

Campus Currents



February
2008

NEWS FOR THE SAINT MICHAEL'S COLLEGE COMMUNITY



Employees Back from Overseas Military Tours

Two Saint Michael's employees recently returned from military duty in Afghanistan and Iraq respectively.

RUSSELL SABENS, transportation supervisor for the college vehicle fleet, returned to campus shortly before Christmas after a 15-month deployment, including a full year in Afghanistan with the U.S. Army Reserve. Three months prior to that tour, Russell served for seven months at the National Ground Intelligence Center in Virginia and four months at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona. Before transferring to the Reserves, Russell served 24 years in the Vermont Army National Guard in a Field Artillery Battalion, and after September 11, 2001, he was called to duty for eight months at the Burlington International Airport.



Russell Sabens

Groundskeeper **JAY LEHOUIILLER** also recently served with the Vermont Air Guard in Iraq as an aircraft engine mechanic for F-16 fighter jets. Jay was stationed at an air base in Balad, Iraq, about 40 miles north of Baghdad. Before joining the Air Guard three years ago, Jay had four years active duty in the U.S. Navy, then was a mechanic with the Army National Guard working on Blackhawk helicopters for more than 16 years. His primary job on campus is maintaining the Doc Jacobs Field complex.



Jay Lehouiller

FACULTY/STAFF NEWS

VALERIE BANSCHBACH, associate professor of biology and department chair, presented a talk at the Entomological Society of America annual national meeting, December 12, 2007, in San Diego entitled "Ants as Bioindicators: Does habitat edge affect community or social structure of north temperate deciduous forest ants?" Her co-authors for the talk were all former Saint Michael's biology majors who worked on this research with her as students: **BECCA YEAMANS '04**, **ANN BRUNELLE '05**, **ANNIE GULKA '06**, and **MAGGIE HOLMES '06**.

BRIAN BIRON, assistant director of grounds and special services, was selected as firefighter of the year for the Georgia, Vermont, Volunteer Fire Department in 2007. Brian received the award, on January 19, 2008, at the Georgia Volunteer Fire Department annual awards banquet.

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Campus Committee News

Meetings to Examine Spirituality and Intellectual Life

All events: NOON ■ FARRELL ROOM

The Spirituality and the Intellectual Life Committee will hold the following events for Spring 2008

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28:

"**Buddhist and Catholic Perspectives on Meditation**" with Acharya **Judith Lief** and **EDWARD MAHONEY**, professor of religious studies (chair)/director of graduate theology/director, Center for Faith and Culture. Acharya Judith Lief is the author of *Making Friends with Death: A Buddhist Guide to Encountering Mortality*. She studied with the Tibetan Buddhist meditation master Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche and is an authorized Buddhist teacher. She has been presenting classes and workshops on a contemplative approach to death and dying and on the teachings of *The Tibetan Book of the Dead* since 1976. Lief was the first dean of Naropa Institute.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12:

"**Anthropology and Spirituality: A Reading of Poems**," **ADRIE KUSSEROW**, associate professor of anthropology (chair).

THURSDAY, MARCH 27:

"**The President Reflects on the Mission of the College**," **PRESIDENT JACK NEUHAUSER**.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27:

"**An Edmundite Looks at the Mission of the College: The View of Rev. Mike Cronogue, Superior General of the Society of Saint Edmund**."



FACULTY/STAFF NEWS CONTINUED...

ALAIN BRIZARD, associate professor of physics, presented his work on “Nonlinear finite-Larmor-radius effects in reduced fluid models” at the 49th annual meeting of the Division of Plasma Physics of the American Physical Society in Orlando, Florida, from November 12-16, 2007. This work, done in collaboration with physicists from Dartmouth College, was also presented at the fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco, from December 10-14, 2007. Alain also presented his work at the DPP-APS meeting in Orlando on “Analysis of ray phase-space recirculation in a three-wave extended Budden problem,” done in collaboration with physicists at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the College of William and Mary. Alain has been invited to present lectures on his work at a workshop at Pohang University (South Korea) next February. Lastly, Alain has received a publishing contract with World Scientific Publishers (Singapore) for his lecture notes in classical mechanics (“Introduction to Lagrangian Mechanics”).



Doug Facey

DOUG FACEY, professor of biology and executive director of the Lake Champlain Research Consortium, with Meg Provost, administrative assistant for academic affairs, coordinated a Lake Champlain research conference held at the Sheraton on January 8 and 9. **JEFF WHITE '08** presented two research posters at the conference, based on the research that he has done with Doug over the last two years.

KRISTIN GEHSMANN, assistant professor of education, has been named to the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of Literacy Research, a scholarly publication of the National Reading Conference published by Lawrence Erlbaum Publishers.

AOSTRE JOHNSON, associate professor: graduate education and coordinator of the Spirituality and Education Program, presented a paper, “What is Contemplative Development in Childhood and

Staff Compensation and Benefits Under Review

The Staff Welfare Committee’s top priority this year is completing an evaluation of staff compensation and benefits, with the intention of proposing a five-year plan to Human Resources and the President’s Office. Co-chairs **LAURA CRAIN** and **ANGELA IRVINE** said the committee also will continue to address issues brought to them by Human Resources or anyone else in the community. Staff can read about the committee’s work on its Web site: <http://www2.smcvt.edu/pwc/>.

Campus Committee News

Adolescence: Controversies, Paradoxes and Opportunities” at the Third North American Conference on Children’s Spirituality in Chattanooga, Tennessee, November 7-11, 2007.

ARI KIRSCHENBAUM, assistant professor of psychology, is co-author of two studies that his students Seth Brown and Sarah Schwarz will present at the Eastern Psychological Conference in Boston in March. Their presentations involve their

work in Ari’s laboratory on the pharmacology of nicotine dependence. Also, Sarah has received a grant from the Psi Chi Honor Society to support her senior honors thesis in Ari’s lab, and her presentation at the conference is related to her grant.

ADRIE KUSSEROW, chair of the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, has had her poem “Skull Trees, South Sudan” chosen to be in *The Best American Poetry*

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Lecture Series Proposals Sought

The Lecture Series Committee invites proposals from faculty and staff for the next academic year (2008-2009). The committee invites supporting materials such as resumés, brochures, detailed budgets and proposed letters, but applicants still should use the proposal form that was sent campus-wide via e-mail (available from Boynton.)

Applicants should include a brief summary of the event, the total cost (including stipend, transportation, room and board), and some suggestion of a proposed venue (location and/or anticipated attendance), as indicated on the form. Also mention any other sources of funding explored and money received. To be eligible for funds, programs must meet the following criteria:

- Sponsored by at least three faculty or staff, preferably from more than one department or office.
- Faculty/staff sponsors are willing to work in assuring a good attendance for the event (including requiring attendance by students).
- One individual sponsor is willing to take administrative responsibility for the event.
- The sponsors will be responsible for publicity.
- The request for funding is submitted on a “Lecture Series Program Proposal” form. You are welcome to submit proposals electronically via email, but please follow the format in the official proposal document.

The committee asks that any requests for funding be submitted for review (c/o **DAVID BOYNTON**, chair, Box 388 or via e-mail: dboynton@smcvt.edu) **by Friday, March 7.**

Campus Committee News



CALENDAR

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Noon ■ Farrell Room

Michael Battig, associate professor of computer science and department chair, presents on the topic **Computer Science and the Liberal Arts: Student Perceptions Amidst Declining Enrollments** as part of The Social Science Research Center's 2007-2008 Seminar Series.

4:30 p.m. ■ Farrell Room

Debate, "Current Issues in Economics: Wal-mart. Local scholar **Doug Hoffer** and Business Professor **Robert Letovsky** will present differing views and take questions. Questions to be considered include: Does Wal-Mart bring valued products and jobs to the communities it enters? Or does it destroy local economies while underpaying workers and encouraging imports?

6:00 p.m. ■ Hoehl Welcome Center

Teo Castellanos, award-winning actor, director, poet, in a **performance fusing world cultures, religion and music to examine social issues.** Born in Puerto Rico and raised in Miami, Castellanos works in theater, film and television. He is the author of *War, Revolution, and the Projects*, a one-man trilogy, which he has toured to wide acclaim on the East Coast, and author of a one-man show *NE 2nd Avenue*, based on Miami characters. It won the Fringe

First Award at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. He is founder and artistic director of D-Projects, an urban arts collective that examines social ills through performance of original theater pieces. Sponsored by the Diversity Coalition, and Got Skills: the Campaign for Dignity and Diversity, and by The Flynn Center, where the artist will also be performing.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

11:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
Chapel

Mass on Ash Wednesday. Reconciliation will follow after each Mass. Fast for Peace all day in collaboration with the Edmundite Center for Peace & Justice, hosted by Meghan Kerrigan '10 and Maggie Rowlands '09. Sign up at the Edmundite Center for Peace & Justice or Campus Ministry offices and pick up Rice Bowls.

7:00 p.m. ■ McCarthy Arts Center

Lecture, "Education is the Answer: The Story of the Ilula Orphan Program of Tanzania." Berit Skaare and Edson Msigwa, coordinators of the Ilula Orphan Program of Tanzania will speak about this remarkable program. A Saint Michael's service learning course "HIV/AIDS in East Africa" taught by **Trish Siplon** (political science) and **Jerry Swope** (journalism and

❄️ FEBRUARY ❄️

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Saint Michael's College

mass communications) was focused on IOP in Tanzania last spring. IOP supports and houses 33 girls aged seven to 18, and also cares for thousands more children and their foster families through sponsorship and foster family programs, preschool and community development projects, and the Orphan Center. Students in the class created a beautiful Web site for the project www.ilulaorphanprogram.org.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

6:00 p.m. ■ McCarthy Arts Center

Lecture, "Tough Guise: Masculinity and the Naturalization of Violence," by **Sut Jhally**, professor of communication at UMass, Amherst. Jhally, founder of the Media Education Foundation, is one of the world's experts on the effect of advertising and popular culture on social control. Works by this widely published author and producer of film and video include *Dreamworlds: Desire/Sex/Power in Music Video*; *Tough Guise: Media, Violence and the Crisis of Masculinity*, and *Hijacking Catastrophe: 9/11, Fear & the Selling of American Empire*. Sponsored by the Athletic Department, Got Skills: the Campaign for Dignity and Diversity, and the Women's Center.

THURSDAYS, FEBRUARY 7, 14, 28, 21

12:15 p.m. (immediately following daily Mass)
Chapel

Rosary for Peace, hosted by Julie Kozikowski '09 and Gabrielle Mailloux '10.

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Group Explores Women's Spirituality Through Book Discussion

The Women's Spirituality Circle will be reading *Into the Silent Land: A Guide to the Christian Practice of Contemplation*, by Martin Laird, and meeting on Thursdays this semester in the Women's Center. This program is a collaborative effort between The Women's Center and Edmundite Campus Ministry. The circle has become a diverse group across disciplines and religious traditions, according to co-organizer **JOANNE NELSON**, associate director of Edmundite Campus Ministry for Pastoral Services, and **KIM SCHWARZ**, director of the women's center. Those who missed the first meeting are welcome at any or all subsequent gatherings. Men also are welcome to join this discussion of women's spirituality.

THURSDAYS: FEBRUARY 21, MARCH 27 and APRIL 17
From NOON to 1:00 p.m. in the Women's Center

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CALENDAR CONTINUED... *(continued from page 3)*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

7:00 p.m.
Elley-Long Music Center, North Campus
"Historical Folk and Folktale" Concert.
The popular folk group **Atlantic Crossing** performs with Marty Morrissey as the opening act. Art Cohn from the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum will start the evening with a short introductory discussion. The music selected is derived from diverse cultural backgrounds such as Franco and Irish American music, and will be played alongside folktales, legends, and history of the northeast region. *Information: Jane Viens, ext. 2621.*

FRIDAYS, FEBRUARY 8, 22 & 29

4:30 p.m. ■ Chapel
Stations of the Cross.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

4:00 p.m. ■ McCarthy Arts Center
Third Annual "Jazz, the Spirit Lives."
Performers include Josselyn Price, percussionist, and the Akoma Drummers; Saint Michael's Jazz Band, directed by Paul LeClair; Saint Michael's Chorale and Chamber Singers, directed by Dr. Nathaniel Lew; and Jerome Monachino accompanied by the Gravel Jazz Ensemble. Sponsored by MLK Jr. Society and Got Skills: the Campaign for Dignity and Diversity.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11

7:30 p.m. ■ Chapel
Mass in Spanish.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

4:00 to 5:00 p.m. ■ Chapel
Eucharistic Adoration begins quietly at 4:00 p.m., then prayer service with student reflection and benediction begins at 4:40 p.m. Hosted by Stephanie Daudelin '09.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

7:00 p.m. ■ Farrell Room
Kathy McNeely, coordinator of Maryknoll's 2008 Election Project, speaking on **"Loving our Neighbor in a Shrinking World."** McNeely is a long-time advocate for social change, working most recently on food security, trade, HIV/AIDS and debt, through Church World Service. She was associate for African issues with Maryknoll from 1998-2004.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Noon ■ Farrell Room
Yovanna Pineda, associate professor of history presents on the topic **Global Movement of Technological Innovation: The Transfer of Manufacturing Machinery, Ideas, and Networks between Argentina and the Atlantic World, 1890-1933** as part of The Social Science Research Center's 2007-2008 Seminar Series.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

7:00 p.m. ■ McCarthy Arts Center
Bread and Puppet Circus performing **"The Divine Reality Comedy Circus."** Bread and Puppet's new show features the Grand Forgiveness Society of Glover,

Vermont, the triumph of the small farmer, advice on where to get really cheap drinking water, a ballet of roosters, political issues, the Bread and Puppet Circus Band and more.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

6:00 p.m. ■ McCarthy Arts Center
Diversity and Leadership: Presentation and Lecture by Joe Bertolino and Bill Leipold. Called "America's best campus diversity artists for 2007," the award-winning speakers present diversity and community-building programs for campuses and communities, speaking on diversity appreciation, homophobia and heterosexism. Bertolino is vice president of student life and chair of the department of student personnel at Queens University in New York City. Bill Leipold is assistant dean of the School of Criminal Justice for the Rutgers-Newark campus in New Jersey. They have presented more than 350 programs at some 200 colleges and universities. Sponsored by the Women's Center; Diversity Coalition, MLK Jr. Society, and Got Skills: the Campaign for Dignity and Diversity.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Noon ■ Farrell Room
"Buddhist and Catholic Perspectives on Meditation" with Acharya Judith Lief and Edward Mahoney. *(See details in committee news item, pg. 1).*



FACULTY/STAFF NEWS CONTINUED... *(continued from page 2)*

2008 anthology series. Charles Wright was guest editor. Adrie also has ethnographic poems forthcoming in *The Harvard Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *The Sun* and *Anthropology and Humanism*.

DAVID LANDERS, visiting associate professor of psychology, spoke for parents, students and staff at Rice High School on December 10 about the transition from high school to college, focusing on the impact of sexualization of girls, academic achievement of boys, bullying, hazing, and technology.

RAY PATTERSON, assistant professor of religious studies, participated in a panel on "Catholic Book Cultures at the *Fin de Siècle*" at the American Catholic Historical Association annual meeting in Washington, DC, in early January. His contribution was a paper entitled "Promoting the Catholic Scholar: Curriculum and the Lecture in America's Catholic Reading Circle Movement." ■



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To submit your news to *Campus Currents*, write to mtarnacki@smcvt.edu

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