Source of Inspiration

First all-female Water Brigade in Ghana

Women in China • Doheny Campus’ 50th Anniversary • Homecoming
Dear Friends,

For the past several months, the Mount community has been engaged in a visioning process for the College in preparation for our next five-year strategic plan. We are focused on and committed to creating a culture of excellence and innovation, and have been exploring what that means to us, and how we can make it happen.

As a result of our brainstorming, we have identified five areas of emphasis — what we call the pillars of excellence and innovation: women; teaching and learning; community; global awareness and understanding; and the spirit of the founders, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. It is up to us to now define these areas, see what we are already doing well, and then to imagine the possibilities associated with these five pillars.

Several examples of how we already excel in these areas can be found in this issue. You will find information about *The Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California*, and what the Mount is already doing with respect to the gender inequities revealed in the study. You will also find stories about what our students and alums are doing on the global stage, from building water filtration systems in Ghana to donating time to distribute medical supplies in Asia and Africa. Through their work these women, like our founders, serve as inspirational models of what our Catholic faith calls us to be.

We have heard from many of you through the alum survey that went out in June. We had an impressive return on the surveys; you shared stories about the Mount, your professional accomplishments and your families, many of which you will find in the Class Notes section beginning on page 22. I was especially gratified to see how many alums want to give back to the Mount through mentoring and participating in Mount events. Thank you for taking the time to share this information with us.

As Samuel Johnson said, “Your aspirations are your possibilities.” We need to dream big and be bold in our thinking, because our success is limited only by our own imagination. I invite you to share your thoughts with us as we continue to provide a superior education enhanced by an emphasis on building leadership skills and fostering a spirit to serve others.

With warmest regards,

Ann McElaney-Johnson
President
Call for Change
The Mount leads the call for change in the future of women and girls.

Bridging Cultures
Study of China gets a boost with NEH grant.

Tool of Empowerment
Students and alums help an African village build a safe-water system.

ON THE COVER:
Rachel Gutierrez '10, Nicole Franco '13, Lizabeth Alvarez '13, and Elizabeth Canales '12 gather for a reunion a few weeks after their volunteer trip to Ghana in May with other Mount students and alums. Photo by Watchara Phomicinda
in the moment

Darshell Williams ’12 celebrates during commencement on May 7 at the Gibson Amphitheatre at Universal Citywalk.

MISSION STATEMENT
Mount St. Mary’s College offers a dynamic learning experience in the liberal arts and sciences to a diverse student body. As a Catholic college primarily for women, we are dedicated to providing a superior education enhanced by an emphasis on building leadership skills and fostering a spirit to serve others. Our measure of success is graduates who are committed to using their knowledge and skills to better themselves, their environments and the world.

Mount St. Mary’s College is a diverse community committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination on the basis of any characteristic protected by federal, state or local law, ordinance or regulation.
President Joins Pelosi, Becerra in College Loans Forum

Mount President Ann McElaney-Johnson joined House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-Los Angeles) in a roundtable discussion on the impact of higher student loan interest rates on college affordability.

Presidents, administrators and students from higher education institutions in Southern California who attended the discussion on May 22 urged action from Congress to prevent student loan interest rates from doubling to 6.8 percent. On July 1, Congress decided to keep the interest rates at 3.4 percent for one more year.

“Students should graduate from college dreaming about every opportunity that their future holds and not about more debt,” Rep. Becerra said.

The event was held at Occidental College in Los Angeles. McElaney-Johnson and Mount students Dana-Rae Gipson ’15 and Michelle Arias ’14 represented the College.

MBA Program Adds Project Management Concentration

The College’s MBA program announced a new concentration in project management that provides a foundation in the initiation, planning, execution and closing of projects. The new concentration offers students an option for a special certification in the field. Key areas of focus include communication, leadership, effective team management and applied critical thinking skills. Courses are integrated with the Project Management Institute Inc. and prepare students for the project management certification exam — an important opportunity for those looking to add professional certification to their resumés.

Former Student Screens Documentary on Campus

Filmmaker Christina McCandless, who attended the Mount her freshman year, screened her latest documentary, “From Zimbabwe to Santa Fe,” at the Chalon Campus in April. The documentary follows the story of three Zimbabwean basketmakers who set their sights on selling their baskets at the world’s largest folk art market in Santa Fe, N.M. It was named Best Documentary during the Riverside International Film Festival in April.

College Recognized on President’s Honor Roll

Mount St. Mary’s College was honored for the fourth straight year with a place on President Obama’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The achievement celebrates the College’s outstanding service to greater Los Angeles and is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to community service and civic engagement.
from the faculty

Peter H. Antoniou, cohort coordinator for the MBA program and adjunct professor of business, had his article “Managing Value Chain Strategy” published in the Journal of Management and Marketing Research, Vol. 9, in March.

Nina Berson, art instructor, was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to enrich coursework at the Mount by participating in the summer institute “Mesoamerica and the Southwest: A New History for an Ancient Land.” Berson was among 24 scholars selected to travel in June to Mexico City, Arizona and New Mexico and learn from the world’s top scholars in the field of Mesoamerican art and culture.

Madeleine Bruning, associate professor of nursing, was a panelist in a webinar discussion on “Joining Forces through Creative Curriculum Approaches,” sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in May.

McElaney-Johnson, Other University Presidents Join National Talks to Improve Access to College

In April, President Ann McElaney-Johnson was one of 12 heads of private colleges and universities to meet with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and key White House staff members in Washington, D.C., to address greater access to higher education.

McElaney-Johnson and her peers represented the Yes We Must Coalition, a group of 27 colleges and universities across the nation working to help low-income, first-generation and minority students receive a higher education. Formed three years ago, coalition members collaborate to lower educational costs and be a voice — supported by data — to inform the public and influence policy and practice that impacts students. Each member of Yes We Must is an institution with fewer than 5,000 students and with half its student population eligible to receive Pell Grants.

“This is a great moment for all of us to come together and talk about the relevant issues of access and affordability in higher education on a national platform,” McElaney-Johnson said. “Mount St. Mary’s is committed to working with the other Coalition colleges and universities to make an education possible for all eligible students.”

Mount Welcomes New Board Chair, Trustees

The Mount welcomes a new chair of its Board of Trustees and four new members to the governing board during the 2012-13 year. New Chair Judith R. McDonald succeeds Michael A. Enright.

McDonald is a founding board member and a member of the advisory committee of Young & Healthy, a nonprofit organization that provides free health care to uninsured children in the greater Pasadena, Calif., area. She served for three years as president of Good Shepherd Center for Homeless Women and Children in Los Angeles.

Joining the board are: Shireen Fatemi, assistant area medical director for Southern California Permanente Medical Group; Susan Georgino ’01 MA, principal of Georgino Development and an adjunct professor of organizational leadership at Woodbury University; Gabriel A. Gutierrez, a retired Los Angeles Superior Court Judge who served with the Los Angeles County courts for more than 20 years; Cambria Smith ’00 MA, parish life director for Holy Family Catholic Church in South Pasadena.
Students Lobby Legislators to Preserve Cal Grants

Three Mount students joined dozens of their peers from throughout the state on March 7 to talk to legislators and speak out at rallies as part of Cal Grant Student Lobby Day, organized by the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities. Claudia Garcia ’14, Elizabeth Canales ’12 and Rocio Samuel-Gama ’12 traveled to the state Capitol for one-on-one sessions with lawmakers and their staff, including Assemblymen Mike Feuer and Mike Davis, whose districts cover the Chalon and Doheny campuses, respectively. The students also met Cornelious Burke (above), aide to state Sen. Curren D. Price Jr.
from the faculty

Alan Lee, associate professor of physical therapy, and Nancy Horada, instructor in the physical therapy program, published “TeleHealth as a Means of Health Care Delivery for Physical Therapist Practice” in Physical Therapy, the journal of the American Physical Therapy Association, in December 2011.


Montserrat Reguant, language & culture department chair, contributed a chapter to “The Forgotten Holocaust: Spanish Civil War, Massacre, Pact, Obliviousness and Recovery of Historical Memory in Spain.” The book was edited by Char Prieto, associate professor at California State University, Chico, and published in 2011.

Nursing Program Professor Joins Geena Davis in Sacramento to Present Report on Status of Women

Sarah Shealy, assistant professor of nursing, joined Academy Award® winner Geena Davis in Sacramento on April 24 for a press conference announcing continued state funding for the California Commission on the Status of Women. Davis is the chair of the women’s commission. At the event, held by California State Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez, Shealy presented some key findings from the Mount’s Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California™.

Mount Hosts Nursing Conference on Roy Adaptation Model

In June, the College hosted the Roy Adaptation Association International Conference at the Doheny Campus. About 70 educators, researchers and nurses attended two days of workshops, discussions and presentations on the Roy Adaptation Model, which is a problem-solving approach that focuses on a patient’s ability to cope and adapt. The model was developed by Sister Callista Roy, CSJ, ’63, who served as the Mount’s chair of nursing from 1971 to 1982.

DPT Student Receives Scholar Award

Rebecca Raines ’13 DPT has been named a Paul Ambrose Scholar by the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research. As part of the scholars program, she will work on a community-based health project. In June, she attended a symposium with other award recipients in Washington, D.C.
Clothesline Events Draw Attention to Domestic Violence

Mount students designed and displayed scores of anti-violence T-shirts in February as part of the Clothesline Project, an annual worldwide demonstration that helps give a voice to women affected by violence. The College organized its Clothesline events to bring the issue to the forefront in a women’s college environment. According to The Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California, 40 percent of California women reported they have been assaulted over the course of their lifetimes.

Shirt-making tents were set up on both campuses to allow survivors to express their own experiences while affirming their strength. The College also hosted a Take Back the Night walk of empowerment on Feb. 28 at the Doheny Campus.

Alums Awarded Stipends to Aid L.A.’s Public Mental Health Clients

Mount psychology alumnae Elizabeth Ruiz ’11 MS, Arisela Flores ’12 MS and Yesica Helguera ’12 MS have each been awarded $18,500 from California’s MFT Educational State Stipend Program to work at mental health agencies in low-income communities. Ruiz, Flores and Helguera are among 20 students to receive this year’s stipends from L.A. County. The program is designed to recruit top graduates into public mental health jobs serving ethnically diverse and low-income residents and is funded by the 2005 Mental Health Services Act of California.

Student Wins Top Award at Mock Trial Contest

Amalia Flores ’14 earned a Best Witness Award from the American Mock Trial Association competition held in February at the Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego. The political science major and pre-law minor was a part of the Mount team that competed against hundreds of students from colleges and universities across California, Arizona, Colorado and Utah. Flores’ honor is the latest in a string of successes for the College’s pre-law program, led by Helen Boutrous, chair of history and political science.

from the faculty

Shelly Tochluk, education department chair, and Mount graduate student Jason David ’12 MA co-presented an interactive workshop entitled “Witnessing in Action: Developing and Sustaining White, Anti-Racist Affinity Groups” in February for the Association of Independent Schools in New England at Meadowbrook School in Weston, Mass. Tochluk also presented “Parents as Primary Educators: Supporting Our Kids in Navigating a Multicultural World” at Fayerweather Street School in Cambridge, Mass., in February.

Tochluk and philosophy professor Michele Dumont have teamed up for the last four years to work with AWARE-LA (Alliance of White Anti-Racists Everywhere-Los Angeles) to produce and facilitate an annual summer institute. This summer, the event was held from June 28 to July 1 at the Doheny Campus.

Tochluk and philosophy professor Michele Dumont have teamed up for the last four years to work with AWARE-LA (Alliance of White Anti-Racists Everywhere-Los Angeles) to produce and facilitate an annual summer institute. This summer, the event was held from June 28 to July 1 at the Doheny Campus. The institute draws participants from across the U.S. – primarily educators, social workers, students and community and social justice activists.

For more faculty accomplishments, go to www.msmc.la.edu/academics/provost
When the Mount released the first-ever Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California™ in March, the College fully embraced its 21st century responsibility to help advance women. Eye-opening data loom on every page: Women still trail their male counterparts in pay across all industries, and a stubbornly low number of women are CEOs, elected officials or at the top levels of the state’s fastest-growing careers.

The California Commission on the Status of Women, which partnered with the College to present the report, is using the data to garner support in the Legislature to extend its advocacy for women and girls into education, the media and economic issues. Meanwhile, the College is producing a 2013 follow-up report with new data, trends and national comparisons. The next chapter will build on the first report’s success and will continue to challenge the way the Mount defines excellence.

Here are just a few of the ways the Mount is addressing key issues affecting the advancement of women and girls in California:

**Leadership**

**MOUNT COMMITMENT**

The College is the exclusive California partner with Rutgers University’s Center for American Women and Politics in its push to bring more women into public office. As part of the partnership, the College will help women position themselves as political leaders at a Ready to Run™ training in February.

Nearly two-thirds of CEOs at public companies in the U.S. hold an advanced degree. Eighty percent of the students getting an MBA at the Mount are women, compared to 46% nationally.

The College’s business administration department hosts a series of lectures each year known as Vantage Point to connect high-profile women business owners with students.

In California, women represent only 9% of mayors; 24% of the Boards of Supervisors; 30% of state senators; 28% of state assembly members and 38% of U.S. representatives.

Only 4% of CEOs and only 10% of board directors are women in the state’s Fortune 400 companies.

California leads the nation in women-owned businesses; however, in 2007 women-owned businesses only accounted for 30% of all Calif. businesses vs. 49% owned by men.
Although California women are graduating from college at higher rates than men, fewer women are earning degrees in fields such as computer and information sciences (14% women vs. 87% men) and engineering (18% women vs. 82% men).

The Mount has been awarded a $6-million dollar federal grant to enhance curricula and support for students who are Hispanic, female or low-income in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, known as STEM disciplines.

Reflective of California’s diversity, the majority of K-12 girls (71%) are from an ethnic minority background.

The Mount enrolls a far greater proportion of Latinas — 51.6% of undergraduates — than the national average of 12.5%. The Center for Cultural Fluency provides resources for teaching and understanding cultural diversity and social justice in the classroom.

In the legal field, women are 77% of paralegals and only 34% of lawyers and 46% of judges.

The College’s all-women’s mock trial and moot court teams have won numerous individual and team awards. The teams also provide excellent preparation for law school.

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The Mount enrolls a far greater proportion of Latinas — 51.6% of undergraduates — than the national average of 12.5%. The Center for Cultural Fluency provides resources for teaching and understanding cultural diversity and social justice in the classroom.

The College is committed to providing access to higher education for qualified, capable women of potential and does so through a $20 million scholarship fund.

Mount St. Mary’s College student leaders meet Academy Award®-winning actor Geena Davis, who was the keynote speaker at the public release of the 2011 Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California™ in March.

Education & Employment

The Data

Reflective of California’s diversity, the majority of K-12 girls (71%) are from an ethnic minority background.

Although California women are graduating from college at higher rates than men, fewer women are earning degrees in fields such as computer and information sciences (14% women vs. 87% men) and engineering (18% women vs. 82% men).

In the legal field, women are 77% of paralegals and only 34% of lawyers and 46% of judges.

Physical Health

The Data

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women in Calif., affecting nearly 12% of women over age 55. Cancer prevention and treatments have improved significantly, boosting overall survival rates for cancer patients.

Maternal mortality rates in California have more than doubled since the mid-1980s. African-American women are four to five times more likely to die from obstetrical complications than all other races.

The College launched the first bachelor of science in nursing program in California 60 years ago and graduates more than 300 nurses annually. The tradition has grown to support strong leadership roles for women in health care organizations to advocate for better overall health care for women.

The College’s healthcare policy major trains students on both the science and politics of healthcare.

Poverty

The Data

The poverty rate for all women and girls in California is 17%, with more than 2 million women over the age of 18 living below the poverty level.

The College is committed to providing access to higher education for qualified, capable women of potential and does so through a $20 million scholarship fund.
The Mount takes its relationship with Nanjing to the next level with the NEH-funded “Women in China” program.

BY PIA ABELGAS ORENSE

The cacophony of simultaneous conversations — most of them indecipherable to her ears — always captivates Professor Emerita Nancy Pine when she walks along the streets of China. Pine is the founder of the Bridging Cultures: U.S/China program at Mount St. Mary’s College.

For Julie Feldman-Abe, director of the Mount’s Center for Cultural Fluency, what fascinates her during her trips to the country is the juxtaposition of old and new, especially in Nanjing, the thriving capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province and once the seat of several dynasties in ancient Chinese history.
In February, Pine and Feldman-Abe visited Nanjing together for a trip that was, in a way, a changing of the guard. Pine was there to introduce Feldman-Abe to the faculty and staff of Nanjing University, with whom Mount St. Mary’s College has had a partnership for the past decade. Nanjing University is considered one of China’s top five higher-education institutions.

Pine continues to be the liaison between the two colleges, but she has handed over the Bridging Cultures directorship duties to Feldman-Abe. The 11-year-old program, which started as a way to bring visiting scholars and exchange students from China to the Mount, provides Mount students the chance to learn about the historically rich and rapidly changing Asian country and understand the dynamics of Chinese/American connections.

This year, the College is taking its study of the country to the next level through the National Endowment for the Humanities-funded project “Women in China.” Feldman-Abe is co-directing the NEH project with Montserrat Reguant, chair of the language and culture department.

The $100,000 grant from the NEH is the next step for Bridging Cultures, according to Feldman-Abe. The “Women in China” project, starting in the fall, is a two-year intensive learning experience for Mount faculty that will involve a weeklong trip to Nanjing in which eight professors will meet with their Chinese counterparts.

The goal is to develop a model that brings even more depth to the Mount’s teaching of world cultures, starting with China. By looking at the country’s history and culture from the perspective of women, Mount faculty will be able to understand the evolution of gender roles from ancient China through the 21st century.

As part of the “Women in China” project, the Mount will host a series of public lectures conducted by scholars who are experts in the study of women in China (see sidebar). In the second year of the grant, the faculty will create or modify courses that will incorporate concepts and perspectives gained from the China trip and public lectures.

Feldman-Abe hopes the journey to Nanjing will be a transformational experience for the Mount faculty, as it was for her. “I just finished reading a book that takes place in Nanjing, and I was so thrilled to see how many references I now understand and how familiar so many images and concepts in the book were. China is not just an abstract place, but now a part of my world and experience,” she says.

Defining that abstraction was Pine’s intent from the beginning. “My purpose in founding the Bridging Cultures program was to provide Mount students, staff and faculty the chance to experience interacting with Chinese people and to give China a human face,” she says.

For Feldman-Abe, the most exciting part of all this collaboration is the learning that gets passed on to the students. “In our increasingly interdependent world, it is so important that our students have a deeper relationship with China and a better understanding of different world cultures,” she says.
Women in China Lecture Series

This series of six free public lectures with noted China scholars will be held from 6–7 p.m. in The Rose Hills Auditorium on the Doheny Campus of Mount St. Mary’s College.

Aug. 23, 2012

Yin Yang: The Way of Ways
A comprehensive account of the concept of yin and yang, including how it relates to our contemporary life
By Robin Wang, Professor of Philosophy, Director of Asian and Pacific Studies, Loyola Marymount University

Sept. 13, 2012

Women in Chinese History
An overview of women’s life and their domestic and societal roles from antiquity to 1912, including discussion of courtesanship, foot binding, and women in Chinese religious tradition
By Ping Yao, Professor of History, Director of Asian and Asian American Studies, California State University, Los Angeles

Oct. 25, 2012

Women of Classical Chinese Poetry
An examination of the works of Li Qingzhao (12th century) and Qiu Jin (early 20th century), and the formation of the Chinese poetic canon
By Hu Ying, Associate Professor of Chinese Literature, University of California, Irvine

Jan. 10, 2013

Empresses, Art and Agency
A comparison of historical depictions of women in Chinese art with those of women by modern and contemporary Chinese visual artists
By Hui-shu Lee, Associate Professor of Art History, UCLA

Jan. 31, 2013

Women in 20th Century Chinese Literature
A discussion of the representation of women in 20th century Chinese literature in the context of major historical upheavals throughout history
By Shu-mei Shih, Professor of Comparative Literature/Asian Languages and Cultures/Asian American Studies, UCLA

Feb. 21, 2013

What Can Chinese Film Tell Us About Modern Chinese History?
A closer look at how some of the most important issues in 20th century China, such as nationalism, tensions between tradition and modernity, and gender equality, are addressed in popular films.
By Zhiwei Xiao, Associate Professor of History, California State University, San Marcos

For more information, visit www.msmc.la.edu/womeninchina.
A GOLDEN YEAR

This year the College is celebrating several major milestones in the Mount’s history, including the 50th anniversary of the Doheny Campus and the 20th anniversary of Weekend College.

THE ORIGINS OF DOHENY CAMPUS

On the death of Countess Estelle Doheny on Oct. 30, 1958, ownership of the historic grounds of Chester Place was transferred to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Initial plans to create a jointly operated graduate school among the four Catholic colleges in the city — Mount St. Mary’s, Loyola, Immaculate Heart and Marymount — were studied and scrapped. A portion of the real estate came exclusively to the Mount. In early December 1961, barely a month after the devastating Bel Air Fire nearly destroyed the Chalon Campus, MSMC President Sister Rebecca Doan, CSJ, announced that the College would open a second campus and launch an innovative associate in arts degree in the fall of 1962.

The new program scored two “firsts” for Catholic higher education: the first associate degree on the West Coast and first in the country for women students. Rooted in the social justice concerns of the Sisters of St. Joseph, the new downtown campus was designed to give students from struggling high schools a chance to earn a college degree. One track prepared students for eventual transfer to a four-year baccalaureate program like that at Chalon. The other offered a vocational curriculum, with associate degrees offered in secretarial science, nursing, home economics, music, art, and even flight attendant training.

On Wednesday, Sept. 12, 1962, the Doheny Campus opened to 220 new students. ✨ — Victoria McCargar, College Archivist

MILESTONES

The College marks the following anniversaries this year:

**Fall 1992**
Weekend College opens.

Gloria Galarza ’95 consults with Merrill Rodin, dean of Weekend College. Galarza was the first applicant to Weekend College.

**Fall 1962**
The Doheny Campus opens and the Associate in Arts program begins.

Sisters Rebecca Doan, president, and Eloise Therese Mescall, downtown campus director, welcome three new students to Chester Place in September 1962.

**Spring 1952**
The College grants its first baccalaureate nursing degrees.

Lay and sister nursing students gather around a lab class with a white rabbit. The student in the center is Marie Zeuthen ’58, later a professor of biological sciences at the College.

**Spring 1932**
The music department awards the College’s first master’s degrees.

For information about the Doheny Campus’ 50th anniversary celebration, visit www.msmc.la.edu/doheny50
As they set about their work, the group labored in the heat, carrying large bricks, mixing cement by hand and digging holes with shovels and pickaxes. Their presence drew more than curious glances from the local population.

In Ghana’s Central Region, particularly in the small village of Akwakrom, it’s not every day that a group of 10 Americans — obrunis, or outsiders — arrive to lead the construction of a safe-water system.

It’s downright rare when the group of volunteer workers is comprised entirely of women.

“In the middle of trying to mix cement and carry bricks, (the attention) was a bit uncomfortable,” says Elizabeth Canales ’12, one of eight Mount St. Mary’s students and alums who journeyed to Ghana in May. “Men from the village were literally standing around videotaping us — this group of women shoveling and mixing cement. They had never seen women do that.”

For the global outreach trip, the students and alums joined faculty members Lia Roberts and Laurie Wright Garry in partnership with the international nonprofit Water Brigades to assist in implementing a system to prevent water-related illness among the youth who attend school in the village. Water Brigades is a division of Global Brigades, the world’s largest student-led global health and sustainable development organization.

The Mount team was the first all-female Water Brigade to land in Ghana.

Study abroad programs and volunteer trips, such as this one, position Mount students to play future leadership roles in the increasingly global economic and political landscape. The experience also fosters a lifelong passion for helping others, whether in the students’ own communities or on an international scale.

“As Mount women carry forth the mission of the CSJs, what better way to do this than to experience the world in all its beauty and complexity through hands-on learning experiences,” says Roberts, associate professor of political science. “Students who spend

SOURCE OF INSPIRATION

MOUNT TEAM FIRST ALL-FEMALE WATER BRIGADE SENT TO GHANA

BY EVELYN BARGE

Rachel Gutierrez ’10, Nicole Franco ’13, Lizbeth Alvarez ’13, Elizabeth Canales ’12 and Nicole Galvan ’12 gather for a reunion a few weeks after their mission trip to Ghana in May with other Mount students and alums.

Photo: Watchara Phomicinda
time abroad — whether in study-abroad semesters or volunteer trips to Africa — are more deeply connected to the world around them, and more aware of the complexity of political, social and economic environments across countries and regions.”

Portions of the 10-day Ghana trip included physical labor to build and repair a poly tank structure that captures and filters rain for drinking at the village school, which lacks running water and electricity.

The visit also integrated an educational component designed to empower the community through its youth. At the village school, the volunteers installed LifeStraw filters and gave lessons on how to use them during dry seasons to drink water from the polluted Mankessim River. With the LifeStraw, the unsanitary river water becomes potable and the risk of waterborne bacteria and parasites is greatly reduced. The village students later demonstrated the process to teachers, community members and even the village chief and sub-chiefs, Canales says.

As an all-female team, they learned to navigate cultural differences with respect and a positive attitude.

While the Mount team relied on the skilled expertise of a mason, plumber and translators to communicate in the local Fante dialect, they also received many unsolicited offers of assistance.

“All the men wanted to grab the tools and do the work for us, so we took our tools with us, even to meals,” Canales says. “It was important that we get to do the work for ourselves.”

The effort became something of a team motto.

“At lunch, we would tell one another to ‘grab your tool,’” says Wright Garry, associate professor of religious studies.

“Even in the moments where we might have wanted help, we would pick up our tools and keep them on us to send a message,” adds Nicole Galvan ’12. “Obviously, we had our work to prove that we could do anything we set our minds to.”

Knowing that some villagers were skeptical of what the group could accomplish, Galvan says she felt the tide of opinion begin to turn. “On the last day, the (village) chief came up to each of us individually and said thank you,” she says. “He was very appreciative, and I think we managed to change some people’s minds.”

At the village school, where their work was primarily focused, the impact was even more direct.

“During a closing ceremony, the headmistress of the school gave a small speech thanking us for our work, but most of all telling us that she had never seen women work as hard — and doing construction work — as we had, and that we had inspired her,” Roberts says. “She knew that the students had watched us, and it was her hope that we had inspired the girls at the school.”

And the Mount scholars traveled back to Los Angeles with a dose of inspiration of their own.

“I believe the best education is travelling and learning from people from cultures different than our own,” Wright Garry says. “Visiting a country in which the average family income is less than $2 a day helped us recognize that for which we are grateful.”

Reflecting on the experience, Rachel Gutierrez ’09 was inspired to pursue a career in international development. After the trip, she accepted a position with Global Brigades to work as program developer of public health. She will be based in Ghana for a year starting in the fall.

“I think the 10 days we were in Ghana, (MSMC) students were able to make a considerable difference in a community. It reinforces the belief that one person can make a difference,” Gutierrez says.

Others, like Galvan and Canales, say they plan to put their growing knowledge of community empowerment to work back home.

“I feel like I want to make a difference everywhere in the world, but it’s equally important to make a difference — little by little — here at home,” Galvan says.

Future students may find themselves on a similar path, Roberts said, because a Mount St. Mary’s chapter of Global Brigades is slated to begin during the 2012–13 school year. The next project will most likely be a brigade to a rural community in Honduras, Roberts says.

“If we are really looking to help foster global citizens,” she says, “then we must support these global experiential learning opportunities.”

The Mount group also included Claudia Garcia ’14, Nicole Franco ’13, Jennifer Merida ’12, Lizbeth Alvarez ’13, and Bonnie Falcone ’11.
If it’s challenging for everyday travelers to make arrangements for a few pieces of luggage, imagine having to keep track of 100 bags on your overseas flight. It’s details like these that keep things interesting for Carol Mikoll’78. As a leader of medical missions across the globe, Mikoll was recently charged with ensuring that 500 pounds of medical supplies would make it into the hands of team members working in volunteer clinics in the suburbs of Lima, Peru.

Mikoll, a longtime nurse, has been volunteering since 1999 with PROJECT C.U.R.E. (Commission on Urgent Relief & Equipment), a nonprofit organization that delivers medical supplies, equipment and healthcare services around the world.

During her June trip to South America, Mikoll led a team that included a surgeon, physician, nurses and medical students to Huaycán, a township of Lima that has high rates of tuberculosis and dysentery. The Denver-area resident has also travelled to places like Ghana and Cambodia, directing medical missions of up to nearly 50 volunteers.

“I was just a little, old nursing student who happened to say, ‘I’ll volunteer.’ And now I’m leading medical missions halfway around the world,” Mikoll says. “When I was at the Mount, I remember saying, ‘God, if you just get me through this program, I will go where you want me to go and do what you want me to do.’ I wanted my gift of nursing to be used.”

Describing the 2008 trip to Cambodia, Mikoll recalled an encounter with a 6-year-old boy whose father had brought the child on a two-day journey to the C.U.R.E. Clinic to have an extra digit removed from the boy’s hand. As the child was preparing to leave the surgical unit and depart from the clinic, Mikoll assessed the young patient and discovered a serious underlying heart condition that others had overlooked. A cardiac surgeon on the volunteer mission was able to perform complex surgery and save the boy’s life.

“Volunteering in this capacity has allowed me to not only demonstrate all my skills but also to work with teams that literally bring hope — to see hope brought back into people’s lives,” Mikoll says.
Journey to the East

Ancient medicine intersects with a graduate’s modern studies

In the course of her studies as a nursing major, Karen Ohayon ’12 most often travelled from one class to another in a matter of a few steps. This summer, the distance to her next destination for learning was measured in thousands of miles. The recent graduate was the 2012 recipient of the Globetrotter Grant, an annual award given to students planning to broaden their horizons through international travel. The grant, established by Peggy Amante ’56, is awarded to students from Mount St. Mary’s College and Texas A&M University. Ohayon travelled in June to India to study for one month under the guidance of an Ayurvedic medicine man who runs a busy clinic in the Indian state of Kerala. Ayurveda is an ancient healing system native to India that has grown in popularity in the Western world as a pathway of complementary and alternative medicine.

“As far as nursing goes, I’ve spent all these years studying Western medicine,” Ohayon said. “I believe in it, and it’s what I’m dedicating my life to. At the same time, there are so many holistic, natural ways to heal a person, and I’ve always had an interest in this area of care.”

During the trip, Ohayon was immersed fully into Indian culture, staying with a host family and adjusting to settings where knowledge of English was not always a given.

“Learning these different types of interaction and communication — sometimes without words — makes the trip about so much more than medicine alone,” she said. “I hope that I can take the new understanding I gained from this trip and integrate it into my care. The exposure to holistic medicine will help me approach my future patients in a different manner.”
Bigelows Prepare to Leave a Legacy at the Mount

Eileen Bigelow ’65 and her husband, Brien, are both natives of Buffalo, N.Y., but they love that their roots are now established in Los Angeles. The city is where they met, married and raised their children. It is also where they started their business nearly 40 years ago, a company called National Hospital Packaging that makes and distributes sterile medical supplies.

Looking back on her time at the Mount, Eileen said her experience at the College led her “to grow as a person, intellectually, emotionally and spiritually.”

Throughout the years, the Mount has played a consistent role in their lives. In the early years they participated in Mount events as a way to maintain their relationships with the College and their friends. Eileen developed a profound appreciation for “the caliber of the people at the Mount, and began to give annually to ensure the College would continue.”

Eileen serves as co-chair of the College’s Regents Council. When she read about the Heritage Society, a group established to honor donors who have named MSMC as the beneficiary of a planned gift, Eileen realized she and her husband could leave a gift to the Mount after they were gone. This type of gift, commonly called a bequest, allows Eileen and Brien to accomplish their goal of continuing to build a foundation for the students of the Mount.

Nancy Aguilar ’04 Believes in the Mount’s Quality Education

When Nancy Aguilar ’04 reflects on her Mount St. Mary’s College experience, her reasons for enrolling at the Mount — and now giving back to the institution — are clear.

“My parents strongly supported my education and together, we wanted a Catholic women’s college,” she says. “As soon as I set foot on campus, I knew Mount St. Mary’s was for me.”

As a liberal arts major, she feels the faculty at the College provided her with an excellent opportunity to learn, and two professors, James Delahanty and Fred Simonelli, had a profound influence on her life.

Today, Nancy and her parents, Victor and Esther Aguilar, are regular donors of the annual giving fund.

“The Mount is doing wonderful things,” Nancy says. “We continue to support Mount St. Mary’s because the school offers a quality education that stands for something in the world.”
Michele (Connors) Bouchard ’62 Helps Make History For Golden Grad Giving

When asked to contribute to the Class of 1962 Endowed Scholarship Fund, Michele (Connors) Bouchard ’62 did not hesitate.

“I believe strongly in the mission of Mount St. Mary’s College and Catholic education,” she says.

Members of Class of 1962, recently inducted into the Mount’s Golden Grad Society, raised the bar for alum giving when they donated $30,000. Bouchard’s $10,000 contribution helped the class’ gift reach endowed status, a milestone in Golden Grad giving.

Upon graduation from Immaculate Heart High School in Hollywood, Michele didn’t know what awaited her on that hilltop in Brentwood. At the Mount, she earned a bachelor’s degree in nursing with a theology minor. “At first, I didn’t like the general studies courses,” she says, “but when I look back now, I’m so happy I had a broad education. We worked very hard, but we had a good time.”

Today, Michele and her husband, Tom, live in Connecticut and have five daughters and 13 grandchildren. She is on the board of a domestic violence prevention organization and is very involved in her parish.

with thanks for these recent gifts

**Bill Hannon Foundation** — Provided $75,000 for expendable scholarships.

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** — Provided $60,000 for scholarships to Accelerated BSN students as part of the fifth round of funding for the New Careers in Nursing Program.

**Joseph Drown Foundation** — Gave a gift of $40,000 for the Student Ambassador Program and $10,000 for expendable scholarships.
welcome

This is a year of great celebrations, beginning with the inauguration of the College’s 12th president, Ann McElaney-Johnson, in March. We are also commemorating many milestones in the Mount’s history, including the 15th anniversary of the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, the 20th anniversary of the Weekend College and the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Doheny Campus. We look forward to seeing you at these special events. For more information, please contact alumnae relations at 213.477.2767.

class notes

‘51
Geraldine (Biggs) McGrath enjoyed the 60th reunion of the Class of 1951 at Founder’s Day in October 2011. She celebrated with Sister Louise Bernstein, CSJ, ’51 and Angela (McDonald) Kay ’51.

‘58
Paula (Duncan) McDonald’s latest novel, “The Middle of Nowhere,” will be released in August.

‘59
Gloria (Travaglini) Chess spent a month traveling in South Africa in fall 2011. The highlight was a safari in Kruger National Park. She says the trip was worth the 37 hours of travel time.

‘61
Sharon (Lisle) Writer and her husband celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a Caribbean cruise in December 2011. She is still teaching science education at California State University, Long Beach.

‘63
Joan (Heinz) Pettite and her sister, Anita (Heinz) Peukert ’71, celebrated their father’s 100th birthday in May. His children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, extended family and friends joined in the festivities.

‘67
Patricia (LeRoux) Bales recently married a boyfriend from 1963, who was also her date to the senior prom. The marriage increased her family from three children to six, and from four grandchildren to 11.

‘68
Mary (MacDonald) Koenig is vice-president of the English-Speaking Union (ESU) in Houston and is again chairing the annual ESU National Shakespeare Competition for the greater Houston area.

Seniors Give Back to the Mount

The Class of 2012 presented President Ann McElaney-Johnson with a gift to the College at the Senior Farewell Dinner in April. The students raised $1,522 and designated their gift to the Class of 2012 Scholarship in support of the next generation of Athenians. Their gift was matched dollar for dollar by the Alumnae Association and Young Alum Council board members.
Teresa (Estrada) Mullaney retired in January as a judge of the San Luis Obispo Superior Court. She and her husband of 46 years, John, live in Arroyo Grande, Calif.

'69
Janet (Wolff) Maulhardt has served on the MSMC Regents Council since 2011. She and her husband, Dick, are members of the Ventura County Regional Advisory Board of Catholic Charities of Los Angeles Inc., where she is currently serving as president. As president, she also serves on Catholic Charities’ board of trustees. She and Dick have two grandchildren.

'70
Elaine (Veyna) Bannatyne and her husband hosted a two-day holiday event on their 115-acre Rancho Resplandor in Fillmore, Calif., and fellow classmates Mary (Lillig) Koenig and Maria (Gutierrez) Ott attended.

'74
Linda Schaffer, who was featured on the cover of The Mount magazine in her student nurse uniform and cap in 1972, will teach nursing at California State University, Fullerton starting this fall. An abstract of her doctoral research on “The Impact of Relaxation Guided Imagery on Sleep Quality in Mothers of Preterm Infants” was accepted for a podium presentation at the 2012 State of the Science Congress on Nursing Research in Washington, D.C. in September. She is the mother of a son and a daughter who are both now married, and is the grandmother of a 2-year-old boy.

'75
Daniel Basalone was appointed a commissioner on the Meridian Development Corporation Board of Directors. The company is the urban renewal agency for the city of Meridian, Idaho.

'77
Elizabeth (Hill) Kin was promoted to director of nursing at Buena Vista Hospice in Westlake Village, Calif.

'79
Marianne Ayala received the Hospital Heroes Award from the Hospital Association of Southern California. She is the manager of palliative care at Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center in Torrance, Calif. She contributed to the implementation and training for the No One Dies Alone program at the hospital, which provides a compassionate presence to dying patients. She also volunteers with Strength for the Journey, a camp for HIV/AIDS patients with a dual diagnosis, often mental illness or drug addiction.

'81
Carol (Fisk) Bennett became a grandmother in January. Her son is a sailor aboard the USS Nebraska.

'82
Denise (Anderson) Boiko and her husband celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary this summer. Having homeschooled both of their children, who are now in college and medical school, Denise wrote a book titled “Homeschooled & Headed for College: Your Road Map for a Successful Journey,” and is using skills learned at the Mount to teach biology and writing to high school students.

Suzann (Maree) Meskan is working as a clinical informatics specialist in San Jose, Calif.

'84
Mary Perez graduated from Loyola Marymount University in May with her second master’s degree, this one in pastoral theology. She works as a school counselor and will continue to teach courses for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange.

'85
Margaret (Correnti) Grinnell published her first children’s picture book in October 2010 and just became co-editor of Kite Tales, an online newsletter published by the Los Angeles chapter of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators.

'86
Sylvia (Duffin) Raoux is proud of her son on his recent election as student body president of Westminster College in Salt Lake City.

'90
Maurice Hamington has been promoted to associate vice president of academic centers and programs for Metropolitan State College of Denver. Kelly (Fitzgerald) Harrison has been teaching pediatric nursing for the past seven years at Kettering College in Dayton, Ohio. Deborah (Stark) Mitchell was ordained as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament by the Presbyterian Church (PC-USA) in March. She is the executive director of Presbyterian Urban Ministries, a provider of services to the homeless and urban poor in San Diego. Lori (Astrachan) Saitman and her husband, Adam, have two children. Their son graduated from Sierra Canyon High School in Chatsworth, Calif., and will be attending Boston University in the fall.
Ruby (Tsang) Cheung recently chaperoned her daughter’s middle school trip to Washington, D.C., for spring break. She is currently working at Raoul Wallenberg Traditional High School in San Francisco. She enjoys her job but is looking forward to camping with her family and whitewater rafting on California’s American River during summer vacation.

Elizabeth (Martinez) Villanueva celebrated her 22nd wedding anniversary with her husband in July. Her 18-year-old daughter is attending The University of the Pacific, studying speech-language pathology and playing on the school’s water polo team. Her son finished his second year at Whittier College, is studying physical therapy and is also playing on his school’s water polo team.

Regina Pontes was featured in an article in her hometown newspaper, Wicked Local Arlington, in Lexington, Mass., that detailed her resilience and strength through “a string of life-threatening medical conditions.” She credits her family and faith for the power to endure.

Gina (Houston) Ross has officially been an alumna for 15 years, and thanks the Mount for her education and spiritual guidance. She works part time as a physical therapist assistant/certified lymphedema therapist in Laguna Hills, Calif. In September, she will attend the National Lymphedema Network Conference in Dallas with her 16-year-old daughter, who is also interested in becoming a health care professional. She and her husband celebrated their 19th wedding anniversary in June and have three children. They also celebrated the one-year anniversary of their plumbing company, Restaurant Plumbing Services Inc.

Amy Chadwick has joined At Home Care Group in Bend, Ore., as the director of health services. Her bachelor’s degree in nursing from MSMC prepared her for jobs at the Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital at UCLA and other healthcare organizations.

Araceli Contreras moved to Centreville, Va., in August 2011. In April, she married Magdaleno Saucedo on Easter Sunday in Las Vegas. In May, she started teaching ESL part time in a language academy for adults. Norfina Joves is the regional associate for K-12 and higher education services for College Board’s Western Regional Office. She is a family trainer for CFY, formerly Computers for Youth, which empowers families to integrate digital technology into their students’ academic learning experience. She is also a writer for Examiner.com, focusing on tutoring in the Los Angeles area, and a consultant for First 5 LA. She is raising two daughters, a freshman in high school and a middle school student, who attend private Catholic schools.

Ivy Johnson will be pursuing her master’s in public administration this summer. She tutors students in the Los Angeles Unified School District and has three children.

Nicole (Williams) Beechum is a doctoral student in social work at the University of Chicago. Her husband, Gerald, works for JP Morgan.

Elsa Pazmino-Hunt celebrated her mother-in-law’s 70th birthday with family and took a two-week vacation to England in April.

'10

Martha Escandon and Janet Robinson, MBA program director at the Mount, hosted an Amigas Empowerment Network breakfast to celebrate local moms on Mother’s Day. Escandon is the founder of Amigas, a women’s grassroots community organization whose mission is to ensure that all women have access to essential resources and support so that they may achieve their own purpose in life. She was appointed to the Los Angeles County Commission for Women in January and was also elected to serve on the Community Action Board. She is on the advisory board for the YWCA Walnut Park, the executive committee for the Empowerment Congress and is a member of the League of Women Voters.

two by two

The Alumnae Association extends best wishes to the following alums and their spouses:

'67 Patricia LeRoux to Vernon Bales

Julie Anne (Velarde) Vecera to Mark Allan Moore

Araceli Contreras to Magdaleno Saucedo

Diana Ontiveros to Christopher Doneza

by-lines

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

Jameson Nathaniel to Jennifer (McCormick) Barlett and Jesse Bartlett ’10, 3rd child

Quentin Isabel to Jennifer Kewley, 1st child

Sydney Bolanis to Jennifer (Bolanis) Rogers, 1st child

Elijah Prieto to Leslie (Berru) Prieto, 3rd child

Diego Joaquin to Stacey (Zamora) Rodriguez, 2nd child

Bella Rose to Nicole (Rollins) Myjak, 1st child

Apollo Anastacio to Nancy (Valdivia) Antoniou, 1st child

William James Ebanks to Margaret Cunningham, 1st child

Nicole Williams to Gerald Beechum Jr.

Jenna Mitchell to Russell Sutherland
Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of:

'32 Eileen (Nason) Rhyner
'41 Peggy (Matthews) Weatherhead
'43 Mary (Pansini) La Haye
'44 Patricia Logsdon
'46 Gertrude (Cramer) Stimson, sister of Mary (Cramer) Franco '58
'48 husband of Geraldine (Cassutt) Monahan
'49 Murielle (Rheaume) Rose
'50 Joella (Hardeman) Gipson-Simpson
'52 Dolores (Cobb) Berry
'52 Margaret (Bradish) Kelley
'52 husband of Carol (Moore) Trudelle
'52 Dolores (Cobb) Berry
'53 son of Lavelle (Rotsler) Parsons
'55 brother of Sister Paulanne Munch, CSJ
'56 Helen (Russell) Droge
'56 husband of Eunice (Smuske) Hubbard
'57 Cecilia Castellanos
'57 son of Jonelle (Gagel) Haraksin
'59 brother of Evangeline (Cde Baca) Madrid
'60 brother of Luanna Castellucci
'61 Charlotte (Atchley) Gillen
'63 mother of Geraldine (Okamura) Radman
'73 Karen (Schiada) Barnes
'88 husband of Diana Bird
'90 Deborah Dilloway
'91 grandfather of Maria Avila
'06 Martha Baca
'11 daughter of Mitchell Horn

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

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

'74 Valerie (Zamora) Kropf, BS in nursing, Grand Canyon University, May 2012
'74 Linda Schaffer, PhD in nursing, University of San Diego, May 2012
'83 Sarah (Magana) Zepeda, MA in education, California State University, Bakersfield, May 2012
'90 Kelly (Fitzgerald) Harrison, MEd, Wright State University, June 2011
'90 Deborah Mitchell, MDiv, Bethel Seminary, June 2011
'98 Araceli Contreras, MPA, California State University, Northridge, May 2011
'98 Norfina Joves, MA in teaching, USC, (month) 2011
'06 Michelle Boniwell, MA in counseling, University of San Diego, May 2012
'06 Ana (Turner) Thorne, PhD in cultural studies with a certificate in Africana studies, Claremont Graduate University, May 2012

'08 Tiffany (Sollee) Berry, JD, Loyola Law School, May 2012
'10 Crystal Milo, MPP, National University of Singapore, May 2012

NOTE: We are proud of all of our alums 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 Class Notes.

Send us your photos
Share your special moments with the Mount community. Send photos of milestone anniversaries, engagements, weddings, births and significant trips to Elizabeth (Robles) Jimenez '03, director of alumnae relations, at erobles@msmc.la.edu.

Remembering the Mount

Thinking of including the Mount in your estate plan? Please let us know. There are many ways to do this. We can help you decide which is best for you. Contact Cindy Hizami, director of planned giving, at 213.277.2740 or chizami@msmc.la.edu.
“There’s No Place Like Home”— Homecoming 2012

This year, Alumnae Relations is shaking things up and hosting a Homecoming luncheon instead of a dinner. Homecoming Day will be held on Saturday, Oct. 20, at the Chalon Campus. The event will include workshops, Founders Day liturgy, reunions for certain baccalaureate classes and a concert. As part of the Homecoming experience, Founders Week on Oc. 15-19 will offer alums a chance to celebrate with students through activities such as Mount Spirit Day, Mount Treasure Hunt, Philanthropy Day and an Alum Bake-Off. For information about Homecoming and Founders Week, call 213.477.2767 or go to www.msmcalums.la.edu/homecoming2012.

Scheduled workshops:
Care for the Mount Nurses’ Soul
Presented by Elizabeth Wechsler, Mount nursing instructor and licensed clinical nursing specialist. She will teach deep breathing, meditation and self-care. One unit of CEU, certified by the CA BRN, will be offered at no additional charge.

Women & the Church: Pillars & Prophets
Presented by Cambria Smith ’01 MA, parish life director at Holy Family Church in South Pasadena. This workshop will look at the historical significance of women’s role in the Catholic Church as both pillars and prophets, and the opportunities women have today for leadership in the Church.

Journeying Midlife: The Hidden Gifts
Presented by Nancy Siskowic DeRenzis ’62, RN, MSN, NP. This presentation will focus on menopausal symptoms, bio-identical hormones, your physical and emotional health, and offer you tools to assist you through the spiritual and emotional terrain of midlife change.

The 2012 Presidential Election: Be an Informed Voter
Presented by Helen Boutrous, chair of the History and Political Science Department. The 2012 presidential election promises to be a close one and the fundraising has been at a record-breaking pace. Become better prepared to cast your vote after exploration of these important issues.

Jewelry Making – Design and Craft Your Own Bracelet
Presented by Judy D’Arcy, jewelry artist. Pick your own color scheme, select from a rainbow of beads and create a three-coil bracelet.

Stay on the Cutting Edge
Log in to Mount AlumLine to:
• find out the latest alum activities
• RSVP to alum events
• update your personal information
• chat online
• make a gift to MSMC
To log in, go to www.msmcalums.la.edu; you will need your Alum ID#. You can find it directly above your name on the address panel of this magazine.

E-mail Update
Please make sure we have your current e-mail address, so we can stay in touch.

Alumnae Legacy Grant
Alum offspring are entitled to a $1,000 grant, renewable every year upon enrolling at MSMC. To apply, contact Alumnae Relations.

Alum Privilege Card
You need this card to use the Mount fitness centers or libraries. Log in to AlumLine (Web address above) and click on Alum Privilege Card on the left navigation bar.

Enrichment Courses
You are entitled to audit one course a semester for personal enrichment at no charge. No credit will be given. Contact Alumnae Relations to get the audit waiver form.

Career Planning
Alums can get free career-planning advice by visiting the Career Center during regular hours either as a walk-in client or by appointment with a counselor. To search the center’s online job listing, go to www.mountcareernetwork.com. You will need to complete an initial registration process.

Questions?
Please call Alumnae Relations at 213.477.2767.
JOIN US

Alum Trip to Amalfi Coast

Join fellow alums on the fourth annual travel abroad excursion on Sept. 19-27. The group will explore the beautiful Amalfi Coast, one of the most incredible regions in Italy, and discover the beautiful quaint coastal towns of Vietri sul Mare, Amalfi, Positano, Naples and Ravello. For more information, contact Leilani Ford, coordinator of alumnae relations, at 213.477.2767 or lford@msmc.la.edu.

Public Speaking

Looking to improve your public speaking skills? Toastmasters can help! Check out the MSMC Mount Masters Toastmasters Club. Learn to be an effective communicator, gain valuable leadership skills, make yourself more marketable. The club meets every first and third Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Doheny Campus. For more information, visit msmc.toastmastersclubs.org or contact Leilani Ford at 213.477.2767 or lford@msmc.la.edu.

This calendar represents only some of the events at Mount St. Mary’s College. For more up-to-date listings, visit www.msmc.la.edu. For alum events, visit www.msmcalums.la.edu.

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August

20 Fall semester begins
23 Women in China lecture series, Doheny Campus

September

8 Women’s Leadership Institute, Chalon Campus
13 Mass of the Holy Spirit, Doheny Campus
13 Women in China lecture series, Doheny Campus
15 2nd Annual Concerto Competition for Young Artists, Chalon Campus
18 Mass of the Holy Spirit, Chalon Campus

October

15-19 Founders Week
20 Homecoming: “There’s No Place Like Home”
25 Women in China lecture series, Doheny Campus

December

9 Christmas Open House & 50th Anniversary Celebration of Doheny Campus

January

10 Women in China lecture series, Doheny Campus
31 Women in China lecture series, Doheny Campus

February

9 Ready to Run™ workshop series
21 Women in China lecture series, Doheny Campus

March

21 Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California™, Doheny Campus
Mount St. Mary’s has long welcomed foreign students, especially from the Pacific Rim and Latin America. But in the fall of 1947, just two years after the end of World War II, the Mount opened its doors to a new kind of student — refugees. Four young women from China, who had all attended college before fleeing the devastating war with Japan, were part of an effort in the late 1940s to enroll Catholic refugees from Asia and Europe on full scholarships in Catholic colleges and universities in the United States.

This photo, reproduced from the 1948 yearbook, shows, from left, Mary Ann Lu ’49, Lillian Lu ’50, Mei Lee ’49 and Pauline Chang ’49. All were from Shanghai except Mei Lei, who came from Hong Kong.

Adapting quickly to life at the Mount, they pledged the same sorority (Kappa Theta Mu), chose different campus clubs and confided to the yearbook staff about their favorite American movie stars. A month after arriving, the four helped out with a Chinese-themed Tia-U (dance party) to debut the beautiful new ballroom on the first floor of the recently completed Coe Library. They donned traditional Chinese formals for this photo and were also interviewed by The View campus newspaper.

— Victoria McCargar, College Archivist
We are an App!

Download the Mount app on your iPad or iPhone to read digital editions of the magazine, the Mount St. Mary's College viewbook and annual President's Report! MSMC digital publications feature embedded video, slideshows, interactive table of contents and much more.

Scan the QR code to download the app or search for "MSMC" in the iTunes App Store.

An interactive digital version of The Mount is available at www.msmc.la.edu/magazine.