President’s Dinner

Alvernia hosted its annual President’s Dinner, last evening to honor organizations and individuals who have made a significant impact on the University and its surrounding community. This year’s recipients were Paul R. Roedel (Franciscan Award), Berks Women in Crisis (Pro Urbe Award), and Mary’s Home/Mary’s Shelter (Pro Urbe Award).

Although he retired as President of Carpenter Technology in 1992, Paul Roedel has been a tireless leader in advocating for women and education through the Reading and Berks County region—an interest strongly shared by Alvernia University. “Paul Roedel has served this community so long and so well, one might think that he came here as a missionary to serve these people and this community,” said Michael Pressimone (IA).

“Fortunately for Berks County,” explained Pressimone, “Paul’s retirement from the corporate world did not extend to his commitment to public service. His work in the nonprofit sector over the years has made area foundations more effective and organizations stronger, enabling a more efficient delivery of much-needed community services.”

Mary’s Shelter/Mary’s Home and Berks Women in Crisis (BWIC) received this year’s Pro Urbe Award, which recognizes organizations that perform significant community service and contribute to a higher standard of living in Berks County and the surrounding communities. Both organizations are located in Reading, and share Alvernia’s mission to reach out and help make transformational change for women in need.

The event was attended by about 250 local business and community leaders, university trustees, faculty, and administrators. Click here for more details.

Tip of the Week...

Mark your calendar for an Interfaith Peace Breakfast Monday, October 26, at 8AM
Student Center—Private Dining Suite

Upcoming Events

10/16-17 Homecoming Weekend
10/16 Alvernia Book Club Meeting (Shander) 6PM
10/18 Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet
10/18 Spaghetti Dinner (Polish Room) 8PM
10/19 Annual Poetry Contest (Library) 1PM
10/19 Death Penalty Speaker (Shander) 6PM
10/20 Lee Woodruff lecture (Library) 7PM
10/21 On-campus recruiter—Bayada Nurses (SC) 12PM
10/21 Ruth White lecture (Library) 1PM
10/21 Fair Trade Coffeehouse (Crusader) 8PM
10/21-23 St. Anthony Scavenger Hunt
10/22 Seok/Lucht Lit Fest Lecture (BH-LH) 12:30PM
10/23 Alvernia Writers’ Series (Library) 1PM
10/23 Haunted House Trip (Leave SC) 7PM

Home Athletic Contests

10/17 Field Hockey vs Shenandoah 1PM
10/17 Men’s Soccer vs Lycoming 3:30PM
10/17 Women’s Soccer vs Lycoming 7PM
10/20 Women’s Tennis vs DeSales 4PM
10/20 Women’s Soccer vs Albright 7PM
10/21 Field Hockey vs Widener 4PM
10/21 Men’s Soccer vs Albright 7PM
10/23 Ice Hockey vs St. Vincent 8PM

Check out the Athletics website: http://athletics.alvernia.edu/
Support Alternative Break Trips

Each year, faculty, staff, and students travel to Santo Domingo to work with the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters on a variety of projects including working in the health clinic, education, sports and recreation, arts and crafts, and visits to the sick and families of the children in St. Francis School. This year our trip is again full, and we have also partnered with Volunteers in Mission who have recruited three professionals—a doctor, lawyer, and a computer systems specialist to travel with us and assist with our work.

The Alvernia community has been very generous in the past with donations, and are again invited to participate in an All Campus Service Project with their students, colleagues and friends in support of the Santo Domingo mission project. Supplies are needed by December 1, 2009. Contact Judy Bohle (x5509) for details.

Alvernia in the NEWS...

“Alvernia salutes community service” was the title of a Reading Eagle article (published today) about awards given at the annual President’s Dinner. Click here for the full story.

A graduate-level education course at Alvernia University was mentioned in a Reading Eagle article entitled, “Educator predicts revolution in teaching,” on October 4. The article was about public schools shifting to use more technology in teaching, and said that 45 teachers took “Teaching and Technology in the 21st Century” as part of their summer training.

Advance for Nurses recently published an article by Debbie Greenawald (nursing) entitled, “SOS’ for Nursing Students” in its publication. The article detailed using a self-care component in nursing coursework at Alvernia University.

Student News

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Faculty & Staff News

Anne Fink (nursing) has published an article, “Toward a New Definition of Health Disparity: A Concept Analysis,” in the October 2009 issue of the peer-reviewed Journal of Transcultural Nursing, 20(4), 349-357. The journal is internationally distributed.

BRAND SCENE INVESTIGATOR

Kudos to Scott Ballantyne (business), Sister Dougherty (education), Mary Ann Hayes (education), Jonathan Silver (business), and Jerry Vigna (ph.d.) for opening their classrooms to photographers this week as the marketing department looked to get updated graduate classroom photography.
Taking Five with Zane Gizzi

As Director of Gift Planning (since July 6), Zane Gizzi’s roll is to educate members of the Alvernia family about the benefits (for both the donor and university) of making planned gifts and to assist individuals in fulfilling their desire to make a difference at Alvernia.

Zane grew up in Warren (OH) and attended Westminster College in western Pa. After his first job in the admissions office at Xavier University (OH) he returned to Warminster, where he spent nine years in admissions. After marrying Melissa in 1993 and moving to central Pa, Zane worked in the annual fund office at Elizabethtown College, followed by 11 years in the advancement office of Lancaster Catholic HS.

Zane and Melissa live in Elizabethtown with their two daughters. Morgan (who turns 14 tomorrow) is passionate about horses—especially Charlie, a six-year-old quarter horse who she refers to as her “baby.” Katie (11) loves gymnastics and can’t go through the day without doing cartwheels, even in the house. Zane also has a grown stepdaughter, who is married with two children.

One of five children, Zane has three brothers and a sister.

Two of my brothers received the highest possible score on the LSAT exam, but only one is a practicing attorney. The other attorney is the Director of Development for USA Hockey. My third brother just returned from Africa after a five-year stint as Associate Director of Peace Corps Operations in Senegal. My sister is a registered nurse in Kent (OH).

Cleveland Browns all the way…

Yes, I am a huge football fan (especially college) so I think this is a great time of year. As a history major, I love museums, historical sites, and books about anything old (like me!), especially those dealing with military history. Before I was married, I took a week of vacation to tour civil war battlefields, and my friends informed me that is why I travel alone! However, with two middle-schoolers, I now spend my time chauffeuring them to events and activities, wishing I had such an extensive social life.

Fostering family togetherness…

In 1985, I backpacked through Europe for a month with three of my siblings, and in 1993, I was spent a month in Eastern Switzerland as part of a Rotary International Group Study Exchange of young professionals. In 1973, my family (seven people) spent seven weeks touring the western US in a pick-up camper. Talk about fostering family togetherness!

What do you think about Alvernia so far?

Alvernia is a gem with such a bright future. The thing which has impressed me the most is our commitment to mission. I am new to the Franciscan/Bernardine tradition, and I am still learning what that all means, but I am inspired by the way it informs all that we do. No other institution at which I have worked has been as focused on mission as AU, and I think that really sets us apart.

What is the best part about your job?

There are two aspects that stand out for me. The first is that I get to meet so many extraordinary people who deeply love this institution and care about its future. The second is that I have the opportunity, through the St. Clare Society, of saying “thank you” to the selfless individuals who choose to make the ultimate commitment to Alvernia. It is a joy to acknowledge and recognize their devotion to this school.

Making a planned gift, whether it is a bequest, charitable gift annuity, a gift of life insurance or an IRA, or even a trust, doesn’t have to be complicated—or be a seven figure amount (although those are nice, too!) All that is really required is a passion for Alvernia and the desire to make a difference for future generations. There is no greater evidence of a person’s allegiance to this institution than including Alvernia in his/her estate plans. It is the ultimate expression of belief in our mission.

Rumor Has It…

Coming Events at St. Joseph Villa (all events are held in the Library/Main Activity Room):

• Books Fair, October 16 (1-4PM).

• Annual Craft Sale, November 18. Baked goods and homemade soup will also be offered.

Do you have news?
Send it to: Carey.Manzolillo@alvernia.edu

What always ends everything?

Be the first to answer correctly!
Send your answer to: Carey.Manzolillo@alvernia.edu

Bragging rights for last week go to Beth DeMeo, communication. Answer: The outside of the cow.