Three-peat
MSMC Students Earn Prestigious Rockefeller Fellowships (Again!)

Mount Alums Move On
Commencement 2001
CLASS OF ’51 BEGINS
A GOLDEN TRADITION

When the class of 1951 gathered for its Golden Grad reunion May 19, there was the usual flurry of activity—getting reacquainted, talking about experiences at the College, catching up on the years in between. This class, the first of the new millennium to celebrate a half-century since its graduation, decided to do something different—and very special—by committing to raise $50,000 as a reunion gift to the Mount.

Former regent of the College Eloise Martinez Helwig (second from left in second row in photo) agreed to chair the Reunion Gift Committee, which is leading this challenge. No stranger to fundraising, Helwig is president of the Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital Foundation and served as the chair of the Mount’s first annual fund (then called the Alumnae Fund) in 1957.

A booklet that was printed in 1957 asked the question, “Why an Alumnae Fund?” The answer, in part, was (and remains):

If Catholics intend to maintain and improve the advantages of the high standards of Catholic education in colleges, those advantages will have to be paid for. It is considered that we, the beneficiaries of the education, should assume the lead in the financial support. As Alumnae we have a share in the present and future of our College, just as we did in the past.

For more information on giving to the Mount, please contact:

Joseph Zanetta
Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Mount St. Mary’s College
10 Chester Place • Los Angeles, CA 90007
(213) 477-2766 • Fax: (213) 477-2763
E-mail: jzanetta@msmc.la.edu

Three-peat
Future teachers earn Rockefeller Brothers Fund Fellowships.

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Commencement 2001
The Mount graduates more than 600 at the Shrine.

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Moving On
Longtime instructors leave the Mount.

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For Information
Admissions (310) 954-4250
Alumnae Relations (213) 477-2767
Business Office (310) 954-4640
Chalon Campus (310) 954-4600
Doheny Campus (213) 477-2500
Financial Aid (310) 954-4100
Institutional Advancement (213) 477-2764
Weekend College (310) 954-4050
MSCC Web Site www.msmc.la.edu

ON THE COVER: Rockefeller Fellows Sonia Arteaga ’02, Angelica Duenas ’02, and Qéona Hamilton ’02.
PHOTO BY RICK MENDOZA

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I have enjoyed reconnecting with and meeting new faculty members, staff, students, and other alums."

Adieu, Sister Eloise Therese Mescall, CSJ
Adapted in part from the necrology written by Sister Karen Wilhelmy, CSJ’62

The Mount community was saddened by the death of Sister Eloise Therese Mescall on May 18, 2001. Born Mary Virginia Mescall on December 20, 1919, she was raised in Los Angeles, attended Catholic elementary schools and St. Mary’s Academy. She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1938, and received the name of Sister Eloise Therese in honor of her two elder sisters.

After teaching music for a few years in Oakland, Calif., she attended UCLA where she received a bachelor’s and master’s degree in French, and in 1948, joined the faculty at the College in the Modern Languages Department, where she became chair, a position she held until 1961. Before it was even fashionable, she was interested in multicultural issues, and returned to UCLA where she earned her doctorate in romance languages in 1959.

Sister Eloise Therese believed that classroom teaching was second only to traveling to learn about the world, and in 1955 she founded a program for undergraduates to study abroad in their junior year. She received study travel grants from the Instituto de Cultura Hispanica, the Mexican and Austrian governments, and the Richelieu Institute, and post-doctoral fellowships at Laval University in Quebec and the University of Lausanne in Switzerland, to name a few.

She also held administrative positions at the College, including director of the Doheny Campus from 1959 to 1964, coordinator of development and public relations from 1961 to 1964, and director of development from 1964 to 1967. She received many accolades throughout her lifetime, and was a member of many professional and academic honor societies. She received an honorary diploma from the University of Madrid, was given the title of Officier des Palmes Académiques from the French government in 1975 in recognition of her cultural rendering and strengthening of Franco-American ties, and won the Meyer Krakowski Scholarship for her research on Victor Hugo in 1981. She was named professor emerita by Mount St. Mary’s College in 1994 when she retired.

While involved in teaching, traveling, and studying, she also translated not only textbooks and scholarly articles, but also a four-volume catechetical series from English to Spanish, and edited an Italian work on modernism for Alba Press in 1970.

She is best remembered for the festive parties she gave, her love of traveling, her fine manners, and her dignified and elegant presence.

Contributions to MSMC in memory of Sister Eloise Therese Mescall, CSJ, may be sent to Joseph Zanetta
Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Mount St. Mary’s College
10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007

Mount Scenes
Outstanding Mount Students Recognized at Annual Honors Convocations

More than 80 Chalon and Doheny students were honored for their outstanding academic achievements and contributions at the Mount’s annual pre-commencement awards and honors convocations: Mary’s Day held April 28 on the Chalon Campus (top photo), and Laurel Day held May 12 on the Doheny Campus (bottom photo).

The Mount Summer 2001
The Mount Summer 2001
Representing a Small Country in the Big Apple
By Magda de Leon ’01

More than 1,000 chocolate bars were sold, countless food sales held, and dozens of TV show tapings attended. The result of all that fundraising finally became reality on the rainy Saturday morning of April 7 when the alarm clock rang at 4 a.m., forcing us to get up and head out to the airport. Red-eyed, rainy, but all very much excited, the 11 women of Mount St. Mary’s College were ready to represent the Republic of Kyrgyzstan at the 2001 National Model United Nations Conference in New York City.

Our diverse delegation, under the guidance of Doug Gecker, lecturer, history/political science, consisted of five political science majors, three biology majors, one history major, one sociology major and one business major, all bringing various perspectives to our representation of the Kyrgyz Republic. The women were assigned to the WTO committee and the Committee on Conflict Resolution, or the United Nations Conference Against Racism, among other committees. Being the only business major, I was the lone representative in the World Trade Organization (WTO) committee.

Other committees in which we represented Kyrgyzstan included: the General Assembly (GA) Plenary; GA First Committee; World Conference Against Racism; Habitat Agenda; UN Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS; and the UN Development Programme.

As part of 2,400 delegates from four continents attending the conference, we had the unique opportunity to interact with other students who had studied the UN system as extensively as we had. The one-on-one event offered us the chance to articulate our assigned country’s views on contemporary issues of global importance. Exploring the issues facing our committees demanded that we consider all possible perspectives while remaining true to our assigned country’s views on contemporary issues of global importance.

During the weeklong conference, countries represented in the committee were either all developed or developing/transitional, and had the unique opportunity to interact with other countries represented in the committee.

The WTO committee was surprisingly large, consisting of about 130 people. The delegation managed to set the agenda on our first day, which was a great accomplishment considering it usually takes a week to do the similar task in the real WTO. Since the countries represented in the committee were either all developed or developing/transitional, the WTO one-week event offered us the chance to articulate our assigned country’s views on contemporary issues of global importance.

By Margaux de Leon ’01

Representing a Small Country in the Big Apple

Since Kyrgyzstan is a small country, which generally aligns its policies with those of the United States and the European Union, our strategy was to follow its lead. Kyrgyzstan relies heavily on foreign assistance, so much so that its transition toward a market economy and a democratic government would not have been possible without the assistance of international financial institutions. We had to keep this in mind at all times as we represented Kyrgyzstan at the ministerial meeting of the WTO.

The WTO committee was surprisingly large, consisting of about 130 people. The delegation managed to set the agenda on our first day, which was a great accomplishment considering it usually takes a week to do the similar task in the real WTO. Since the countries represented in the committee were either all developed or developing/transitional, we had decided that our first issue for discussion would be relevant to all our nations: global economic disparity. During our sessions, countries progressed from working only within their voting blocks and regional groups to working with the entire committee, so that every country’s issues were addressed and concerns appeased. It took the remaining days of the conference to produce one collaborative report for that topic alone, which was then presented to the General Assembly.

Veronica Acevedo ’01, a political science major and a second-year participant who not only juggled a full course load, but an off-campus job as well, advises those who plan to take the course, “A lot of the work will be done primarily on your own and outside of the classroom. You will have to organize your time well so that you can also help out the group when you’re needed for fundraisers.”

Kathleen Delgado ’01, a history major, signed up for the course in order to satisfy a speech course required for general studies. She chose to stay in the course even after she learned she would need to do extensive research. She says, “I learned about other countries, studying their foreign policies, and keeping abreast of world events is something everyone should do, regardless of their majors. And everyone should learn the valuable skill of public speaking. Taking MUN really helped me improve that skill.”

By Margaux de Leon ’01

Representing a Small Country in the Big Apple

More than 300 Mount students have represented more than 30 countries at the National Model United Nations Conference since 1967.

Summer 2001

T he Mount community was saddened by the death of Sister Mary Louise Collette, CSJ, who passed away at Carondelet Center after a long illness. She was 78 years old.

She was born and raised in Los Angeles, the only child of Leo and Margaret Collette. She received the name Sister Margaret Leo to honor her parents when she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1943. Later, when there was an option of returning to one’s baptismal name, she became Sister Mary Louise.

Her career as a mathematics instructor began at the Mount in 1955 after several years of teaching in elementary and secondary schools. During her early years at the College, she served as director of admissions and attended UCLA on a National Science scholarship where she earned her M.A.

She returned to St. Mary’s Academy in 1965 where she taught for three years, and rejoined the Mount faculty in 1968 as an assistant professor, teaching until her retirement in 1997.

She is best remembered for her warm and welcoming disposition, the individual interest she took in each student, and for making math so comprehensible.

By Margaux de Leon ’01

Representing a Small Country in the Big Apple

Correction: In the Spring 2001 issue of the Mount magazine, on page three in ’91’s Small World with Big Connections, we incorrectly identified Thunderbird, The American Graduate School of International Management as Thunderbird International School of Business.

By Magda de Leon ’01

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Mount Scene

**The Mount in the Media**

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

**KNFB News Radio (960 AM)** — Carried a live interview with actor Victor Rivers prior to his keynote speech at the Youth Summit on Peace at the Doheny Campus on Saturday, April 21 (see story, page seven).

**KNBC-TV** — Featured Lena Rivkin, instructor, Weekend College, on the show "Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus," which offered her expertise in graphology by analyzing sketches drawn by the show’s panel (May).

The station also carried a news story about the Hispanic Women’s Conference at the Biltmore Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles April 6. The coverage included interviews with Mount students Claudia Almanza ’01 and Gina Aguare ’03, who commented on the program, which included career workshops and a job fair.

**Redbook Magazine** — Published a story on Lena Rivkin, instructor, Weekend College, about interpreting drawings (March).

**Los Angeles Bay News Observer** — Featured a story about Sister Judy Vaughan, CSJ ’68, who was recently honored as a Woman of the Year by the Los Angeles Commission for Women. Vaughan, a former teacher at the Mount in the 70s, is the founder and director of Alexandria House in Downtown Los Angeles, a transitional residence for women and children in need. Vaughan has consistently worked as an advocate for women’s rights and social change and as director she oversees all the programs which assist women and society, gain employment, and become self-sufficient (Feb.).

A number of Los Angeles publications — covered the 2001 Neighborhood Convention, hosted by former Los Angeles Mayor Richard J. Riordan, and held at the Mount St. Mary’s College Doheny Campus. The goal of the convention was to create a forum for Angelenos to exchange ideas and address concerns regarding neighborhood improvement. The convention featured workshops on topics such as, “Creating Your Neighborhood Council,” and “Addressing Crime in your Area” (Feb.).

**Los Angeles Times** — Columnist Daniel Cariaga reviewed the International Sejong Soloists, an 11-member string orchestra, which made its debut aboard the Queen Mary in Long Beach. Cariaga described the group as, “a polished ensemble that produces beautiful sounds and projects high spirits.” He described their performance as having consisted of “technical solidity, fluent passage work and perfect intonation.” (March).

The Times also published a variety of music reviews of Da Camera Society concerts this past spring, including a recent performance of the British chamber choir, The Sixteen. Columnist John Heineken proclaimed their music to be, “agitated and austere, dramatic and contemporary, specific in creed and style yet timeless and universal.” (April)

**Entrepreneur Magazine** — Quoted Venetta Campbell, psychology, on the topic of stress management in its recent publication, “Grow Your Business,” which serves as a guide for building a thriving business.

**The Mount Scene Siena Day 2001:** “Math Counts”

**How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.**

Had Elizabeth Barrett Browning attended Siena Day 2001, March 29, on the Doheny Campus, she would have discovered ways to calculate the answer to the question of her legendary sonnet.

“Math Counts,” the theme of this year’s all-College convocation, was demonstrated in more than 20 interactive exhibits sponsored by departments and clubs ranging from Advisement to the Women’s Leadership Program. As students, faculty, and staff visited and participated in the activities, it soon became apparent that whether the topic was blood pressure, music, grade point averages, or car loans, math plays an intrinsic part in our daily lives.

After an international buffet lunch, a panel comprised of alumnae who were not math majors revealed the ways that math plays a role in their jobs: Barbara Howes ’95 (labor arts), director of talent and organization development at Walt Disney Imagineering; Daisy Mah ’98 (biochemistry) who is earning a master’s degree in chemistry and involved in a study of ozone in the troposphere; Jessica Rios ’01 (business administration) who began as an assistant accountant in the audit division at KPMG after graduation; and Kathryn Brown Schaffer ’89 (biology/pre-med), an epidemiologist and senior researcher for the Southern California Injury Prevention Center, UCLA.

“Siena Day was a day of insight,” says nursing major Alcide ‘03. “I never knew math could be used in various professions.”

**Actor Victor Rivers Gives Impassioned Address at Second Annual YSOP**

**How many times have you sat down at the dinner table prepared to eat the first delicious bite, only to lift the telephone ring?**

You rise from your chair to answer, postponing your long-awaited hunger satisfaction, only to find a long-winded telemarketer on the other end pitching one of countless products and services you don’t need or want. Before you can get a word inedgeperson, the person on the other end has unleashed a 1,000 word pitch about the benefits of parting with your money.

On the evening of June 14, I became one of those telephone callers. I volunteered to participate in a phonethon—that ongoing ritual performed by annual fund offices in colleges and universities across the country. Along with a cadre of enthusiastic alumnae and staff volunteers, I sat at my phone with my lists of persons to call.

While I’m a strong believer in the mission of the College and give to the Mount every year, it’s nice to know that one of the students I pass on campus is here partly because of my contribution.

At my alma mater, the University of Redlands, I recently assisted with the College’s annual fund campaign. Why was I asked to participate? The spirit of their experiences here. What a wonderful group of people! One call in particular made me realize the noble nature of what my fellow volunteers had done that night. After speaking with one alumna, hearing her tell me she was doubting her gift to the school because of my contribution. As we made our calls on June 14, we left countless messages and got lots of “no answers.” But when we finished, there was an abundance of stories told of contacts we made and the priceless spirit of peace our volunteers carried back to the Mount.

**Thank You for Calling**

By Don Davidson, Director of Public Relations

**Bridges**

Actor and domestic violence survivor Victor Rivers gave an impassioned address to Los Angeles youth at the second annual Youth Summit on Peace (YSOP)—Wise Up!—Saturday, April 21, on the Doheny Campus.

Sponsored by Campus Ministry and the Center for Urban Partnerships, the event featured speakers, workshops, and entertainment focusing on finding solutions to ending violence in the home and in the community. Rivers, whose movie credits include Two for Texas, Amistad, The Mask of Zorro, A Disturbing Gentleman, Red, The Chain, and Blood in Blood Out—Bound by Honor, told an eruptant audience about his childhood experiences as the victim of horrendous abuse at the hand of his father.

Victor Rivers left home as a teenager and was “adopted” by a host of friends and teachers whose love and caring helped him escape the gang life he had become part of. He is now a tireless spokesman for the National Network to End Domestic Violence and spoke at the opening ceremony for the event. His wife, renowned author Minam Rivers, hosted one of the afternoon workshops.

Among the workshops were: Making Peace Through Poetry; Law Enforcement and How It Affects You; Understanding the Dynamics of Partner Violence; Yoga—The Spirit Of Peace; The Reality of Racism; and Get Up, Stand Up, and Get Involved! Dreamyard/L.A., MIRK Dance Productions, Materi Gris, and EcoBand provided entertainment, and Chase Manhattan Bank, Peace Team L.A., and McDonald’s Corporation provided major corporate sponsorship.
The Mount Steps Forward When Exam Prep Firm Folds

Mount students who enrolled with an independent firm to take a CPA Review Course at UCLA got some bad news in February when they learned the class was cancelled because the company had gone out of business.

The classes had begun in December and were designed to assist the students in taking the CPA exam in May. Books had been purchased and fees paid, but students were left “out in the cold” when the company folded. Mount faculty member Steven Metz and another instructor offered to teach the remaining classes for free.

Despite their offer to teach, UCLA wanted to charge a fee to the group of about 50 students for use of their facilities. Enter Mount St. Mary’s College. Despite the fact that only four of the students were from the Mount, the College provided a place for the group to finish their class work—at no cost.

Jessica Rojas ’01, one of those four students, was impressed with the College’s commitment. “I am very glad to say that the Mount cared so much for the success of its four business students,” she said, “that it granted permission for the classes to continue here. It shows that the Mount, the staff, faculty, and departments care about reaching out and helping their students … and how the Mount is continually providing students with opportunities to learn, grow, be recognized, and succeed.”

After graduation, Jessica immediately went to work at KPMG, one of the Big Five accounting firms.

Lyons Honored at Education Conference

Visions of Community Through Literacy” was the theme of the Education Department’s first annual Teacher’s Cupboard at the Summer Institute held on the Doheny Campus. More than 100 teachers from private and public schools in the Los Angeles area attended the event.

Nanette Cruz, director of Stanford University’s Hans Center for Public Service, was the keynote speaker. In her address, “Envisioning and Creating Community Through Literacy,” she explored and gave examples of how formal education must be coupled with stories from students’ own communities before they can develop an appreciation for the value of learning.

A highlight of the conference was the presentation of the College’s 2001 Center for Cultural Fluency Award by Education Department faculty member Debbie Gusta, to Maria Lyons, director of student activities and community liaison, Doheny Campus. Recognizing Lyons’ cross cultural leadership and ability to reach out to the community, Gusta said, “We are blessed to have Maria’s guidance in helping us listen, love, and get along.”

Speaking through tears of gratitude, Lyons said, “The Doheny Campus has been exciting, but the best part is seeing where the students can go. We have a living opportunity to go past the barriers of fear, anxiety, and hurt; our spirits have no color.”

A visit to the Alumnae Association-sponsored “Teachers’ Cupboard” (see My Turn, page two), where conference attendees could purchase teaching materials at low prices, ended the day’s activities.

Former President Kennelly Receives Honorary Degree from Hebrew Union College

It’s a rare occasion when a Jewish university bestows an honorary degree on a nun. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) did just that at its Commencement ceremony May 14 when it awarded the Mount’s former president Sister Karen M. Kennelly, CSJ, the degree of Doctor of humane letters, honoris causa.

Kennelly was chosen to receive the degree by an HUC-JIR honors committee on the basis of her Judeo-Christian work as well as her work with diverse cultures. In addition to working with Uri Herschel, a Hebrew Union College professor from Hebrew and the Cultural Fluency Award by Education Department faculty member Debbie Gusta, to Maria Lyons, director of student activities and community liaison, Doheny Campus.

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Mount students have done it again. Sonia Arteaga ’02, Angelica Dueñas ’02, and Qéona Hamilton ’02 have been awarded Rockefeller Brothers Fund Fellowships for Minority Students Entering the Teaching Profession, marking the seventh year that MSMC students have been awarded the fellowship, and the third time all three of the Mount’s candidates were selected. These Mount scholars are among only 25 students from 15 institutions nationally to receive the fellowship.

By Laura Zaragoza Guerrero
Since the fellowship program’s launching in 1992, the Mount has had at least one student named a fellow every year (with the exception of the period between 1997 and 2000, when the fund was temporarily suspended for evaluation), with a total of 15 fellows overall—an impressive figure by most standards.

The reason for such success? “The Mount offers a unique undergraduate program that allows students to take courses toward their teaching credential, thereby giving them an edge over other fellowship hopefuls,” explains Pat Disterhoft, chair, education department. “Not all colleges provide this opportunity.”

And students need an edge to rise above the stiff competition. “In addition to having highly competent students who meet the program’s criteria, the Mount also does an excellent job of preparing them for their interviews, a crucial part of the selection process,” says Disterhoft. After being interviewed by President Jacqueline Powers Doux and Provost Sister Mary Williams, CSJ, the semi-finalists underwent a simulated interview by a panel including Mount Trustees Michael Enright and Jim Flanigan, and Susan Powers, deputy district attorney for the County of Los Angeles. This process, the students admit, greatly helped them pull through in many service activities. Additionally, she is an admission’s associate and a member of Volunteers in Partnership, where she works with high school students interested in attending college.

Currently in her third year of volunteering her Saturday mornings as a Catechist teacher, Dueñas helps prepare children to receive their first Holy Communion. “This experience has strengthened my goal of wanting to become a teacher,” she states. “Although working with children has been a great challenge,” she admits, “it has been the most rewarding challenge that I have ever experienced.”

Making a Difference in Children’s Lives

Children are the driving force behind Angelica Dueñas’s determination to become an elementary school teacher. “I want to be a teacher who makes a difference in children’s lives,” she proclaims. “There exists no better feeling than knowing that my words and actions have helped to further the knowledge of children.”

The liberal studies major, who also received a 2000-2001 Gates Millennium Scholarship, has served as president of the Mount’s service sorority, Pi Theta Mua, where she has helped feed the homeless, made children aware of the College through Project Grad, and been involved in many service activities. Additionally, she is an admission’s associate and a member of Volunteers in Partnership, where she works with high school students interested in attending college.

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Advocating Tolerance, Citizenship, Unity, and Openness

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Success is a journey, not a destination, and it is not the destination, but the journey that is worth traveling.”
—Ann Meyers Drysdale

The Shrine Auditorium was filled to capacity on May 14 for the College’s 72nd Commencement ceremony where more than 600 graduates, their families and friends gathered to celebrate the special evening.

Activities began with master of ceremonies Jim Flanigan, L.A. Times columnist and member of the Mount’s board of trustees, welcoming the crowd of 6000, and associate-in-arts distinguishment candidate Julianne Lapham, a gerontology major whose contributions were set to rhyme in a style reminiscent of Dr. Seuss.

The evening ended with a blessing from Reverend George O’Brien, and much cheering and fanfare as the new alums proudly marched out of the auditorium.

In her commencement address she advised, “Don’t let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do,” giving examples from her own experiences as an athlete who broke down barriers for women in the world of sports.

The class tribute (see page 15) was given by baccalaureate candidate Julianne Lapham, a gerontology major whose comments were set to rhyme in a style reminiscent of Dr. Seuss.

Let’s not forget to thank our sisters and brothers
And we must remember... To say thanks to our aunts, uncles, and all of the others.
Thank you to your boyfriends and girlfriends
For all the times that they’ve cared.
And last but not least, thank you roommates and classmates
For the great memories we’ve shared!

Graduation is also a time for saying goodbyes:
We must say goodbye to the Mount, And its beautiful view.
Goodbye to the dorm rooms
And the underclasswomen, too!
Farewell to the sister who picks up the trash,
And to all of the heaters that seem to leak gas!
Au revoir to the deer that we try to steer clear,
And to the limited parking space we have every year!
Adios to the shuttle and all its runs back
And how can we forget the security shack?

We probably won’t miss the email that was always a mess,
Or the salad bar that remained in unusual excess.
But Sayonara must be said to early morning classes,
late night meetings,
Walking the loop and our deadly commute,
And oh, that tiresome hill that gave us such beatings!

Now that the thanks have been given
And when all of the good-byes have been said
It’s time to go and move on ahead!
So be sure when you step,
Step with great care and great tact
And remember that We’re a great balancing act.
Just never forget to be dexterous and dactyl.
And never mix up your right foot with your left.

And will we succeed?
Yes! We will, indeed!
And will we succeed?
2001 percent guaranteed.

Let’s keep the good times going,
And never mix up your right foot with your left.
And will we succeed?
Yes! We will, indeed!
2001 percent guaranteed.

Women, we will move mountains!
2001 percent guaranteed.

So be your name...
Carolina, Tina, April, or Chastin,
Arcelia, Margot, Beatriz, Christina, Amanda or Erin,
Carolina, Tina, Monica, Ange, Abbey or Ellen
...and everyone else I was unable to mention!

We’re off to great places!
Today is our day!
Our new Mount is waiting.
So...let’s get on our way!
Sister James Marien Dyer, CSJ ‘68 Goes to High School

“I joined the convent and saw the world,” says Sister James Marien Dyer ’68 as she reflects upon her 26-year teaching career at the Mount from her window-lined, rotunda-shaped office on the Doheny Campus. Born Doreen Dyer in Oakdale, Calif., she became Sister James Marien, a name she selected to honor her father, brother, and grandmother, when she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1963. She attended Mount St. Mary’s College as a history major with an English minor, and received her bachelor of arts degree in 1968.

Her first teaching missions were in Redondo Beach, Calif., and Kennewick, Wash., where she taught in Catholic elementary schools until she enrolled at UCLA and earned a master’s degree in medieval history in 1975. That year, she became an instructor at the Mount, teaching on both campuses, and she prides herself on the fact that once she joined the history department, she taught a western civilization course every semester thereafter. “In addition, I’ve had a varied career which included 12 years as the director of residence life on the Doheny Campus and as chair of the MSMC graduation committee, director of Interims, director of summer school, and a stint as an elected member to the Committee On Student Affairs.”

Gazing at flower boxes on the porch through lacey white curtains, Dyer fondly remembers her first year at the Mount. “I was only a few years older than my students during the bicentennial year, and during Interims (four weeks between the winter and spring semester), I took 12 students on a 30-day bus tour of the United States,” she says. “Wherever we went, people told me what nice students I had, and they always represented the College very well. But one day I dawned on me that these were young women, not little girls, and I finally eased up on the roll calls wherever we went,” she says.

One of her most memorable moments occurred in 1993 when she was the mentor to two of the three Rockefeller Brothers Fund fellows selected from the College. “I traveled to Washington, D.C., with them and when they gave their presentations, I was just bursting with pride,” she recalls.

More recently, she experienced her “15 minutes of fame” when she was featured on Huell Howser’s “Visiting” program, spotlighting the College’s Doheny Mansion on public television stations in California. “People are still coming up to me when I am off campus, telling me that they saw me on the program,” she says.

A recipient of the Faculty of the Year award in 1977 and 2001, Dyer has had a strong influence on the lives of her students. “She taught us so much about history and she presented it in an interesting way that made it unforgettable,” says Anna Verdin ’97, a sociology major, who served as a resident assistant under Dyer’s direction. “Always with a smile, she encouraged us, supported us with opportunities, and made us realize that we could do whatever we set out to do,” she says.

Reflecting over her tenure at the College, Dyer discusses the ways students have changed over the years. “Life has become a lot more complicated and intense for students these days. The ways students have changed over the years. “Life has become a lot more complicated and intense for students these days.”

She says, “Some of them have children, have to work full time, and just don’t have time to enjoy college life as they did 26 years ago,” she says.

Dyer leaves the Mount to become the principal at Carondelet High School, an all-girls Catholic school of 800 students in Concord, Calif. “I’ll be the sixth principal in the school’s history, joining a great tradition of leaders, all of whom are Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and three of whom have taught at the Mount: Sister Barbara Cotton, Sister Edward Mary Zenevich, and Sister Kathleen Kelly,” she says proudly.

It’s a wonder that she ever had time to stop and smell the flowers, but in 1972 on a spring trip to Death Valley, Zeuthen discovered a new interest that would change her life. “A friend and I were driving near Baker, Calif., when we came around a bend and saw a valley filled with rocks with reddish-black desert patina surrounded by purple phacelia and yellow printemps,” she says. “I have never seen anything so beautiful in my life. When I came home, I bought a book on wildflowers, then several more, and I have been studying about them ever since.” Her Hiking and Wildflowers class, an offshoot of this passion, was so well received that it became an established physical education course at the College.

In her laboratory, redolent with pungent yeast and mold cultures in petri dishes lining the shelves of an entire wall, Zeuthen reflects on the changes in students since her early teaching days. “Students 40 years ago concentrated on becoming medical technologists and had strong lab orientations; today, they are more interested in medical careers or M.D./Ph.D. programs, and microbiology serves as a background instead of a focus.”

She attributes her long tenure at the Mount to having wonderful colleagues and to her students. “I have really liked teaching,” she says. “Our students are not arrogant and they have been good to work with; I’m really proud of them.” Similarly, her students remember her with much admiration. “She is an excellent instructor and she trained us well,” says Mary Karig Duto 61, a medical technologist at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Burbank. “For the last 40 years, no technician in my class has ever been without a job.” A more recent graduate, Dorothy Marquez ’98, currently a medical student at UC Irvine, remembers the ways Zeuthen supported her students and encouraged them to make their own decisions about lab work. “‘Z’ gave us suggestions based on the wisdom of her own experiences, but she always allowed us to carry out our own ideas about our projects,” says Marquez. “She is like a walking encyclopedia, a professor with so much knowledge, yet she is the very humble about it.”

Her long-time colleague of more than 40 years, Sister Annette Bower, CSJ ’59, chair of the biological sciences department, sums up her experiences with Zeuthen: “You could always count on Marie to be there and help you out....and you didn’t have to ask.”

Although retired, Zeuthen will return to the Mount to teach one class in the fall. Her plans also include trips to Austria to visit her family and perfect her German, getting in her car and “going somewhere,” and caring for her menagerie of dogs, cats, chickens, tortoises, a duck, and an occasional crow, all rescued animals that she has nursed back to health.

A scholarship has been established in Zeuthen’s name to support the science department. Contributions to MSMC, identified with her name, may be sent to Joseph Zuniga, Institutional Advancement, 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA, 90037.

Marie Zeuthen ’58 Leaves the Lab

Three weeks after her graduation in 1958, Marie Zeuthen ’58, who earned a bachelor of science degree in bacteriology, was asked to teach a summer school course in microbiology at the College.

“The class was filled with sisters, fellow students, and lab technologists, and I was so nervous and unsure of myself that I tried to resign six times,” admits Zeuthen. “But Sister Gerrad Joseph, then chair of the biological sciences department, told me it was too late to quit because she had already printed my name in the catalog the year before.”

That wasn’t the only challenge she faced. Most of her students were acquaintances, and while it seemed natural for students to call her “Marie,” the practice was frowned upon by students. “She is like a walking encyclopedia, a professor with so much knowledge, yet she is the very humble about it.”

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**Alumnae News**

**Class Notes**

**32**
Eileen Naomi Ratterer is very active in the California Retired Teachers Association but still finds time for trail horses and milking on the farm.

**39**
LaVerne Carlton Rollins is enjoying retirement in the beautiful Northwest. She lives with her daughter and has 23 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She says the family reunions are something else, with at least 50 people coming together.

**43**
Mary Emerson Limbrook recently welcomed her 12th grandchild.

**46**
Marta Terrazas Rosendo’s daughters organized a twenty-seventh birthday party celebration in January, which included a Mass and brunch with about 50 friends. She enjoys her time traveling with her mother.

**48**
Yvonne Portmann Rousculp is retired and keeps busy enjoying her four children, two grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

**50**
Jackie Hardeman Gipson, a former American Senior Fulbright Scholar, published an album of color photographs of people and places in Romania. The album was launched at the American Cultural Center in Bucharest in March.

**51**
Jane Donnelly Melanson celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary with a family reunion at Sun River Resort in Oregon last summer. These 27 people attending.

**52**
Mary Lou Hart Forbath volunteers at Christian Service, studies Spanish and computer, and sews for her grandchildren.

**53**
Claire Fitzgerald Molnar retired after 23 years as a school nurse for L.A. County and now resides at Oaklawn, Calif. She loves it there!

**54**
Nancy Gutt Haynoki is still teaching and subbing at private schools.

**56**
Sally Howard Bernard continues to enjoy her 10 grandchildren, golf, tennis, and traveling with her retired husband.

**57**
Kathleen Frymier Yamnas has retired from her part-time job as a nurse. She is the executive minister at Casa Palmas, a convalescent nursing facility in Del Mar. She is also a director at St. James in Solana Beach.

**58**
Alice Orii Childs has 14 grand children, and she and her husband traveled quite a bit visiting them since they are scattered all the way from San Juan Capistrano to Bothell, Wash.

**59**
Rosemary Saul Knox was recently elected president of the Santa Barbara Retired Teachers, a nonprofit, mutual-benefit organization formed 20 years ago to promote and enhance the association of business and professional women within the community.

**65**
Rachel Fitzpatrick Shumway traveled to Santiago, Chile, last January, to teach in the School of Spirituality and Ecofeminist Ethics. She worked with St. Margaret’s O’Fourke, a former Mount faculty member now living in Chile.

**66**
Marlyn Bell Carvin has been listed in the sixth edition of the guidebook for women Entrepreneurs, and her family are planning a trip to Menorca in August with their family and friend to fish.

**68**
Vicki Russell Kennedy was diagnosed 24 years ago with retinitis pigmentosa. As president of North Bay Chapter of the Founding Fighting Blindness Northern California Alliance, she devotes much of her time to serving as a resource for people who have been newly diagnosed with retinal degenerative diseases.

**69**
Mary Lou De Leon Siaton is a tenured professor and the associate dean for research and graduate programs at Gonzaga University School of Nursing and Health Studies. She also serves as president of the American Association of Hispanic Nurses.

**76**
William Hambright published the book “Fighting Your Life Line” by Jerome Wolfe and founded the nonprofit Friends of San Francisco Animal Care and Control. He is on the board of the Animal Services Foundation and is the vice president and executive director of the San Francisco SPCA.

**78**
Teresa Car Garson is a school nurse at the AUSD in every school, and her husband is a virologist. She has three children and her piano teaching continues to be a joy to her. In her spare time, she enjoys quilting and reading.

**80**
Maryhorsley Sauer was recently promoted to the position of chief administrative analyst in the city administrative office. She worked for the City of Los Angeles for 21 years, and supervises the preparation of the city’s budget. She spends her free time enjoying the company of her seven-year-old daughter.

**81**
Carol Fisk Bennett started Tae Kwon Do in February, and traveled with her mother to Port Townsend, Wash.

**82**
Denise Teskey is working in cardiac rehabilitation at Dreyer Regional Medical Center.

**83**
Deborah Urey-Crosby works three days a week as a physical therapist; enjoys time at home with her two sons, and takes care of their farm animals, horses, sheep, ducks, and geese.

**84**
Jessey McDaniell Mott celebrates her 20th wedding anniversary in September. She has three children, and enjoys playing time with them as well as volunteering in the PTA and the ministry at St. Paul the Apostle Church.

**86**
Glécia Maranjan-Rosario has been named a MacArthur Fellow. She is the winner of the 2007 Elie Wiesel Prize for International Human Rights, and she is the founder and president of the International Center for Human Rights in the Americas.

**88**
Bettys Hicks Price was elected president of the Santa Barbara St. Mary’s Chapter of Les Dames de Champagne for her 30 years of service to underprivileged students. The honor was presented at Les Dames de Champagne International Hostesses’ Marthi Ball in Mexico.

**89**
Roslyn Olaes Granger was recently honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award at the University of Washington and is conducting research in the areas of human sexuality and ethical issues.

**An Act of Giving Opportunities to give back to the Mount:**

**Get the Bug?**
$1,500 will provide one Doheny student with a computer.

**Surfing the Web.**
Build and outfit a new computer classroom on the Chalon Campus. $25,000

**Get involved!**
Establish a fund to connect more community business leaders with the College and students. $2,500 per stipend.

**Tutor Time.**
Help students improve their math, science, writing and critical thinking skills through a tutoring program. $500 per tutor.

**Together as One!**
Undertake a workshop for building inclusive communities. $7,500 gift

**Parlez-Vous Français?**
A gift of $10,000 will establish a multilingual laboratory on the Chalon Campus.

**Promote World Peace.**
Provide training and a stipend for an urban intern working to promote social justice in our local and global communities. $2,000

**Need a Job?**
Expand career counseling services for Mount alums, $3,000

**Supply the Way.**
Provide supplies for the Women’s Leadership Portfolio Program. $300

**Gift opportunities are subject to change. Contact Liz Zima, Director of Annual Giving at (310) 477-2534 for information on the gifts above or other gift inquiries.**
New Alumnae Feature

Beginning with the next issue of The Mount, we are adding a new section to our Alumnae News called Advanced Degrees, which will list new degrees alumnae have received. For our inaugural run, please send us information on any degrees that you have been awarded within the last three years that have not already been published in Class Notes. We will need the kind of degree with specialization (if any), the name of the institution granting the degree, and the date the degree was granted. We are very proud of our alumnae and this is one way we can demonstrate this pride—by showcasing your academic achievements.

Requiescant

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Honor Traditions

O n the afternoon of May 15, 1933, the first Mary’s Day was celebrated as a group of Mount students and faculty processed to the statue of the Lady of Grace, the first shrine erected on the Chalon Campus, and witnessed its blessing by Father Joseph Vaughan, S.J. The procession returned to the campus chapel (then a room in Brady Hall), where a ceremony concluded with benediction.

In 1934, Sister Regina Joseph Dastey, the Mount’s first sodality moderator, promoted devotion to Our Lady of Grace through various activities during the academic year, which culminated in the May crowning of the statue. By 1956, Mary’s Day was designated an award and honors ceremony, in which the College honors Mary, mother of Jesus, by recognizing students who have developed their gifts so as to share them in service with the world in which we live.

Similarly, the Doheny Campus started its own tradition in the 1960s in the form of Laurel Day, which honored those students who excelled scholarship-wise, and in leadership and service to their school. In the beginning, the day also honored the Laurel Circle, chosen by student representatives and comprised of those who were not elected officers, but nevertheless devoted many hours of their time in dedicated service to the College. Being chosen a Laurel Circle member was a great honor and a reward for the students who worked hard to maintain their good standing.

In 1972, the day was named “Laurel Day,” and it was celebrated in honor of the Mount’s founder, Mother Mary Joseph Vaughan, S.J., who donated the statue of Our Lady of Grace to the Mount.

In 1995, the College renamed Laurel Day “Laurel Day—the Chalon Campus in 1933.”

The first Mary’s Day on the Chalon Campus in 1933.

Doheny students process at Laurel Day in the 1960s.
September

Saturday, September 15
Liturgical Composers Forum
9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Humanities Bldg. #503, Chalon Campus

Renowned conductor Christopher Walker will lead this stimulating and productive gathering of people desiring to write music for liturgical celebrations. For more information, call the Music Department, (310) 954-4265.

Saturday, September 29
Music Making with Today's Young:
New Materials, New Approaches,
New Connections
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Little Theatre, Chalon Campus

This workshop for school and church will emphasize music activities based on the National Music Standards, and on music for special liturgies in schools, parishes, catechisis, and prayer services. For more information, call the Music Department, (310) 954-4265.

October

Friday, October 5
Alumni Concert
8 p.m.
Doheny Mansion

For more information, call the Music Department, (310) 954-4265.

Saturday, October 6
76th Founders Day
Chalon Campus

Reunions for '56, '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86 & '91