

Mary Jo Leddy, Doctor of Laws, honoris causa

Friend of the College awarded honorary degree

This year at fall convocation, members of the St. Jerome's community had an extra reason to feel proud. In acknowledgment of her outstanding service to the Roman Catholic Church and the immigrant and refugee community, and in recognition of her tireless work on international justice issues and in education, Mary Jo Leddy, long-time friend of the College, was awarded an honorary degree.

Leddy first came to the College in the early '80s to lecture during the inaugural year of the St. Jerome's Centre for Catholic Experience. As editor of *Catholic New Times*, she often covered activities at the College, and when *Grail* was established in 1985, Leddy was a member of the founding board. Two years ago, she took part in the summer session of the Institute for Studies in Theological Renewal at St. Jerome's, co-teaching "Gospel and Liberation," a multi-disciplinary study of the Christian gospel as a means to liberation in Canadian society.

After accepting her honorary degree, Leddy was invited to address convocation. She began by noting that 1995 marked the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, a war that profoundly shaped the moral landscape of our times. "It planted the seeds of hope and fear which grew through subsequent generations and which remain intertwined in our times and our lives," she observed.

Having seen the depths to which human beings could descend, Leddy noted, the post-war generation began to build social and political structures, such as the United Nations, that made it a little easier for human beings to be good. But at the same time as the world was uniting in hope, it was also being divided by fear. "A line was drawn between the forces of capitalism and the forces of communism and that line soon encircled the globe. Communism was our great enemy."

In time, Leddy observed, the great enemy collapsed, "and we in the west became somewhat unglued. Our familiar bipolar world of the enemy without and the allies within had ceased to exist.

Occasionally we discovered and even helped to create semi-great enemies - Noriega of Panama, Sadaam Hussein of Iraq - but their power to unite us against them was transitory and brief. We were somewhat at a loss without the great enemy. The great enemy had made us look good, feel good, about ourselves, about our political, social, and economic systems."

What happened next, she noted, was perhaps inevitable. "Perhaps it was only a question of time before we would turn to search for and find the enemy within. Today, there are political movements in this country and elsewhere which thrive on creating an enemy closer to home. Their new enemies are people who are called the poor, the unemployed, single moms and kids, refugees and immigrants...students who need loans...students who can't find a job...those who are being educated instead of being trained, those who can't do but teach, those who refuse to manage the university like a factory or a supermarket of ideas in which the cheapest is the best." And the list of enemies, Leddy predicted, will continue to grow: "When you can't find a great enemy, you must at least find many enemies."

Leddy suggested that the popularity of the television show *The X-Files* is an indication of our current preoccupation with enemies. "Two FBI agents, Mulder and Scully, attempt to track enemy aliens, strange and dangerous forces in the world. Their attempts are often blocked by human enemies within the FBI and the American government itself. Shadowy figures within the country are in league with the alien forces. Rather understandably," she noted, "agent Mulder's motto is 'Trust no one.' There are times when he cannot even trust himself or agent Scully. It is a lonely way to live."

Leddy suggested to the graduating students that they have a choice to make: "You can see the world as being inhabited by potential enemies or filled with possible friends. You can assume the worst in other people or you can presume the best in them." She noted that they must decide whether they will use the knowledge they have gained at university to reinforce suspicion and enmity in the world or to help to construct a society in which friendship and love are possible.

Leddy, who in addition to honorary degrees from several Canadian universities holds BA and B.Ed degrees from the University of Saskatchewan and MA and PhD degrees from the University of Toronto, has clearly chosen the latter. Formerly a Sister of Sion, Leddy is now associated with Romero House in Toronto and is involved at both the local and the national level in the struggle for refugee and immigrant rights.

As well, she is an adjunct professor at Regis College at the Toronto School of Theology and maintains an energetic pace as a guest lecturer, editorial contributor, and commentator. She is also author of several books, including *Say to the Darkness, We Beg to Differ* which was a finalist in the City of Toronto Book Awards. ☪

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Message from the President

My term as president is now well into its seventh year; all of them have been exciting, most of them rewarding, none of them easy. Through them all, the College has remained faithful to its past and focussed on its future. Those of you who have not revisited the campus in some time would no doubt be pleased to see the many changes we've made to enhance the friendly, interpersonal atmosphere which underlines who we are – more external meeting areas, enhanced library facilities, internal redesign, better parking, and the like; at the same time, you would also find the enduringly human face of St. Jerome's, the welcoming and helpful atmosphere which still characterizes student exchanges with our staff and our faculty just as it did in the past. Indeed, the professional and caring nature of our faculty continues to attract students in large numbers from all over the campus, this while the College's faculty have matured as publishing scholars of some distinction. St. Jerome's remains dedicated to its Roman Catholic heritage and its touchstones of human dignity and honest intellectual pursuit.

Although I would prefer simply to celebrate our past and romanticize our future, to do so would hardly be the stuff of presidential responsibility; the present and the future are not without their serious problems, most of them driven by fiscal decisions taken in Toronto and Ottawa.

Over the past several years, university students have been faced with ever-escalating increases in tuition fees which far outpace the nation's more modest rise in the cost of living or advances in take-home salaries. From the College's point of view – simply from the rather tricky perspective of trying to pay our bills while providing our faculty and staff with an appropriate wage – we have been dealing with a persistent decline in income. Since the 1992-93 fiscal year, for example, the grant provided to the universities by the provincial government has been cut by 10% – by 25% since the 1977-78 fiscal year; over that period, the share

of the provincial budget dedicated to expenditures on Ontario's universities has shrunk from 6% to 4%. On the national scene, only Nova Scotia provides fewer dollars per student than Ontario; on a per capita basis, no other province in Canada provides less money per student for the operating of its universities. Even in Alberta, where cuts already taken have been deep indeed, that provincial government spends 10% more for each student enrolled than does the province of Ontario. And yet, even as I write, Ontario's universities are rumoured to be facing imminent cuts of 15% to 20% in provincial grants as a result of the Common Sense Revolution, with potentially double-digit reductions possible (or even likely) next year in the wake of anticipated flow-through from scheduled decreases in federal Established Program Financing transfers to Queen's Park.

The scene is unsettling. Universities are looking at unprecedented losses both in teaching faculty and in support staff to meet the additional cuts in our financial resources.

With student tuition fees accounting for roughly one out of every three dollars of our income, we obviously cannot look to our students to make up the shortfall. Indeed, the projected increases in tuition fees bring with them their own concerns about maintaining our student base. And regular readers of *Update!* will already be aware that St. Jerome's has been struggling to regain a student body which has been shrinking at a worrisome pace over the past many years.

We need your understanding. We also need your help: help in student recruitment, help in spreading the word about the financial situation facing the province's universities, help in raising funds. We know that we can count on you, our graduates and friends, to help secure our future. Not so St. Jerome's can continue to exist – because it will; but help so the St. Jerome's in which we all take so much pride will still be here to serve our children and our children's children. ☪

New book tells the St. Jerome's story

In the Fall 1994 issue of *Update!*, we reported that the pool of Ontario secondary school applicants from which the College draws the bulk of its 120 first-year Arts students was declining steadily. Dana Woito, St. Jerome's Registrar, offered several possible explanations for the decline in applicants and noted that recruitment strategies that had served the College well in the past, such as visiting high schools and making presentations about St. Jerome's, were no longer as effective as they had been.

Recognizing that the College needed to find another way to reach students who might be interested in St. Jerome's, Woito has developed a bright, lively spiral-bound booklet that tells the St. Jerome's story. "We needed to find a way to get the word out about the College in tangible form," she says, "so we put together an eye-catching

printed piece that students will want to open and read."

The viewbook, as it is called, is an important part of the College's new recruitment strategy. Woito has enlisted the help of St. Jerome's graduates working in the Ontario secondary schools to get the viewbook into the hands of students they think might be interested in St. Jerome's.

"Students tell us that personal recommendation is a significant factor influencing their choice of university," Woito comments. "Many of our grads are already encouraging students to apply to St. Jerome's. We hope that the viewbook will help their efforts." ☪



Doug Letson, President,
St. Jerome's College

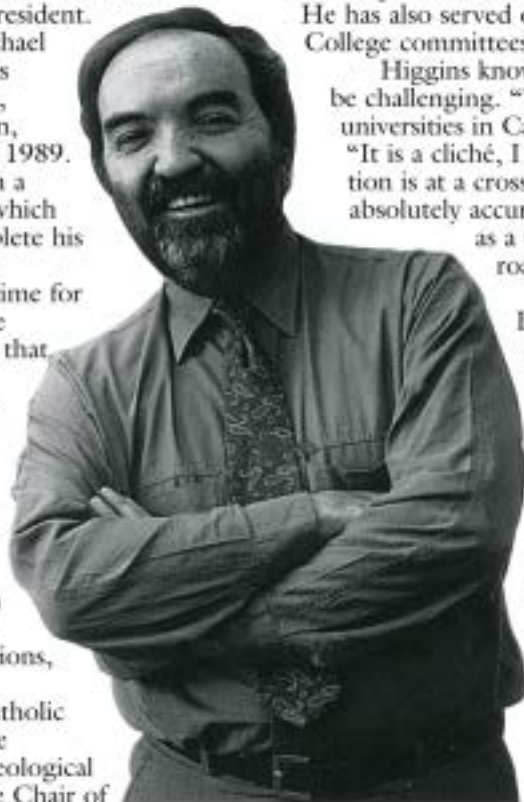
Do you know a high school student who might be interested in finding out more about studying Arts or Mathematics in a small community setting? If so, please contact Dana Woito, College Registrar, or Leisa Wellsman, Assistant to the Registrar, at (519) 884-8110.

Michael Higgins accepts the challenge

St. Jerome's College has a new Dean and Academic Vice-President. On July 1, 1995, Michael Higgins, who had served as Associate Dean since 1989, succeeded Ken McLaughlin, Dean of St. Jerome's since 1989.

McLaughlin has begun a two-year sabbatical leave, which will give him time to complete his book on the history of the University of Waterloo in time for UW's 40th anniversary. He expresses every confidence that St. Jerome's will flourish under Higgins' leadership. "Michael is a capable and gifted administrator," McLaughlin says, "with a passionate concern for the College and its students."

Since joining the St. Jerome's community in 1982, Higgins has held several administrative positions, including Director of the St. Jerome's Centre for Catholic Experience, Director of the Institute for Studies in Theological Renewal, and campus-wide Chair of



the Department of Religious Studies. He has also served on a number of Senate and College committees.

Higgins knows that his work as Dean will be challenging. "These are critical days for universities in Canada," Higgins observes. "It is a cliché, I think, to say that an institution is at a crossroads. But I think it is absolutely accurate to say that St. Jerome's, as a university college, is at a crossroads in terms of its future."

College President Doug Letson looks forward to continuing to work closely with Higgins. "Michael has served admirably as Associate Dean," Letson observes, "and has proven himself a competent administrator who can combine flights of vision with the mundane doggedness of administrative detail."

In addition to performing his administrative duties as Dean, Higgins will continue to teach in the departments of English and Religious Studies, to which he is cross-appointed. ☪

Prominent Israeli scholar visits College

This fall, St. Jerome's College was home base for Avraham Sela, a Professor of Middle-Eastern studies from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. As part of an initiative to establish a Jewish studies programme at the University of Waterloo and with the help of the Canada-Israel Foundation for Academic Exchanges, Sela spent six weeks on campus.

During his stay, he taught a history and political science course, was a guest lecturer in several other courses, and participated in student colloquia. In October, he gave a public lecture at St. Jerome's College entitled "The Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process: Toward a New Middle East?"

Sela began his talk by calling attention to the question mark at the end of his title. "Future relations between Israel and its neighbours," he told the St. Jerome's audience, "will be determined by the outcome of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. If it succeeds, then more doors will open for Israel in the Middle East."

A more stable relationship between Israel and its neighbours would have a profound effect not only on the Middle East, Sela says, but on Jews around the world. "I think that for many years, especially in North America, an endangered Israel has given Jewish communities a centre around which to rally, has given them a clear sense of purpose."

At UW, faculty, staff, and members of the local Jewish community are working together to establish a new Jewish studies programme or option at Waterloo. But until enough money can be raised to fund such an initiative, the group will keep Jewish studies alive at UW by bringing prominent Jewish scholars such as Sela to campus.

Sela welcomed the opportunity to broaden Western perspectives on the Middle East, "perspectives," he noted, "that are often narrowly shaped by the evening news." An expert on Arab-Israeli history, Sela brings both theoretical and practical knowledge of the Middle East to Western audiences. "I am not a typical scholar," he says. "I served as an intelligence officer in the Israeli army from 1970 to 1986, participated in the Israeli-Egyptian peace talks, and was involved in military negotiations with Lebanon. During the early '70s, I worked closely with Palestinians on the West Bank."

Sela's stay at St. Jerome's gave him a chance to get to know many members of the College community. And it seems the experience was a good one. "I haven't felt this at home since I left my mother's house," he says. ☪

Centre for Catholic Experience lectures

Thomas Fox, editor and associate publisher of the National Catholic Reporter in Kansas City, Missouri and Ann Copeland, well-known Canadian fiction writer, visited the College this fall as part of the St. Jerome's Centre for Catholic Experience's 1995-96 lecture series. Fox's lecture, "Catholicism at the Dawn of a New Century: Two Visions of Church Struggling to Emerge" explored two directions in which the Catholic church might move in the 21st century. Copeland's talk, "Creativity and the Catholic Context," looked at how religious background affects the imagination of writers. The complete text of her lecture will appear in the March 1996 issue of Grail.

Centre events scheduled for the winter include a concert by the Bach Kantate Singers and lectures by John Pugente, S.J., an expert on media literacy, and Maureen Dunne, a Newfoundland educator. For more information, contact John Theis, Director of the Centre, or Helen Heimpel, Secretary, at (519) 884-8110.



Avraham Sela, Professor of Middle-Eastern Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

That lilting Irish brogue people are hearing in the halls of St. Jerome's College these days belongs to John P. (Jack) Griffin, the College's new part-time Director of Development and Graduate Affairs, hired to replace Rob Donelson who left the College in the fall of '94.

Griffin had taken early retirement after 25 years as the Corporate Credit and Insurance Manager for S.C. Johnson and Son Ltd. of Brantford and was working as a consultant in Vancouver when he heard about the position at St. Jerome's. "My daughter Joanne, who was completing an honours degree at St. Jerome's, saw

Jack Griffin joins the team

a notice on the bulletin board advertising the position. She marched in and told President Doug Letson that I would be the best person for the job," Griffin says. Letson contacted Griffin and asked him to send in a resume, which he did, as did 85 other applicants. "To make a long story short," Griffin says, with a twinkle in his eye, "Doug Letson made the first mistake in his life."

Letson doesn't agree. "Jack brings a genuine and unqualified enthusiasm for St. Jerome's," he says, "having seen five of his six children graduate from the College, all of whom speak glowingly about who we are and what we do. He is widely respected province-wide for his many contributions to Roman Catholic education, and I am confident that his energy and experience will make him a very valued member of the St. Jerome's community."

Within the Roman Catholic educational system, Griffin has been a trustee for the Brant County Roman Catholic Separate School Board for the past eighteen years, twice as Chairman of the Board. Last year, he was re-elected as a trustee for a further three-year term. During the 1980s, Griffin served as Chair of the Board of Governors of St. John's College in Brantford, and was instrumental in co-ordinating a successful community fundraising campaign which raised approximately \$1 million to build an addition to St. John's.

Griffin also brings extensive management experience to the College. A graduate of the Credit Management Programme at the University of Toronto, Griffin currently holds the Fellow of the Credit Institute of Canada (FCI) designation. He has also completed a four-year management programme sponsored by the American Management Association of New York, and in 1994, was made an honorary lifetime member of the Hamilton Chapter of the Canadian Credit Institute.

As Director of Development and Graduate Affairs, Griffin is responsible for raising awareness of both the mission of the College and the financial support required to meet its various goals. Within weeks of his arrival, St. Jerome's entered



Photo: UW Central Photographics

into negotiations to purchase Notre Dame College, and suddenly Griffin was looking at launching a major capital campaign to fund not only the acquisition of Notre Dame, but the renovations necessary to amalgamate the cafeterias in the men's and women's residences. Then there was a change in government, and post-secondary institutions across Ontario are now facing major funding cuts.

"We'll need to raise about \$3.5 million over the next two or three years," Griffin says. "It's a lot of money for an institution this size, but I think, given the commitment people have to this College, we can do it."

One of Griffin's first undertakings as Director of Development and Graduate Affairs was to organize a golf tournament, which took place in late summer at the New Dundee Golf and Country Club. The event was billed as a chance for faculty, staff, and friends of the College to get together and have some fun, and over 70 people came out. "Doug Letson is the emerging Greg Norman," Griffin comments, "and Eric McCormack, J.A. Loftus, Gabe Niccoli, and Fred Desroches all played well. We raised about \$2,500 for the College, and next year we'll do even better."

During the coming year, Griffin will be launching the \$3.5 million capital campaign, as well as working to raise \$1 million for the John J. Wintermeyer Chair, currently occupied by J.A. Loftus. But he won't be doing it alone. "Fundraising, to me, is not an individual effort," Griffin says. "I'll be counting on each and every member of the Board of Governors, faculty, and staff to act as ambassadors for the College." 🍀



The 2nd Annual St. Jerome's Golf Tournament will take place Friday, July 12th at the New Dundee Golf and Country Club. Mark your calendar now!

Martyrs, bank robbers, and Jesuits

1995 saw at least three books published by faculty at St. Jerome's College, on subjects as diverse as 4th century Christian martyrs, bank robbery in Canada, and Jesuits around the world.

Carmeta Abbott of the French Department, with Hannah Fournier, a professor of French at UW, has prepared a critical edition of Alberte-Barbe, dame de Saint-Balmon's 17th-century play *Les Jumeaux martyrs*. Known by her contemporaries as "l'Amazone chrétienne," the Christian Amazon, Madame de Saint-Balmon was famous for both her courage and her piety. She was an expert horsewoman and strong fighter, and fiercely protected her land in times of war. Abbott speculates that *Les Jumeaux martyrs* was written to provide some kind of pious entertainment for her people. Abbott and Fournier are members of the MARGOT group in the Department of French Studies, a group of scholars who prepare critical editions and analyses of Medieval and Renaissance French texts using software developed by the Centre for the New Oxford English Dictionary at UW.

Fred Desroches of the Sociology Department at St. Jerome's has published *Force and Fear*, an investigation of robbery in the Canadian context. Based in part on interviews Desroches conducted with 80 convicted bank robbers, the book examines the characteristics of robbery, the social background and motivation of offenders, the interaction of robbers and their victims, and the criminal justice system's response to this crime.

John Orlando on the road to recovery

John Orlando's first visit to the College since he was involved in a serious car accident on Easter weekend brought smiles to many faces, not the least his own. Despite a steel plate in his hip, Orlando managed to make his way up and down stairs at the College and walked without a cane.

"Many people were pleased to see for themselves that he's okay, he's the same old John Orlando," commented fellow Psychology Professor Peter Naus. "He still has a ways to go, but his recovery has been quite remarkable."

Orlando, who after a lengthy hospital stay is recovering at his farm in Telford, Pennsylvania, was pleased to report that he's even been riding a few times. He expressed his gratitude for the tremendous support he and his wife Netty have received from the College. ☪

"Because of its sudden nature and the threat of death or serious injury," Desroches writes in his introduction, "robbery is one of the most feared crimes common to large urban centres."

Desroches makes some suggestions as to how government policy-makers, the police, and individuals can work to reduce the robbery rate and personal vulnerability, but acknowledges that no matter what we do, there will always be crime.

Michael Higgins, Dean and Professor of English and Religious Studies, and College President Doug Letson interviewed a rather different segment of society in the course of producing their latest collaborative effort, *The Jesuit Mystique*. Over a period of five years, they met with Companions of the Society of Jesus around the world, experiencing first-hand, as they describe it, "the magic of the mystique that continues to energize the Society more than 450 years after its founding."

In their book, Higgins and Letson let the Jesuits speak in their own voices. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society, speaks through his letters and his autobiography. "We have erected the same platform for his closest friend, Francis Xavier," they write, "whose published correspondence provides a living voice from the earliest Jesuit missions; and we have handed the microphone to hosts of other Jesuits from the sixteenth to the twentieth century. It is in their voices that we catch the cadences of what we have dubbed the Jesuit mystique." ☪

College mourns the death of Father Finn

The College community was saddened at the news of the death, on May 22, 1995, of Father John Finn, C.R., whose long association with St. Jerome's dates back to 1959. He was appointed Dean in 1961, when the College was still located in east-end Kitchener, and was instrumental in its move to the University of Waterloo campus in 1962. From 1965 until 1972 he served as President of the College, and continued teaching French until his retirement in 1986.

In 1991, he was honoured at a reunion organized by the St. Jerome's Graduates' Association and a scholarship for excellence in French was established in his name.

Then in 1993, the same year Father Finn marked his 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood, St. Jerome's named the J.R. Finn Men's Residence in his honour. ☪

Institute for Studies in Learning Disabilities lives on in video

In the Summer '94 issue, Update! informed readers of the phasing out of the St. Jerome's College Institute for Studies in Learning Disabilities. We also mentioned the possibility that the Institute would continue in a different form. Happily, that possibility has become a reality. Materials offered in Institute courses are now available in a series of videos.

The 22 tapes cover a broad range of topics presented by experts in the field who have participated in the Institute since its inception in the late '70s. John Orlando, Director of the Institute, and Associate Director Judy Van Evra have developed and written a study guide/workbook which accompanies the tapes.

For more information or to order the video series, please contact:

Institute for Learning Disabilities
3219 Yonge Street
Suite 159
Toronto, Ontario M4N 2L3

Phone: 1-800-758-5779
Fax: 1-800-758-5781

1995 Charity Run

In late September, more than 250 members of the St. Jerome's community took part in this year's Charity Run, raising just under \$5,000 for the Global Community Centre, a non-profit educational resource centre dedicated to promoting awareness of social and economic injustice around the world. The Charity Run was initiated in 1976 by two St. Jerome's students as a way of giving something back to the community in which St. Jerome's students live for eight months of the year. This year's Charity Run co-chairs were Calvin Chiu, Meg Gordon, and Debra Zanon.

After 34 years, the School Sisters of No

The early '60s were exciting years for the School Sisters of Notre Dame. They not only put aside the elaborate, flowing robes members of the order had worn since 1833 in favour of a new semi-tailored habit, but in the fall of 1962, the School Sisters of Notre Dame, long involved in education at the primary and secondary levels, founded Notre Dame College, a women's residence at St. Jerome's College, on the campus of the University of Waterloo.

Now, after 34 years, the Sisters are ready to move on. Although Notre Dame has flourished under their administration, on May 1, 1996 they will take their leave, turning the residence over to St. Jerome's College. "There are many women who never see a university campus," says Sister Celeste Reinhart, Director of

Notre Dame College, "and in these economic times, there are many women with serious financial needs. We feel called to those women. We go where there is a need," she explains, "and as soon as we see that need is fulfilled and there are other people who are quite capable of continuing to fulfill it, we move to another frontier."

In the early '60s, the Sisters saw the post-secondary education of women as a frontier. "It is very wrong to think that any talented girl in this age need not receive as complete an education as

possible," observed Sister Mary Leon, the first Director of Notre Dame College. "Women have taken their place in careers and professions alongside men. They have a distinct and very important contribution to make. The calibre of that contribution will depend upon the depth and the quality of the education they have received." So the Sisters founded a residence for women who wanted to continue their education at the university level.

When the residence opened its doors in the fall of 1962, it could accommodate about 40 women in single and double rooms. Each floor had a lounge and kitchenette. Other facilities in the residence included a chapel, a library, classrooms, and music rooms. The fee for a single room was \$720, including meals prepared by the Sisters. "Chili, cabbage rolls, and chop suey are favorite dishes," Sister Mary Leon reported.

During the spring and summer terms, rooms at the College were reserved for Sisters who were working toward university degrees. The College's current Director spent summers at the residence in the '60s while taking university courses. "We gathered here from across Canada, from England, from South America," Reinhart recalls. "We would talk! I remember specifically. We would talk all night long one night, and the next night we slept. We shared what was going on in our lives, where we were going, where we were having difficulties, what we were studying, and why we were studying. This place! If the walls could speak!"

Today, fajitas and tacos are among the most popular meals served at the College, and a single room costs \$2,540 a term. But the kind of talk

Although Notre Dame has flourished under their administration, on May 1, 1996 the School Sisters of Notre Dame will take their leave, turning the residence over to St. Jerome's College.

This photograph appeared in the Kitchener-Waterloo Record in the fall of 1963. The caption read, "Sisters socialize: A new stereo in the lounge of Notre Dame residence at St. Jerome's College, Waterloo attracts not only co-eds, but dean Sister M. Leon (left) and bursar Sister M. Stella, who like to do their few minutes of relaxing to music."

Photo: Kitchener-Waterloo Record Photographic Negative Collection, Denis Porter Library



Notre Dame are moving on

that Reinhart remembers from the early days is still an essential part of life at Notre Dame.

"There are too many opportunities to talk!" says Andrea Walsh, now in her second year in residence. "I say to my friends, 'Hey guys, it's one o'clock - I have to get to bed.' Then I'm saying 'Hey guys, it's two o'clock - I really have to get to bed.'" But she's not complaining. "This place is like home to me," Walsh admits. "When I walk through the doors, I feel like I'm home."

First-year student Colleen DeVries agrees. "I don't miss being at home because everyone here makes me feel at home," she says. But for DeVries, Notre Dame is more than just a place to live. She likes participating in events like the annual SJC Charity Run and takes an active part in organizing floor activities. "I believe in getting involved," she says. "It's a good way to build friendships. It's also a good way to test yourself, gain leadership skills that are going to be helpful in the future."

"This is not just a residence, providing a roof and three meals a day," Reinhart confirms. "There's something going on here and I hope that it has a rippling effect. I hope these women will always want to be active agents in the systems and the choices that affect them."

Doug Letson, President of St. Jerome's College, is grateful to the Sisters for the work they have done. "I have been impressed by the dedication of the Sisters, their genuine and characteristic concern for the well-being of the young women living in their residence," he says. "I have come to admire the Sisters with whom I have worked and I will miss our professional association." The challenge now facing St. Jerome's, Letson observes, will be to continue the work begun by the Sisters, to provide a residence for women that embodies the ideals of the Roman Catholic tradition within a modern university setting. "It is a challenge we fully intend to meet," he says.

"What I have tried to do at Notre Dame," Reinhart says, "is provide a place for everyone. We interview everyone who comes, and we choose residents in terms of the diversity they bring. There are people here from different cultures, nationalities, faiths, expressions of giftedness, expressions of brokenness. There's a loving place for everyone here."

Sister Rose Mary Sander, Provincial of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, notes that the Sisters are grateful that St. Jerome's College is willing to continue the work they began. "We thank St. Jerome's for their readiness to carry the ministry of Notre Dame College into the future."

The School Sisters of Notre Dame came to Canada in 1871 at the request of the Congregation of the Resurrection to establish an



Photo: Ron Hewison

orphanage at St. Agatha, where the priests ran a mission church. Shortly after their arrival, they were again invited to work with the Resurrectionists, this time in Berlin (now Kitchener), where they founded St. Mary's School in 1874.

Building on those early foundations, the School Sisters of Notre Dame and the Congregation of the Resurrection have served together not only in Canada but as far away as Bolivia. Father Lorford Keasey, C.R., Provincial Superior of the Congregation of the Resurrection, reacted "with both respect and regret to the decision taken by the School Sisters of Notre Dame to redirect their resources towards the urgent needs of society today." But Reinhart hopes that the departure of the Sisters will have a positive outcome.

When the Sisters leave, both Notre Dame College, which the Sisters have asked be renamed as a means of bringing closure to their work there, and the J.R. Finn Residence for men will come under the administration of St. Jerome's College. "It will be like one residence with two wings. I hope that the gift that we bring by stepping back is that the men and women in residence will be encouraged to dialogue together." ☪

These days, most socializing takes place in the mail room at Notre Dame College. Sister Celeste Reinhart, standing in the doorway, chats with one of the residents.

"In these economic times, there are many women with serious financial needs," says Sister Celeste Reinhart, Director of Notre Dame College. "We feel called to those women."

Members of the St. Jerome's community and friends and former residents of Notre Dame College are invited to a homecoming at the College on March 2nd, 1996. Events will include an open house and a dinner dance. If you're interested in helping organize these events or if you'd like further information, please write to Notre Dame College, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G2, phone Shauna at (519) 884-2460, or send e-mail to aewyglad@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca.

Papal Politics vs. Sexual Politics:

This fall, Michael Higgins, Dean of St. Jerome's College, gave the 11th Annual Graduates' Association Lecture at the College. A Professor of Religious Studies and English, Higgins is co-author of many books including, most recently, *The Jesuit Mystique*, a writer and broadcaster for the CBC, a documentary and film consultant, editor of *Grail: An Ecumenical Journal*, and a columnist for *The Toronto Star*. Here is an abridged version of his talk.

I had a dream, nightmare some would say, and in that dream I found Karol Wojtyla – *pontifex maximus*; philosopher; and theologian – engaged in a cordial and mutually respectful dialogue with Michele Landsberg – *Toronto Star* columnist; feminist; activist.

In my dream they were friends.

Strange dream, isn't it? But should it be? Think of it. They have a lot in common. They are strong characters; keenly committed to justice as they see it; forthright in the communication of their opinions; passionate people and caring; inclined to be intolerant of opposing views; tempted to stridency of position and tone; disposed to take the moral high road and remind everyone of it.

Well, it was only a dream. The divide is too great. I wouldn't undertake to effect a *modus vivendi* between them. After all, who am I to try? But I do want to try to cast some light on one of them, to try to make some sense of the great divide between papal and sexual politics.

On the fundamental question of the dignity of women, John Paul II's views seem to me a strange admixture of quirky anthropology and idiosyncratic theology.

Pope John Paul II, Karol Wojtyla, is a man shaped by the horrors of our century. He has known the terror of the swastika and of the hammer and sickle; he has been hunted, interned, censored, persecuted, driven underground, a reluctant witness to the disappearance of the innocent, fully defiant in the face of the totalitarian juggernaut. He takes ideologies very seriously; philosophical systems aren't a trifle for him.

There have been constants in his thinking, a thinking inextricably woven with the fabric of his Polish experience, and these constants include a deep co-sympathy with the Jewish people; a vigorous defense of human rights, specifically the imperilled rights of the marginalized, the aboriginal peoples, the defenceless; *engagement* with contemporary culture and science; a vigorous articulation of the critical role of Mary in the history of salvation and as the prism of his own piety; a novel and concrete exploration of the true meaning of solidarity; a creative unfolding of a transcendent and an integral humanism.

His pontifical leadership, however, is not without its deficiencies. Strong and driven personalities are often intolerant of dissenting opinion and John Paul II has little stomach for dissent.

He confounds uniformity with unity. A man who can bring down regimes has little truck with a loyal opposition within the ranks. And on the fundamental question of the dignity of women, his views seem to me a strange admixture of quirky anthropology and idiosyncratic theology.

But he is, unquestionably, a towering figure.

John Paul invites controversy. People are simply not indifferent to him, his position, his views. In the last year alone several articles in first quality U.S. magazines have profiled the man: *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *The New York Times Magazine*. And all favourably. His autobiographical *Crossing the Threshold of Hope* enjoyed international bestseller status for many months.

Four biographies are scheduled to appear or have already done so, and several of his pre-pontifical writings – his doctoral dissertation in theology; his philosophical work; his poetry and drama – maintain an enviously steady readership. People may not like what he says but they are fascinated with what he says. And one has to ask: why?

Perhaps by looking at John Paul's most recent work, *Evangelium vitae* (*The Gospel of Life*), we can gather some idea about that "why."

In Chapter One, John Paul makes clear his case: euthanasia, abortion, contraception, sterilization, doctor-assisted suicide, in vitro fertilization,

surrogacy, and the death penalty are all manifestations, symptoms, of a world held captive by an ideology and ethic deeply hostile to the Christian worldview.

The pope outlines the consequences of a notion of freedom that is uni-dimensional, defined in terms of individual rights only, disengaged from truth, grounded on "the shifting sands of complete relativism." He reviews the Roman Catholic position on many highly controverted areas of sexual morality and restates the church's uncompromising opposition to any technological undertaking that further sunders the integral relationship of the procreative with the unitive in every single act of sexual intercourse.

The pope doesn't hesitate to scold nations that enact legislation that diminishes human life in all its forms. He wrestles with the complex issue of civil and moral law and has little time for a morality governed by poll, personal whim, social licence, or majority opinion. He also makes it clear that he has little patience for dissent in these critical matters, especially dissent in those quarters where adherence to the organic teaching of the church is vital.

The bottom line, if you like, of the encyclical's argument is simply this: the essential connection between life and freedom and between freedom and truth is at the heart of an authentic culture of life.

Before the publication of *Evangelium vitae*, we had the Cairo International Conference on

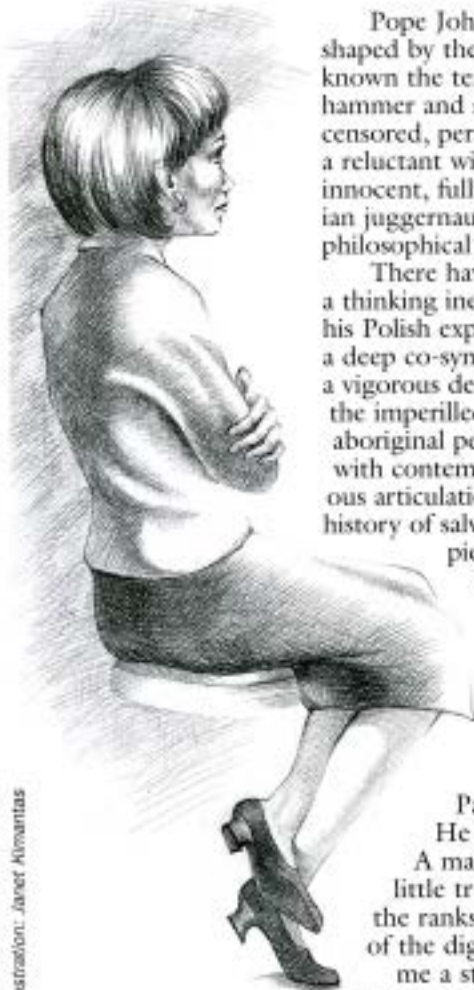


Illustration: Janet Almantas

Never the twain shall meet?

Population and Development, and following very shortly after its publication we had the Beijing conference. Both of these conferences involved significant input from the Holy See. In the case of Cairo we had considerable controversy over the Vatican's opposition to issues of reproductive freedom, sex education, and planned parenthood. The Holy See responded to the aggressively-driven platform by playing the integrity of life argument from conception and by underscoring the critical role of the parents in matters of sex education and family planning. The Vatican delegation was composed of men – nearly all clerics – and they found themselves pitted against a formidable consortium of women's groups, NGOs, and left-leaning governments. They often found themselves linked by the media with Latino governments enmeshed in the sinister world of machismo with its dread of liberal values, or forming unholy alliances with Islamic fundamentalists hellbent on preserving the pernicious enslavement of women. This is the stuff of dangerous stereotyping. It was a sorry mess. But the Vatican survived and managed to score major points on the abortion issue in the final Cairo document. And the Vatican survived, despite calls for the formal revocation of its international status as a member state of the U.N. and despite a universal uproar in liberal Catholic circles over Vatican politicking. And the Vatican survived the scores of editorials that eulogized its hitherto distinguished, if not occasionally arcane, record of achievement.

The Vatican arrived in Beijing this past September not a pariah as had been prophesied, but humbled by its previous experience, with a majority-of-women delegation headed by the respected U.S. jurist Mary Ann Glendon, Professor of Law at Harvard University. It again negotiated significant changes and enjoyed the

"It is impossible to imagine the Pope talking about the genius of Men, thanking them for their special role in

confidence of Gertrude Mongella, secretary-general of the U.N. conference, and even merited muted approval from one of the hard-line Vatican critics, Baroness Chalker, the British minister for Overseas Development.

At the Cairo and Beijing conferences, in his various publications and addresses, John Paul celebrates the equality and full dignity of women. But it is often of women as type rather than of women as persons that he speaks and writes. It's what he knows. It is reminiscent of the argumentation and discourse of the concluding Address to Women delivered at the final Session of the Second Vatican Council – quaint, civil, rhapsodic, and disturbingly unreal.


There are many who disagree with this papal view of women's contribution to humankind. And perhaps the substance of that disagreement is most persuasively encapsulated in a *Tablet* piece by Catholic journalist and *Evening Standard* columnist Melanie McDonagh, who reminds us of the great divide separating papal and sexual politics:

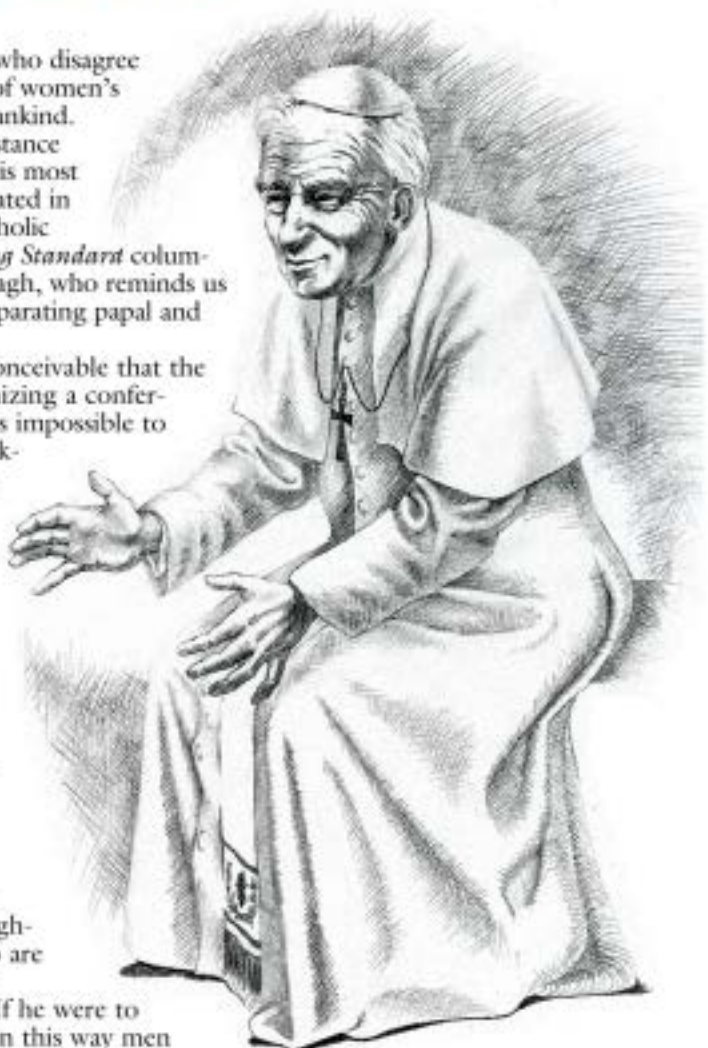
"It is simply inconceivable that the U.N. could be organizing a conference about Men. It is impossible to imagine the Pope talking about the genius of Men, thanking them for their special role in the world....just take the way the Pope addressed women: 'Thank you, women who are mothers....You become God's own smile upon the newborn child....Thank you, women who are wives....Thank you, women who are daughters and women who are sisters....Thank you, women who work.' If he were to address his own sex in this way men would not know what to make of it....But we are [just as] unlikely to patronise men by holding U.N. conferences about them....It is bad enough to have minority status if, by race, religion or whatever, you are actually in a minority. But to pretend to minority status when you are the tougher, healthier part of the population,

the world....If he were to address his own sex in this way men would not know what to make of it...."

the part that reads more, goes to prison less and to church more...that is bizarre."

A reasonable, if not bracing, corrective for a world of conflicting anthropologies, lacerating rhetoric, and polarizing postures.

We need to attend to the writings of John Paul with a critical eye and a nod of sympathy. His is the voice of a reasoned and firm conservatism. For some it is a voice that is simply the final word. But for others, an invitation to reflect critically on a vital faith and integrated morality. 



A cassette tape of the 11th Annual Graduates' Association Lecture can be obtained for \$6.00. Send your request and make your cheque payable to the St. Jerome's Centre for Catholic Experience.

Dave Augustyn to co-ordinate graduate activities



A St. Jerome's graduate, Dave Augustyn (BA'95, Political Science), has been appointed Co-ordinator of Graduate Affairs, filling part of a position that had been left vacant since Rob Donelson's departure from the College late in 1994. Reporting to Jack Griffin, Director of Development and Graduate Affairs, Augustyn will be responsible for developing and co-ordinating graduate activities.

"My first priority is to re-establish the Executive Team of the Graduates' Association," Augustyn says. "I will rely on them to tell me what they, as grads, want, what their friends want. My role will be to support the Executive in their efforts to pull events together."

Photo: Ron Hewson

Next on his agenda is working with the Executive to set up chapters of the Association in other cities. "We almost have a Kitchener-Waterloo chapter now," Augustyn comments. During homecoming weekend in November, Augustyn helped local graduates organize a family skating party at the Rink in the Park in Waterloo. "We could establish chapters and organize events in Hamilton, Brantford, Toronto, perhaps even Ottawa," he suggests.

"One of my longer-term goals is to strengthen the link between current students and grads," Augustyn says, "to show students what grads do, what they're involved in. And to make sure they know that they can stay involved with the College even after graduation. Learning never stops at this place. Our grads can learn from us, learn with us, help us learn."

Augustyn is a great believer in life-long learning. He continues to take classes to help prepare himself for graduate school. "I think I may do graduate work in social welfare studies, at some point," he says. But Augustyn doesn't confine his learning to an institutional setting. "I've just started volunteering at a House of Friendship group home in Kitchener," he says, "because I want to get a sense of what things are like for people who are directly affected by welfare policies. If I'm ever going to become involved in social welfare at the political level, I want to have a feel for a different reality than what I've experienced."

Lately, the reality he's experienced has been good. "After I graduated, I married Carol Berkhout (BA'95, Political Science and Sociology), who I'd been going out with for a number of years. It's wonderful being married," he says with a smile. "I recommend it to everyone." ☺

Do you know a distinguished graduate?

Nominations are now being accepted for the 1996 Fr. Norm Choate Distinguished Graduate Award, established to honour a St. Jerome's graduate or former resident who has given outstanding service to his or her community, province, or country; career; church; St. Jerome's College and/or its Graduates' Association. Please forward your nomination, along with three references, to Dave Augustyn by March 1, 1996.

Paul Tratnyek honoured for contributions to school, church, and community

Close friends and colleagues of Paul Tratnyek (BA'75, Philosophy), recipient of the 1995 Fr. Norm Choate Distinguished Graduate Award, say that "when Paul feels that something is a good idea, he will go for it without hesitation."

At St. Mary's High School in Kitchener, for example, where he has served as Chaplain for the past seven years, Tratnyek has developed an OAC Sociology course which culminates in a visit to the Dominican Republic to allow students to witness first-hand the plight of the poor in that country. And he and his wife Teresa have been actively involved in the Christian Life Community movement, a global movement consisting of small communities of lay people who support one another in living a spiritual lifestyle.

The Tratnyeks regularly open up their home to others. At their

farm near Shakespeare, they hold dinners for members of Stratford's L'Arche community, pig roasts for the entire staff of St. Mary's High School and their families, and retreats and gatherings for various groups of students from the school. One of Tratnyek's long-term dreams is for his farm to become a retreat centre.

In his acceptance speech, Tratnyek noted that the values he encountered as a student at St. Jerome's – meaningful relationships, reflective living, honesty, trust, authenticity, and forgiveness enveloped in faith – have become even more relevant to him over the years.

He thanked members of the College community "for the contribution the University of St. Jerome's College has made not only to my life experience, but to the life experience of so many." ☺



Photo: Ron Hewson

CLASS notes

'63 J.G. (Jim) Gleason (BA'63, Philosophy) lives in Deep River, Ontario and works as a real estate salesman for Royal LePage.

'67 Patrick O'Neill (BA'67, English) is a professor in the Speech and Drama Department at Mount St. Vincent University. His book *Theatre in the Arctic* will be published shortly, and he is currently working on a history of Nova Scotia theatre. Pat and his wife Diane live in Halifax.

'69 Jack Paleczny (BA'69, Geography) is Chaplain at St. Joseph's Hospital and Home, a long-term care facility in Guelph. Jack, his wife Dianna Lynn, and two stepsons live in Waterloo.

'71 Barbara Paleczny, SSND (BA'71, Religious Studies) recently completed a Doctoral degree in Social Ethics and Theology at Regis College, Toronto School of Theology, and has accepted a position as Theological Reflection Animator at the Jesuit Centre for Social Faith and Justice in Toronto.

'76 Janet Dalicandro (BMath '76, Combinatorics and Optimization) was recently promoted from Managing Director, Canada, to Executive Vice-President and General Manager, International Operations, of SpectraVision of Canada, Inc., in Brampton. Janet is married to Doug Thompson and has a 17-year-old stepson, Trevor.

'78 Maria Marino (BA'78) co-ordinated what is believed to be Canada's first international humour conference in Ottawa this past June 16 and 17. Maria is president of her own business, called *Swinging on a Cloud*.

'79 Kelly J. Moynihan (BSc'79, Chemistry) recently moved from Calgary, Alberta to Houston, Texas to take up a three- to five-year foreign assignment with Exxon Production Research Company. Initially, he will be working for Exxon Company U.S.A. on the Exxon Valdez litigation team as a fisheries analyst/scientist. Prior to moving to Houston, Kelly was the waste management specialist for Imperial Oil Resources Ltd. Kelly and his wife Kathy have three daughters: Jaci, 10, Nicki, 7, and Sandi, 4.

'82 Vera Keutsch (née Laan, BMath'82) and her husband celebrated the birth of a son, Benjamin James, on April 23, 1995. Ben weighed 8 lbs., 10 oz., and is welcomed by big sister Vanessa, 2. Vera is enjoying life at home in Scarborough with her children.

Tom Pratt (BA'82, Psychology) married Sharon Fereirra in Bermuda on May 7, 1995. Tom, a detective constable, has been on the Bermuda Police Force for ten years. He sends this special message to Geets and Quinner: "Too funny, much later."

'86 Carole (née Couto, BMath'86, Computer Science) and J.D. Yari (BA'86, Psychology) were married after graduation in April 1986, and toured Europe before settling in Waterloo. J.D. is now an account manager for a food brokerage firm in Toronto, Futura Food Sales and Marketing Limited. Carole works as an applications development manager for Programmed Insurance Brokers in Elmira. J.D. and Carole welcomed their first child, Bruce Joseph, on December 5, 1994.

'87 Caroline Mucci-Riddell (BA'87, MA'88, History) and husband Brian celebrated the birth of a son, Neil, on November 6, 1993. Caroline is back at work at Ascension High School in Mississauga.

Paula Nowak-Droog (BA'87, Recreation and Leisure Studies) and her husband Paul celebrated the arrival of Jacara Paige, weighing 7 lbs., 11 oz., on April 21, 1995. Jacara is a new sister for Kayla, 6; and Kyra, 4. Paula received her Masters of Education from Western in 1993 and teaches grade one at St. Ambrose School in Stratford. She also co-authored an activity book to accompany the cassette of children's music that her husband and his group, Picks and Sticks, recorded in April 1994. Paula, Paul, and their children continue to farm outside of St. Mary's, Ontario.

Stella (née Gualtieri, BA'87, French) and Mike Paola (BMath'88) welcomed their third child, Nicole Catherine, on June 4, 1995. Big brothers Christopher, 4, and Jordan, 18 months, are simply ecstatic. Stella continues to work part-time at Resurrection C.S. School in Kitchener in the Religion Department, though she is contemplating taking some time off to keep up with her three little "busy bodies." Mike works at Watcom as the manager of their technical support department. The Paolas recently built a new home in Waterloo to make room for their growing family.

'88 Joanne (née Brown, BMath'88) and Greg Milligan (BMath'89, Combinatorics and Optimization) and their son, Ian, moved on July 1 to Edinburgh, Scotland where Greg has taken a one-year contract job with the Royal Bank of Scotland.



Photo: Joanne Bruder

Clem Bruder (BA'61, Philosophy) has been Principal of St. Peter's High School in Peterborough since 1980. His son, John Bruder (BMath'87) is Vice President in charge of information systems for T.E. Financial Consultants in Toronto, and his daughter, Catherine Bruder (BA'89, English) is practicing law with the firm Lawson, McGrenere, Wesley, Rose and Clemenhagen, also in Toronto.

Hey SJC Grads!

Have you moved? Changed jobs? Married? Any additions to the family? Help us keep your fellow grads informed by filling out and returning this form. We'll publish your news, along with a photo, if there's room, in SJC Update.

Name (Please include your birth name)

Address

Telephone

Year of graduation

Degree/Programme

I.D. #

Are you working?

Job title

Employer

Address

Telephone

Are you married?

Spouse's name

Is your spouse an SJC grad?

Year of graduation

Degree/Programme

I.D. #

What's new in your life?

Please return this form to:

Dave Augustyn
Co-ordinator of Graduate Affairs
University of St. Jerome's College
Waterloo Ontario N2L 3G3
Phone: (519) 884-8111, ext. 230
Fax: (519) 884-5759

You can also send e-mail to:
daugusty@uwaterloo.ca



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'89 T.J. Fournier (BA'89) became Pastor of St. Monica's Church in the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie in July, 1995.

Lisa (née Brueckman, BA'89, Sociology) and Dave Sangster welcomed Morgan Anne on July 14, 1994, a new sister for Molly, 3. Lisa returned to her job as a community support worker with the Canadian Mental Health Association this past May.

'90 Guy D'Amours (BA'90, Philosophy) received his teaching certificate from the Université de Québec à Hull this past spring. Guy lives in Val-des-Monts, Québec.

Robert Pappin (BA'90) was ordained a priest on May 12, 1995 at Christ the King Church in Sudbury, and has been appointed to St. Gerard Majella in Sault Ste. Marie. Robert obtained his STB from St. Paul's University in Ottawa, and his MDiv from St. Augustine's Seminary, Toronto School of Theology.

Jamie Terpstra (BMath'90, Operations Research) and his wife Susan welcomed son Ryan James, weighing in at 9 lbs., 7 oz., on April 1, 1995. In July, the family moved to a new house in Hyde Park, Ontario, just outside of London. Jamie works as a programmer/analyst in the quality assurance area for sales and service technology at Canada Trust in London.

'91 Britta Bia (BSc'91) works at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital in London, England. She studies childhood leukaemia and is working on a rapid screening system for identifying particular leukaemias. Britta finds the work "frustrating at times, but very rewarding."

'92 Brian Allison (BA'92 Psychology, BA'94 Social Development Studies) married Lisa Groulx on May 21, 1994. Lisa is a childcare worker for the Waterloo YMCA childcare centre, while Brian continues his position as an adult developmental services instructor with K-W Habilitation Services. The couple resides in Kitchener.

Michael Clifton (BA'92, Philosophy) recently completed his MA in Philosophy at UW. He is now the editor/publisher of *The Toronto Journal of Interfaith Dialogue*, which he launched in December of last year at the Multi-faith Festival of the Family in Toronto.

'93 Katie Donohue (BA'93, English) has graduated from the University of Guelph with a Master's degree in English Language and Literature (specialization in Children's Literature). Some of her work appeared recently in *Canadian Children's Literature*. Katie, who is attending teacher's college at Western this fall, writes, "Thanks to Ted McGee and the SJC English Department for the inspiration to further my studies beyond the undergrad level!"

Michael Fischer (BA'93, English) graduated from the University of Toronto's Faculty of Education in June 1994. He is currently employed at MacDonald Steel Plant 2 in Woodstock.

Cindy Hain (BA'93, Psychology) completed her training as a personnel selection officer in the Canadian Armed Forces in April 1995 and has been posted to CFB Halifax for four years. Cindy and her husband are enjoying their first Atlantic Canada experience, as well as "loving every minute of being homeowners."

'94 Kathleen O'Mara (BA'94, Religious Studies) has left Kenora, Ontario and now works as a chaplain at Blessed Trinity High School in Grimsby, Ontario.

'95 Dave Augustyn (BA'95 Political Science) and Carol Berkhout (BA'95 Political Science and Sociology) were married on June 10th, 1995 in Fenwick, Ontario. Dave is part-time Co-ordinator of Graduate Affairs at St. Jerome's College and Carol is a teaching assistant at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate in Kitchener.

Leanne Schonberger (nee Henry, BA'95 Religious Studies) and husband Mike (a WLU grad - horrors!) were blessed with a son, Luke Michael, on September 28, 1995. The Schonbergers live in Woodstock, Ontario.

Want to get involved?

Then why not join the Executive Team of SJC's Graduates' Association? The Executive Team works hard to keep SJC grads active, informed, and involved in the life of the College. If you're interested in finding out more, contact Dave Augustyn, Co-ordinator of Graduate Affairs, at (519) 884-8111, ext. 230 or daugusty@watserv1.uwaterloo.ca.