

**Dean's Update
for the Faculty and the Advisory Council
of the College of Arts and Letters
2006**

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Introduction

Arts and Letters made a decision this year to discontinue the *Dean's Report*, which had served as a chronicle of the College over the past three years. Although it was a great source of data for multiple purposes—from being mined for development documents and smaller reports to providing a permanent record of the College's advances—it was no longer serving its original purpose of being a document that could be read and could highlight the College's strengths. It had simply become too long. It will be replaced by the new Arts and Letters Web page; *Exemplum* (a shorter document of annual Arts and Letters highlights); a colorful brochure of the College, to be updated every few years; occasional publications, such as one forthcoming on the Decade of the Arts; departmental newsletters; and, as needed, letters from the Dean to the faculty that focus on selected issues. Our faculty meetings, which are held three times per year, already serve as meaningful avenues of internal communication.

This update, then, which is shorter than the previous Dean's Reports, records selected highlights of the College during the past year. It is a functional update that does not pretend to be a carefully crafted narrative or a comprehensive overview of the College. However, it does provide a relatively simple overview of selected advances in our common mission.

Undergraduate Studies and Learning

The new endowment for the Glynn Family Honors Program will be a transformative gift for the academic core of the University. The funding will help us attract and recruit a larger pool of superb students and allow us to offer them a peerless undergraduate experience. The Glynn Family Honors Program, which will supersede and allow us to expand the current Arts and Letters/Science Honors Program, combines the benefits of a leading research university and an elite liberal arts college by offering a small group of the University's most talented undergraduates a wide range of rich academic opportunities as well as individualized mentoring and a student-centered experience that focuses on small, discussion classes and independent

research projects.

The new funding will serve three purposes. First, it will add two faculty members, allowing us to expand the Honors Program to 100 students per year, 400 overall. The College will look for mission hires who offer considerable breadth, as is appropriate for such an integrative program. The figure of 100 per year (400 overall) is up from 40 students per year (160 overall) ten years ago and 60-80 students per year (280 overall) currently. Second, every student in the Program will be eligible for a summer research fellowship. The new endowment will enable those Honors students who have meaningful research proposals to spend the summer following either their sophomore or junior years pursuing original research projects either at Notre Dame or at other universities or appropriate sites. The research fellowship will help attract students and help them develop as intellectuals. Third, the gift will allow us to expand our marketing and support for the Honors Program, including a biennial artistic event and conference that will enliven the entire campus and a biennial student-planned conference. (This summer we have begun planning for a major event in the Spring of 2008 that is expected to explore the Faust theme through performances in opera and theater, film showings, an academic conference, and integrated readings not only in Honors seminars but in courses across the University.) Other activities include, for example, an annual fall trip to the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario, and an annual cultural immersion visit to the Art Institute and the Lyric Opera in Chicago.

The positive impact of the Glynn Family Honors Program is likely to increase over time. First, the quality of applicants to Notre Dame should improve, and the yield on top students should rise. The Program already attracts students who turn down offers from Harvard, Yale, and Stanford. The current yield on admitted-but-not-committed Honors students who visit campus is over 50%. Second, one of Notre Dame's goals is to send more students to graduate school. The increase in the number of participants in the Honors Program will likely result in more undergraduates pursuing Ph.D.s. Honors Program graduates pursue Ph.D.s at a much higher rate than the student body as a whole. Third, generations of Honors students will be recognized as Glynn Scholars, much the way Rhodes Scholars are recognized today, and their impact will have a ripple effect throughout society. The Glynn Family Honors Program will not only enhance the University's ability to attract outstanding students and offer them richer opportunities, it will also advance the University's reputation as a Catholic center of intellectual life and set the standard for excellence in undergraduate education throughout the University and the world.

Arts and Letters undergraduates who are not Glynn Scholars but who would nonetheless prefer to complete a more rigorous and intellectually stimulating course of study often have the option of completing an honors track within their majors. Last year the College approved new honors tracks for Economics; Film, Television, and Theatre; German and Russian Languages and Literatures; and Sociology. Only two of the College's 19 departmental majors do not yet offer an honors track.

The senior honors track in American Studies reached a healthy critical mass of students. Six students graduating with honors presented summaries of their theses projects to American Studies advisors, faculty, and fellow majors. The first year of the honors track in Classics

graduated two students; next year eight students are expected to graduate with honors. Thirteen students completed the history honors track, and the Senior Thesis Prize Committee judged this year's group of graduating seniors the most impressive to date. Anthropology's new honors track has enrolled 25 students. Thirty-seven political science majors wrote senior theses, and 24 students qualified for departmental honors.

The new Earl and Darielle Linehan Endowment for Excellence in Undergraduate Studies will be a signature program of the College: it will enhance our students' intellectual development, strengthening bonds between students and faculty, and challenging our students to develop as leaders and scholars. The Linehan Endowment will fund several successful initiatives within the Office of Undergraduate Studies, including, for example, "Learning Beyond the Classroom" grants. Last year, the College supported 117 Learning Beyond the Classroom (LBC) proposals, totaling over \$135,000. The Linehan Endowment will ensure the flourishing of LBC and selected other programs, in perpetuity, thus enhancing faculty-student interaction and increasing opportunities for our students to extend and deepen their intellectual engagement and growth outside the classroom.

A continuing challenge at Notre Dame has been the integration of academic and residential life. The College Fellow's Subsidy Program, also supported by the Linehan Endowment, encourages student-teacher interactions outside of class by giving faculty members meal tickets so that they can continue their discussions with students over a meal in a campus dining hall. The Office of Undergraduate Studies distributed 1,000 meal tickets in Fall 2006 and just under 1,500 tickets in Spring 2006. The College also provides subsidies to faculty members to enable them to invite groups of students to their homes for a meal and conversation. In 2005-2006, 177 classes met in faculty members' homes as part of this program. The number of actual classes is slightly higher, as endowed chairs often pay for such meals out of their own teaching-and-research accounts.

The College has become more proactive in its efforts to reach out to undergraduates. The Office of Undergraduate Studies offered five workshops this past year, under the rubric Sophomore Intellectual Initiative, designed to introduce students to opportunities available to them in Arts and Letters and to help them see their education within the broad context of a liberal arts tradition. We are developing, in close collaboration with the Career Center, further workshops on preparing students for job interviews. Recent data suggest that our students are not as articulate as they need to be about their preparation for a career with a given firm or their knowledge of the firms with which they are interviewing.

In 2004-2005, a new element was added to the Computer Applications Program (CAPP) curriculum; we created the Technology, Business, and Society (TBS) program. The new program, which requires five courses instead of the eight required by the CAPP supplementary major, now has 17 students.

Ken Dye, with support from the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (ISLA), developed a new course entitled "The Business of Music."

While the University Writing Program assists first-year students with their writing—how to articulate claims, present evidence, and write with style, among other goals—the Writing Center works with students at all levels. In 2005-2006, Center tutors conducted 2,841 sessions, an increase of 341 sessions over academic year 2004-2005.

The College's largest interdisciplinary minor—Science, Technology, and Values (STV)—brings insights and techniques from the humanities and the social sciences to bear on science and technology. As in the past several years, the majority (approximately two-thirds) of the current STV class is from the College of Science, although the minor attracts students from every college. Nine students in the continuing class will be from the College of Engineering, an all-time high and a 50% increase from last year. Engineering students are always welcome in the STV program, but they, more so than students from other colleges, often find it difficult to find time in their schedules for courses outside of their majors.

Associate Dean Stuart Greene compiled and edited the first two issues of the Arts and Letters newsletter, *Forum*, which provides faculty members with suggestions for best practices on a range of approaches for improving undergraduate teaching and learning. The Fall 2005 inaugural issue focused on the ways departments and individual faculty members have sought to encourage students to engage in research, regardless of their academic class level or major. The second issue focused on student-centered learning. Contributing articles emphasized, for example, the value of connecting the content of instruction to students' knowledge and experience. Future issues of *Forum* will emphasize writing as a means for facilitating student learning, developing learning goals, assessing students (and programs) in the light of these goals, and mentoring students.

The College is reviewing the problem of grade inflation. I addressed grade inflation as a primary topic at the Spring 2006 faculty meeting and shared some sobering statistics as well as some suggestions. Associate Dean Stuart Greene is sharing, in Fall 2006, relevant sections of the grade-inflation reports with chairpersons and asking them to discuss this issue with their faculties during the coming year. The topic will also be addressed in the College Council.

New endowed chairs advance our standing in research and allow us to add new faculty members, thus reducing class size overall. The University established the Walter H. Annenberg – Edmund P. Joyce Chair in American Studies and Journalism. Robert P. Schmuhl, Professor of American Studies and Director of the Gallivan Program in Journalism, Ethics, and Democracy, will be the inaugural chairholder. The University also established the Dorothy G. Griffin Chair. Brad S. Gregory will be the inaugural chairholder and will become the Dorothy G. Griffin Associate Professor of Early Modern European History. Several other chairs, including at least three chairs recently given or currently being finalized by Advisory Council members, are in the process of being funded or filled.

Student interest in the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) continues to grow. In 2005-2006, 117 students received UROP awards, with funds totaling \$210,251. The College also expanded the number of UROP summer grants from 11 in 2005 to 31 in 2006. These figures

represent a record high. The Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (ISLA) held four special sessions last year to promote UROP: two in cooperation with the Office of Undergraduate Studies, one session of which was aimed at sophomores specifically; one with the Department of Africana Studies; and one with the Kellogg Institute for International Studies. The College also produced a DVD on UROP, which the Arts and Letters Office of News and Publicity distributed to the Office of Undergraduate Studies, ISLA, First Year of Studies, and Undergraduate Admissions. Our ability to move forward with UROP has benefitted from a number of endowments and expendable gifts, including several supported directly or indirectly by Advisory Council members, for example, the Morrison Conway Endowment for Undergraduate Research, the Joseph and Deborah Loughrey Undergraduate Research Endowment, the Robert D. Marotta Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program Fund, the Carolyn and Gerry McGrath Fund for Undergraduate Research, and the Robert P. Quinn Endowment for the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program.

The College reviewed information on the previous year's student presentations of research to peers and developed a systematic proposal to enhance this important learning activity, which also inspires further research. Arts and Letters undergraduate students shared examples of their research projects during two College-sponsored panel presentations. A variety of departments and programs—for example, the Glynn Family Honors Program; the Department of American Studies; the interdisciplinary minor in Education, Schooling, and Society; and the Department of Sociology, to offer a few examples—also now sponsor student presentations of research.

In 2005-2006, 293 psychology students participated in research: 115 in Fall 2005 and 178 in Spring 2006. The Department of Psychology may well have the largest undergraduate research program in the University. On average, 40-50% of eligible students are involved in research, and most of those students are juniors and seniors. (Eligible students must be psychology majors, have taken statistics, be currently enrolled in a research-methods course, or have special permission of the faculty researcher.) Most students work in a given lab for a year, some work in more than one lab over time, while others elect to work on the same project for several years. The research projects are in a variety of settings, for example, in schools, Head Start centers, hospitals, and mental health facilities. Students have the opportunity to learn a variety of skills, including computer programming and data analysis as well as how to use sophisticated equipment, interact with subjects, and assess behaviors. Depending on the research project, students might learn how to run intervention programs and help develop intervention materials, code videotaped behaviors, or collect and analyze interview data.

Anthropology continues to have significant summer learning experiences for students, including many opportunities abroad. An Undergraduate Research Expo sponsored by Anthropology involved 49 students and 25 different projects. They presented posters and multimedia exhibits on their undergraduate research activities

The Department of Classics, with support from the Department of Irish Language and Literature, sponsored and produced a student production of Seamus Heaney's *Burial at Thebes*, which played to three sold-out houses in the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

BFA student Julia Burke's entry to the IDEA Design Competition sponsored by the Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA) was awarded the silver medal. This is the most prestigious award ever earned by a Notre Dame industrial design student. Burke designed *Plug-In*, a device that reduces the difficulties inherent in accessing residential 110 volt receptacles.

Program of Liberal Arts senior Benjamin Dougherty edited the *Notre Dame Journal of Undergraduate Research*.

Twenty-four theology majors participated in the Department's inaugural Author Encounter, which is part of the College's "Community of Learning Initiative." Students met with Robert Louis Wilken and discussed his book *The Spirit of Early Christianity*. Theology students have decided to meet next year with Paul Williams, a professor of Indian and Tibetan philosophy at the University of Bristol (U.K.) who converted to Catholicism a number of years ago.

The Department of Political Science prepared the groundwork for implementing a new junior writing seminar requirement for its majors. In 2006-2007, the Department will offer 15 seminars, in which majors can investigate specialized topics and better prepare themselves for writing advanced research papers and senior theses.

Political science majors secured an impressive number of internships throughout the year: 19 in Summer 2005, 18 in Fall 2005, and 35 in Spring 2006.

Anton Juan directed Film, Television, and Theatre (FTT) students in the kabuki-style production of *Salome*, which has been touted as one of the University's most brilliant theater productions in 35 years.

The Notre Dame Glee Club toured extensively, including a stop at Carnegie Hall.

In an effort to help students understand the option of graduate study more fully, one of the assistant deans in the College will be designated a pre-graduate school advisor, much as we have already pre-law and pre-medicine advisors. In addition, the College established, in Spring 2006, an annual panel presentation for undergraduates who are thinking about attending graduate school. The College will also begin hosting, in Spring 2007, an annual reception for graduating seniors who plan to attend graduate school to earn a terminal degree (e.g., MFA, Ph.D.) in an Arts and Letters discipline.

Graduate Studies and Scholarship

The College continued to share best practices in professional development, including doctoral colloquia, thereby helping to improve the placement record of graduate students. Associate Dean Julie Braungart-Rieker conducted meetings with graduate students from each doctoral program and with all the directors of graduate studies (DGS). The College will share, in Fall 2006, a report of her findings with chairpersons, DGSs, and the Graduate School. Also some best practices were shared with the chairpersons over the course of the year. For example, the

Placement Director in the Department of Philosophy offered, in Fall 2005, a semester-long seminar to help graduate students better prepare themselves for the job market.

The Graduate School is currently considering a joint proposal from Biology, Engineering, Philosophy, and Psychology for an interdisciplinary specialization in cognitive science.

The Department of Political Science received a record number of applications, over 280, for its incoming class of 2006-2007. Given the strength and depth of that pool, the Department admitted 13 exceptionally strong and promising graduate students.

The College had a number of impressive graduate placements last year. English, for example, placed eight students in tenure-track positions, including Penn State and SUNY-Albany. History also had an excellent year, placing students in tenure-track positions at the University of Chicago, Ohio State University, and the University of Alabama, among other universities. Political Science placed two of its graduates overseas: a graduating Ph.D. took a tenure-track position at Kings College, London, and a political scientist who graduated some years ago moved on to a senior lecturer (i.e., tenured) position at the University of Oxford. Psychology placed students in tenure-track or postdoctoral positions at Auburn, Cornell, Stanford, SUNY-Albany, the University of Minnesota, and the University of Wisconsin.

Five current graduate students in Political Science have distinguished themselves by publishing in the discipline's "big three" journals: the *American Journal of Political Science (AJPS)*, the *Journal of Politics (JOP)*, and the *American Political Science Review (APSR)*. Jeffrey Church had a single-authored paper accepted in *JOP*, and David Thunder had a single-authored piece in *AJPS*. Michael Keane, Sara Houser, and Patrick Flavin had articles, co-authored with faculty members, appear in the *AJPS*, the *APSR*, and the *JOP*, respectively. This is a remarkable achievement, one unlikely matched by any other political science graduate program in the country.

The Society of American Historians awarded Notre Dame graduate Darren Dochuk (Ph.D., 2005), Assistant Professor of History at Purdue University, the Allen Nevins Prize for Best Written Dissertation in U.S. History.

In an effort to invest resources primarily in our strongest graduate programs, the College and the Department of German and Russian Languages and Literatures agreed to close the M.A. Program in German, thereby reallocating resources to undergraduate learning in the Department and to graduate programs elsewhere in the College.

The College has begun to track research applications and grants, by department, on a three-year cycle. Action items will follow from the data.

In 2005-2006, Arts and Letters faculty submitted 233 grant proposals, which represents an all-time high, requesting over \$39 million in grant funding. They received 85 grant awards totaling over \$8.1 million. Faculty in the social sciences received 44 awards totaling almost \$6.2 million.

Notre Dame continues to lead the nation in receiving National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) fellowships; it is also among the top six institutions in receiving fellowships from agencies used by the National Research Council (NRC) in its rankings.

For the summer of 2007 the College received two NEH Summer Seminar grants, which will bring dozens of college teachers to Notre Dame for courses with Notre Dame faculty members. Robin Darling Young of Theology and Joseph Amar of Classics will lead a seminar entitled “Early Christianity and the Path to Islam: the Middle East between Rome and Iran,” and Chris Fox of English and Irish Language and Literature will lead a seminar entitled “Anglo-Irish Identities, 1600-1800.”

In a 2005 study by the *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, Notre Dame’s counseling faculty ranked 11th in the nation in scholarly productivity. A 1994 study had also ranked Notre Dame 11th, ahead of Stanford, Illinois, Wisconsin, UCLA, and Texas.

During the last two years, five Notre Dame psychologists have served as editor or associate editor of major psychology journals, at least three of which are the most prestigious journals in their respective fields.

Jon Coleman’s *Vicious: Wolves and Men in America* received two first-book awards: the 2005 Dunning Prize from the American Historical Association and the W. Turrentine Jackson Award from the Western History Association.

The American Political Science Association awarded Victoria Hui’s volume *War and State Formation in Ancient China and Early Modern Europe* the Jervis-Schroeder Prize for best book on international history and politics. The Mershon Center for International Security Studies at Ohio State University also awarded the book a prize, the 2005 Edgar S. Furniss Book Award.

Christian Moevs received the American Association of Italian Studies (AAIS) Best Book of 2005 Award for *The Metaphysics of Dante’s Commedia*.

The Society for Social Studies of Science awarded Philip Mirowski the Ludwig Fleck Prize for *Effortless Economy of Science?* The Fleck Prize is awarded annually to the best book in the area of science and technology.

Faculty in the American politics subfield—David Campbell, John Griffen, and Christina Wolbrecht—published articles in four consecutive issues of the *Journal of Politics*, one of the top three journals in the discipline.

Peter Holland has been elected Vice President/President-Elect of the Shakespeare Association of America, for 2006-2007.

James Sterba has been elected Vice President/President-Elect of the Central Division of the

American Philosophical Association, for 2006-2007. Jim is the seventh faculty member from Notre Dame to hold this office.

Rodney Hero was chosen to be President-Elect of the Midwest Political Science Association, the discipline's largest regional scholarly association, and will serve as President in 2007-2008.

Guillermo O'Donnell received the inaugural International Political Science Association (IPSA) Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Political Science from the Mattei Dogan Foundation. O'Donnell was also appointed as a member of the newly created Advisory Board of the United Nations Democracy Fund.

The College has been developing a document on assessing graduate programs, which will be shared with chairpersons and become a filter by which internal reallocation and future investment in graduate studies will be measured.

Catholic Identity and Mission

The University, in tandem with the College of Arts and Letters, is working to develop a brochure on the Catholic identity of Notre Dame that will appeal to a wide variety of constituents and present the manifold ways in which Catholic identity is embedded in student life, campus liturgies, faculty research, and curricular opportunities. The brochure will underscore that new faculty members and students are invited into an evolving and dynamic conversation on Catholic identity. It will also make clear that our Catholic identity cannot be reduced to a set of activities, however elaborate, but is ultimately an inexhaustible mystery that enriches the entire University.

The College's new Website offers welcoming and informational pages on Arts and Letters. Despite this advance, more work is being done, for example, on our pages on Catholic identity, which don't yet mirror the diverse array of rich initiatives underway in the College.

In 2005-2006, the College offered a seminar series entitled "The Catholic Ideal of Liberal Learning." Led by Cyril O'Regan, the seminar met once a month from September 2005 through March 2006. Questions addressed included: What is the nature and mission of the Catholic university, and what distinguishes it from other kinds of universities? What should the relationship of theology be to "secular" academic disciplines? Does "Christian scholarship" simply mean conducting scholarship on Christian history and thought, or does it imply, in addition, something about the *way* we conduct our scholarly inquiries and the kinds of questions we bring to our subject matter? In 2006-2007, Matt Ashley is offering a faculty seminar series entitled "Theology and the Natural Sciences."

The College of Arts and Letters sponsored three afternoon workshops for faculty members on aspects of Catholicism, so that participants might gain a greater understanding of concepts that are central to Notre Dame's mission. Larry Cunningham facilitated the first workshop, "The Meaning(s) of Catholicism," which considered the development of the word "Catholic" and how it has taken on a more precise meaning over the centuries. A descriptively theological

understanding of what Catholicism means involves a reflection on how that self-description understands itself vis-à-vis other Christian traditions. Matt Ashley facilitated the second workshop, “What the Church Teaches: Understanding the Teaching Authority of the Catholic Church.” That workshop examined the different ways that authoritative doctrines are defined and interpreted by the “Magisterium,” the teaching office of the Catholic Church. Phil Sloan facilitated the third workshop, “Evolution and Catholicism,” in which participants sought to gain some deeper clarity about these issues, including questions about the degree to which Catholics should be supportive of “Intelligent Design.” The College is offering additional workshops on other aspects of Catholicism in the coming year and, with funding from the Office of the Provost, has opened the workshops to faculty members from beyond Arts and Letters.

The College, in collaboration with other units on campus, including the Office of the Provost and the Institute for Church Life, has made some initial plans toward developing some one-time workshops and retreats for Catholic faculty members that would have both an intellectual and a pastoral component, allowing faculty members to deepen their understanding of Catholicism and to deepen their faith and engage existential questions of interest to them as persons and not only as scholar-teachers.

Senior Executive Fellow Don Crafton and a committee consisting of John Cavadini (Theology), James Collins (Film, Television, and Theatre), and Cyril O’Regan (Theology) have organized the first of a recurring film series centered around the concept of “films and faith.” The first presentation will be October 27-29, 2006 in the Browning Cinema of the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts and will focus on “Faces of the Saint,” with six classic films that show the lives of persons who were or might have been saintly.

East Asian Languages and Literatures implemented two new programs this past year in support of the University’s Catholic mission. The Department offered the Liu Cultural Ambassadors Program, a student-run and faculty-directed outreach program for local parochial schools. It also offered, in conjunction with the Center for Social Concerns, a new service/outreach course entitled “To Serve an Ancient Village in China: Historical Preservation, Religious Life, and Teaching English.” Notre Dame students lived and worked in Tangzhai Village, which is located in China’s rapidly developing southwest province of Zhejiang. They learned how religion is lived in China today, they taught English to village children, and they helped villagers reconstruct a Catholic church.

In 2006-2007, Jennifer Warlick is expected to finalize a proposal for an undergraduate interdisciplinary minor in poverty studies.

Gender Studies at Notre Dame is unique among gender studies programs at Catholic colleges and universities in that it offers an array of courses, in both number and scope, on Catholicism, women, and gender that are not available elsewhere. Its courses “Women and American Catholicism” and “Catholicism and Feminism,” for example, are distinctive hallmarks of Notre Dame’s program, the likes of which are not found at other Catholic colleges and universities.

The Department of Sociology, in accordance with recommendations from its recent external review, has proposed developing a lecture series on Catholic thought and the social sciences.

Theology ended the year with 204 majors, 121 minors, and 25 Philosophy-Theology majors, an all-time high for the Department. The 60-credit hour Philosophy-Theology major is very demanding; students must complete a year of a classical language, a special seminar, and a thesis. The Department has found that the more rigorous the theology major, the more attractive it is to students.

Program of Liberal Arts (PLS) senior Anna Nussbaum wrote and directed the play *The Primrose Path*, which consists of a series of dramatic monologues.

Gender Studies honored Kaitlyn Redfield with its Outstanding Senior Thesis Award for her paper entitled "In Search of Common Ground: Considerations for a Public Policy Approach to Reducing Abortion Rates."

Eighteen students in the Mediterranean/Middle East Area Studies minor program collaborated with Arts and Letters faculty on a wide range of research and writing initiatives. A sampling of their paper titles includes "Muslims in Europe and the Rise of Arab Spain," "Ecumenism and the Role of the Catholic Church in the Arab World," and "The Influence of Catholic Religious Orders on the Education of Women in Iraq under Saddam Hussein."

The College of Arts and Letters continues to play a leading role in educating doctoral students who will become scholar-teachers at outstanding religious universities. The Medieval Institute placed a student at Brigham Young University, following a one-year postdoctoral appointment at Notre Dame. History placed a graduate at Seton Hall University. Psychology placed students in tenure-track or postdoctoral positions at Georgetown University, Luther College, and Marquette University. Theology placed graduates at Baylor University, California Lutheran University, Duquesne University, Fordham University, Seattle University, and Xavier University. In addition, several former graduates in Theology moved from their current placements to stronger institutions, including Catholic University of America, the Divinity School at Duke University, Georgetown University, and St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto.

The College moved from a selection model to a search model by becoming highly proactive in identifying Catholic faculty at leading departments and universities. Senior Executive Fellow Robert Sullivan developed a search model and worked with departments to increase the number of Catholics in their applicant pools. Moreover, in Summer 2005, the College released to chairpersons a list of faculty lines available for 2005-2006 that included incentive structures and more restrictive parameters geared toward the hiring of Catholics, women, and minorities. (In Summer 2006, the College released to chairpersons an updated list of faculty lines available for 2006-2007 that included even more ambitious incentives and parameters, including competitions across departments for faculty lines.) Professor Sullivan will continue to work on this project in 2006-2007, although he will expand his efforts to the University. The Arts and Letters initiative was a successful pilot model for the University.

This past year the College hired 42% Catholics into the teaching-and-research (T&R) ranks. The College also hired at least four outstanding non-Catholic scholar-teachers who will contribute directly to Notre Dame's mission. The Department of English hired Thomas Hall, whose interests include medieval homilies, Latin sermons, and Latin and vernacular homiletics; and Kathryn Ziemann, who is a specialist in Middle English literature and liturgy. The Department of History hired Mark Noll, from Wheaton College, whose most important and award-winning book is *America's God: Jonathan Edwards to Abraham Lincoln* (2004). Noll had previously turned down overtures from Duke and several Ivy League schools but wanted to come to the country's leading religious university. The Department of Sociology hired Christian Smith, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a top-five department of sociology. Smith, who recently published the award-winning book, *Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers*, will direct the Department's Center for the Study of American Religion. Since we closed the books on hiring for last year, the College has hired three faculty members to start the new academic year, all of whom are Catholic.

Departments around the College are becoming increasingly aggressive in their quest to attract stellar Catholic candidates for their open positions. In the past 12 months, the Department of Political Science, for example, made offers to seven Catholic faculty members, hiring three. Five of Sociology's six finalists for their two junior positions were Catholic. The Department of History made offers to three Catholic finalists, hiring one. We have, however, not yet reached a point where we are able to land all of the outstanding Catholic candidates. Our greatest challenges are our location and the quality of our programs (for example, when we are trying to recruit faculty away from top-five programs).

In September 2005, the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism celebrated its 30th anniversary and the 25th anniversary of the Seminar in American Religion. Patrick Allitt of Emory University delivered a lecture entitled "Catholics and the Intellectual Life in Late Twentieth-Century America." The Fall 2005 session of the Seminar in American Religion featured Leslie Woodcock Tentler's book *Catholics and Contraception: An American History*. An evening banquet honored the Center's anniversaries and celebrated the recent gift of William and Anna Jean Cushwa to endow the directorship of the Center. President Emeritus Father Hesburgh and Professor Emeritus Jay Dolan, who founded the Center in 1975, offered addresses at the banquet, which was attended by University leaders, colleagues from nearby universities, and colleagues and students from Notre Dame.

The Cushwa Center is planning a Fall 2006 lecture tentatively entitled "Catholic Tradition and traditions." The lecturer will be Francis Sullivan, S.J., Professor Emeritus from Boston College.

Oxford University Press published Mary Frandsen's *Crossing Confessional Boundaries: The Patronage of Italian Sacred Music in Seventeenth-Century Dresden*.

Joseph Amar published a two-volume edition of the early Christian writer and apologist Dionysius bar Salibi's *A Response to the Arabs* in the series *Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium*.

David Ladouceur published *The Latin Psalter* with the Bristol Classical Press.

Paul Weithman secured a Henkels grant to host the Fall 2005 annual meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association (ACPA). This meeting was the ACPA's first visit to the Notre Dame campus in four decades.

Rev. Jerry Neyrey, S.J. has been elected incoming President of the Catholic Biblical Association.

Theologian Larry Cunningham was awarded honorary doctorates from two Catholic institutions: Bellarmine University (Louisville, Kentucky) and Neumann College (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). Historian Scott Appleby received an honorary degree from Saint John's University (Collegeville, Minnesota).

Debra McDougall, a visiting professor of Anthropology, introduced a new course to the curriculum entitled "Anthropology of Christianity."

Classics has introduced a new gateway course on "Arabic Culture and Civilization."

Professor Emeritus Charles Wilber offered a one-credit course for non-economics majors, in Fall 2005, on rewriting the Bishop's Letter *Economic Justice for All* (1986).

The Department of English held its first-ever departmental retreat and had extensive discussions of its connection to Catholic mission, including, among other topics, a stronger investment in religion and literature. One of the emerging proposals involves the development of a new course on Catholic writers in English.

Two Theology faculty members gave presidential addresses to major national professional organizations: Mary Catherine Hilbert, President of the Catholic Theological Society of America; and Jean Porter, President of the Society of Christian Ethics.

David Campbell organized a conference, sponsored by Notre Dame's Program in American Democracy, in December 2005, entitled "A Matter of Faith? Religion and the 2004 Election."

The American Political Science Association (APSA) selected David Campbell's co-authored paper "The Religion Card: Gay Marriage in 2004 Election" as the best paper on religion and politics in 2005. The APSA also selected Professor Emeritus David Leege's book *The Politics of Cultural Differences* as the best book on religion and politics published during the last three years.

Thomas Flint agreed to assume the editorship of *Faith and Philosophy*, the profession's premier journal in philosophy of religion. Flint's editorship will mark the journal's return to Notre Dame, where Philosophy's late colleague Phil Quinn edited it for five years in the 1990s.

Diversity and Internationalism

Robert and Elizabeth Nanovic recently made a very significant additional gift to the Nanovic Institute for European Studies to enhance, in particular, learning opportunities for undergraduate students. This extraordinary bequest will have a transformative effect on the Nanovic Institute, particularly, but not exclusively, on the recruitment and development of undergraduate students, including giving them more opportunities to deepen their experiences in Europe through advanced language instruction, research projects, internships, and service work. Although the Nanovic Institute is not formally part of the College of Arts and Letters, our faculty members and students benefit more from its excellent resources than do others across the University.

Last spring the Provost charged an Asian Studies Task Force to address the challenges of Asia in the 21st century, with particular emphasis on their relationship to student learning, faculty scholarship, and Notre Dame's distinctive mission. The eventual report was discussed in Asia with the Asian Studies Advisory Board. Many Arts and Letters colleagues were active in these discussions. In the wake of this report, a working group has been created, also with Arts and Letters representation, including incoming Arts and Letters Council member Justin Liu, to help realize the goals that were identified, such as ensuring that more of our students find opportunities to go to Asia for advanced language instruction, research projects, internships, and service work. The working group is developing a set of specific goals and action items, including a time-line to achieve these goals as well as appropriate assessment measures. In addition, the working group is identifying for each project whether the funding is internal or external and, if it would be external, what it would cost. Finally, for every action item we are identifying a point person who would be accountable for the project.

The Department of Music took a step toward implementing its new concentration in Music and Culture with the establishment of two new courses. Being taught for the first time this fall are "Music, Religion, and Media in South Asia" and "Music and Globalization in Asia." Using methods and theories drawn from ethnomusicology, the first course will introduce a diversity of musical systems from North and South India, Pakistan, and Nepal. Special attention will be paid to the ecstatic and spiritual uses of music in the rituals and performances of various Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim (Sufi), Christian, Sikh, and agnostic communities. An underlying focus of the course will be the relationship between the sacred and the secular in South Asia and between commercial and devotional practices of music making and music listening. The second course explores musical production in India and China, the 'new cultural cores' that are gradually replacing the U.S. and Western Europe in cultural influence in Asia and the Asian Diaspora.

The new Department of Africana Studies hired Dianne Pinderhughes, an African-American Catholic woman, who is the incoming President of the American Political Science Association. Pinderhughes will have a joint appointment with the Department of Political Science. Africana Studies is currently searching for another teaching-and-research (T&R) faculty member. This past year, the Department received the James and Phyllis Stone Endowment for Excellence in the Department of Africana Studies, and some of the library funding from the Fiesta Bowl game is being used to help establish a collection in Africana studies. In 2006-2007, the Department

anticipates submitting a proposal for a major in Africana Studies to the College Council for formal review.

The Department of Romance Languages and Literatures—in collaboration with the Department of History, the Kellogg Institute for Latin American Studies, and Hesburgh Professor Sabine G. MacCormack—offered elementary Quechua and a course on Quechua culture.

The College Council approved a new a minor in Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, which will be offered through the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures.

Enrollments in Irish language have increased sharply in recent years, rising from 112 in 2003-2004 and 146 in 2004-2005 to 186 last year.

Majors in the foreign languages and literatures are on the rise in a majority of our language disciplines. Overall the number of majors rose 27% from the Fall of 2001 to the Fall of 2005, and enrollments in upper division language classes rose from under 4,000 in 1998-1999 to more than 5,000 in 2005-2006. The upward trend is not isolated; it affects ten of the twelve languages we teach at Notre Dame.

In 2006-2007, the College will offer four pilot courses in Notre Dame's version of the national program "Languages Across the Curriculum" (LAC). Selected faculty members will teach their discipline-specific courses in English but offer selected students an optional one-hour discussion section conducted in a foreign language and preceded by preparatory readings in the target language. Students who enroll in these special discussion sections will earn an additional course credit. The aim of LAC is to help students extend their language-learning experiences to courses in the disciplines, thereby stretching them intellectually and fostering their ability to use a given language for further study and research.

Incoming graduate students in the Master of Theological Studies (MTS) include four Latino/a students and one African-American student, all Roman Catholic. The MTS program continues to attract a diverse student body, which, over time, is helping to diversify the theology doctoral program.

The Department of Theology has initiated programming that will potentially better link the University of Notre Dame to African seminaries, schools of theology, and universities with theological programming. With the assistance of Paulinus Odozor, C.S.Sp., the Department has offered, in an open competition, its first two graduate scholarships for African students: one for the doctoral program, the other for the MTS program. The Department has also made proposals to four African universities or schools of theology to create faculty teaching fellowships for Notre Dame faculty members to teach abroad and/or for their faculty to teach here. Theology is creating partnerships with African Catholic educational enterprises in ways that will increase the diversity of our student body and curriculum, even as it increases the global extent of our theological reflection and personal contact.

Anthropology offered a new course taught by Sara Busdiecker, an Erskine Peters Fellow, entitled “African Diaspora in the Americas.”

Anthropology has introduced an African internship program whereby two students do summer service in East Africa with a significant research component.

Political Science offered a new course to first-year students, taught by Fran Hagopian and entitled “Globalization,” in order to introduce them to international themes at the beginning of their academic careers.

The Department of Psychology has offered, over the past three to four years, courses in multicultural psychology, Latino/a psychology, psychosocial perspectives on Asian Americans, and cross-cultural psychology.

Nine Arts and Letters students received Fulbright awards in 2006, up from five in 2005. Russian student Alison Glass won a Fulbright Teaching Assistantship to Russia. She is the first Notre Dame student to win this award since the program was established in 1999-2000.

Students of Russian also fared extremely well in the annual ACTR (American Council on Teachers of Russian) National Post-secondary Russian Essay Contest. Seven Notre Dame students, out of 650 students representing 52 colleges and universities, won awards in all four levels of instruction. In the category of non-heritage learners, only Columbia and Brigham Young won more awards than Notre Dame, and we compared favorably with Yale (7 awards); Northwestern (4); Chicago and Ohio State (3 each); Brown (2); and Harvard and Penn (1 each).

The Russian Program sent 12 students to study in Russia, an all-time high for Notre Dame: in Summer 2005, three students were in Moscow; in Fall 2005, one student each was in Moscow and St. Petersburg; and in Spring 2006, seven students were in Moscow.

The College was a major sponsor of the 2006 Notre Dame Asian Film Festival and Conference “Humanism Before Ideology,” which was scheduled in tandem with an official visit by the Honorable Wook Kim, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Chicago. The featured film of the conference, *Tae Guk Gi: The Brotherhood of War* (2004), is South Korea’s most popular award-winning film. The film’s director, Kang Je-Gyu; its producer, Lee Hana; and its lead actress, Lee Young-lan, were on campus for the festival.

In March 2006, the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures organized a unique international conference in world literature (fiction and poetry), literature as a weapon of dissent, and literary criticism. The conference marked the 25th anniversary of the publication of the international literary journal, *Jintian (Today)*.

The Mediterranean/Middle East Area Studies Minor, in collaboration with the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, sponsored an Arab film festival in January and February 2006.

The Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism is planning a major international conference on Our Lady of Guadalupe and the Triennial Conference on the History of Women Religious in the United States.

The Government of Ireland and the Fulbright Program awarded the Department of Irish Language and Literature prestigious international teaching fellowships for 2006-2007.

In terms of hiring women faculty members, the College's minimal goal is 40%, its expected goal 45%, and its aspirational goal 55%. In the 2005-2006 recruiting season, we met our minimal goal; 44% of new regular faculty members and 42% of the new teaching-and-research (T&R) faculty cohort are women.

In 2003-2004, the College of Arts and Letters introduced an administrative apprenticeship for faculty members entitled the Executive Fellow Program, which gives interested, tenured professors an opportunity to develop their leadership skills and contribute in diverse ways to the life of the College. Through the Program, the College is taking proactive steps to mentor future leaders, especially women and minority faculty. The College also benefits greatly from the insights and perspectives of the Executive Fellow, as the Fellow is integrated into the ongoing work of the Office of the Dean. Christina K. Wolbrecht, Associate Professor of Political Science, was the inaugural Executive Fellow; Kristine L. Ibsen, Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures, was the 2004-2005 Executive Fellow; and Darcia F. Narváez, Associate Professor of Psychology, was the 2005-2006 Executive Fellow; and Jennifer A. Herdt, Associate Professor of Theology, has begun a term as Executive Fellow for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Currently, the College has four associate deans, three of whom are women. The College's Executive Committee is further enhanced by the Director of ISLA, the Executive Fellow, and three senior staff persons—the Director of Finance and Operations, the Assistant Director of News and Information, and the Executive Assistant to the Dean—all of whom are women.

Associate Dean Seidenspinner-Núñez conducted focus groups with women faculty members on issues of support for women, including, among other areas, recruitment and retention, spousal hires, family-friendly policies, and mentoring. Some of report's initial suggestions were shared with faculty at our spring faculty meeting. A final report is nearing completion.

The College also revamped its exit interview structure, partly to get a better handle on retention issues concerning women. Associate Provost Jean Ann Linney conducts exit interviews with departing Arts and Letters teaching-and-research (T&R) faculty members to ascertain any relevant concerns or patterns in the resignations.

In terms of its ambitions in hiring faculty members from underrepresented minorities, the College has set a minimal goal of 20%, an expected goal of 25%, and an aspirational goal of 35%. We fell just below our minimal goal in 2005-2006; 17% of the new teaching-and-research (T&R) faculty cohort are minorities.

An example of one of our faculty members being engaged in international collaboration is Jean Dibble's having been invited to submit examples of her work for an exhibition in Cairo, Egypt, entitled *Open Expression: Contemporary American Printmaking Art*.

Anton Juan directed three productions for the Aggelon Bima Theatre of Athens, Greece, for which he serves as Artistic Director: *Paris and Alexander*, by Ioannis Limtsioulis; *Nocturnal Wanderer*, by Gao Xing Jian; and *Brokenville*, by Phillip Ridley.

Karen Buranskas was invited to return to a music festival in Brazil, under the auspices of the University of Santa Maria. Buranskas also presented concert recitals in Argentina.

The French government named Catherine Perry *Chevalier* in the order of the Palmes académiques for her contributions as a leading scholar-teacher outside of France who advances the cause of French culture, education, or the arts.

Isabel Ferreira Gould was awarded a \$75,000 grant from the Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD) to support Notre Dame's Portuguese program and related Kellogg Institute activities for three academic years, from 2006-2007 through 2008-2009.

Christina Wolbrecht was named Chair of the Women and Politics section of the Midwest Political Science Association.

The Creative Writing Program helped support the October 2005 conference entitled "The Long Reach of African-American Poetics." Guest poets included Elizabeth Alexander, Rowan Phillips, Sharon Strange, and Natasha Trethewey.

What follows are brief comments on the College's three divisions. Because many highlights have already been incorporated above and because the comments do not pretend to be exhaustive, many departments are not mentioned in these sections.

Division of the Arts

The College initiated discussions on the Decade of the Arts with the chairpersons of the departments of Art, Art History and Design; Film, Television, and Theatre; and Music; the Dean of the School of Architecture; and the directors of the Snite Museum and the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. One result is that a brochure on the Decade of the Arts will be available shortly.

In addition, the chairpersons of the departments in the Arts initiated regular conversations to share problems, strategies, and best practices. The result was unprecedented collaboration. For recruiting, the Arts and Letters departments co-hosted a spring "Mardi Gras in the Arts" presentation at which instructors and students gave demonstrations of coursework and samples of arts projects to about 85 undeclared first-year students. The departments also participated in a "fly-in" event for high school arts teachers who have referred outstanding students to Notre

Dame in the past, with the aim of encouraging more referrals. In spring 2006, the total number of undergraduate majors in the College of Arts and Letters' three arts departments—Art, Art History, and Design (AAHD); Film, Television, and Theatre (FTT); and Music—increased for the seventh consecutive year, reaching an all-time high of 508 students, more than a 50% increase from 1999.

The arts departments have also initiated discussions regarding several proposed new interdisciplinary minors. One proposed interdisciplinary minor would be Visual Culture, co-sponsored by the Department of Philosophy (Fred Rush); the Department of Art, Art History, and Design (Dennis Doordan); and the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre (Jim Collins). In this 15-credit sequence, students would learn about the aesthetics of the visual arts across the fields of drama, film, painting, sculpture, and design. Another proposed interdisciplinary minor would be Opera Studies, a collaboration among the departments of Music, the Program of Liberal Studies, and Romance Languages and Literatures. Here students would pursue the history and theory of opera in its global cultural context and experience firsthand opera as audience members (in Chicago) and as performers (Opera Notre Dame). Both interdisciplinary minors will be contingent on approval by various College committees in 2006-2007. In addition, the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre has initiated discussions concerning three other possible interdisciplinary minors: Art and Technology, Art and Religion, and Arts Management.

The College continues to encourage faculty in departments beyond the arts to integrate the arts more fully into their courses. Jim Collins offered, for example, a week-long seminar in May 2006 entitled “How to Teach Film Across the Humanities” to help faculty members and graduate students learn different pedagogical strategies to incorporate films into their classes. More than 40 faculty members expressed interest in the 14 available slots.

The Department of Art, Art History, and Design, in collaboration with the Snite Museum, created a substantial exhibit entitled *Genesis of Monumental Architecture in Greece: The Corinth Project*. The Department also worked with the Snite Museum to mount an exhibit on Italian Baroque Drawings; undergraduate students had the rare opportunity of helping to develop this exhibit.

Some studio artists received national recognition. Nyame Brown, for example, was included in the exhibition *Frequency* organized by the Studio Museum of Harlem, and Fr. Austin Collins had a large steel sculpture, entitled *Temple XXI*, selected for inclusion in an outdoor exhibition *Art Connects: the River 2005*, which was mounted along the river front in Chicago's Loop.

The Department of Film, Television, and Theatre hosted its first-ever FTT Reunion, in September 2005, for 150 alumni/ae. Some participants had majored in FTT, some had majored in COTH (the Department's previous administrative configuration), many had majored in neither but are now involved in film, television, and theater (e.g., as journalists, scriptwriters, actors, directors, producers, and executives), and a few were academics teaching in FTT's fields of study.

The Department of Music functioned under its new structure of departmental governance, the administrative triad, which is comprised of the Chairperson, the Director of Resources and Outreach, and the Director of Learning. One of the goals is to ensure greater faculty governance in the Department. The Department is continuing its search, into 2006-2007, for a new chairperson.

The Department of Music published its first issue of "The Triad," which is designed to celebrate faculty and student accomplishments and enhance communication.

Division of the Humanities

The Humanities continue to be the strongest division in the University, with a number of excellent graduate placements and faculty distinctions. During the past three years, for example, the Department of English has placed graduate students in faculty positions at four CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation) institutions: the Ohio State University, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Indiana University, and Penn State University.

Faculty in the Department of History secured an impressive number of major fellowships this past year. Certainly no other American department of history was as successful earning ACLS, NEH, and Guggenheim fellowships. Remie Constable received an ACLS and an NEH for her work on Christians and Muslims in medieval Spain; Margaret Meserve won four major awards—an ACLS, an NEH, a fellowship from the American Academy in Rome, and a fellowship from Harvard's I Tatti Center—for her work on Italians and print culture in the 15th and 16th centuries; Paul Cobb received a Guggenheim for his work on the Crusades; Linda Przybyszewski received an ACLS for her work on religion in late 19th-century Cincinnati; and Semion Lyandres received a major Hoover Institution fellowship for his work on the February 1917 Russian Revolution.

The Medieval Institute is preparing a major National Endowment for the Humanities grant proposal for Byzantine studies, an area in which Notre Dame could be expected to excel.

The Medieval Institute intends to introduce an aggressive marketing and recruitment initiative to advertise its newly designed undergraduate program. In Spring 2005, there were five minors and one supplementary major in the Medieval Institute. In Spring 2006, there were three honors majors, six first majors, five supplementary majors, 18 minors, and two undecided students. Fifty-five students have enrolled in the newly created Medieval Studies gateway course "The World of the Middle Ages." These numbers are up from single-digit numbers in the past.

Division of the Social Sciences

The Division of the Social Sciences continues to lead the College in external funding, continues to serve large numbers of majors (Political Science and Psychology are by far the two largest majors in the College), and continues to excel in integrating undergraduate students into faculty research projects.

The College has almost completed the transition from the Lab for Social Research to alternative strategies of support. Associate Dean Julie Braungart-Rieker, with the assistance of a faculty search committee, has created position descriptions for a data manager and a projects manager and has reconceptualized the position description for a third technical support person. Through internal reallocation, the College has also created office space for up to 40 social science graduate students.

Daniel J. Myers, Professor and Chairperson of Sociology, has been appointed Senior Executive Fellow for the Social Sciences. Dan will be responsible for overseeing the development and flourishing of the social sciences, much like Senior Executive Fellow Donald Crafton is doing for the arts. Dan will work to strengthen research funding and other related issues, including infrastructure support.

The undergraduate economics major has just been revised. The primary changes are the requirement of two semesters of calculus as a prerequisite for intermediate micro and macro theory classes, the requirement of an econometrics class, and the requirement of an advanced course that builds on these.

The Department of Economics and Econometrics and the Department of Economics and Policy Studies collaborated to create an honors track in economics, effective Fall 2006. The program includes a variety of enriching experiences, a senior thesis, and a year-long workshop in which students will learn about research methodologies, among other topics. Five students have already been accepted into the honors track.

The graduate program, which is housed in the Department of Economics and Econometrics, was revised last year in two major respects. The core of the doctoral program was modified so that it has the same level of analytical and quantitative rigor as those at every institution in the top quartile of the National Research Council (NRC) rankings. The program also provides fields of specialization—such as labor economics, public economics, monetary policy, international economics, and environmental economics—that fit well with the mission of the University. After several years of closure, the new graduate program is again admitting students. It recruited seven students who had excellent records by both the Department's standards and those of the Graduate School. One incoming student won a fellowship to the new Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) interdisciplinary program funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF).

In scholarship, the accomplishments of the faculty in Economics and Econometrics continue in the formats that are most important in economics: publications in leading journals, prestigious presentations, and grants. DeCrane Professor Nelson Mark published an article in the fifth-ranked journal (for context, there are over 200 economics journals, but 70% of all citations are made to journals in the top decile). Schaefer Professor Chris Waller published five articles in first-tier journals. Assistant Professor Jim Sullivan published another article in a first-tier journal, and new assistant professors Abbie Wozniak and Dan Hungerman already have articles in press at first-tier journals. Hungerman also secured a major grant from an affiliate of the Templeton

Foundation. Professors Kasey Buckles, Dan Hungerman, Richard Jensen, Nelson Mark, Jim Sullivan, and Chris Waller gave presentations at various conferences sponsored by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Richard Jensen received a major grant from the Kauffman Foundation, and his 2001 article in the premier economics journal, the *American Economic Review*, has now been designated by Thomson's *Essential Science Indicators* as being in the top 1% of most frequently cited articles both in the area of Economics and Business and in the area of General Social Sciences. This research was also cited last year in articles in *Fortune* magazine, the *Washington Post*, and the on-line *Newsweek*. Finally, the Department of Economics and Econometrics played a key role in the GLOBES Integrative Graduate Education, Research, and Traineeship (IGERT) grant proposal funded by NSF.

The Department of Psychology has finalized its space plan and will begin evaluating the allocation of research space in 2006-2007.

The Department of Psychology published its first issue of "Psychology News Sheet," which is designed to celebrate faculty accomplishments and enhance communication.

The Department of Psychology has developed a formal mentoring strategy to help new faculty members learn about policies and procedures in the Department, College, and University; to make decisions regarding professional opportunities relating to scholarship; to discuss teaching strategies; and to provide advocacy.

Sociology's two junior hires this year—Jessica Collett and Omar Lizardo—were sought after by the very best sociology programs in the country. Lizardo turned down offers from four top-ten sociology departments

Selected College and University Issues

Gretchen J. Reydam-Schils, Associate Professor in the Program of Liberal Studies, has been appointed Associate Dean of Research, Graduate Studies, and Centers for a one-year term, effective August 22, 2006 through August 21, 2007. Gretchen has been Director of the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (ISLA) for the past two years; in her third year of service, she will move into the slot of Associate Dean.

Julia M. Braungart-Rieker, Professor of Psychology, who has served as Associate Dean for Research and Director of the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (Fall 2003 - Spring 2004) and as Associate Dean for Research, Graduate Studies, and Centers (Fall 2004 - Spring 2006), will serve for a year as Associate Dean for Faculty Appointments and Professional Development.

Ruth M. Abbey, Lilly Associate Professor of Political Science, has been appointed Acting Director of the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (ISLA) for a one-year term, effective August 22, 2006 through August 21, 2007.

At the end of calendar year, Executive Assistant to the Dean Kathlyn Cunneen, who has been an absolutely superb colleague in the Dean's Office for the past five years, will be returning to her home in Iowa. Her contributions to the flourishing of Arts and Letters, almost always behind the scenes and without public recognition, have been extraordinary. She will be greatly missed.

Ensuring better internal communication on complex issues that involve various people remains a priority. I added one person to the College's Executive Committee, the Director of ISLA, and have discussed communication issues off and on with Dean's Office personnel. Better internal communication was also one of the central topics of the Executive Committee's July 2006 retreat, and a document on expected and best practices in internal communication is under development.

Another priority for this year is for the College to craft a relatively small set of annual assessment measures in each of our central areas: Undergraduate Studies and Learning, Graduate Studies and Scholarship, Catholic Identity and Mission, and Diversity and Internationalism. We have notified chairpersons of this plan and are currently collecting possible measures. We hope to collect a large number of possible measures and then to focus on a smaller number and track them year-by-year. Sample measures would be the number of students writing honors theses; annual research funding for faculty; the number of faculty members engaged in seminars, workshops, and retreats on Catholic identity; and the number of Fulbright Fellowships per year.

As we continue to invest in new priorities and seek to continue to improve, we need to become ever more aware of what our best successes are and what still needs to improve. The assessment project should help with both sides of that endeavor. The College's recent advances have been extraordinary by any measure; keeping track of those advances will help us tell our story. At the same time we are not nearly as good as we intend to become in the coming years. For that reason a sober look at our deficiencies is, along with a compelling vision for the future, an indispensable element on the path to distinction. For your contributions along this path I thank all members of the College of Arts and Letters as well as all of its friends and supporters..

Mark W. Roche
I. A. O'Shaughnessy Dean