Ten projects with potential to transform the University's research profile have been selected for Round II funding from the Strategic Research Investments (SRI) program. Collectively, the initiatives will pursue safer, cleaner energy sources, develop smarter ways to respond to environmental challenges, advance safe nanoscience solutions, address cures for disease and examine how Muslims and Roman Catholics interact with modern secular institutions.

The projects were selected by the 17-member Strategic Academic Planning Committee, which reviewed some 45 concept proposals. Provost Tom Burish announced the new recipients at the end of last semester. Between these grants and a first round of SRI funding announced in 2007-08, the University has committed approximately $80 million to support and expand research in ways that complement the University’s mission.

More than 70 faculty members from the colleges of arts and letters, science, engineering, law and architecture are engaged in these projects, many of which plan to build ties with Innovation Park. “These proposals illustrate how readily Notre Dame researchers form collaborations to pursue new research initiatives. These initiatives are examples of building on the strength of current Notre Dame scholarship to advance the reputation and missions of the University,” said Robert Bernhard, vice president for research. Each proposal’s principal investigator has gathered from four to 40 team members.

The proposals share in common a more advanced concept, as well as teams that are testing promising new ideas.

By GAIL HINCHON MANCINI, director of internal communications

10 projects chosen for Round II SRI funding

Students in a science classroom

The proposals share in common a more advanced concept, as well as teams that are testing promising new ideas.

For example, the Kroc Institute for Notre Dame research initiatives into "Contending with Modernity: Islam and Roman Catholicism in a Secular Age." The project proposes to examine how followers of the world's two largest religions negotiate the challenges of modern times and address critical issues such as sustainable economic development, conflict resolution, political changes and stewardship of the environment.

Principal investigator Scott Appleby’s goal is a sophisticated understanding of the conditions under which religious and secular forces attract, repel and sometimes collaborate with one another. Focusing on Muslims and Catholics, the project will search for shared experience, challenges shared by what Appleby describes as "global, monotheistic, evangelical mission-centered traditions."

The project will assemble teams of scholars specializing in one of the two religions to focus on a topic of interest to both communities. Also engaged in the project are Doug Archer, Lance Askildson, Robert Dowd, Patrick Gaffney, Kathleem Kaveny, Paul Kollman, Alan Krierger, Sabin MacCormack, Patrick Mason, John McGreevy, Gerald McFetridge, Jean McKenny, Jean McManus, Martha Mallon, Mary Ellen O’Connell, Omar Rashied, Atalia Oshry, Mary Ellen O’Toole, Scott Porter, Jerry Powers, Vincent Rougemaille, Emad Shabani, Brian Smith, Jason Speight, Lawrence Sullivan and Todd Whitmore.

Participants of the Sustainable Energy Initiative (SEI) propose to establish ND as a leader in developing safer nuclear energy, designing cleaner fossil fuel processes and creating new energy technology. SEI’s work will develop five new facilities to support energy research: a materials synthesis and characterization facility, laboratories for safer nuclear and cleaner fossil fuels, a solar energy laboratory and an integrated materials simulation facility. Undergraduate and graduate students will be highly involved and prepared as the next generation’s energy leaders.

Joan Biren Decker, Keating-Crawford Professor of Chemical Engineering, is lead investigator, and Kenneth Henderson, chair of chemistry and biochemistry, is associate director. They will be joined on this project by Thomas Albrecht-Schmitt, Seth Brown, Bruce Bunker, Peter Burns, Ian Caramichael, Steven Corelli, Jeremy Fein, Daniel Gerelter, Gregory Harland, Prashant Kamar, Maura Kamo, Alexander Lappin, Jay LeVente, Edward Maginn, Paul McGinn, William Schneider, Slavi Strez, Mark Stadhir and Eduardo Wohl.

Readily available, inexpensive, non-polluting energy also is foreseen in two proposals submitted by aerospace engineer Thomas Corke and Gregory Hartland of chemistry and biochemistry.

Corke’s proposed Center for Enhanced Wind Energy Design (eWIND) will develop new wind energy technologies. The technology to be developed would improve efficiency and reduce energy generation costs for wind turbines from megawatt wind farms to urban micro-generators. White Field will host experimental wind turbines that will welcome research projects by pre-college, undergraduate and graduate researchers, and Innovation Park resources will help move the concept toward commercial technologies.

Hartland’s concept, called Nano Solar Cells, proposes to develop a cheap, highly efficient source of electricity that will capture and conserve solar energy. Hartland’s proposal describes the development of highly efficient solar cells using new concepts from nanotechnology. The plan includes developing a startup company in Innovation Park, where the work of fellow chemists Prashant Kamar and Maura Kamo on nanocrystal solar cells also will be commercialized. Hartland is leading a team that also includes Gregory Crawford, Libai Huang and Paul McGinn.

Their colleague in chemistry and biochemistry, Paul Huber, proposes that, as nanotechnology proliferates, scientists need to ask hard questions about whether solutions will have unintended toxic effects on living creatures. "Nanoparticle Toxicity" will develop a comprehensive program for testing toxicity of nanoparticles using frogs, zebrafish and flies to detect developmental defects. The SRI grant will allow him and his academic partners to assemble the equipment and expertise and identify a sample of environmentally significant nanomaterials in need of testing. The goal is to develop a protocol to identify and characterize whether new materials are safe for nanomedicine, bioremediation and other applications that impact the environment. Co-collaborators are Michael Fergud, Holly Gordon, Amanda Hammons, David Hyde, W. Matthew Levery, Patrica Maurice and Jennifer O’Toole.

The ND Environmental Change Initiative (ND-ECI) proposes to further integrate Notre Dame’s environmental research on the topics of climate change, invasive species, water quality and land use to address large-scale issues in a cultural, social and religious context with partners from industry, government and nongovernmental organizations.

The bag-pipe approach proposed by biologist David Lodge seeks to identify solutions that minimize the trade-offs between human welfare and environmental health where trade-offs are unavoidable. In agriculture, for example, ND-ECI would address needs for food and energy and the indirect impact those pursuits have on ecosystems. It would examine how to address global trade while preventing the further introduction of invasive species. ND-ECI researchers also would develop tools to measure impact.
**NEWS BRIEFS**

**BASILICA MUSIC DIRECTOR GAIL WALTON DIES AT 55**

Battled leukemia

The University community is saddened by the death of Gail Walton, 55, director of music at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Says Rev. Peter Rocca, C.S.C., rector of the Basilica, “This bright, articulate and gracious woman, whose enthusiasm, dedication, professionalism, selflessness, energy and humility enriched beyond measure our liturgical life in the Basilica and beyond, will be sorely missed.”

Walton died Wednesday, Feb. 24, at the Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis, after a long battle with leukemia.

She had served as director of music at the Basilica since 1989, and directed the Liturgical Choir as well as the Basilica Schools, which she founded in 1989.

In addition to her work and ministry at the Basilica—helping couples prepare for their wedding and grieving families plan funerals—Walton performed widely as a soloist; she frequently played duo recitals with her husband, organist and Notre Dame member performed as a soloist; she frequently played duo recitals with her husband, organist and Notre Dame music professor Craig Cramer.

During the eight years the 10 a.m. Mass was televised to a national audience, Father Rocca notes, Walton became a recognized friend to many of the nearly 1.7 million viewers who tuned in each week.

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**EDUCATOR APPRECIATION WEEK AT BORDERS**

Discount for current, retired educators

Bring your valid Notre Dame I.D. card to Borders Books and Music March 19 to 27 and receive a 30 percent discount on purchases.

**“IS RELIGION THE PROBLEM?”**

The annual Asian Film Festival brings five contemporary films to the DeBartolome Performing Arts Center.

Tickets are free to Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross students, faculty and staff for a limited time. Present a valid I.D. card at the performing arts center ticket office from noon to 6 p.m. from Wednesday, March 24 through Friday, March 26. On Saturday, March 27, remaining tickets go on sale to the general public for $10.

**ANNUAL ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL AND CONFERENCE**

Showcasing contemporary Asian filmmaking

The annual Asian Film Festival brings five contemporary films to the DeBartolome Performing Arts Center. The event is free and open to the public.

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**STUDENT INTERN**

**Jennifer Laiber**

Kreative Koncepts

Carol C. Bradley

MANAGING EDITOR

**Links of the Irish**

The College of Arts and Letters launched a new website last semester at al.nd.edu, capping nine months of work on design and initial content but also acknowledging that, in some ways, the work has just begun.

That’s because it’s part of a broader, strategic vision of a family of College websites—different voices, different audiences, all aiming for smarter synergies over the long haul, says the College’s director of communications, Marie Blayke.

“We consider this a ‘trampoline’ site,” Blayke says of the College’s new virtual presence. In many cases, visitors to the site will want to bounce quickly to the sites of more than 20 departments or more than a dozen centers and institutes under the Arts and Letters umbrella.

Among the many audiences visiting al.nd.edu, some, like current undergraduates discussing their majors and prospective students making their university selections, will value the Arts and Letters site as a first step for general knowledge: What majors and minors are offered, for example, and what special resources are available?

But Blayke says it’s often the departments and centers whose sites can give potential graduate students and faculty members the most detailed information they need about current faculty or original research being conducted in particular disciplines. These smaller units also have a more focused “community affinity,” fed by the events, activities and ongoing initiatives within each discipline.

Visit visit.nd.edu, the new website of the John J. Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values, as an example of a website that fits under the Arts and Letters umbrella but is also broad enough to encompass other stakeholders. The site describes educational programs and research initiatives that connect not only across the Arts and Letters disciplines, but also with the College of Science, the Mendoza College of Business and the Law School.

This kind of instinct for interdisciplinary—which also fuels Notre Dame’s drive to create new knowledge and make a difference in the world—is helping to broaden and connect more of the websites under the College and University umbrella.

Web technology itself is allowing users to get and pass along information more easily. In addition to bookmark and search features, for example, the new Arts and Letters site features a number of event subscriptions and news feeds. A wish list from analytics services that scrutinize user traffic, organizations will also be able to shape their website content and to meet ever-evolving needs and expectations. Speaking of updating content, the world has embraced Twitter as a tool for speeding up that phenomenon to suit our fast-paced pace. A number of University units have plunged into that arena of the speedy and succinct. Now, there’s a brand new central directory for those immersed in the matrix of messages, those poised to beat a buzzy rewry. To go to twitter.nd.edu to see a spectrum of Notre Dame feeds, spanning the worlds of academia, alumni, athletics and more.
Women Writers Festival features Lorrie Moore

Event focuses on the short story and its interplay with other genres

BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

The annual Notre Dame Women Writers Festival, sponsored by the Department of English, takes place Tuesday and Wednesday, March 23 and 24, in McKenna Hall. All events are free and open to the public.

The festival features Lorrie Moore, whose novel “The Gate at the Stairs” was named one of 2009’s best works of fiction by the New York Times Book Review, and Frances Hwang and Lolita Hernandez, both recent winners of the PEN Beyond Margins Award.

The festival begins with a public welcoming reception in the McKenna Hall atrium at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 23, with a reading by Lorrie Moore at 7 p.m. followed by a book signing.

Wednesday’s events begin with a panel discussion with the three writers from 3 to 4:15 p.m. Readings by Frances Hwang and Lolita Hernandez begin at 5 p.m., followed by a book signing and public reception.

“It's a wonderful chance to see a group of contemporary writers who I think will be able to play off each other in an interesting way,” says Valerie Sayers, professor of English.

One of the reasons the festival was started, she notes, is that there had been a historical imbalance between male and female writers who have visited campus.

The festival is committed to bringing distinguished women writers to campus, and to giving students the chance to enter a significant literary dialogue with them.

“We've also had a great mix attending the festivals,” she adds, “including staff, townspeople, male undergrads and faculty. We think of it as a big cultural event for the whole community.”

A celebration of Notre Dame poets

Events include panel discussions, readings

BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

The Open Light, a three-day celebration of Notre Dame poets, takes place Monday, March 29, through Wednesday, March 31. All events take place in McKenna Hall Seminar Rooms 100-104.

The event, sponsored by the Creative Writing Program and the Department of English, features readings by 11 poets who are either faculty members or graduates. Participants include Jenny Boully (MFA 2002), Kimberly Blaeser (Ph.D. 1990), and professors Jacque Vaught Bogan, Henry Weinfield, John Wilkinson, Joyelle McSweeney, Cornelius Eady and Orlando Menes.


MONDAY, MARCH 29

3 p.m.  Jenny Boully, Beth Ann Fennelly and Kimberly Blaeser read from their work, with a reception and informal conversation to follow.

5 p.m.  MFA students present papers and read from “The Open Light.”

8 p.m.  Joyelle McSweeney, Robert Archambeau and Cornelius Eady will read.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

3 p.m.  Poets Francisco Aragón, Jacque Vaught Bogan and John Wilkinson will read.

4:30 p.m.  MFA student paper presentations and readings from “The Open Light.”

8 p.m.  Henry Weinfield, Orlando Ricardo Menes and Mary Hanley will read.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

10:30 a.m.  Panel discussion on poetry and poetics.

1:30 p.m.  Panel discussion on the poetic vocation and the poet’s education.

All events are free and open to the public. A full schedule of events is posted on the Creative Writing Program’s web page, nd.edu/~alcwp/activities.html.

Mendoza College of Business ranked No. 1 by Bloomberg BusinessWeek

Also earned ‘A++ in teaching quality

By Carol Elliott, Mendoza College of Business

The University of Notre Dame’s Mendoza College of Business jumped to the top spot on Bloomberg BusinessWeek’s fifth annual ranking of “The Best Undergraduate Business Schools.” The ranking was announced March 4.

“An event has attracted a growing number of mentions and areas that need further attention.”

Notre Dame also earned the No. 1 spot in the student ranking, and “A++ in teaching quality, facilities and services, and job placement.”

Faculty, staff will be tapped for input on Chronicle survey

BY GAIL HINCHION MANCINI, DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

The University will again enter the Chronicle of Higher Education’s “Great Colleges to Work For” assessment, which last year highlighted Notre Dame among the Top 10 collegiate work environments.

In last year’s assessment, the Chronicle program singled out Notre Dame for faculty and staff commitment to the University’s mission, the high quality of its teaching environment, facilities and benefits, and overall job satisfaction. The results are accessible on the Chronicle’s website, chroniclegreatplaces.com.

A major aspect of the assessment program is a survey on the workplace environment conducted by ModernThink, a human resource consulting group that partners with the Chronicle on the project.

Some 500 to 600 faculty and staff will be randomly selected to participate in the confidential survey. In mid-March, those who are selected will receive the online survey via e-mail from ModernThink. The survey is estimated to take 20 minutes.

“We hope that every faculty and staff member who receives the survey will take the time to complete it,” says Bob McQuade, associate vice president of human resources. “Your candid response will provide us with useful insights about how you perceive Notre Dame’s commitment to a quality work experience.”

The University measures employee satisfaction among staff every two years through ND Voice. One additional element of the Chronicle assessment that provides great value is that it incorporates the insights of faculty, says McQuade. As the University participates in the process year after year, the ModernThink results will help measure potential improvements and areas that need further attention.

Since the Chronicle began the survey three years ago, the annual event has attracted a growing number of voluntary participants. “Our place among the Top 10 is not assured, particularly since we anticipate more competition,” McQuade said.

Going for great, again

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Ronald Blaske photo provided

Women Writers Festival features Lorrie Moore

A celebration of Notre Dame poets

Mendoza College of Business ranked No. 1 by Bloomberg BusinessWeek

Faculty, staff will be tapped for input on Chronicle survey

Going for great, again
Supporting scholarship: The Center for Social Research

A natural fit with the mission of the University
BY JOSH STOWE, COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

A Notre Dame professor analyzes the resilience of the human spirit in war-torn, poverty-striken Uganda. A graduate student explores a collection of charter schools to determine how teachers’ networking affects their research. The new center aims to help University of Notre Dame as a leader in developing safer nuclear energy, cleaner fossil fuels and better solar energy technologies.

Supporting the research activities of our faculty is a key priority of the University of Notre Dame, and the new Center for Social Research is an important part of this investment,” says Robert J. Bernhard, the University’s vice president for research. “I am particularly pleased that this new center will be focusing its work on projects that deal with social research. It will assist our faculty and students as they work to solve social problems and gain important insights into the human condition—and, as such, is a natural fit with the University’s mission.”

Christian Smith, William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Sociology and the CSR’s director, says the center will help improve the quality and efficiency of social research on both large and small projects by providing ongoing support for data collection, management and analysis.

“A faculty and students use a host of tools to gather and analyze the data on which they build their social research projects,” Smith says. “The Center for Social Research was founded with these scholars and their research needs in mind. In expert staff can assist with the entire process, from research design to datasets acquisition and management, statistical problem solving and grant budget administration.”

The CSR supports scholarship across a research project’s life cycle—from grant proposal development to publication. In so doing, it offers four core services: statistical consulting, survey research, data management and grant administration.

Custom services include everything from statistical software troubleshooting to complex research design, says Kate Mueller, the CSR’s associate director. The center’s staff can assist in developing an appropriate research design to ensure that the data collected meet the needs of the preferred statistical methods. The staff can also design custom survey research services include assistance in designing survey instruments, developing appropriate sampling frames, facilitating the deployment of surveys and developing appropriate weights for the collected data. The CSR, Mueller says, can deploy web-based surveys to a defined population and also help to identify and work with vendors that offer samples or specialize in telephone and/or face-to-face interviews.

Data management services support the analysis required for both quantitative and qualitative social research. CSR staff work closely with acquiring datasets, managing data collection efforts, conducting appropriate analyses and diagnostics, and archiving data for future use by other researchers.

Finally, Mueller says the center can facilitate researchers’ compliance with the financial reporting associated with research grants. CSR staff can make budget projections, coordinate financial data and prepare financial reports required for compliance.

“We want to be a resource of first resort for all social researchers,” Mueller says. “If your inquiry is something we can’t handle, we will do our best to refer you to other resources within or external to the University.”

FROM THE ARCHIVES

A Victorian-era dorm room: Student Elmer Schoberer’s room in Sorin Hall, photographed in the 1890s.
Call center reaches out to touch alumni

By Gene Stowe, for NDWorks

Five nights a week, two shifts of 20 students each reach out to touch Notre Dame alumni, parents and friends from a call center on the third floor of Grace Hall. The operation is part of the Annual Fund, directed by Nick Farmer. On a typical night, students call some 4,000 people, with more than one-third of those they reach making pledges to support the University.

"They reach out to more alumni than any other department on campus," says Laura Fischer, assistant director of the Annual Fund, who manages the call center.

"Even if a call doesn't result in a pledge, it's important to have a positive impact so they feel good about Notre Dame," she says. "It's not always a pledge but it's always a great phone call."

A program called SmartCall does the dialing and displays information about the person being called. Alumni often like to chat about the caller or what's happening on campus. Calls typically last for just a couple of minutes. The center hires some 90 students at $8 an hour. The hiring process starts with a telephone interview to gauge skills, followed by an in-person interview, several training classes and two mock-calling sessions—one to test technical skills and the other to test their ability to answer objections.

Sarah Schmall, the call center's program manager, was a student caller as an undergraduate. "You don't realize the breadth of the operation when you're a student," she says. "The majority of the students that come in here are pretty passionate about Notre Dame," Schmall says. "For me personally, it was a great excuse to talk to people about the university I love so much."

Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves dropped by recently to thank the students for their work and affirm its importance for the University, not only in fundraising but also in ongoing contact.

The center, established in 1987, operates 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Sundays, 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Mondays through Wednesdays and 7 to 9 p.m. Thursdays, with later calls coordinated to Western time zones. It runs in the spring and fall semesters, and sometimes in the summer.

Even in a difficult economy, a high percentage of people find ways to give.

"We hear people say 'unfortunately I can't contribute,'" says Fischer. "For the most part, I would say the Notre Dame constituents are very loyal. Even if they can't give what they've given in the past, a lot of them are trying to make some kind of gift."
Chinese house inspires musical, artistic celebration

Exploring the idea of home in music, art

BY JEREY D. BONFIOCO, FOR NDWORKS

When Kronos Quartet founder David Harrington walked into the Peabody Essex Museum in Massachusetts nearly three years ago, he couldn’t have anticipated the musical journey he was about to embark on.

Since 1997, the museum has housed Yin Yu Tang, an 18th-century Anhui Province structure that has become the inspiration for Harrington’s “A Chinese Home,” a new 50-minute musical celebration of the cultural history of the Asian country, complete with costume changes, visual projections and props.

“I just couldn’t believe the feeling I had in there,” Harrington said of Yin Yu Tang. “There was just this sense that all these walls had witnessed so much history, so much humanity, and I started thinking about all these amazing sounds, and the music that must have once been here.”

Harrington, along with the quartet’s violist Hank Dutt, cellist Jeffrey Zeigler, and violinist John Shasha, as well as frequent collaborator and pipa player Wu Man, will perform “A Chinese Home” at 7:30 p.m. March 27 in the Leighton Concert Hall of DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

The piece, commissioned for the Kronos Quartet and Wu Man by the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, is the centerpiece of a series of campus events that includes an Asian Film Festival (see page 2 for more information), a panel discussion, and the exhibition “Yin Yu Tang: A Chinese Home,” which features photographs of the 200-year-old building moved, piece by piece, from the Chinese village of Huang Cun to the Peabody Essex Museum in May 1997 as part of a cultural exchange.

The exhibition, which will be on display through April 25 at the Snite Museum of Art, is being curated by Nancy Berliner, curator of Chinese Art at the Peabody.

“If you go to just one of these events you are really just scratching the surface of the experience,” said Anna M. Thompson, director of performing arts and executive director of the DeBartolo. “Going to the exhibit or the panel discussion or the films can only enhance the depth of this piece. I think it deepens the audience’s experience of the music but also gives it a real cultural depth... Of course I would have loved to have brought in the whole home, but it was a little large.”

At 47 feet 6 inches by 52 feet 5-1/2 inches, the house had been home to eight generations of family members—often three generations at a time. The musical composition “A Chinese Home” explores China’s evolving identity during that time frame through works ranging from folk tunes to electronic music, enhanced with theatrical and video elements by acclaimed stage and film director Chen Shao-Zhong.

The four-part work features a wide array of Chinese instruments—some that were constructed specifically for this work by MacArthur fellow Walter Kitturu, including Wu Man’s electric pipa. “A Chinese Home” begins with 19th-century mountain dances, advances to 1930s Shanghai, with its flashy nightclubs music that is tempered by a video backdrop featuring images of the Sino-Japanese war.

From there, the piece examines the cheerful songs from Mao Zedong’s reign, backdropped with a propaganda movie, and concludes with an examination of China’s more contemporary music highlighted by Wu Man’s electric pipa.

“This was an opportunity to explore the idea of what home is.” Harrington said. “I wanted the group to expand on what we had done in the past, even learning new instruments we had never played before. My hope is that this piece of music can take listeners through all levels of discovery, and they come away feeling inspired.”

SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

The University congratulates the following employees who celebrate significant anniversaries in March:

35 years
Edward E. Hums, accountant
Clifford J. Payne, Joyce Center

30 years
Nagi Ela, operations and engineering

25 years
Christopher J. Barkley, sending

20 years
Pamela A. Brezinski, Hesburgh libraries
James L. Garwood, Central Receiving
Gene R. Giles, Office of Facilities Operations
David C. Shidler, food services
John A. Wemos, Rolfs Sports Recreation Center

15 years
Debrah J. Gillum, electrical engineering
Nancy A. Gillespie, Fischer Faculty Apartments
Lynn M. McCormack, English
Glenn J. Rosswurm, development
Dennis J. Stachowski, Roché Memorial Building
Debbie S. Sampson, dean’s office
Jaroslav Zajicek, chemistry and biochemistry

10 years
Edward W. Atkinson, Morris Inn
John C. Buzzy, operations and engineering
Mary E. Dredtich, principal gifts
Mark W. DeVoire, Office of Research
Barbara E. Klowetter, registrar
Jordan H. Lee, payroll services
An T. Pham, food services
Cheryl S. Smith, Hesburgh libraries
Michela VanTubergen, vending

Relay for Life: ‘Fightin’ Irish fightin’ cancer’

Annual event moves to Notre Dame Stadium

BY CAROL L. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

The campus community comes together Friday and Saturday, April 16 and 17, to celebrate cancer survivors, remember those who lost the battle and fight back against cancer with the annual Notre Dame Relay for Life.

The event takes place from 6 p.m. Friday to 9 a.m. Saturday at a new location this year: Notre Dame Stadium. Also new this year, teams that raise $5,000 will receive a VIP tour of the stadium.

The campus community comes together Friday and Saturday, April 16 and 17, to celebrate cancer survivors. Remember those who lost the battle and fight back against cancer with the annual Notre Dame Relay for Life.

The event takes place from 6 p.m. Friday to 9 a.m. Saturday at a new location this year: Notre Dame Stadium. Also new this year, teams that raise $5,000 will receive a VIP tour of the stadium.

The event begins with opening ceremonies at 6:30 p.m. Friday; at the 9 p.m. luminaria ceremony, participants take a lap in silence to reflect on the people whose names are inscribed on the candle-lit luminaria. Closing ceremonies take place at 8 a.m. Saturday morning, with everyone invited to participate in the final lap.

This year’s event is dedicated to Rich O’Leary, who spent 38 years of his career in the athletic department, first serving as men’s lacrosse coach and later as director of intramurals and club sports in RecSports. In honor of O’Leary’s recent passing and courageous fight with cancer, his wife, Linda, is serving as honorary chairperson of the event. Also being honored as a chairwoman is sophomore Kelsey Thrasher, who is battling Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

At noon on Wednesday, March 24, the campus Relay for Life video will premiere at the St. Liam Hall third-floor conference center. RSVP to Jeannine Drink, dinkaj@nd.edu or 631-9701. A number of fundraisers are planned, including a used cell phone drive. Donate used cell phones by placing them in an envelope addressed to the Mail Distribution Center, or placing them in a donation box at the Lafitte Information desk in the main lounge, at 317 Main Building, 220 ITC Annex, 204 Mundana or 636 Grace Hall.

Donations of hand-crafted items are welcome for the silent auction held during the event. Other fundraisers include the sale of Elephant Ears and a special edition 2010 Longaberger basket, also on sale are ND Fire Department hats and T-shirts ($15), sweatshirts ($25) and knit caps ($12).

It’s not too late to get involved—to register a team or for additional information on events and fundraisers, visit relayforlife.org/ndin.
Upcoming Events

ART
Upcoming exhibitions at the Snite Museum of Art include:

- 2010 BFA/MFA Candidates’ Three Exhibition O’Shaughnessy Galleries From March 28-May 16, this annual exhibition of culminating works by seniors and third-year graduate students in the Art, Art History and Design Department will provide a broad awareness of the themes and processes of contemporary art. Receptions and Awards: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, March 28.

MUSIC
Unless otherwise noted, all performances take place in the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit performingsarts.nd.edu or call 631-2800. Ticket prices are for faculty and staff, senior citizens and students of all ages.

Penelope Crawford, guest fortepianist
Presented by the Department of Music
7 p.m. Thursday, March 25; Reys Oragn and Choral Hall
Internationally acclaimed as one of America’s master performers on historical keyboard instruments, Penelope Crawford has appeared as soloist with modern and period instrument orchestras, and as recitalist and chamber musician on major North American concert series.

University of Notre Dame Chorale and Chamber Orchestra Spring Concert 2010
Presented by the Department of Music
3 p.m. Sunday, March 28; Leighton Concert Hall
The University of Notre Dame Chorale and Chamber Orchestra present “Spring Concert,” featuring music from the Renaissance to the 20th century.

Academy of Saint Martin in the Fields
Visiting Artist Series
7 p.m. Friday, April 9; Leighton Concert Hall
The Academy is firmly established as one of the world’s leading chamber orchestras with Julian Rachlin, violinist (violon, viola) and leader.

Hans Davidson
Organ Recital Series
2:30-5 p.m. Sunday, April 11; Ryan Organ and Choral Hall
Hans Davidson, professor of organ at the Bremen Hochschule für Künste, Fachbereich für Musik, and at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N.Y., received his Solista Diploma from the Conservatorium of Leipzig, Sweden, in 1985.

RING THEM BELLS!

The University of Notre Dame Handbell Choir performs at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 26, in Washington Hall. The concert is free—donations to aid the Holy Cross Missions in Haiti will be collected. The choir of 15 undergraduates perform on four octaves of English-style Schulmerich handbells.

FILM
Unless otherwise noted, films are screened in the Browning Cinema, DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are $5 for faculty and staff, $4 for seniors and $3 for students.

Moseiior, the Last Journey of Oscar Romero
7 and 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 25
On Monday, March 24, 1980, Moseiorc Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, was killed by a professional hit man as he stood at the altar of his chapel celebrating a memorial Mass. His assassination became the catalyst for the Salvadoran Civil War, a conflict which lasted for 12 years and cost 75,000 civilian deaths. This film tells the story of the last three years of Romero’s life.

Five Minutes of Heaven (2009)
Contemporary Irish Cinema 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 26
In Northern Ireland, a Catholic man feigns reconciliation on a talk show with an Ulster man who murdered his brother 30 years ago—and plots the man’s on-again murder, unbeknownst to the production crew.

A Film With Me In It (2008)
Contemporary Irish Cinema 9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 27
A comedy which tells the story of a down-on-his-luck actor who, through no fault of his own, ends up with a dead dog, a dead brother, a dead girlfriend and a dead landlord in his apartment.

Brothers (2009)
Contemporary Irish Cinema 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 26
When a decorated Marine goes missing overseas, his black-sheep younger brother cares for his wife and children at home—with consequences that will shake the foundation of the entire family.

The Boys of St. Columb’s (2009)
Contemporary Irish Cinema 3 p.m. Sunday, March 28
Tom Collins directs this documentary about the famous success stories of St. Columb’s school in Derry, Ireland; including Nobel Laureates Seamus Heaney and John Hume to name but two. It depicts how they went on to shape and time at the school shaped them and how they came to represent America’s master performers on historical keyboard instruments, recitalist and chamber musician.

Academy of Saint Martin in the Fields
Visiting Artist Series
7 p.m. Friday, April 9; Leighton Concert Hall
The Academy is firmly established as one of the world’s leading chamber orchestras with Julian Rachlin, violinist (violon, viola) and leader.

Hans Davidson
Organ Recital Series
2:30-5 p.m. Sunday, April 11; Ryan Organ and Choral Hall
Hans Davidson, professor of organ at the Bremen Hochschule für Künste, Fachbereich für Musik, and at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N.Y., received his Solista Diploma from the Conservatorium of Leipzig, Sweden, in 1985.

Faculty/Staff Appreciation Night at the Cove
The Notre Dame Men’s Baseball Team plays the South Bend Silver Hawks at 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 5, at Coveliski Stadium for Faculty/Staff Appreciation Night. Blanche seats are $4, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Ars Panaghia Medical Research Foundation, which fights against Niemann-Pick Type C disease. Visit silverhawks.com for more information and purchase tickets.

Hamlet: Ambroise Thomas
The Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD
3 p.m. Saturday, March 27; Sunday, April 11; Browning Cinema
Simon Keenlyside and Natalie Dessay bring their extraordinary Dons, Tamiroff and Bass, to this brilliant production of the Bard’s most unforgettable characters in this new production of Ambroise Thomas’ “Hamlet.”

Riding Enterings

The University of Notre Dame Handbell Choir performs at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 26, in Washington Hall. The concert is free—donations to aid the Holy Cross Missions in Haiti will be collected. The choir of 15 undergraduates perform on four octaves of English-style Schulmerich handbells.

CAMPUS LECTURES AND EVENTS

Weldliterature: Crossing Boundaries
9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, March 19; McKenna Hall
The Ph.D. in Literature Program sponsors this international, interdisciplinary conference on world literature. Keynote speaker is David Damrosch, chair of literature and comparative literature at Harvard University. The conference is free to faculty and staff. Register at phdliterature.nd.edu or call 631-0481.

Lecture: “Promoting Healing After Trauma: The Role of Researchers and Humanitarian Agencies”
4-5:45 p.m. Thursday, March 25; C305 Hesburgh Center for International Studies
Featuring Judith Bass, assistant professor in the department of mental health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Sponsored by the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.

Provost’s Distinguished Women’s Lecture Series: “Ancient Slavery and 19th-Century Abolition”
5 p.m. Thursday, March 25; 136 DeBartolo Hall
Presented by Eden Hall, University of London.

Erskine Peters Fellowship Annual Symposium
6-8 p.m. Thursday, March 25; Eck Visitors Center Auditorium
This event will feature a panel of Erskine Peters Fellows who will discuss the image of Michael Jackson from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, exploring his ongoing legacy, how that legacy will be shaped by future scholars, and the ways in which his work continues to represent America’s diverse culture. Sponsored by the Department of Africana Studies.

Ten Years Hence Speaker Series: “Conscious Capitalism”
10:40 a.m.-12:10 p.m. Friday, March 26; Mendoza College of Business Jordan Auditorium
John Mackey, Chairman and CEO of Whole Foods Market, will present. Sponsored by the O’Brien-Smith Leadership Program.

Conference: “The Open Light: A Celebration of Notre Dame Poets”
3-9 p.m. Monday, March 29; 29 Washington Hall. The concert is free—donations to aid the Holy Cross Missions in Haiti will be collected. The choir of 15 undergraduates perform on four octaves of English-style Schulmerich handbells.

Seminar: “American Missionaries and the Imperialism of Human Rights”
4 p.m. Wednesday, April 7; C104 Hesburgh Center for International Studies
Professor Andrew Preston, University of Cambridge (United Kingdom), presents.

Public Debate: “Is Religion the Problem?”
7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 7; Leighton Concert Hall
Famed atheist Christopher Hitchens and esteemed Catholic apologist Dinesh D’Souza will debate. Call 631-2800 for ticket information.

Lecture: “Rethinking Rwanda, 1994”
12:30-1:30 p.m. Thursday, April 8; C101 Hesburgh Center

Even Fridays: International Sports Night
5-9:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, March 26; RecSports Recreation Center
Learn how to play a variety of international sports with your family. Soccer, rugby, cricket, badminton, and table tennis will all be available. Registration required on RecRegister, recsports.nd.edu.
Forensic anthropology: It’s not like what you see on TV

BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

Experiencing the skeletal remains of a homicide victim takes an emotional toll. “That’s what they don’t tell you on TV,” says Susan Guise Sheridan, a biological anthropologist and associate professor of anthropology who has sometimes consulted on criminal investigations.

In one case, she was called in to identify skeletal remains of a young girl who had been missing for two years. “It was the first time I saw how forensic anthropology can bring closure, not just to a family but to a whole community,” she says.

People often ask her which TV shows most accurately portray forensic anthropology. The crime drama “Bones,” featuring Emily Deschanel as Dr. Temperance “Bones” Brennan, gets the details of the science pretty accurately, Sheridan says. “I’ve learned a thing or two.” But forensic anthropologists going to the scene and collecting data, doing the research and arresting people—that’s not how it works.

In a real investigation, everyone’s job is specialized, she says. “I go to the scene to collect the remains. I take the bones to the lab and do the work on the skeleton. If there are insect remains, I consult a forensic entomologist. The police interrogate people and arrest them. In a trial, I may testify. I’ve never carried a gun or arrested anybody.”

Her own favorite show is “NCIS,” she adds, but it’s not the science—it’s Mark Harmon.

More recently, Sheridan has moved away from police work, concentrating her time on two projects: examination of the skeletal remains of monks from the Byzantine monastery of St. Stephen in Jerusalem (today the École Biblique et Archéologique Française and Couvent-SaintEtienne), and remains from Bab edh-Dhra’, a site located on the southeastern shore of the Dead Sea. The remains are housed and studied in the anthropology department’s Reyniers Lab on the northeast edge of campus.

The bones of Bab edh-Dhra’ (nd.edu/~nsfbones/) offer a glimpse of life in the Early Bronze Age. “It’s the only large, systematically excavated skeletal collection for the whole Southern Levant—today what we call Israel, Palestine and Jordan.”

The Byzantine St. Stephen’s Project (nd.edu/~stephens/) is an interdisciplinary, collaborative study involving theology, art history and other campus departments, reconstructing what life was like in the ancient monastery.

Although the monks were thought to have an ascetic, vegetarian diet, testing—conducted by anthropology students at Notre Dame’s Center for Environmental Science and Technology—determined that the monks consumed substantial amounts of protein. Another curious discovery is that of the bones recovered from the monastery’s tombs, more than a third are the bones of children. “We didn’t expect that,” Sheridan says. “What does it mean? We aren’t sure. It could be a hospital or orphanage, or it may mean that the people of the town buried their children there since the bones of St. Stephen were said to be interred at the site.”

The bones show that the monks had terrible pathologies of the knees—likely the result of hundreds of genuflections a day. “Liturgists and biological anthropologists are not usually conversation partners in research, but it was a helpful combination here,” she says.

“When I started looking at the monks, I knew nothing about the Byzantine period in the Middle East,” Sheridan adds. “It’s like having a very imperfect but revealing time machine, a snapshot of what happened in the past. With the monks, we have a lot of snapshots, and we can put together a relatively full picture of what life was like.”