levels. Our board members look forward to meeting alumni at a variety of events held during each year. We encourage all alumni to stay in touch with the university by visiting the Alumni Relations office on the main campus or by making a phone call or sending an email. The Alumni Relations staff works hard to provide the best service to Saint Leo alumni, but they can only do that if they have up-to-date information about you. Please be sure to keep your information current.

It is amazing how quickly time goes by. I remember so many great things about my experience as a Saint Leo student, experiences that helped shape me to be the person I am today. I look forward to hearing about your Saint Leo experiences and about the great things that are happening in your lives today. Please be sure to stay in touch with the Alumni Relations office.

I look forward to seeing you all in the very near future.

Thamir Kaddouri '94
Saint Leo Alumni Association President
(thamir@tampalaw.org)

Recent Events

Thanks to all the alumni, students, faculty, and staff who attended 2008 summer alumni-student receptions. Seven events were held in two and one-half weeks! It was an adventure for everyone who helped make these events happen. New connections were created and old ones were strengthened.

Over the next few months, Alumni Relations staff will be working closely with volunteers and continuing education center staff to plan a variety of events for the coming year. We hope to see you soon.



Saint Leo College Prep and Holy Name Academy Reunion

More than 80 Saint Leo College Prep and Holy Name Academy alumni and friends gathered during the first weekend in October to celebrate their 50, 55, and 60 year reunions for the classes of 1958, 1953, and 1948. This was the first Prep-HNA reunion to be held in the new Student Community Center on the main campus. A reception was held on Saturday, October 4, in the Saint Leo College Prep and Holy Name Academy Lounge located in the new building.

The third annual Florida Benedictine Spirit Award was presented to John Hughes '54 during a special luncheon held Saturday, October 4, 2008. The Benedictine Spirit Award is presented to individuals who exemplify the values articulated 1,500 years ago by Saint Benedict and Saint Scholastica, and to those who demonstrate an uncommon and sustained devotion to Saint Leo Prep, Holy Name Academy, and Saint Leo University.

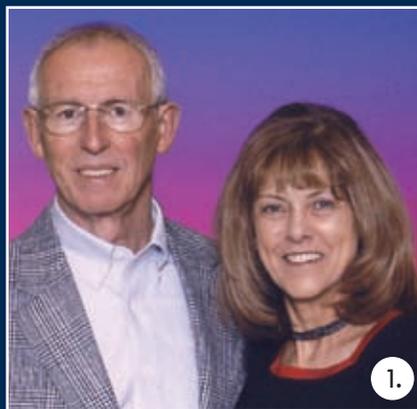


SAINT LEO ALUMNI EVENTS HIT A **HOMERUN!!!**

Between February and September 2008, more than 225 Saint Leo alumni gathered at five Major League Baseball games around the country to support their local teams and to reunite, network, and socialize with other alumni. Each event included a pre-game or game-time reception and a Saint Leo alumni ball cap. The receptions gave alumni an opportunity to share stories about their Saint Leo experiences, the changes at the main campus, and their excitement about future alumni events and programs.



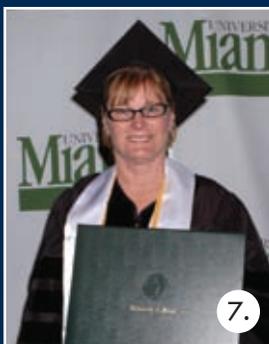
Sheila McDevitt (HNA) '60 was the subject of a WUSF radio interview for its "Women in Power" series. She is the current chair of the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida, and an attorney with the law firm of Ackerman Senterfitt.



1. Bonnie (Boyd) Claus '64 and her husband reside in Henderson, Nevada, where she works part-time for General Dynamics Corporation. They moved to Henderson from Cape Canaveral, Florida, where both worked for NASA on the Apollo program.



2. William Griffin, Jr. '71 recently celebrated his 35th wedding anniversary with his wife, Eleanor Bono Griffin. They have three children, William III, Marusia, and Patrick. The Griffins welcomed their first grandchild, John, on July 15, 2008.



4. John View '72, past president of the Saint Leo Alumni Association, was featured in the "Speak Out" column of the July/August issue of the journal *AFT on Campus*. John is the director of financial aid and the Educational Opportunity Program at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and an officer of the United University Professions/AFT.

7. Mercedes "Desie" (Gil) Ehrman '75 earned a specialist degree in reading, summa cum laude, from the University of Miami in May 2008. Desie has taught English as a second language at Caribbean Elementary School in Miami, Florida, for 25 years.

Tom Bonfield '77 was named city manager for Durham, North Carolina, in June 2008.

Sheila Wooters '74, athletic director of the Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac, Maryland, received the Maryland State Athletic Director of the Year Award in May 2008.

3. Dennis Mullen '77, chair of the Saint Leo Board of Trustees, was named Upstate President of Empire State Development Corporation by New York State Governor David Paterson.

8. Dolores Incremona '80, Alumni Association board member, traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia, for a 10-day tour with friends and family.

6. Larry Menyweather-Woods '83 earned a Ph.D. in human sciences with a specialization in gerontology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in May 2008. He is former senior pastor at the Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church, and currently serves as an instructor in the black studies department at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

William "Bill" Harvey '93 is chief of police of the Lebanon (Pa.) City Police Department and writes a regular column on www.officer.com.

Delores Randolph '93 was included in the 2008 *Who's Who for Excellence in Law Enforcement and Security*. Delores has a bachelor's degree in criminology, with a minor in philosophy. She served 31 years in the Petersburg Virginia Police Department, retiring in 2008 with the rank of captain.



5. Thamir Kaddouri '94 and wife Melissa are pictured with former Florida coach Ron Zook at the Outback Bowl Summer Splash event.

Gary McKinney '94 was named president of Day and Zimmermann Power Services' NPS division in June, 2008. Gary earned his degree in business administration at Saint Leo's South Hampton Roads Education Center.

Georgina Rivera-Singletary '95 was featured in a *Tampa Tribune* article that described her journey from child of a migrant family to assistant principal at Pasco High School in Dade City, Florida. Georgina was honored as the 2008 Florida Migrant Success Story of the Year by the Florida Department of Education and the Florida Migrant Interstate Program.

Robert S. Williams '95 became Hampton Virginia's treasurer in June 2008. Robert attended classes at the Langley Education Center in Virginia.

Robyn Hamilton '95 was named to the *Charlotte Business Journal's* "40 under 40" list. Robyn is president and CEO of the Carolinas Minority Supplier Development Council.

James Previtera '96 recently was promoted to the rank of colonel and commander of the detention department of the Hillsborough County Florida Sheriff's Office.

Chandra Berry '97 was featured in the *Daily News* in Newport News, Virginia. After separating from the Army in 2007, Chandra, who is a widow, launched an online business so she could be at home with her son Nicholas.

Sylvia Edwards MBA '98 recently was appointed finance director for the city of Sanibel Island, Florida.

9. Christian Ford '99 received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of California's Berkeley School of Law in May 2008. He joined Baker & McKenzie LLP (North American Litigation Practice Group, San Francisco Office) in November.

Matthew Dooris '99 Received his Master of Arts in Security Studies from the Center for Homeland Defense and Security in December 2008.

Katie Sewell '00 was named a semifinalist for the Massachusetts Teacher of the Year. Last spring she received her master's degree in education, magna cum laude, from the University of Massachusetts-Boston.

Scott Weaver M.Ed. '01 is the new principal of Westchase Elementary School in Northwest Hillsborough County, Florida.

Mark Terry '02 is producer of "Live Evil," a feature-length action-horror movie completed last year.

Jeff Zahratka '02 recently published *Sweepers Sweepers Man Your Brooms*, a book about his 26 years in the Navy. Jeff's wife and son also hold Saint

Leo degrees. Wife Iris '03 has a BA in business administration and son Andrew attended classes at SHRC and received his associate's degree in 2006.

Donald Manning '03, is in his eighth year as an educator and teaches kindergarten at Evergreen Elementary School in Ocala, FL.

Debby Ashraf '03 was recognized as Secondary Reading Teacher of the Year by the Secondary Reading Council of Florida at its annual conference.

Africa to start a spiritual center in Tanzania that will care for AIDS victims, orphans, and children from poor families.

James Strutchen '07 is a teacher in Jacksonville, Florida, and also works as a professional disc jockey part-time.

Petty Officer Lauren Kowalewski '07 is one of just eight Coast Guard members in Iraq and Afghanistan. She is the only woman on the RAID (Redeployment Assistance and Inspection Detachment) Team.



Rodney Smith '03 is the new deputy police chief of Ocala, Florida. He holds a bachelor's degree in criminology from Saint Leo.

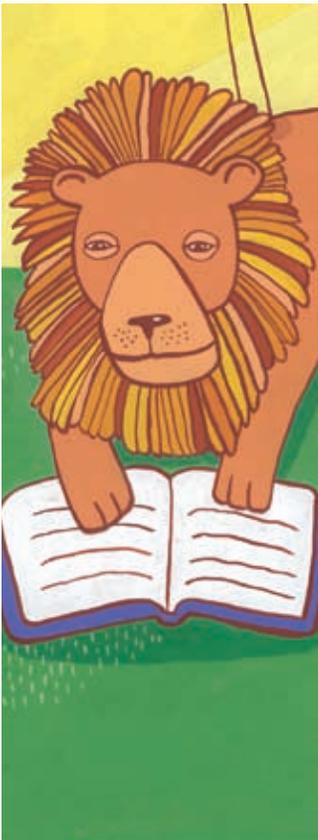
Joseph B. St. John '04 is the new Chief of Police of Columbus, Mississippi. Prior to his new job, he was a captain in the Newport News Police Department, where he worked for 23 years.

10. Sister Pudentiana Tibabyekomya '05/'08 was featured in the June 5 edition of *Florida Catholic*. Sister "Puddy" received her master's degree in pastoral leadership and returned to

Paul Sheaffer '07 is the new chief of police for Penn Township, Pennsylvania. He received his master's degree in criminal justice from Saint Leo, with a concentration in critical incident management.

Brittany Josselyn '08 is administrative assistant to the general manager of the Manchester (N.H.) Wolves.

Kimberly Cutter '08 is the new department head and instructor for cosmetology at Savannah Technical College.



Lion Cub Club

Katie Delaney '91 is pleased to announce the birth of her son, Bruno Delaney, on December 27, 2007.

David J. Preller, III '92 and his wife Jennifer are the proud new parents of a baby boy, Andrew Arthur Preller, born September 17, 2008

Kelley (Pekarek) Touchton '02 announces the birth of Abigaile Grace Pekarek, born September 11, 2008. Kelly reports that Abigaile can't wait to become a Saint Leo student and a member of Alpha Sigma Tau!

Weddings

Katie Sewell '00 and Scott Anderson were married on November 1, 2008 in Baltimore, Maryland. Christopher Corlito '00 was a groomsman in their wedding.

Jamie Marks '03 and **Marlon Furlongue '03** were married on August 31, 2008 at Beaches Boscobel in Jamaica.

Rebekah Schmidt and **Joseph Canova '07** were united in a double ring ceremony at the Faith Baptist Tabernacle in Wiliston, Florida on April 5, 2008.

11. **Katy Nyquist '05** and Tyson Boyd were married June 21, 2008, at the Saint Leo Abbey Church. Tyson's twin daughters, Bailey and Taylor, played an important role in the celebration. Tyson is pursuing his bachelor's degree at Saint Leo University and Katy is the alumni assistant/event coordinator at Saint Leo University.



In Memoriam

Harry Parker Hope '29
April 3, 2008

Paul Vincent DeGuenther Sr. '42
September 17, 2008

Harvey McKay Heagerty '44
November 15, 2008

Edward Archie Storch '46
August 10, 2008

Rose V. Rachel '50
February 23, 2008

Dorothy Ann Sumner '55
July 9, 2008

Donald J. Kreuzsch '56
August 10, 2008

Paul A. Schneider '56
January 24, 2009

Russell J. Wallauer '65
May 28, 2008

William Paul Sullivan, Jr. '69
June 17, 2008

Richard J. Appio '70
August 5, 2008

Oliver James Keller Jr. '72
February 12, 2008

Christopher Paul O'Brien '74
November 24, 2008

Dennis A. Bogle '75
September 13, 2008

John Andrew Groff Sr. '77
March 9, 2008

William P. Cowart '78
March 17, 2008

John Wickert '79
November 30, 2008

Alan C. Lynch '80
January 20, 2008

Harley J. Dell '81
April 21, 2008

James Neel Calhoun '82
August 23, 2008

William K. Wooden '82
September 29, 2008

Serge Duchatellier Jr. '93
October 3, 2008

Mildred A. Osborne '94
June 26, 2008

Angela Marie Johnson '98
January 5, 2008

Tommy L. Wilson '99
September 5, 2008

Philip M. Marshall '00
June 17, 2008

Carole Connelly '03
March 6, 2008

Carrie Hammer '08
November 23, 2008

Cecelia Heintz O.S.B.
Registrar and teacher,
Holy Name Academy
September 7, 2008

Dirk Budd
Former professor of English
November 28, 2008

Reverend Father George I. Paulson
Former professor of
psychology and theology
January 5, 2009

Dr. Charles Arnade
Former professor of
international studies
September 7, 2008

When Saint Jude Chapel was opened last year as part of the larger Student Community Center complex, students, faculty, staff, and visitors were happy to have a peaceful sanctuary for quiet reflection and for celebrations of Mass.

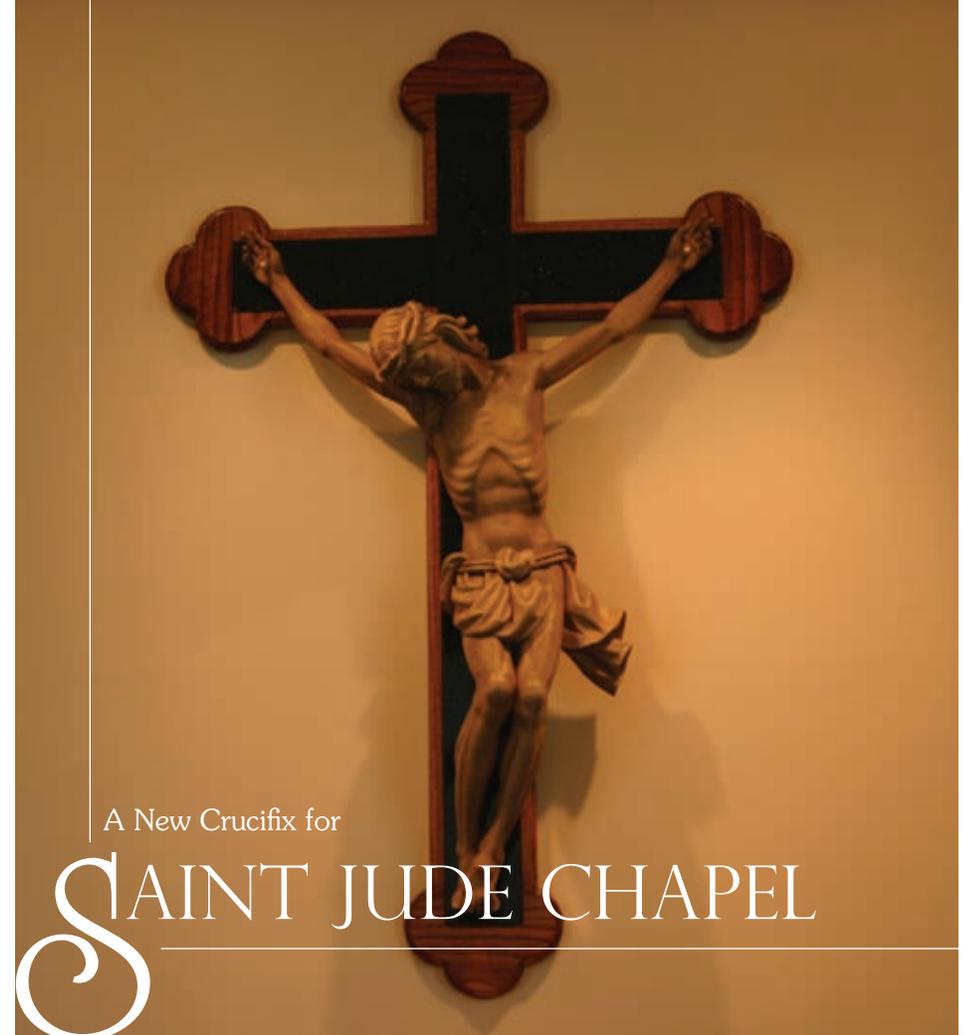
And yet, the chapel wasn't truly complete until the recent installation of a specially crafted crucifix. The artwork has attracted attention not only for its beauty and symbolism, but also for its intriguing history.

"It came out of a chapel, and it went back into a chapel," explained Rob Garland, a trained mason and builder who works for the university's plant operations department.

Actually, that's just the start of the story of how Garland created the stunning, four-foot high crucifix we see today. The project began when Father Stephan Brown, director of university ministry, asked the plant operations staff if they could help him locate a crucifix for the chapel.

First Brown and Garland found the Christ figure, a piece that had been made in Italy and carved from wood. The university had previously displayed the figure in the chapel of the former MacDonald Center, and had placed the work in storage for safekeeping when the old student center was razed. The figure, with proper display, would be the right size for the recently constructed Saint Jude Chapel, Garland decided.

Still, there was work to be done to complete an appropriate crucifix: Garland needed to make a cross to bear the body of the Christ figure. He recalled that the plant operations department still had on hand



A New Crucifix for

S

SAINT JUDE CHAPEL

some oak church pews, saved when a Catholic chapel in Pinellas County was displaced years ago. He determined the oak would be a fitting material for the cross.

Only one more element was needed. Jose Caban, Garland's supervisor and the director of plant operations, directed Garland to incorporate into the work the same dark forest-green granite atop the chapel altar. This would visually match the new crucifix to its surroundings.

Garland took the elements to the wood shop and began working away, tending to the crucifix construction for a couple of hours at a time, in between his other assignments. He cut the oak planks to size, laid granite atop the wood, and affixed the Christ figure to the structure.

He puzzled over one detail—whether to leave the ends of the cross cut as blunt, straight edges, or whether to

embellish them somehow. He found inspiration in his own mother's rosary. That crucifix has a cross with rounded edges.

In late August, Garland and Caban brought the project to completion by mounting the crucifix on the recessed wall of the chapel. Father Brown blessed the crucifix during a weekday Mass in September, when students were back on campus.

Garland considers his work on the crucifix one of the high points of his 18 years at Saint Leo University. "I'm glad I got to make it," he said.

The Saint Jude Chapel is dedicated to the memory of Elizabeth T. Cannon. Both she and her husband Daniel were prominent members of the Saint Leo community. The Cannon Memorial Library stands as a testament to their dedication and generosity. Mrs. Cannon was an alumna of Saint Leo College and a member of the Board of Trustees.

GO GREEN

Making a gift to Saint Leo has never been easier than it is this year.

No checks, no envelopes, no stamps. Good for the environment and good for Saint Leo.

When you make your Annual Fund gift online, Saint Leo students will benefit immediately from your generosity.

To make your gift, just go to www.saintleo.edu and select "Support SLU" at the upper right corner of the page.

Attention Online Community Members!



New Ways to reconnect and network are on the horizon.

Soon you will be able to connect with other SLU alumni directly through your Facebook account.

And you will be able to connect with companies looking to hire people like you and with fellow alumni in your area, across the country, and around the world. You'll even be able to update your inCircle profile—all while logged onto your Facebook account.

To register for the Saint Leo Alumni Online Community please send an email to alumni.relations@saintleo.edu and request Online Community access.



The gift of a lifetime

Lifetime

Jack Callan joined the U.S. Navy in 1950 as a seaman attached to the USS Prairie State. Over his distinguished 20-year career, he was commissioned as a naval officer and aviator, deployed to the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and assigned to numerous fighter squadrons flying more than ten different types of aircraft, including front-line jet fighters. He completed a total of over 4,000 flight hours and made 187 carrier landings.

Shortly after his retirement, Jack began a second career that continued his dedicated service to the military community. He was appointed director of Saint Leo's new education center at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, Virginia. Over the next 20 years, Jack Callan led the center's growth, introducing classes on all major military installations in the South Hampton Roads area. He became regional director for the four Saint Leo education centers located on Army, Air Force, and Navy installations in Virginia. His innovative leadership resulted in education that improved the careers of thousands of service members and their families.

In 1994, Saint Leo recognized Jack's great service to the military community and his dedication to Saint Leo with an honorary degree and a scholarship was established in his name. He died in April of that year.

The Dr. Jack F. Callan Scholarship is awarded annually to the wife of a Navy active duty Saint Leo student, ensuring that Jack's memory will live on at Saint Leo University. Scholarship gifts honor the friendships you formed, the special memories you made, and the education you received at Saint Leo University.

If you would like to establish your own named scholarship, contribute to an existing scholarship fund, or receive more information, please contact the Saint Leo University's Development Office at (352) 588-8483 or send an email to development@saintleo.edu.





Saint Leo University
Homecoming 2009
March 26 – 29, 2009

The 2009 Homecoming Celebration will take place March 26 through March 29 on the main campus. All alumni are invited to attend. Reunion years ending in "4" or "9", along with sports teams, social and Greek organizations will reunite during the weekend. Details inside.


SAINT LEO
UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT
University Campus - MC2227
P.O. Box 6665
Saint Leo, FL 33574-6665
www.saintleo.edu

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