Alumni Award Winners 2012

Each year the college is privileged to honor a few among many outstanding alumni. Meet this year’s winners, recognized at a celebratory dinner in October.

A trained advocate, Mary Regan ’74 has dedicated the past thirty-some years of her life to helping children in need through her career in social work. She began her professional life as an adolescent care worker here in Brown County, before moving on to work as a mental health specialist in Illinois and pursue her Master of Social Work degree. Accepting a position as treatment coordinator at the Children’s Residential Treatment Center of Abbott Northwestern Hospitals in Minneapolis, Mary gained a reputation as an innovator, eventually rising to become the center’s director. She currently serves as the executive director of the Minnesota Council of Child Caring Agencies in addition to being the past president of the National Organization of State Associations for Children, the chair of the Minnesota Children’s Mental Health Partnership, the co-chair of Youth Moving Forward, and co-convenor of the Child Well Being Network.

After retiring from his position as president of IBM China, John Burgoyne ’64, founder and president of Burgoyne and Associates, has continued to provide consulting services to other IBM divisions, Fortune 500 companies and entrepreneurial startups. In their home state of Texas, Burgoyne, with his wife Nancy, spearheaded efforts to build strong partnerships between Fort Worth and its sister city, Guiyang, China, to promote world services to other IBM divisions, Fortune 500 companies and entrepreneurial startups.

Following graduation from St. Norbert, Kevin Krainz ’07 volunteered at the Archdiocese of Chicago’s Amuse House, helping to provide free legal services through Catholic Green Legal Aid. After Amuse House, Krainz traveled to Peru, where he spent a year with Augustinian Volunteers, conducting workshops on voting rights and civic participation, teaching English, and serving as a translator for visiting groups of doctors. Krainz is currently Tall Public Interest Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. As a Tall Scholar, he has committed to performing five years of public service as a lawyer following graduation, and is already undertaking pro bono work on projects related to employment law.

2010 St. Norbert College President’s Report & Honor Roll of Donors 2011-12
It’s not that we’re blind to the broader issues in higher education today. In fact, we’re having robust conversations about the higher education marketplace with our trustees and administrators, as well as with our faculty. Already actively engaged through our digital learning initiative, they are now weighing the topic as a potential focus for next semester’s faculty development conference.

So, all told, you won’t be surprised to hear me assert that you’d be hard pressed to find a better deal than the four-year college education we offer at St. Norbert. For return on investment, I’d argue it’s a deal that simply can’t be beat.

We’re graduating students at rates better than any other college or university in the state, besting the predicted rate for a student body the size of ours. The folks in our Career Services office report some 94 percent of our graduates are employed or attending graduate school within nine months of graduation. Their efforts, supported by every unit on campus, aim to ensure each upcoming class is well prepared for the best possible opportunities as they enter the workplace.

And we were grateful to learn from our latest alumni survey that 72 percent of our alums feel that the college is moving “in the right direction,” and a whopping 83 percent feel “very satisfied” with their St. Norbert experience. It’s nice to have statistics to back up one’s instincts, but these findings only reinforce my own experiences when I connect personally with alumni around the country—around the world, in fact.

All of this points to the value of the outstanding all-around educational experience we provide here at St. Norbert—and wherever there’s value to be had, word tends to travel pretty fast. Our case in point: This past year we received applications from so many qualified—highly qualified—prospective students that we found it necessary to put a waitlist in place. Some months ago we welcomed our newest incoming class, a class of some 600 new students who are already making their mark in the classroom, in residential life, in athletic endeavors, in student groups and in service to our own college community and the wider world. Our demand has never been greater—our enrollment never larger.

As you will see in this annual report of the college, it has been another remarkable year in terms of your support of St. Norbert—the support that makes all this possible. We’re encouraged by strong early support for the new science center, for which more than half of the needed $42 million has been raised. We opened Michels Commons and have begun in late August—jumping the gun a bit on the official festivities, it’s true, but managing to have a fine party nonetheless.

Hundreds of our alumni, parents, trustees and friends came to Dublin to watch our Green Knights football team open its season as part of the Global Ireland Football Tournament, or GIFT. The tournament was held in conjunction with the Emerald Idol Classic, which saw Notre Dame’s Fighting Irish defeat Navy in the latest installment of their long rivalry.

As for our game...well, let’s just say we came up against a very talented opponent in Cleveland’s John Carroll University, which had a quarterback who, at least for one crisp Irish evening, looked as if he perhaps should have been playing the following day for Notre Dame. Our young men were naturally disappointed to lose, but they played hard and were bucked up considerably by the high-spirited locals, who adopted our team right off—the Irish do love an underdog, especially one wearing green jerseys.

But the Dublin trip was never so much about the score as it was about the experience, and that was priceless.

For about 75 young men, most of whom had never been out of the United States, the Ireland trip was the sort of eye-opening experience that only travel can provide. They never would have had that experience if they hadn’t been St. Norbert student-athletes—just as they never would have had that experience without the generosity of our friends, patrons and alumni.

And that, I suppose, is my real point here.

Like me, you are doubtless seeing many media reports these days about the state of higher education. Their premises range from sobering (“Is College the Next Bubble?”) to silly (“Is College Really Necessary?”) to deadly serious (“Is the Cost of College Out of Reach?”).

This scrutiny is important; it keeps people like me focused on doing everything possible to keep higher education both relevant and affordable for all who want it.

Yet I’m struck, regardless of the angle, few of these reports bother to look at what actually goes into a full-blooded, residential college experience for a typical student: the lengthy chain over coffee with a favorite professor; the endless hours of service and organizational work; the development of social skills and personal confidence; the arguments and debates; the search for spirituality and meaning; the shaping of personalities; the shaping of minds.

Media reports about higher education tend to focus, understandably enough, on what happens in the classroom. Yet the aforementioned examples are less the product than the byproduct of the classroom. They are not commodities that can be quantified; they are life experiences—such as the experience of getting on a big plane and crossing an ocean to see what things are like on the other side.


**Honor Roll of Donors 2011-12**

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Participation: 18 percent

Participation: 17 percent

Participation: 16 percent

Participation: 16 percent

Participation: 15 percent

Participation: 14 percent
Honor Roll of Donors 2011-12

Class of 2013

Participation 3-5

President’s Club

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Robert and Joan Mac的观点被忽略。