

June 2007 President's Update

Dear Bellarmine Community Members,

Bellarmino awarded more than 400 undergraduate and graduate degrees at its 54th annual commencement exercises on Saturday, May 12. The university also awarded honorary degrees to Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly, William P. (Billy) Bradford, teacher and theater director at Trinity High School and the Youth Performing Arts School; and Wendell Berry, celebrated American writer, farmer and conservationist. Berry also delivered the commencement address.

A special moment during the awarding of degrees was the presentation of a special medal to "Alice," the guide dog of student Abigail Cocanougher, who graduated summa cum laude with a degree in music. Alice attended every one of Cocanougher's Bellarmine classes.

Among the awards handed out were the Archbishop's Medal of Scholastic Excellence, presented to Raymond Burns, who had the highest grade point average in the class; the Wilson W. Wyatt Fellowship, presented to Laura Ward; and the In Veritatis Amore Award, given to Burns and Sarah L. Todd.

A Wyatt Fellowship also is awarded to faculty. This year two faculty members were awarded: Tony O'Keeffe, from the English department; and Mark Wiegand, from the physical therapy department.

Dr. Tegart's new post

After a national search that engaged the advice and representation of every campus constituency, I am delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Doris

Tegart as Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Bellarmine University. In this new post, Dr. Tegart will work closely with the deans and the faculty leadership to help us build the academic life of this institution.

Dr. Tegart is dynamic, entrepreneurial, and a strong academic leader. She has served Bellarmine faithfully and well for more than a decade in critical leadership roles that have placed her at the busy intersection of intellectual rigor and real-world performance. She has developed a solid academic and administrative foundation of creative thinking and problem solving. She is a thoughtful, inclusive, action-oriented leader who values people, respects process and knows that results matter.

With the unique spirit of authentic hospitality that is a hallmark of the Bellarmine University Community, please join me in welcoming Dr. Tegart to her new position of leadership among us.

Thornton School Leadership

I have accepted the recommendation of Dr. Tegart and the faculty of the Thornton School of Education that we continue our search for a new education dean, and develop a structure to guide the school in the interim. It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Dr. Cindy Gnadinger as Acting Dean of the Annsley Frazier Thornton School of Education and the appointment of Dr. Anne Bucalos as the Acting Associate Dean. These appointments are for the 2007-2008 academic year.

The team of Dr. Gnadinger and Dr. Bucalos is a leadership partnership that also reflects an administrative and budgetary realignment of the school's structure and resources. In this innovative arrangement, the former positions of undergraduate and graduate chairs within the Frazier Thornton School have been eliminated. Please join me in welcoming Drs. Cindy Gnadinger and Anne Bucalos to their new positions.

Thornton School Accreditation

Congratulations to the entire education department on recently securing the continuing accreditation of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. In his letter of acknowledgement, NCATE president Arthur E. Wise wrote, "Special congratulations are in order because the Unit Accreditation Board has cited no official areas for improvement." What a wonderful testament to the excellence and dedication to quality of all our education faculty.

Allison Louise Patrick

Please join me in welcoming our newest Bellarmine family member - Allison Louise Patrick, daughter of Dr. Ian Patrick and his wife Deb. Both mother and daughter are doing fine and Ian is sleeping like a baby (waking up crying every couple of hours).

A Meditation on the Poetry of Thomas Merton

Frederick Smock's new book, *Pax Intransigentibus: A Meditation on the Poetry of Thomas Merton*, has been published by Broadstone Books. He will give a read from his new book at Carmichael's Bookstore on Frankfort Avenue on Saturday, June 23, at 4 p.m.

Institute for Media, Culture and Ethics

On May 23, we launched our new Institute for Media, Culture and Ethics. The new institute will create an educational environment for research, study and discussion of media and culture. It will teach skills in existing and emerging communications media technologies, teach students to be critical consumers of popular culture as promulgated by mass media, and examine and promote ethics

in media. The institute also will serve as an incubator for a planned new School of Communication: Media, Culture and Ethics.

Fr. Crews' New Post

With great joy and appreciation, I am delighted to appoint Rev. Clyde F. Crews, Ph.D., to the new position of Bellarmine University Historian and Archival Coordinator. Those of you who know Fr. Crews know there could be no better person for this exciting new post. A Bellarmine alumnus, professor and historian-in-residence, Fr. Crews has been a beloved member of the Bellarmine family since 1962 and is uniquely qualified to document and celebrate the university's history.

This appointment will follow Fr. Crews' retirement from teaching, a 34-year tenure that is the stuff of legend. Thousands of Bellarmine students and hundreds of faculty, administrators, alumni and staff have had the pleasure of knowing, living, learning, and growing with him. Through the years, he has served in numerous roles at Bellarmine, including historian-in-residence, director of the Merton Center, chairman of the Theology department, and academic dean.

Thanks to his perspective as both a Bellarmine University student and faculty member, his tenure as a theology professor, his history-writing, his gentle grace, charm and wit, and his profound love for the university and its city, Bellarmine and I are proud and grateful to welcome Fr. Crews to his new position. Please join me in congratulating Fr. Crews on his new appointment.

2007 Jazz Guitar Clinic and Concert

The 21st Annual Bellarmine Jazz Guitar Clinic and Concert will be held June 4 and 5. The clinic and concert will feature instruction and performances by director of Jazz Studies Jeff Sherman and special guests Jack Wilkins and John Stowell.

The concert will take place Monday, June 4 in the Wyatt Center for the Arts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for the concert are available in advance at Music-Go-Round on Hurstbourne Lane for \$7. Tickets also will be available at the door for \$10.

The clinic will be held June 4 and 5 in the Music Building on campus. It will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both days and feature instruction on fingerboard theory, be-bop, ensemble, ear training, and more. Tuition is \$100 and includes a ticket to the concert.

Kickboxing Champ Lindsay Scheer

Congratulations to BU Physical Therapy student Lindsay Scheer upon winning the United States Kickboxing Association super lightweight national title on April 28. Next up for Lindsay: the Thai Boxing Association national championship in Des Moines, Iowa, on June 15-16. After that: PT midterms the following week!

Welcome new faculty

Please join me in welcoming the following new full time faculty to Bellarmine for the fall semester:

- Julien Carriere – Foreign Languages
- Constance Cooper – Nursing
- David Goguen – Communications
- Laura Hartford – Art
- Mark Kaelin – Biology
- Akhtar Mahmood – Physics
- Adam Molnar – Mathematics
- David Overbey – English