Star View

UNIVERSITY of ST. THOMAS

A Publication of University of St. Thomas Office of Marketing Communications

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Nursing Program Update: Nursing Raises More Than $10 Million

As the planned University of St. Thomas School of Nursing nears the final stages of approval, the University will allow students to enroll in pre-nursing courses in 2011. For the latest information, interested parties may check www.stthom.edu/nursing.

Thanks to outstanding local and national donor support, the newest nursing program in Houston has raised more than $10 million.

UST President Dr. Robert Ivany, Board Chair Michele Malloy, Founders Nursing Benefit Chair Sheridan Williams.

The new Archbishop Joseph Fiorenza Chair in Nursing will provide annual funding to the nursing program in perpetuity. Contributions are encouraged to honor the Archbishop.

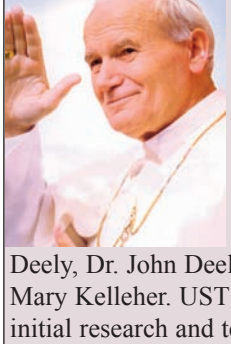
The Cullen Trust for Health Care $2 million grant endows the fourth chair for the nursing program. Two more named nursing chairs are available.

Recognizing the nursing shortage and educational quality of the University of St. Thomas, the federal government is supporting the new nursing program. The $3.2 million grant includes a state-of-the-art simulation laboratory for the greater Houston community.

Trustees Gibb Walton, Nancy Gordon, Melinda Perrin; Beth Robertson, Chair of the Cullen Trust for Health Care; Biology Professor Dr. Rosie Rosell.

In final stages of design is a comprehensive Center for Science and Health Professions on the University of St. Thomas campus with special emphasis on health and sciences related to energy, environment and engineering and the pre-professional health programs that willalso include pre-med, pre-dental, pre-pharmacy and nursing.

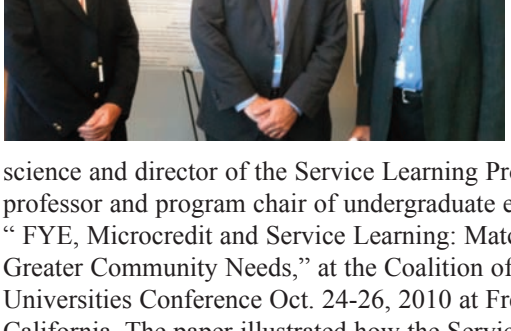
Vatican Grants Permission for WCS Publication



The UST Women, Culture, and Society (WSC) Program has received permission from the Vatican to publish, "John Paul II Speaks on Women," a comprehensive collection of John Paul II's historic texts on women. The volume, now available for faculty and student study at UST, brings to the fore the dimensions and elements found and developed uniquely in the thought of this pope. The publication was a collective effort by numerous University of St. Thomas faculty members including Dr. Brooke Deely, Dr. John Deely, Dr. John Hittinger, Fr. Ted Baenziger, C.S.B. and Dr. Mary Kelleher. UST students Ivan Earls and Remon Maximo also contributed to initial research and technical design aspects of the publication. With the manuscript assembled and Vatican "permission to publish" in granted, WCS is currently pursuing publication opportunities.

"This volume addresses a pressing need — both within and beyond the academic community — for a ready-at-hand reference gathered in one volume to these landmark texts," said Dr. Brooke Deely, director of the WCS Program and principal editor.

Faculty Collaborate on Service-Learning Research



Three University of St. Thomas professors from across the disciplines collaborated to turn the spotlight on the numerous service-learning opportunities UST offers its students.
Dr. Rogelio Garcia-Contreras, assistant professor of international studies; Dr. Jean-Philippe Faletta, associate professor of political science and director of the Service Learning Program; and Dr. Rick Krustchinsky, professor and program chair of undergraduate education, presented a paper titled, " FYE, Microcredit and Service Learning: Matching a University's Mission to Greater Community Needs," at the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities Conference Oct. 24-26, 2010 at Fresno State University in California. The paper illustrated how the Service-Learning Program, School of Education programs such as the UST-Helms Elementary Partnership, Super Science Saturday Program, the Social Entrepreneurship MicroCredit Program and the First Year Experience all work in harmony to provide students with a valuable practical learning experience that mirrors the mission of the University.

"Interdisciplinary research collaboration is one of the hallmarks of the UST experience," Faletta said. "The Service-Learning Program is a prime example of this approach. Service-Learning is not only a pedagogical tool but a way in which faculty can collaborate on research projects as well."

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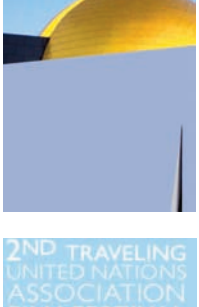

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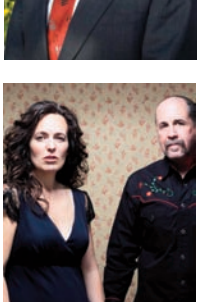

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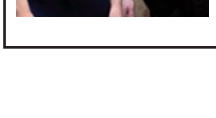

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ayer for Christian Unity

or Faith and Culture invites the campus Houston community to join hands and for the Week of Prayer for Christian 5. Prayer services will be held at y, **Jan. 21** at Windsor Village ch and Tuesday, **Jan. 25** in the Chapel ntact 713-942-5066 for more

estival

ty of St. Thomas Center for l Studies and the United Nations uston will host the United Nations n Festival (UNAFF) from Thursday – **-30**, on the UST campus in Cullen Vernon.Visit www.unahouston.org for nd tickets prices.

Folk Singer Mercedes Sosa

na de Houston and the University of Center for International Studies will t of Blue, White and Pink: A Tribute to World Famous Folk Singer" at 8 p.m., **22**, on the UST campus in Jones Hall, Admission is $20.To purchase tickets, rgentina.org/.www.casaargentina.org

ason & Freedom Lecture

ds Cultural Center-Houston and the of St. Thomas will host a lecture on n and Freedom: At the Root of the ," at 6:30 p.m., **Feb. 10**, in Cullen Vernon. Keynote speakers are quila and Dr. John C. McCarthy, rsity of America. The event is free and lic. For more information, e-mail roadsculturalcenter.org

rt: Saints and Tzadiks

ty of St. Thomas William J. Flynn rish Studies will host Saints & cert of Irish and Yiddish Songs, by singers Susan McKeown and Lorin 30 p.m., Wednesday, **Feb. 16** in Jones rt explores the connections between h songs, lore and myth. Admission is t door; children and students free. To ore details, contact Lori Gallagher at

Aquinas Lecture Explores Sexuality

Dr. Peter Kreeft, known as one of the premier apologists in America today, will present the 2011 University of St. Thomas Aquinas Lecture, titled "Thomas Aquinas on Sexuality: Has Metaphysics Anything to do with Sex." The lecture, hosted by UST's Center for Thomistic Studies, will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, **Jan. 27**, in Jones Hall. In observance of the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, Campus Ministry will hold the annual Aquinas Mass from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the Chapel of St. Basil and a reception following the Mass in Scanlan Room.

Kreeft has famously linked the decline of sexual morality with the decline of liberal education towards "utilitarian, pragmatic, and instrumental" ends. If the ideal woman is no longer Dante's Beatrice, but Barbie, not the Madonna, but Madonna, it is because we no longer pursue knowledge for the sake of truth, but for the sake of power.

Dr. Kreeft, who is described as a witty and insightful communicator, is a convert to Catholicism. He is currently professor of philosophy at Boston College and at the King's College in New York City. Dr. Kreeft is the author of more than 59 books including A Shorter Summa: The Essential Philosophical Passages of Saint Thomas Aquinas' Summa Theologica, Christianity for Modern Pagans, and I Surf, Therefore I Am: A Philosophy of Surfing. Dr. Kreeft's latest works include a novel titled An Ocean Full of Angels and a commentary on the relationship between Christianity and Islam entitled Between Allah and Jesus.

New Videos Showcase University of St. Thomas Faculty

The Office of marketing Communications has continued its efforts to showcase the strength of our faculty by creating three new recruiting videos. These sample class videos featured Dr. Jo Meier-Marquis' psychology class on interpersonal attraction; Dr. Rick Krustchinsky's education class on the integration of mathematics and literature and Dr. Maia Larios-Sanz's biology class on the nature of the cell. These three faculty members join Dr. Ted Rebard, Dr. Jim Clarage and Dr. Beena George, whose unique teaching styles were captured on film last spring. These videos are posted on the home page slide show, the Admissions page as well as the Center for Faculty Excellence. Find these three sample class videos on the University's YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/StThomasHouston.

WCS Lecture Explores Catherine of Siena, Florence Nightingale

The University of St. Thomas Women, Culture and Society Program will host the Third Annual Zambosco-Thomas Colloquium, "In Dialogue with St. Catherine of Siena and Florence Nightingale," from 7-9 p.m., Feb. 21-22, in Ahern, Crooker Center. This two-evening event celebrates this Year of the Nurse and will focus on spiritual renewal and healing, as exemplified by Catherine of Siena, Doctor of the Church and Patroness of Nurses, and Florence Nightingale, founder of the modern nursing profession.

Monday, Feb. 21:

- Rev. Donald S. Nesti, CSSp, founder and Director of the Center for Faith and Culture "Catherine: Passionate Truth Seeker, Compassionate Healer"
- Dr. Poldi Tschirch, RN, BC, Director for Nursing Development at UST "Florence Nightingale: Mystic, Visionary, Healer"

Tuesday, Feb. 22

- Dr. Mary Catherine Sommers, Director of the Center for Thomistic Studies "Catherine of Siena's Vision of the Life-Saving Bridge"
- Dr. Karen Hahn RN, APN, Executive Director for the Center for Faith and Health Initiatives. "Spiritual Renewal for Caregivers"

This lecture is named in honor of the late Elsa Zambosco-Thomas, a Spanish professor at UST, who served as the director from 2006 to 2008. Zambosco-Thomas was a member of the UST faculty from 1968 to 2008.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information contact Dr. Brooke Williams Deely at 713-757-2489.

Anthony Graves Speaks at UST

Recently exonerated death row inmate Anthony Graves will bring his extraordinary message of hope and perseverance to the University of St. Thomas St. Martin de Porres Society annual Black History Month lecture, "Fight for Freedom," at 7 p.m., Feb. 25 in Jones Hall. The lecture celebrates the compassion and dedication of Nicole Casarez, UST professor of communication, who helped free an innocent man.

A reception following the lecture will feature the Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections' display of prominent African-Americans on postal stamps. The reception will be held in Malloy Hall. The event is co-sponsored by the UST Social Justice Committee and the Young Social Justice Institute, and is free and open to the public.

RSVP by Feb. 23 to Ryane Jackson at jacksork@stthom.edu or 713-525-2147.

Remembering Dr. Judith Ryan

Dr. Judith M. Ryan, associate professor of New Testament at the University of St. Thomas School of Theology at St. Mary's Seminary, passed away on Dec. 27.

She taught at St. Mary's Seminary for the last seven years. In addition to courses on both the Old and New Testament, Ryan also taught homiletics, Roman Catholic Social Teaching and Spirituality to both lay students, seminarians and those studying for the permanent diaconate.

Star View is published by the Office of Marketing Communications as a means of informing the UST community about University and campus news. Call 713-525-3116 with questions and/or comments.

Executive Editor
Sandra Soliz, MLA '01

Editor
Elise Marrion

Publication Designer
Ronnie Piper