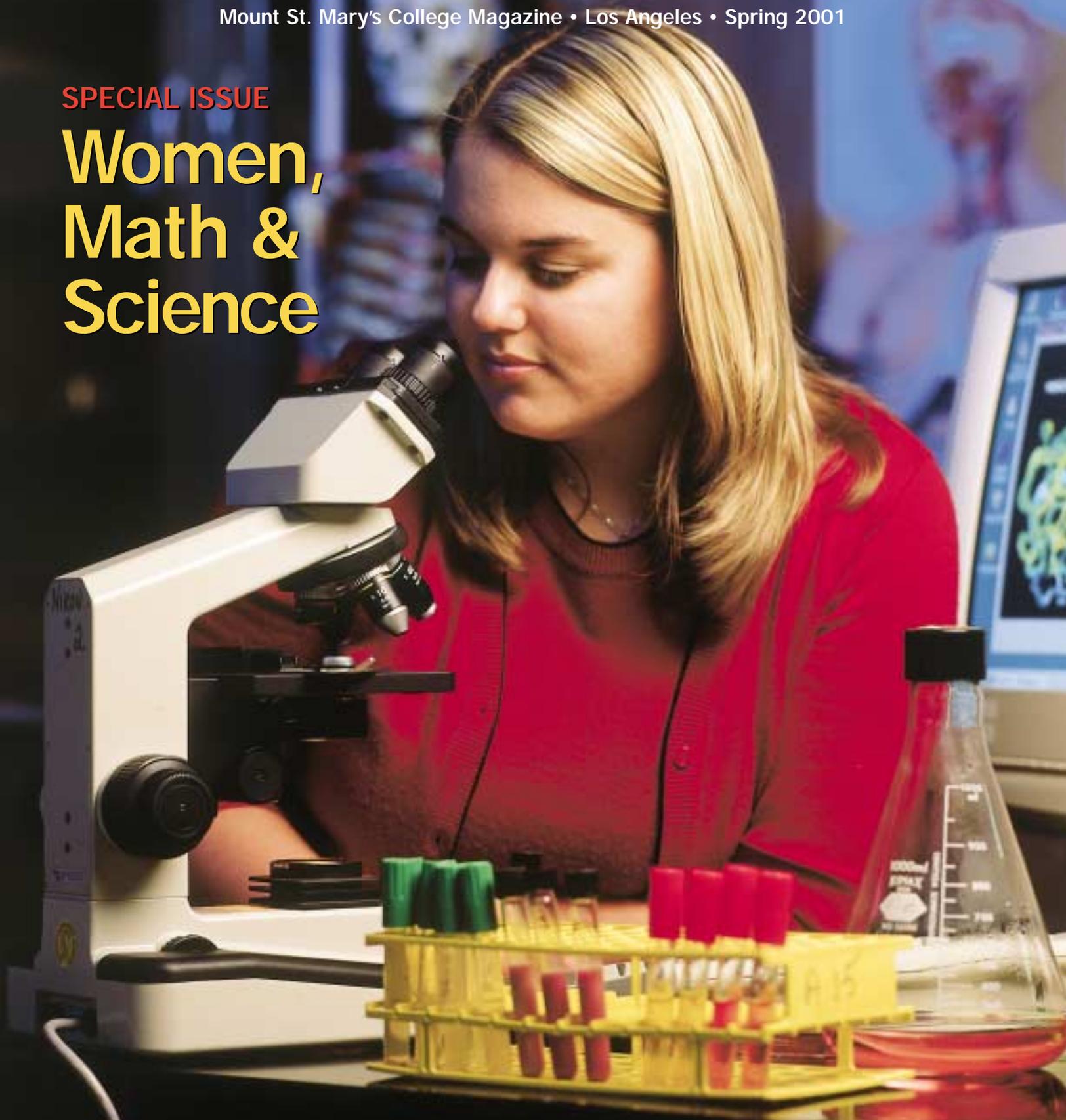


THE MOUNT

Mount St. Mary's College Magazine • Los Angeles • Spring 2001

SPECIAL ISSUE

Women, Math & Science



TWO MOUNT FRIENDS HONORED WITH ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS



Bryan Doherty, Jr. and Jacqueline Powers Doud, president.



Carla Bowman teaching at Mission College.

Two new endowed scholarships honoring individuals will provide financial assistance to worthy Mount students in the years ahead. One was provided through a bequest and the other by an outright gift—two different ways of making a difference for deserving students who are pursuing their educational goals.

The Helen Claire Doherty Endowed Scholarship was funded by the estate of the late Helen Claire Doherty. Bryan Doherty, Jr., administrator of his aunt's estate, is pictured above with President Jacqueline Powers Doud in November after he presented her with a check for \$220,000. It was nearly 20 years to the day that Helen Doherty took her brother Bryan Doherty, Sr.'s advice and designated in her will that the residue of her estate be used to establish a scholarship. Helen's sister-in-law, Mercedes Mahoney Doherty, was a graduate of the class of 1946, and over the years, Helen heard about the excellent education she received.

Henry "Hank" Bowman made a \$30,000 gift to the College in November to establish the Carla Wright Bowman Memorial Scholarship for an outstanding student majoring in science. The endowed scholarship honors his wife Carla (pictured above, far right) who was a student at the Mount in 1952 and 1953. Carla, who went on to be a science teacher and chair of the math and science departments at Mission College in Sylmar, died in 1993, the morning after she and Hank celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.



If you would also like to make a difference in the life of a deserving Mount student by establishing an endowed scholarship, please contact Joseph M. Zanetta, vice president for institutional advancement, Mount St. Mary's College, 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007-2598. Call (213) 477-2766, fax (213) 477-2763 or e-mail jzanetta@msmc.la.edu.

THE MOUNT

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EDITOR

Don Davidson

MANAGING EDITOR

Joy Jacobs

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Laura Zaragoza Guerrero

CLASS NOTES EDITOR

Barbara Dummel Brunner '63

DESIGN

San Luis Design

PHOTOGRAPHY

Mary G. Creutz '53, Don Davidson
Patrick Gee, Mary Levin, John Krussink
Patty Desmarais '69, Glenn Marzano
Rick Mendoza, Jenny Ness
Katherine Whitman '63

PRINTING

Pace Lithographers

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To contact the editor or submit a story idea, write to Don Davidson, Public Relations Director, Mount St. Mary's College, 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, Calif., 90007. Or send your idea by e-mail to ddavidson@msmc.la.edu, or call (213) 477-2505.

Class Notes news should be mailed to Alumnae Relations at the same address or e-mailed to jruiz@msmc.la.edu.

Mount St. Mary's College is a Catholic liberal arts college, primarily dedicated to the education of women and nationally recognized for programs enabling minority and under-prepared students to succeed.

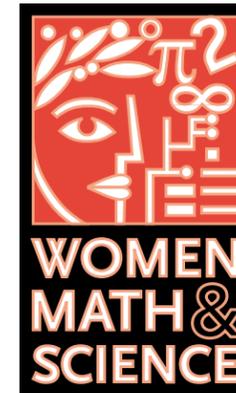
For Information

Admissions (310) 954-4250
Alumnae Relations (213) 477-2767
Business Office (310) 954-4040
Chalon Campus (310) 954-4000
Doherty Campus (213) 477-2500
Financial Aid (310) 954-4190
Institutional Advancement (213) 477-2764
Weekend College (310) 954-4050
MSMC Web Site www.msmc.la.edu

THE MOUNT

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ON THE COVER: Biology major Lauren Chilstrom '02 at work in the Keck Molecular Technology Lab.

PHOTO BY RICK MENDOZA

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Overcoming the Quantitative Fear Factor

By Arcelia Gonzalez '01

"I just don't know if I can do it," I remember telling Dr. Stemp as I sat in his office at the end of my freshman year, worried that the organic chemistry course I would have to take would be much more difficult than the general chemistry course I had worked so hard at passing. He reassured me that as long as I continued to work hard, I would do fine and he would be there to help me. He never let me down.

I am the oldest of three children, and come from a very traditional Mexican family. My father, a foreman for a furniture manufacturer, works 12 hours a day, while my mother also works long hours as a housekeeper. My parents clearly understand the value of education and they have supported me enthusiastically throughout high school and college.

A first-generation college student, I came to the Mount underprepared as a science major. In particular, I did not take high school chemistry, typically a prerequisite for taking general chemistry at the Mount. However, ever since I was 12 years old I've wanted to be a dentist, and I was stubborn about staying on track during my freshman year. Against the wishes of a few individuals, I took general chemistry anyway. I immediately got a tutor who, upon realizing how poorly prepared I was, also initially advised me to drop the class. However, with the help and encouragement from my instructor, Dena Chubbic, and, eventually, my tutor, Mariya Favelyukis, I not only survived general chemistry, but earned strong grades in the lecture and lab.

By the time I reached organic chemistry in my sophomore year, I was still a bit intimidated, but even more determined to make it through. I kept up with the homework, asked questions during class, and went to see Dr. Stemp and my tutor every week. On class days, I would show up at Dr. Stemp's office at 6:30 or 7 a.m. with a long list of questions about the homework or lecture material. One of the high points during the spring semester was when I got a 94 percent on my mid-term exam and shrieked involuntarily when I saw my score.

My junior year was a real struggle, especially the fall semester, but I was determined to do well. I had two killer courses (biochemistry and physics) and was doing research for the first time. These two courses were particularly difficult because they involve quantitative answers to problems, and my math skills had been one of my main obstacles during general chemistry. Again, I spent a lot of time with Dr. Stemp, working on biochemistry labs and homework problems before his 8 a.m. class. With my hectic schedule, there was almost no downtime during the semester. I was being pulled in all directions, trying to meet obligations with my classes, clubs, job, and family.



Arcelia Gonzalez '01 overcomes her fear of math and science with the help of Associate Professor of Chemistry Eric Stemp.

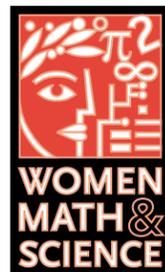
GISELE MARZANO

When the spring semester of my junior year began, I came back with renewed determination. I battled through physics and kicked into high gear in research lab, working day and night with my partner, Mary Steryo '00, to put together a top-notch poster for the American Chemical Society Meeting in San Francisco that March. By this time I was really involved in lab and wanted to experience a summer research program. Dr. Stemp was delighted and encouraged me to apply at various institutions. After months of anticipation, I was accepted to the University of California, San Francisco, and the California Institute of Technology.

I decided to attend Caltech's Minority Undergraduate Research Fellows Program, in Dr. Stemp's lab on their campus.

Aside from the many rigorous hours that were put into lab, I also had to study for the DAT (Dental Admissions Test), often putting in 12-hour days. But once again, Dr. Stemp didn't let me down. He not only taught me the techniques that were needed to perform my research, but also took the time to help me prepare for my DAT. Every morning we would set aside time for us to go over questions in chemistry and organic chemistry. His help was a great support that inspired a tremendous amount of confidence in me.

I now wait to hear from several dental schools. So far, I have been accepted to Marquette University, and still hope for the best. I feel that I have come a long way as a student at the Mount, but not without the help of my parents and people like Dr. Stemp, Ms. Chubbic, and Mariya Favelyukis. After starting out as a frightened freshman, the Mount's nurturing environment and instructors have transformed me into a confident and solid science student who is ready to begin the next step in her life. 🍷



KATHERINE WHITMAN '63

Cynthia Chan Vong '96 (left), Katherine Whitman '63, and Cindy Ho '96 meet in Shanghai, China.

It's a Small World with Big Connections

As she eagerly read the feature article about Cindy "In" Ho '96 in last spring's issue of The Mount magazine, Katherine Whitman '63, associate professor, business administration, was more than impressed by the accomplished, young entrepreneur.

Ho, who earned her associate of arts degree at the Doheny Campus, went on to establish an English language school in Shanghai, China, which now boasts a sky-rocketing enrollment of more than 1,000 students at seven sites. "After having read her story, I knew I had to meet her," says Whitman who, along with Weekend College Lecturer Peter Antoniou, owns Pomegranate International, an international consulting company. Whitman herself has traveled to China more than 30 times to conduct seminars for Chinese business executives about doing business with America.

Their get-together took place last October when Whitman spent the day with Ho and toured two of her schools. Whitman also introduced Ho to another Mount graduate, Cynthia Chan Vong '96, who had moved to Shanghai in August and was living and working not far away.

The two young alums discovered they had much in common: unknowingly, they had adopted almost the same name (Cindy is the nickname for Cynthia); they both finished their studies at Mount St. Mary's College in 1996 and attended Jinan University in Guangzhou, China, from 1996 to 1997; and they had many fond memories to share about their student days.

Vong recently became the managing director for the Center for Business Skills Development in Shanghai for Thunderbird International Graduate School of Business in Glendale, Arizona, where she earned her master's degree in international management. She is responsible for spearheading corporate and business development with major U.S. and European companies in China, and promoting training programs for Chinese business leaders. To achieve this, she studies Mandarin, the language that Ho and her husband Wu Zhi Min, speak fluently, and the couple has willingly helped Vong when she has questions about grammar or finding her way around Shanghai.

Antoniou's connection came on a recent visit to Shanghai, where he met with Ho's husband and offered to assist him in finding information about English certificate programs for the language schools.

"It is amazing to think of all the connections we have made since the article appeared," says Ho. "We have established links with Mount professors and we are supporting each other in California and in China. We also have become wonderful friends with Cynthia Chan Vong and see her very often. But most important, we all have Mount St. Mary's College as the foundation for our values and this helps us understand each other as we do our work."

YSOP (Wise Up!) Returns to the Mount April 21

The second annual Youth Summit on Peace (YSOP – "Wise Up!") will be held Saturday, April 21, at the Doheny Campus. Local youth and organizations will be present to explore ways to prevent violence in their communities and to promote peace. Dreamyard/L.A. will once again perform their poetry and MKR Dance Productions will offer entertainment as well. Chase Manhattan Bank and Peace Team L.A. have provided corporate sponsorship for the day of presentations, workshops, and entertainment. Last year's inaugural event was a huge success. To learn more about this year's program and to see highlights from last year's, visit the Mount's Web site at www.msmc.la.edu/urbanpartnership/ysop.htm.

Ann Meyers Drysdale to Speak at Commencement

Renowned broadcast journalist Ann Meyers Drysdale will speak at Commencement 2001 May 14 at the Shrine Auditorium. Drysdale has served as a sports analyst for several networks, including ESPN, CBS, NBC, and Fox, and as a commentator for SportsChannel, Prime Ticket, SportsTime, and SportsVision. After an illustrious college and professional athletic career, she was inducted into the UCLA Hall of Fame, National Basketball Hall of Fame, Women's Sports Hall of Fame, and the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. Drysdale has three children, one of whom is named for her late husband, Hall of Fame pitcher Don Drysdale.



J. Robert Vaughan and daughter, Sister Kieran Vaughan '64, after receiving his honorary degree.

In Memory of J. Robert Vaughan

J. Robert Vaughan, former trustee of the College, died on Tuesday, February 27, at his home in Rancho Mirage, Calif. He was 85 years old.

Vaughan was a strong supporter of Mount St. Mary's College since the 1960s when two of his three daughters, Sisters Kieran '64 and Judy '68, were educated here. He served as a member of the College's Board of Trustees from 1979 to 1983 and became the first trustee emeritus. He was also a member of the Regents Council and the Mount Associates. His expertise and guidance were instrumental in strengthening the College.

In 1997 the College awarded him the degree of doctor of humane letters, honoris causa, for his dedication to the Mount's mission to educate students from all walks of life and cultural traditions, and for his inspiring leadership as a trustee and regent.

Vaughan also served as president of the Tom and Valley Knudsen Foundation, and on the board of directors of numerous philanthropic, religious, and civic organizations, including the Fritz B. Burns Foundation, Los Angeles Beautiful, Independent Colleges of Southern California, and Daniel Freeman Hospital.

In the Classroom

Education Through Simulation

By Margaux de Leon '01

"Survivor" doesn't have it, "The Mole" doesn't either, and "Temptation Island" doesn't even come close. Real-life, *historic*, drama unfolds only in Political Science 138—International Law. A combination of history and political science, this course introduces students to international law by examining its history and development. More importantly, students then apply what they have learned by participating in trial simulations. This semester, one of these will be the infamous Nuremberg trial.

As the benchmark for judging international crimes, the Nuremberg trial brought high-ranking Nazis to justice at the end of World War II. It was the first trial in history to prosecute criminals on the grounds of wartime atrocities, offenses against humanity, and crimes against peace. The trial began on Nov. 20, 1945, and lasted two years. At its conclusion, the International Military Tribunal (IMT), with judges from 11 nations, convicted all 21 defendants.

Douglas Becker, lecturer, history/political science, has been researching war crime trials for his doctoral dissertation, and specifically chose Nuremberg because of its magnitude and importance to international law. He decided that conducting trial simulations as part of the course would be an ideal tool of experiential learning. He states, "Doing is better than watching," then goes further by quoting the Chinese proverb, "I read, I forget; I watch, I forget; I do, I remember." He expects the course to provide students with the same experience they would receive by participating in Mock Trial, an organization that routinely studies and reenacts trials. "The majority of the students enrolled in the course are political science and pre-law majors, and this may be their only opportunity for participating in *comparative jurisprudence*, understanding the rules of the court. This type of simulation will be valuable preparation for them if they plan to continue in law school," he continues.

Nicole Williams '01, a pre-law major, signed up for the class because she was "interested in learning about where international law came from and the forces behind its creation." She states, "I also want to know where it's going and how it's going to evolve, so that I'll have an indication about how international law might affect my life."

In the coming weeks, Williams and her 24 classmates will be assigned roles as a Nazi defendant, an IMT prosecutor, or an IMT judge when they recreate the Nuremberg trial in the Campus Center on the Chalon Campus. Court session begins April 25, 2001.

Mount Student Named Gates Millennium Scholar

Jaclyn Zapanta, a freshman social science major, has been named a Gates Millennium Scholar from among 62,000 nominated individuals. She will receive funds for the cost of tuition, fees, books, and living expenses for the 2000-2001 academic year.

The Gates Millennium Scholars initiative, funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, was created in September 1999 and is aimed at increasing the number of low-income, high-achieving African Americans, American Indians/Alaskan Natives, Hispanic Americans, and Asian-Pacific Americans who attend college. The goal is to promote academic excellence and to provide an opportunity for thousands of outstanding students to reach their fullest potential.

The initiative is administered by the United Negro College Fund in partnership with the American Indian College Fund, the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, and the Organization of Chinese Americans who represent the Asian-Pacific American community.

The Gift of Giving

Every year since 1982, Warren Ackerman (a.k.a. Santa Claus) has visited the Child Development Center at the Mount's Doheny Campus and given gifts to the children. Last year was no exception, as he stopped by in mid-December and gave each of the more than 70 children the same thing he always has: an apple, an orange, a candy cane, cookies, and a toy.

The tradition began when Ackerman's daughter Laurie '84 was a student at the Mount. "My mom and dad went to an open house at the Doheny Mansion," she recalls, "and in class the next week, Sr. Imelda D'Agostino '58 said, 'I took one look at your dad and knew he would be the perfect Santa Claus.' It's his greatest holiday gift. He gets such a thrill when he gets that phone call each year. I am so proud of him and happy to share my own personal Santa Claus."

Gelson's Market donates the perishable items and 83-year-old Ackerman provides the



Warren Ackerman as Santa Claus at the Child Development Center Christmas party.

toys. The children's faces light up when they sit beside him and he gives them the dolls and trucks. "When you see the faces of the children, you see the real face of Christmas," Santa Ackerman says with a hearty smile. "There is no greater gift."

Making of the Cathedral Series Concludes in April

The unique four-session program The Making of the Cathedral, focusing on the impact of the new Cathedral of our Lady of the Angels, will conclude April 28 at the Mount.

The theme for the session is Religious Place and Urbanism and will address questions such as: How does a cathedral effectively take its place in the urban and economic environment of a city? Is the Cathedral of Los Angeles in the right place? Session leaders will be Nathan Cherry, MAUD, AIA, RTKL Associates; Susan M. Georgino, MSPA, past-president, California Redevelopment Association, community development director, Burbank; and Kathleen H. Head, MBA, MAUP, principal, Keyser Marston Associates, Inc.

Under the direction of Alexis Navarro, IHM, director of the College's Graduate Religious Studies Program, the first three sessions were a great success. Admission is \$10 for the final session and reservations are recommended. For further information, contact the Graduate Program in Religious Studies at Mount St. Mary's College, (213) 477-2640, or at grst@msmc.la.edu.



ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES

Applause

The College Art Association (CAA) has selected Irena Costache, faculty, art, to be chair of its professional practices committee. She will serve as chair until Aug. 2002.

Lena Rivkin, lecturer, art, wrote an article, "Visual Thinking: Interpreting the Fine Art of Doodling," that was published in the Nov./Dec. journal of The American Handwriting Analysis Foundation.

Marcos McPeck Villatoro, Fletcher Jones Chair in Writing, did a reading at the eighth annual "Share Our Strength" reading conference Nov. 17 in Las Cruces, NM. His latest book, "Home Killings," was published in March.

Frankie Lennon, lecturer, English, wrote three behavior change, group-based curricula targeting men and women of color for the Health Education Department of Minority AIDS Project, a Los Angeles non-profit organization. The curricula are being used in programs funded by the Center for Disease Control.

Douglas Becker, lecturer, history/political science, presented, "Creating, Sustaining and Fundraising for Your Model UN," at the America West Model United Nations Symposium Nov. 19 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Chris M. Antons, director, institutional research and assessment, was elected as the Independent Colleges Representative to the California Association for Institutional Research for 2001.

Katy Murphy, assistant provost, has been honored with the Distinguished Service Award from the Admissions and Guidance Assembly of the Western Region of the College Board.

The Mount in the Media

Mount St. Mary's recently received the following media coverage:

Ventura County Star—Retired chair of political science, James Delahanty, offered his two cents to staff writer Tom Kiskan, regarding the historic "too-close-to-call" election between former Vice President Al Gore and President George W. Bush. In commenting on how the newly elected president can avoid having a dark cloud of fraudulence looming over his presidency, Delahanty stated, "you have to have the kind of character that attracts people to you even if they don't agree with you." (Nov.)

Los Angeles Times—published a story titled, "Many Voices, But One Man's Sound," which featured Paul Salamunovich '61, former music instructor at the Mount and currently serving in his final season as music director of the Los Angeles Master Chorale.

His history with the group dates back to 1946 when, in his early teens, he was a founding member of the L.A. Concert Youth Chorus. He then served as assistant conductor of the company in 1964.

The 2000–2001 season has been dubbed "A Farewell to Paul Salamunovich" in his honor (Dec.)

The Times also published a music review of a Da Camera Society concert featuring the Aurny Quartet of Cologne. Columnist Richard S. Ginell described the group's debut concert at the Doheny Mansion as "energetic." He goes further to mention that the quartet "aims for intensity and fierceness." (Dec.)

KABC-TV's Eyewitness News featured President Doud and L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan "kicking it up ... at a Mardi Gras-style celebration" at the Neighborhood Convention 2001, hosted by the Mount at the Doheny Campus (see story on page 8). The event was carried live on local cable TV station **LA Cityview channel 35**. Mayor Riordan was on several Los Angeles radio stations in advance of the event, referring to the Mount's Doheny Campus and its historic buildings as the "hidden jewel of Los Angeles." Radio station **KFWB 980 AM** used audio clips from the event during its news broadcasts throughout the day.

Neil Yoneji Named Vice President for Administration and Finance

After a nationwide search, Neil Yoneji was appointed vice president for administration and finance effective February 1, 2001. Yoneji served as interim vice president beginning in September 2000 and supervises the departments of auxiliary services, controller/business, human resources, and physical plant.

"During his tenure as interim vice president, Neil Yoneji distinguished himself as a person of high moral and professional character and effected a number of positive changes in the College's finances and operations," says President Jacqueline Powers Doud. "We are gratified to have someone with his level of achievement and experience join our team."



Neil Yoneji

"A number of considerations were central to my seeking this position," Yoneji says of his selection. "They include the nature of the College's long-term institutional challenges, the student population served, the genuine passion and commitment exhibited by the College community, the exceptional quality of the people with whom I have been associated, and the quality and energy of the institutional leadership. I am excited about the potential for contributing toward transforming this already unique and outstanding institution into an even better one."

Prior to coming to MSMC, Yoneji served as chancellor of the Los Angeles Community College District, California's largest community college district, encompassing nine colleges, 6,000 employees, 100,000 students, and a budget of \$350 million; and as executive director of Orange County Head Start, the county's largest child and family service program. Yoneji received his B.A. degree in chemistry from Simpson College of Iowa and his M.S. in economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

New Grants

The **Fletcher Jones Foundation** has awarded the Mount a grant of \$250,000, which helped the College meet a challenge grant for science endowment by **The W.M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles** (see story on page 16).

The **Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet**, Los Angeles Province, have given \$100,000 to the College to enhance the named Sisters of St. Joseph Endowed Scholarship Funds.

The **Coca-Cola Foundation** has awarded the Mount a grant of \$125,000 to establish a Women and Minority Entrepreneurship Center.

Students in the associate degree in nursing program will benefit from a \$25,000 grant for scholarships from the **UniHealth Foundation**, a non-profit philanthropic organization whose mission is to support and facilitate activities that significantly improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities within its service areas.

A Salute to Jubilarians

The Mount commends the following for their significant contributions to the College as they celebrate Jubilee years as Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet:

70 YEARS

Sister M. Constance
Fitzgerald

60 YEARS

Sister Mary Louise Collette

50 YEARS

Sister Margaret Anne
Vonderahe
Sister Maura Jean Parsons
Sister Kathleen Mary
McCarthy
Sister Anita Joseph Aragon
Sister Marie Bernadette
Walsh

Bridges

Remembering the Past for the Sake of the Future

By Laura Zaragoza Guerrero

Triumph of the human spirit was eloquently conveyed in the Chalon Little Theatre the evening of March 5 as the Schidlouf Quartet performed renditions of music created in the concentration camp in Terezin, Germany, in the 1940s.

Part of the Mind and Spirit series celebrating the 75th anniversary of the College and the inauguration of President Jacqueline Powers Doud, the performance and panel discussion, "Terezin: Creating Meaning in the Face of Despair," served to promote awareness of and appreciation for the extraordinary music created by some of Europe's most gifted artists who were incarcerated in the camp between 1941 and 1945.

A backdrop for a carefully constructed propaganda campaign by the Nazis, Terezin was designed as a village, complete with building facades, to give the impression that Jews had nothing to fear in Germany. To this end, Nazi authorities permitted a wide range of cultural activities in the camp where, despite inhumane living conditions, composers used art to find courage and hope to survive. In fact, despair doesn't appear in the music written in the camp. It is music that celebrates life and looks it right in the face. Viktor Ullmann, composer and Terezin inmate, said: "By no means did we sit weeping on the banks of the waters of Babylon ... our endeavor with respect to art was commensurate with our will to live."

Sadly, once the camp served its purpose, it was closed down and most of the prisoners were shipped to death camps. Of the 140,000 people transported to Terezin, 33,000 died from starvation, lack of medical care, disease, or torture. Of the 87,000 people transported from Terezin to the Nazi death camps, five percent survived. Of the 15,000 children who passed through Terezin, only 93 survived.

The panel discussion was led by Nick Strimple, leading performer-scholar of Holocaust music, Fred Simonelli, chair and associate professor in the Mount's Department of History and Political Science, and Rabbi Marvin Bornstein, rabbi emeritus of B'nai Tikvah Congregation in Los Angeles. Strimple spoke of the history of the concentration camp, Simonelli discussed the Catholic Church's reaction to the plight of the Jews during the Nazi era, and Rabbi Bornstein offered a personal and religious perspective of the Holocaust.

The Schidlouf Quartet mesmerized the audience with excerpts from Sylvie Bodorova's Terezin Ghetto Requiem; Viktor Ullmann's String Quartet No. 3, Op. 46; and Mendelssohn's Quartet in A Minor, Op. 13. Baritone Richard Lalli vocalized portions of these selections.

Writers' Series Features Acclaimed Novelist Cristina Garcia

"I read poetry every day before writing for sheer pleasure, and for the inspiration I derive from the juxtaposition of words," revealed acclaimed novelist Cristina Garcia at the College's spring 2001 Writers' Series presentation on March 7, part of the Mind and Spirit events celebrating the College's 75th anniversary. After a question-and-answer session in the Chalon Campus Center—where she spoke to students, faculty, and staff about the writing process, characterization, symbolism, and the difficulties writers often face—Garcia read from her novels "Dreaming in Cuban" and "The Aguero Sisters" to a standing-room-only audience in the José Drudis-Biada Art Gallery.

The Writers' Series is hosted by Marcos McPeck Villatoro, Fletcher Jones Endowed Chair in Writing, and Jody Baral, chair of the Art Department. In his introduction of Garcia, Villatoro said, "She says a great deal in a few words; her roots are local, but her voice is heard worldwide."

Born in Cuba, raised in New York, and now a Los Angeles resident, Garcia attended Barnard College and the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. She was a Guggenheim Fellow, a Hodder Fellow at Princeton University, and the recipient of a Whiting Writers Award. She became a political journalist, most notably as Time Magazine's bureau chief covering Miami, Florida, and the Caribbean. "Dreaming in Cuban," a story about three generations of Cuban women and their separate responses to the revolution, was nominated for a National Book Award and has been widely translated.

For English major Amanda Prince '02, editor of Voices, the Mount's literary magazine, meeting Garcia was an enlightening experience. "It is encouraging to know that a writer of her caliber has daily struggles and that we all share the same mentality about writing," she said.

Maria King, a sophomore nursing major, related to Garcia's works for a different reason. "As a 'hyphenated person' she is encouraging to me; going back to your roots can be awkward but fulfilling, and reading about someone else's experience is inspiring," she said.

Two New Worthy Funds Established

The College has established the David L. Missey '00 Memorial Fund to honor the memory of the former director of the Graphics Department. Missey had just earned his master's degree in counseling psychology from the Mount in May 2000 when he was diagnosed with cancer. He died in November 2000. A gift to the College is being planned in his name.

The Sister Margaret Rose Cafferty '57 Fund, in honor of the well-loved sister who died suddenly in January 2000, has been created and is being used for student health needs on the Doheny Campus.

Gifts to the Missey or Cafferty funds may be sent to the following address (please identify the fund by name in your correspondence):

Institutional Advancement, Mount St. Mary's College, 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007.

The Mount Takes Part in E-Fair

The traditional job fair, where company representatives set up booths on college campuses to recruit students, is a thing of the past. Replaced by the e-fair, this newest trend in employee recruitment takes place in cyberspace—and Mount St. Mary's has joined the bandwagon.

The Mount and five other schools organized the event in which 250 companies set up a virtual booth by posting job openings online. Registered students are able to view job descriptions and submit resumés 24 hours a day.

In addition to offering full-time job opportunities to students, the fair includes part-time positions and internships. Student registration began in March and the e-fair will be accessible on the Internet through May 4.

The other five schools participating in the event include Whittier College, Biola University, Chapman University, the University of Redlands, and Woodbury University.

For more information, call (562) 698-0955.

Mount Hosts Mayor Riordan's Neighborhood Convention 2001

The Mount hosted Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan's Neighborhood Convention 2001 at the Doheny Campus on Saturday, February 24. The event provided a forum for Angelenos to exchange ideas and address concerns regarding neighborhood improvement and involved more than 100 students and volunteers from the College. KNBC-TV's Christopher Nance emceed the plenary session.

"The key to our success as a city is to keep working together to revitalize our neighborhoods. Separately we are diverse communities but together we make up the vibrant, cultured mosaic that is Los Angeles," Mayor Riordan said.

President Jacqueline Powers Doud said in introducing the mayor, "It is fitting that we convene this event at the Mount—a place where service to the community has been central to our mission since the College's founding 75 years ago. This event helps ensure that local action in our neighborhoods translates into a more robust and unified city called Los Angeles."



Margarita Rivas '03, president, Associated Student Body, Doheny, meets Mayor Richard J. Riordan at the L.A. Neighborhood Convention 2001.

The event featured lively opening ceremonies with a Mardi Gras theme, complete with a Zydeco band. President Doud appeared on the local TV news that evening dancing with Mayor Riordan. ASB President Margarita Rivas '03 led the pledge of allegiance and children from the Mount's Child Development Center sang songs to the mayor to open the session. The Neighborhood Convention was made possible, in part, by the support of MSMC, McDonald's Corporation, and Playa Vista Corporation.

Fritz B. Burns Foundation Awards \$1.5 Million to MSMC

The Fritz B. Burns Foundation announced in December it will award \$1.5 million to the Mount to endow the Fritz B. Burns Professorship in Education in the College's Department of Education.

"We are pleased to recognize the value Mount St. Mary's College adds to our community through its programs in education," say Joseph E. Rawlinson, president, and W.K. Skinner, executive vice president of the Fritz B. Burns Foundation. "This professorship will enhance the College's ability to prepare teachers and educational leaders during this time of critical need throughout the region, the state, and the nation."

Jacqueline Powers Doud, president, says, "A study unveiled before a State Assembly committee recently pointed to the critical shortage of teachers in California's public schools, specifically the Los Angeles Unified School District, where over one-quarter of its teachers are currently without a credential. This grant will be invaluable in furthering the mission of ensuring that the region's classrooms—both public and Catholic—are occupied by highly qualified teachers."

The Fritz B. Burns Foundation, which funds a host of educational projects and institutions in the region, was created in honor of legendary real estate developer Fritz B. Burns, who was responsible for much of the development of greater Los Angeles, particularly Panorama City and Westchester. The foundation was a major donor to the Mount's \$12.5-million Sister Magdalen Coughlin Learning Complex, which was dedicated in 1998 and includes the Fritz B. Burns Health Education Building.

"The re-vitalization of the liberal arts will focus on the urgent need ... for better quantitative skills in our students often limited by fear rather than by lack of ability. We tell our women the world is open to them; we have to mean it. Good preparation in quantitative skills doubles the number of professions open to them."

"This is the same institution that, in the summer of 2000, through its Minority Access to Research Careers Program, sent 18 students to research university laboratories across the country to explore with mature scientists topics ranging from DNA genome studies to AIDS research and pediatric medicine."

PRESIDENT JACQUELINE POWERS DOUD, INAUGURAL ADDRESS, OCTOBER 13, 2000

Math and Science: Overcoming the Gender Myth

We all know the myth: Women can't perform well in math and science. Research has demonstrated that this statement is clearly untrue. It has been shown that young girls have the same talent and aspirations as their male counterparts, but receive little encouragement and encounter few role models in advancing their education in these fields. Renowned author Sheila Tobias, in her book *Overcoming Math Anxiety*, says it is not a problem of intellect, but rather a problem of nerve.

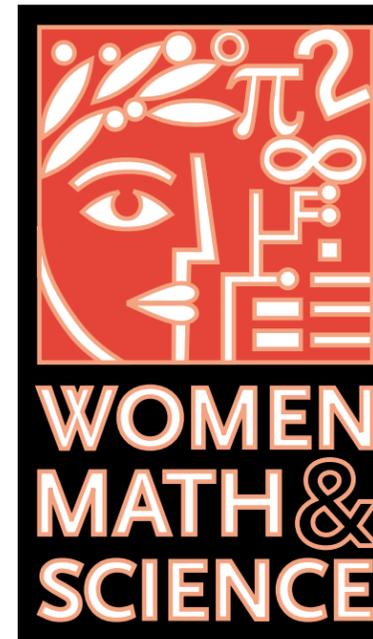
And who could blame them? Consider the evidence. Of the 4.6 million U.S. citizens currently employed in science and engineering, only 30 percent are women. Most of these, however, are in the life sciences and psychology. Only four percent are employed in engineering, the same as in physics—the most mathematical of the sciences. The prestigious Fields Medal for mathematics—considered comparable to the Nobel Prize—has never been awarded to a woman. The American Mathematical Society, founded in 1889, didn't have a woman president until 1983.

In terms of role models and stereotyping, while white males represent about 40 percent of the population, they represent nearly 80 percent of the scientists portrayed on prime-time television. Women and minorities, on the other hand, are represented at a ratio of about half their percentage of the population.

As Tobias writes, "Mathematics is no longer just an entry-level prerequisite for engineering, the physical sciences, or statistics. Its principles and techniques, along with computers, have become part of almost all areas of work, and its logic is used in thinking about almost everything." If one doubts the importance of mathematics in everyday life, consider that starting salaries go up \$2000 per year for every mathematics course taken after the ninth grade.

The news gets even better for women who pursue mathematics: Despite lagging behind men in salaries in most science occupations, they exceed them in mathematics-related ones. A recent study by the Public Policy Institute of California noted these subjects offer some of the highest-paying and in-demand professions for women as well. So why don't they pursue them in greater numbers?

Tobias points a finger at social and institutional barriers as the causes of women falling behind men in these fields. Young girls internalize the lowered expectations of their parents and teachers, and they become self-fulfilling prophesies—because girls are led to believe they can't succeed, they don't. Overcoming these and a variety of other barriers women students face has been at the core of the Mount's mission since its founding. The stories that follow—as well as that of student Arcelia Gonzalez '01 in the My Turn section on page two—point to the Mount's success in fulfilling its commitment to fostering excellence and achievement by women in math and science. 



Special Issue

A Model Teacher and Her Teaching Model

BY LAURA ZARAGOZA GUERRERO

Eleanor D. Siebert, chair and professor of physical sciences and mathematics at the Mount, has what it takes to develop intellectual and professional competence in her students. Just ask the Society for College Science Teachers (SCST) and the Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company which selected her as the 2001 Outstanding Undergraduate Science Teaching Award winner.

In addition to being honored at the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) convention in St. Louis, Missouri, in March, Siebert received a grant and will present the Marjorie Gardener Lecture at the 2002 SCST/NSTA National Convention in San Diego, Calif.

What's her secret? "I have been a member of the faculty at the Mount for more than 25 years, and my mission in teaching is largely mirrored by the mission statement of the College," Siebert explains. "The College has a special focus on the 'education of women for participation and leadership in our society' and a commitment to the view that professional life is one of service, and my philosophy of teaching is to empower students to reach these goals."

Siebert is gifted with the ability to develop enthusiasm for the study of science and mathematics in her students, while also providing them with the encouragement and support needed to succeed in these difficult courses.

Her students agree. "With a background in industry and now academia, Professor Siebert is a great resource for she uniquely fuses these two areas to allow chemistry to be a subject that is approachable and fascinating to science and non-science students," says chemistry major Beatriz De Guia '01. According to Donna Daigdigan '98, Siebert's guidance and mentoring helped her get to where she is now, in her third year of the doctorate program at the USC School of Pharmacy. "I feel very honored to have had Dr. Siebert as my mentor and professor and I cannot stress enough the impact that she has had in my life, as well as in the lives of the many students that she has taught," she says.

Siebert's goal with all students in her science courses is to provide them with an understanding of the world, so that they will come to the point of wanting to know more. "Specific strategies that I use in teaching can be based around five

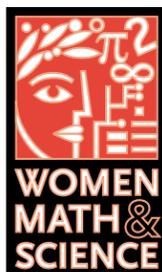
'e-words,'" she says, "enthusiasm, engagement, expectations, encouragement, and Eleanor."

She explains each word as follows: "Students feel there must be something worth knowing if I am enthusiastic about my subject. Unless students engage in the learning process, science will never be an integral part of their lives, so I try to engage them at all levels. I also have high expectations of my students and I believe that with appropriate learning resources they will be able to tackle problems in creative ways. Additionally, encouragement offers students the support they need to meet high expectations. Lastly, this strategy points to the awesome responsibility that is mine in assisting students to maximize potential in whatever field they chose to enter and help them gain what is in many cases a different way of looking at the world."

Siebert's teaching award comes at a time when Mount St. Mary's is placing renewed emphasis on the teaching of science, an area of longstanding strength at the College. President Jacqueline Powers Doud says of the recognition: "We are bursting with pride upon learning that Eleanor Siebert is being formally recognized and honored for her many years of extraordinary service to undergraduate students, particularly women, and to the science profession. A

distinguished chemist and faculty member, she values teaching as a high calling and is credited with an enormous contribution for her leadership and publications in the field of science education." Siebert's many contributions to the College include her serving as chair this year of the steering committee for reaccreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Her area of research interests can be broadly classified as the study of intermolecular interactions: specifically, how cholesterol separates from solutions, which helps in understanding cholesterol-based diseases such as heart disease. Since 1991, she has had support for research students in the form of a National Institutes of Health Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) grant. The grant is titled "Dynamics of Phase Separation in Model Biological Systems," and students have studied various aspects of crystallization in model systems that have deleterious health effects. "My students regularly present their findings at national meetings of the American Chemical Society and at local undergraduate



RICK MENDOZA

Professor Eleanor Siebert's enthusiasm and encouragement are key to her teaching success.

research conferences," she says.

As for her philosophy on research, she says: "Research is an approach to problem solving that requires a special and almost contradictory combination of qualities: individual initiative, yet teamwork; imagination, yet caution; openness to new ideas, yet skepticism; perseverance, yet an ability to conclude;

and purpose, yet flexibility to consider new questions that may arise. These are ideal qualities for a teacher and for students. I believe that the habits of mind honed by engaging in research make me a better teacher—and the students who engage in research are better empowered to be life-long learners." 

Young Alums Discover New Worlds Through Science

BY JOY JACOBS

Kristina Dam '96

When she was a student at the Mount, Kristina Dam '96 was selected for a summer research project at the Inhalation Toxicology Research Institute in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she participated in studies examining the toxicity of manufacturing byproducts. That experience convinced Dam, a biochemistry major, to pursue more advanced research in toxicology.

“The College gave me a good scientific basis to go on to develop more advanced skills.”

She enrolled at Duke University in North Carolina where she was awarded an Environmental Protection Agency Science to Achieve Results (EPA STAR) fellowship, which supported her graduate studies. Within four years, she earned a doctorate degree in pharmacology and toxicology.

Dam focused on the effects of pesticides on the developing brains of young animals (which serve as models for children) in an attempt to help regulatory agencies make informed decisions on establishing safety guidelines for children's exposures. “I realized that safety testing generally views children as ‘small adults.’ Clearly they are not, and that is why we need to examine specific events that are unique to younger animals and determine how these toxins adversely affect



Kristina Dam '96 researches the effects of pesticides at the University of Washington.

them,” she says.

For her doctoral thesis, “The Developmental Neurotoxicity of the Pesticide Chlorpyrifos, Mechanisms and its Consequences,” she explored the use of an insecticide commonly used at home and in agriculture to eliminate termites, roaches, and other pests. Her research confirmed that there were indeed biochemical and behavioral changes that took place in the developing young upon exposure to this pesticide. So significant were her findings that they were published in four scientific publications, and contributed to the EPA's phasing out of

chlorpyrifos for home use.

Dam is currently a research scientist at the University of Washington in the Department of Environmental Health and is involved with the Child Health Center where she is setting up a laboratory to look at behavioral effects of pesticide exposure on young animals. Eventually, she hopes to work for a pharmaceutical firm involved in the safety testing of new medications.

She looks back with gratitude to her education at the Mount. “The College gave me a good scientific basis to go on to develop more advanced skills,” she says. 

Mary Steryo '00

Mary Steryo '00 was a biological science major with a pre-med emphasis at the Mount. When contemplating graduate programs during her senior year, a friend told her about the Keck Graduate Institute (KGI) of Applied Life Sciences, the seventh and newest of the Claremont Colleges. Established in 1997 by The W.M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles, KGI enrolled its first class in August 2000, comprised of 28 of the most

“My science education at the Mount was very stable and focused.”

highly qualified students in the world. Steryo is among them. Currently in her second semester, she is pleased to be a part of the inaugural class with its all-new approach to emerging discoveries in the biosciences.

“Our classes cover diverse topics that I never thought I'd have the opportunity to study,” says Steryo. “We are being trained as generalists in the emerging fields of applied life sciences, so all 28 of us (from 11 states and six countries) take the same courses together. We can be in a finance, or project management course one day, and a pharmaceutical development or engineering course the next day.”

Looking ahead to when she earns a master of bioscience degree (MBS), Steryo is considering the area of



Mary Steryo '00 is part of the inaugural class at KGI.

bioinformatics, which would involve using the human genome to create medications for specific health problems, or working as a project manager for a pharmaceutical company managing clinical trials.

She attributes her preparedness for this program to her undergraduate research opportunities with Eric Stemp, associate professor, chemistry. “My science education at the Mount was very stable and focused,” she says. 

The Right Chemistry for Successful Research

BY LAURA ZARAGOZA GUERRERO

You don't have to be a scientist to understand the importance of DNA. From deciphering a person's genetic make-up to unraveling clues to a crime, DNA has become a major component in scientific breakthroughs. At the Mount, Associate Professor of Chemistry Eric Stemp is leading the way in DNA research—and his students are catching his contagious enthusiasm for the science.

"We are currently studying oxidative damage to DNA, which is one of the main causes of cancer and other molecular diseases, such as Parkinson's disease," explains Stemp. Oxidative damage occurs thousands of times a day in each of the body's cells when free radicals attack our DNA, but we are able to counteract that damage by taking vitamins C and E. "The overall goal of the research is to investigate the events that occur when DNA becomes damaged, so that we can better understand the beginning of diseases," he continues.

In addition to conducting research at the Mount, Stemp recruits Mount students to conduct summer research at Caltech where he continues to work with his postdoctoral advisor, renowned scientist Jacqueline Barton, with protein-to-DNA electron transfer. When asked about how well Mount students have executed this research, Stemp exudes overwhelming pride. "They have done an outstanding job," he exclaims. "It is challenging work, from both an intellectual and technical standpoint, but they have proven to be very capable. I couldn't have asked for better students; they've been very dedicated, very responsible, and a lot of fun to work with."

Students also have much to benefit from the research. "One of the best things about this project is that it is multidisciplinary, bridging the fields of molecular biology, biochemistry, physical chemistry, inorganic chemistry, and organic chemistry," explains Stemp. "The research is as diverse as the students who carry it out, and this helps them to be versatile as scientists."

According to Stemp, a new student starts out by reading articles and selections from textbooks, then watches older students perform experiments. There are also weekly group seminars where one group member gives a 20- to 30-minute presentation on research or related topics. After a semester, the student usually has a reasonably good grasp of the project. "The end result is a student who is confident in her ability to function as a scientist. We also try to publish our results regularly, and a journal article is an excellent addition to a

grad or med school application," he says.

Acknowledging that many incoming Mount students have a fear of math and science, Stemp comments, "In general, I think the Mount does an excellent job in training students in the sciences, despite their math and science anxieties. At local and national conferences, our students match up quite well with students from other schools. The one area where we could improve is developing their quantitative skills more, and that is one of President Doud's goals for us as an institution."

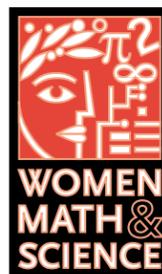
An example of Stemp's success in training his students in the sciences lies in how one of his projects received funding. "My first research project at the Mount involved green fluorescent protein, a molecule used to visualize structures within the cell," he explains. He submitted two external grant proposals for this project in 1996, but neither was funded.

However, the Mount provided him with a professional development grant, which enabled him to get the project off the ground. "One of my students, Kim Nguyen '01, a biochemistry major who came to the Mount with no lab experience, played an important role in getting \$250,000 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for our research," he recalls. "She performed the initial experiments that showed the hypothesis was sound, and these data were included in the grant proposal. The fact that a freshman conducted these experiments was critical in

convincing the grant reviewers that our project was feasible at a small school," he proudly explains. In addition to the NSF grant, Stemp received a \$35,000 Cottrell College Science Award from Research Corporation, a nonprofit organization that supports chemistry and physics research at undergraduate institutions.

How is Stemp able to prepare his students so well? "He is dedicated and will work with you as long as it takes to help you understand," explains Alexis Lueras '02, a biochemistry major who chose to attend Mount St. Mary's after meeting Stemp while visiting the campus. Kristina Kurbanyan '02, also a biochemistry major, explains how Stemp helped her overcome her anxiety with lab. "I had never taken a lab course in high school and had a lot of anxiety about it, but Professor Stemp gave me direction and even offered me the opportunity to do research at Caltech one summer, which boosted my confidence level."

Eunice Rivas '02 feels that Stemp gave her the opportunity to prove to herself that she has what it takes to be a biology major, and she claims that he is the best professor she has ever had. "He motivates his students and keeps believing in them, even when



RICK MENDOZA

Associate Professor of Chemistry Eric Stemp (foreground) helps students research DNA damage. In the background are biology major Eunice Rivas '02, and biochemistry majors Kim Nguyen '01 and Kristina Kurbanyan '02.

they don't believe in themselves," she says. "As far as he's concerned, no star is too far for anyone to reach. He is the kind of instructor that makes people want to attend small colleges."

Stemp's students agree that he has motivated them to tackle difficult courses with his sheer enthusiasm for science and dedication to teaching. Their respect, admiration, and affection have garnered him three major teaching awards during his tenure at the Mount. He was selected Outstanding

Faculty of the Year twice, in 1996-97 and in 1997-98. He was also selected as the Institute for Student Academic Enrichment (ISAE) Faculty of the Year for the Chalon Campus in 1998-99. "This award was especially meaningful to me because it came from students who had to overcome a lot just to go to college," he says. "It makes me feel like I am making a difference, and that's really what we are about at the Mount—making a difference." 

College Meets Keck Challenge

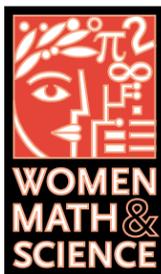
In 1998, The W.M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles awarded a grant of \$700,000 to the College to purchase equipment and to provide an endowment to strengthen biological and physical science programs. The initial \$400,000 was designated for the purchase of computer hardware and software, molecular biology equipment for teaching labs,

Alumnae and friends of the College supported the challenge with enthusiasm.

and faculty development activities for redesigning the biological and physical science programs.

The remaining \$300,000 was allocated for a matching grant that would provide an endowment for maintenance and upkeep of the new equipment, and would be received when the College raised \$600,000.

Alumnae and friends of the College supported the challenge with enthusiasm. Their gifts, combined with a generous grant of \$250,000 from the Fletcher Jones Foundation, completed the science endowment in December 2000, providing a fund of \$900,000 to keep the science laboratories and programs up to date.



Students work with Professor and Biological Sciences Chair Sister Annette Bower '59 as they utilize high performance liquid chromatography analysis of the heart's atrial peptide in an effort to understand what controls its release. The peptide is an important factor in the regulation of blood pressure.

Meanwhile, great changes took place in the science departments when the new equipment was installed. Workstations in the teaching and research laboratories, molecular research and teaching equipment, computers with access to scientific information and databases such as those maintained by the National Institutes of Health were added. More than 85 new multi-media and CD-ROM presentations containing the latest information on scientific issues were also purchased.

Additionally, the Keck grant enabled the physical and biological sciences faculty to receive in-service training on

the new technology, attend conferences and seminars on the latest research, give presentations on computer technology in the classroom at national conferences, and use available resources more efficiently.

Students have embraced the state-of-the-art equipment because it gives them more opportunities to learn material interactively. "The College opened my eyes to the field of biomedical research," says sophomore Janis Santos. "Our new lab is designed so that each person can participate in problem solving. Having participated in a research group has made me a better student overall. I really feel that I am moving forward and preparing myself for graduate school." **M**

ALUMNAE NEWS

Class Notes

'38

Annette Schurich Doyle is now living in a great home for active elders, Morningside of Fullerton.

'43

Mary Pansini LaHaye has edited a limited edition book, "The Story of Our Lady of Mount Carmel—A Church on Balboa Peninsula."

'46

Mary Needels Block and her husband sailed up the coast of Labrador (a.k.a. Iceberg Alley) on a summer supply boat.

Joan Cunningham is proud to announce the publication of her book, a memoir titled "My Father Was a Bit Player," published by Rutledge in February.

'47

Patricia A. Keelan works as a senior helper feeding seniors at lunch time and working with six-to-eleven-year-old children in after-school programs.

Patricia Borchard Watson volunteers at the Assistance League Thrift Shop, and acts as treasurer for the Las Reinas Guild of the Assistance League. Patricia also assists in raising funds for the Performing Arts Center through the Camelot Guild.

'48

Portia Hayes Cotter loves traveling to Georgia, Florida, Arizona, and California to visit family, and sings with the Schola Cantorum of the Pacific.

Pearl Butier Henzgen and her husband participated in the archdiocesan World Marriage Day.

'49

Mary Beth Baca is still very active volunteering at Fresno Community Hospital, which will soon be a regional medical center and will include the biggest burn and trauma facility in the state.

Virginia G. Debley made her second trip to the Holy Land in celebration of her parish's 50th anniversary. It was her first trip since her recent hip surgery.

Natalie Rohe Russell volunteers mainly in the areas of social justice, juvenile justice/mental health, and parish works (liturgy, small prayer groups, eucharistic ministry).

'50

Betsy Knieriem Hook's family is one of four generations living in California, Iowa, and Geneva, Switzerland.

Eleanor Roberts is recovering from breast cancer surgery, and is enjoying her daily spa baths for osteoarthritis while overlooking the Pacific Ocean in Malibu.

'51

Eloise Martinez Helwig has been invited by the State Department's People To People Ambassador Program to join a delegation of development leaders. The delegation will visit and assist hospitals and other non-profit organizations in South America. She is president of the Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital Foundation.

Genevieve Weeger Smurda sang at the dedication of Music Man Square in Mason City, Iowa, the hometown of composer Meredith Wilson.

'52

Lea O'Donnell Adza's family has grown to 26, including 12 grandchildren. Lea is recuperating well from a stroke on the right side. She says that "luckily, I'm left-handed."

Maria Fontana Beaton has moved back to Fresno. She bought an older home which she is refurbishing, and is a volunteer bookkeeper for her son's business.

Beverly Halpin Carrigan spent her birthday sailing the Mediterranean and visiting Rome in the holy year.

Joan Murphy Maechling and her family spent two weeks in Hawaii to celebrate her special birthday, and she and her husband also spent 25 days driving through the western part of the U.S.

'53

Claire Fitzgerald Molnar retired last June after working 23 years for L.A. County as a special education school nurse. Enjoying retirement in Oakhurst, Calif., she is involved with oil painting and duplicate bridge.

'54

Marian Seeley Curtis owns her own business, which is retail sales and installation of floor products. She is also still very much a competitive golfer.

John H. Ellis is retired but is a volunteer tutor helping adults learn to read and write through the Sacramento State Library. John also tutors Hispanic students in English.

Dolores Martinez Olson works in real estate in Palm Springs.

'56

Valerie Munton Krummer and her husband spent 10 months traveling across the U.S. and Canada all the way to Labrador, and are now headed to Florida and the southern route back to Calif.

Noreen Higgins Masterson and her sister, **Kathleen Higgins Barela '54**, traveled last May to Boston for a visit with their father's 96-year-old cousin, a Franciscan nun.

'57

Florence Okihara Bath has just returned from a trip to Beijing and Xian, China. She is planning a land and water trip to Alaska this year.

Emma Jean Apodaca Cervantes was appointed by former President Clinton to represent New Mexico on the National Education and Economics Board, which is affiliated with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

'58

Mary E. (Toni) Antoniak Braun is active as St. Bede's Parish pro-life chairperson, and sings in the choir. She works full time for LAUSD as a school nurse with severely disabled students.

Annette Laberge MacDonald and her husband both enjoy retirement and volunteer involvement.

Margaret Ward Montante traveled on a pilgrimage to Notre Dame in Rheims, France, and saw the Passion Play in Oberammergau.

'59

Gloria Travaglini Chess and her husband spent their 20th anniversary walking the Cinque Terre on the coast of Liguria, Italy.

'61

Linda Feinberg Callon has joined the board of trustees of the Leukemia-Lymphoma Society, Northern California chapter. She is still a land-use lawyer and the city attorney of Gilroy, and race-walked a marathon in Alaska to raise money for cancer research.

Judy Cascales continues to teach English at Montgomery High School in San Diego.

Mary Collins Pizzorno traveled to Italy last March. The trip included an audience with the Pope. She has lived in Texas for nearly 30 years.



Enjoying the Golden Grad/Heritage Society Christmas luncheon in the Doheny Mansion are (seated left to right) Viola Corbett, Erika Orth Owens '50, and Raquel Casillas '57, (standing left to right) Joe Zanetta, vice president for institutional advancement, Pat Gisler Galt '47, Kirby Galt, and Nina Patterson.

Linda Cox Stellern is still teaching a third grade transition class in Pasadena. She enjoys being in stage shows with the Shakespeare League.

'62

Elizabeth McCready Stark has retired and is now living in Camp Verde, Arizona.

Mary K. Norton Butler has retired after 35 years of teaching. She is enjoying traveling, attending a cooking school in Tuscany, hiking in Switzerland, kayaking on the Columbia River, and studying the Anasazi ruins in New Mexico.

Maryann Dobbs retired in June from LAUSD after 37 and a half years of teaching.

'63

Carol Kroll Babbitt completes 30 years as an industrial hygienist for the Department of Defense this year.

Judi Merino Light visited Tehran, Shiraz, and Isfahan in Iran. Highlights of the trip included talking with the women and visiting the ancient capital of Persepolis, as well as seeing artifacts from the 5th millennium B.C.

Kathleen Herman Nally is in her 10th year teaching fourth grade in San Gabriel and is a technology mentor. She and her husband enjoy golf get-aways.

Rosemary Strano Mancuso traveled to Italy last April where their daughter was working on a master's degree.

Jodi Mullins Radovcich and husband celebrated their 35th anniversary in Kona, Hawaii. They also visited family in Colorado and Texas, and welcomed two

more grandchildren last fall. She is a weekend manager for St. Joseph Health Systems Home Health.

Janet Hebert Smith retired from teaching this past year.

'64

Cecelia Schmahl Stratford celebrated 25 years of flying last November. She had a big party at her hangar at Whiteman Airport.

'65

Margaret Hudnall Friedrich is still doing church music as cantor and in liturgy preparation. She has traveled on pilgrimages and spends lots of time with her grandchildren.

Vivien LoPizzo has earned National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT) status through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

(NBPTS). A voluntary process established by the NBPTS, board certification is earned through a rigorous performance-based assessment of teachers' subject knowledge, ability to teach their subjects to students effectively, and ability to manage and measure student learning. It takes about a year to complete. Only 9,523 teachers nationwide have earned NBCT status. Vivien states, "I sought to participate in the demanding certification process as a challenge to my professional growth and to take a fresh look at what I was doing as a teacher. I was struck by incredible similarities between the standards and focus of my teacher preparation courses at the Mount." She teaches at Brentwood Science Magnet School in the Los Angeles Unified School District and has served as an elementary school advisor and mentor teacher to new teachers in various schools in the district.

'66

Tina Von der Ahe Brown has taken her recently-widowed mother on a cruise around the world and on a cruise to the Mediterranean.

Kitty Carton is now a full-time support provider for beginning teachers in the Antioch Unified School District. This past year she watched fall turn into winter while visiting a newly-discovered cousin in the Catskills.

Mary Kessler La Croix's son has graduated from the California Maritime Academy as a marine engineer. She is now in her 10th year at the Redding Medical Center Laboratory.

Pam Hallenbeck Litz visited Australia last year and spent two weeks in Sydney enjoying the Olympics.

Toni Propotnik is an independent healthcare consultant specializing in clinical resource management and case management.

Norina Cartusciello Sinclair is the head docent at Lakeview Museum and serves on two boards at Lakeview. She

and her husband traveled last year to Italy, France, and Spain.

Mary Porter Stember is an art teacher at St. Francis High School in Sacramento and traveled to the Olympics where her son was a participant.

'67

Victoria Chaney Brosman is a judge on the Los Angeles Superior Court, and was recently assigned to the Complex Litigation Pilot Project where six judges are assigned to handle complex cases.

'68

Macrina Garcia continues to develop her travel nurse enterprise, which has become very successful.

Carol Feloney Garibay is working as a consulting teacher in the Peer Assistance and Review Program in the Fontana Unified School District. She has done a little traveling in New England and Washington, D.C., lately.

Kathleen Villar Jacinto returned to school and received an administrative credential in 1999. She now has an administrative position with LAUSD.

Kathryn Macek is a research editor at the Bibliography of the History of Art at the Getty Research Institute. The BHA was recently relocated by the J. Paul Getty Trust to L.A., so Kathy returned to L.A. after 28 years in her native Massachusetts.

'69

Virginia Yettke Phillips is working in two emergency rooms, one in Woodland Hills and the other in Thousand Oaks. She enjoys working with other Mount grads.

Adele Zarate Skibba is a lector and eucharistic minister at Holy Angels, and she is also on the Red Cross disaster team.

Carol Ann Hrick Ule has returned to substitute teaching in Bay Village, OH.

'70

Joan Wright DeFreece is the only discharge planner in the county jail system in Portland, OR. She says it is a "challenging and very interesting clientele and environment."

Barbara Rice Waterkotte will travel to Europe this year as the nurse for approximately 200 high school orchestra/choir members as part of the Arizona Ambassadors of Music, performing in six countries in 17 days.

'71

Diane Morgan West and her husband have completed six years as full-time RVers, and plan to continue. The past summer they volunteered in Yosemite for 10 weeks.

'72

Deborah Lasseter is still the director of pulmonary services/sleep disorder at Torrance Memorial Medical Center. She enjoys quiet time in the mountains when she has the chance.

Joanne Jabuka D'Amico and her husband celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a trip to Italy. Joanne is also president of Las Primeras of the Assistance League of San Pedro/South Bay.

'73

Mary C. Breden has conducted the Loyola-Marymount choruses in concerts in the Boston area, and has also appeared with them at the American Choral Directors Association Western Convention.

'74

Rosalie Fraga McVay traveled to Australia with her youngest son, who was a member of the 2000 Olympics

band. She is busy teaching mathematics and with church obligations.

Janet Fisher Petersen is working as a kindergarten aide at her daughter's school.

'75

Sharon Criss Watson recently returned from living in Sicily for four years.

Alice Gardello took a travel/study tour of Israel and Egypt with her church, and is presently teaching at Nora Sterry Elementary in West Los Angeles.

'76

Joanne Monteith says that school nursing continues to be interesting and challenging.

Marisela Aldana Robinson is in her 20th year as a special education teacher. She also teaches parenting and parent information classes.

'77

Judith Carter Smith is working for Kaiser Permanente after five years of retirement living on the island of Kauai.

'79

Alicia Andujo is the president of the Statewide California Community College Counselors Association for 2001-2002.

'80

Mary Nell Drust Malone is living in Santa Barbara and is busy being a mom.

'81

Robert S. Feller, Jr. has finished the 3000-hour internship for the marriage and family therapist license and is starting a private practice in Salinas and Monterey. A second volume of his poetry was published in March.

Mary Costa Pietrowski lives in Madera, California. Her family owns a dairy farm, and she works part time as a nursing instructor at the local adult school.

'83

Adrienne Allison still loves staff nursing in maternal/child health at Providence Holy Cross Medical Center in Mission Hills.

'86

Louise Karch Raya enjoys her position as a college advisor at Irvine High School. She and her husband plan to visit the Ivy League colleges during her husband's sabbatical this spring.

'87

Virginia Bauer reports that she has adopted a baby boy and is teaching a combination fourth/fifth grade at Sylmar Elementary School.

'88

Anne Kristen Bishop is participating in a teacher exchange to Australia for 2001. She says visitors are welcome.

'89

Julie Johnson Ferebee has been working as a school nurse for 11 years, and is currently director for school health services for the Palmdale School District. She is also working toward a master's degree in educational administration at CSU, Bakersfield.

'90

Sheila Von Altenberg is the co-owner of Meow Productions where she is executive producer and writer of Grated and children's films.

'91

Susan Konzal won airfare to Australia at a charity event and traveled to Sydney and the Great Barrier Reef.



Barbara Buckman '63 and Mary Anne Sterling Houlahan '75, co-chairs of Teachers' Cupboard, sponsored by the Alumnae Association, sort through education materials donated by alums to assist new teachers. The event was held April 7.

PATTY DESMARIS '69

- '98 Andrew David to Dawn CeDillos Harlow, 1st child
- '98 Lanie Aya Jenna to Stacey Gunderson Kimura, 1st child
- '00 Judah Vincent to Martha Ramirez, 1st child

Requiescant

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of:

- '38 husband of Annette Schurich Doyle
- '38 Florence Verge Mayhew
- '40 Zan Joyce Thompson
- '50 husband of Betsy Knieriem Hook
- '51 Helen B. Ellis
- '52 sister of Sr. Jeanne Anne Ciacippo, CSJ
- '54 Margaret Holtsnider MacMunn
- '56 Darlene Bryan Hoppes
- '58 mother of Theresa Mangold
- '59 mother of Evangeline C. De Baca Madrid
- '61 son-in-law of Lutier Bernard Boles
- '61 Betty Jordan Zarcone
- '62 mother of Elizabeth McCready Stark
- '64 father of Sr. Kieran Vaughan, CSJ and Sr. Judy Vaughan, CSJ '68
- '65 mother of Sharon Moyer Martin
- '66 father of Sr. Lois Linenberger, CSJ
- '69 father of Michele Tomac D'Amico
- '71 father of Sr. Kathy Stein, CSJ
- '75 son of Julie Gannon Soto
- '77 husband of Bernadette Gonzaque Robert
- '80 father of Patricia Alano Jayo
- '81 husband of Cassandra Sims-Roy
- '87 grandmothers of Catalina Gonzalez Sanchez, Luz Maria Gonzalez '90, Patricia Gonzalez Estrada '90 and Virginia Gonzalez '91
- '91 grandfather and uncle of Danielle Fischer McOuat
- '95 father of Marie Anne Legaspi
- '00 Steven Schultz

They will be remembered in the Masses, prayers, and good works of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Brenda Zozaya has been promoted to chief operations officer with Devine Communications, Inc., a telecommunications company.

'92

Connie Bonillas lives in New Jersey with her family. She is pursuing a doctorate in human sexuality and is on the board of directors for the Foundation for the Scientific Study of Sexuality.

Michelle Johndrow Marks traveled to Cairns, Australia, to present her research on scoliosis at the Scoliosis Research Society international meeting.

'93

Jennifer Kurihara is currently working at Isis Pharmaceuticals in Carlsbad, Calif., and has been promoted to human resources generalist.

'98

Elizabeth Guevara Kelemen has been hired at a level-one trauma center in Las Vegas. She has passed the emergency nurses certifications exam and is obtaining her CEN certificate. She and her husband spent the holidays in Italy and France.

'99

Sheryl Lyons Seifer is working in labor and delivery full time at Queen of Angels/Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center.

'00

Chau Le is a production specialist II with GenSci Regenerations Inc. She plans to go to graduate school, is honing her photography skills, and is trying to rekindle her talent in playing the flute.

Two by Two

The Alumnae Association extends best wishes to the following alumna and her spouse:

- '92 Brenda Mosley to Silas Curry

By-Lines

The Alumnae Association extends congratulations to these alums and their spouses on the birth of their children:

- '87 Michael to Catalina Gonzalez Sanchez, 1st child
- '89 Mary to Patricia Costanza Buffaloe Bonillas, 2nd child, 1st son
- '92 Theodore Charles to Jenny Chen Lee, 1st child
- '93 Teah Marie to Tina Fischer Moran, 1st child
- '95 Jacqueline to Martha Verduzco Charre, 3rd child, 2nd daughter



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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MOUNT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE ARCHIVES

Mount students conduct chemistry experiments in a Chalon lab in the 1940s.

Mount Leads the Way in Cancer Research

It was known as the first course of its kind in any college or university in the world in the late 1940s. The Mount's Cancer Research Department was inaugurated in February 1948 with the mission of producing the most urgently needed workers of the time—cancer research technicians.

Sponsored by the Frank H. Boyer Foundation for Cancer Research and under the guidance of foundation director, Joseph A. Pollia, the course trained students to become technical assistants for doctors engaged in cancer research. Faculty teaching the course included Sisters Gertrude Joseph Cook and M. Gerald Leahy of the Biological Sciences Department, Sisters Mary Ida Holiday and Alice Marie Cheap of the Physical Sciences Department, and Sister M. Marguerite Ellard of the Home Economics Department.

So great was the demand and interest, that by September 1949 the course was expanded into a full department to embrace all the different lines of attack on cancer. And students would not have a problem finding a job. "Even while they are taking the course, all the girls who wish to work during summer vacations will find themselves greatly in demand," Pollia was quoted as saying in a Los Angeles Examiner article in 1949. 

SAVE THE DATE

April

Saturday, April 21 • 10 a.m.
Second Annual Youth Summit on Peace
Doheny Campus

Local youth and organizations will explore ways to prevent violence in their communities and promote peace. To learn more about the program, visit the Mount's Web site at www.msmc.la.edu/urbanpartnership/ysop.htm.



Saturday, April 28 • 2 p.m.
Mary's Day
Chalon Campus

May

Friday, May 11 • Noon
Alumnae New Grad Luncheon
Chalon Campus

8 p.m.
**Weekend College Awards
and Graduate Reception**
Chalon Campus

Saturday, May 12 • 1 p.m.
Laurel Day
Doheny Campus

7 p.m.
Graduate Hooding
Doheny Campus

Sunday, May 13 • 4 p.m.
Baccalaureate Mass
Mary Chapel

Monday, May 14 • 7 p.m.
Commencement
Shrine Auditorium

June



Friday-Sunday, June 22-24
Spa Weekend
Chalon Campus

Invigorate your mind, body, and spirit at this weekend event which promises to be fun, relaxing, and enjoyable. For more details, call Fitness Education, (310) 954-4347.

July

Saturday, July 14 • 9:30 a.m.
Los Angeles Central Public Library
Join the Alumnae Association in a docent-led tour of gardens, buildings, and the rare book collection. For registration information, call Alumnae Relations at (213) 477-2767.