Life's a Journey
The transformative nature of travel
On the cover:
Signposts on the De Pere campus align the St. Norbert College experience in its global context. A place of scholarship and growth such as this liberal arts environment will inevitably draw from, and contribute to, a world of discovery. It’s a place we call home, yes. But we are both grounded and inspired by a sense of where we have come from, and where we yet might go.
Passports to understanding

College President Thomas Kunkel

I grew up in Evansville, Ind., whose metropolitan population is about the same as that of greater Green Bay. More important, it was much the same kind of place – a community where manufacturing was king, where most folks were Catholic, and where, depending on the day of the week, they worked hard, played hard or prayed hard.

Also, they tended to stay close to home.

The one big vacation trip of my youth occurred when my parents, my maternal grandparents, my two sisters, my brother and I all packed into a Brentwood station wagon for a long ride to Florida – where it proceeded to rain torrentially for seven days straight. I didn’t get on a jet plane until I flew to New York City when I was 23 years old.

What a blessing, then, to have stumbled into careers that opened wide the doors of international travel. Today I can look back and savor numberless memories: walking a park in Osaka in spring with blossoming cherry trees as far as the eye could see; being dazzled by Hong Kong from the heights of Victoria Peak; visiting with a sheik in his Dubai palace; taking in the surreal sights and sounds of Taipei’s Snake Alley; enjoying street theatre in Antwerp’s medieval square; dining harborside in Sydney; walking China’s Great Wall; strolling Montmartre in Paris; staying in the grand Salzburg manor that played the Von Trapp home in “The Sound of Music”; visiting Confucius’ birthplace; visiting Mao’s tomb.

Not to mention paying my respects to St. Norbert at his crypt inside beautiful Strahov Abbey, high above Prague.

I am fortunate to say I could go on like this, but you already get the idea.

Mind you, the point of travel is not to see how many customs stamps you can accumulate in your passport. To travel means to experience what even the best textbooks cannot translate – what other cultures look, sound and feel like.

Of course, the value of travel is not just a question of understanding other people. It can be personally transformational as well, especially if you can really immerse yourself in another country, as our students do when they study abroad. You not only learn how to adapt and respond to everyday challenges, but you get that educational, if unsettling, sense of what it means to be the other – and thus, one hopes, a more tolerant, more fully human, individual.

Affordable jet travel has literally put the rest of the world within reach of more people than ever before – including our students, I’m proud to say. More than 30 percent of this May’s graduating class participated in formal, semester-long study-abroad programs, while another 15 to 20 percent will have left the country for class field trips, vacations or other reasons.

These experiences are crucial. The tensions between people cannot truly be ameliorated until we obtain a fuller understanding of one another. My former boss, University of Maryland president Dan Mote, used to say, “Today one cannot be considered a truly educated person without firsthand experience with other cultures.” I couldn’t agree more. ✨
Sport and society academic conference features former NFL commissioner

Paul Tagliabue was on campus in May to address leading sports professionals and scholars gathered for the college-sponsored academic conference, “Sport and Society: a Mirror of Our Culture.”

The former NFL commissioner told his audience that some of the greatest teachers in his life had made careers as both athletes and humanitarians. Would sports in America in the 21st century continue to produce such leaders, he asked – “men and women with the spirit to excel, and motivated to enrich the spirit”? Tagliabue said he was often dismayed at the number of talented young people he met whose career interests were only in sports business, sports event management or sports marketing. Did we need more academic programs in our colleges and universities offering degrees in coaching and sports leadership, he asked.

“Can our colleges and universities deliver on (U.S. Secretary of Education Arne) Duncan’s observation in his recent speech to the NCAA: ‘Collectively, along with the military, college sports are arguably the (most) important and largest developer of young men’s and women’s character in the nation. You are literally creating our nation’s future leaders.’

“In most areas of amateur and professional sports today there is a global talent pool meeting standards that others are increasingly setting. We all need to make it a priority to understand this new world and to prepare our young people to compete and lead in it.”

He harked back to inspirational American sports figures like Billie Jean King, Wilma Rudolph, Joe Paterno and John Thompson Jr., the basketball coach at his own alma mater, Georgetown. “Each of these figures has had a catalyzing effect on society – has moved the needle for social justice – by excelling in their particular interests and vocations in ways that make a larger social impact.”

The proceedings of the Sport and Society conference will yield rich material for the fall issue of this magazine. Watch for a full report from the conference, presented in the broader context of the many ways that sports intersect with the life of the college and community.
Visionary deanship concludes after seven-year term

After seven years as dean of the college and academic vice president, Michael Marsden concludes his term this summer. He will continue to teach at St. Norbert.

As dean, Marsden has provided leadership for innovation across the academic disciplines, increasing opportunities and incentives for faculty-student collaborations, and supporting campus events to share and celebrate their outcomes.

“St. Norbert College is incalculably stronger for Mike’s dedication and vision,” says President Tom Kunkel. “He has elevated our academic profile in every way possible — from overall rigor to systematic program review; from faculty hiring to higher promotion standards; from great research opportunities for students to innovative collaborations with other schools.”

Among Marsden’s initiatives were the January term, or J-term, and Maymester, offerings that give students flexible course options (including online and international learning experiences) to enhance their academic experiences outside the normal semester schedule. He provided leadership for the reexamination of the general education curriculum.

Marsden assisted in planning for the new Mulva Library and provided leadership for the reimaging of the science building. He leaves behind a long list of administrative accomplishments, having streamlined technology and media services — and select library functions — into a coordinated information services unit. He co-chaired the college-wide effort to raise more than $1 million in additional revenues.

“He represented the faculty but he also led the faculty, which is like herding cats,” notes Tim Flood (Geology). “It’s a real tightrope, and I think he did a fabulous job. Mike is a man of great integrity. He’s as transparent as can be and is always very straightforward.”

Announcing the conclusion of his term as dean last semester, Marsden, who has a 40-year career in higher education, said: “My decision to come to St. Norbert College in 2003 was one of the best professional decisions I have ever made. It has been a rich and rewarding experience to help lead a college which has been steadily moving forward academically, and to work with so many dedicated and talented colleagues.”

His work alongside the faculty will continue as he further pursues his scholarly career.

“He’s been a fabulous boss and mentor,” says Linda Beane-Katner (Modern Languages and Literature). “He maintains calm during the most stressful situations. He’s very encouraging and pushes all of us who report to him for excellence. He’s been teaching in the master’s of liberal arts program, and I look forward to welcoming him now as a faculty colleague.”

The college mourns a beloved professor

Tom Faase (Sociology) was the first to recognize and celebrate the gifts, talents and accomplishments of others, remembers Cheryl Carpenter-Siegel (Sociology). He was the first to show gratitude for a colleague’s work, support, or presence in his life, and to help another to see their own worth.

Loving memories of Faase drew the community together in mourning after the professor’s death April 25. Condolences poured in from many more who were unable to attend, among them Kimberly Herring ’96, who wrote:

“He wore his heart on his sleeve so brightly. Tom was one of the most positively influential people in my life. He epitomized what this college represents and means to me in faith, spirit, warmth, compassion, trust; an open hand, heart and a door that is always open.”

Carpenter-Siegel speaks for many when she says she will always remember Faase as a scholarly and spiritual man, a genuinely good person, and a beloved teacher, mentor, colleague, and friend to many. As a faculty colleague, she witnessed his faith in God, his love for his family, his passion for teaching and learning, his respect and care for students and colleagues, his good humor, and his commitment to creating and sustaining community.

His scholarly interest was in the role that values play in sustaining or changing society. Carpenter-Siegel remembers a paper on vocation: “Tom wrote, ‘Every human being is called to make more of self and others, instead of making less of them.’ Tom lived by this. . . . Making more of others was part of Tom’s everyday interaction with students and colleagues. He strived to avoid making less of self and others, and challenged the rest of us to do the same.”

The ultimate joy and love in Faase’s life was his family. He is survived by his wife, Debbie (Education); his son, Noah; and his daughters, Chelsea ’08 and Morgan.

Faase’s article, “Love Abounds,” appeared in this magazine’s spring “Love” issue. Who better to introduce such a topic? We will miss his gentle presence.
The next generation of leadership and justice

A leader is a person who can turn vision into passion, says John M. Perkins, who spoke on campus this semester. His message told of hope for this generation and tools for the future.

The internationally known author, speaker and teacher proposed “a curriculum for justice” that would create leaders of hope and encouragement in society. Speaking at an event co-hosted by the Student Government Association and the Peace and Justice Center, Perkins said the essential building blocks of leadership were the creation of a vision, management of energy, synthesizing of intelligence and development of character. He outlined a curriculum for all built upon seven core ideas: family, faith, purpose, courage, identity, delayed gratification and faithfulness.

Perkins’ own life reflects a dedication to Christian community development and racial reconciliation that spans more than 50 years. Together with his wife, Vera Mae, he has established Christian development communities in Mississippi and southern California. He created the John M. Perkins Foundation for Reconciliation and Development in 1983.

Home field advantage

The Sept. 4 football game will be the first to be played at the college’s new stadium on Lost Dauphin Road. Work began this spring on the new Donald J. Schneider Stadium, and goalposts were in place ahead of Commencement weekend.

The first game played at the stadium will be the season-opener, against St. Thomas, and the official dedication of the Green Knights’ new home will take place during the Homecoming football game on Oct. 23.

Schneider Stadium will boast many improvements over the 70-year-old John R. Minahan Stadium. And the new facility will give the Green Knights’ nationally competitive track and field teams their first home track. Schneider Stadium will also be the home field for Green Knights soccer.

Fans can watch the new stadium take shape at www.snc.edu/go/stadium.

Gift honors alum veteran

On the 65th anniversary of VE Day, Brig. Gen. John Hanley ’79 presented a commemorative piece of artwork to the ROTC program. The print, by artist James Dietz, is titled “We Have Returned.” It depicts the 37th Infantry Division’s liberation of Manila, one of the key events leading to the conclusion of World War II.

Hanley’s father, John Hanley Sr. ’42, was a member of the 37th Division himself and fought in World War II.

Joe Tullbane (International Education), a retired U.S. Army officer, accepted the gift on behalf of the ROTC. The print hangs in the corps offices in St. John’s Hall.

Textbook rental service comes to campus

Textbooks for rent: it’s an idea whose time has come, and college students everywhere can already feel their budgets easing. The program is expected to save students an average of 50 percent on books needed for classes.

The college bookstore now offers textbooks through the Rent-A-Text service. Rentals may be treated like purchased books, so students can still highlight, make notes and not worry about general wear-and-tear. At the end of the semester, Rent-A-Text also gives students the option to buy their books.

Farewell to a friend

The college has lost a valued long-time friend with the death of Don Kelly. Kelly, a trustee emeritus of the college, died March 20, 2010, at the age of 88.

A business leader, Kelly helped organize the 1986 purchase of Beatrice Foods. The deal was believed at the time to be the largest leveraged buyout in United States history, according to Kelly’s obituary in The New York Times. Kelly later became the chairman of Beatrice.

A resident of Naples, Fla., he is survived by his wife, Byrd, and three children. Son Patrick Kelly ’77 served as the chair of the college’s board of trustees from 2002-09.

Friendly competition marks first Inter-Residential Olympics

Burke Hall led the pack in the first ever Inter-Residential Olympics this spring, winning seven gold medals.

Eleven halls and residences participated in the weeklong competition. The event was sponsored by the department of residential education and housing with aims that paralleled those of the Vancouver Games: fostering school spirit, community, mutual respect, healthy lifestyles, leadership and excellence through friendly competition.

Michael Poradek ’11 initiated the Olympics, complete with opening and closing ceremonies, as a fun and interactive way to involve all campus residence halls. Some 250 students took part and events included floor hockey, racquetball, badminton, basketball, 400- and 1600-meter sprints, ultimate Frisbee, and dodgeball.
On a day bursting with pride, none were prouder than Bart and Cherry Starr. The couple’s first honorary degrees came in recognition of lives lived as shining examples of the Norbertine value of self-emptying service. “The Day I Met Bart Starr (and also graduated from college)” status updates proliferated on Facebook as other proud graduates uploaded their snaps. Even speaker Gwen Ifill, moderator of the vice-presidential debates in 2004 and 2008, was a little star-struck when Bart presented her with a football to mark the day.

Wonderful weather, campus at its most beautiful, and compelling speakers: It was a glorious day to see the Class of 2010 out into the world.

Left: Commencement speaker and honorary degree recipient Gwen Ifill. Bottom left: Green Bay Packers great Bart Starr and wife Cherry received honorary degrees for their lifelong contributions to the community. Bottom right: Patrick Sutherland ’10 spoke on behalf of the Class of 2010.
Lakeside retreat extends possibilities for study and recreation at the college’s northwoods sanctuary

St. Norbert College’s scenic waterfront views extend beyond the banks of the Fox River. Drive two hours north to discover the college’s timbered sanctuary, 700 feet of shoreline on a pristine lake seven miles from Wabeno, Wis.

The new Rankin Lodge, at Camp II on Otter Lake, is named for Richard Rankin ’65, retired vice president of student life. It serves students, faculty and staff as a retreat center, study outpost and resort.

The property, once the site of Lumber Camp #2 of the “Big Pine” logging days at the turn of the 20th century, has served as a college outpost for nearly 20 years. Frank and Agnes Wood and Jack and Mary Rose Fitzgerald gifted the land and its original cottage to St. Norbert.

In 2004, the cottage was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. "The original cabin was very, very rustic," explains John Seckel ’96 (Student Affairs). "There was no indoor plumbing and it had a well-handle at the sink. The lodge is much more modern. It’s a house.”

The lodge sleeps 25 people and is available to college organizations and departments. Four boats are stored on the property for the use of visitors. “It’s very nicely secluded with lots of recreational space,” says Seckel, who coordinates reservations and maintenance at the lodge. “There is a hiking trail that passes through the property and the lake has a good population of fish. It provides an opportunity for students, to learn and grow in a northwoods setting.”

Joel Mann (Philosophy) chaperoned a winter outing at the lodge for a group of students primarily from the honors program. The overnight was unstructured, but proved valuable in building cohesion, he says. “It was nice to interact with the students outside of a classroom setting. They didn’t have anything they were supposed to do or accomplish. I wasn’t supposed to have taught them anything.

“They ended up asking me plenty of questions. I was pleasantly surprised how much they were processing ideas from the classroom, even when they were in this setting where they didn’t have to think about it.”

The property traces back to Mike Quinlan, the grandfather of Agnes Wood and Mary Rose Fitzgerald, and the Menominee Bay Shore Lumber Company. The couples purchased it in 1971. Between the two families they have 15 children, so the gift to St. Norbert was the best option for its future, says Frank Wood. (The college sets aside weeks for members of the Wood and Fitzgerald families to use the lodge.)

“It’s 37 acres of some of the most beautiful land in the state of Wisconsin,” says Frank. “We really looked upon this place as stewardship and are very happy with what the college did with it.”

New student center honors Chuck Holton

The new multicultural student center has been dedicated in honor of Charles “Chuck” Holton ’52, the first African-American student to graduate from St. Norbert. Holton, a collegiate athlete, went on to a six-year career with the Harlem Globetrotters. His story was featured in the fall 2009 issue of this magazine.

The center, on the second floor of the Ray Van Den Heuvel Family Campus Center, serves as a place where students from diverse backgrounds can hang out, socialize, study and discuss common issues.

Language Services expands curriculum

An online Spanish course for teachers and school administrators is the latest on the slate of offerings from Language Services. Educators can fulfill certain state teaching requirements while learning to provide a welcoming and diverse environment for all students.

Their pupils also have the chance to work on their languages this summer. “Passports to the World,” a language enrichment program for children ages 6-11, is taking place on campus in three sessions, continuing through Aug. 5.

Survey responses will help shape future of college magazine

A comprehensive survey that will help the college understand and meet the needs of its magazine readers is also contributing to a national study of higher-education publications. Invitations are being sent to a randomly selected sample of readers, whose responses will help set future direction for this publication. Findings will be benchmarked against composite data gathered from colleges across the country. St. Norbert is joining many others in this national effectiveness study sponsored by the Council for Support and Advancement of Education.

Watch your e-mail for an invitation to participate, or let the editor know what you are thinking via magazine@snc.edu.
A change of heart

By Cyndi Ochsner
Assistant Professor of Chemistry

I was exhausted. I could have slept anywhere except, apparently, on the plane. Had I really been on an overnight train from Vienna to Amsterdam two nights ago? The ferry to Dover, the bus ride from London to Newcastle to Alnwick during which I reorganized my two backpacks, the overnight bus to Manchester—all were now an ocean away.

We were leaving the 747 where I had been crammed in the middle of the middle row. As I waited to disembark, I eyed an attractive twenty-something, out of my league. Seven months prior I would have avoided eye contact, but I spotted his Tate Gallery poster tube and he saw mine. So we smiled. Although we did not know each other, we were part of the same club and because of this I asked him, “Dali?” I noted the surprise in his eyes. “Of course” was his reply. We were indeed members of the same club.

Twenty years later, it is my turn to encourage students to discuss study-abroad options. St. Norbert has developed partnerships with colleges that offer pre-approved science courses in locations like Ireland, the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand. I warn them, though: They may have the time of their life somewhere on the other side of the globe, and when they return to De Pere, they, too, will find themselves members of the club.

I left for Europe on a Tuesday in early February, excited and anxious to meet the 41 other students who were going with me. I had not spent much time thinking about the trip. I was going because my parents thought it was important, because my sister had been, and because I assumed it would add something unique to my life’s limited résumé.

I would live in the wall of the Duke of Northumberland’s castle, which sounded romantic and cool. Yes, it was —very, very cool! The second night in the castle, we had a party to get to know each other and Lord James, the duke’s youngest son, came. (Seriously, a man with a title?)

Listening to my British professors explain Moll Flanders and William the Conqueror was captivating. Standing at Hadrian’s Wall and hearing about the Roman Empire, or reading Wordsworth while looking out at a sea of daffodils, was experiential learning I could not have known in the U.S.

I suppose I am left-brain dominant, an analytical, linear thinker who loves the logic of science. I had never learned with my heart, at least not in the classroom. The Holocaust Workshop was to change that. For the first weeks of this course, we were safe in the castle learning of the events that led to the systematic, state-sponsored killing of more than six million Jews. We watched movies, read books by survivors, and were subjected to racism training by an expert skilled at creating situations meant to reveal our prejudices. What we saw was appalling and almost unbelievable, but I was able to process the imagery in an intellectual rather than emotional way. I had seen these images in high school.

But later, in Warsaw, we toured the ghettos for three days with our guide, Marian Turski. He was a Holocaust expert, Lodz ghetto resident, Auschwitz prisoner, death march survivor, and (gasp) a communist. We moved on to tour Auschwitz-Birkenau with our hero, who used an accordion-folded meter stick when he wanted to emphasize a point.

At the crematoria, our professor was overcome with grief while reading a poem, so Turski finished for him. It was difficult to see my adult male teacher break down and I remember kicking my foot in the dirt, dirt still white from the calcium of human bones. I was unable to emotionally check out. I was learning with my heart and it made me uncomfortable, confused and scared.

We returned via Berlin as the city was celebrating the reunification of Germany. Later that summer I traveled through Europe and Northern Africa. I was inspired to spend a subsequent summer in China and visit Japan. I’m not always able to put into words how those first seven months abroad changed my life.

It’s easy to tell others that I now love scones with clotted cream and PG Tips tea with milk and daffodils and sheep and castles and Tudor history and McVitie’s digestives and Lion candy bars, The Guardian newspaper and hand-pulled Belhaven 80. I could have read about these things in books, but those of you who are club members know that it is not the same.

Has it changed how I do science? Hard to tell, but it has definitely influenced my approach to teaching. How can I explain how the human immunodeficiency virus fuses with a host cell without discussing the epidemic in Africa? My goal is to inspire my students to continue in the sciences and challenge them to develop the HIV vaccine, or an inexpensive treatment that does not require refrigeration, and in return save a continent.

I’ve had a few students who just may meet my challenge and perhaps a study-abroad experience would help them to see further the positive impact their careers can have on people around the world. ✪
Sabine Hyland (Anthropology) has spent a good part of her adult life studying the Incas; as she walks among the ruins of the ancient fortress of Sacsayhuamán overlooking Cusco, in Peru, she contemplates a civilization captured in the silence of hewn rocks and mysterious knotted strings called quipus.

Internationally renowned for her work on Andean civilization, Sabine travels regularly to South America to explore her passion, and as she prepares for her next journey—this time as part of a Smithsonian expedition—she feels the burning desire to unlock the deep secrets of these mute remnants of a bygone era. She looks to another civilization, Spain—one that came into violent conflict with the people of the Andes—to provide clues … in medieval texts, often ecclesiastical in origin.

Such writings are often steeped in old European traditions and Latin terminology, tricky matters for any scholar, but Sabine is also lucky, I think. Her husband, Bill Hyland, director of the Center for Norbertine Studies, is an expert in medieval texts. Sabine and Bill are partners for life but their love and study of old texts makes them intellectual soul mates as well.

Bill and I were roommates throughout the college’s 2008 Norbertine Heritage tour of European abbeys, and I enjoyed having my own “reference encyclopedia” whenever I needed it. Like his wife, Bill also travels, but to another point of the compass—physically and virtually. Responsible for the growing

To the wise man, nothing is foreign

Antisthenes’ aphorism is the lived reality in academe, where scholarly connections build bridges across continents

Sabine Hyland (Anthropology) on site at the Incan fortress of Sacsayhuamán near Cuzco, Peru. Hyland’s research focuses on native cultures of South America.

By Anindo Choudhury
Associate Academic Dean and Associate Professor of Biology
prominence of Norbertine studies, he builds bridges to scholars on medieval Christianity all across Europe.

I’m on assignment and I feel inspired to write about my colleagues, how the bonds they forge with people near and far in their journeys across the expanse of our globe enrich us intellectually and remind us of our common humanity.

A couple of years ago, Tom Conner (Modern Languages and Literatures) got on a motorbike in Udon Thani, Thailand, drove up to the Friendship Bridge over the mighty Mekong river and then crossed into Laos. He said to me recently, “I always want to know what’s on the other side of the bridge.”

To simply say that Tom studies French language and culture would be formally correct but would be missing the point completely. Trying to chronicle his travels and his scholarship is as bewildering as my attempt to capture this man’s thoughts as they pour out. I am so enthralled that at one point I stop taking notes — but who cares? I am having the time of my life listening to his talk of highways and dirt roads; checkpoints and armed guards; the remains of war; and the smiling faces of children.

Deep down, he is interested in Indochina, its history, its contact with the French, and ultimately, in the lives of its people. He served as an observer on the International War Crimes Tribunal in Kampuchea (Cambodia) and as he speaks of that experience his voice becomes quiet. He is getting ready to visit Myanmar this summer. Conner’s students are lucky; they get to build their own bridges in their minds as he shares his scholarship and experiences with them.

Mark Bockenhauer (Geography) is getting ready to build another bridge — one of friendship and understanding — in Africa. In 1995, Mark was on a ship miles away from the Tunisian coast on a National Geographic Society-sponsored trip. He gazed out toward the coast and felt he had to get to Africa some day. Fifteen years later, Mark and Corday Goddard (Student Affairs) are leading students on a service-oriented experience to Zambia. Mark studies human geography, and the connections he and his students will make on this trip will remind all of them of our common bond of humanity, a bond that has been kept alive over the years by the amazing work of the Zambia Project here at St. Norbert.

My mind starts to wander … I look up and notice the lovely bottle of Burgundy, a surprise left for me in my office a couple of weeks ago. It was from Bill Bohné (Art), whose travels in Germany and France enrich the teaching of his craft. Several of us got together for a Pinot Noir wine tasting the other day. Tim Flood (Geology) wouldn’t care much for this, I thought — he likes Cabs. But he did take students to the Galapagos and is preparing to go to the Antarctic this winter. All right, that redeems him, if only somewhat.

I look across our beautiful campus from equally beautiful Main Hall and I spot the purposeful stride of our Austrian professor Wolfgang Grassl (Business Administration), our current Donald B. King distinguished scholar. I am reminded of his life’s journey and of his books and papers on the business world, on Jamaican street vendors, on Catholicism and on Norbertine intellectual life. It’s just too easy to write about him … but I am

Tom Conner explores a bomb shelter outside Ho Chi Minh City. This extensive tunnel system was used by the Viet Cong. Conner has explored much of what remains.

Thomas Bolin at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. He was in Israel for a conference on “The Bible and Philosophy: Rethinking the Fundamentals.”

Vicky Tashjian (left) spent 12 months in Ghana. Her friend, Selina Opoku Agyeman, is a staff member at the archive where Tashjian did work on matrilineal societies.
daunted; where to begin? Maybe another time, I tell myself.

International connections . . . I am suffering from a badly timed case of writer’s block. I go for a stroll. I see Deirdre Egan (English) crossing the parking lot — wait, she was at an Oxford roundtable last year — and then I spot Kevin Hutchinson (Communication and Media Studies), and am reminded of reading about his sabbatical in Australia and his collaborations. I look at the fluttering flags over our Bemis International Center, testimony to the bridges being built every day by the good work of our Study Abroad office, as one after another student becomes transformed by travel, work and life in another country . . .

I realize I am starting to lose focus. But it’s shortly after lunch, and Bola Delano-Oriaran (Education) smiles at me from a distance. Bola hails from Nigeria and her life as a teacher is informed by what she believes to be true, that she “was born to this earth to serve humanity”; she could teach us something. More bridges, I think to myself.

One sees a lot hanging around Boyle Hall. I enter. “Not using the stairs, Anindo?” I turn. It’s Gratzia Villarroel (Political Science). She begins climbing. I turn and follow her, and struggle to keep pace. It’s been a long journey for Gratzia, from her homeland, Bolivia, to her position at St. Norbert. For years, Gratzia has led the international studies program here at the college. No wonder! She recently returned after a year-long stint as a visiting scholar at Harvard, recharged and ever more excited about her passion: how nations carry on with one another. Whether she is off to present a paper at The Hague or to a U.N. conference in San Jose, Costa Rica, this is a woman on a mission to build multiple bridges to the world beyond our borders.

Gratzia and I part ways on the third floor and I ascend to the fourth. I am in search of a man I am proud to know . . . but his office door is shut. Then I remember: Tom Bolin (Religious Studies) and I are supposed to meet at Luna, the coffee shop on Main. I am an avid Facebook user. And Tom’s profile is a must-follow: He uses it to share his thoughts, offer insights and provide the rest of us an education. It is safe to say that a regular following of his Facebook profile for a semester is the equivalent of a course in classical studies, especially in Judeo-Christian history.

Little did his mother know that one day her son would present a scholarly paper at the 100th anniversary of the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome, a few hundred feet from where she grew up, and where “it all began” for the western Church. What made it more special was that Tom had his own children, his daughters, with him.

As he sits down with his beloved cup of coffee, he tells me about his trip, to Israel last fall; he gazes off for half a minute, almost unable to capture what it meant. For a week he shared the company of 25 other invited international scholars, a part of the “Bible and Philosophy” conference organized by the Shalem Center. His eyes shine when he sums up his experience. His Facebook profile shows Tom looking across at the Western Wall in Jerusalem, and I wondered if he felt the 2,000-year-old connection between this hallowed ground, where it also all began, and the cobbled streets of his childhood Rome far away. I do know that his students feel it when he speaks to them.

I remembered spending a wonderful hour with Vicky Tashjian (History) at that very table. We talked history, our own and in general. I am surprised how many faculty members outside Boyle don’t know that she and her colleague Bob Kramer (History) are husband and wife.

I know they have very independent minds. But Vicky and Bob share a common passion: Africa. Bob’s focus has been the Sudan, and Vicky’s, matrilineal societies in Western Africa. The passion for their subjects is obvious in Vicky’s eyes and in Bob’s booming voice. I smile as I recall Bob’s vocal advocacy of non-Western cultures in our common curriculum.

I am approaching the word limit of my assignment. I look at my notes — more names of colleagues I am proud to work with: Michael Olson (Physics), who connected with German professors during his graduate work in nuclear physics through his undergraduate German language study; Fred and Heather Schmidt (Music) and our wind ensemble touring Europe this summer; Wayne Patterson (History) and his internationally recognized work on Korea; Jim and Carol Hodgson (Biology) and their life-changing Panama travel course; and so many more.

Back in my office, I glance at a CD I cherish. It’s of the Norbertines at Mondaye Abbey in France, singing in prayer. I am always moved and inspired by it, by them, so I decide to put it on. While the music plays, I flip through my photo album from that tour. I stop at a picture, a group photo — all 15 of us and our towering German bus driver, Matthaeus. No street was too narrow and no detour too inconvenient for him. He quietly read our minds, knew when we were thirsty, hungry or tired; he cared. Marcie Paul (Modern Languages and Literatures) says he touched our lives; he said we touched his. They are both right. It seems like a good moment to stop writing.

Nick Patton ’03 (Office of Communications) recorded a video blog from this year’s Norbertine Heritage tour. Readers can follow the travels at home.snc.edu/nick.paton.
A Broad experience

Students who opt for international study find unique ways to take the journey a step further

By Lisa Strandberg
Additional reporting by Brooke Auxier '10

Ask Kate Hart '08 where she studied abroad, and she places Scotland’s University of Stirling at a 45-minute train ride northeast of Edinburgh. Likewise, Nick Snyder '08 uses the nearest train station to pinpoint the London location of the University of Westminster’s Harrow campus, where he took film classes in fall 2006.

Like many others who have spent time abroad during their college years, for Hart and Snyder the railway meant connectedness, its network of track binding them to places near and far. It made the world navigable, accessible and relevant.

The same could be said of the overseas experience itself. Whether they work, study or volunteer, students who throw themselves wholly into the culture and community they encounter make connections within themselves, with others and with the world — connections that continue to serve them long after they come home (if they ever do).

Confidence

Finding your way in life can be challenging even in the comfort of your native country; doing so while scaling cultural and linguistic obstacles takes some pluck. That’s what Alissa Schoen ’10 realized when she began student-teaching in the small

International study by the numbers

Why do so many St. Norbert students study abroad? Joyce Tullbane (Study Abroad) says the college’s policy of allowing students to apply all their scholarships and financial aid to their tuition abroad helps explain it.

30 Percentage of St. Norbert students who spend a semester abroad
2 Percentage of all U.S. college students who study abroad
75 Number of study-abroad programs St. Norbert offers
37 Countries represented by those programs
6 Continents represented by those programs

St. Norbert students aren’t the only ones headed abroad. Young people from all over the world call the De Pere campus their temporary home.

30 Number of countries of origin of St. Norbert’s international students
108 International students on campus during the spring semester
60 ESL students attending St. Norbert
8 Percentage of total student body comprised of international and ESL students
New Zealand town of Swanson in October. Her Year 4 students’ fascination with her made it clear that she wasn’t alone in her cultural uncertainty. Of her first day in the classroom, she says, “This kid raises his hand and goes, ‘Uh, miss, are you from Hollywood?’”

Because simply being in New Zealand and answering questions like that one took Schoen so far outside herself, she says, “Teaching ended up becoming second nature to me.”

Schoen’s growth is typical of students who immerse themselves in an unfamiliar culture, says Joyce Tullbane (Study Abroad). “They’ve had to deal with a lot of unexpected situations overseas, and they’ve learned to cope.”

Many do more than cope; they thrive. “A lot of students who were very involved and busy here are going to be very involved and busy there, as well,” Tullbane adds.

Exploration

It’s a given that students who choose to spend time abroad have a sense of adventure. But for some, their wanderlust goes deeper. They explore a foreign country and culture while exploring their own minds and hearts.

It’s the same for the international students at St. Norbert, too. De Pere is their study-abroad experience.

In the case of Anh Tran ’11, a native of Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam, exploration abroad went as deep as his soul. Through an internship with Campus Ministry’s residence hall-based ALIVE Team, he has helped plan social and faith-based programs. “St. Norbert has given me many opportunities to grow as a leader,” says Tran. “I was definitely challenged to become a spiritual leader.”

His involvement with the entrepreneurial group Students in Free Enterprise is another example. “I not only develop my interpersonal and presentation skills, but enhance my ability to work with others as well,” he says.

Nick Snyder ’08 developed an interest in film while making his way through St. Norbert’s graphic design program, but the college didn’t offer any courses on the subject. That led him to scrap his original plan to spend a semester in Florence, opting instead for a program in London that featured classes like European Cinema, British Culture and the Media, and Cinema Landmarks.

His overseas coursework clinched it: Snyder is now pursuing an M.F.A. in film directing at Chapman University Film School in Orange County, Calif. And he’s certain the global consciousness he developed in London, both as a student and during a year’s work there after graduation, helped him secure a spot in the competitive graduate program.

For Tallulah (Matsen) Caulfield ’07, two semesters at Macquarie University in Sydney led her to a life she never would have imagined. Unlike many of her American peers who chose not to work while studying abroad, the communications major took a job as a caregiver for people with disabilities and attended church, which she hadn’t done at home.

“I was lucky enough to gain insight into the Australian work ethic and life outside the classroom,” she said. “I met tons of people, and many Australians.”

Among them: her husband, Michael. Caulfield had returned to Australia to work for Toshiba after graduating; he worked there, as well, and his interest in baseball and American sports brought the two together. The couple still live in Sydney.

Direction

For some, deep engagement in the life and culture of another country uncovers possibilities for their life’s work. Take Carli Arendt ’10. She spent a semester studying at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa, and volunteering in the rural community of Nduu, near Mozambique. While there, she says, “I became ill from drinking the river water that these communities relied on for survival.”

Reflecting on that experience, the geology major saw a way
to combine her interest in science with her humanitarian spirit. She will focus her graduate studies in hydrogeology at the University of Michigan on making uncontaminated water a sustainable commodity.

Justin Kluesner ’10 also found direction for his future overseas. During a semester at the Foundation for International Education in London, the political science major immersed himself in an internship and volunteer experience with Penal Reform International, a nonprofit organization focused on prison reform and restorative justice.

“Volunteering with PRI was especially exciting because I got to expand my definition of community to those all across the world,” he says. “Meeting with people who have experienced prisons in these nations reminded me that we have a stake in the lives of others, not just those around us.”

Spurred by those lessons, Kluesner committed to a year’s AmeriCorps service after graduation. What’s more, he is exploring work in restorative justice thereafter.

Like Kluesner and Arendt, St. Norbert study-abroad advisor Jeremy Doughty ’05 returned from his international experiences a different person with a different worldview. First, he spent a year of high school in Germany. “I lived with a host family, I went to a German high school, I made German friends,” he says.

He studied in Germany again during college. Then, after graduating, he spent two years in rural Ukraine as a Peace Corps volunteer and fell in love with another culture.

“We would sit at the table for three, four, five hours and we would all just talk,” he says. “After a few hours they would bring out either a guitar or an accordion and everyone else would start singing.”

Driven by such experiences, Doughty now pushes students to consider paths less traveled when selecting study-abroad destinations. After all, he knows firsthand the confidence and connectedness such choices can foster.

“Every once in a while I’ll have someone come into my office and ask about Morocco or Ghana,” he says. “It makes me happy to hear.”

Adventures abroad

St. Norbert students abroad do more than just study.

Carli Arendt ’10 mentored rural youth and volunteered at an AIDS orphanage in South Africa.

Alicia Bunnell ’10 joined the dance team at Bond University in Australia.

Ja Chaiyaphruk ’10, a native of Thailand, worked with the St. Norbert Times for three years and studied abroad “from abroad,” leaving St. Norbert to spend fall 2008 in Salzburg, Austria. While there, she visited England, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, the Czech Republic and France.

Rebecca Doll ’11 interned with web-based PR firm WhoseView.ie in Ireland.

Sheena Frydrych ’05 walked the Great Wall of China, went bungee jumping, attended a mud festival and went shark diving while in South Korea.

Kate Hart ’08 sang in the Stirling University Choir and stage-managed a student production at the Edinburgh International Fringe Festival while in Scotland.

Allison Harvey ’11 went extreme night sledding in the Alps in Switzerland while studying in Italy.

Bill Johanek ’06 played softball and rugby at the University of Limerick in Ireland.

Twamanguluka Namibili ’13, a Namibian native, was elected a freshman representative in St. Norbert’s Student Government Association.

Laura Pickart ’10 volunteered at the Australia Zoo.

Alissa Schoen ’10 hiked a volcano and went blackwater rafting (also known as cave tubing) in New Zealand.

Anh Tran ’11, a Vietnam native, was elected co-president of Discovery International, a nonprofit charitable organization operated by international business majors at St. Norbert.
On the road

By Tony Staley

“My goal was to capture lost Americana. Old signs, old buildings, old exteriors. I really had an open mind about what I was going to photograph: the American landscape, things that have color, texture, form, pattern.”
A sabbatical journey took Brian Pirman (Art) on a solo cross-country quest to record the forms and textures of late 19th- and early 20th-century buildings and barns, signs and rural landscapes.

But as well as giving him a chance to find beauty in the mundane, the trip allowed the scholar in graphic design to become a student, exploring his new Nikon D200 digital camera and learning more about digital means of enhancing and altering images.

Pirman’s quest took him more than 2,500 miles, all on county roads, from De Pere to Santa Fe, N.M., where he explored his surroundings and took intensive weeklong classes at Santa Fe Workshops – one to learn more about his camera and one on digital photography.

Among the lost Americana he documented were old, one-of-a-kind handmade signs that are gradually vanishing from small towns and rural areas across the United States.


“You look at these signs and buildings and wonder: ‘Who owned this? What was their story?’ With things this antiquated, there’s always a story behind it and that fascinates me,” Pirman says. “Unfortunately, these signs are disappearing at an alarming rate. It’s a dead art – now everything is electronic.”

Pirman went to New Mexico by way of Wisconsin, Illinois, Tennessee, Arkansas and Texas. He came back through Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and Wisconsin.

He recalls being in the Oklahoma panhandle at Easter and driving by some cattle he saw on the horizon in the foggy morning light.

Ten minutes later, he turned back and shot about 25 photos.

“As I got into my car I stepped into a massive pile of mud and I was really upset,” Pirman says. “All I could think was, ‘These shots better be pretty good because here I am all muddied up.’”

Viewing the photos that evening confirmed his hunch that he had needed to go back. One of those photos is on the dust jacket of “Images.”

It’s both exhilarating and strange to see such photos later on the computer, Pirman says.

“I know exactly what I shot, but when you look at it electronically on screen, it looks different, and it is different from being in the moment. That disconnect between what you’re looking at and what you just photographed means there are always pleasant surprises as you see things you didn’t know were there.

“One of the things I like about photography is that you’re truly in the moment, removed from the hustle and bustle of daily life. It’s just you and your camera.”

– Brian Pirman (Art)

Web Extra
See a gallery of more images from Brian Pirmans trip. snc.edu/go/magazine

“One of the things I like about photography is that you’re truly in the moment, removed from the hustle and bustle of daily life. It’s just you and your camera. It’s almost Zen-like, shooting the photographs and working on them in the computer using PhotoShop.”

In his Santa Fe classes, Pirman learned more about using his new Nikon D200 digital camera; about ways to find beauty in the mundane; and more about using PhotoShop to enhance and alter images.

Besides knowledge he could share in his design classes, Pirmán’s trip yielded a collection of 1,000 edited images. Several of these have appeared in juried shows and he has continued to draw upon the material as a whole not only for “Images” but for a second book, “365 Days of Facebook,” that features many photographs from the trip.

Pirmán says, “I’ve always had a strong interest in photography. It’s really my fine-art outlet. Designing is always for someone. Photography is for me and not for someone else.

“Particularly with technology, you have to be a lifelong learner, because otherwise you’re just going to be dust on the wayside.”

Pirmán, a 1978 graduate of Abbot Pennings High School, received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in fine arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He worked in graphic design in Chicago, in Madison for Oscar Meyer, and in Green Bay, before joining the St. Norbert faculty 13 years ago.

His sabbatical trip opened his eyes to many things, Pirmán says.

“I see more now than I’ve ever seen before. I look harder. For anybody who is in a creative field, it is extremely important that your ability to look, digest, process and be original continues to grow.”

Being away for six weeks, he also learned how much he missed his family and friends.

“But one of the things I learned is that I need to get out there more often,” says Pirmán, who this summer wants to travel around Lake Superior taking photos.

“There’s a tendency to become really comfortable with your day-to-day life and to not want to reach out or extend yourself with certain ventures. Knowing what I know, having taken that sabbatical, I feel an urge to do it again and check what’s out there, and I have done it on a smaller scale. It’s healthy.”
Making travel work

By Kevin Revolinski ’90

M y first real step into the overseas work and travel world was when I accidentally ended up in Turkey. Back in 1997, I was less than enthusiastic about filling out dozens of applications for part-time, part-benefits teaching jobs in the Midwest. So I submitted my materials just once to an overseas teaching job fair and thus killed 130 birds with one stone. I drove to the University of Northern Iowa’s superb job fair expecting to land a position somewhere in Latin America. Spanish was something I figured I could tackle. But I had no experience beyond student teaching and in the end I got an offer from … Turkey?

Call it kismet. I still consider the year I lived there one of the best of my life. Learning the culture from the ground up, the language, the food, the people. The history that had been touched upon in my studies came off the pages and into the camera lens as I explored Istanbul, Ephesus, Antioch and even ventured down to Damascus in Syria. I wouldn’t trade those experiences for anything. So I was 29 and realized I didn’t have to save my whole life and go on a package tour. I could be a responsible adult (depending on whom you ask) and make a living, save some money and live an adventure.

But professional ADD pushed me from country to country – Panama, Guatemala, Italy; Texas … – until finally I needed to change jobs altogether. In the highlands of Guatemala I met a traveler from Sweden who told me he was financing his backpacking trip just by writing for his hometown newspaper. Intrigued, I looked into a few travel magazines and submitted my first piece to Student Traveler. One clip after another, I accumulated professional writing experience, and several years later had even managed my way into The New York Times.

It’s an addiction, and the challenge of hawking your words
When Michelle and Jonny Richard ’96 got engaged, they vowed to continue making international travel a priority. Both had already spent time abroad and their goal was to take a round-the-world trip within five years.

And so they did. With only backpacks, the Richards (above) set off on a 10-month excursion that circled the globe and took them to 22 countries. They learned to cook Thai food in Thailand; climbed a glacier in the Swiss Alps; swam with a whale shark in Australia; and saw the Euro Cup Soccer Championship in Berlin.

Such an adventure may appear a luxury for young professionals like the Richards – in particular, since Michelle had just started a new business. “Many people make assumptions that we must come from wealthy families to afford such a trip,” Jonny says. “The truth is, we set a goal, worked hard for it while making sacrifices along the way, and made the dream a reality. Many people think it is impossible to do something like this, but when you have enough desire, you find a way to make it happen.”

“It took five years to save the money and then took about a year to plan for the trip, with the majority of the decisions happening in the final five months,” Michelle says.

Planning included the logistics of destinations and getting there, and packing, of course. But they also had to arrange for mail pickup, property storage and immunizations; and Michelle needed to leave her business – Coalesce, a marketing agency in Appleton, Wis. – in the hands of a trusted partner.

“The world is indeed your oyster. Not everyone will find a pearl — but you won’t go hungry, either.”

Kevin Revolinski is the author of “The Yogurt Man Cometh: Tales of an American Teacher in Turkey” and several Wisconsin guidebooks. His articles and photos have appeared in a variety of publications including The New York Times and the Chicago Tribune. He keeps his things in Madison, Wis. Check out his website and read his blog at themadtraveleronline.com, or follow him on Twitter or Facebook.
Castles in Spain

A king’s wrath, imprisonment, a pair of smuggled pliers, a knotted rope, escape—all the ingredients for a fine tale of adventure and intrigue, set in 16th century Spain, and the true story, as it happens, of Abbot Hernando de Vallafañe Merino, O. Praem.

My own recent adventures have been scholarly ones full of serendipitous discoveries like this plot worthy of grand opera. It’s a storyline that dates back to a conversation with the Rev. Theodore Antry, O. Praem., ‘62 two years ago, but my love affair with all things Spanish began in 1970 with a high school trip to Spain.

Since then I have traveled to many countries and continents, but it was that very first taste of a different culture and language that left an indelible mark and informed my career path. Now that I am pursuing my doctorate, I feel incredibly fortunate to have found a dissertation topic that combines my love of Spanish and Spanish history with my love of this college.

It all began with an innocent question: Why are the Norbertines no longer in Spain?

I asked this question of Father Ted in February 2008 when he was on campus to discuss “Norbert and Early Norbertine Spirituality,” a book he had co-translated and edited. I asked why there were no longer active abbeys in Spain, knowing there were several in other parts of Europe. Father Ted did not have an answer for me because, although the Norbertines had maintained an active presence in Spain for almost 700 years, he said, very little research had been done on them. At that precise moment I knew that I had found the perfect dissertation topic: the history of the Norbertines in Spain, 1143–1835.

Although the Premonstratensian order flourished throughout the Iberian Peninsula for almost 700 years, there have not been active communities of Norbertine men in Spain since 1835. At one time, though, there were more than 30 abbeys, mostly in the region of Castilla y León and Catalonia. But by the time the liberal reforms swept through Spain in the early 19th century, only 13 Norbertine abbeys were still in existence. In 1835, all 13 were suppressed. The difficulties faced by the order in the 19th century, however, were not their first.

Let’s rewind the tape to 16th century Spain. The Hieronymite order had found great favor with King Philip II. Members of that order had suggested to him that the Norbertines had become quite lax and in need of reform. Teams of Hieronymites were sent to each Norbertine abbey to gather evidence.

“Evidence” of Norbertine laxity included accusations that all of the abbots had servants; that each abbot had at least four horses; that the priests had su peculio (their own money); and that they used this money to dress in fine linens, berets, shoes, gloves and even “slippers” (jewed and silken, one would imagine).

All of this provoked horror on the part of the reform visitors, but most especially the slippers since such footwear was a terrible sign of effeminateness. In addition, the Norbertines were accused of spending the time between Christmas and Three Kings’ Day playing cards.

Oh yes, and the reformers were also shocked to find an old grandmother washing the Norbertine laundry in the abbey gardens. One can easily see why King Philip thought they were quite out of control.

And now that I have set the scene, replete with anti-Norbertine sentiment, I’ll pick up on the fascinating tale of Abbot Hernando of the Abbey of Santa María de la Caridad, a Norbertine house active from about 1165 until 1805 and located in the province of Salamanca.

Upon the insistence of the king, La Caridad was taken over by Hieronymite reformers in 1578. Abbot Hernando was whisked away to the bishop’s residence in the city, where he was sequestered in an upper room with secured windows and a guard at the door.

He pried open the window with a pair of pliers smuggled in by a friend, hidden in a water jug. Tying bed sheets and blankets together, he escaped out the window under the cover of darkness and fled to Rome, where he pled his case at the Vatican before Pope Gregory XIII.

The pope, upon hearing of these injustices, ordered the Hieronymites to vacate the Norbertine abbeys and King Philip to cease his attempts to submit the Norbertines to the Hieronymites. Life returned to normal for the Norbertines—at least, that is, until the early 19th century, when the suppression of religious orders became the norm.

Rosemary Sands came to St. Norbert in January 1993, when she was hired to teach one section of Spanish 102. Now director of the study-abroad program, she is currently a doctoral candidate at Middlebury College. Next spring, Sands plans to spend three months working in the national archives in Madrid and visiting the sites of the former Norbertine abbeys.
Join KnightKlub today

Classmates and fellow alumni can now easily connect online through KnightKlub. Group pages represent academic, fraternity, sorority, social independent, athletic and special interest groups, as well as class year affiliations.

KnightKlub is an easy way for members to submit class notes and register for alumni events. Join the new network today at www.snc.edu/knightklub.

Mark your calendars

- July 20  Knights on the Fox
- July 22  SNC Alumni Night with the Green Bay Buffaloes
- Sept. 17-19  SNC Day/Reunion Weekend
- Oct. 22-24  Homecoming 2010 Parade and Tailgate Parties

SNC Day and Reunion Weekend unite so alumni can, too

Two great events are more eventful together, so this year we are planning Reunion Weekend in tandem with SNC Day, the college’s new open house event in September.

Last fall the college co-hosted the first annual SNC Day with the city of De Pere’s Fall Fest. The event built on Family Weekend, its purpose to invite alumni, parents and friends to a showcase of all that the college has to offer.

After the overwhelming response to that event, we decided to bring forward Reunion so alumni returning to campus would be guaranteed twice the fun.

At SNC Day this year, reuniting is the theme for our alumni visitors. The Sept. 18 event will be your opportunity to reconnect with old friends: some you’ve stayed in touch with and others you haven’t seen since the day you received your diploma. You can come back to campus, immerse yourself in the past and check out where you used to live, eat, play ball, attend classes, hang out—and maybe even study.

If it’s been a while since your last visit, get ready to be impressed by recent developments on campus. For one, your “date with Todd” will not be about studying anymore. Now when you visit Todd Wehr Hall you can one-stop shop—chat with friends in residential education and housing, meet with a counselor in career services and replace that worn-out St. Norbert T-shirt with a new one from the relocated bookstore.

You’ll also be one of the first to have an insider’s tour of the new Donald J. Schneider Stadium, opening this fall. And you can stop by the Miriam B. and James J. Mulva Library to see what all the buzz is about in that new facility.

For many of you, St. Norbert was the place where learning became important, and SNC Day will give you a chance to learn once again. Many professors will teach classes and offer presentations throughout the day.

SNC Day boasts lots of great activities for alumni, current students and visitors—but that’s not all. The event also will include an art and craft fair, boat rides on the Fox River, horse-drawn wagon rides through campus, building tours, chemistry and physics demonstrations, international activities and, of course, entertainment and food.

Looking forward to the Homecoming game, parade and tailgating, too? This year’s game will be against Ripon, and we’ll be celebrating as always the weekend of Oct. 22-24.

Don’t miss out—and don’t forget to tell the alumni office that you’ll be in town, for either event—or any time at all.

Cap and Gown

The annual Cap and Gown Party rounds out the senior year and gives the graduating class a chance to celebrate together as they pick up everything they will need for Commencement. Above, soon-to-be graduates collect their gowns at this year’s event at the Campus Center.

Faculty and staff grilled out for the seniors and gathered with the group on the marina. It gave them a chance, ahead of the rigors of exam week and the flurry of Commencement weekend, to relax and catch up with their students outside the classroom.

The graduating class are just about to become St. Norbert’s newest alumni, and that was a part of the program, too. The alumni office staff was on hand to log post-college contact information and introduce the graduates to their continuing relationship with the college.

Students left with information about upcoming alumni events, an invitation to join the KnightKlub online network and a subscription to this magazine.
Recognized at this year’s faculty awards reception on April 23 were Deirdre Egan (English) and Thomas Bolin (Religious Studies), who received the Leonard Ledvina Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Wolfgang Grassl (Business Administration) received the Donald B. King Distinguished Scholar Award. Wendy Scattergood (Political Science) received the Bishop Robert F. Morneau Community Service Award.

At the Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association in March, Joel Mann (Philosophy) gave two papers: on the sophist Antiphon, and on Nietzsche and Hippocrates.

And Leanne Kent (Philosophy) presented a paper on “Moral Dilemmas, Coherency, and Fairness” at the 37th annual Value Inquiry Conference at Southern Illinois University Carbondale in April.

Mark Bockenhauer (Geography) has been honored as the Texas State Geography Department’s Distinguished Alumnus for 2010. He is the first graduate student to receive the award, which was presented at the 16th Annual Geography Department Alumni Reunion in San Marcos, Texas.

Bockenhauer received his master’s in applied geography from the university in 1987. He worked as a teaching assistant for Byron Augustin, the professor who nominated Bockenhauer for the award. Texas State has the largest geography department in the nation.

Karyn Crowley (English/Women’s and Gender Studies) has been profiled in the Earlham College magazine. Crowley, who directs the women’s and gender studies program at St. Norbert, was one of the first graduates of the Quaker foundation’s women’s studies program.

Duke University Press recently published “Graphic Pluralism: Native American Systems of Inscription and the Colonial Situation,” co-edited by Sabine Hyland (Anthropology). The work, initially slated as a special edition of the journal Ethnohistory, was published as a book instead, given its importance to anthropological studies of the New World.


David Bailey (Biology) presented at Northern Michigan University on memory in songbirds. Bailey’s research looks at the connection between song production and locating food sites.

Retiring educators bequeath creative approaches to learning

Jim Blahnik (Computer Science) retired this May after 26 years at St. Norbert College. A passionate and creative teacher, Blahnik will be remembered on campus for the real-life problems he solved in the classroom. He initiated the college’s collaboration with the Ariens Company to develop robotic lawn machines and, with help from his students, developed in-house software systems for facilities, student academic support services and the ESL Institute.

Two interdisciplinary majors emerged under Blahnik’s guidance: computer information systems (CIS) and mathematics/computer science. Later, he built the original computer science program.

Joy Pahl (Business Administration), office neighbor to Blahnik, says it is evident that he cares very much about his students. “His passion for discovery is his method of teaching. He’ll offer up tools and approaches, but ultimately he wants students to discover it (the solution) and own it. . . . He will definitely be missed.”

Fred and Heather Schmidt (Music) have been married for 41 years and have worked in the music department the last 28. This summer, they embark on retirement together.

Throughout their careers, they’ve pursued many individual interests but always shared their love of students.

Heather Schmidt has served the college’s Young Artists Workshop as adaptive music specialist, music coordinator and music teacher since its inception in 1984. She started the Sounds of Silver Community Flute Choir in 2003 and is proud to say that some of the best music teachers in the area are alums whom she taught.

Fred Schmidt, a professor of music for clarinet and saxophone, came to the college in 1981 and received the Leonard Ledvina Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1986. He has conducted the college’s wind ensemble and the St. Norbert community band, which he founded in 1991. He tells his alums, “Call anytime, we’re there for you.”

Michael Rosewall (Music) says: “The Schmids have been the core of our instrumental program for over two decades. . . . They are beloved by current students and alums, and have been a powerful link between the music department and the community at large. They will be sorely missed!”

In retirement, the Schmids will move near their eldest daughter in Oregon. They plan to teach private lessons and are eager to explore part-time teaching and conducting opportunities.
Fellows opportunity fosters critical insights

A year as an ACE fellow has given Mary Oling-Sisay (Student Affairs) new insights into the ways different institutions are grappling with the challenges of higher education in the 21st century. Through its higher education leadership development program, ACE (the American Council on Education) prepares senior leaders to serve colleges and universities. Oling-Sisay, dean of students, spent much of the fall semester at Grinnell University and has visited some 34 other institutions during the past academic year.

Grinnell was particularly interesting, says Oling-Sisay. Like St. Norbert, the university has deep roots in history and, similarly, has appointed a president with experience outside the academy.

“If you watch which institution has hired someone who hasn’t gone through the traditional pathway,” she says, “it means they’re looking for, in my assessment, somebody who would be comfortable with transformational change.

“It’s very difficult to implement change in higher education because, by our very nature, we are custodians. There’s a sense of wanting to protect the past, but things have changed so rapidly that you have to balance the past with new things in order to remain viable, relevant and competitive.”

She says it is critical that leaders be able to maintain a sense of tradition without becoming keepers of the past, a role that tends to make their institutions irrelevant pretty fast.

Through discussions, networking and site visits, this year’s ACE fellows learned how others are dealing with issues in contemporary higher education. They explored questions of access, affordability, shifting demographics, dwindling resources, the need to expand educational attainment to more Americans, and more.

“Every time you go to another institution, you just have a different perspective on how to look at things,” Oling-Sisay says. “You either affirm what you are doing very well, or you discover opportunities for things that you could do even better.”

Education critic Alfie Kohn has published an article by Karen Koenig (Religious Studies) on his “Rethinking Schools” website. “It Was So Much Fun! I Died of Massive Blood Loss” challenges the pedagogical value, social and moral impact of the Civil War reenactment in which Appleton (Wis.) elementary-school pupils take part each spring.

Koenig’s title refers to the “fate” card her daughter’s friend received during the event, a popular 19-year tradition. “Each child is also issued a large, black, wooden facsimile rifle,” says Koenig, “and when the battle begins the children aim at their friends and classmates, and shoot to kill.” The fifth-graders are taught “to enact violence, death and horror as they place their own friends in the crosshairs, and then lie down motionless in a grassy field to ‘die’.”

She questions the impact of such an event on children whose parents may be currently serving in war zones, and on children — children of color in particular — who may find themselves assigned to “fight” for slavery.

Carli Arndt ’10, Kim Hansen ’11, Jordan Mayer ’12, Kerrie McDonald ’10, Amy Kroll ’10 and Steph Lambert ’10, with Bridget Burke Ravizza (Religious Studies) and Bob Pyne (Peace and Justice Center), supported Koenig at this year’s event in May.

Anindo Choudhury (Biology) served this spring on the National Science Foundation’s Systematic Biology Panel in Arlington, Va. The panel reviews applications for the foundation’s sought-after research grants.

Joyce Tullbane (International Education) spoke at The Forum on Education Abroad Conference in Charlotte, N.C., this spring.

Her topic was “Engaging Study Abroad Alumni: Creating Community and Outreach Opportunities.”

Charles Jacobs (Political Science) will take part in the Interdisciplinary Summer Workshop for College Instructors sponsored by the Institute for Constitutional History program in partnership with Yale Law School. The summer workshop focuses on the question “How does law change?”

In memoriam

The college community learned with sadness of the death of Richard Edward Calnin, who taught German and Spanish at St. Norbert for many years. Calnin, of Richland Center, Wis., died April 8, 2010, at the age of 86. Calnin earned his degree in philosophy from Jordan College and St. Francis Seminary in Milwaukee. He served in the military from 1949-1953.

During his years at St. Norbert, Calnin built two homes for his growing family, erected windmills for energy production, and in 1972, traveled to Arequipa, Peru, with his family for a nine-month study tour. After retiring from the college in 1981, he and his wife purchased an 80-acre farm in Richland Center, where they converted the barn into a home. He continued teaching and developed as an artist, using wood and recycled metal to create furniture and unique objects.

Richard is survived by his wife, Mechtild (who also taught German at St. Norbert) and four sons, Wolfgang ’77 and his wife, Susan ’79; Norbert ’78 and his wife, Susan ’77; Roland ’80 and his wife, Regina ’78; and Tim and his wife, Katherine.
Gladly send them on their way with warm thanks and blessings for the adventures to come.

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of communications; and Kolter discussed the prospect of attending graduate school for literary

Fossen's portraits of

See a gallery of Van Fossen's portraits of faculty and staff.
snc.edu/go/magazine

Congratulations and farewell to the office of communications' graduating student team members, Brooke Auxier '10 and Adam Van Fossen '10.

Van Fossen, who shot this “Self-Portrait with Brooke,” joined the publications staff this year as photographer, bringing his skills, in portraiture particularly, to a semester-long project focusing on the depiction of academic excellence. A high point of this semester was his solo show of images from his tour of Togo and Ghana last summer. (@St. Norbert readers enjoyed an article about his travels, with photo gallery, in their September issue, available at www.snc.edu/go/africansun.) Van Fossen is now employed at Turba Photography. (The De Pere business is owned by Jerry Turba '74, and another photographer colleague at the studio is Mike Wiesman '07.)

Auxier worked on this and other college publications, proving invaluable not only as a regular contributor and tyro editor, but as a behind-the-scenes administrator. Her skills in office management and peer mentoring made her an outstanding team member. Auxier will work for a Menasha (Wis.) book printer this summer and is on her way to the University of Maryland, where she has been admitted to the master's program in journalism.

We love working with our interns and will miss these two, and their skills, very much. But we gladly send them on their way with warm thanks and blessings for the adventures to come.
Chemistry Club won Most Innovative Program for Boys and Girls Club Science Day. Pre-Health Club was also recognized as Academic/Honorary Organization of the Year.

Best Service Program went to Habitat for Humanity. Ballroom Club was honored with the Special Interest/Recreation/Governing/Media Organization of the Year award.

Men’s club volleyball made a return to campus this spring for the first time in seven years. The nine-man team competed in the Wisconsin Volleyball Conference (WVC) against 12 other college club teams from around the state.

The team finished fourth in the conference and ended the year with an appearance in the playoffs at the WVC State Championship at UW-Whitewater. Chris Seidl ’12 and Matt Seidl ’12 were selected for the All-Conference team.

Sophomores got a lesson in dining etiquette at the Knight of SOPHistication dinner hosted by Matthew Doyle (Dining). The dinner focused on teaching subtle rules of dining behavior so students can feel more confident in a dinner setting. St Norbert alumni also helped at the event.

Caitlin Petersen ’13 served as honorary chair at Relay for Life in De Pere in memory of her mother, who passed away last year. A member of Colleges Against Cancer, Petersen advocated the relay’s message: “A world with less cancer and more birthdays.” Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society’s largest grassroots fundraising movement, involving communities, organizations, businesses, families and friends in the fight against cancer. The college demonstrates its support by hosting Relay for Life on campus annually.

Gretchen Panzer ’12 was awarded a first place for American Literature and Film Studies at this year’s Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society’s convention in St. Louis. Her winning essay was titled “A Lost Voice: Sexism in ‘The Great Gatsby’.”

The convention offers undergraduates a chance to present at a professional level. For many students it is the highlight of their English undergraduate careers, says Laurie MacDiarmid (English). “The experience validates our love of literature and writing.”

ST. NORBERT COLLEGE
summer 2010

My major, my way

Kellie Herson ’11 crafted a major made just for her.

Individualized majors just might be St. Norbert’s best-kept secret. Not many students are aware that the college offers them, and of those who are, few consider designing one. Doing so requires more work than selecting a traditional major, without a doubt — but my experience taught me it’s worth it.

Before I decided which college to attend, literature was my main academic interest. Fascinated by the way gender shapes us, I also knew I wanted to make women’s and gender studies part of my undergraduate experience. When I chose St. Norbert, I was thrilled to discover that I could major in English, minor in women’s and gender studies, study abroad and still graduate in three years.

Then the first two courses I took toward my minor — Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies with Karlyn Crowley (English) and Women and Work with Victoria Tashjian (History) — changed the way I thought about literally everything around me, helping me describe and contextualize things I’d instinctively felt since I was young. That’s when I knew I wanted to pursue more than the minor the college offers in the field.

When I realized that taking four women’s and gender studies classes while studying abroad would help toward fulfilling the 10-course requirement for a major and still allow me to graduate in May 2011, I talked with Dr. Crowley, my academic advisor and the women’s and gender studies program director, about proposing an individualized major. She was incredibly supportive and guided me whenever necessary.

In my proposal, I listed the classes that would comprise my major, identified a capstone experience, suggested how to assess the major’s effectiveness and wrote a short essay on why the major was appropriate and of interest. Because women’s and gender studies is an established program with a consistent course rotation, and because I’m not the first person to self-design this major, compiling the proposal was not nearly as challenging as I had anticipated.

Three professors signed off on my proposal; then it was up to the dean of the college to fully accept, conditionally accept, or reject it. My application was conditionally accepted pending more extensive development of my capstone project, an independent study about sex work in literature, media and culture.

I’m thrilled that I was able to craft my own major, and I encourage others to consider doing so, too. It’s a great way to freely explore your academic interests and to find a course of study that has you doing what you love.
Births/Adoptions

1992 Lisa (Lally) and Michael George, Waukesha, Wis., a daughter, Kaitlyn, Aug. 12, 2009. Kaitlyn joins brother Michael, 9, and sisters Molly, 6, and Claire, 2.


1992 Christina (Lindner) and Sean Dywer, Brookfield, Wis., a son, Casey, Feb. 2, 2010. Casey joins sister Megan, 2.

1993 Lisa (Berg) and Craig Treichel ’95, Green Bay, a son, Brock Allen, Aug. 29, 2009. Brock joins brother Brett, 4.


1994 Dawn (Boyung) and Kevin Doll, Mount Calvary, Wis., a daughter, Maria Grace, March 25, 2009. Maria joins siblings Zachary, 14, Bethany, 12, Kayla, 10, Sarah, 7, and Michael, 4.


1994 Stephanie (Bloch) and Barry Moore, Hickory, N.C., an adopted daughter, Maya Isabelle, 5, and an adopted son, Micah Brandt, 2, Dec. 21, 2009.

1995 Elizabeth (Hill) and Timothy Derzio, ’95, Green Bay, a daughter, Teagan Frances, July 9, 2009. Teagan joins sister Camryn, 8, and brother Riley, 4.

1996 Julie (Busse) and Alex Polinsky III, Minneapolis, a son, Alex Edward Polinsky IV, Feb. 3, 2009.

1996 Katie (Harwood) and John Barry, Whitefish Bay, Wis., a daughter, Ella Kate, Oct. 11, 2009. Ella joins brothers Jake, 4, and Ethan, 3.

1997 Andrea (Scott) and Stephen Guerra, Rochester, Minn., a daughter, Kaylee, Sept. 28, 2009. Kaylee joins sisters Maddie, 7, and Taylor, 5.


1998 Laura (Chudzik) and Andrew Geisler, Wauwatosa, Wis., a daughter, Margaret, July 14, 2009. Maggie joins sister Abigail, 2.

1998 Sarah (Gavinski) and Brian Kelly, New Berlin, Wis., a daughter, Claire Kathryn, Nov. 17, 2009. Claire joins sister Erin, 5.


1999 Sheila (Glyn) and Frederic Criqui, Fox Point, Wis., a daughter, Ella, March 31, 2009. Ella joins brother Sebastien, 6.

1999 Kristen (Kelpsch) and Aaron Hearns, Yorkville, Ill., a daughter, Cora Ruby, July 13, 2009.

1999 Maureen (Doody) and Paul Johnson ’99, Tinley Park, Ill., a daughter, Margaret Lillian, Jan. 24, 2010. Maggie joins sister Bridget, 4, and brother Liam, 2.

2000 Wendy (Yursis) and Scott Schultz ’95, De Pere, a daughter, Natalie, Jan. 2, 2010. Natalie joins sister Anna, 2.


2001 Amy (Forsha) and Andrew Noth ’01, Ladysmith, Wis., a daughter, Lilian Kay, Nov. 8, 2009. Lily joins sister Sage, 2.

2001 Therese (Stevison) and Benjamin Nims ’01, St. Louis, a son, Benjamin, Dec. 5, 2009. Benjamin joins sister Elizabeth, 2.

2002 Kim (Kozlowski) and Ken Pflugert ’02, Fox Lake, Ill., a daughter, Sophia Frances, Nov. 29, 2009.

2002 Tina (Steenbock) and Don Van De Ven ’01, Abrams, Wis., a son, Chase, Dec. 15, 2009. Chase joins brother Garrett, 3.


2002 Judith (Ullman) and Andrew Hintz, Appleton, Wis., a son, Oliver Martin, March 5, 2010. Oliver joins brother Charlie, 2.

2003 Leslie (Barnes) and Jerome Deuchars ’04, Madison, Wis., a son, Kaelan John, March 18, 2009.


2006 Robin (Wagner) and Nicholas Greiling, Green Bay, a son, Grant, Feb. 10, 2010.

Marriages


2003 Brian and Teresa Hice Lampert, Dec. 18, 2009. Teresa lives in Fort Worth, Tex., while Brian is serving in Afghanistan.


2006 Jack and James Westin, April 18, 2009. They live in Minneapolis.


Young alum Tweets herself to a job

Discover position posting, send in résumé and repeat. After a couple months of engaging in a conventional job search with little success, Lynn Koves ’07 got bored.

Koves looked to Mandy Nycz (Career Services) for fresh suggestions for her search. Nycz shared an article with Koves called “Tweeting your way to a job or internship.” The author pointed out that more and more employers are turning to the internet and social media outlets, specifically Twitter, to connect with potential job candidates; it also spoke to the networking potential of the tools.

Koves had never been on Twitter before but decided to give it a shot. “It took me probably a couple months to really see some results. There’s a little bit of a learning curve (with Twitter) but then I started connecting with marketing people in the Green Bay and Appleton area … people specifically in the industry that I could learn from,” said Koves.

Koves ended up meeting a fellow Twitterer at a “Tweet-up” – a local gathering of Twitter users. Her new friend, known on Twitter as @mmangen, passed Koves’ résumé on to her sister, who was looking for a marketing representative.

Koves landed an interview with Paul Davis Restoration and then accepted the position she was offered in agency relations.

Koves recently relocated to Denver and has already started using Twitter for her job search there. “I’m scheduling coffees and hearing about meet-ups and Tweet-ups.”

Nycz advises job searchers who are thinking about taking their search online to keep in mind that what they post online reflects who they are.

“Employers can and do make hiring decisions based on what they are finding online about prospective employees. That means [applicants’] Tweets should be professional, their profile picture on Facebook should be appropriate and their status updates on LinkedIn should be career-related.”
They shaped the things to come

Three of St. Norbert’s first female students recalled their college experience during this spring’s panel discussion “We Were the Change”

By Kim (Lopas) Sullivan ’95

During her days at St. Norbert, Cathy Jacobs ’56 took some ribbing from classmates about her fashionably late morning arrivals. “I must say it became a joke if I was on time for the (8:30 a.m.) class,” she says.

She wasn’t simply oversleeping. As one of the first female students to enroll after the college opened its doors to women in 1952, Jacobs was not allowed to live on campus. Instead, she often drove a carpool, picking up four to six female peers en route to that early class. One or other of the group was always late in being ready.

“Thank heavens [that professor] was one of the ones that found us refreshing,” Jacobs says.

Not all the faculty did, she adds. “Some were passive, some tolerated us and one clearly did not like us.”

She related her story during a spring Killeen Chair Lecture Series panel discussion entitled “We Were the Change.” Jacobs and fellow panelists Jeanne Pischke ’57 and Arvilla Rank ’58 spoke of the difficulties they encountered on an overwhelmingly male campus, as well as the encouragement they received.

Current female students dominated the audience. Terra Alvarez ’10, a student panel member, says, “I perceived that (these three women) did not focus on their presence on campus as creating radical change or paving the way for women of future generations, but rather that their individual experiences shaped each of them in a unique way, allowing them to make a real impact on the world after graduating.”

That they did. Each went on to a successful career – Jacobs as a teacher, Pischke as a teacher and principal, and Rank in accounting and as an advocate for the deaf.

But getting there took courage in the early ’50s, when some questioned the women’s motives for being on campus. Pischke remembers men saying, “She’s only here to get her M.R.S. degree.”

Jacobs recalls that some of her male classmates were upset that once women arrived, the men had to adhere to a dress code – no more T-shirts in class. “At our 50th class reunion, one of the males was still complaining about that,” she says.

This is not to say that all men were against them. Some male students were fond of having women in their classes and wished only that there were more of them. Also, Rank found her male professors helpful in overcoming two barriers as a student – she was a woman and she was deaf. At the time there were no interpreters and she did not sign, so communication was limited. She drew the discussion’s biggest laugh in saying, “I was maybe the only student here who read the textbooks!”

Her studiousness paid off. During her senior year, she scored the highest of any student up to that time on a national accounting exam, an accomplishment mentioned at her graduation.

During the panel discussion, former St. Norbert athletic director Larry Van Alstine ’57 acknowledged that the women’s achievements went beyond the academic. His comment struck audience member Anna Czarnik-Neimeyer ’11, who noted:

“He said he had never been able to understand (the women’s) experiences from their perspectives, and how after hearing their stories, he recognized what an accomplishment it was for each of them to attend and graduate as some of the first women on campus. He stated how proud he was of them, and I agree.”

Jeanne Pischke ’57
Arvilla Rank ’58
Cathy Jacobs ’56


2006 Lisa Ellor and Chad Smith, April 24, 2010. They live in Fort Worth, Texas.


2008 Amanda Gluth and Nick Spohn ’08, June 2009. They live in Dixon, Ill.


Deaths

1950 Fred Deprey, of Cudahy, Wis., died Nov. 10, 2009, at the age of 82. He served in the U.S. Army from 1945 to 1946. He earned his master’s degree from UW-Milwaukee and later worked as a teacher in the Kenosha and Muskego-Norway school districts. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Beverly, and children.

1950 Herbert Greenwood, of Novi, Mich., died March 26, 2005, at the age of 83. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and later worked as an engineer for Ford Motor Company. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, and five children.

1951 Charles Bersch, of Sykesville, Md., died Feb. 14, 2010, at the age of 83. He worked as a materials engineer and manager of research and technology projects for the U.S. Navy and NASA. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary, and two stepchildren.

1954 Richard Bowers Sr., of Green Bay, died Feb. 2, 2010, at the age of 82. He served in the U.S. Army before attending St. Norbert. He is survived by his wife, Shirley.

1955 Gordon Newhouse, of Tucson, Ariz., died Jan. 21, 2010, at the age of 77. Newhouse served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and then worked as a farmer until his retirement in 1995. He is survived by seven children.

1956 Sister Leovigilde Spennier, of Manitowoc, Wis., died Nov. 21, 2009, at the age of 94. A member of the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity of Holy Family Convent since 1929, she worked as a teacher, registered nurse, hospital administrator, volunteer and director of public relations and development at St. Paul Home in Kaukauna, Wis. She is survived by her sisters in Christ and family members.

1958 Joseph Verbrick, of Little Chute, Wis., died Oct. 16, 2009, at the age of 73. As quarterback, Verbrick led the Green Knights to an undefeated football season in 1957. He went on to coach high school and middle school football and basketball. He is survived by his wife, Joan, and two children.

1958 Wade Brunette, of Hansville, Wash., died Oct. 31, 2009, at the age of 73. Brunette graduated from the University of Wisconsin Medical School in 1962 and went on to practice radiology at St. Cabrini Hospital and later at Minor and James Medical Clinic in Seattle. He is survived by his wife, Jeanne, and four children.

1959 Donna (Roffers) Grose, of Green Bay, died Feb. 3, 2010, at the age of 72. She taught at elementary schools in Kaukauna and Green Bay and later at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. She also worked as an accountant at Mayhugh Insurance. She is survived by her husband, Robert, and two children.

1959 Dan Desremaux, of Oconto Falls, Wis., died Feb. 3, 2010, at the age of 75. He was involved in the ROTC program while at St. Norbert. During his lifetime, he developed a residential area known as Indianwood, built and operated the Coachlight Inn in Oconto Falls and started an antique business. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and three children.

1963 Robert Flatley, of Green Bay, died Nov. 7, 2009, at the age of 80. He earned his law degree from UW-Madison in 1955. He began his career as Brown County assistant district attorney in 1961 and won elections for Brown County district attorney in 1964 and 1966. He was a partner with the firm Will, Flatley and Smith.

1970 Richard Jochman, of St. Joseph, Minn., died Dec. 31, 2005, at the age of 61. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Kansas and later taught chemistry at the College of St. Benedict and St. John’s University. He also coached the women’s basketball team at the College of St. Benedict for three years. He is survived by his wife, Nikki, and a son.

1972 Dennis Oudenhoven, of Appleton, Wis., died Dec. 1, 2009, at the age of 59. He earned his master’s degree from UW Oshkosh and went on to teach at Xavier High School for 32 years. He also coached track and basketball. He is survived by his wife, Carla, and three children.

1974 Robert Ebben, of DeKalb, Ill., died May 17, 2010, at the age of 53. He is survived by his wife, Jane, and three daughters.

2007 William “Billy” Treslo, of the Town of Maine, Wis., died Oct. 29, 2009, at the age of 25. Treslo was a member of IVE Fraternity. He is survived by his parents, Thomas and Donna, two siblings, and his grandparents.

Class Notes

1962 Susan (Maresch) and Bill Bush ’61 celebrated 50 years of marriage with their daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They live in Mequon, Wis.

1965 Richard Green retired from teaching in Illinois in 1996 and has been living in Florida since February 2000.

1969 David Bachhuber retired from McDonnell Douglas/Boeing in December 2007 after working more than 33 years as a technical illustrator, technical illustrations department head and aircraft wiring technical publication manager. He has spent the last two years traveling Missouri with his wife, Linda, to raise money for charity through a nonprofit fraternal organization. The Bachhubers reside in Bonne Terre, Mo.

1972 Francis Schmitz returned to the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Milwaukee after a five-year assignment as national crisis management coordinator at the National Security Division of the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

1973 Carolyn Keener Krueger has received Waukesha Catholic Memorial High School’s Alumni Service Award. Krueger, a math teacher at the school, also leads students in work camps, food drives, Lenten service projects, Operation Michael, St. Ben’s Meal Program and Habitat for Humanity.

1976 Richard Gluth was recently appointed fire inspector in Williams Bay, Wis.

1978 David Barry Jr. has been recognized by Super Lawyers as a top Illinois attorney of 2010. The program identifies the outstanding no more than five percent of lawyers in each state, as chosen by peers and through the independent research of Law & Politics magazine. Barry is a partner at the firm Corby & Demetrio.

1986 John Heinzmann has accepted a technical sales role at Lake County Press of Waukegan, Ill. He has provided clients with 18 years of expertise as prepress and technical manager.

1988 Karl Zacharias was recently inducted into Chilton High School’s Wall of Honor. Zacharias was a four-sport athlete for the Tigers from 1980 to 1984. He played football at St. Norbert and was a two-time ESPN the Magazine Academic All-America team member.

1999 Robert Ebben recently accepted a full-time position as an English instructor in the Goal Oriented Adult Learning (GOAL) program at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton, Wis. Robert had taught English at Neenah High School since 1999.

2001 Chris Diedrich received his master’s degree in business administration with an emphasis in human resource management from Webster University. He graduated with honors.

2003 Carly (Bien) Leider is a forensic scientist at the Madison Crime Laboratory.

2003 Zac Leider is an interface analyst at Epic Corp. in Verona, Wis.

2006 Eric Toney has accepted a position as director of field operations for Wisconsin 8th congressional district candidate Dr. Marc Trager. Toney earned his law degree from Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, Minn. He volunteered for the McCain-Palin 2008 presidential campaign and has worked for the Minnesota Senate.

2006 Meghan Fahy graduated with a master’s of science degree in journalism from Roosevelt University in Chicago. Fahy is an editor at Saint Xavier University in Chicago.

2007 Tanya (Simon) Arens currently teaches in the Milwaukee Public School District.

2008 Marguerite (Maggie) Standish received a master’s degree in library and information services from the University of Western Ontario.

2009 Jim Rohde was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army at Fort Benning, Ga. He is now at Fort Sill, Okla., where he will complete field artillery training.

In our Spring 2009 issue we unintentionally omitted the maiden name of our alum Frances (Elders) Herrick ’62. Herrick has been volunteering at Jessie Mae Monroe Elementary School in Ash, N.C. for more than six years, encouraging reading at all grade levels.
Abbey provides a sanctuary for spiritual renewal

By Melanie Radzicki McManus '83

Yoga sessions, dream interpretation and water exercise aren’t exactly the images that spring to mind when the Norbertine Center for Spirituality is mentioned. Yet innovative programs like these are breathing new life into the center, tucked into a wing of St. Norbert Abbey.

Opened as a retreat house under another name in 1979, the center’s popularity ebbed and flowed over time. Then five years ago, the Rev. Conrad Kratz, O. Praem., ’70 became director. Kratz studied what people were seeking, but not finding, in local spiritual programming and investigated the idea of taking programs into the community as well as bringing people into the center. Thus arose the new Norbertine Center for Spirituality.

In its fresh incarnation, the center offers a wide range of mostly free programs geared toward mind, body and spirit. There are traditional events like retreats, Bible studies and sessions on wedging prayer into busy lives. In addition, those looking to dig deeper can sign up for spiritual direction with trained, licensed practitioners.

Then there’s the more creative fare. “Water Exercises and the Word of God for Women” is a program that incorporates gentle water exercise, spiritual music and prayer in the abbey pool. Kratz’s programs on the connection between dreams and spiritual life are especially popular, as are the conversations the Rev. Mark Falcone, O. Praem., ’62 presents with Guido, his parrot – an entertaining form of pet therapy.

Judy Turba ’76, the center’s director of programming, says people are seeking enrichment, knowledge and a deeper understanding of how spirituality affects change. Adds Kratz, “They also want programs aimed at real questions in their real lives.” Thus, the past year’s offerings included the series “Conscience and the Moral Life,” which examined individuals’ decisions around issues like the end of life, and homosexuality.

The center also has taken its show on the road; Kratz and his staff head to hospitals, schools, parishes and convents nationwide, giving retreats, workshops and missions. “Our external and internal ministries feed off each other and give more life to the center,” says Kratz.

Participation confirms it; attendance has risen from a few thousand annually to this year’s expected 11,000-plus, a figure that doesn’t include the hundreds who benefit from the center’s on-the-road programming.

Kratz credits Turba, a longtime friend and fellow St. Norbert alum, with introducing a female layperson’s enthusiasm and insights to the center’s programming – an addition critical in balancing the ideas coming from male priests. Turba’s reward comes when God leads someone to the center. “I love it when the timing of a program really works for someone, offering hope or some insights that resonate with them,” she says. “I love hearing someone walk out and say, ‘This is just what I needed.’”
A
fter decades of turning out solid performers, the St. Norbert College track programs suddenly are churning out national champions like they’re going out of style. Not bad for an institution still without its own track until the Donald J. Schneider Stadium opens for business in the fall.

The short-distance events of 400 and 800 meters have been golden for the Green Knights in recent years. This spring, Emily Schudrowitz ’12 became the latest national champion when she captured the NCAA Division III Indoor 800 title in a personal-best time of 2 minutes, 9.24 seconds. (She came in sixth at the outdoor 800-meter nationals this May.)

Schudrowitz’ indoor triumph came on the heels of dual championships for Ashley Graybill ’09 in the same event last year at both the indoor and outdoor national meets.

“I’ve talked to some of the kids about having the ‘it’ factor,” says head coach Don Augustine. “I don’t know that we’ve pinpointed what ‘it’ is, but the ones that get to that level have it.”

Schudrowitz attributes her success to several factors, including the ability to finally stay healthy, plus the knowledge that it’s possible for a St. Norbert athlete to achieve the highest levels of performance.

“[Ashley] and I ran together in a relay, but I was not at her level at all last year,” Schudrowitz recalls. “Her winning [the 800 title] definitely made it seem like it was more possible and made me want it more. Having the same school win it two years in a row is awesome.”

Going all the way back to high school (where she never even participated in the 800 at the state meet), debilitating shin splints have limited the amount of running Schudrowitz can do. A recent focus on strength training, particularly to solidify her core, finally yielded results this year. Her ability to push through the pain of physical therapy and the tedious repetition of strength workouts paid off in a stronger mental approach to a race that’s all about pushing through pain barriers.

“My coach told me before I ran [in the national finals] that any race is winnable,” she says. “I was thinking, ‘I can win any race.’ I’m still only able to run three or four days a week, so a lot of this is mental for me after struggling with my shins for so long.”

Augustine, himself a 400 and 800 runner during his competitive career, believes his experience plays a role in the continued development of athletes in these events. He certainly was a believer in Colin McKeen ’05, who brought home the 800 indoor national crown in 2004.

“I would attribute (my success) strictly to coaching,” McKeen states. “Coach Augustine came here in my junior year and continued what Joe Dunham had started, and both of those coaches had been 800 runners. The work ethic they brought was different than what this team had before.

“Knowing we’re working that hard tells us we’re fit enough to compete. With that confidence, they began telling us, ‘You can compete with anyone in the country.’ You start to believe it, and when it starts to happen, it just takes off from there.” ↑
National showings cap winningest year

St. Norbert College athletics posted another banner year during 2009-10. The Green Knights totaled a school-record 202 wins, eclipsing the previous high by 18. Six teams won conference championships, with four of those advancing beyond the first round of the NCAA Division III Tournament. St. Norbert also kept its stranglehold on the Midwest Conference women’s all-sports trophy, retaining it for the fourth consecutive year.

The Green Knights claimed their third individual national championship in two years when Emily Schudrowitz ’12 won the 800-meter title at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championship in March.

Men’s ice hockey made its fourth appearance in the NCAA Division III championship game in seven years, dropping an epic 2-1 double-overtime game to Norwich. Goaltender B.J. O’Brien ’11 was named the tournament’s most outstanding player after making 70 saves in the championship game.

The Green Knights finished 24-4-3, won their 11th Northern Collegiate Hockey Association title in 14 years and won their eighth NCHA Peters Cup Playoffs crown.

Women’s softball enjoyed a breakthrough season, winning 28 of their last 31 games after a 5-5 start. The Green Knights’ 33-8 record marked the most wins ever for any St. Norbert team. St. Norbert swept through the Midwest Conference regular season and tournament without a loss, and then finished third in the eight-team NCAA Division III Great Lakes Regional. The Green Knights’ tournament run was highlighted by a 2-1 win over Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champion UW-La Crosse on a walk-off home run by Brieanne Oehlke ’10.

Men’s and women’s basketball had eerily symmetrical seasons – both finished 23-4, both won the Midwest Conference regular season with 14-2 records, both won the Midwest Conference Tournament at home, and both were eliminated in the second round of the NCAA Division III Tournament by UW-Stevens Point. The men picked up a 72-65 win over Hope College in a first-round win, their first since 1984. The women topped Calvin College 78-67 for their first-round win.

Women’s volleyball claimed their second-straight Midwest Conference title and finished with a 24-10 record. The women’s tennis team won their first MWC title since 1997 and earned their first berth into the NCAA Division III Tournament.

All-American in a class of her own

Jenny Scherer ’10 claimed her sixth career All-America honor in track and field with her fourth-place finish in the 10,000-meter run at the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships held this year at Baldwin-Wallace College.

Scherer finished fourth for the second consecutive year and placed sixth as a sophomore for her third All-America honor in the 10K. Scherer is only the third female in the last 10 years to be a three-time All-American in the 10,000-meter run. Between cross country and track and field, she is now an eight-time All-American.
A perfect time to come home

What better time to visit St. Norbert than summer and fall, with campus looking picture-perfect and a slate of family-friendly activities coming up? For more information on these and many other events, visit www.snc.edu/calendar.

Get social!
To see the range of current St. Norbert College Facebook pages, Twitter accounts, YouTube sites and more, go to www.snc.edu/go/socialmedia

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 13-Aug. 10</td>
<td>Knights on the Fox outdoor concert series, Tuesday evenings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 22-July 30</td>
<td>&quot;Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” presented by St. Norbert College Music Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 29</td>
<td>Convocation and Mass of the Holy Spirit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 18</td>
<td>SNC Day/Reunion Weekend 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 2</td>
<td>Fiesta of Hispanic and Latino Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>“Diversity, Community and the Margins of American Society,” a Norman and Louis Miller Lecture Series event with photojournalist Rick Nahmas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 11-15</td>
<td>Heritage Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>Ambassador of Peace Award lecture, presented by Sister Sally Ann Brickner, O.S.F., ’67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 22-23</td>
<td>Homecoming and Official Dedication of Donald J. Schneider Stadium</td>
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