

St. Norbert

College Magazine | Spring 2013

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Science for the
half-century to come

In Print

Vol. 45, No. 1



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"I keep a copy of the college's Civility Statement on my desk, and its words serve as a continuing challenge. ... As many have recognized, the notion of civility itself is not without its problems."
– **Bob Pyne** (Community Engagement)



Page 11

Meet our new CIO, **Raechelle Clemmons**. She defines her role as the syncing of high tech with higher ed.



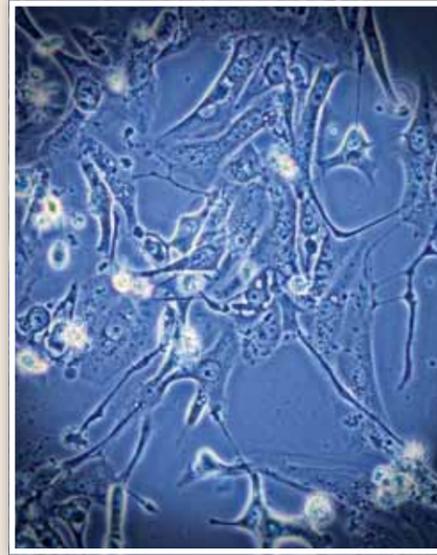
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One \$100 bill, one year, one thriving new business for **Nell Benton '01**, who bought a Milwaukee coffee shop for a single C-note and is building a community along with her brand-new customer base.

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Cover Story



Page 14 Science for the Next Half-Century

Charged with imagining the next 50 years at the expanding frontiers of knowledge, the team that is developing plans for our new science building is designing for the future of the field.

On our cover: The next big thing in science may well come from work already begun at St. Norbert. In just one of many research projects currently under way on campus, undergraduates working with **Russ Feirer** (Biology) are investigating plant-derived compounds that could limit cell proliferation in cancer patients. A fluorescence microscope was used to capture this image of breast cancer cells.



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Community as Text

What if your textbook were the world around you? What if you applied your developing critical skills to the community surrounding your new undergraduate home? Our Honors Program common course is built around some of the "texts" available to us by virtue of our Brown County location: The River; The Farm; The NFL Franchise; Downtown.

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Collector, O.Praem.

One man's lifelong attachment to the Norbertine order has inspired a unique and significant collection of Praemonstratensia.



Reflecting the mission of the college, St. Norbert College Magazine links the institution's past and present by chronicling its academic, cultural, spiritual and co-curricular life.

Online

A sampling of related content available at snc.edu/magazine.



In her own words: Karen Park (Religious Studies) (**page 6**) reflects on the mystery of the incarnation in "God Occupies a Baby Crib," a post on the influential God's Politics blog.



In retrospect: To honor the dedication of Dudley Birder Hall (**page 9**), an affectionate look back at the life and times of our own "Music Man."



In detail: A study reveals the economic impact of St. Norbert College on Brown County – an impact that generates some \$120 million for the region each year (**page 9**).



In his own words: A McNair Scholarship brought **Steven Garza '13** (**page 13**) into conversation with dozens of Washington, D.C., insiders, for an experience that may well foreshadow a career in policy-making.



In hindsight: Cheryl Vaughan '92 (**page 17**) considers her liberal arts experience to be the foundation for her success in the sciences.



In conversation: Michael Foley '84 (**page 19**), chemical biology platform director for the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, talks about his career in the sciences and his time at St. Norbert.



In her own words: Meet **Maya Zahn '08** (**page 28**), who took her St. Norbert experience with her to law school and on into her new career.

Keep an eye open throughout this edition for more links to content on the web. Follow us on your favorite social media channel, too. Just search for **St. Norbert College**.



Scientific breakthrough



During the first five years of a presidency committed to “The Pursuit of Excellence,” the college has seen approximately \$100 million in new construction.



The Gehl-Mulva Science Center will cost **\$39.2 million**, nearly all of which will come from private support – something almost unprecedented today for new science buildings.

Think for a moment how often your life is touched in a single day by science and technology.

When you get up in the morning (at least if you’re like me), you’ll take a pill or two to make sure the systems are working properly. You might pop your oatmeal into the microwave and then flip on the television to catch the weather forecast, even as you pull up the local “paper” on your iPad. You’ll drive your spiffy new hybrid to work, where you’ll sit down in front of your computer to see if you have any email that isn’t spam. A friend (whose financial credentials are dubious, quite frankly) tells you things are improving in Greece, so, with a click of your mouse, you shift some of your pension savings into a different account. Later that evening you Skype the grandkids out in California.

Tomorrow you’ll be boarding a 737 to go see them. But for now, as you head for bed, you remotely activate the house alarm and set the thermostat back to 68 degrees.

In a world so thoroughly driven by, and infused with, science and technology, it’s incumbent on higher education to make sure we are doing our part to ensure the next generation of proficiency in these disciplines. Beyond our creature comforts, America’s financial competitiveness and national security are riding on it.

I am pleased to say that St. Norbert College is about to make a huge contribution in this regard. By the time you read this, work will be under way on a dramatic expansion and renovation of our 1960s-vintage John R. Minahan Science Hall. It is a big, bold project, one that will take two full years from beginning to end.

Here’s what you can expect. The project’s signature will be a major expansion of JMS to the east, toward the Fox River. There will also be a minor addition to the western end. Over time, the interior of the existing building will be completely gutted and rebuilt as well, so that the finished product will yield an essentially new and fully state-

of-the-art science facility.

The building will also carry a new name: the Gehl-Mulva Science Center, in grateful recognition of the project’s lead donors, **Paul and Carol Gehl**, and **Miriam ’69** and **Jim Mulva**. Paul and Miriam are members of our board of trustees, and both families have been extremely generous to St. Norbert College through the years.

The new science hall will be finished in the spring of 2015. That will be just in time to welcome the first cohort of students to the Medical College of Wisconsin’s new regional campus, located here at St. Norbert. The medical college space actually will be part of the new science building, and their students also will share some of our classrooms and laboratories. This innovative partnership not only will benefit our respective institutions but all of northeast Wisconsin, as each year it will turn out dozens of locally born and educated doctors who likely will stay in this region to practice.

The Gehl-Mulva Science Center represents, by a considerable margin, the largest undertaking in our history. As a college that aspires to excellence in every respect, we owe our young science majors a facility that will meet their needs and talents. And even under construction the building will become a major drawing card for the school, especially considered in conjunction with the new medical college campus. These developments will help ensure our institutional viability for a long, long time.

The science center also represents yet one more way we honor our connection to the Norbertines who, down through the centuries, have made a specialization of science and technology. One prominent example is the school’s legendary biologist, the **Rev. Anselm Keefe, O.Praem ’16**.

I can just imagine how proud Father Keefe will be, looking down on us, the day we cut the ribbon dedicating this new building. High time, he’d likely say – and, as usual, he’d be right! ♣

ABOUT MCW



“We are very grateful for the high level of interest, innovation and thoughtfulness that went into the creation of the various options in the Green Bay region. Truly, we were presented with many outstanding options.” – **John Raymond, president and CEO**

The MCW:

- Is a major national research center that attracts more than \$166 million in external funding for research, teaching and training.
- Celebrates its 120th anniversary in 2013.
- Counts at least 29 alumni of St. Norbert among its graduates and current students.

Building the future of discovery

Advent of science center heralds medical program, too

A new \$39 million facility and a medical college program on campus are set to bring unparalleled opportunities in science at St. Norbert. News, mid-February, of naming gifts that will help fund the college’s planned science facility have made it possible to begin construction this spring. Preparations to make the new center a reality were a significant factor in the recent Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) choice of St. Norbert as the site of its new Green Bay-area program.

The Gehl-Mulva Science Center will replace John R. Minahan Science Hall, which is almost 50 years old. With a completion date of spring 2015, the center’s new amenities will allow St. Norbert faculty and undergraduates to work on the leading edge of science and mathematics.

“We want to thank Paul and Carol Gehl and Jim and Miriam Mulva for their incredible generosity,” says **Tom Kunkel**, president of St. Norbert College. “The Gehl-Mulva Science Center will truly transform St. Norbert College, and it’s because of their support that it’s happening now.”

The Gehl-Mulva Science Center will be home to the Medical College of Wisconsin’s new Green Bay-area campus. MCW plans a community medical education program with classrooms, offices and some learning laboratories in the new building, expecting that its first students will begin their studies in July 2015.

MCW’s expansion into Green Bay, and into a second new program location in Wausau, Wis., is in response to projections of a significant physician shortage in the state over the next 20 years. The new St. Norbert-based program will be embedded throughout the Green Bay community. MCW is seeking to utilize the clinical simulation center at Bellin College in Green Bay. Future plans include the development of inter-professional training programs for MCW’s medical students and Bellin College’s student health professionals.

MCW plans to work with its academic partners in the Green Bay region – St. Norbert, the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and Bellin College – and area medical facilities to identify science faculty members for the medical education program. The medical college will work with faculty at St. Norbert and other local academic institutions to create medical-school pipeline programs for qualified undergraduate students interested in pursuing a career in medicine.



The atrium of the Gehl-Mulva Science Center will provide a direct view of Old St. Joe’s: a physical acknowledgement of the ongoing dialogue between faith and reason.

Paul and Carol Gehl have been long-time supporters of St. Norbert College. Paul, former president and co-founder of Lunda Construction, has served as a trustee of the college since 1991. Over the years, the Gehls have helped support many Hilbert-area students who sought a St. Norbert College degree.

Miriam ’69 and James Mulva provided the lead gift toward construction of the St. Norbert College library, which opened in 2009 and bears their names. Miriam is a member of the college’s board of trustees. Like Miriam, James Mulva is also a De Pere native. His mother, **Phyllis Mulva Martine**, worked at St. Norbert College as a member of its library staff. Jim recently retired as chairman and CEO of ConocoPhillips, headquartered in Houston, Texas.

 For more on the future of science education, turn to page 14.

Noted / Fresh Perspectives



Sainthood up close

Among witnesses to the canonization of two new American saints were three St. Norbert students, happily present by virtue of their fall semester study-abroad experience in Italy.

Rome was full of pilgrims on Oct. 21 to honor seven new saints. They included St. Catherine “Kateri” Tekakwitha and St. Marianne Cope. Joining the crowd that packed the Vatican City were **Rachel Nagengast '14** (left), **Zac Haney '13** and **Alyssa Thermos '14**.

Haney was able to reserve tickets for St. Peter’s Basilica for Thermos and Nagengast. Thermos says: “People go crazy to see the pope. He was riding in what everyone called the ‘Popemobile.’ It was a joyous day, and it felt empowering.” Though the Mass was held in Latin – the universal language of the Catholic church – the program was in several languages, including the native languages of each of the new saints.

According to the students, there was great excitement in the crowd of pilgrims from all over the world. When people heard the name of a saint from their country called, they would wave their national flag and cheer. Americans wearing traditional Native American clothing arrived to witness the canonization of Tekakwitha, the 17th-century virgin and first Native American saint of the United States.

Altered landscape

A \$190,386 grant from the National Science Foundation is allowing **Scott Kirst** (Education) and **Tim Flood** (Geology) to develop a transformative program that integrates a physical geology class with a science methods class for pre-service teachers. The two courses will become one year-long course with students taking part in a four-day intensive field experience. This initiative directly addresses the current shortage of qualified mathematics and science educators in the school system. The project will conclude with a two-day national workshop for 30 participants at which Flood and Kirst will discuss and disseminate their findings.

Kick start

It’s a career stage just like any other. Fifteen NFL rookies benefited from the expertise of **Mandy Nycz** (Career Services) when she gave a presentation on “Success in the Workplace” at Lambeau Field earlier this year. Nycz joined Nicole Ledvina, director of human resources

for the Green Bay Packers, to talk to the players about résumés, cover letters, interview prep and the characteristics of a successful employee.

Beginning early

Recent St. Norbert graduates appear as senior authors, with **Jim Hodgson** (Biology, Emeritus), in new publications. Hodgson collaborated with **Allison Rick '08** and others on “Foraging specialization by the opportunistic largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*)”; with **Andy Farrell '09** on “Zooplankton diel migrations in lakes of contrasting food webs”; and with **Chase Brosseau '11** and others on “Does *Daphnia* migration use metalimnetic matter in a north temperate lake: An analysis of vertical migration.”

Leading edge

A contribution by **Clay Comerford '12** has been selected for inclusion in the third edition of “Exploring Leadership: For College Students Who Want to Make a Difference.” Comerford’s piece, on motivation and empowerment, was one of 38 student-authored

reflections chosen for inclusion.

New partnership

A grant from the office of faculty development is supporting a collaboration between **Bonnie McVey '82** (Computer Science) and **Quang Bui '14**. The research team is developing software to design a library of functions that allow for basic behaviors and movements in a humanoid robot.

Mastering community

A paper by **Mike Counter** (Communications), a student in the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program, has been accepted for publication in *Upper Country: a Journal of the Lake Superior Region*. Counter researched the Pine Mountain ski-jumping tournament for a course component that focused on the levels of meaning present in community celebration.

Fresh appetite

Work by **Jamie Lynch** (Sociology) on “College and Weight Gain: Is There a Freshman Five?” was named Best Research Poster at the Population

Association of America’s 2012 meeting. Lynch was the first representative of the college to attend the annual conference.

Humble encounters

A post by **Karen Park** (Religious Studies) appeared among Advent reflections in Jim Wallis’s *God’s Politics* blog this winter. Park’s piece, “God Occupies a Baby Crib,” focused on “the beautiful but also shocking idea, central to Christianity, that the infinite God who created the universe also chose to descend, dwindle, become small, become helpless, become dependent on human beings.” Park, whose scholarly interests include Catholic devotionism, is the author of “The Negotiation of Authority at a Frontier Marian Apparition Site: Adele Brise and Our Lady of Good Help,” recently published in the *Journal of American Catholic Studies*.

 Karen Park on “God Occupies a Baby Crib.” snc.edu/magazine

Treasure / The Navajo Vase



Shan Bryan-Hanson, curator

I love the Southwest and I’m very attracted to the timelessness of the landscape. Even contemporary Navajo imagery is deeply connected to the past. When I look at this vase, I feel that myself. You can see the landscape in it. I think it’s beautiful.

This late 20th-century ceramic pot is the creation of the Navajo potter Lorraine Williams. It is part of a small collection given to the college by the late **Rev. Richard Ver Bust**, who taught religious studies at St. Norbert 1970-98. It’s a little collection, but really quite exquisite.

The gradation of value in the sienna and umber colors on the pot add to its beauty and reflect the influence of land and tradition on the artist. Carefully incised lines and geometric shapes create surface interest on the piece. Ms. Williams’ process typically includes wood-firing each piece in an outside pit and sealing the pot with a hot

pine, piñon pitch.

The square shape of the head on the figures of this pot indicates that these are depictions of female Yeii. These are the Navajo spirit people. The imagery on Ms. Williams’ pottery is rooted in the tradition of Navajo sand painting; Sand paintings are created as part of a healing ceremony and intentionally impermanent. When Navajo artists began using similar imagery on permanent objects, such as weavings and pottery, intentional flaws or incomplete areas became important elements of the design. The Yeii are purposefully left unfinished so that the spirit can depart the object.

When I’m standing in the desert, in the Southwest landscape, there are times when I feel I could be anywhere in time. You can see the working of time on the landscape, in the geological strata of the Grand Canyon, in the cacti that are old and weather-beaten

but continue to stand. Perhaps, too, it’s the relics of the past that draw me – things like the Anasazi ruins, hieroglyphics discovered on a rock . . .

The inherent beauty of this vase, coupled with my own interest in Navajo culture and love of the Southwestern landscape, draw me to this object in our collection. It is often in this place – where artist’s story meets viewer’s story – that art resonates most powerfully.

For this first in our series in which we ask members of the St. Norbert community to talk about the objects they treasure and the meaning they carry, it seemed fitting to invite Shan Bryan-Hanson to be our contributor. Curator of art galleries, Bryan-Hanson is also charged with the care and displaying of the works of art in the college collection. The mystery and elegance of nature is the primary source of inspiration for her own painting.

A lesson in civility

I keep a copy of the college's Civility Statement on my desk, and its words serve as a continuing summons. I am generally very civil, but I am not always radically hospitable. I oppose intolerance, but usually from a safe distance. Quite frankly, I would rather not be attacked by bullies myself.

But this year, I have been challenged to go further. The adoption of our statement coincided with another new initiative on campus, a focus for our programming around a single significant idea. With the contentious atmosphere of a presidential election looming, we chose civility as our theme for 2012-13.

I have enjoyed a front-row seat for many of the programs connected to this concept, and I have had ample opportunity to reflect on our understanding and practice of this virtue.

As many have recognized, the notion of civility itself is not without its problems. For instance, it arguably offers too small a vision. Like tolerance, it may suggest little more than begrudging acceptance – a polite distance in place of genuine understanding or appreciation. More insidiously, privileged groups and individuals may call for civility as a way to quiet justifiable protest. Marginalized persons, raising their voices against systemic indifference, are reminded to “play nice,” to follow established codes of conduct and discourse that often favor those already in power.

When the plea for civility is used to silence voices, stifle understanding and inhibit necessary change, it is in reality “uncivil.” And when others of us see that happening, but choose to remain silent, our polite embrace of civility simply veils our cowardice.

A central Norbertine value is *communio*, and anybody who spends much time on campus will recognize the word. *Communio* calls us to mutual esteem, trust, sincerity, faith and responsibility. We take that charge seriously here, wanting it to shape the way we relate

to one another as we articulate the concept afresh. It was in this spirit that the college adopted its new Civility Statement. Initially sponsored by the Student Government Association, it reads as a community pledge:

Choosing to be part of the St. Norbert College community, I promise to:

- Respect the sacred dignity of all persons, including myself.
- Live with integrity, acting consistently with my values and beliefs.
- Communicate truthfully, with openness to diverse perspectives and experiences.
- Practice radical hospitality, demonstrating concern for others and actively opposing intolerance.
- Serve the world, understanding the needs around me and sharing myself in response.

In making this choice, I gladly honor the spirit of *communio* in word and action, pursuing my individual development and the common good while living as a responsible citizen of St. Norbert College and the world.

This clearly calls us to something greater than mere public courtesy. It offers an expansive vision, welcoming the voices of fellow humans in such a way that they do not have to fight for a hearing. It calls us to actively oppose intolerance, not tacitly approve it through fear or indifference.

My own copy of this challenging statement confronts me daily. It calls me to speak in primary colors and to act, if not fearlessly, then in spite of fear, especially on behalf of those on society's margins. Such would be a move from civility back to *communio*, and indeed toward the common focus that we will be exploring next. For the coming academic year, our theme will be inspired by the abbatial motto of our founder: “Let us love one another.”

As senior director of community engagement at St. Norbert, Robert Pyne directs the work of the Norman Miller Center for Peace, Justice & Public Understanding. A theologian, he also has a professional background in peacebuilding, conflict resolution and pastoral education.



1883
On the Feast of St. Boniface, ground is broken for the De Pere church building that is to bear the saint's name across the years.

1884
The Rev. Adolph Smitz presides at the first Mass. Among the earliest parishioners is the young **Francis Van Dyke**; in 1898, he will become the first student of St. Norbert College.

1897
The church acquires its distinctive steeple, built by Arnold Van Gemert. The clock is added 12 years later.

1970
The Rev. **Conrad Kratz, O.Praem., '70**, baptizes Ana Lissa Bakken, granddaughter of **Dudley Birder** (Music, Emeritus). Birder is a familiar figure at the church, where he sometimes plays the organ for weddings and funerals.

1981-85
The Rev. **Stanislaus Joppe, O.Praem., '52**, pastor, commissions his former student **Donald Taylor** (Art) to create the ceramic panel above the church entrance. The panel honors the life, ministry and martyrdom of St. Boniface.

1999
St. Norbert purchases the deconsecrated church and transforms it into the college bookstore.

2010
The future of the Boniface building comes under discussion as the bookstore moves into the new Todd Wehr Hall on campus.

2013
On Feb. 14, a new performance space within the church building is named in honor of Dudley Birder, in recognition of his dedication to his art and his service to the community.

snc.edu/magazine

The dedication of the new Dudley Birder Hall included this affectionate look back at the life and works of our own “Music Man.”

Economic impact tops \$120 million

A study of the economic impact of St. Norbert College estimates that the school contributes \$121.5 million per year to Brown County's economy, as well as generating 1,238 local jobs.

Sandy Odorzynski (Economics) analyzed internal financial records and



Sandy Odorzynski

gathered additional data through surveys conducted in cooperation with **David Wegge**, director of the St. Norbert College Strategic Research Institute. Odorzynski says: “The collective activities of our employees

spending their money in local communities, our students spending their dollars in local communities, add up to a significant amount of money. Our total economic impact is \$121.5 million, which emanates from an operating budget of about \$60 million. So these ripple effects are very strong.”

The survey also established that college employees and students performed 92,972 hours of volunteer service in Brown County during the 2011-12 academic year.

An at-a-glance abstract of “The Economic Impact of St. Norbert College on Brown County, Wisconsin” shows just how much the college contributes to the prosperity of the region. snc.edu/magazine

Honors, granted

Sarah Ryan (Institutional Effectiveness) knows a thing or two about grant-writing. During the 2012 financial year, she assisted 26 St. Norbert faculty and staff members in applying for nearly \$4.6 million in grant funds. Now four honors students have benefited from her expertise as they prepare for graduate school and the challenge of seeking grants and fellowships.

Ryan led the college's first-ever honors tutorial on grant-seeking last fall – a course called Grants and Fellowships: Funding Opportunities for Graduate School and Beyond. In three weekly 75-minute meetings, students got a taste of grantor motivations and application requirements. They even served as a mock grant-review panel to experience the process from the funder's perspective. Their final assignment: to write a mock grant to a local funder for a project of their choice.

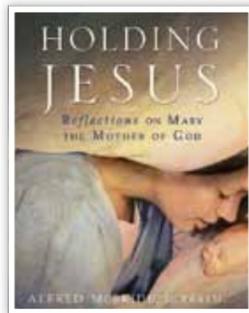
Ryan assumed her current role in 2010. Her passion for development came to light when, soon after completing law school, she managed the 2008 campaign of **Sam Dunlop '05** for Wisconsin's 4th Assembly District.

 Liked on Facebook



Kaitlyn Bunker '14
Posted Feb. 19, 2013

Tonight I had the privilege to hear Mr. Herman Boone, coach of the legendary Titans, speak at St. Norbert College. He was inspirational, humorous, and more humble than I can express. His speech reminded me of one of the reasons why I chose SNC – it strives towards embracing diversity – as well as why I study history and place such an emphasis on respecting the similarities and differences of others I encounter. This is a night that I shall not soon forget!



New book brings total to 50

With the publication of "Holding Jesus: Reflections on Mary the Mother of God," the **Rev. Al McBride, O.Praem., '50**, celebrates his 50th book. This series of brief meditations honors the Virgin's role from the Annunciation through the Passion of Christ – as recipient of the Savior in her womb, upon his birth, and after he was lowered from the Cross. "Holding Jesus," published by Franciscan Media, includes meditations for each day in Advent; for Christmas; on the public life of Mary and Jesus; and on the Passion, Easter and Pentecost.

New pastor

In September 2012, the **Rev. John Tourangeau, O.Praem. '81**, was appointed pastor of St. Norbert College Parish by Bishop David Ricken of the Diocese of Green Bay. Tourangeau comes to the post with more than 20 years' experience in pastoral ministry, many of them spent ministering to the Spanish-speaking New Mexican and immigrant Mexican communities in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe.

Tourangeau, who is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as a clinical social worker and is working on a Ph.D. in organizational development, currently serves as vocation director for both the college and St. Norbert Abbey; as trustee of the college; and as board member for Notre Dame de la Baie Academy in Green Bay. Away from the parish, Tourangeau has a pastime

in common with many of his student parishioners: he enjoys snowboarding.

New abbot

The **Rt. Rev. Joel Garner, O.Praem., '62** has been blessed as first abbot of the Priory of Santa María de la Vid in Albuquerque, N.M., following the foundation's elevation to abbey status in 2012. Garner, who helped create St. Norbert College's Master of Theological Studies program and currently serves as a college trustee, had led the Santa María de la Vid community as prior since 1985.

The abbey – formerly a priory of St. Norbert Abbey – is the Norbertine order's fourth in the United States.

New prior

The **Very Rev. James Baraniak, O.Praem., '88** is to serve as prior of St. Norbert Abbey. Baraniak entered the Norbertine

order in 1986 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1993. He served the Norbertine community as vocations director from 1995-2007 and, in 2004, he was appointed as the pastor of St. Norbert College Parish. Since 1997, the prior-designate has served the Green Bay Packers as chaplain and since 1999 has been a sacramental minister at the Green Bay Correctional Institution. Baraniak succeeds the **Rev. James Herring, O.Praem.,** who served as prior since 2005.

The role of prior is that of a religious superior and vicar of the abbot. In the absence of the abbot, he functions with full authority. The prior's position is primarily pastoral in nature, reaching out to those who serve and live within the Norbertine context and ministering to them on a one-to-one basis. He

also represents the abbot and community at religious and civic events, meetings, and celebrations.

New director

The **Rev. Andrew Ciferni, O.Praem., '64** has agreed to assume leadership of the Center for Norbertine Studies (CNS) following the departure this summer of the center's founding director, **Bill Hyland.** Hyland will be teaching in the divinity school of St. Andrew's University, Scotland, where his wife, **Sabine,** has already joined the faculty. Ciferni, a member of the Norbertine abbey in Daylesford, Pa., also teaches in St. Norbert's Master of Theological Studies program and has served on the college's board of trustees. Instrumental in the creation of the CNS, he has served on its advisory council during Hyland's tenure.

QUOTABLE

"Many of us in the 40-plus club think of technology as an overlay, but student interaction with technology is very different. It's a completely integrated component. It's just there. This is the way that their world works – and it's becoming that way for many of us, too. Technology doesn't force you to do anything differently, but it provides for there to be different possibilities. We no longer have to think of the classroom as physical space, where we walk in and things happen. We can bring people from all over the world into this space, and can engage with the activities that happen there at any time." – **Raechelle Clemmons**



New CIO syncs high tech and higher ed

Vision powered by tech savvy and a passion for higher education have brought **Raechelle Clemmons** to her new position as St. Norbert's first chief information officer.

Clemmons, charged with bolstering the college's IT organization, says, "I felt like there were challenges here, but they were the right kinds of challenges for me."

Her path to Wisconsin winds through the San Francisco Bay area, where she was working in retail management and marketing during the heady days of high-flying tech start-ups. She says, "I really enjoyed marketing and thought, 'If I'm going to go anywhere in Silicon Valley, I've got to get into high tech.'" In 1998 she joined Digital Impact – a company that rocketed from 15 employees when she signed on as marketing communication manager to 200 a year later. Next, she moved to e-marketing start-up NetLine. She found the work exciting but somehow unsatisfying.

"I left high tech in 2004 in part because I really loved what I was doing but just didn't like where I was doing it anymore," she says. While taking classes at California State University, East Bay toward a degree in political science, Clemmons applied for a technology projects manager position on campus. She got the job and found her niche. "It was just like I had landed. I already loved what I was doing, and I found an environment that I loved doing it in," Clemmons says.

She took on growing IT responsibility and, in due course, was selected as a fellow at Emory University's Frye Leadership Institute, an intensive program for librarians and information technologists. (Library director **Kristin Vogel** is also a Frye alum.) Five months after completing the program, Clemmons became CIO at Menlo College, spending two years there before coming to St. Norbert.

"I felt like this was such an amazing institution," she says. "The whole concept of community here – you see it on the website and in the language, but you step foot on this campus and you can't help but feel it."

As part of that community, she's taking steps to improve IT infrastructure and strategy, aligning her team for targeted academic technology support, a more global view of (and support for) administrative systems, and a high-quality and responsive user-support function. Early plans include transitioning the college's learning management system to the cloud and strategic decision-making in collaboration with a college-wide IT advisory committee.

Her approach stems from her belief that communication and relationship-building foster successful technology organizations. "We're built like product companies," she says. "We need to restructure ourselves as service organizations, because it's really about the use of what we provide, not the actual thing we're providing."



QUOTABLE

“We are very enthusiastic about having the College of St. Scholastica and St. Norbert College as colleagues. The strong academic and hockey tradition they bring will be an outstanding fit for our new members and the MCHA membership.”
 – **Steven Larson, MCHA commissioner**

For the record

The Green Knight men will enter the MCHA having won the NCAA Division III national championship in 2008, 2011 and 2012, when they compiled a record of 21-5-5.

Roster reputation

Knights skate into a new conference



As hockey’s 2012 NCAA Division III national champions, the Green Knight men have been a force to reckon with in the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA). Beginning next season, the team will face new opponents with its transition to the Midwest Collegiate Hockey Association (MCHA).

The MCHA announced in June that St. Norbert had accepted its invitation to become a member. The College of St. Scholastica joins St. Norbert in departing the NCHA for the MCHA, where the institutions will face the likes of Lawrence University, Concordia University and Lake Forest College.

“St. Norbert College is excited to be joining a hockey conference with a membership of liberal arts institutions with similar profiles,” says **Tim Bald** (Athletics). “During its history, the MCHA has been very progressive in its leadership and, as a result, has seen the profile of the conference rise exponentially.”

The MCHA, which enters its 15th season this winter, has steadily grown from six teams in 1998 to 10 with the arrival of the Green Knights and the Saints for 2013-14. “We are all very excited and enthusiastic about the addition of these institutions and full-well realize that the conference title just became more difficult to obtain. Their membership enhances the visibility and viability of our league,” says Rob Barnhill, chair of the MCHA’s standing committee of athletics directors. The addition of the Green Knights to the MCHA roster further strengthens the league’s growing national reputation. Two of its teams – Milwaukee School of Engineering and Adrian College – finished the 2011-12 season in the national Division III rankings, at No. 8 and No. 11 respectively.

Bald says. “We are excited to become a part of that and look forward to the future as an MCHA member.”

A winning state of mind

When women’s basketball topped nationally ranked Carthage to claim a tournament title early this season, the team helped add a new and remarkable notch to the belt of **Coach Connie Tilley**.

The Green Knights’ 49-46 victory in the championship game saw St. Norbert unbeaten all-time in the Baylake Bank Tip-Off Classic. What’s more, Carthage was one of only two NCAA Division III schools in Wisconsin that Tilley had not beaten during her 36-year tenure as coach. (The Green Knights have never defeated or faced Alverno College.)

Tilley has coached Green Knight basketball to 14 conference titles, nine NCAA tournament appearances and one Final Four. Four of her basketball teams have advanced to the Division III Sweet 16, most recently in 2003.

Shooting star

NCAA superstar scorer Jack Taylor and his Grinnell team faced the Green Knights in Schuldes just weeks after Taylor’s

NCAA record-breaking 138-point game.

The Green Knights held their own against Grinnell. It was rare to have more than a three-point lead, although Grinnell took the win with the final score at 105-94.

St. Norbert shot 34-for-65 (52.3 percent) from the floor but was 25-for-36 (69.4 percent) at the free-throw line.

Andrew Schwoerer '15 led St. Norbert with 29 points, while **Brandon Gries '14** added 20 points and **Paul Appleton '13** had 12. The Green Knights held a commanding 47-25 rebounding edge.

Double triumph

Just three years into the women’s hockey program, the Green Knights (18-9-2) clinched the NCHA O’Brien Cup Championship to earn entry into their first NCAA Division III Tournament. A matter of hours later, men’s hockey (23-5-1) closed out the Peters Cup Championship, earning top seeding in the NCAA tournament for the 11th time in 12 years.

Revolutionary ideal



Senior learns Cuban history on the spot

Steven Garza '13 hasn’t let the boundaries of one campus, nor its curriculum, limit his educational adventures. The international studies and political science major has embraced a variety of learning opportunities during his time at St. Norbert, including a J-term course this year to study Cuban history – in Cuba.

Garza learned of the course offering through **Marti Lamar** (History). Lamar’s letter of recommendation helped Garza secure a spot in the two-week January class sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. “Dr. Lamar was the reason I did this trip,” states Garza, whose region of study is Latin America. “She’s very inspirational. She motivates her students and makes her classes very interesting. Every professor I’ve ever had here has been 100 percent supportive of me.”

Garza, who has a Mexican-American heritage, developed a particular interest in Cuban-American relations through his Latin American focus within International Studies. “I think Cuba is one of the most interesting international relations that we have today,” he says. “We maintain a Cold War policy toward Cuba, yet the Cold War has been over for 20 years.

The names Fidel Castro and Cuba stir a lot of emotions. Where is our relationship going with Cuba, and why has there not been a policy change yet? Those are questions that are interesting to ask.”

Garza previously lived with a Cuban immigrant family in Ecuador during a study-abroad program in the spring of 2012 – a chance to fulfill his goal of learning a third language, Portuguese. A second semester-away program took Garza to Washington, D.C. – good groundwork for a student who hopes to work for the State Department at some point in his career.

Education is very important to the Garza family, an emphasis led by Steven’s father, who attended college in Texas on the GI Bill after serving in Vietnam. “From day one, I set out to throw my hat into every application and every opportunity,” Steven says. “At St. Norbert, you get a lot of support for every adventure you want to undertake. If what you’re looking for isn’t on campus, they will help you find it somewhere else, and this is a prime example.”

A McNair scholar, Garza tapped the expertise of top-level diplomats for his research on the dissemination of Russian weaponry. snc.edu/magazine

Len Liebmann '36 1914-2013



With the death of **Len Liebmann** on Feb. 10, 2013, we bid farewell to the last surviving member of the Class of 1936. Liebmann, who would have celebrated his 99th birthday on March 7, was proud to be St. Norbert College’s oldest living alumnus by class year.

Liebmann was an alum not only of the college but also of St. Norbert High School, from which he graduated in 1932. He worked many years for his family meat-packing business. A dedicated and passionate fan of Green Knight athletics,

he became the college’s first sports information director while still a student. Up until a few years ago, he rode on the team bus to all away football games. And, at 98, he was still a regular at home football and hockey contests.

Liebmann is survived by two daughters, **Ruth Ann Liebmann Haas '64** (married to **Norm Haas '62**) and **Barbara Liebmann Kelly '69** (married to **Richard Kelly '64**). He was preceded in death by his son, **Michael Liebmann '82**, whose wife, **Colleen '71**, also attended St. Norbert.

Terry Pliner 1938-2013

Longtime St. Norbert track and field coach **Terry Pliner**, of Green Bay, died Jan. 7, 2013, at age 74. Pliner was head coach of the men’s team from 1980 to 1989 and the women’s team from 1985 to 1991. He led the Green Knights to Midwest Conference championships in both indoor and outdoor track and field every year from 1986 to 1991 – the college’s only conference championships in the sport.

In August 2012, Pliner and three others

set an American record in the shuttle hurdle relay for the 70- to 79-year-old age group at the U.S. National Masters Track and Field Championships. At the time of his death, he was still coaching at Notre Dame de la Baie Academy in Green Bay.

Pliner is survived by his wife, Virginia, and three children – **Todd '84**, **Shelley Schumacher '86** and **Lynne Van Hollen '89**, all three of whom competed for him at St. Norbert.

SCIENCE

for the half-century to come

By Lisa Strandberg



In chemical reactions, it takes a certain amount of energy to get things started. For a pair of compatible molecules to bond, they must collide in the right orientation and with sufficient speed to surmount the energetic hill – activation energy, in chemistry parlance – that stands in the way of their conversion into something new.

Put simply, transformation takes effort. St. Norbert science faculty and administrators can testify to that. As ground is broken this spring for the construction of the Gehl-Mulva Science Center, they see unleashed the 15 years of energy they've invested in envisioning the transformation of John R. Minahan Science Hall into a state-of-the-art research and learning facility – a facility for the next five decades.

They've brought the necessary elements together, gathered speed and are now near the peak of their own energetic hill, ready for the exciting ride down the other side. This is the story of how they got there, and the discoveries they made along the way.

In the late 1990s, **Larry Scheich** (Chemistry), **Tim Flood** (Geology) and their colleagues in the sciences began dreaming of a new science building. Really, though, what they were dreaming of was a new way of teaching.

Scheich, now associate dean of natural sciences, says: "When [JMS] was built in the '60s, the mode of instruction was, students sat in big lectures and they listened to people basically talk to them about science. Then sometime later in the week they go to a laboratory, which appears to be completely separate from the lecture, and do some activities. And the laboratory's all individual. Everyone works on their own.

"That's not the style of education

anymore. The building was designed for an educational model that is no longer the most functional model."

The faculty knew that optimizing science education at St. Norbert called for change. Knowing what that change would look like required exploration, which officially began in January 2000 when Scheich and Flood attended a Project Kaleidoscope (PKAL) conference.

PKAL, an arm of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, advocates for strong undergraduate programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The organization networks faculty members, administrators and other experts in STEM education to advance

New partnership extends medical education into the regional community

The opportunity for shared space in the Gehl-Mulva Science Center is among the factors that will make possible a medical college presence on campus starting in 2015 (see page 5). As the nexus of a Medical College of Wisconsin program that will bring post-graduate medical education to northeast Wisconsin, St. Norbert joins an initiative that will address a projected shortage of community physicians in the state.

The new program, the result of a partnership between the two schools and other local institutions, will capitalize on resources offered at multiple Green-Bay area locations. What's more, it will bring rich opportunity for:

- Young people interested in pursuing the sciences at St. Norbert – especially those considering pre-health programs.
- Students already enrolled at St. Norbert, who will see a wider range of collaborative opportunities during their undergraduate years – as well as the possibility of completing their medical education on the campus of their alma mater.

- Local health professional education programs that will partner in the provision of clinical experiences, physician residency training programs, inter-professional training and clinical simulation centers.
- Local health-care systems whose physicians will be engaged in the program.
- Faculty in the sciences at local academic institutions – including St. Norbert – whose own research agendas may offer the chance for collaborative research with their medical college faculty and physicians. The region's prospective medical students, who will be able to complete their education locally for a significant savings in time and cost.
- The people of northeast Wisconsin, who will ultimately benefit from an ongoing and robust system of accessible medical care.



The Medical College of Wisconsin will have its own entrance and offices in the Gehl-Mulva Science Center, and will share laboratory and classroom space in the building.

best practices at institutions of higher learning. In particular, PKAL connects institutions looking to build science facilities with those that have recently done so. Through their agency St. Norbert was able to tap into the experiences of institutions like St. Olaf, Albion, Lawrence, Beloit and Agnes Scott for valuable insights on various aspects of the project.

It was through PKAL that the college connected with architect Richard Heinz, a principal at San Diego-based lab design consultancy RFD and a PKAL consultant. Eventually Heinz and others from PKAL made their way to campus to partner with the college in reviewing its current science facilities.

That process began in 2004, says Scheich, with its focus squarely on the student. "Really, the starting point isn't facility needs but programmatic needs. The first discussion over the first three or four years is figuring out, how do we want to interact with our students? How do we want to teach our students? Then the design of the building comes after that. You build the facility around those needs instead of simply saying, 'We want a building that's new and bigger.'"

As a scientist himself, academic dean Jeff Frick knows that research is best pursued not as an individual, but as a team. "No one person can do absolutely everything to get to the point of a scientific publication," he says.

Likewise, getting to the point of a

transformed science facility requires the insight of many. The collective and iterative input of science faculty and administrators over the course of nine years reflected some broad trends in science education.

Seamless, hands-on learning

Ask Erik Brekke (Physics) if he's taught in a lecture pit lately, and he'll likely tell you no. He prefers a space that accommodates student activity, interaction and teamwork. "We've seen a lot of evidence that the students learn best when they're able to do the process themselves, rather than watching someone else do the process," Brekke says.

The teaching laboratories planned for the new Gehl-Mulva Science Center respond to that need. With flat rather than tiered floors, moveable furniture that maximizes flexibility, whiteboards on almost every wall and built-in audiovisual capabilities, Heinz says, "the laboratories often can serve in a classroom mode as well, or at least integrate lab and lecture components into the same room."

That excites Rebecca McKean '04 (Geology), who says that growing global interest in natural resources and climate change has swelled the ranks of students in her academic program. "Our labs will be set up in a way to promote learning. We will have more space to lay out maps; room for a stream table, which would be used to illustrate stream movement and flooding; space to move around the room for demonstrations; and a designated place



Meet Cheryl Vaughan '92, who majored in biology at St. Norbert and now lectures at Harvard. Vaughan considers her liberal arts experience at St. Norbert College to be the foundation for her success in the field of molecular and cellular biology.

Housing the science education of the future

Come the 2015-16 academic year, the \$39.2 million science building will welcome its first students. These specifications give an idea of what's in store for them:

Study spaces
Small-group workrooms and informal gathering spaces will facilitate student collaboration.

Science gallery
An outreach-oriented space will educate elementary and middle-school groups with artifacts and hands-on activities.

Green elements
Small wind turbines, a solar voltaic panel and a green roof will conserve energy and let students explore sustainability.

A new discipline in residence
The mathematics department will relocate from Cofrin Hall to the Gehl-Mulva Science Center.

State-of-the-art greenhouse
The west addition's top floor will house botanicals used in scientific study.

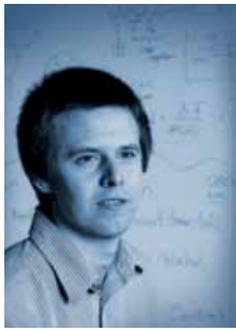
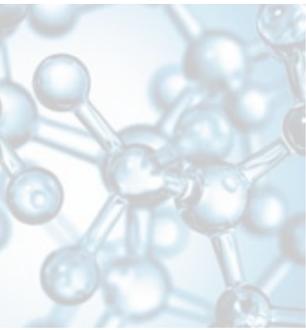
Norbertine touches
Displays will honor the scientific contributions of biologist the Rev. Anselm Keefe, O.Praem., '16, and the work of other Norbertine scientists.



150,000 total square feet

46.9 percent increase in overall square footage

36 laboratories, divided equally between research and teaching labs



“You don’t particularly care if you call it physics or biology, as long as it helps someone get better.”

— Eric Brekke (Physics)

for our research students to work on their projects.”

Collaborative research

Frick has seen firsthand how engaging students as scholars can spark their interest in the sciences. “I like to talk about undergraduate research as giving students an opportunity to blossom,” he says.

Scheich agrees. “There are some students who just don’t get as motivated to reach their full potential until they get actively involved and feel like they have a stake in something. For some students, it sort of turns a switch for them to be able to go into a laboratory and feel like they’re working independently, working on something that they see there’s an outcome to.”

By making more space for students in research labs, the new 150,000-square-foot center will help undergraduates envision a future for themselves in the sciences – even give them the chance to be science ambassadors. McKean will collaborate with students in a lab designed to accommodate the large marine reptile fossils on which her research centers. “The room will be on the ground floor of the building and will have a glass viewing window for students and visitors to look in and see the fossils, and perhaps see myself or my students working,” she says.

Interdisciplinary study

In the past, science education meant learning facts, and maintaining clear boundaries between subjects of study. Now that the focus is on learning how to uncover facts, disciplinary boundaries have become more porous for students

and professors alike.

“The lines of distinction between the scientific disciplines – chemistry, biology, physics, math to some extent – are really beginning to blur,” Frick says. “What you’ll find is, people work at the interface of at least two and maybe more than two areas.”

For example, as Brekke teaches undergraduates who aspire to careers in medicine, he discusses physics applications in laparoscopic surgery and radiation treatments. “You don’t particularly care if you call it physics or biology, as long as it helps someone get better,” he says.

The transformation of JMS addresses the fluidity between disciplines by shaking up the traditional model of the departmental floor, easing collaboration among scholars from biochemists to psychologists. “It’s designed more in terms of where are the logical connections between these pieces, all of which are science,” Scheich says.

Of course, physical changes to the existing building, however radical, can only carry St. Norbert students into the next 50 years of science education if they’re paired with pedagogical changes that put them to effective use. “That’s something the building can’t do on its own,” Scheich says. “That’s something the faculty must take on as well.”

For their part, they seem anxious to do it. “I’m very excited for the teaching spaces,” Brekke says. “It’s going to flow really well and make the whole learning process seem more seamless for the student.” ♣



In a scientific society transformed by the internet, the liberal arts are essential in forming effective, responsible scientists. Michael Foley '84, chemical biology platform director for the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard University, explains why.

Foley’s perspective on new technologies and approaches to drug discovery keeps him focused on critical advances in his field.
snc.edu/magazine

Liberal knowledge

Today’s scientists have unprecedented access to information and technology. The sequencing of the human genome and the reach of the internet have changed forever how the sciences are deployed to propel the understanding and treatment of human disease. Human genome sequencing has provided insight into the root cause of some afflictions, as well as the ability to predict susceptibility to disease in the future. The internet has removed geographic boundaries that once separated scientists, creating an integrated global scientific society that can function at the level of an individual research project.

To be effective and responsible in this environment, scientists must be much more than experts within their domain. They must have a basic understanding of many disciplines, understand the culture and customs of global team members, and have the moral foundation to face the complex issues that their access to powerful data sets and technologies presents. A liberal arts education prepares students for these challenges in several ways.

Scientific society was once siloed by discipline and geography. It is now common for multi-disciplinary teams to enroll members from around the globe. Successful citizens of this global scientific society must have both a working knowledge of the disciplines of other team members and the ability to critically evaluate the data these fellow scientists provide. A desire to

learn new approaches and techniques also helps scientists solve intractable problems together. Because academic and industrial research teams often have members in Europe, North America and Asia, an effective scientist also must understand and respect the cultures and customs of individual team members in order to create a high-performing team. Likewise, the ability to speak a second or third language has never been more valuable in the sciences.

Perhaps the greatest challenge facing the global scientific citizen is deciding when, where and how new scientific insights and technologies should be implemented. Just because it is possible to implement a technology does not mean it is right to do so from a moral or ethical standpoint. As new technologies emerge – technologies that allow us the ability to place individual genetic sequence data into cloud computing environments – great care must be taken to ensure patient confidentiality. Successful scientists have the moral and scientific foundation to be responsible stewards of this information.

For all these reasons, a liberal arts education has never been more important in the sciences. With the foundation to think about what is best for society while advancing scientific knowledge, a scientist becomes more than a role player on a project. S/he equips her/himself to address the scientific and moral issues that present themselves on a daily basis in a global scientific society.



Community as text

By Melanie Radzicki McManus '83
Photography by Corey Wilson



For many of the honors students, their class visit to an area dairy farm was their first face-to-face encounter with the business of agriculture.

When **Katie Frank '15**, a sociology major, and her classmates were dropped off in downtown Green Bay in the fall of 2011, they were given a handful of maps to nearby sites like St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, a graveyard and a small retail area. Their instructions on what to do were minimal. The students knew they needed to investigate something to draw on for their papers on the impact of community spaces, but they didn't know what. They had to figure that out for themselves.

After thinking about it a few minutes, the group let their grumbling stomachs decide for them. They entered a small restaurant, where they spotted a man whom they deemed interesting. So they began to pepper him with questions: who was he, why was he there, how often

did he come there. "He said he came there weekly, and that he often plays poker there with the former mayor," **Holly Nickerson '15** recalls. "We began to make connections between our generation and the older generation – how this [restaurant] is to them what a coffee shop is to college students now: a place you go to hang out and meet other people."

Nickerson's observation was just what her instructors were looking for – although had she made one of innumerable other observations, they may very well have been appropriate, too. "These kinds of exercises are designed for students to figure out what they have to figure out," says **Mara Brecht** (Religious Studies), namely "that understanding a place, a book, a person – anything, really – necessitates interaction and

conversation with those around them."

Two freshman classes in the Honors Program have now experienced "City as Text," a unique common course that, Frank says, helps students understand how the activities and decisions of past generations shaped the present-day landscape – in particular, the landscape surrounding their college. The curriculum develops through onsite visits, discussions, problem-solving and research papers.

The class was developed by **Marcie Paul**, director of the Honors Program, and **Terry Jo Leiterman** (Mathematics). Four professors from different subject areas teach the course, with roughly 20 students assigned to each professor. Although the syllabus is developed by all four professors, 65 percent of the time the students meet in their separate small groups.

"The whole point of City as Text is to look at the area in which the college is located as a series of concentric circles," says **John Neary** (English), a two-time class instructor. "The residence hall, the college, the city of De Pere and northeastern Wisconsin are all larger and larger circles of community. It puts a little depth to St. Norbert's idea of *communio* – the idea that education occurs most richly and ethically in a communal context."

To date, classes have focused on several aspects of the local community, including downtown Green Bay, dairy farms, the Fox River and the Green Bay Packers organization. Students have especially enjoyed learning about farming, even if they come from rural backgrounds. **Meagan Murphy '15**, who is majoring in communication and media studies, lives in Chicago's far-flung northwestern suburbs, so farms aren't exotic to her. "I see them all the time, and I have friends who have farms," she says. "But when I actually visited a farm, it was crazy to see what farmers go through every day just to produce milk. It's so easy to go to the store and pick it up, but I had no idea how much work goes behind it."



"When you come to a new place, and really learn what that place is, and get to know people in that place, you begin to take ownership of it and care about it."

— **Mara Brecht** (Religious Studies)

Greenleaf farmer Mark Wall has hosted several groups of City as Text students on his farm, and also traveled to St. Norbert to talk to all of the Honors Program students about farming. He thinks the course is a wonderful addition to the curriculum. Students not only learn how farming is integral to the local community, but the on-site visits put a human face on the industry. "The farming community doesn't want to separate themselves from city people," says Wall. "We want to educate them and show them we're out here trying to make a premium product, because we care about you people in town."

There's nothing overly simplistic about sending college honors students to tour a farm or a landmark destination like Lambeau Field. It's not these

entities themselves that the students are exploring, but the relationships and connections that bind them. And nourishing those connections is critical for responsible citizenship. "When you come to a new place, and really learn what that place is, and get to know people in that place, you begin to take ownership of it and care about it," says Brecht. "That's really important, and that's what's unique about this program."

The importance of personal connections is what Nickerson pulled from the class. Nickerson says she initially found it difficult to approach strangers and ask them questions. Afterward, she found herself chatting to people wherever she went. "A friend actually yelled at me for making too much small talk with a waitress," she says with a laugh. "I don't think I would have done that before I took the class. It really made me a more open and accepting person."

Murphy began viewing everything around her differently, including her hometown of Johnsburg, Ill. Scrutinizing its public spaces – a subject she'd studied in class – she realized they were pretty minimal. In fact, she realized it was easier to interact with others in downtown Chicago than tiny Johnsburg. The Windy City is filled with a wealth of sites that encourage people to gather – sidewalks, parks, recreational paths, cafés. In Johnsburg, Murphy has to hop on her bike to reach a gathering spot, the best of which is a local strip mall. "And strip malls aren't really good places to meet and engage with people," she says. "They just don't have that community feel."

The young women's reactions are positive, and show they don't find themselves trapped in some insular notion of community, a place where members only look inward. "A community that's outward-looking and inclusive of its surroundings is healthier and more ethical," says Neary. "Academic institutions are not self-contained bubbles, so it's good for students to look beyond them." ♣



Owner of a remarkable collection representing Norbertine abbeys, Frans Debonne is an associate of the order.

Collector, O.Praem.

By Tony Staley

For nearly 30 years, Frans Debonne has been collecting the Norbertine-related items that fill the former rectory where he makes his home in Zwevegem, Belgium.

Yet the collection is not his main interest.

“My main concern is to live a life worthy of being a Christian. So daily prayer, attending the Eucharist, being helpful to others where needed ... all these things are much more important than a collection, no matter how interesting and valuable it might be,” Debonne says.

His collection of Praemonstratensia grew out of his strong bond with the order, says Debonne, who in 1979 was a novice at Averbode, a Belgian abbey founded in the 12th century. He continues his affiliation with the order as a Norbertine associate attached to Averbode.

“I consider myself in fact as a Premonstratensian and try to live the unique spirituality of this order in my daily life as a Christian,” Debonne says.



This coat of arms of Abbot Marcel Devos, of the Norbertine abbey of St. Michael (Antwerp, Belgium), appears in a volume printed in 1776. The book includes 35 prints and a poetic evocation of the life of Norbert of Xanten.

A collector's heart

As a child, Debonne started a coin collection which he later gave his twin brother after becoming interested in old postcards of Ypres, the Belgian city in West Flanders totally destroyed in World War I.

In 1982 he began collecting old prints about the Norbertines, which he passed to the community at Averbode Abbey until his mother insisted that he keep them for his own collection.

Debonne's formal education ended at age 16 when he became a blue-collar worker for Bekaert, a Belgian company that's a world leader in metal transformation, materials and coatings. Over the last 45 years he's worked mainly in marketing and sales, invoicing and shipping.

He's also taken theology courses and “acquired quite some knowledge about art history, mainly Gothic architecture and early Netherlandish painting – the so-called Flemish Primitives like Jan Van Eyck, Rogier Van der Weyden, Hans Memling and Gerard David.”

Aside from the collection, which he says is a way for him to “materialize” his deep spiritual bond with the Norbertine order, art is his main hobby and he has a “nice library of books about this subject.” Other hobbies are singing in the Gregorian Choir and participating in the liturgy at Holy Mary Church in Kortrijk, and helping friends organize classical music concerts in Zwevegem.

Finding history

Some 124 houses of the order are represented in Debonne's collection of Praemonstratensia. He finds objects through public auctions, on the internet, at book fairs and at specialized dealers. The collection has grown to include some 300 original prints from the 16th to late 19th century, depicting



This folio from a missal that probably belonged to the abbey of St. Feuillien (Le Rœulx, Belgium) dates from around 1450. The illuminations may represent work from Cologne, Germany. The miniature depicts the saints in heaven within the contours of the initial “G” – the first letter of the Introit for All Saints Day, “Gaudeamus.”

abbeys; 150 pre-1800 books linked to the Norbertines by authorship, subject, ownership or publisher, including a 1599 book printed in the former Bohemian abbey of Louka (near Brno, Czech Republic); two 18th-century paintings; 400 postcards; 100 plaquettes and medals; Norbertine-related beer glasses; and brewery gadgets.

Debonne also collects engraved portraits and books that refer to the order's commendatory abbots – persons benefitting from a practice dating to the early 16th century by which the pope, emperor or king would name a priest or bishop who was entitled to one-third of an abbey's income.

"Unfortunately I have not made a decent inventory of the collection, and the longer I wait to start with it, the harder will be the job, I'm afraid," Debonne says.

Because Debonne's home is part of the cultural center of the city, he occasionally shows people attending meetings a small part of his collection. He's also organized a special exhibition.

"My dream is that my collection could become part of a museum/library where it could be accessible to a broader public," he says. And he has made it clear to his seven brothers and two sisters that the collection is never to be split up and/or sold.

Besides signifying his bond with the order, Debonne says his collection "is also a way to 'bring back to life' these many old houses, and the buying of old books is kind of 'bringing these back home.' This is also the reason why my collection(s) will never be brought back on the open market, and must stay together in one foundation."

A fine association

Debonne represented the Norbertine associates of abbeys in the Netherlands plus Dutch-speaking Belgian abbeys at last summer's General Chapter, held July 22-Aug. 4 at St. Norbert College. For this worldwide meeting of the order he wrote a 22-page personal reflection on the vows or promises he made as an associate.

He calls his nearly three-week stay at St. Norbert – abbey and college – "a truly unforgettable experience, and I must say that this period has undoubtedly been the most happy one of my entire life. This can sound a bit exaggerated but it is what I feel."

Debonne says he was deeply impressed by the De Pere abbey's deep roots in the community's intellectual and social life, and by its hospitality, liturgical life and cordial relationship with its own associates.

"For sure, I hope to be able to come back to De Pere," he says.

Those who know Debonne are equally impressed by his commitment to the order. Eleanor Dockry, an associate of the De Pere abbey who met him in Belgium and renewed their acquaintance in De Pere, calls him a "really wonderful guy, a prince."

The **Rev. Andrew Ciferni, O.Praem., '64**, chair of the Norbertines' international commission for associates, says he first met Debonne at an international meeting in Europe.

"He is one of those people whose presence is always known when he is in a room. He is very energetic, speaks fast, and is very engaging," Ciferni says. "He certainly loves the order and is willing to stretch himself to help our abbeys. I always enjoy being in his company because there is never a dull moment with him. Moreover, he inevitably brings to any meeting a fine assortment of the best Belgian chocolates." ♣



Portrait of a Praemonstratensian canon, probably from the former abbey of Bucilly (France). The painter, Nicolas Wilbault, undertook much work for this abbey.



St. Norbert alumni and student interns are well represented at Breakthrough Fuel in De Pere. Left to right, Yerzhan Nauruzbayev '13, Peter Romenesko '10, Caressa Swanson '11, Brodie Reuter '11, Keri Hodnik '13, Jennifer (Brice) Vander Zanden '07 (first St. Norbert grad to join the company), Craig Westhoven '10 and Kimberly (Sawyer) Larsen '09.

Let's do lunch

Alumni events may be coming to a workplace near you

When St. Norbert connects with groups of alumni who work for the same organization, lunch is included. And new workplace alumni events are already delivering tangible benefits to students and employers, too.

Todd Danen '77 (Alumni & Parent Relations) and **Lynette Green** (College Advancement) first brought lunch to **Jennifer (Brice) Vander Zanden '07**, **Kimberly (Sawyer) Larsen '09**, **Peter Romenesko '10**, **Brodie Reuter '11** and **Caressa Swanson '11** at Breakthrough Fuel last winter.

Romenesko says lunch was a wonderful way to stay connected to the college. "When you have people like Todd and his team coming out to companies like Breakthrough Fuel, you are literally watching your diploma gain value after you have already graduated. Every interaction that your employer or fellow employees have with members of the St. Norbert team reflects almost directly onto you."

The following month, Danen brought lunch to **Andy Bradford '97**, principal, **Mark Kirst '97**, **Becky Lee '97**, **Cara Berken '97** and **Amanda Davis Peper '02** at Foxview Intermediate School.

These events were so well received that Green decided to offer an on-campus lunch to Wipfli's Green Bay office, which employs 13 alumni. **Dan Pichler '83**, **Lonny Charles '98**, **Tori Szkodzinski**

'00, **Tracy Grosskreutz '06**, **Angela Virtues '10** and **Kevin Cherney '92** attended, along with two of their non-alumni partners. The campus location allowed them to take a tour, eat in the new Michels Commons and meet **President Tom Kunkel**.

Green says Wipfli had been engaged with the college prior to the luncheon (they have an annual scholarship), but she has since seen that relationship grow and deepen. Wipfli employees are now participating in on-campus mock interviews, mentoring students and giving talks in the classroom. There have also been numerous internship and full-time positions posted through Career Services.

Pichler and Grosskreutz have since connected with the Accounting Club, taking pizza and recruiting information to one of their meetings. Pichler has personally become involved with the college's campaign advisory council. Green, who has upcoming lunches planned with both Humana and Schenck, says it's been an eye-opening experience for the employers. "When we pull our list of alums and show it to them, they often find out that many of their movers and shakers come from St. Norbert. It confirms the quality and caliber of the students and future employees that we have here at the college."

 [linkedin.com/company/st.-norbert-college](https://www.linkedin.com/company/st.-norbert-college)

Alumni College

If you have an itch to get back into the classroom, your time has come. Alumni College, Saturday, April 13, is a one-day opportunity to reconnect with your favorite professors, meet a few new ones and engage the lifelong learner within you. The keynote speaker will be **Kevin Quinn** (Economics), **Erik Brekke** (Physics), **Blake Henson** (Music), **Rebecca McKean '04** (Geology), the **Rev. Jim Neilson, O.Praem., '88** and **David Hunnicutt** (Biology) will teach classes.

Chris Betcher (Alumni & Parent Relations) says, "We're encouraging professors to share passions they might have outside their classrooms ... I think it's going to be really fun for our alumni."

♣ [More at snc.edu/alumni](http://snc.edu/alumni).

The Wedding Party

Back by popular demand is the college's celebration of love found on campus. This year's Wedding Party takes place Saturday, April 13 – the same day as Alumni College.

Married alumni couples can attend a Mass and group wedding-vow renewal at Old St. Joe's, concelebrated by the **Rev. Jay Fostner, O.Praem., '84** and the **Rev. Rowland De Peaux, O.Praem., '48**. A cocktail hour, dinner and dance follow, with a wedding cake and photo op to complete the festivities.

Katie (Wieszcholek) Culotta '95 and **Jim Culotta '95**, who dated their entire college career and were married by the **Rev. Jim Baraniak, O.Praem., '89**, attended the college's first Wedding Party in 2010. Jim Culotta says, "Standing in the church renewing our vows with old friends and other alums made you feel a part of something special."

♣ [More at snc.edu/alumni](http://snc.edu/alumni).

Dustin '04 and Jessie '04 (Turba) Beauchamp '04 met and wed at St. Norbert.



Births

1994 Keith and Francisca Jimenez De Renk, Milwaukee, a son, Kelby Ronald, Sept. 2, 2012.

1996 John and Sue **Seckel**, Combined Locks, Wis., a daughter, Addison Lynn, June 1, 2012. Addison joins brother Jake, 2.

1997 Dawn (Busse) and David **Long**, Arlington Heights, Ill., a daughter, Hannah, Feb. 21, 2012. Hannah joins sisters Allie, 4, and Maddie, 2.

1998 Laura (Mollner) and Ethan **Lamont**, St. Paul, Minn., a daughter, Eleanor, Aug. 25, 2011. Eleanor joins brothers Henry, 6, and Walter, 4.

1999 Erica (Clausen) and David **Vetrovec**, Madison, Wis., a son, Benjamin, Jan. 15, 2012. Benjamin joins sister Natalie, 3.

2000 Tracie (Brach) and William **Weil**, St. Charles, Ill., a son, Brock, June 14, 2012. He joins sisters Jolene, 4, and Justene, 2.

2000 Korren (Hansen) and **Scott Jewitt '99**, De Pere, a son, Macklan Stewart, Aug. 16, 2012. Macklan joins sister Malin, 3.

2000 Maureen (McMullen) and **Martin Fallon '00**, Arlington Heights, Ill., a son, Sean Martin, Sept. 21, 2012. Sean joins brother Connor, 4, and sister Nora, 2.

2001 Nichole (Heinecke) and **Todd Lecher**, Fox Point, Wis., a son, Dominic, May 12, 2012. Dominic joins brother Harrison, 3.

2001 Caryn (Harman) and Mike **Neumann**,

Evanston, Ill., a daughter, Jade Anita, Aug. 4, 2012.

2001 Kristy (Harr) and **Joe Krautkramer '01**, Green Bay, a son, Liam Charles John, Oct. 22, 2012. Liam joins brother Lincoln, 2.

2002 Angie (Cluppert) and Dan **Osheim**, Ripon, Wis., a daughter, Reese Ann, May 10, 2012. Reese joins sisters Isabelle, 8, Ava, 5, and Alaina, 3.

2002 Mary (Janus) and **Matthew Royce**, Orland Park, Ill., a daughter, Finola Judith-Gorman, May 25, 2012.

2002 Carla (Guetschow) and David **Lee**, Green Bay, a son, Ryan Charles, July 8, 2012.

2002 Laura (Weiland) and Owen **Yaklin**, Albuquerque, N.M., a son, William, Sept. 9, 2012. William joins sister Sara, 3.

2003 Jessica (Robinson) and **Shane Sondreal**, Minneapolis, a daughter, Astana Elizabeth, Aug. 5, 2012.

2004 Mandy (Holifield) and **Matt Beuchel '04**, Grand Rapids, Mich., a son, Gavin Thomas, Jan. 20, 2012.

2004 Katie (Fitzpatrick) and **Andy Leiterman '95**, Green Bay, a son, Luke Bernard, Nov. 5, 2012.

2005 Jill (Yashinsky) and Roy **Wortman**, Spokane, Wash., a son, Jack, Sept. 17, 2012.

2007 Kelly (Schauer) and **Bill Wildenberg**, Appleton, Wis., a son, Baron James, March 29, 2012.

2007 Ashley (Holl) and Paul **Michlig**,

Rothschild, Wis., twin sons, Jackson and Parker, Aug. 23, 2012.

2008 Bethany (Gutsch) and **Jeremy Hoffmann '08**, Wausau, Wis., a son, Graham Anthony, Sept. 14, 2012.

Marriages

1996 Heather Terrien and Sean Vermillion, Aug. 3, 2012. They live in Green Bay.

1998 Melanie Berken and Ronald **Zacker**, June 9, 2012. They live in Bayside, Wis.

2001 Rebecca Kocos and David **Hesse**, July 28, 2012. They live in Minneapolis.

2002 Kristine Hilsgen and Michael **Johnson**, Aug. 18, 2012. They live in Woodbury, Minn.

2002 Carla Guetschow and David **Lee**, Sept. 9, 2010. They live in Green Bay.

2003 Melissa Netzer and **Nick Patton '03**, Sept. 8, 2012. They live in Sheboygan, Wis.

2004 John Kocher and Laura Polas, Sept. 29, 2012. They live in Wauwatosa, Wis.

2005 Melissa Parr and **David Grosshuesch '05**, Sept. 15, 2012. They live in Minneapolis.

2005 Beckie Richert and Kyle **O'Connor**, Sept. 15, 2012. They live in Chicago.

2005 Brenda Wendt and **Bryant Coughlin '02**, Sept. 15, 2012. They live in Green Bay.

2006 Lauren Worthy and David **Morrow**, Sept. 1, 2012. They live in Franklin, Wis.

2007 Jennifer Geiser

and Michael **Mathwig**, Feb. 28, 2012. They live in Green Bay.

2007 Carrie Sager and **Ryan Kastanek '07**, March 17, 2012. They live in Slinger, Wis.

2007 Heidi Brown and **Michael Hamm '99**, May 4, 2012. They live in De Pere.

2008 Molly Dillon and **Jesse Czech '08**, June 9, 2012. They live in Appleton, Wis.

2008 Jenna Miller and **Brett Yost '08**, June 23, 2012. They live in De Pere.

2008 Katie Larson and **Tyler Kohtala '08**, July 14, 2012. They live in De Pere.

2008 Maya Zahn and Tison **Rhine**, July 14, 2012. They live in Evansville, Ind.

2009 Jenna Heinrichs and **Michael Wright '09**, July 21, 2012. They live in Hoffman Estates, Ill.

2010 May Rosichan and **Adam Van Fossen '10**, Aug. 25, 2012. They live in San Francisco.

2011 Jessica Stock and **Adam DeCleene '11**, July 14, 2012. They live in Hobart, Wis.

Deaths

1940 Leo Stoecker, of Colorado Springs, Colo., died on Sept. 30, 2012, at the age of 93. Stoecker worked as a photographer in both the United States and Europe, covering such events as the Nuremberg war crimes trials and the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. He was preceded in death by his first wife,

Virginia Thayer, foster son, stepson and second wife, Ruth. He is survived by children of both marriages.

1940 Alexander Klieforth, of San Diego, died on Oct 5, 2012, at the age of 93. Klieforth pursued a lifelong career in foreign affairs. A veteran of the United States Army and the United States Air Force, he was also a teacher, foreign affairs adviser to members of the United States Congress, lecturer, broadcaster and author.

1943 Dr. William D'Amour, of Kingsford, Mich., died on Jan. 7, 2010, at the age of 88. A veteran of the United States Navy, D'Amour established his own dental practice, working there for 53 years. He was preceded in death by his wife, Priscilla, and is survived by his five children.

1948 Sylvester Bichler, of Shenandoah, Texas, died Aug. 14, 2012, at the age of 87. Bichler served as a medic during World War II. He was the president and CEO of Zen Noh Grain Exporting Company. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, and three children.

1950 Jack Gosling, of Appleton, Wis., died July 30, 2012, at the age of 84. Gosling served his country with the United States Army Air Forces and was honorably discharged after World War II. He taught high school science in Milwaukee and Appleton, Wis. He is survived by his wife, Pat, and three sons.

1951 Edward Christianson, of Winchester, Va., died March 2, 2012, at the

age of 88. During World War II, Christianson served as a combat medic, earning the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for Valor. He worked as an aerospace engineer for the United States Navy and then for NASA until 1975. An ordained deacon, he served Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish for 31 years. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and his three children.

1951 Patrick Diercks, of Antigo, Wis., died July 12, 2012, at the age of 82. Diercks served in the United States Army. He worked at Walter Diercks Farms, St. Mary School and The People's Bank. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, one daughter and three sons.

1951 Richard Borman, of Chippewa Falls, Wis., died Sept. 2, 2012, at the age of 83. Borman worked for the state as an investigator for the Wage and Hour/Equal Rights departments. He is survived by his wife, Joan, and eight children.

1952 Allan Weber, of Milwaukee, died on July 31, 2012, at the age of 83. Weber was a veteran of the United States Army and worked at IBM as a customer service engineer. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Anne, and is survived by his wife, Noreen, and his six children.

1954 Joseph Haug, of McKinney, Texas, died on Sept. 6, 2012, at the age of 80. Haug served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He worked in pharmaceutical sales, owned a hardware store and worked for Borden Dairy. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, and

their six children.

1957 William Volz Sr., of Milwaukee, died Aug. 23, 2012, at the age of 80. Volz lived his life as a servant and was an active member of St. Sebastian Parish. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ann, and is survived by his four children.

1959 Dennis Ahearn, of Menominee, Mich., died Sept. 15, 2012, at the age of 80. Ahearn served four years in the United States Navy and then pursued a career in the insurance field. He is survived by his wife, Marie, a daughter and a son.

1964 Edwin Tomei, of Darien, Ill., died Aug. 5, 2012, at the age of 69. Tomei worked in the family business, Affiliated Insurance Consultants, and was a senior vice president of sales until 2010. He served as the alderman of Ward 4 in Darien for eight years and served as the fire and police commissioner for three years. He is survived by his wife, Sharon, and three daughters.

1967 Andrew Berger, of Caldwell, N.J., died on Oct. 29, 2012, at the age of 65. Berger served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and was an executive with Legal-Med Copy. He was preceded in death by his sisters, Phyllis and Shirley, and is survived by his wife, Karen, and their two daughters.

1976 Steven Wagner, of Chicago, died Oct. 11, 2012, at the age of 60. Wagner worked as a master woodworker and cabinetmaker in Chicago. He is survived by his mother, a brother and two sisters.

1982 Ralph Kennedy, of Menasha, Wis., died Sept. 6, 2012, at the age of 60. In addition to his career in finance, Kennedy was board chairman for the St. Elizabeth Foundation, past president of Appleton Downtown Inc., and a board member of the Appleton Library Foundation. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Linda Marie Dejmek.

Class Notes

1948 The Green Bay Packers have honored the late **Vern Biever** for his work as the team's photographer. Biever's son Jim continues his legacy in this role and son John is also an eminent sports photographer.

1956 Robert Hsiung was profiled in the MIT Technology Review about his passions for architecture and watercolor painting.

1956 Roncalli (Wis.) High School has honored **Joe** and **Jolene Zimmer** with the Roncalli Community Stewardship Award.

1962 Barbara (Kapp) Hermes and **Charles Hermes** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 8, 2012.

1970 Mary (Meyer) Coover and her husband, Don, have co-authored a book that chronicles Don's two heart transplants and then his kidney transplant, for which Mary herself was donor. "I Left My Heart at Stanford" was published in December.

1981 Terri Trantow has joined the board of the Neville Public Museum Foundation.

Vince Vitrano '96



Is on camera

Vince Vitrano is the morning news anchor for the NBC affiliate in Milwaukee. He lives in Greendale, Wis., with his wife, Nicole, and three children.

Best day ever at work Flew in an F/A-18 Hornet with the Navy Blue Angels for a story previewing the Milwaukee Air and Water Show.

In my Rolodex Vice president Al Gore; Matt Lauer, Al Roker and the NBC "Today" show crew; Seth Meyers from "Saturday Night Live." These folks, and most famous people I've met, have been much nicer in person than I expected!

Off-camera I serve on the board of directors for Special Olympics Wisconsin. My job puts me in front of a lot of people. It's important for me to use that platform to effect positive change.

Caught on camera? Just because you say no comment, doesn't mean no story. It's usually better to say something than nothing.

News to use Work hard. Be better. And, in the words of my professor at St. Norbert, **Kevin Hutchinson** (Communication & Media Studies), "Whatever you do, do for a reason."

1983 Amy Bauer recently had her book, "Ligeti's Laments: Nostalgia, Exoticism and the Absolute," published by Ashgate Press.

1984 Rick Hearden, senior vice president, has joined Wells Fargo Commercial Banking, Green Bay.

1984 Melanie (Huska) Carlin has accepted a new position at the Manchester University College of Pharmacy. She is the IT technician for the building. In addition, Melanie and her husband, Pat, recently celebrated 28 years of marriage.

1985 Scott Wiese was ordained a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee on Sept. 8, 2012.

1986 Maggie (Kerski) Cronin is working for the United States House of Representatives in Wausau, Wis., as the district scheduler for Congressman Sean Duffy in Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District.

1986 Terry Jack has been hired as vice president, senior portfolio manager by BMO Private Bank.

1988 Tony Zeig has accepted a new position as director of program management at MinnPar LLC in Mounds View, Minn.

1988 Bill Hodgkiss has been promoted to chief lending officer by The Business Bank.

1988 The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute has honored **Theresa Roetter** as an "Angel in Adoption" for her work as an adoption attorney in Wisconsin.

1989 Karen (King)

Konop has received a graduate certification in autistic spectrum disorders from the University of North Dakota.

1990 Frank Pasternak was recently selected by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2013 under the heading Personal Injury Litigation Plaintiffs. He is managing partner of Pasternak & Zirgibel S.C., in Brookfield, Wis.

1990 (BA), 1996 (MTS) Daniel Lunney has accepted a position as the director of pastoral care and mission integration for the St. Joseph Village part of the Franciscan Communities.

1993 Michael Petrusinski has been a deanery/parish representative for the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council of Chicago since 2008. In addition to his advisory role, Petrusinski helps promote archdiocesan events and initiatives.

1993 Scott Winkler has published "The Kicker," a story recently named the winning prose entry in the Winning Writers' 2012 Sports Poetry and Prose Contest, a \$1,500 award.

1995 Chris O'Keefe was recently selected for the Northeastern Oklahoma Violent Crimes Task Force and the Tulsa Police Department Fugitive/Warrants Squad. This includes a federal commission with the United States Marshals Service.

1995 Brian Foster has accepted a position at Schneider National, Green Bay, as a benefits analyst.

1996 Joe Leppert has been named the new

principal of Mary, Seat of Wisdom School in Park Ridge, Ill.

1996 A novel by **Jeffrey Kuczumski**, "Unnatural Trouble," was published last August.

1996 Jessica (Turke) Grandt has accepted a position as principal of Harrison Elementary School in Janesville, Wis.

1997 Jeff Duffrin has been named vice president of the Green Bay office of The Business Bank.

1997 Kelly (Langenecker) Peiffer has accepted a position as the national account director for the Midwest/West Office of Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau.

1998 Jessica (Carter) Chuckel has accepted a position as the Healthy Communities project director for Special Olympics Wisconsin.

1999 Bradley Bauter has accepted a new position as marketing specialist for the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans in Brookfield, Wis., where he previously worked as a graphic designer.

1999 Lanh Nguyen has joined **Andy Lochner '97** as a financial adviser at Sweet, Lochner and Associates, a financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial.

1999 Michael Santarelli has accepted a position with the Chicago Bears as their senior application developer.

2000 Erin (Nitka) Kenth earned a Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in May 2012.



Maya Zahn '08, an associate attorney at Rhine Ernest LLP in Evansville, Ind., finds her St. Norbert education laid a firm foundation for her work in the field of justice.

This is her second master's degree. She works full-time at U.S. Bank and part-time as an English instructor for Bryant & Stratton College in Milwaukee.

2003 Julia Gressick received her Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in August 2012. She has accepted a tenure-track position as assistant professor of instructional technology at Indiana University South Bend.

2004 Katherine Egan has accepted a position as a social studies teacher at Marquette University High School.

2005 Rebecca Thieme-Baeseman has established Aphrodite Accessory LLC, creating and selling unique, handmade jewelry. Thieme-Baeseman is also the author of a children's book, "Miller: The Mostly Misunderstood Mischief-Maker Who Went Missing," recently published.

2005 Jill Yashinsky-Wortman has been promoted to assistant director of case management and student conduct at Gonzaga University.

2005 Stefanie (Mogensen) Benjamin and her husband, Sam, have co-founded the nonprofit organization Snowdrop Foundation, Wisconsin. The organization provides scholarships for college-bound pediatric cancer patients and survivors while raising awareness and funds for continued research for a cure for childhood cancer.

2006 Jillian (Schommer) Hendrickson was elected mayor of Albertville, Minn., in November and will serve a two-year term.

2008 Patrick LaPacz has entered the Norbertine novitiate at St. Norbert Abbey. His first year in the program will be spent at the Holy Spirit House of Studies, the Norbertine house of formation in Chicago.

2008 Luis Altamirano has accepted a position as an oceanographic research engineer II at the Oceanographic Institute of the Ecuadorian Navy in Guayaquil, Guayas, in Ecuador.

2008 Allison (Rick) VandeVoort received her Ph.D. in plant and environmental sciences from Clemson University in December 2012.

2009 Oxford University has accepted **Ryan Kroening** into its Said Business School. Kroening will be pursuing an M.B.A.

2009 Dan Schaefer invested in a new part-time business in May 2012. Schaefer co-runs

Fit to Be Fried Inc., an enterprise that sells food at Chicago area festivals and carnivals. When he's not representing Fit to Be Fried, Schaefer is a full-time internal auditor at Allstate Insurance in Chicago.

2009 Jared Hackbart has accepted a position as an account executive at Canon Business Solutions Inc.

2009 Kristen Bauer has accepted a position as an upper primary teacher at the Simba International School in Zambia.

2010 Wipawee Chaiyaphruk has accepted a position as commercial execution analyst at Coca-Cola (Thailand) Ltd.

2011 Michael Poradek has accepted a position as a residence hall director and volunteer programs assistant for Lawrence University in Appleton, Wis. He is also pursuing a Master of Higher Education Administration degree from Upper Iowa University.

Michael Szadkowski '09 has been accepted into the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine, M.D. class of 2016. Szadkowski is the third Szadkowski brother and St. Norbert alumnus (with **Adam '05** and **Matthew '06**) to be accepted to the University of Wisconsin's M.D. program.

Share your news! Submit your item at snc.edu/go/keepintouch

Keep track and connect with fellow alumni on Facebook. facebook.com/sncalumni

THE \$100 DEAL



Nell Benton's new business opportunity arrived at the right time and the right price: \$100 for the Walker's Point café.

Previous owner, Michael Diedrick was selling the enterprise in order to devote more time to his web design business. But he had intentions for the café he had opened three years earlier – and for the future of the neighborhood where it stood.

To potential sellers, he listed a number of stipulations. They included retaining the original name, equipment and staff, the menu oriented around organic and local food – and providing a free meal for him and his girlfriend every day for a year. Benton happily agreed to all of his requests and took ownership on Dec. 1, 2011.

"Michael and I have a similar vision – a place that is community-centric and focuses on sustainability," she says.



Photo courtesy Michael Diedrick and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel ©2013

One year, \$100, one great cup of coffee

Nell Benton '01 graduated with a degree in sociology and a desire to work for humanitarian causes. Armed with a talent for cooking, she also had the idea that someday she might become a chef. Today, Benton, 37, marries her talents as the owner and executive chef of The National, a café in a Milwaukee neighborhood in transition.

The National already had a loyal following, and business has increased since Benton took over, which she attributes to her role as onsite chef. She has developed a rapport with the teachers and employees of local nonprofits who frequent the café. "I love my clientele," she says. "I feel like a part of the community for the first time since moving to Milwaukee." Recently, she spearheaded an additional humanitarian effort, Food for Thought. She and five chefs from various local restaurants volunteer their time preparing meals for fundraisers benefiting causes such as research into Parkinson's disease and shelter for homeless women and children. "Chefs have a bad rap as being egotistical and high maintenance," she says. "I hope this (effort) changes perceptions."

Benton's newest endeavor comes on top of

devoting 65 to 70 hours a week to the restaurant. She's gotten the opportunity to use the culinary skills she developed at the Art Institute in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

She worked as the executive chef at a Milwaukee wine bistro before purchasing The National, where she uses locally produced eggs and vegetables in the breakfasts, lunches and weekend brunches she serves. While her restaurant prides itself on its vegetarian and vegan items, it caters to meat-eaters as well. One of the most popular choices is a braised beef sandwich, Benton notes with a smile.

Making the transition to restaurant owner has included a massive learning curve. "You can't let little things get to you," she says, adding that it took several months to realize there is a natural ebb and flow to running a business, and not to panic during the ebbs. To help the business grow, she also caters weddings, showers and parties. She said she was lucky to inherit "a phenomenal staff" of six; another challenge has been figuring out all their roles and making sure they have a life outside of work.

Old friend, new look

As you may have noticed, your magazine has had a little work done. Our new look is driven by several things, all tied together by one big idea: More.

You're probably already aware that we've grown a bit since you first got to know us. We've added video, an online issue, a Facebook page, a blog ... We've added an e-newsletter that keeps you updated in between print issues. All that synergy begs a new, lively and integrated package, one where we can share great stories in ways we couldn't have imagined even a few years ago. We trust that here you'll enjoy fresh encounters with familiar faces: former classmates, professors, Norbertines, current students – all those who contribute to your own continuing experience as a member of the St. Norbert College community. We hope, too, that you will continue to find us friendly and informative, inspiring and entertaining. Go online and you'll see things have gotten a little livelier with our web edition, too. Visit often! We are committed to adding new material all the time.

Above all, we intend to bring you an enhanced magazine that's well-suited to your school as we find it in 2013 – an institution shooting for excellence as one of the top Catholic colleges in the country.

Susan Allen

WORDS & PICTURES

Editor: Susan Allen. **Art Director:** Drew Van Fossen. **Contributors:** Bart Colson, Mike Dauplaise '84, Rachel Gintner '14, Laurie Kaiser, Liz Krajnik '15, Jeff Kurowski, Melanie Radzicki McManus '83, Nina (Nolan) Rouse '07, Mike Roemer, Kim (Lopas) Sullivan '95, Tony Staley, Lisa Strandberg, Heidi Trembinski, Jerry Turba '74, John Watters, Jill Wiesman, Corey Wilson.

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TALK TO US!

We love to hear from you, and rely on you to keep us posted. You can find us at www.snc.edu/magazine, on Facebook, via magazine@snc.edu or 920-403-3048, or at:

Office of Communications at St. Norbert College, 100 Grant St., De Pere, WI 54115-2099

Printed by Independent Inc., De Pere.

Calendar

April

- 13** The Wedding Party
- 13** Alumni College
- 17-27** Spring semester theatre: "A Little Night Music" & "Fat Pig"
- 28** Spring Band Concert

May

- 1** "The Poetics of Murder: Unraveling the Mysteries of Detective Fiction," a Women's Enrichment Series presentation from **Marcie Paul** (Spanish)
- 10** Golden Knight Spring Mass & Luncheon
- 12** Commencement
- 20** Alumni Golf Outing, Lake Geneva, Wis.

June

- 4-16** Summer Music Theatre presents "South Pacific"
- 10** Green Knight Golf Classic

July

- 18-28** Summer Music Theatre presents "Les Misérables"

More at snc.edu/calendar.



Catch Bud Selig on campus, May 12. The commissioner of Major League Baseball is the speaker at this year's Commencement.



One of the first full productions of "Les Miz" – brought to Wisconsin audiences this summer by Music Theatre.

The pay it forward plan

Our mole at the Caf let us know of a Business & Finance staff member who 1) prefers to remain anonymous and 2) has the beautiful habit of swiping her meal-plan card twice over – once for her own lunch and once for the next person who shows up with no meals left on their card. Now Dining Services has picked up on the idea: The staff at the Caf have a "free lunch" each to pass on to anyone who shows up at the register looking as if they've had a tough day.



One

The number of thumbs maestro Dudley Birder held up in approval of the acoustics in the new music venue that carries his name.

YouTube Recommended viewing

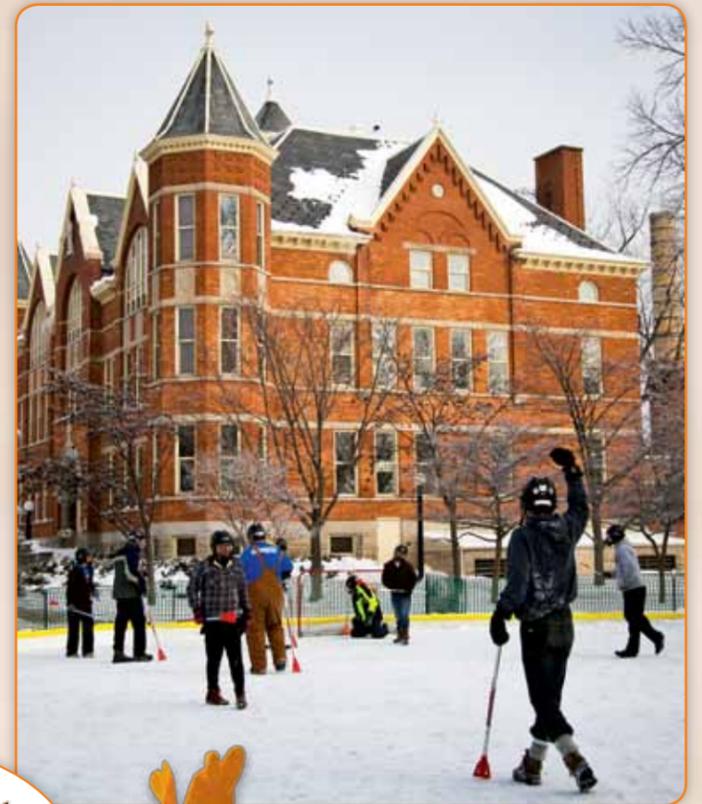


Looking for half an hour in great company? A recent guest on "Conversations from St. Norbert College," Miller lecturer Amy-Jill Levine is a self-described "Yankee Jewish feminist who teaches in a predominantly Christian divinity school in the buckle of the Bible Belt." Levine combines historical-critical rigor, literary-critical sensitivity and frequent humor with a commitment to eliminating anti-Jewish, sexist and homophobic theologies. Find her interview at youtube.com/stnorbertcollege.

Back on campus

Next time you're able to visit, check out the new art gallery experience:

- A new alcove dedicated to video (great arty use of the old cloakroom).
- A second-floor student-run exhibit space, currently featuring work by senior art minors.
- Art on the loose. Whether it's on display in the atrium space between the Baer and Godschalx galleries, painted directly on corridor walls or under scrutiny in the new critique studio, creative work is breaking formal gallery bounds.
- A regularly rotating display of work showcased in the Permanent Collection Gallery.
- Next up: the Senior Art Exhibition, April 8-May 3.



Alumni take on students in a rousing broomball game as part of February's Winter Carnival. For the second year in a row, students returned from winter break to find an outdoor ice rink in the heart of campus. Facilities staff flood the lawn, and the rink remains as long as the frost holds.



6

The number of students trained and on call to don the Norby Knight costume and proudly serve as college mascot.

Know someone who would treasure a Norby doll of their very own? The knight is on sale at the college bookstore, 920-403-3146.

GOAL
\$90 million

RAISED
\$69 million

Campaign St. Norbert: Full Ahead focuses on securing the institution's future among the nation's top liberal arts colleges.

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St. Norbert College Magazine

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Parting shot / The Shakespeare Garden

From you have I been absent in the spring, when proud pied April, dressed in all his trim, hath put a spirit of youth in every thing. – *William Shakespeare*

