

BEHIND THE PINES

Holocaust Oratorio Performed in Europe

Singers, instrumentalists and faculty soloists from Saint John's University, the College of Saint Benedict, St. Cloud State University (SCSU) and the SCSU Cantabile Girls Choir performed "To Be Certain of the Dawn," a Holocaust oratorio, in May at Natzweiler-Struthof, a former Nazi concentration camp in France. This was the European premiere of the oratorio and one of several concerts performed in Germany, Switzerland and France during the May-June study tour.

"To Be Certain of the Dawn," by composer Stephen Paulus and librettist Michael Dennis Browne, was premiered in 2005 by the Rev. Michael J. O'Connell at the Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis to celebrate two important events – the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the death camps at the end of World War II and the 40th anniversary of the Vatican II document *Nostre Aetate* that condemned the blaming of Jews for the death of Christ. Rooted in themes and subjects of mutual interest to the Jewish and Christian faith communities, the oratorio pays tribute to those who lost their lives in the Holocaust and honors survivors and their descendants.



(Photo by Dave Schwarz/St. Cloud Times)

A performance of "To Be Certain of the Dawn" at St. Matthieu Church in Colmar, France, one of several stops on the European tour.



(Photo by Dave Schwarz/St. Cloud Times)

Members of the European premiere of "To Be Certain of the Dawn" view the site of the former Nazi concentration camp at Natzweiler-Struthof, in France, where they performed in May.

Caritas Awards Ceremony Honors Alumni

At the 13th annual CSB/SJU Caritas Awards ceremony in April, four graduates were honored for their commitment to and involvement in service and social justice activities: Paul Conroy '05, Christine Kustelski '96 and '08 graduates Ben DeMarais and Maya Main.

Saint John's Arboretum Named Important Bird Area

The 2,700 acres surrounding the Saint John's campus, called the Arboretum, and the surrounding Avon Hills area of Central Minnesota have been recognized as an Important Bird Area (IBA) by the Audubon Society. Saint John's received the distinction at the annual Arboretum Spring Birding Day in May. In addition, the Avon Hills Initiative and The Nature Conservancy cooperated on a new conservation action plan, highlighting the conservation goals of Saint John's Arboretum and the surrounding areas. In March, Stearns County passed a comprehensive plan in which the Arboretum and the surrounding 40,000 acres are given special environmental consideration. The Saint John's Arboretum is one of the most diverse ecosystems in Minnesota and plays an increasingly important role in sustainability education and initiatives in the region.

Environmental Historian William Cronon Receives Colman Barry Award

Saint John's presented the 16th *Colman J. Barry Award for Distinguished Contributions to Religion and Society* to William Cronon in honor of his service as one of our nation's foremost environmental historians and thinkers. Cronon is Vilas Research Professor and Frederick Jackson Turner Professor of History, Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is the author of two award-winning books, *Changes in the Land* (1983) and *Nature's Metropolis* (1991), and has edited two influential essay collections, *Under an Open Sky* and *Uncommon Ground*. He serves on the Governing Council of The Wilderness Society and on the National Board of the Trust for Public Land.



McCarthy Center Hosts Al Eisele '58 as Scholar-in-Residence

The Eugene J. McCarthy Center for Public Policy & Civic Engagement hosted Al Eisele '58 for a week's residency in March as part of the Eugene J. McCarthy Scholar-in-Residence program. In addition to being editor-at-large of *The Hill*, one of Washington, D.C.'s top political newspapers, Eisele was also a distinguished visiting professor at the University of Oklahoma's Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication last fall. He was a public policy scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars and fellow of the Institute of Politics at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and is the former press secretary to Vice President Walter Mondale. Among other special events during the residency, students were treated to a visit from Minnesota Congressman Keith Ellison, the first Muslim to serve in the U.S. Congress, who spoke about his experiences during his first term.



Students meet with Congressman Keith Ellison and Al Eisele '58 (center, left and right) during the McCarthy Scholar-in-Residence program in March.

Nadeau '09 Wins Third Prize in Elie Wiesel Essay Contest

Nik Nadeau '09 won third prize nationally in *The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics* essay contest sponsored by the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity. Nadeau is the first Elie Wiesel Prize winner at SJU. An English major, he earned \$1,500 for his essay titled "The Ethics of Reclaiming." The essay examines how the South Korean government treats overseas adoptees, which number an estimated 200,000 worldwide.

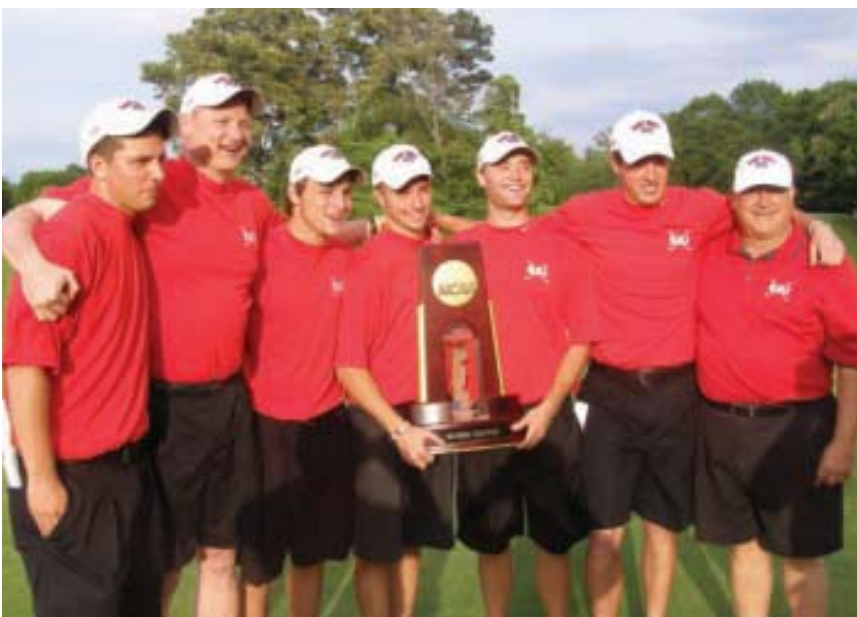
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Golf Team Wins Second Straight Title

SJU golfers used a dramatic final-round rally to capture a second consecutive NCAA Division III national championship in May at the Chateau Elan Resort in Braselton, GA. They became the first team to repeat as national champion since Methodist University won six straight national titles from 1994-99.

The University of Redlands placed second with a 1,195 total, with St. John Fisher College placing third with 1,199. St. John Fisher was the team leader heading into the final day of competition on the resort's Chateau Course.

The late heroics came at an opportune time for the Johnnies, who were 14th after the first day of competition and fourth after the second round. Saint John's was playing in its ninth consecutive national tournament.



(Photo by Ryan Klinkner)

The golf team celebrates its second consecutive NCAA Division III national championship May 16 at the Chateau Elan Resort in Braselton, GA. (L to R) Joey Polingo '09, Head Coach Bob Alpers '82, Joe Daly '09, Clinton Dammann '08, Matt Bohlig '08, Joe Schoolmeesters '09 and Assistant Coach Mike Percuoco.

Julian Bond of NAACP to Deliver McCarthy Lecture

Julian Bond, chairman of the board of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), will deliver the next Eugene J. McCarthy Lecture on Oct. 29 at SJU. Bond is Distinguished Professor at American University in Washington, D.C., and serves as professor of history at the University of Virginia. As a student at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Bond helped found the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). He served in the Georgia House of Representatives from 1965-75 and the Georgia Senate from 1975-86. Bond was the first president of the Southern Poverty Law Center, and since 1998, has served as the chairman of the board of the NAACP, the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the United States. In 2002, he received the prestigious National Freedom Award. The annual public lectureship reflects McCarthy's deep commitment to the ideals and principles of democratic self-



government. It seeks to inspire a new generation of young people to pursue fresh ideas, to challenge the status quo, to effect positive change in their communities and, like McCarthy, to lead with honesty, integrity and courage.

Professor Annette Atkins Wins Spur Award for Distinguished Writing

Annette Atkins, CSB/SJU professor of history, was presented with a Spur Award by the Western Writers of America (WWA) in June. Atkins won in the category of Best Western Nonfiction Historical for her latest book, *Creating Minnesota: A History From the Inside Out* (Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2007), which provides a new history of the state as well as a rethinking of what state history ought to be. *Creating Minnesota* was also a finalist for a Minnesota Book Award. The Spur Awards, given annually for distinguished writing about the American West, are among the oldest and most prestigious in American literature.



(Photo by Greg Becker)

Retiring Professors Honored

Eight professors were honored last May on their retirement from more than 100 combined years of service at Saint John's University and the College of Saint Benedict: Fr. Allan Bouley '59, OSB, professor emeritus of theology; Robert Fulton, professor emeritus of chemistry; S. Nancy Hynes, OSB, professor emerita of English; S. Helen Rolfson, OSF, professor emerita of theology; Kevin Seasoltz, OSB, professor emeritus of theology; Dr. Vera Theisen, professor emerita of French; Fr. Hilary Thimmesh '50, OSB, professor emeritus of English; and Philip Welter '59, professor emeritus of music. (They may have left our classrooms but they haven't left our hearts and minds. Good luck and best wishes!)



(Photo by Adam Konczewski)

(L to R) Fr. Allan Bouley '59, OSB, S. Helen Rolfson, OSF, Fr. Hilary Thimmesh '50, OSB, Dr. Vera Theisen and Dr. Robert Fulton celebrating their retirement at the 2008 faculty awards reception.

Nelson '83 Receives Presidential Citation

Steve Nelson '83, vice president - portfolio manager with Merrill Lynch, received a Saint John's Presidential Citation at an alumni reception in Phoenix, AZ in February. The citation recognized Nelson's profound commitment to the cultural and spiritual life of his community, and for his pivotal role bringing *The Saint John's Bible* exhibition to Phoenix. Nelson is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Phoenix Art Museum. "From Tucson to Prescott, from Flagstaff to Yuma, from Sun City to Sun Lakes, you have traversed the state to promote awareness of *The Saint John's Bible*," observed Br. Dietrich Reinhart. "With the drive of a politician and the fervor of an evangelist you have embodied the spirit of Saint John's patron: You have been a modern John the Baptist, preparing in the desert a way for *The Saint John's Bible*."



Steve Nelson '83 and Dr. Kristen Nelson

Saupe, Immelman, Thamert '73 Win Teaching Awards

Faculty from the disciplines of biology, psychology and German walked away with this year's teaching "Oscars." The SJU Robert L. Spaeth Teacher of Distinction Award was presented to Fr. Mark Thamert '73, SOT '79, OSB, associate professor of German. The CSB S. Mary Grell Teacher of Distinction Award was presented to Stephen Saupe, professor of biology. The Linda Mealey Teacher-Scholar Award went to Aubrey Immelman, associate professor of psychology.



(Photo by Adam Konczewski)

(L to R) Dr. Stephen Saupe, Dr. Aubrey Immelman, and Fr. Mark Thamert '73, SOT '79, OSB, with award plaques at the 2008 faculty awards reception.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Mullin Named Vice President for Student Development

Doug Mullin '76, SOT '82, SOT '07, OSB, was recently named SJU vice president for student development. Mullin was previously associate professor of education at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University and a faculty resident in the SJU campus residence halls. Mullin received his B.A. from SJU in elementary education, M.A. degrees in divinity and religious education from Saint John's School of Theology•Seminary, an M.A. in school administration from the University of St. Thomas and a Ph.D. in educational leadership from the University of Minnesota.



Mullin is a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the American and Minnesota Associations of Colleges for Teacher Education. He is former chair of the CSB/SJU education department; dean of students and director of residency at Saint John's Preparatory School; teacher and principal at Saint Mary's Mission School in Red Lake, MN; and subprior for Saint John's Abbey. Mullin also serves on the board of directors for the Saint John's Boys' Choir and the United States Catholic China Bureau.

Triggs to Direct *The Saint John's Bible Heritage Program*

Jim Triggs has been hired as executive director of *The Saint John's Bible Heritage Program*. He will oversee the creation, promotion, marketing and sales of the fine art reproduction of *The Saint John's Bible*. Triggs was the co-founder and president of KB Gear Interactive, vice president of business development for Zomax, Inc., and vice president of sales and marketing for WynEdge Software. Most recently, Triggs was the CEO of Ascend Professionals, a marketing and sales consulting firm in the Twin Cities. He has a B.S. from Gonzaga University and an M.B.A. from the Carlson School of Management. He and his wife have five children. Their son Kyle graduated from Saint John's University in 2007.

**Abell Becomes HR Director**

Carol Abell was appointed human resources director for the College of Saint Benedict and the Order of Saint Benedict last October. Abell has been in the human resources field for 26 years, the last 18 in the Minnesota State Colleges and University (MNSCU) system as the chief human resources officer for Anoka Technical College and Pine Technical College. Abell has a B.A. in business administration from Colorado State University. She received the HR Star Award through MNSCU in 2001 and 2004. She also received the Minnesota Chapter Distinguished Service Award through CUPA-HR, Midwest Region, in 2004.

**Holey New Natural Sciences Division Head**

Andy Holey, professor of computer sciences, has been appointed CSB/SJU division head for the natural sciences. Holey has been a member of the computer science faculty since 1991 and served as chair of that department. As chair of the New Core Task Force from 2003-06, Holey played a key role in guiding the new common curriculum through the Joint Faculty Assembly.

**Jose Joins Fine Arts Programming**

Brian Jose has been appointed CSB/SJU executive director of fine arts programming. In this position, he will be responsible for leadership of the programming, operational and financial performance of fine arts programming. Jose comes to his new position from the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland at College Park, where he was director of marketing and communications.



His previous experience includes marketing, planning, corporate development and management with such organizations as the College of Fine Arts at Arizona State University, the Phoenix Art Museum, the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra (NY) and the Columbus Symphony Orchestra (OH). Jose holds a B.A. from Wittenberg University.

NEW REGENTS NAMED



Thomas Schnettler '79 is the president and chief operating officer of Piper Jaffray. He has been with the company since 1986. Prior to his current position, he served as vice chairman and chief financial officer, a position he held since August 2006. Previously he served as head of the corporate and institutional services business, the equities and investment banking group and the investment banking

department. Schnettler received a B.S. from Saint John's University and a law degree from Harvard Law School. He serves on the board of directors of Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis. He and his wife, Cheryl L. Appeldorn (CSB '81), reside in Edina, MN.



Marilyn A. Dahl is regional president of small business banking, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Well known for her commitment to providing outstanding customer service, Dahl has worked in virtually every area of banking and within every business line in her 42-year career with Wells Fargo (formerly Norwest). She also has 30 years of direct line experience in banking. Dahl's term chairing the

board of directors for the Metropolitan Economic Development Association (MEDA) was completed in June 2007. She remains a board member of MEDA. She serves on several additional boards, including the Better Business Bureau. Dahl lives in Hopkins, MN. Her son, Casey, graduated from Saint John's University in 2005.



Dan Whalen '70 is an active community volunteer and private investor. Whalen founded or co-founded several telecommunications or related services companies. He is currently the principal investor and executive chair of Vello, Inc., a teleconferencing startup. Whalen received a B.S. from Saint John's University, an M.B.A. from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business and an M.A.

from Stanford University's Food Research Institute. He was an SJU Regent for 10 years, serving three years as vice president and three years as chair of the board until 2007. He is the chair of the Saint John's capital campaign, **One Generation to the Next**. Whalen and his wife, Katharine, live in Oakland, CA.



Paul Krump '82 is executive vice president of Chubb & Son and chief underwriting officer for Chubb. He has a B.A. from Saint John's University. He has also attended executive management programs at IMD in Lausanne, Switzerland; the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL; and the U.S. Army War College/Columbia Business School. Krump is active

in several charities. He has also been the regional chair of the SJU capital campaign in New York/New Jersey. Krump and his wife, Anne (Schmidt) CSB '82, live in Mendham, NJ. Their daughter, Emily, graduated from CSB in 2006.



Fr. René McGraw, OSB, associate professor of philosophy and peace studies, is the newly elected monastic Regent. Fr. René joined Saint John's Abbey in 1955. He was ordained in 1962. McGraw rejoins the board after serving as a Regent for 12 years and for four years on the predecessor to the Board of Regents. During this term, he will be a member of the student affairs committee of the board.



Michael Scherer '67 served 20 years as vice president and chief operating officer of Scherer Bros. Lumber, retiring in 2000. He received his B.S. from Saint John's University. He served in the U.S. Army in 1968 and 1969 as platoon leader with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam. Scherer is an active volunteer on many boards and committees. He is a trustee of the Holy Name of Jesus Parish

in Medina and board member of Senior Catholic Services of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. He serves on the Saint John's Building and Grounds Committee. Scherer and his wife, Susanne, reside in Wayzata, MN.