Remembering Sister Cecilia Louise Moore, CSJ '53

Graduates Galore

Homecoming Preview

On-Line Alumnae Community
Scholarship Established for Weekend College Students

Knowing firsthand the challenges facing working adults in college and with the example of his father in mind, Weekend College graduate Ché Tabisola ’04 has established the AGT Lifelong Learner Award exclusively for Weekend College students. The scholarship is named in memory of Ché’s beloved father, Angelino Gonzales Tabisola, who earned his bachelor’s degree from the Weekend College in 1999 at the age of 80.

“My dad dreamed of earning a college degree, but had to put his education on hold several times while he worked, served his country, and raised a family,” said Ché. “He never gave up on college because he believed that a good education was the great equalizer that created opportunity for all people, regardless of their background, economic status, or age.”

The Weekend College offers working adults a non-traditional way to earn an accredited bachelor’s degree in four years while attending classes 18 weekends a year on the Chalon Campus.

Among the obstacles to earning a baccalaureate degree for working adults is finding funds for tuition when budgets are already stretched thin to pay bills and support families. As a result, many of these students are forced to withdraw before completing their program.

Created specifically to address the needs of Weekend College students, the AGT Lifelong Learner Award must reach $30,000 in order to become fully endowed. If you would like to contribute to the AGT Lifelong Learner Award, please send your donation to:

Lois Dunne, Director of Development
Institutional Advancement
10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007
(213) 477-2534 or ldunne@msmc.la.edu

Angelino and Ché Tabisola
Remembering Sister Cecilia Louise Moore, CSJ ’53
Former Mount president remembered as a gifted leader.
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Graduates Galore In 2004
More than 500 graduates receive degrees in three ceremonies.
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Alumnae Association Celebrates 75 Years
“Champagn and Roses” is theme of Homecoming in October.
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On-line Alumnae Community
New Web site keeps you in touch.
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Challenging Minds, Creating Leaders

"Challenging Minds, Creating Leaders." Yes, that’s what we have been doing for nearly eight decades at the Mount. It is also the new College slogan, thanks to the thoughtful suggestion of our dear friend, trustee, and alumna, Sister Miriam Therese Larkin, CSJ '53 (see story, page 8). Her slogan was the overwhelming choice of the Mount community when it was put to a vote in May. You will begin seeing it on a variety of College materials in the coming months and years.

As you know, we suffered an immeasurable loss in April with the passing of Sister Cecilia Louise Moore, CSJ '53. Her spirit will live on at the Mount for generations to come as we celebrate a woman of great hope, wisdom, love, and passion for education and our beloved College. We have captured but a few of the many loving reflections that her friends offered after her passing (see story, page 14). Her kindness was a constant source of inspiration for me and countless others. May she rest in eternal peace.

We hope you were able to join us at one of our three commencement ceremonies in May as we celebrated with the families and friends of our 533 graduates on our two campuses. Just as earning a degree is a reward for our graduates, so it is for the faculty, staff, and the many friends of the College who see us through the academic year. And what a year it has been!

As the fiscal year ended, we were encouraged by developments in the state budget that impact the College. As we reported in the last issue of The Mount, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proposed major cuts to the Cal Grant program to offset the state's budget deficit. After meeting with me and other independent college presidents (see story, page 6), he recognized the real cost to the state when our students cannot afford a college education. Thanks to all of our friends who offered their support during the budget process. And thanks for those of you who provide financial support to help us offer the excellent programs our students deserve—and expect.

That support sometimes comes in the form of grants for faculty research. We are proud of Associate Professor Eric Stemp's grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to further his research on DNA (see story, page 10). Don't ask him about his work unless you are willing to hear a lengthy disquisition on its value to his students and their growth. Eric's dedication to research as a means to better our lives is surpassed only by his desire for it to transform our students—an example of the attitude that permeates our faculty.

Responding to the needs of the community has been the hallmark of the Mount's educational offerings since its inception. Thanks to the comprehensive research and planning of our faculty and staff, we are pleased to be offering a new degree, the Master of Arts in Humanities, beginning this fall (see story, page 12). In order to best meet the needs of our students, the classes will be in weekend format and taught at our Doheny Campus.

We would like to welcome new trustees Phyllis Hennigan, Dr. Jack Schuster, and Sister Mary McKay, CSJ '67. Phyllis is a long-time supporter of numerous organizations in Los Angeles, including her current role as chair of the Center Theatre Group. Jack, a member of the faculty at Claremont Graduate University, is recognized nationally as an expert in higher education. We say goodbye (only figuratively, of course) to The Honorable Terry Hatter, Jr., whose term as a trustee ended, and thank him for eight years of stellar service to the College.

In addition to serving as a trustee, Sister Mary takes on a new role as provincial superior for the Los Angeles Province of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. She is taking a leave of absence from her duties as professor and chair of the Religious Studies Department beginning August 1. We wish her God's grace as she undertakes this important mission of service to the order and the Church.

As a further reflection on our relationship with the CSJ community, I want to share the immense pride we all felt in the Mount community's response to a fire that occurred at the Carondelet Center, headquarters for the CSJ province and home to many retired sisters who require care. As you'll see in the story on page 3, the Mount community rallied to care for our dear neighbors at the Center (which is adjacent to the Chalon Campus) when they were displaced by the damage to their facility. It was heartwarming to see the spirit of love and service that is at the heart of the CSJ mission as it was extended by our students, faculty, and staff.

I hope you enjoy a blessed summer and have the opportunity to renew the body and spirit.

With warm regards,

Jacqueline Powers Doud
President
Remarkable Service to Our Dear Neighbors

By Sister Joseph Adele Edwards, CSJ ’58

Tuesdays, May 4, dawned in its usual spring way. By 7:45 a.m., most of the sisters at Carondelet Center had finished breakfast. A few were still sitting in the main first floor dining room when their meal was interrupted by the fire alarm. That sound was not unusual because of occasional test alarms. However, when the sisters heard the hand bell ringing, they knew something was wrong.

The “something” was a serious fire in the kitchen. Flames shot up through the stove flue and blazed upward to the second floor attic, eventually burning through the recently retiled roof.

Within minutes, fire engine sirens were heard by the Center’s neighbors, including its nearest ones at Mount St. Mary’s College. Father George O’Brien recalled wondering if there was a brush fire—not uncommon in the surrounding hills. When the sirens sounded closer, he checked from a nearby fourth story window and saw flames and smoke rising from the Center’s roof.

Larry Smith, vice president for Information Support Services and Francis Salandanan, his assistant, were the first college neighbors to arrive on the fire scene and help. They were immediately directed to assist with the evacuation of the physically and mentally infirm sisters living on the second floor above the kitchen. They checked each room to be sure no one was left behind.

The Center health care staff, under the direction of Renee Denenfeld, nursing supervisor, and 1995 Mount nursing graduate, had already activated fully and in a timely manner their emergency plan. Sisters in wheelchairs, walkers, and even some in beds were swiftly and carefully moved outside across from the fire line and onto the west side road.

News of the disaster traveled quickly to other college personnel—students, faculty, and staff—who were on campus. Just as quick was the offer to bring the evacuated sisters to the Mount’s Campus Center. Eight o’clock classes, including the nursing ones, had already begun before the road to the College had been closed because of the fire engines and possible danger. Upon hearing that the sisters were coming to the Campus Center, Sister Carol Purzycki, CSJ, asked Assistant Professor of Nursing Patricia Melnick to send her students to assist. Along with some of the firefighters, the students pushed the sisters in wheelchairs up the hill. Meanwhile, College shuttles were driven to the Center to help with the evacuation of the physically mobile sisters.

Besides sheltering the sisters, providing for their meals became another necessity. The Mount’s Food Service, under the direction of Mary Grogan, went into action. Not only did they provide snacks, beverages, and lunch for the evacuees, but the staff also prepared and brought lunch to the sisters at the Center who did not have to evacuate. (The College Food Service continued to supply meals for the sisters at the Center until repairs were completed.)

Upon hearing of the fire, President Jackie Doud drove from the Doheny Campus to the Chalon Campus. She wanted to make sure the College was responding in whatever way it could to alleviate the problems and needs of its special and “dear neighbors.”

Along with what had already been done, the scene in the Campus Center certainly illustrated that response. Even before the sisters arrived, some of the maintenance men carried couches to be used as beds from the commuter lounge to the Center. Others removed a stall door in the restroom to allow for wheelchair access. Once the sisters arrived, Mount students, faculty, and staff carried food to the sisters or just sat and chatted with them. The Campus Ministry Team prayed with and sang to the sisters. Some students read to or played checkers with them. Several sisters sat and read the latest issue of The Oracle, the student newspaper.

While some sisters seemed disoriented, the majority appeared calm and grateful to be there. Sister Eleanor Wagner commented, “It’s like a surprise party and come as you are.” Two sisters who had formerly ministered at the College—Sister Mary Gerald Leahy (R.I.P.) of the Biological Sciences Department and Sister Mary Adrienne Kennedy as registrar—said it was great to be back at the Mount. Sister Barbara Cotton, who served in the Institutional Advancement Division, happily stated, “I had a handsome fireman push me up the hill.”

By mid afternoon, conditions at the Center were considered safe enough for the sisters to return to other floors and wings of the building. Several who were physically able either moved to the College convents at Chalon, neighboring convents, or relatives’ and friends’ homes.

May 4, 2004, was undoubtedly a day to remember, especially with gratitude that no one was injured and the building was saved. It was also a day that witnessed the living out of the third goal of the College’s current Strategic Plan to become a culture of remarkable service, combined with the charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, as the Mount Community provided “remarkable service” to its “dear neighbors” in the Carondelet Center community.
New Doheny Docent Training Classes Begin in 2005

The Mount is seeking volunteers to serve as docents for the historic Doheny Mansion in downtown Los Angeles, and forming new docent training classes planned for early 2005.

Trained docents will lead public and private tours of the Mansion and the Doheny Campus grounds, and will often assist with other special events in the 100-year old structure.

Anyone interested in learning more about the program is invited to a fall tea at the Mansion from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, November 14, 2004.

For information about becoming a docent or to inquire about the tea, please contact Heather Schraeder at (213) 477-2761.

Three New Trustees Selected to Join Board

Jack H. Schuster

Jack H. Schuster, Ph.D. is one of three new members of the College's Board of Trustees. He is currently professor of education and public policy at Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, California.

Prior to joining the faculty in 1977, he was the assistant director of admissions at Tulane University, administrative assistant to Congressman John Brademas of Indiana, assistant to the chancellor and lecturer in political science at the University of California, Berkeley. He has been a visiting scholar and visiting fellow at numerous universities and colleges, including the University of Oxford, Harvard Graduate School of Education, and the Centre for the Study of Higher Education at the University of Melbourne.

He received his bachelor's degree in history from Tulane University, earned a juris doctor from Harvard Law School, a master's degree in political science from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. in higher education from the University of California, Berkeley.

Schuster is the author or co-author of numerous books and articles on higher education, many of which have received national recognition. He is the recipient of the 1989 Research Achievement Award of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, perhaps the highest award for scholarship in higher education.

He has served as chair of the Claremont Graduate University faculty and its Executive Committee; is a former chair of the American Association of University Professors Committee T, which addressed campus governance policies; chaired the AAUP's Committee on Accreditation; and has been a member of various higher education advisory groups and panels at state and national levels. During his career, he also has served on six education journal editorial boards, and formerly chaired the editorial board for the Journal of Higher Education.

His interest in the larger community led him to become the founding chair of the City of Claremont's Committee on Human Relations, to be active in the Jewish community, and in the mid-1990s, to serve as a member of the Mount's Reorganization Task Force.

He is married to Diane Tickton Schuster, Ph.D., author and university teacher, and is the proud father of two daughters. Jordana is a student at Harvard Divinity School and Ariana is a senior at Pomona College.

In his leisure time, he enjoys traveling, hiking, and following baseball.

Phyllis L. Hennigan

Phyllis L. Hennigan, B.A., was named to the Board of Trustees in spring 2004. She received a bachelor of arts degree in political science with a specialty in African studies from Northwestern University and started her career as an administrative assistant for the Arizona House of Representatives in the early 1970s.

She is currently chair of the Board of Trustees for the Center Theatre Group of Los Angeles, has been active on numerous committees for the Los Angeles Music Center, and serves on the National Advisory Council for the Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum.

Hennigan has been active in numerous organizations as chair or in a leadership capacity, including: the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's Director's Roundtable, of which she was a founding.
member; the Richard Nixon Library; the Huntington Museum; the board of directors for KCET; Social Service Auxiliary; Call for Action in San Francisco; the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona; Lawyers’ Wives of Beverly Hills; Santa Catalina School; Junior League of Los Angeles; and the Joffrey Ballet.

She is the recipient of the California Hospital Humanitarian Award, the University of Southern California School of Music Award, the Assistance League Eve Award for Outstanding Community Service, and the National Philanthropy Day Outstanding Volunteer for Los Angeles Award.

In her leisure time, she enjoys riding her horse, Sergeant, and competing in hunter/jumper classes. She loves to read, especially biographies, do needlepoint, and spend time with her four grandchildren.

Sister Mary McKay, CSJ ’67

Sister Mary McKay ’67 was named provincial superior for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and a new trustee in 2004. She received her bachelor’s degree in English from Mount St. Mary’s College in 1967; a master’s degree in formative spirituality from Duquesne University in 1977; and a doctorate in theology from the University of Notre Dame in 1992.

She taught in schools staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph from 1967 to 1974; became the director of novices for the CSJs from 1977-83; was assistant to the director of the Graduate Program in Religious Studies and part-time faculty member at Mount St. Mary’s College from 1983-85; and became associate professor of Religious Studies at the College in 1992, a position she held until 2003, when she was named chair of the department.

Sister Mary served as a member the College’s Board of Trustees from 1980 to 1983, and as a board member and president for the Los Angeles House of Ruth. She has been a member of numerous organizations, including the CSJ Provincial Council, the Catholic Theological Society of America, the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality, and the Religion Advisory Committee for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

She co-authored “Early History of Sisters of St. Joseph,” collected in Essays on the History and Heritage of the Sisters of St. Joseph in 2002, has contributed 14 entries to The HarperCollins Encyclopedia of Catholicism, and has been a presenter of papers on spirituality and theology at several workshops and conventions.

She enjoys traveling, reading, arts and crafts.

The Mount in the Media

The Tidings—ran a story on the College graduation ceremonies, where more than 500 degrees were awarded on May 15 and 17. The commencement featured KCET Vice President Val Zavala as the guest speaker at the Chalon ceremony. (May)

The Tidings—featured two Mount students, Isabel Huey, a back-to-school mother, and Perla Rodriguez, who is the first in her family to attend college. The article described the hardships both had to endure while earning their baccalaureate degrees on May 15. (May)

Los Angeles Times—ran an obituary on the passing of Sister Cecilia Louise Moore, CSJ ’53, whose gifts to the College were abundant. The story noted her tenure as the youngest-ever president of the College at age 39 and as a member of the Board of Trustees. It quoted the Mount’s President Jacqueline Powers Doud: “A valiant woman has gone to God. May she rest in peace.” (April)

The Tidings—ran a tribute story on the life and service to the Church of Sister Cecilia Louise, who served as the first woman chancellor of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The story was titled, “Humble, regal, gifted: A friend and treasure.” Additional stories about her passing appeared in the Recorder (Porterville, Calif.) and the King Co. Journal (Kent, Wash.). (April)

Los Angeles Times Magazine—in a feature about James Joyce and Dublin, Ireland, the author shared his experience of learning about Joyce’s Ulysses and The Portrait of an Artist as a Young Man from Mount St. Mary’s Associate Professor of English Millie Kidd. (March)

La Opinión—did a multi-page feature on alumna Avygail Sanchez ’01, who serves as an aide to Los Angeles City Councilman Antonio Villaraigosa. The story describes how she translated her experiences at the Mount’s Women’s Leadership Program into her work and her involvement in the community she serves. (March)

Palisadian Post—did a story on the documentary film Juvies, which was part of the Mount’s Human Rights Film Festival. The widely acclaimed film depicts the failures of the juvenile justice system. The story quotes Pam Bruns, Mount lecturer and former director of the Los Angeles office of Human Rights Watch, which co-sponsored the film festival. (February)
President Doud Makes Case for Cal Grants with Gov. Schwarzenegger

President Jacqueline Powers Doud met with California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (pictured above) in his office in Sacramento in May. Along with Jonathan Brown, executive director of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities and fellow AICCU presidents Jim Doti (Chapman University), Don DeRosa (University of the Pacific), and Ted Mitchell (Occidental College), they discussed the governor’s proposed cuts to the Cal Grant program.

Mount St. Mary’s students are among the major beneficiaries of these funds and depend on the Cal Grant to attend the College. The Mount derives several million dollars annually from Cal Grants and a substantial reduction in this source of revenue would be a major burden on both students and the College.

“We found the governor to be an attentive listener and a quick study on this complex issue,” President Doud reported. “In addition to his insights, humor, and charm, Gov. Schwarzenegger committed to lending his support to our cause. He commended the AICCU presidents for the homework we had done to present our case. We anticipate that, while a total restoration of funds is unlikely, the independent sector will probably realize some improvement—a step that could be pivotal in whether or not many students attend the Mount.”

Remembering Sister Mary Gerald Leahy

October 11, 1917 – June 12, 2004
Adapted in part from a necrology by Sister Peggy Dwyer, CSJ ’57

Sister Mary Gerald Leahy was born Catherine Leahy in San Francisco on October 11, 1917, to Austin Leahy and Josephine Coonan Leahy. She entered the sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet on Valentine’s Day, 1936, received the habit on August 15 that same year, and was professed in August 1941.

She received her undergraduate education at the University of Southern California, a master’s degree from Catholic University of America, and a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Notre Dame.

She was an outstanding biologist who taught and did research at the College off and on between her travels from 1947 until the mid 1980s. From 1965 to 1967, she researched the reproductive physiology of the yellow fever mosquito, and worked at the University of Notre Dame with friends from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and at the Mount on grants from the National Science Foundation. There are many stories about her mosquito research at the College. Her mosquitoes were known on campus as they wore a tag!

By 1966, she was on a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard and during the following year she was an NIH visiting scientist there.

When doing doctoral work it was strongly impressed upon her that there was a responsibility to Catholic higher education, to science, and to research. She said, “So I incorporated into my teaching a Special Problems course which allowed students to participate in my NSF and NIH funded research.” This work prepared her for a number of worldwide adventures that were to come.

From 1968 to 1970, with a World Health Organization grant, she went to Israel to study the accessory glands of ticks, tick pheromones and reproduction. She had been asked in 1970 to serve on the Scientific Review of the National Institutes of Health. During that time she went to Nigeria to deliver an address and to Kenya as a consultant at the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology. She also was a visiting scientist at the University of Sheffield, England.

A travel grant led her to Canberra, Australia, in 1972 to the XIV International Congress of Entomology. She also visited labs in Bangkok, Taipei, Japan, and Honolulu.

She became internationally known as a leading figure in insect reproductive physiology for her contributions of both medical and economic importance. She was a member of Sigma Xi, Phi-Sigma; the American Association for the Advancement of Science; and is listed in Who’s Who of American Women, and American Men and Women of Science.

Sister Mary Gerald lead a full and productive life and the Mount community is forever grateful for her service and the legacy she left.
Applause

Katherine Whitman ’63, professor, Business Administration Department, was part of the Los Angeles-Guangzhou, China, Sister City delegation that went to the opening of the new Guangzhou International Airport on June 27, 2004. From Aug. 5 to Aug. 7, Whitman and Peter H. Antoniou, lecturer, Business Administration Department, attended the Academy of International Business conference in Macau, China, where they presented a paper, “The Development of Advertising and Branding in China.” The two instructors also have authored an article, “Institutional Changes Needed to Promote FDI in China’s Infrastructure,” which will be published in the Journal of Global Business in the fall.

Scott Bryson, associate professor, English department, co-edited the Dictionary of Literary Biography’s volume on American nature writing. Also, his article “Los Angeles Literature: Exiles, Natives, and (Mis)Representation” was published in American Literary History, and “Seeing the West Side of Any Mountain: Thoreau and the New Ecological Poetry” was published in Jack Magazine.

Margaret Avila ’74, lecturer, Associate Degree in Nursing Program, received the Southern California Public Health Association’s 2003 Leadership Award. Her articles “The Role of the Advanced Practice Nurse and Bioterrorism,” and “Revitalization of Public Health Nursing” were published in Public Health Nursing.

Julia Chang, associate professor, Physical Therapy, was nominated by the 2004 American Biographical Institute, Inc. as a Great Woman of the 21st Century, and also received the nomination for the International Health Professional of the Year from the 2003 International Biographical Centre in Cambridge, England. She presented a paper titled, “Alzheimer’s Disease: From a Glial Perspective” at the University of La Verne in the spring.

Latina Alumnae Network is Launched

“We are here today to fulfill the 20-year vision of our Honorary Chair Celia Gonzales Torres ’58 and other Latina alumnae who have dreamed of creating a support group for Latinas at the Mount,” said Maria Avila ’91, chair of the newly established Latina Alumnae Network (LAN) to more than 50 alums, including recent graduates at the group’s first event, “MSMC Latinas: Hoy y Mañana; Today, Tomorrow.”

The alums gathered in the Pompeian Room in the Doheny Mansion for lunch, to network, and to hear the comments of panelists: Susana Hernandez Araico ’69, professor of Spanish literature at Cal Poly Pomona and co-chair of LAN; Maria Avila ’91, psychologist for the Child and Family Guidance Center in the San Fernando Valley; Karen Villanueva Corletto ’94, project manager for Handelman Consulting, Inc.; Maria Gutierrez Ott ’70, LAUSD deputy superintendent in charge of education; and Josie Salazar Romero ’93, special education teacher at the Vaughn Learning Center. Adrianna Salazar ’00, LAN board member, served as the moderator of the panel.

“Never give up; we are here to support you,” Susana Hernandez Araico told the newest alums.

Maria Ott explained how difficult it had been for her family to understand why she wanted to pursue several advanced degrees, but how the encouragement from the CSJs and her other professors at the Mount made her realize how important it was to follow her own dreams. “Believe me, you can do anything,” she told the group. “I can see that I am in a room full of women who will change the world.”

LAN’s plans include activities to foster networking, holding cultural events for the entire Mount community, and supporting and sustaining the Latina Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Contributions to the Latina Endowed Scholarship Fund may be sent to Stephanie Cubba, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Mount St. Mary’s College, 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007.

MSMC Blood Drive Earns Top Red Cross Award

MSMC received the Platinum Award, the highest honor given by the American Red Cross, for a 219 percent growth in blood donations in 2003.

“This is a true expression of the generosity of spirit of all members of the Mount St. Mary’s community,” said Vice President of Student Affairs Jane Lingua. A plaque honoring the achievement is located in the Student Activities and Commuter Services office on the Chalon Campus.
Luechtefeld Appointed to Homeland Security Advisory Committee

Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge announced in June the appointment of Mount St. Mary's College alumna and trustee Monica Spillane Luechtefeld '71 to serve on the Private Sector Senior Advisory Committee (PVTSAC) of the Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC). She is one of four new appointees.

Secretary Ridge established the PVTSAC as a subcommittee to gather expert advice from leaders in America’s private sector. The HSAC is comprised of experts from state and local governments, first preventer and responder communities, academia and the private sector. The Council provides advice and recommendations to Secretary Ridge on homeland security issues.

“These individuals bring a vast amount of experience and knowledge from the private sector to the Homeland Security Advisory Council. I am grateful that these accomplished leaders will be advising me and contributing to the Department of Homeland Security’s efforts to secure our nation and protect our fellow citizens,” said Secretary Ridge.

Luechtefeld, of Florida, is executive vice president of global e-commerce for Office Depot and is responsible for driving Office Depot’s leadership in electronic commerce. She joined the company in 1993 and was appointed general manager of the Southern California Region. She was subsequently promoted to vice president and senior vice president of e-commerce before being named to her new position in August 2000 and assuming global responsibility in 2003. A member of the Mount’s Board of Trustees, she chairs its Facilities and Technology Committee and is a member of the Student Life Committee.

Two Juniors Receive Prestigious Rockefeller Fund Teaching Fellowships

Once again, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund has chosen two exceptional Mount students, Elaine Gonzalez ’05 and Reggie Webster ’05, to receive its highly competitive Fellowship for Minority Students Entering the Teaching Profession. These fellowships are awarded to outstanding minority undergraduate students in the arts and sciences who wish to pursue graduate degrees in education and teach in American public schools. Gonzalez and Webster are among only 25 students from 15 institutions nationally to receive this award. Their achievements mark the eighth year the College has had multiple recipients of this prestigious honor, bringing the number of Mount awardees to 22 since the inception of the award in 1992.

Both juniors, Gonzalez and Webster are liberal studies majors enrolled in the Mount’s Multiple Subject Teaching Credential program. Gonzalez, who attended inner-city Los Angeles public schools prior to the Mount, including Rosemont Elementary, Virgil Middle School, and Belmont High School, sees the teaching profession as “an opportunity to give back to inner-city schools and serve as a role model to the many young students going through the same school system I did.”

In contrast, Webster attended private schools throughout her academic career, including The City Tree in San Diego, where she now substitutes and teaches preschool. According to Webster, “this fellowship will provide me with an opportunity to transition to the public school setting, learn about this type of educational structure, and make a difference in many children’s lives.” In August, both students will attend the Rockefeller Brothers Foundation summer workshop in Washington, D.C., with their mentors Pat Disterhoft, director of the Mount’s Early Childhood Education Program, and Sister Teresita Espinosa, chair of the Music Department.

The Rockefeller Fellowship for Minority Students Entering the Teaching Profession includes a $2,500 stipend for a summer teaching project to be completed this summer, and a stipend of $12,000 for one year of full-time graduate study or $16,000 for two years of full-time study. Upon completion of a graduate program, fellows who begin work in public school classrooms as credentialed teachers will be assisted with loan repayments up to $1,200 annually for up to three years of continuous teaching.

College Adopts New Slogan

After several weeks of thoughtful reflection and review, the Mount has adopted a new College slogan: “Challenging Minds, Creating Leaders.” After an initial review of the 149 slogans that were submitted, the College’s Marketing Council and President’s Cabinet narrowed them to six. After a tally of the more than 800 votes submitted by the Mount community on the College Web site, this slogan was the overwhelming choice.

The winner of a $50 gift certificate to the College bookstore is Mount trustee and alumna Sister Miriam Therese Larkin, CSJ ’53 (pictured here with President Jackie Doud). Watch for the new slogan on College shuttle vans, memorabilia, and other materials in the coming months and years.
Mount Student Raven Wilson ’06 spent her spring break in March shadowing women at the E! style network in search of tips to help her break into the entertainment industry.

Wilson was one of 25 Mount sophomores, juniors, and seniors who participated in a week-long internship program where they followed prominent women in industries such as entertainment, medicine, and law enforcement.

“You have to sacrifice for the things you want,” said Wilson, a Doheny Campus sociology major who plans to transfer to Chalon in the fall. “I would have been bored during spring break if I hadn’t done the program.”

The annual program is sponsored by the Mount’s Career Planning and Experiential Learning offices and the Junior League of Los Angeles, a group of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Students were chosen from a pool of applicants after writing an essay and submitting a résumé. Applicants were interviewed to assess their maturity level, interest in the program, and academic success.

The students spent 32 hours following their mentors at the office. They attended and participated in staff meetings, ate lunch with their mentors to discuss career goals, and met their mentors’ colleagues.

Wilson said she learned that the editing and post-production that go into television shows can be extremely labor intensive. She followed production of a new show on the network called “You’re Invited,” a reality program that helps people throw surprise parties for friends and loved ones using Hollywood party planners and top-rated chefs.

“It’s not what you know in this industry but who you know and what experiences you have,” Wilson said. “I’ve always been a big fan of film and television. I want to try writing screenplays, acting, and producing.”

Bev Suson ’06, a Doheny Campus sophomore majoring in psychology, said she gained an appreciation for social workers during her week at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles. She spent the week learning about art therapy for children who are in counseling.

“The experience shaped me because I wasn’t sure about social work before. I thought that social workers were the people who took away the children from their parents,” said Suson, who plans to transfer to Chalon and double-major in psychology and religious studies with a minor in sociology.

“The social workers at the hospital talk to parents who live far away about transportation, lodging, and financial resources,” Suson said.

A Salute to the Silver Screen

Mount Associate Hildegard Weck and daughter Stephanie Weck ’86 (photo, right) enjoy a moment together on the Warner Bros. Studios lot.

Over 130 Mount Associates and guests enjoyed a private viewing of priceless movie memorabilia at the only on-site studio museum in the industry. Dinner in the Commissary Fine Dining Room followed the museum tour. Mount Associates support the College with their annual leadership gifts of $1,000 and above, and share a special fellowship at these fun-filled events.
In The Classroom

Eric Stemp Receives Prestigious Grant from the National Science Foundation

Last spring, Eric Stemp, associate professor, Physical Sciences and Mathematics, received a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant for more than $300,000 for his project titled “Toward a Molecular Understanding of DNA-Protein Crosslinking via Guanine Oxidation.” Although this subject matter sounds complex, Stemp has developed this project into an incredible research opportunity for Mount students. The purpose is to observe oxidative damage to DNA, a relevant and timely study that may help reveal how individuals develop illnesses such as cancer, arthritis, Alzheimer’s, and other life-threatening diseases. This marks the second NSF grant Stemp has been awarded for this cutting-edge research, which during its first phase resulted in two publications co-authored by MSMC students.

The NSF is an independent government agency that was established in 1950 to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national defense. Grants from the foundation are extremely competitive and difficult to obtain. This year, the NSF only funded approximately 15 percent of the proposals they received. Not only did Stemp receive full funding for his project, he received the highest ranking—an outstanding—a status received by only five of the 107 proposals submitted.

Stemp is extremely proud of both his students and the College. “This project is not as much about my research as it is our research,” stated Stemp. “Grants such as this benefit the entire College by establishing it as both a quality teaching and dedicated research institution, a balance that is very difficult to strike. My students are responsible for the outstanding research on this project, and with this grant we will build this excitement and take this project to the next level.”

Through NSF funding, Stemp will be able to purchase new equipment and supplies; provide stipends for both himself and his students who perform research during the summer months; supply a salary for a postdoctoral associate who will help teach and oversee the project; and provide travel stipends for students who will go to the annual American Chemical Society Conference to hold talks and present posters on their research.

Not only did Stemp receive full funding for his project, he received the highest ranking—an outstanding—a status received by only five of the 107 proposals submitted.

Most importantly, this grant will position the College on the leading edge of this growing field by providing fundamental research that will help scientists design drugs and medications for some very serious diseases. According to Physical Sciences and Mathematics Department Chair Eleanor Siebert, “This renewal of his [Stemp’s] grant from the NSF attests to the high regard in which his work is held. Despite a full teaching load and outstanding teaching evaluations, he continues to be active in his field of scientific research focusing on oxidative damage to DNA. We are fortunate to be able to count Eric Stemp as one of our faculty members.”

Agent Moran

When FBI agents questioned senior Montserrat Moran's neighbors, her mother began to worry, but Moran was not concerned. The Mount's first-ever FBI summer intern realized that this was simply part of a routine investigation. She had already filled out a 15-page application, wrote several essays, had letters of recommendations from professors, was fingerprinted, and passed drug and polygraph tests.

Moran, a political science and sociology major with an emphasis on criminology, is one of 56 college students in the country selected by the FBI to spend the summer in Washington, D.C., where she is attending classes and receiving special training. The internship provides housing, paid travel expenses, and a salary.

“I am passionate about serving others and hope this will prepare me for my ultimate goal of becoming an attorney,” said Moran.

As to what she will learn, Moran would only say: “It’s a secret; I cannot divulge that now.”
New Endowed Scholarship Wall Unveiled

Mount St. Mary's College proudly unveiled an endowed scholarship wall at the annual scholarship luncheon in February. With scholarship donors, alumnae, friends, and scholarship recipients in attendance, this year’s luncheon provided a perfect opportunity to showcase this handsome addition to the College. The display has been permanently mounted in the foyer of the St. Joseph Administration Building on the Chalon Campus, and lists 90 named endowed scholarships. And there’s room for more!

Contributions to Mount St. Mary’s endowed scholarship program have the most enduring impact on the College’s future. An endowed scholarship continues in perpetuity, enabling one or more students to benefit annually from the fund’s earnings.

Endowed scholarships may be established with a minimum gift of $30,000 and may be completed with a three-year pledge. They are an excellent way to memorialize a loved one.

Over 95 percent of MSMC students rely on financial aid to make a college education possible. Without financial assistance, these talented and deserving students, many of whom are the first in their families to attend college, would not have the opportunity to pursue their dreams of a college education.

For more information on endowed scholarships, please contact Lois Dunne, Director of Development, at (213) 477-2534 or e-mail: ldunne@msmc.la.edu.

Mariachi Divas Have Them Dancing in the Aisles

A warm evening in April provided the perfect setting for the Mount’s Mind and Spirit Committee presentation of the Mariachi Divas in the Lecture Hall on the Doheny Campus.

As soon as the all-women, multicultural ensemble started its selections, the 250-plus students, faculty, staff, and guests from the community began to tap their toes and sing along. By the end of the performance, the audience was dancing in the aisles and in every other available space in the auditorium.

Founded in 1999, the Mariachi Divas are musicians and vocalists who believe that music is a way of uniting their more than 12 cultures, which include Mexican, Japanese, Costa Rican, Cuban, Panamanian, Swiss, Italian, Irish, and Honduran backgrounds. Each musician is a college graduate, and by day are teachers, psychologists, graduate students, and mothers.

“The Mariachi Divas are a truly extraordinary group of inspiring and talented women who engaged and inspired the Mount community,” said Sister Joseph Adele Edwards, CSJ ’58, Mind and Spirit Committee co-chair.
New Master of Arts Degree in Humanities Offered

Pictured are Mount faculty and staff who were instrumental in the creation of the new Master’s Degree in Humanities that will be offered in fall 2004. Left to right, they are: Tom Hoener ’98, director of graduate admissions; Michele Fine, associate professor of languages and cultures; Millie Kidd, associate professor of English; Merrill Rodin, dean of the Weekend College; and Matthew Brosamer, associate professor of English. Not pictured are Pat Ash, chair of the History and Political Science Department, and Haco Hoang, former assistant professor of history and political science and chair of the Leadership and Women’s Studies Program. The Master’s in Humanities is an interdisciplinary degree which includes courses from three separate disciplines—English, history/political science, and cultural studies. The program will give students the choice of either concentrating their coursework in one of these areas or spreading their courses among all three. The new degree program will be offered in the weekend format at the Doheny Campus. For information about the program, contact Tom Hoener at (213) 477-2800.

New Members Initiated Into Business Honor Society

Six Mount students, two administrators, and a staff member became lifetime members of the prestigious international business honor society Sigma Beta Delta in March. The students, all juniors and seniors, were selected to join the society based on their standing among the top 20 percent in their class, and their regular attendance at fundraising and networking events hosted by the society.

The society began on campus three years ago and exposes students to a variety of professional activities including dinners, speakers, and entrepreneurship days.

The new student inductees are: Rosemary Salgado ’04, Laura Prescott ’04, Diana Jane Intal ’05, Alison Hutchins ’05, Irma Cabrera ’05, and Patricia Barraza ’05. Also inducted were Mary Boyce, provost; Agnes Zelus, associate academic vice president; and Monica Lond, director of career planning.

“These are very intelligent ladies,” said Sandy Garcia ’04, the society’s senior class director. “When you give them a task to do and you see the product, it’s like—wow!”

Garcia said the society’s values of networking and serving others through wisdom, honor, and aspiration are shared by all members, regardless of age or title.

“It’s a way for students, faculty and administrators to see each other as peers,” Garcia said. “It’s nice to see ourselves as colleagues.”

South America Beckons Students

In March, Professor Katherine Whitman and Lecturer Peter Antoniou of the Business Administration Department led a group of 20 Weekend College and traditional MSMC students to South America for a travel/study course. The focus was on the economies of several South American countries, their recent financial difficulties, and how this has affected business and individuals. The sold-out trip included visits to many well-known destinations, including Curitiba, Brazil, considered to be the best planned city in Latin America. The students earned three units of credit in either business administration or economics for this class.
The Mount's community has been promoted to new positions in the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet Los Angeles Province, and will assume their assignments in August. The 2004-2005 leadership team includes:

- **Sister Mary McKay ’67**, former chair of the Mount’s Religious Studies Department, who has been selected as provincial superior of the Los Angeles Province. This is a full-time position so Sister Mary will take a leave of absence from the College during her tenure.

- **Sister Kieran Vaughan ’64** will serve as a provincial councilor as she continues her mission at the College as coordinator of liberal studies for the Education Department.

- **Sister Mary Williams** will become Regional Superior for the sisters in Washington and Idaho. She retired from the Mount last year after more than 40 years of service as a professor of English, chair of the English Department, and provost of the College.

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

- **60 Years**
  - Sister Conseulo Aguilar
  - Sister Mary Frances Rebel ’52
  - Sister St. George Skurla
  - Sister Edward Mary Zerwekh

- **50 Years**
  - Sister Magdalen Marie Crivello ’67
  - Sister Margaret Ellen McGraw ’57
  - Sister Nancy Munro ’67

The College’s Honors Program encourages students with exceptional ability to enjoy special academic challenges. Designed to foster individual interests and talents, the program invites students to explore a full range of subjects and fields in specially structured honors courses. Students qualify for the program as freshmen by receiving a President's Award or honors at entrance. All other students qualify to take honors courses by maintaining a cumulative grade point average of 3.4 or higher.

Students graduate with an honors certificate if they complete 18 units of honors coursework in two disciplines and a senior honors thesis.

“This year, one junior and five seniors chose to take on this challenging project, spending one year researching their topics from the perspective of two disciplines,” said Michele Dumont, director of the Honors Thesis Program. “Working with these students is an extremely rewarding experience. It also keeps the College up on some of the most recent and exciting developments in many disciplines.”

The 2004 participants and their theses are:

- **Sandy N. Garcia ’04**—“Completing the Conductor-less Orchestra: A Model for Business Organizations” (Disciplines: Music and Business Administration)

- **J.P. Antoine Urgino Grande ’04**—“A Woman’s Place is in the Struggle: Raising Awareness of the Biological and Socio-cultural Factors that Lead to the Disproportionate Increase of HIV Infection in Women” (Disciplines: Political Science and Biology)

- **Angeline Heilig ’04**—“Take Two Tunes and Call Me in the Morning” (Disciplines: Music and Biology)

- **Andrea Elena Mazon ’04**—“Roman Catholic Sacramental Celebration and the Theatre: Their Role as Revealers of Human Experience and Incarnational Reality” (Disciplines: Religious Studies and English)

- **Christina Ann Sandoval ’04**—“Behind Closed Doors: Childhood Autism, Gender, and the Family” (Disciplines: Psychology and Sociology)

- **Heather M. Yonutas ’05**—“Dyslexia: Why Me?” (Disciplines: Biology and Sociology)

These theses will be catalogued in the Coe Library and some of the Powerpoint presentations will be available on the Admissions Web site.
Sister Cecilia Louise was born in Phoenix, Arizona, on April 17, 1928, and named Harriet Catherine Moore. She was the seventh and youngest child of Rupert and Louise Wilcox Moore.

At the age of six, she came to Los Angeles and in the primary grades, attended Selma Avenue Elementary School. After tiring of gluing glitter on crepe paper butterflies, and coloring, she found more satisfying work as a teacher's aid, teaching arithmetic to challenged second graders. A few years later, she transferred to St. Paul's Elementary School, and then went on to St. Mary's Academy where she was an excellent student, outstanding athlete, and valedictorian for the class of 1945. She is still remembered by her classmates for astonishing other students by repeatedly shooting baskets from half court.

After graduating from high school, she joined the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1945, attended Mount St. Mary's College, and received her baccalaureate degree in chemistry in 1953. She taught at St. Mary's Academy for a few years, earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from St. Louis University in 1958, and returned to the College as a professor of chemistry.

In 1964, Sister Cecilia Louise was named dean of the faculty, and also served as chair of the Physical Science Department and dean of residence. During the early 1960s, she was selected to attend a National Science Foundation (NSF) summer institute in nuclear science, and participated in a NSF conference on molecular structure the next year.

She loved teaching and admitted feeling “small twinges” when she left the classroom entirely to become the College’s youngest president on August 15, 1967, at the age of 39. Her colleagues and friends called her “Sister C.L.,” a nickname that stayed with her the rest of her life.

Throughout her tenure as president, she helped foster a collaborative and participative form of governance for the College. She also contributed to the growth and success of the College’s Doheny Campus in downtown Los Angeles, and its distinctive associate in arts degree and graduate programs.

Her philosophy of educating the total person inspired the creation of the College’s acclaimed Women’s Leadership Program in 1975, which has prepared women to become leaders for nearly 30 years. In a graduation speech at Our Lady of Peace Academy in San Diego that year, Sister Cecilia Louise expressed her fundamental belief that the ultimate concern for the education of women is to produce “women of quality,” which she defined as having three significant characteristics: “a strong self image, a reverence for human life, and a dedication...
to service.” She said, “The educational system we devise for them must be value-oriented—it must be humanizing and civilizing—and practical in the larger sense of making clear the relationships between positive human values and everyday decisions and actions.”

At the completion of her term as president at the Mount, she became associate superintendent of secondary schools and colleges for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. She served as president of the Western Catholic Educational Association from 1980-1987 and as president of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) from 1985 to 1986.

In 1986 she became the secretariat director for educational and formational services for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, the only woman to hold that position in the archbishop’s cabinet.

She was named chancellor in 1997, again making history as the first woman in the history of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to hold that office.

“Working within the primarily male structure of the Archdiocese is similar to my experience as president of the Mount at a time when there were few women college presidents,” she told the alumnae in 1992, when she was honored as the College’s outstanding alumna of the year for her professional achievement.

C.L. served as a trustee for the College from 1977 to 1993, 14 of those years as chair. She returned to this governing board in 2000 and was an active member until 2003.

She was honored with Mount St. Mary’s College’s highest honor, the Carondelet Medal, in 1999. When she was first notified of this award, she wrote to Sister Karen Kennelly, then president of the College: “The Carondelet Medal will be a cherished reminder of my relationship to the Mount through many wonderful and blessing-filled years. I am deeply grateful for this unexpected recognition.”

In addition to her service to her alma mater, she served on the board for the William H. Hannon Foundation, and was a member or chair of numerous boards of trustees for education and health care organizations.

C.L. looked forward to retirement when she would give time to volunteer work, prayer, and her community. But God had other plans. She endured her illness without complaint, and her concern was always for others.

Death came quietly for her on the morning of April 5, 2004, surrounded by her local community, and her cat, José Angelo Murphy, who were gathered at her bedside.

She is survived by her sister Clementine Moore Hale, eight nieces, five nephews, and several grandnieces and grand nephews.

Contributions in her memory may be made to the Sister Cecilia Louise Moore Scholarship Fund and should be sent to: Stephanie Cubba, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Mount St. Mary’s College, c/o Institutional Advancement, 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007.
Remembrances

Sister Cecilia Louise was a valiant woman in life and in death. She was a gifted leader, mentor, and example for all of us. Her broad knowledge and wise counsel inspired confidence. Sister had a unique gift for recognizing the untapped talent in others and could relate comfortably with a broad spectrum of people and viewpoints. Though a private and unassuming person, she made a profound impact on countless students, colleagues, and on her own Sisters of St. Joseph. Because she spoke sparingly and thoughtfully, people listened and constantly sought her advice. She loved Mount St. Mary’s College. I am deeply thankful for my own personal friendship with Sister Cecilia Louise. Her wisdom, encouragement, and support will continue to be one of my most cherished blessings. The College community and I will miss this extraordinary, compassionate, and holy woman of God.
— Jacqueline Powers Doud
President

My first contact with Sister Cecilia Louise happened when she taught me physics during my senior year at St. Mary’s Academy. She was an excellent teacher and even made me like science. In 1963, we became colleagues and personal friends at the Mount. Then, in 1967, as director of Admissions and Financial Aid, I reported to her and soon realized her special qualities as an administrator. Her style as president displayed aspects of challenge, support, and trust. I feel blessed to have known her in all of these roles and will miss her presence in my life.
— Sister Joseph Adele Edwards ’58
Assistant Professor, English Department

Sister Cecilia Louise Moore possessed enough charisma to power multiple political campaigns. This was because she had multiple sources of charisma. There was the charisma of office, which she always treated as a major responsibility, something to be protected and nourished, and not to be wasted; so you knew she was always aware of the difference between her persona and that of the office she occupied. As a religious, as a faculty, as a president, you knew that she differentiated between the bells and whistles of the office and the imperatives of the position that dictated doing the right thing regardless of personal preference. She also possessed charisma in the political scientist’s sense, that of being regarded by others as someone especially gifted in extraordinary ways.”
— Dr. James Delahanty
Professor Emeritus
Years ago, Sister Cecilia Louise responded generously as God called her to religious life, a life she lived with great singleness of purpose, focus, depth, and fidelity. Out of that ongoing commitment to our charism…

- the purpose for which the congregation was established;
- the mysterious work of God within it;
- that inner source of grace which defines who we are and what we do…

Out of that reality, all the rest unfolded. The charism could be likened to that essential, healthy root which enables the tree to grow tall.”
— Sister Thomas Bernard McConnell
Coordinator, Spiritual Life Program

I first met Sister Cecilia Louise when I was a student and she was a young teacher at the Mount. Blessed with an uncommon measure of grace, intelligence and wisdom, she inspired awe even then. But there was not a shred of vanity in her. Gifted with physical beauty, she would have none of it. But she could not disguise the radiance of a rich inner life, a radiance which, I’m told, shone even more clearly in her last days. Brighter than anyone else in the room, she wore her brilliance lightly and never allowed you to feel foolish for contributing your two cents, however poor it was. Hers was one of the sharpest business minds I’ve ever encountered, but it was governed by a serenity not of this world. And she really knew how to laugh!

C.L. was a role model none of us could ever equal, but it was OK. She was, and remains, a numinous presence in our lives.
— MaryAnn Bonino ’61
Founding/Artistic Director, The Da Camera Society

Sister Cecilia Louise was a close friend of my uncle, William H. Hannon, and she remained a confidante and supporter to me after he died in 1999. When she joined the William H. Hannon Foundation’s board of directors in 2000, she thoroughly enjoyed attending our board meetings and being a part of carrying on my uncle’s legacy. She graciously agreed to remain on the Foundation until her death. We valued her quiet, yet strong presence, and I personally am forever thankful for her spunk, humor, insight and unfailing loyalty. She was an important person in my life, and I feel blessed to have known such a remarkable woman.
— Kathleen H. Aikenhead
President
William H. Hannon Foundation

The typical college experience does not include developing a relationship with the president of the college. However, at the Mount this isn’t really all that extraordinary. I met Sister Cecilia Louise in 1967, my freshman year and her first year as president. I’m not sure whether it was my boldness or her welcome that found me frequently dropping into her office for discussions about the “important stuff” of life. Regardless, I left the Mount four years later with a relationship that I would treasure for the next 33 years.

As I reflect upon the years, I recognize her subtle and deliberate involvement in my life, her encouragements during tough times, her applause at my little successes, and her challenges when my direction was not focused. What I have also realized over the years are the countless others who have shared similar experiences and have been blessed by her friendship and belief in them.

True friends are gifted with the eyes of God—to see in another that which makes you special. Thanks, C.L., for opening your eyes to so many of us.
— Sister Jill Napier ’71
Provincial Treasurer
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Los Angeles

C.L. was as comfortable on the tennis court or volley ball court as she was in the chemistry lab. She was just a few years older then her students at St. Mary’s Academy when she taught me high school chemistry. Later that same year, C.L. mentored me as I chose to enter the Sisters of St. Joseph the following August. She preceded me to the Mount by a year or two, where she gave it a second try, and taught me college chemistry. I think to convince me she was human and could do more than teach chemistry, she would challenge some of us science students to a game of tennis or volley ball almost every noon. I didn’t eat lunch for weeks at a time, because I loved that time with her so much. She became a life-long friend and I turned to her for advice for every major decision I’ve made along the way. Her integrity, support, sincere concern for others, love for the CSJ community and peace-filled approach to living life to the full are just some of her hallmarks that made her my model for a life well lived. I still talk to her each day!
— Sister Annette Bower, CSJ ’59
Chair, Biological Sciences Department
More than 500 graduates received degrees during the College’s three commencement ceremonies for the associate, baccalaureate, and graduate programs in May.

The baccalaureate graduation on May 15 saw more than 340 graduates who delighted in the address given by Val Zavala, vice president of news and public affairs for KCET television, and a member of the College’s board of trustees. Class tributes from Gina Zambetti ’04, who earned her degree in nursing, and Michael Drudzinski ’04, a Weekend College graduate who earned his bachelor’s degree in liberal studies, followed.

Former trustee The Honorable Terry Hatter, Jr. served as presider of the ceremony, and was applauded enthusiastically when he sang a solo, and then encouraged the graduates to hold hands while he led them in singing the poignant “I’ll See You Again.”

Happy cheers were sent to MaryAnn Bonino ’61, founding/artistic director of The Da Camera Society, when she received the Carondelet Medal, the College’s most prestigious award.

At the associate in arts graduation May 17, 125 grads received their degrees on the front lawn of the Doheny Mansion after hearing Brigette Lizarraras ’00, social service coordinator for St. Barnabas Senior Services, give words of encouragement to the class.

A few hours later, 61 graduate students received master’s degrees in education, counseling psychology, and religious studies. There was standing room only in the Lecture Hall on the Doheny Campus as the audience heard the commencement address by Diane F. Halpern, president of the American Psychological Association, and the class tribute by Fanny Vasquez ’04, who received her degree in counseling psychology.
In 2004

Words of Wisdom from Commencement Speakers

Gina Zambetti ’04
Baccalaureate Class Tribute Speaker
“The Mount helped us build character while we were busy getting an education. The Mount filled us with faith, hope, charity, humility, and courage. Because of the Mount, we learned to pray more fervently than we ever had before.”

Val Zavala
Baccalaureate Commencement Speaker
“Stay aligned with God. If you keep your connection to God strong and constant, the chances are all your choices, big or small—and many that are almost subconscious—will lead you in the right direction.”

Michael Drudzinski ’04
Weekend College Baccalaureate Class Tribute
“I found inspiration in my Weekend College classmates, many of whom were my age or older, many of whom had children or elderly parents to take care of, and most of whom had to balance a full-time job with a full course load. It takes a lot of imagination to do all of that without losing one’s focus, let alone one’s sanity. It also takes a lot of imagination to first dream of achieving the success we are here to commend. For it is the ability to dream that allows each of us to reach beyond our grasp and thus break through our own limitations.”

Brigette Lizarraras ’00
Associate in Arts Commencement Speaker
“When trying to figure out what it is you should really do with your life, look deep into your heart and find a career that brings out the best in you, no matter what it is or what others have to say about it. After all, you will be the one who has to wake up every morning to do it.”

Fanny Vasquez M’04
Graduate Tribute Speaker
“Obtaining a degree will open many doors for us, and now it is our turn to make a contribution. I hope that we will take what we have learned and apply to help our community and to educate others. We can now move on to any challenge that may come.”

Diane F. Halpern, Ph.D.
Graduate Commencement Speaker
“The education you received has permanently changed you. You can never read a newspaper or listen to a commentary on social issues the same way. Somewhere along the way, you developed the thinking and reasoning skills of a well-educated and ethically-educated person. You enhanced your ability to communicate with and relate to people from diverse backgrounds. You developed the analytical skills needed to figure out why certain problems occur and to suggest reasonable ways to ameliorate them.”

Golden Graduates of 1954 celebrate at Commencement.
This year’s Homecoming on October 9 promises to be one of the most meaningful and exciting ever as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Alumnae Association. The theme “Champagne and Roses” pays tribute to two special roses—Sister Rose de Lima and Sister Rose Bernard, who were guiding lights in the growth and development of the Alumnae Association.

“There will be activities beginning in the early afternoon, lasting into the evening,” said Jeanne Ruiz ’63, director of Alumnae Relations. “How our two honored sisters would enjoy seeing so many alums back on campus, meeting each other again.”

And what an offering there will be! From a book discussion group to salsa dancing lessons, from an inspirational and spiritual workshop to financial planning, from a hands-on art activity to an exploration of how books become movies, there will be enriching experiences to interest everyone.

After the workshops, the Most Reverend Gabino Zavala, auxiliary bishop for the San Gabriel Pastoral Region, will be the celebrant for the special Founders Day 75th Anniversary Mass, and Reverend George O’Brien, MSMC chaplain will be the concelebrant at this liturgy.

Keeping in step with years of tradition, there will be reunion receptions for the classes of ’59, ’64, ’69, ’74, ’79, ’84, ’89, ’94, and ’99, receptions for the Golden Graduates, Weekend College graduates, reunions for many of the College clubs you belonged to during your student days, and a new feature—a reception for the Latina Alumnae Network, followed by a gala Homecoming dinner for everyone.

In addition to the salute to our special “Roses,” the dinner program includes a memorial tribute to Sister Cecilia Louise Moore, CSJ ’53 and Cheryl Mabey ’69; a presentation of the 2004 Outstanding Alumna Awards; a once-in-a-lifetime Legacy of the Roses Award; and acknowledgment of reunion classes and Golden Grads.

For information about Homecoming, please call (213) 477-2767 or go to www.msmcalums.la.edu.

One alumna told of her first meeting with Sister Rose de Lima. As a freshman on the first day of school she had to report to the dean about a minor accident. To her amazement, as she began to introduce herself, Sister Rose de Lima interrupted with “I know who you are.” What was truly amazing was that she knew who we all were: and our husbands, and children, and our relevant activities. With ease and without hesitation she could repeat details and incidents related by alumnae over the years, and could ask about family members by name.

Her work and time spent with alumnae and the Alumnae Association was, I think, her greatest enjoyment. She delighted in the success of the fashion show, although she was a little uneasy while the board planned the first one in 1963; it was a big commitment. But as in every activity, she supported, encouraged and guided.

Her humor was a major factor in working with the alumnae board. I remember planning one of the early fund drives while discussing how the cost of education was increasing. With a chuckle she gestured to the location of the Humanities Building, then under construction, and commented “We have concrete evidence of that!” Inadvertently, she had come up with the theme of that year’s fund drive: “We have concrete evidence—the cost of education is going up.”

Considering the years that I knew Sister, first as dean, then professor, then moderator of the alumnae association, it is surprising that I cannot recall many anecdotes. Instead there is an overriding remembrance of Sister as a caring, understanding and supportive friend, confidant and mentor. I had to remind myself of her formidable academic background: USC, doctorate in education from Berkeley. Considering her many years of affiliation with the Mount, teaching Latin there as early as 1939, it seemed so appropriate that she passed away on the morning that the alumnae celebrated Founders Day, October 12, 1986.

Margaret Sprigg Horst ’58 is the former director of Alumnae Relations.
I first met Sister Rose Bernard McCabe when I was a freshman at the Mount and she was in charge of the residence halls. I was a “dayhop” but all of my friends lived in the dorms so I spent most of my time in Brady or Carondelet Halls. At least once a week or more, I spent the night in the dorms for which there was supposed to be a charge. I would have to sneak around so as not to be “caught” overnight without paying the fee. I really thought I was so clever in avoiding her, but I finally realized I wasn’t fooling her at all.

Sister Rose Bernard was one of the strongest “gentle women” I have ever known. She packed a lot of wisdom in that tiny body. (It’s hard to believe she was 10 pounds at birth!) She was so easy to talk to, a great listener, a positive supporter. She was non-judgmental, yet you knew where she stood, especially if she felt you were headed in the wrong direction. She was one of the few people I ever spoke to about whether or not I had a religious vocation. Late one night in the fourth floor smoking lounge, we agreed that I might have a bit of trouble with that vow of obedience. I know she must be chuckling up in heaven to find I ended up a school principal.

As a member of the Alumnae Association, I joined the fashion show committee and Sister Rose Bernard, as moderator of the Alumnae Association, was our fearless leader. At one of our many late night meetings, we learned that her baptismal name was Grace and from then on she became our “Amazing Grace.” While we were successful at putting wonderful shows together to support the alumnae scholarship, we were truly much more. She encouraged us in putting wonderful shows together to support the alumnae and as an alum. She was such a gracious woman—a true gift to her community, to the Mount and to the Alumnae Association. I loved her, I miss her and I pray to her often, for she is one of my favorite saints.

Kathy Greaney Delgado ’72 is the former alumnae fashion show chair.
The Mount’s Alumnae Relations office is sponsoring a get-together—on-line! You won’t have to leave the house—and it’s free! We’re pleased to announce that beginning September 1, you can join the Mount’s new on-line alumnae community, Mount AlumLine.

A community, according to Webster’s Dictionary, is a unified body of persons of common interest scattered throughout a larger society. An on-line community is an interactive and engaging communication platform for members to interact with each other and their institution across the miles via the Internet.

Now, you can stay in touch with old friends, make new ones, and find the ones you lost track of. We have developed a state-of-the-art on-line community and all you need to do is log on. Some of the things you can do at this new site are:

- List yourself in the alumnae directory so friends can get in touch.
- Get the latest news and information about what’s happening at the Mount.
- Find out about upcoming alumnae events at the College or in your area.
- Register for events with a few easy clicks and keystrokes.
- Chat with fellow alums in easy-to-join discussion groups.
- Post photos to share with others (no limit on the number of kids, grandkids, or pets).
- Search for job listings in the Career Center, post your résumé, or find an alum you might want to hire.
- Post Class Notes to let other alums know what you’re up to (photos from your latest vacation or son or daughter’s wedding are encouraged).
- Make your annual fund donation (not to worry—it’s secure).
- Take advantage of e-mail forwarding (even if you change jobs or Internet providers, messages to your MSMC address will be directed to your current e-mail address).

Here is how to join:

- Use your Web browser to go to www.msmcalums.la.edu
- Click on “First Time Login” located at the top of the page.
- Enter your last name. If that last name is not recognized enter your maiden name if applicable.
- Select your record.
- You will be prompted to enter your Constituent ID #, which will be mailed to you by Alumnae Relations.
- After you log in for the first time you can change your password.
- Update your contact information.
- Begin exploring and take full advantage of Mount AlumLine’s many features. Visit often!

By Elizabeth Robles ’03

www.msmcalums.la.edu
Patricia Smith Weseloh is very busy with 17 grandchildren! She is also active in guild work at St. Mary Star of the Sea parish in Oceanside.

Barbara Terpening McGourty and her husband, Chuck, went steamboating on the Mississippi from New Orleans to Memphis. Among the highlights of the trip was a tour of historic St. Louis Cathedral on Jackson Square in New Orleans.

Eileen Micklish Hempfling participated with 18 other Model A Ford owners on a 3,000-mile round trip tour to Calgary, Alberta, Canada last summer. She had her picture taken with a Northwest Mounted Police trooper!

Josette Temple has authored a book titled Gentle Artist of the San Gabriel Valley, California History Preserved Through Art—The Life and Paintings of Walter P. Temple, Jr.

Mary Lou Starr Vanderlip, after 37 years of teaching for the LAUSD, is moving out of the classroom and into a district advisor position for “reading first” schools. Her daughter, Kristin Vanderlip ’97, is teaching in the Arts Prototype Program for LAUSD.

Marie Mayotte Fiellman has begun a new career as a popular materials librarian.

Mary Breden, professor, Loyola Marymount University’s chair of music and director of choral activities, has recently been selected as president designate elect to the American Choral Directors Association, a nonprofit music-education organization whose purpose is to promote excellence in choral music through performance, composition, publication, research and teaching.

Merry Grasska Friedman received an Orange County Nurse of the Year award.

Diane K. Dameron is a licensed MFT and clinical counselor at the Fleet and Family Support Center at the Naval Air Station, North Island Coronado. She works full time providing crisis intervention and short term counseling to active duty and retired military and their family members.

Cassandra Larson Ornelas has a beautiful home in Santa Barbara where she is entering her ninth year as a district nurse for the Santa Barbara City Schools. She has two beautiful girls.

Lettrice Cathey Lawrence is music minister for the House of Prayer Global Ministries.

Cheryl Demers Fluet is working as a level three NICU nurse in Las Vegas, and has three grandchildren.

Uyen Tran has been teaching elementary school for the past five years. She is in the process of relocating to Arizona.

Andrea Bidart-Oteiza was married last December in Errazu in the Basque country of Spain, and is coordinator of special education for the Valle Lindo School District.
Ana Vega is in her third year of teaching, currently with a fifth-grade class. She is working on obtaining a clear credential.

Nicolasa Parra is very happy working for Los Angeles County as a clinic nurse as well as a nurse at the County Hospital on the HIV unit. She has a beautiful new granddaughter, and is already making plans for her entrance to Mount St. Mary’s.

Heather Del Villar is working at St. Joseph Hospital of Orange as a critical care staff nurse.

Midori Green is currently attending graduate school at the University of Minnesota in art history with a specialization in American art, architecture, and popular culture.

Stacey Green is working at the UCLA Neuro Stepdown Unit and attending the Master’s in Gerontology/Neuropsych GNP Program at UCLA.

Yvonne Rosales Rivera is a recipient of the California Department of Education Apple Grant. She is a graduate student and substitute teacher for the Los Angeles County Office of Education.

Aloha! And the Winner is…

When Kay Williams Taylor ’49 learned that she was the lucky winner of a Hawaiian vacation for two, she was completely bowled over. “I’ve never won anything in my life,” said the astonished Taylor. She and her husband Chuck love Hawaii and are eagerly looking forward to the trip.

More than 800 Mount alumnae and friends entered the raffle for the all-expense paid trip to Maui, which was donated to the College by the William H. Hannon Foundation. The raffle raised $33,545 for student scholarships.

Requiescant

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

-’37 Genevieve Faeh Fraga
-’43 Jeanne Barrett McHale
-’46 Helen Crane Freitas
-’47 Barbara Lichtenberg Znich
-’52 Lea O’Donnell Adza
-’57 husband of Norma Hopkins Wallace
-’58 Opal Lykke Gilboy
-’59 husband of Chere Major Stark
-’59 mother of Rosemary Orsini Link
-’65 Camile Rubio Beene
-’65 Cris Ceretto Roche
-’65 Camilla Turoreto Rowe
-’66 mother of Janet King Madden
-’68 father of Mary Annette Hall Irvine
-’70 mother of Sr. Judy Molosky, CSJ
-’73 father of Joan Gumaer Tyhurst
-’79 Mary Kelley Wyman
-’85 husband of Susan Nelson Gasser
-’92 father-in-law of Laura Leangang Freeman
-’99 Dilla Camodeca

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

Advanced Degrees

The Alumnae Association congratulates the following alums on their successful pursuit of intellectual achievement:

-’68 Marie Mayotte Fiellman, master of library and information science, Wayne State University, 2003
-’86 Veronica O’Connell Dale, certificate, psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner, Cal State Long Beach, 2004
-’97 Veronica Salmeron, masters in literacy, Loyola Marymount University, 2000
-’97 Uyen Tran, multiple subject teaching credential, LAUSD, 2002
-’99 Cynthia Ashby, MSN, University of Phoenix, 2004

NOTE: We are proud of all of our alumns and are happy to showcase your academic achievements. Please let us know when you receive an advanced degree and include the date and the name of the institution granting the degree. In order to keep this feature current, please do not go back any further than four years or send information that has already appeared in Alumnae Class Notes.
We're not sure what Sister Cecilia Louise Moore, CSJ '53, was doing in this photo from the 1960s, but you can be sure she was doing her best to keep the Mount up-to-date with the latest technology of the time. Is she “searching for signs of intelligent life in the universe?”, to borrow from the title of the play by Lily Tomlin.

More likely, she was checking on the quality of the audio signal for a television course, which she pioneered as chair of the Physical Sciences Department. According to The History of Mount St. Mary's College 1925-1975 by Sister Mary Germaine McNeil, CSJ:

Mount St. Mary's College participated...in the television series “Continental Classroom.” Modern chemistry was the subject of the 1959-1960 series...taught by John Baxter of the University of Florida and televised from 6:30 to 7 a.m. over KRCA. Sister Cecilia Louise Moore...coordinated the program locally with a weekly class for discussion and testing on Friday evening on the downtown campus.

If you know the real origin of this photo, contact The Mount editor. We know this for sure—times have changed. Satellite dishes are a lot smaller today; and how do you convince students they should attend a class at 6:30 in the morning? You can bet Sister C.L. could do it!
October

Homecoming: Champagne and Roses
Celebrate the Alumnae Association's 75th Anniversary
Saturday, October 9
Registration begins at noon
For information, please see page 20.
Register on-line at: www.msmcalums.la.edu/homecoming

November

Sunday, November 14
3 to 5 p.m.
Doheny Docent Fall Tea
Learn how to become a docent for the historic Doheny Mansion on the Doheny Campus.
Please see page 4.

December

Friday, December 10
8 p.m.
Christmas Choral Concert
Mary Chapel, Chalon Campus
Call (310) 954-4266 for information.