Alvernia University in the Community

President Flynn honored by Catholic Charities

The Diocese of Allentown held its second annual Catholic Charities Gala honoring Dr. Thomas Flynn (President of Alvernia) and Very Reverend Bernard F. O’Connor, OSFS (President of DeSales University), on February 22.

The two were honored by Bishop Cullen and Catholic Charites for their commitment to the education of students in the field of Human Services, through course curriculum and community outreach programs.

"Those of us fortunate to work at Alvernia share a vocation motivated by a profound sense of service, rooted in a commitment to education," said Dr. Flynn. "Fostering our students' growth—intellectual, social, emotional, and spiritual—and supporting our students' quest for professions that are callings, is serious work worthy of a career and a life."

Fifty-one students at Alvernia were majoring in social work as of Fall 2008. Hundreds of others are preparing to work in helping professions.

Tip of the Week...

Take a break from grading papers during Spring Break, and get some FREE technology training courtesy of Alvernia’s Edu Tech department.

Workshops:
- Classroom Technology Training (Mar 2 and Mar 5)
- Blackboard CE 4 (Mar 3)
- Powerpoint (Mar 4)
- Photoshop (Mar 4)
- Illustrator (Mar 4)
- Blogging (Mar 5)
- Podcasting (Mar 5)
- MS Word 2007 (Mar 6)

Contact Krista Gilbert for more information.

Upcoming Events

2/27 Residence Halls Close 6PM
2/28–3/7 Alternative Break in El Salvador
2/28–3/7 Alternative Break in Baltimore
3/2–3/6 Spring Break
3/2 Classroom Technology Training 2PM
3/3 Berks College Fair (PEC) 8:45AM
3/3 Blackboard CE 4 11AM
3/4 Powerpoint 11AM
3/4 Photoshop 1PM
3/4 Illustrator 3PM
3/5 Blogging 1PM
3/5 Podcasting 3PM
3/6 MS Word 2007 2PM

Home Athletic Contests

3/10 Men’s Tennis vs. Neumann 3:30PM

Check out the Athletics website: http://athletics.alvernia.edu/
Faculty & Staff News

Donna Yarri, theology, and Marc Lucht, philosophy, have just received a book contract for their co-edited volume entitled *Kafka's Creatures*, which explores the use of animals in Kafka’s writings. The book should be out late 2009 or early 2010.

Jennifer Michalik, music, (soprano, Artist-in-Residence) sang in the Carnegie Hall Festival Chorus under renowned conductor Helumt Rilling on February 14 in New York City. The number of Alvernia students electing to take music lessons in voice and piano has risen dramatically this year, due to the addition of Michalik (to full-time) and Randel Wolfe as an adjunct.

Student News

The South Reading Youth Initiative returned to Alvernia on Saturday, February 21, as the last leg of a three-part service experience with the men’s basketball team.

The kids sat with game programs and proudly showed off their previously made posters that displayed the names and jersey numbers of their favorite players.

The basketball team had a huge crowd for their last home game, which was also Senior Day. Family, friends, classmates, and the SRYI kids were accompanied by another youth group from Lauer’s Park.

As a special treat, players signed photos for the kids after the game.

“It was great to watch the interaction during the three days we were together,” said assistant coach Dan Hartzman. “By the time they were here for our game, most of the students knew all of our players by name and vice versa. They had one of the loudest cheering sections at the game and it was really noticed and appreciated.” [Click here for the full story](#).

Alvernia in the NEWS...

Alvernia was the subject of a full-page article in the *AD Times*, on February 19, for its new Community Engagement classification, awarded by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The article included photos of President Tom Flynn, Alicia Sprow (graduate assistant and doctoral candidate), Shirley Williams (provost), and the standing-room-only press conference held in the Franco Library Bonaventure Room.

LaSalle University’s *Collegian* (February 19) reported Joseph Cicala’s move to Alvernia University, quoting Cicala, “There was just something about the way the [Alvernia] community portrayed itself on its website that attracted me to it. It has the spirit of growth, of energy, that reflects its relative youth as an institution.” Cicala said that once he visited the campus, he discovered that his initial beliefs were well-founded.

BRAND SCENE INVESTIGATOR

A high five goes to Sister Rosemary Stets for her hard work in bringing Gerard Straub to the Alvernia campus this week, to speak about Poverty and Prayer. Straub, an accomplished Hollywood filmmaker redirected his life to homeless advocacy after converting to the Catholic faith. His latest documentary, *Poverty and Prayer*, was screened during the event on February 25, to a packed house. The film was poignant, moving many to new levels of compassion and awareness for the homeless.
Who are the Invisible Children?

Invisible Children Inc., is on an international tour to promote their newest film, “The Rescue,” making an appearance at Alvernia on Monday, March 16.

The “Invisible Children” are the children of Northern Uganda, who are caught in war that has lasted for over twenty years. These children have never known peace and they live in fear of abduction by rebel soldiers of the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA). The LRA abducts children from villages that they destroy, and then force the children to fight as part of their violent army. The children are referred to as “invisible” because the war and the atrocities that they are facing receive very little media coverage.

Invisible Children Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing financial resources to these children by documenting their true, untold stories in a creative and relevant way, resulting in positive change. They have produced several films on the issue, beginning with “Invisible Children: Rough Cut,” which exposes the effects of the war on the children, showing how they commute to cities each night to sleep together and hopefully avoid abduction.

“The Rescue” (premiering during the tour) focuses on the LRA and its leader, Joseph Kony.

On March 16, Invisible Children roadies will spend a day on Alvernia’s campus. “Rescue” will be screened from 7-9PM, followed by a question and answer session and refreshments. Everyone is invited to participate in the event.

Click here to find more information on Invisible Children.

Grab your gloves, dowls, and shovels - and Dig in
to some fertile soil with the Campus Green Initiatives Committee this spring.

Contact Daniel Flynn to reserve your 4’x10’ plot before the ribbon cutting on Earth Day (April 22).

Rumor Has It...

Commissioning services for the El Salvador and Baltimore Alternative Break trips will be tonight at 6PM, in the Veronica Hall Chapel. Come and wish participants luck on their missions.

Make a difference: collect spare change during Lent with Operation Rice Bowl. This official Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services began in 1975, in the Diocese of Allentown, Pa., as a response to the drought in the African Sahel. Contact Daniel Flynn to get your bowl.

Need a book? Visit the Franco Library. Frequent visitors can collect stamps and enter to win cool prizes. Five stamps = one raffle ticket.

A man builds a house rectangular in shape. All sides have southern exposure. A big bear walks by; what color is the bear? Why?

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

Bragging rights for last week go to Andrew Cousins, I.T. Answer: The dog can only run half way into the woods, otherwise he’d be running out.

Do you have news?
Send it to:
CAREY.MANZOLILLO@ALVERNIA.EDU

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