President’s Report to the Community

President Tom Foley
June 1, 2012

There are three parts to this President’s Report to the Community:

1. An Executive Summary
2. A Baker’s Dozen of Highlights
3. An Update That Tracks the Strategic Plan

PART ONE: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is very hard to know where to begin after all the excitement of this last quarter, when:

✓ Our student athletes won the AMCC Conference Academic Peak Performance award, signifying the outstanding GPA and academic standing of athletes from all sports and among all ten schools in our conference. Thank you faculty, athletic staff and student-athletes!!

✓ Our student activities leaders put on an outstanding array of Spring campus events, entertainments, competitions and assemblies, from another great MAC’s Got Talent, to Dancing with the Students, from Vox Nova’s concert with 58 local high school singers to dozens of coffee houses (poets, musicians, comedians), craft and game nights, as well as Friday Night Movies, etc. Thank you Elaine Grant and Dr. Jane Grassadonia.

✓ Our administrative team arranged the Grand Opening of the Mountie Stables (and new dugouts) and staged an official Groundbreaking for the 87,000 square foot Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center (ACWC), both events within one month. Thank you Suzanne Campbell, Shelley Campbell, Bill Trexler, Gerry Rubritz and the team.

✓ Our development team released our new, first rate brochure on “Expanding Horizons: The Campaign for Mt. Aloysius” and a joint faculty/trustee/staff team kicked off our new Strategic Planning Process, in successive days in the same week. Thank you to the two Jacks (Anderson and Coyle).

✓ Our faculty produced an outstanding Undergraduate Research Symposium, including the work of two students on their way to Med School, one to Ph.D. Pharmacy School and (at least) two more to law school, as well as a record number of submissions from health to environmental sciences, from Marcellus Shale to marketing plans for brave new business ventures. Thank you Dean Tim Fulop and all your team.

And by the way, Mt. Aloysius just graduated the largest class in its history. Maybe that is a good focus for now. Here is my personal list of six graduation highlights:

✓ Amber Lenhard’s Invocation: this Air Force veteran, mother of two, wife of a Navy Seabee who also graduated (and whose mother graduates in December) part recited/part sang beautiful verses appropriate to our mission--and by one who so exemplifies the Mt. Aloysius story. [link]

http://wearecentralpa.com/fulltext-news?nxd_id=368342
Eight Pinning/Anointing Ceremonies: Michele did the anointing for the Medical Assistants’ ceremony; I was honored to attend the nursing event with Trustee Kupchella—a fabulous student speaker (a 40ish mother of 3, chosen by her classmates, both funny and poignant), a beautiful prayer lovingly recited by Sister BJ, and a role for every single nursing faculty member put together by new Associate Dean Zukowski, Director Regina Barr and Dr. Bonnie Noll. [http://flic.kr/s/aHsjzKQ1dg](http://flic.kr/s/aHsjzKQ1dg)

Judge Smith’s Commencement Address on “Listening”—every ear at full attention (see write up below at number 2), the perfect close to our nationally recognized year-long focus on “Civil Discourse.”

Graduate Toast—the Dean of Faculty, the campus leader of the Sisters of Mercy, the head of Alumni Relations and I took turns toasting our about-to-be grads following a light breakfast reception the day before graduation. I had some quiet moments with them during their formal rehearsal and enclose my comments to them here. [http://goo.gl/WR5af](http://goo.gl/WR5af)

Baccalaureate Mass—Bishop Mark left us a message not soon forgotten with a story about a young man and an old brick, and there were seven MAC students on the altar for the service; but the true highlight was the choir (including Michele), with little time to practice under Sister Eric Marie, terrific nonetheless, with a harmonic and lilting rendition of the Irish Blessing to close out our service. I mentioned in closing remarks that God has been sending that sunlight through those same stained glass windows for over 100 years. Enough said. [http://flic.kr/s/aHsjzb7FTb](http://flic.kr/s/aHsjzb7FTb)

Baseball Graduation on the Field of Dreams—Michele and I (and Dean Tim and Dr. Jane) came to MAC’s Smith-Calandra Baseball Field on Saturday night (after their grad day tripleheader) and formally granted degrees to ten seniors. We lined them up on the third base line, with their parents around them, and Michele gave each one flowers, I pronounced their degree, Tim awarded their diploma and Jane handed over their commencement package and program. Right at sunset!!! [http://wearecentralpa.com/fulltext-wtajsports/?nxd_id=368422](http://wearecentralpa.com/fulltext-wtajsports/?nxd_id=368422)

One last treat this semester—at least for me. Last year--at Michele’s urging--I enrolled in an art class (ceramics). It was a good learning experience, about ceramics of course, about the arts too, but mostly about our MAC students (16 classmates). This year, I came at the college experience from a whole other direction—that of our MAC faculty—and arranged to deliver six lectures to four very different audiences. I taught a single session of four different courses, three at MAC and one at F&M (son Andy is a junior, and their President is a friend). I also helped orchestrate a couple of “dialogues”—one on Seamus Heaney and the other on “civil discourse” before Blair County Chief Judge Jolene Kopriva’s “Inns at Court” group:

Professor Kim Asonovich’s Business class on the “The Government Contracting Process” (“Five Examples of Contracting that Produced Policy Change”; our son Matt was in that class, so I had a tough critic);

Dr. Michael Jones’ class on American Government (I lectured on “Taxes: What’s Fair, Anyway?”);

Judge Dan Milliron’s class on Social Change in American History (lectured on “Government and the ‘Public Good’—from Lincoln to LBJ”);

F&M Economics Professor Dr. Antonio Callari’s Sociology class on Class Movements in Society (lectured on “The Possibility for Progress Amidst a Polarized Politics?”);

An hour-long taped (in our own Digital Grotto studio) conversation about “The Poetry of Seamus Heaney: in War and Peace” with Irish writer and film maker Maurice Fitzpatrick [http://youtu.be/Bz7_0tPylj4](http://youtu.be/Bz7_0tPylj4); and
A 90 minute “Inns at Court” session with Judge Smith (also filmed by the Digital grotto team), where we “dialogued” for an audience of Judges and lawyers on civil discourse in public life and in the courtroom.  
http://youtu.be/K5ER4N9AMHU

All were fine opportunities for me to “preach,” but more to learn about the challenges our faculty face each semester in designing and driving home their lessons to our 21st century students. My “lessons”: 1) best to be on point (always) and poignant (where possible); 2) vary your teaching modalities; 3) use technology wisely; and 4) talk without interruption only rarely. Between the normal hubbub, the graduation excitement and the chance to get on the other side of the podium, All in all, it was a great spring!

PART TWO:  BAKER’S DOZEN OF HIGHLIGHTS

1. **Mt Aloysius graduates record number 398 students**—at its 72nd College commencement, and its 159th graduating classes (including Mount Aloysius Academy). The graduating class included 35% mature students (plenty of “way to go Mom’s” and even one “way to go Dad” were heard), 43% in the health sciences (lots of nurses!), our second MBA class (including our son Matt, Lehigh ’10), two students on their way to med school, one to a pharmacy Ph.D. program and at least one to law school. Amber Lenhard delivered the invocation, Brandon Ryan and Kimmy Rentuma the official welcoming remarks and Connor Walsh offered the student address. All were well done and graciously received. The Class of 2012 was also the largest “entering” class in the history of the College, and counted original classmates from 20 states. Chairman Dan Rullo congratulated all on behalf of the Board of Trustees, Dean of Faculty Tim Fulop, Registrar Chris Lovett and VP for Mission Integration Sister Helen Marie Burns, RSM, Ph.D. helped award both honorary and graduate degrees.  
http://www.mtaloy.edu/commencement

2. **Judge D. Brooks Smith focused on one word to get our 2012 graduates attention**—and that word was “listening.” Just as Father Byron kept his focus to the one word “commitment” last year. Judge Smith was equally successful as he not only delivered compelling remarks to our graduation audience of 2000+, but also rounded out our year of focus on issues related to civil discourse. The Judge made the point that listening is key to a civil society and to appropriate conversations on issues moral, political and otherwise. His story about Dorothy and the confederate flag on a southern campus was as dramatic as it was effective. His commencement address will be the last component of the college-produced monograph on issues of civil discourse, which will be released officially in about a month. http://goo.gl/7geYz

3. **Jack and Jenny Calandra, President Patricia McGuire and Federal Judge Smith receive honorary doctorates**—Judge D. Brooks Smith received the honorary doctorate given annually by the college to a national figure, President Patricia McGuire of Trinity Washington College received the honorary doctorate awarded to a figure in education and Jack and Jenny Calandra received Doctorates in Social Justice, awarded to someone from the region who exemplifies Mercy values and the Mount Aloysius story. All seemed delighted with the honor. Patricia McGuire is a recognized all-star among college Presidents, particularly where urban education and the education of minority women is concerned. The Calandra’s are well known for their generosity of spirit and resources in the local community and are celebrating their 56th year of their marriage. Judge Smith has promoted democracy and the law in 14 foreign countries and has served over 30 years as trustee to three different institutions of higher-ed, including most recently a decade here at the Mount.
http://www.mtaloy.edu/student_life/commencement/honorary-degree-recipients.dot
http://goo.gl/wFbD
4. **6th Annual Moral Choices lecturer practices civil discourse**—Dr. Kathleen Hall Jamieson, Director of the Annenberg Center of Public Policy and decade’s long authority on the ethics of public speech, was our choice for the sixth Annual Moral Choices Lecture at the college. She was outstanding and in fact delivered two very different lectures—the first to an afternoon audience of 100+ students and faculty and the second in the evening to an audience with trustees and community. She was pleased to be hosted at a college that put so much emphasis on the issue. Her afternoon lecture on “What Would Abe Lincoln Do?” was absolutely brilliant as she made modern day political commercials—using all the techniques for obfuscation available in today’s market—for use in the President Lincoln vs. General McClelland campaign of 1864. It was fascinating to see how the modern tactics of political advertising could be used to destroy even the reputation of a consensus national hero like Abe Lincoln. Thanks to Sister Helen Marie who has organized every lecture in this series. [www.flackcheck.com](http://www.flackcheck.com)

5. **First ever AMCC “Provost’s Cup” goes to Mount Aloysius student athletes**—the AMCC Conference has created a new award which it calls its “Academic Peak Performance Award (“Provost’s Cup”) which is awarded to the top academic performing team and school in the conference. All 150 Mount Aloysius student athletes share in the successful effort—the first “Provost’s Cup” in the history of the conference—which will now be given annually to the school with the highest percentage of its student athletes achieving recognition on the AMCC honor roll. For the Mount, over 50% of our student athletes made the honor roll (as compared to 37% in the league as a whole) and a record 18 new members (80% increase) were inducted into the student athlete honor society Chi Alpha Sigma (minimum 3.5 GPA). Our women’s tennis team also took home honors among its competition, beating out the nine other league competitors with the most team members on the AMCC academic honor roll. [http://goo.gl/9bJv2](http://goo.gl/9bJv2)

6. **Expanding Horizons: The Campaign for Mt. Aloysius**—is now into stage three. The response rate from a very generous Board of Trustees and the President’s Advisory Council is at 100%, and co-chairs Dan Rullo and Mike McLanahan are task masters of the first order—just what we need. A re-defined internal development team (following recommendations from The Whelan Group study last year) is a big plus for our team leader here VP Jack Anderson. Including our RACP grant from the Commonwealth, the campaign is approaching $13M in pledges, with funds allocated to all five project areas outlined in the brochure. Kudos to Dan, Mike, Jack and his team for a fast start and to committee members Sister Mary Ellen Fuhrman, Adele Kupchella, Ann Benzel, Jim Gallagher, Kim Craig, Philip Devorris, Scott Lawhead, Bill Polacek, Ed Sheehan, Joe Sheetz and Tim Sissler. [http://goo.gl/G7VsH](http://goo.gl/G7VsH)

7. **2013-15 Strategic Plan underway**—under the leadership of Tim Fulop and Sister Helen Marie Burns and assisted by The Whelan Group, a team of ten committee members and yours truly formally kicked off this planning process on May 8th. We will produce a three-year plan for approval at the December Board meeting, following individual interviews, focus groups, surveys and much more over the next five months. The idea is to finish out the campus Master Plan (with the opening of the ACWC in 18-24 months), then kick off a longer term strategic look and christen a new Campus Master Plan (this one has lasted over 10 years, and the current Strat Plan is 11 years old, including a three year “refresher” adopted just before I came here). The team includes Board members Philip Devorris and Kim Craig, four faculty members and four staff leaders. Thanks to all who served on the last committee, which did an excellent job.

8. **Campus Student leadership Lauded**—with over 50 student organizations on our increasingly residential campus, our student leaders working with Elaine Grant and Dr. Grassadonia, put together a terrific event
to honor the stars among them. Very well do and among numerous well deserved honors to multiple groups, the Nursing Student Organization (NSO)—of which I am a proud honorary member (with five sisters-in-law in the profession)—took home top honors for their series of service projects and outreach. With how busy young nurses are already (with class and clinics and jobs), this is a credit to the students and to their faculty and advisors. Special Thanks to Elaine Grant and student Mistresses of Ceremonies Kimberly Rentuma and Jasmine LaRue.


9. **Spring Events Honor Diverse Achievements**—with a lot of help, the College hosted a series of Spring events and banquets that honored prospective and current students, faculty and staff: the Student Leadership Awards (for campus activities and service leaders); the Student Honor Society (inductees, national honors societies); the Mercy Scholars Banquet (31 scholarships offered, 29 accepted, ties 2011 record); the first annual Honors Assembly (individual honors, by area of study); the Student-Athlete Honors Luncheon (inductees, Chi Alpha Sigma); the All Sports Athletic Banquet (MVP/Coaches/Academic/Mountie Awards and the Ray and Louise Walker Award); and the all Staff Retirement/End of Year Luncheon (gifts/roasts of retirees). Congrats to all honorees (which included Trustee Mike McLanahan and his wife Astride, who received the Walker Award) http://goo.gl/Hfvm8, and thanks to the many hands who made these events happen (from cooks to MC’s to Suzanne and the physical plant team to Chair Dan who was at most events).


10. **Pre-Med, Pharmacy and Pre-law students on to next level**—MAC science faculty were elated to report that for the first time Mount Aloysius is sending two students to medical school and one to a Pharmacy Ph.D. program. This year’s trifecta was cause for celebration for Dr. Merilee Anderson and her colleagues in the Science and Math division. One of the Mount’s most successful graduates ever was Dr. Gloria J. Lynch who after attending the Academy was one of the first women ever admitted to the Harvard Medical School (Dr. Lynch is buried on the grounds of the college as a Mercy “associate”). Our Student Government Association President is going to Duquesne Law School, and two other students just emailed me that they have also been accepted to law school for the Fall (Catholic U and Southern U). Congrats to our faculty and our students for these significant achievements. http://goo.gl/TSoAO

11. **Mountie Baseball pulls off series of “firsts”**—the Cinderella baseball team is playing in its very first AMCC Championship game as I write (having won quarterfinal tripleheader on the day of graduation, then beating season long nemesis Penn State Behrend in its fourth game in two days to reach the championship game). They also swept league honors for Pitcher and Player of the Week for the first time this year and also put a player on the ECAC Division III weekly all-star team for the first time ever. All this following a tough 1-8 start on their spring trip and an overall losing record. The latest “hero’ is a great MAC comeback story, a pitcher named Stephen Hickey who had Tommy John surgery two years ago and was just named the AMCC Pitcher of the Week. The senior allowed 3 hits while striking out 2 in the upset over Pitt-Greensburg—his first “start” all year. Congrats to Coach Kime (whose full time job is “Coordinator of Student Leadership Programs” and Assistant to the AD for Construction)—he always recruits “character” first, and it shows in the team GPA of 3.2. http://goo.gl/WaLWN / http://flic.kr/s/aHsjzxhDoT

12. **Mountie Softball team continues tradition of excellence**—for the first time in three years, the Lady Mounties did not reach the Championship game in our 10-team conference, but still brought home the league MVP trophy. Star center fielder Jalissa Westover (’14) became the first Mountie to share the
league MVP award as she finished in the top three of the league in every key offensive category. The women finished the season in fourth place after two successive years on top of the conference in the regular season and reaching the championship game in the tournament. Congrats to Coach Carl Teeter and his volunteer assistants—this team is as well coached as any team at MAC. Coach Teeter (who is the electrician for the Johnstown School District when not coaching at the Mount) reached 100 wins faster than any coach in Mountie athletic history. [http://goo.gl/bVl1b](http://goo.gl/bVl1b)

**PART THREE: UPDATE BY STRATEGIC PRIORITY**

I hope that the Executive Summary and the “Baker’s Dozen of Highlights” give you a sense of all the activity at the College. The remainder of my report will outline progress against the three primary goals set forth in the strategic plan.

**Priority One: Strengthen Mount Aloysius as a values-based, supportive environment in which academic programming and student services combine to prepare students for productive and fulfilling lives (Mission Integration, Academics and Student Affairs.)**

**MISSION INTEGRATION**

Sister Helen Marie, Sister Nancy Donovan and their team as busy as ever. Ten highlights I culled from her report follow:

1. **Spring Service Trips to Guyana and to China**: 21 staff and students total on the two trips, funded by individual fundraising and grants from the Sisters of Mercy. A comprehensive report on the Guyana trip appears in the Belltower (attached). The China group (organized by a deacon of the Catholic Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown) left this morning (May 13), and will spend their mornings in service at a Catholic agency in Beijing and their afternoons experiencing the culture/sights. These represent just 2 of 30 different activities organized by Campus ministry for the spring semester, ranging from service trips to retreats to lectures to stress relief nights. Many thanks to Sister Nancy.

2. **Retreats**: The first-ever SEARCH retreat, held the first weekend of February 2012, was very well received (first hand report from Michele). Plans are underway to present another SEARCH retreat in Spring 2012—we are grateful to the Sisters of Mercy who traveled here for the week to conduct this meaningful exercise. Students in Dr. Marilyn Roseman's Children's Literature course participated in a demonstration Seder Meal celebration to complete their reading of children's book based on a family's experience of a Seder Meal.

3. **Service Learning**: Nine faculty members and eighty-plus students presented their work--largest participation to-date. The Campus Ministry Office initiated its own service-learning course - Engaging Culture, Mercy and the Gospel. This course will be offered in the Fall semester of each year and will be required for all students who wish to join an international service trip during Spring Break. This year the
The course was *Engaging Culture, Mercy and the Gospel: Guyana Service Trip 2012*. The tag line can be changed depending on the destination of a given service trip in a given year.

4. **Mercy Youth Initiative**: Will hold its final gathering June with a celebration and certificates for the eleven participants from Penn Cambria Middle School and their parents/guardians. Evaluations for this program continue to be positive and plans are underway to expand the number of participants and, possibly, the number of events/activities. This new outreach is designed to reach potential first generation college students while still in Middle school with a program built around both service and learning.

5. **Community Engagement and Social Entrepreneurship Center**: Will again support an AmeriCorps position (only our second year) and also four new “Scholars in Service” positions--both of these awards will benefit students as well as specific community engagement projects, like our recent collaborations with United Way and Communities That Care in community clean-up work.

6. **Spring Ecumenical Lecture**—Again well delivered and received by a very ecumenical audience. Orthodox Rev. Fr. Bogdan Bucur, Ph.D. walked the audience through a series of lithographs and paintings to explain the evolution of our understanding of certain biblical concepts.

7. **Community Service by MAC students**: Over 7,150 student service hours for the year—now 141 community groups have benefitted from service activities by MAC students (over 1,000 students for ’11-12, 1202 service hours by student athletes alone). We are now compiling service contributions made by faculty and staff of Mount Aloysius College.

8. **Pathways to Empowerment**: A second successive grant from the WISE Women of Blair County supports this Mt. Aloysius-driven workshop for women in the Blair County area. The event will again take place in October and will feature a keynote speaker and breakout sessions on topics such as Women and Finances, Women and Career Choices, Women and Spirituality, and Women and Safety—with lectures by MAC faculty and others.

9. **Ecumenical Studies Center Advisory Board**--Pastor Gerald Myers, Fr. Dan Sinisi (SFU), and Sr. Helen Marie Burns visited Baltimore’s St. Mary’s Ecumenical Institute of Theology. Board members spent the morning and early afternoon in conversation with Dr. Michael Gorman and Dr. Patricia Fosarelli regarding the "how to's" of establishing an Ecumenical Institute in Western Pennsylvania or, perhaps establishing at Mount Aloysius College a satellite program of the Ecumenical Institute in Baltimore. The conversation is a very, very early exploration of options.

10. **Continuing education**: Sister Helen Marie serves on a Conference for Mercy Higher Education Task Force that is developing a ministry formation program--*Mercy, the Principal Path*--for senior administrators and Board members in Mercy institutions of higher education. The program explores the Catholic and Mercy tradition within higher education in order to assist senior administrators and Board members with that dimension of their responsibilities. A pilot program is scheduled for June in Hartford.

**ACADEMICS**

This section of the Community Report includes three parts:
FIRST, SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF ACADEMIC AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY:

Dr. Natalie van Breukelen, Assistant Professor of Science, conducted a field research study of “Immigrant Cichlid Species: Long and Short Term Effects on Reproductive Behavior” with Mount Aloysius College senior biology major Mr. Kyle Rose. The field research was completed in Lomas Barbudal, Costa Rica.

Assistant Professor Sharon Miller attended “RTs in D.C.” in Washington D.C., where Radiologic Technologists and students from across the country urged their senators and representatives to pass the CARE Bill (Consumer Assurance of Radiologic Excellence)--national legislation on minimum educational requirements for the field.

Nursing instructors Heather Zonts and Kim Garman attended the National League for Nursing’s Advancing Care Excellence for Seniors seminar in Atlantic City. The goal of the workshop was to integrate care excellence for the geriatric program across all areas of the nursing curriculum.

The Mt. Aloysius Library sponsored a lecture by Dr. Brad Hastings, Professor of Social Science, on Positive Psychology as part of this year’s Cambria County One Book program.

Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences department faculty; Dr. Paula Scaramozzino, Ms. Helen Ritchey, Ms. Sharon Miller, Ms. Felicia Holliday, Ms. Amber Lenhard, Ms. Rebecca Hickman, and Ms. Margaret Bafile attended the Pennsylvania Society of Radiologic Technologists meeting at Seven Springs. All Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences students participated in the conference as well.

Deanna Hamilton, Secretary to the Registrar, and Sally Weber, Associate Registrar, attended a Veterans Affairs Certifying Official Workshop. The workshop was hosted by the Department of Veterans Affairs, Pennsylvania Department of Education and was held at South Hills School of Business in State College.

Marianne Roberts, Assistant Professor of Nursing, attended the first MAP-IT conference held at Laurel View Village, on preventing pressure ulcers. This is a collaborative effort including nursing homes, Conemaugh Health System, and Kendall. Funded by a state grant awarded to the Pennsylvania Restraint Reduction Initiative (PARRI), a program of Kendal Outreach, LLC—the project was undertaken at the request of the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Dr. Jessica Jost-Costanzo, Assistant Professor of English, attended the Pittsburgh Comicon (Comic Book Convention), which was held at the Monroeville Convention Center. This is a great event for graphic novel readers, and she was able to meet a number of writers, artists, pencilers, and colorists. She also talked with various graphic novel vendors and was able to find a number of texts that may be incorporated into her Graphic Novel special topics class in the future. Five students in Dr. Costanzo’s graphic Novel class this semester made the trip to Pittsburgh, had a terrific time, and learned a lot about the genre.
Ms. Penelope Lescher, Department Chair for Physical Therapist Assistant, attended the “Evidence Practice Course on Upper Extremity and Upper Spine” presented by the Allegheny and Chesapeake Physical Therapists in Loretto.


Ms. Marianne Roberts and Ms. Sharon Kisel, Assistant Professors’ of Nursing, attended the 5th Annual Cardiovascular Symposium at Nemacolin.

Amanda Minor, Instructor of Surgical Technology, attended the 5 day Association of Surgical Technology’s (AST) 43rd National Conference in Washington, D.C., for targeted workshops, intensive hands-on training, and other sessions on specialty areas.

Dr. David Haschak, Assistant Professor for Social Science, trained 25 people for the Cambria County Crisis Intervention team. The participants consisted of police officers, crisis workers and a Cambria County Judge.

Margaret Bafile, Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences Teaching Assistant, received a scholarship for Fall 2012 from the Delta Epsilon Sigma.

Assistant Professor of Criminology, Mr. Joseph Bobak has been included as a member of the Board of Directors for the Cambria County State Police Camp Cadet program; and has also been included as a member of the Pennsylvania Child Death Review Team.

Kimberly Asonevich, Assistant Professor of Business and Information Technology, developed a guest speaker seminar format for the MBA course “Federal Contracting.” The guest lecturers included. Mr. Bob Shark, JARI, Bill Moynihan, Northrop Grumman Corporation, Jack Cavanaugh, Concurrent Technologies Corporation, Terry Malzi, The Community Action Partnership of Cambria County, Melissa Kreutzberger, Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, Mr. Christopher Koop, District Aid Economic Development Coordinator Congressman Mark Critz, John Polacek, Chief Operating Officer JWF Industries and Tom Foley (I spoke on federal contracting as an instrument of social change)

Associate Professor Dr. Julie Smith was invited to Harrisburg to work with PA Department of Education and the Educational Testing Service to help set standards for the Middle Grades Praxis II exam.

Library Director Dr. Brandi Porter was awarded a $15,000 Library Services and Technology Act grant by the Pennsylvania Office of Commonwealth Libraries. The grant will be used to purchase iPads to enable problem-based information literacy instruction sessions by library staff.

Associate Dean for Nursing Rebecca Zukowski reports that ...
The Nursing Division met with the leadership of Allegany College of Maryland to discuss a dual admission agreement between their Associate in Science Nursing program located at the Bedford and Somerset campuses providing progress into our Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program.

✓ A dual admission agreement was signed between the Nursing Division and Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center’s School of Nursing providing seamless progression into our Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program.

✓ The Nursing Division hosted a thank you seminar for community agencies and their staff who support the academic fieldwork of nursing and health science students. Topics included rheumatoid and osteoarthritis arthritis as well as domestic violence.

✓ The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing reviewed the Nursing Division’s three year compliance report. Based on the information provided in the report, the College remains on the Board of Nursing’s list of approved nursing education programs with Full Approval status.

✓ The Nursing Division along with the Registrar’s Office, Retention and Advising Office, and Health Services sponsored “Navigate Nursing Day.” This full day activity was designed for all incoming nursing students as a one stop shop to facilitate registration, advising, placement testing and health screening requirements for entrance into the program.

Assistant Professor Kimberly Asonevich reports on the Internship Expansion. Job descriptions have been developed for on-campus placements of internships for WISE Women Grant funded community program public relations assistant, marketing department internships and internship for College Central Data Base administration for the spring semester. Data Base intern uploaded all internship data from business, information technology and accounting placements from hard copy booklet into searchable data base for MAC students.

SECOND, SOME RECENT PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATIONS BY FACULTY:

Nursing faculty Regina Barr, Theresa Brady, and Wes King were facilitators at the International Human Patient simulation Network – HPSN 2012 Conference in Tampa, FL. They presented “Play Safe: Implementing Safe Practices into Simulation Activities”.

Kim Garman, Assistant Professor, was a speaker at the Laurel Highlands' Second Annual Nurse Practitioner Conference. The title of her presentation was “Multiple Sclerosis - The Deniable Disease”.

Joseph Bobak, Assistant Professor of Criminology, presented a paper at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association with Dr. Virginia Gonsman, Associate Professor of Social Science. It was entitled “Fast, Confident, and Relatively Accurate 58-Day Memories of Brief Cinematic Robberies”. At this same event, Dr. Gonsman was also co-author on a poster presented by Larry Nelson, a graduate of the Master of Science in General Psychology program, entitled “Comparison of Humor Ability and Insight Problem-Solving Ability”.
Dr. Brad Hastings, Professor of Social Science, and current undergraduate students Kelley Simmons and Carrie Shevock, and former student Jenny Julick presented a paper entitled “Does a Good Job Make for a Happy Person?” at the Annual Convention of the Eastern Psychological Association in Pittsburgh.

Kierstin Muroski, Assistant Professor of Sign Language-Interpreter Education, participated in the Rock Ethic’s Institute’s 5th Annual Moral Literacy Colloquium at Penn State University. In collaboration with others, she presented a workshop entitled: “Structuring the Gaze of Socio-technical Inquiry Communities: Toward a Deeper Understanding of Moral Courage”.

Dr. Deanne D’Emilio was a guest speaker at the Federal Correctional Institution at Loretto, on National Women’s Month. She spoke about her accomplishments and obstacles as a professional woman in higher education.

Associate Professor Dr. Sara Rutledge presented at the 2012 Student Pennsylvania State Education Association Conference and Convention, held at Penn State University, State College, PA. She presented “Strategies for Integrating Instructional Technology into the Classroom: Best Practices for PreK-12 Educators.”

Professor of Social Science, Dr. Brad Hastings, presented a talk entitled “Positive Psychology: Researching Happiness” for the “One Book, One Community – Cambria County Reads” event at Mount Aloysius College.

Nicole Custer and Joan Krug, Instructors of Nursing, attended the ATI National Nurse Educator Summit in Scottsdale, AZ. Ms. Custer and Ms. Krug also did a poster presentation entitled, “Remediation on the ATI RN Comprehensive Predictor: Increasing First-Time NCLEX Success.”

Dr. Patty Meintel, Assistant Professor of Nursing, attended the SALSA conference at Saint Francis University and presented her service-learning dissertation.

Dr. Sara Rutledge, Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education, was invited to present “Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Planning for Homeschooling Families” to the Indiana Homeschoolers Co-Op, Indiana, PA.

Dr. Ryan Costanzo, Assistant Professor, gave a presentation entitled “Examining First-Semester Students’ Self-Reported Strategies for Reading College Textbooks: Implications for Classroom Instruction” at the New Jersey Association for Lifelong Learning/New Jersey Association for Developmental Education joint conference.

Dr. Fran Rohlf, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, along with his wife, Dr. Rosemary J. Bertocci of Saint Francis University, Loretto, presented a paper at an Oxford-University-sponsored conference, Spirituality and Honors Education: A Symposium on Holistic Learning held at Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, Indiana. The paper was titled, “Inviting Global Awareness and Spiritual Growth in a First-Year Honors Course” and is now under consideration for publication in a monograph by Oxford University Press.

Your humble President had the chance to deliver six lectures and three keynote addresses (apart from those delivered in the regular course of business here at the College) this semester in seven different locations: lectures at F&M College, at the Blair County Inn of Courts, and at the MAC Digital Grotto (poetry dialogue);
keynotes for the Cambria County Principals Super Conference (high school students and principals), for the Blair County BASICS Conference (guidance counselors and Principals), for the Sheetz Continuing Education Graduation; and finally, three class lectures right here at Mt. Aloysius:

✓ Professor Kim Asonovich’s Business class on the “The Government Contracting Process” (“Five Examples of Contracting that Produced Policy Change”; our son Matt was in that class, so I had a tough critic);

✓ Dr. Michael Jones’ class on American Government (I lectured on “Taxes: What’s Fair, Anyway?”);

✓ Judge Dan Milliron’s class on Social Change in American History (lectured on “Government and the ‘Public Good’—from Lincoln to LBJ”);

✓ F&M Economics Professor Antonio Callari’s Sociology class on Class Movements in Society (lectured on “The Possibility for Progress Amidst a Polarized Politics?”);

✓ An hour long taped (in our own Digital Grotto studio) conversation about “The Poetry of Seamus Heaney: in War and Peace” with Irish writer and film maker Maurice Fitzpatrick http://youtu.be/Bz7_OtPylj4; and

✓ A 90 minute “Inns at Court” session with Judge Smith (also filmed by the Digital Grotto team), where we “dialogued” for an audience of Judges and lawyers on civil discourse in public life and in the courtroom. http://youtu.be/KSER4N9AMHU

✓ 19th Annual Super Conference keynote on “Leadership: Imperatives (Absolute) and Rules of Engagement (Suggested).” http://goo.gl/uATDE

✓ Blair Chamber BASICS Conference keynote on “Paradigm Shifts in Education: Ignore Them at Your Peril.”


THIRD, SOME EXAMPLES OF STUDENT CO-CURRICULAR ENGAGEMENT:

Dr. Patricia Meintel and Sister Nancy Donovan, along with 11 students visited Guyana, South America for a service trip over Spring break 2012. Dr. Meintel had the privilege of teaching Guyanese nursing students about documentation and pediatric topics. Faculty, staff, and students performed service at the local hospital, orphanage, convalescence home, physical therapy center, and long term care facility.

Medical Imaging & Radiation Sciences hosted a Panel Discussion: Professionalism & Ethics. The Directors/Managers from Altoona Regional Health Systems, Indiana Regional Medical Center, Pinnacle Health Systems and Nason Hospital were the panelists. Over 100 students and faculty attended the discussion held at Mount Aloysius College in Alumni Hall.

Dr. Devorah Bozella, Assistant Professor of Elementary Education/Early Childhood Education, reports that students Amber Wilt and Allison Burley presented their service partnership with ARC of Altoona where they tutored struggling readers for eight weeks utilizing the Lexia computer Program. Dr. Bozella supervised the project with six student participants her from Reading Methods class.
Kimberly Asonevich, Assistant Professor, reports eight Business and Accounting students and two Business faculty participated in the Fifth Annual Service Learning Exposition. There were a total of 80 students and 9 faculty college-wide participating.

The Library hosted a Murder Mystery library scavenger hunt event, with more than 60 students participating in the challenge. Students learned about Library and Learning Commons resources as they completed assignments and visited activity stations in the Library.

Student PSEA Conference was held in State College. MAC Students attending were Amy Oberholtzer, Kayla Krumenaker, Allison Nadonley, Amanda Dillen and Advisor Dr. Devorah Bozella. MAC students were elected to be regional officers as follows: Regional President – Ms. Nadonley; Regional Secretary – Ms. Krumenaker, PACE Representative – Ms. Dillon. MAC students also participated in “Outreach to Teach” an opportunity to teach in the State College elementary classrooms. The PSEA students also made blankets for babies in Project Linus during the months of March and April.

The Pennsylvania Society of Radiologic Technologists held a Techni-bowl at their annual meeting at the Seven Springs. The Techni-bowl consisted of 30 questions in which teams of students submitted their answers via electronic response system. Mt. Aloysius came home with a team trophy for the 2nd year in a row.

Mount Aloysius College Techni-Bowl winners were:
- First place: Megan Lee, Bradley Mikitko, and Kassandra Shobert.
- Third place: Jacob Stumpf and Michael Wilson.

A poster competition was also held with the following Mount Aloysius College students placing:

- **Entry level**
  - First place: Molly James and Amanda Wood – “Digital Mammography”
  - Second place: Ashley Knight and Nicole Schweinsberg – “Forensic Radiology”
  - Third place: Dylan Kachmar, Jamie Rifilato, and Haley Rhodes – “Radioembolization vs. Cancer”

- **Upper level**
  - First place: Hannah Zimmerman – “Nuclear Accidents”
  - Second place: Melissa Gauntner – “PET CT: This is Not a Scan For Your Pet”

MAC Education Department--under the direction of Associate Professor Dr. Marilyn Roseman, Associate Professor Dr. Sara Rutledge, and Assistant Professor Dr. Dev Bozella—conducted 40 student Mock Interviews with a dozen senior education administrators—active and retired Superintendents, Principals and Guidance Counselors— from the local community. I also had a chance to address the group.

There were a record number of entrants at the Undergraduate Research Symposium. Dr. Dev Bozella mentored Liz Hogue, who won first place in the primary research category, Humanities, Social Science, and Professional Studies. Dr. Sara Rutledge mentored thirteen student participants with one of them earning a
first place award in the category of Humanities, Social Science and Professional Studies Secondary Research. Also, twenty students from Assistant Professor Kimberly Asonevich’s BU 250, Principles of Marketing class, 641 presented marketing projects.

Dr. Patty Meintel and Dr. Bonnie Noll-Nelson along with the Nursing Student Organization (NSO) visited John Paul II Manor.

Student teachers presented their portfolios at the MAC Education Department Electronic Portfolio Presentation event.

Kierstin Muroski, Assistant Professor, attended the Bloomsburg University’s 5th Biennial Student Interpreting Conference. She took 17 Mount Aloysius ASL/English Interpreting students with her to this conference. For most of the students this was the first conference they had ever attended. The students raised funds in order to participate in this event and were able to stay two nights in hotel rooms and attend the conference for both days. This experience allowed our students to network with other students as well as professionals in the field of ASL/English Interpreting. At the Bloomsburg conference the students distributed “save the date” cards for the First Biennial Mount Aloysius ASL/English Interpreting Student Conference to be held on the Mount Aloysius College campus, April 13-14, 2013.

Nancy Way reported the following Spring Semester activities for Vox Nova:

- March 13 – Choir sang for Honors Induction ceremony at 3:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- March 22 – Vox Nova series concert, “A Garland of Prayers” (Stations Service), at 7 p.m. in the chapel.
- March 30 – Performed at the Mercy Scholar Banquet at 6 p.m. in Cosgrave
- April 28 – Open House – the choir sang in the chapel for tours at 11 a.m.
- May 4 – Choir sang for graduation mass at 4 p.m. in the Chapel
- May 4 – Choir sang for graduation ceremony at 10 a.m. in the Health and Physical Fitness Center

The Nursing Student Organization (NSO) received the College’s Organization of the Year Award.

Dr. Julie Smith took students to the Holocaust Museum in Washington DC as part of the HS 410, Europe in the Twentieth Century class.

Sr. Helen Marie Burns, Dr. Julie Smith and three students went to the Mercy Higher Ed Council Meeting on immigration and public policy at Trinity University in D.C., where they met with immigrants, policy makers and politicians.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Ann Harris Smith Little People’s Place

- Twenty-six children are scheduled to attend the center this fall, representing our highest fall enrollment in a decade with the increase coming primarily from Cresson community members.
• The annual fire safety/emergency plan review took place on April 13. The review was conducted by Security Officer Don Shay and LPP Director Lisa Segada. Four staff members of the center completed fire safety and emergency plan review and received certificates.

• During March and April, junior level students enrolled in the ED425 Curriculum and Assessment class completed twenty hours of observation of three to five year olds. These students gained valuable information through their observations, interactions, and planning to adapt developmentally appropriate practices (DAP) in a childcare center setting. After observations were completed, the students collaborated with LPP director, Lisa Segada, to choose unit topics based on the children’s interests. The students, working in pairs, presented units on insects, transportation, spring, and health and nutrition.

• Children’s Advocacy helped with the annual Easter festivities that included egg coloring, an outdoor Easter egg hunt, and spring related stories and activities. The staff of LPP made Easter baskets filled with eggs and special treats

Athletics

• Mount Aloysius athletics won the first ever AMCC Peak Performance Award for academic excellence with the highest percentage of student-athletes named to the AMCC Academic All-Conference Team. In all 51% of MAC student-athletes achieved a 3.2 GPA or higher with over 20 student-athletes achieving a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

• Baseball and Softball earned playoff berths for the fourth consecutive year—a first for any sport at the Mount. The women finished 4th (after two championships,) while the men were the Cinderella team, going from 6th place all the way to the championship game--where they lost to LaRoche College.

• The Mountie Stables were officially opened at a ribbon cutting ceremony held on March 23, 2012. The Stables include 2 locker rooms, an officials room, general restrooms, and a press box for softball and soccer. Several MAC student-athletes did TV interviews after speaking at the opening...

• The groundbreaking for the new $25 million Athletic/Convocation and Wellness Center was held on Thursday, April 19, 2012. Initial work has begun and completion is slated for summer of 2014.

• In cooperation with the Altoona Mirror, the MAC Athletic department hosted 1600 fans, press and officials at the 2012 Mirror Classic Men’s and Women’s Basketball All-Star games, with seniors from Blair, Cambria, and Centre counties participating in the event. This opportunity really allowed us to showcase the campus and the College.

• The MAC Women’s Tennis team won the inaugural Team Peak Performance Award for having the highest cumulative GPA in the AMCC (3.34 team grade point average).

• 18 MAC student-athletes were named to the Chi Alpha Sigma student-athlete honor society. This class represented the largest number in school history.

• At the annual MAC Athletic Banquet held on April 26, 2012 awards were given to many worthy student-athletes. Listed are some of the winners:
  ✓ Female Scholar Athlete of the Year-Chelsea Perehinec (3.9) (Volleyball)
✓ Male Scholar Athlete of the Year - Nate Lindsley (3.9) (Baseball)
✓ Female Athlete of the Year - Kaylee Keagy (Women’s Basketball)
✓ Male Athlete of the Year - Mike Godissart (Baseball)
✓ Ray and Louise Walker Award - Mike and Astride McLanahan
✓ Men’s Basketball (Davario Barksdale-MVP, Aaron Patrick-Coach’s Award)
✓ Women’s Basketball (Kaylee Keagy-MVP, Spring Krepps-Coach’s Award)
✓ Baseball (Aaron Kovach-MVP, Mike Godissart-Coach’s Award)
✓ Men’s Cross Country (Connor Walsh-MVP, Drew Noel-Coach’s Award)
✓ Women’s Cross Country (Brandis Wilt-MVP, Ralin Pierce-Coach’s Award)
✓ Golf (Mac Wolfe-MVP, Jordan Roberts, Luke Geisbrecht-Coach’s Award)
✓ Men’s Soccer (Curtis Brumbaugh-MVP, Luke Fragello-Coach’s Award)
✓ Women’s Soccer (Tonya Bibby-MVP, Nicola Johnson-Coach’s Award)
✓ Men’s Tennis (Sean Steffey-MVP, Wes Stoudnour-Coach’s Award)
✓ Women’s Tennis (Megan Chicoine-MVP, Laura Stahli-Coach’s Award)
✓ Volleyball (Lauren Oldham-MVP, Ashley Pipon-Coach’s Award)
✓ Softball (Jalisa Westover-MVP, Megan Brown-Coach’s Award)

• Sophomore Jalissa Westover was Co-MVP of the AMCC in Softball, only player in top 3 of every key offensive category. She broke her wrist diving for a ball in the first game of the playoffs.
• Senior pitcher Nathan Lindsley was nominated for the NCAA Post Graduate Scholarship. Nate has a 3.9 overall GPA in Physical Therapy and is planning to attend the PT graduate program at Chatham University.
• MAC baseball player, Mike Godissart earned AMCC Pitcher of the Week on two different occasions (4/2/12 and 4/16/12), a first for the Mount.

• Mt. Aloysius student athletes have stepped up to the plate on community service, with some leadership from Assistant Athletic Director Brianna Baker:
  ✓ The men’s tennis team partnered with several members of SAAC to help out at the National Portage Railroad Park beautification project. Young legs go a long way!!
  ✓ The SAAC also teamed up with Campus Ministry/Mission Integration and volunteered in the new Mercy Youth Initiative. The SAAC members along with SAAC advisor, Brianna Baker, volunteered their time on three Saturdays during March and April. The project involved team building, exercise and group projects with youth from the Penn Cambria School District.
  ✓ The SAAC hosted a tent party at the baseball home games against Medaille College. Burgers, hot dogs, brats and beverages were made available with donations accepted for the Special Olympics of Blair/Cambria Counties. Approximately two hundred dollars were raised for the charity.
  ✓ The MAC Athletic Department kicked off its Soles for Souls program, in which old shoes are collected and donated to those who are in need locally and internationally. Boxes were set up around campus for a month. This marked the first time MAC Athletics participated in the Soles for Souls program. As of April 27, 2012 over 1,000 pairs of shoes have been collected.

✓
Career Services

- The WestPACS Job/Internship Fair was held March 28th at the Monroeville Convention Center. There were 143 employers attending this year with 1,349 total students from the 44 college WestPACS members. 12 MAC students attended.
- Over 100 students attended a Graduate Salute where Career Services reminded them that services are life long and free of charge.
- Helped plan the second annual “Career Planning Fast Facts” publication for high school students and parents as the chair of the BASICS Life Long Learning sub-committee.

Counseling and Disability Services

- Attended annual American Counseling Association Conference in San Francisco in late March.
- Collaborated with Registrar to establish a procedure for priority registration for students registered with Disability Services. This will put the College in compliance with Section 504 of ADA Law in relation to providing program accessibility.

Student Activities

The Annual Student Club and Organization Leadership Banquet was held Thursday, April 12th. It was completely organized by the students--for the first time. The banquet committee comprised of students Destiny Diehl, Ethan Harmon, Jasmine LaRue, Lyndsay Litvin, Kimmy Rentuma, and April Tewksbury chose the theme "It's Your Time to Bloom...Growing Through Leadership."

They had musical selections by students Adam Pernelli, John Moist and Eric Baker, welcoming remarks by yours truly, and a keynote speech on networking (only 7 minutes long--hurray!!!) by Jessica Meck, from the Blair County Chamber of Commerce Growth and Relationships of Young Professionals (GRYP) group. April Tewksbury, of Simply Caring shared a beautiful prayer before dinner.

Student leaders were recognized in Student Government, Campus Activity Board, Orientation Leaders, Residence Life, Student Conduct Board, Campus Ministry, Student Ambassadors and the Mount Aloysius Academic Preparation Program.

Some awards of note in this area were:
- Student Ambassadors of the Year: Nate Lindsley and Laura Stahli and
- Faithfulness to Faith Award from Campus Ministry presented to Connor Walsh and Leah Piskel.

The remaining club and organization awards presented:
- Emerging Leader Award - April Tewksbury
- Unsung Hero Award - Derek Harshaw
- Tyler Harrington Award (for an active commuter student) -Jessica Seasoltz
- School Spirit Award - The MAC Spirit Squad
Most Improved Organization Award - Student Athletic Advisory Committee
Program of the Year Award - MAC's Got Talent
Advisor of the Year Award - Mr. Chris Mingyar
Community Service Organization of the Year Award - Student Accounting Society for VITA
Organization of the Year Award - Nursing Student Organization.

Spring Events

Another fabulous semester of activity on and off campus, in and out of dorms. A sampling of the fun:
- MAC’s Next Top Model (3 nights)
- Democracy Day and Student Government Election
- Coffee Houses, ice cream socials,
- MAC’s Got Talent (6 nights)
- Craft Nights (potting, planting, tie dying, etc.)
- Curve, Pirates, Penguins Night Games (what about the Phillies?) and March Madness night
- Service projects: Relay for Life (24 hours), clothing drives, recycling contests
- One Shirt Campaign
- Bingo, scrabble and yoga nights
- The Amazing Race
- Sports nights (5Ks, and volleyball, basketball, dodge ball, flag football tourneys)
- Video game nights

Residence Life Directors

A very very good group this year. We are learning how to do this well. As part of the senior week campfire, the Residence Life staff, led by Chris Koren gave departmental awards as nominated by their peers (I include to give some flavor of dorm life):

- Best Bulletin Boards – Whitney Johnson
- Best Door Tags – Caitlin Gary
- Best Individual Programmer – Rosalie Sossong
- Best Community of the Year – Ihmsen Hall (this is a very good sign—last year’s problem area)
- Shooting Star- Jake Wyatt
- Rubber Ducky – Mike Goddisart
- Little Miss Sunshine – Rosalie Sossong, Nicola Johnson
- Duty Master – Tyler Thomas and Caitlin Gary
- Hospitality Award – Katie Sink
- Unsung Hero – Matt Cornetti
- Male RA of the Year – Dylan Kachmar
- Female RA of the Year – Allison Ritchey
- RA Hall of Fame – Amy Miller and Mike Goddisart
- Moment of the Year – Shaver’s Creek and Lakemont Christmas Lights Trip (Tie)
Priority Two: Ensure the vitality of the College by augmenting resources necessary to support growth.

There are four parts to this summary under Priority Two: enrollment, financial and physical assets, general administration and institutional advancement. A few words on each:

**ENROLLMENT**

I have divided this material into two sections: a look ahead, a quick look behind; positives and negatives in the current environment.

1. **A Look Ahead to ‘12-13 Enrollment** (all comparisons are May to May)
   - Visitation up 1210 from 1151 this time last year
   - Applications up 1732 from 1604 in 2011
   - Acceptances equal so far at 1193
   - Deposits up 555 to 527 in 2011
   - Mercy Presidential 29 acceptances of 31 offers
   - Recruited student-athletes up 29 (they were down the year before)
   - Entered **New Market** (Harrisburg) with Full time staff person in 2011-12
   - Started **to link athletic recruiting to admissions** a bit more strategically
     - Less than 10% of MAC students—less than half average at our competition
     - Much higher % at our in-state Mercy sister institutions than at MAC

2. **A Look Back at ‘11-12 enrollment**
   - Largest Full Time Equivalent (FTE—full, part, grad, dual)) entering class in ’11-12
   - Largest Full Time (FT) entering class in ‘11-12
   - Largest graduating class in 2012 (398)
   - Down 13 FT (not FTE) students from 2011 by time of 2012 “spring thaw”
     - third decline in seven years
     - FTs (not FTEs) are the key numbers for financials (“FT” equals higher operating revenue)
     - Average increase of 14 in this number over 8 years (overall negative swing of 27)
     - Enrollment Management team is all over this: into a new market and with new advertising strategy; stepped up recruit efforts even more locally as well as in the new market (260 in school visits in Harrisburg area alone); social media approaches highest quality and quantity in region (MAC social media ranked 8th in Northeast); pushing for new courses of study

3. **Positives and negatives look similar to last quarter**
   - Positives:
     - FT Deposits continue to track ahead of last year
     - Grad and Continuing Education expected to continue slow growth
- Financial Aid sign offs for new students tracking ahead
- Summer school is tracking well ahead of last year
- Dual Enrollment was an even bigger success this year

✓ Areas of Concern (realities)

- Gas prices impacted the class for fall 2008 on-going evaluation will take place. The drop is a good sign and may it continue.
- We have increased competition with nursing in the region but general agreement that this is our strongest nursing team here in a long time
- The final outcome of the class remains to be seen. The Commonwealth of PA pool is down overall by 16% high school grads in 2012 from 2008
- The state-of-the-economy remains a concern for fiscal year 2011-2012. As a tuition driven college, we remain very vulnerable as a rural private college. Despite unprecedented visits to the college, unprecedented application, etc. – the new class for fall 2012 remains an unknown. Nevertheless, we remain on target.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Six updates:

First, ACWC moving ahead, with bids awarded to date:

- Structural Steel was awarded to Amthor Steel (Erie PA)
- Excavation was awarded to Grannas Bros. (Hollidaysburg)
- Concrete package was awarded to GM McCrossin (Bellefonte)

Work has started on the temporary construction entrance and Erosion & Sediment controls (required by DEP and CC Soil Conservation Dist.). Also, working with Dominion Peoples Gas on relocation of high pressure gas line at west end of the campus.

The fourth bid package is currently out for bid and includes masonry, metal panels, roofing, windows, interiors, general trades, elevators, fire protection, plumbing, HVAC, and electrical bids from pre-qualified subcontractors.

Second, we held the First Annual Year End Celebration & Retirement Program for Faculty and Staff on May 8.

Pictures speak for themselves. This year end luncheon provides a wonderful opportunity for staff and faculty to come together, celebrate and be celebrated for another year of service and commitment and for three retirements (over 70 years between the three).

Third, we have a crew of mid-20s to mid-30s employees around whom we are building a middle manager training course. Three courses are scheduled for June/July. These first three classes will focus on building professional images/brand, staff motivation/leadership and budget preparation/prioritization.

Fourth, on wellness initiatives, we try to preach what we practice, though this correspondent is better at the preaching on this than the practice.
• Once again we are proud to partner with the local community and co-sponsor the Cresson Heritage Days 5k race and celebration on May 20
• We continue to offer Weight Watchers at Work which has been warmly welcomed by our busy staff and faculty as a great option.
• We also have body strengthening and yoga classes available for all faculty and staff to participate in.

Fifth, on Information Technology,

• Completed one year using “zero-client” panos devices in all labs on campus and feedback has been positive. The devices are very compact and radiate little to no heat all the while offering more power and memory to the desktops. Representatives from the IT department at Sheetz Corporation visited our IT Department to see the devices in action. Since then, Sheetz is now installing these devices throughout their stores.
• The Internet bandwidth deal with Comcast to provide a 100meg connection will be activated and tested starting May 15th. This will quadruple our current bandwidth which will greatly enhance the speed and capacity of connectivity.
• In addition, a Wide Area Network (WAN) to other Colleges and Universities is in the design process. When complete we will be able to share critical resources with other colleges and universities including but not limited to disaster recovery and identity protection.
• Completed work on integrating 4 key data systems. They are the student information system (jenzabar), MAC Gmail, Blackboard, and directory service.

Sixth, Mountie Stables and dugouts are a big hit. All that is left is to hang the cubbies (in the locker rooms and dugouts) and paint the dugouts (saving that for students in summer) with logos and awards. Graduates were lining up for photos with Victory during the entire grad week!!!

As with all the administrative work, great job by Suzanne and all her crew. Every big event here has gone smoothly this year and these are the people behind the scenes making that happen, whether it is the Mirror All Star Classic (when 1600 people descend on campus the same night we have the Mercy Scholars banquet), or the nearly dozen major community year end celebration and awards events, or the even dozen major events that comprise a Mt. Aloysius graduation. Thank you.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Four updates from Jack Anderson:
✓ Expanding Horizons: The Campaign for Mount Aloysius continues to gain momentum with $12,982,742 in gifts and pledges as of the date of this writing. We are finishing up a few of the Board and President’s Advisory Council members but the response from all of you has been terrific. Our Campaign Committee will be meeting for the third time prior to the Board meeting and will be kicking our efforts into high gear! Over the next 18 to 24 months we will be working through the quiet phase of the Campaign with major donor prospects. This is the most critical stage of any campaign so your continued efforts are important to our success. Thank you so much for everything you have done so far to make this campaign the success we need it to be.
Both the Mountie Stables dedication and the Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center groundbreaking went very smoothly; great crowds, lots of enthusiasm, and beautiful weather! Thanks to all of you for joining us in these celebrations.

Annual Celebrity Golf Outing at Summit Country Club in Cresson on Friday, June 8--The field is filling rapidly so be sure to you get your reservations into the Institutional Advancement Office soon. As always, Jack has guaranteed great weather! Registration and breakfast begins at 9 am with a shotgun start promptly at 10 am. For those wishing to join us only for the steak fry, please come to the Summit CC around 2:30 pm. Remember reservations for the dinner are also required.

Alumni Weekend June 22nd and 23rd. Mike Greer and the young alums in our IA Department have worked very hard to put some new life into this annual event. They have included something for everyone and, as always, Trustees are extended an invitation to join our alums for the weekend or at least a part of it. Just let IA know if you are interested in coming. The Friday night reception is a great way to visit with alumni and get a real sense of the history of Mount Aloysius. They will have everything from Elvis to golf to educational offerings this year.

Priority Three: Contribute to the economic, social, cultural and spiritual well-being of the communities, both local and regional, through a variety of institutional and partnership efforts, in keeping with the educational mission of the College.

This has been an extremely active quarter with regard to strategic Goal Three. Let me attempt a quick summary of initiatives.

First, it has been a busy period for Mt. Aloysius and the arts. Michele’s service with Ann Benzel on the Blair County Arts Foundation meant yours truly was one of three judges for the three county high school poetry competitions (for which Michele was chief organizer, cook and bottle washer). And even though the final was held at the Mishler Theatre in Blair, the top prize went to a Westmont Hilltopper from Cambria County. Michele and I also enjoyed an evening with the Mt. Aloysius Art Alliance, a community group led by Sister Giuseppe and Dr. Don Talbot that holds 3 to 4 dinners a year at the College and helps organize 7 to 8 shows each year.

in our Gallery. We were present also there for the grand tour of my old ceramics classmate Ginger Mandichak’s full exhibit in the Wolf Kuhn Gallery in March.

Second, it has been a very busy time for keynote addresses to area groups and organizations. This last quarter, I keynoted events (each with a very different topic!!) for the Blair Chamber, for the Sheetz Corporation, for the High School Principals Association of Cambria County and for the Inn at the Courts group (with Judge Smith, at the invitation of Judge Kopriva). I also made remarks at a dozen other community
events, including for the State Police Camp Cadet Foundation at the College, at the Conference for Mercy Higher Education in Washington (on joint research process I am leading for CHME), at the AICUP Annual Meeting in Harrisburg (where I chaired a panel presentation), and at Ray Walker’s fabulous five hour 100th birthday party on a rainy Sunday in Clearfield County. Michele and I also enjoyed the Girl Scouts dinner honoring the Sheehans (with the Klementiks and the Rullos), the Mirror Classic (with the McLanahans), a Dartmouth Alumni event in NYC where one of MAC’s newest major donors was honored (a college classmate) and at a range of other community events. Michele has also been representing the College as appropriate, most recently accompanying three students who won scholarships from the Blair County Community Foundation to their awards lunch.

Third, we continue to host a wide variety of groups here at the College. Sister Helen Marie’s ecumenical group was here twice this semester; the leaders of the major area congregations also come for lunch with us once a quarter; we had community folks join us for several of our guest speakers (especially Olympic basketball Coach Theresa Grentz and Penn researcher Dr. Kathleen Hall Jamison); and the Altoona Mirror All Star classic brought a lot of new faces onto campus. Jack, Suzanne and I have had several meetings with the new Cambria County Commissioners (on RACP and other issues), and we had excellent exposure for the College at the dedication and the groundbreaking—lots of faces who hadn’t been here in a while and amazed at all that Sister Mary Ann accomplished during her tenure. This summer, we will host: the State Police Camp Cadet for youngsters for the first time; a much expanded Alumni weekend; a youth girls softball team sponsored by Paul Calandra (5th year); a number of youth baseball teams who want to play here now with our expanded facilities; and we continue to look for other opportunities to share and engage with our community partners. Our Digital Grotto Group (students) has invented another form of community outreach, designing and producing a public service ad for the Cresson Fire Department (assisted by MAC IT staffer Jeff Sunseri—who lost his own home to fire last year). http://youtu.be/M8ePnscagM4

Finally, we continue to spread the message of Mt. Aloysius and tell its story and that of its students through communication efforts led by Jack Coyle. He and Sam are everywhere, and just our recent coverage on graduation reflects that—a terrific day-before graduation TV story on Amber Lenhard (WTAJ ran it right through Monday), a graduation day Altoona Mirror story on a 52 year-old father of eight graduate, a Sunday TV story on the Saturday night on-field graduation ceremony of our baseball seniors and a front page story on two of our honorary degree recipients (the Calandras) in the local Mainliner

In closing this community report, let me thank you all for your service to this college. Mt. Aloysius has a thousand great stories, and you are helping us to write them every day.

Thomas P. Foley