

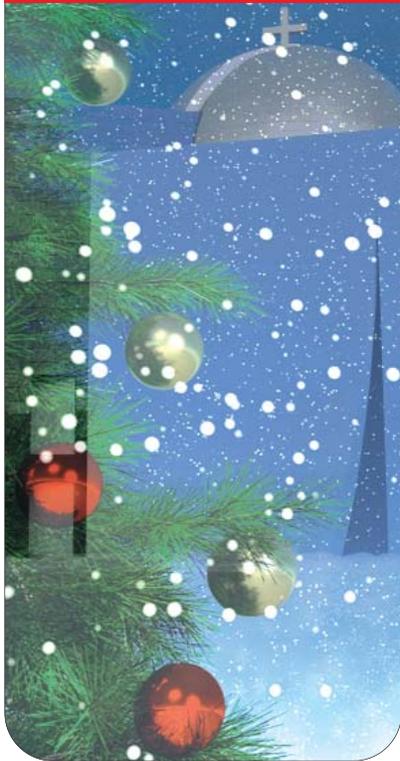
Star

View



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

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UST Prepares to Celebrate Christmas Season

As the year comes to a close, University of St. Thomas faculty, staff and students prepare for more than just final exams and approaching deadlines. Take some time to enjoy the merriment and warmth found among good friends within the UST community at the many festive activities planned throughout the holiday season.

Deck the Mall

Join the Office of Student Affairs for the annual Deck the Mall celebration, at 4 p.m. Tuesday, **Dec. 2** on the Academic Mall. The event will include a petting zoo, arts and crafts, camel rides, snow, a live Nativity and a special lighting ceremony. For more information, contact Angie Montelongo at 713-525-3572 or montela@stthom.edu.

An Evening of Carols

Join the UST University Singers in Advent and Christmastide readings and music, 8 p.m. Tuesday, **Dec. 2**, in the Chapel of St. Basil. For more information, contact Monique Dupleich at 713-525-3159.

A Celtic Christmas

The Center for Irish Studies invites you to slip back in time

and savor the yuletide season as it has been celebrated for centuries among the Celtic nations. The cast of "A Celtic Christmas" will bring the precious ancient gifts of music, song, dance and especially the gift of storytelling to the University of St. Thomas for a one-day concert at 4 p.m., Sunday, **Dec. 7** in Jones Hall. For more information, call Lori Gallagher at 713-525-3592 or irishstudies@stthom.edu

Late Night Breakfast

The Office of Student Affairs welcomes the UST community to the annual Late Night Breakfast event, 9 p.m. Monday, **Dec. 8** in the Crooker Cafeteria. Pick up your finals survival kits, enjoy a free breakfast served by some of your favorite faculty and staff members, make cards, visit with friends and win a raffle prize. For more information, contact Angie Montelongo at 713-525-3572 or montela@stthom.edu.

MACL & English Christmas Party

The MACL and English Department will host a Christmas Party, 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, **Dec. 9**, in Malloy Hall. This event is open to faculty, staff and students.

President's Christmas Party

University of St. Thomas faculty, staff and their families are invited to celebrate the joy of the Christmas season with President Robert Ivany and Marianne Ivany at the President's Christmas Party, 3 p.m. Friday, **Dec. 12** in the Link Lee Mansion. For more information, contact Sandra Cackowski at 713-525-2162.





Reason for the Season

Advent Wreath-Making

Join Campus Ministry for Advent wreath-making from 4 to 7 p.m. **Dec. 3** on the Academic Mall.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration

The UST Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration will begin at noon Friday, **Dec. 12**. Prayer, procession, Mass and a reception will be held in honor of this Catholic Feast Day.

Posada

UST will host the first campus-wide *Posada* from 7 to 9 p.m., **Dec. 12** beginning at Guinan Hall. A “fiesta” will conclude the event. *Posada* is a Mexican custom of re-enacting the Holy Family's search for lodging in Bethlehem prior to Jesus' birth.

Winter Graduation Mass

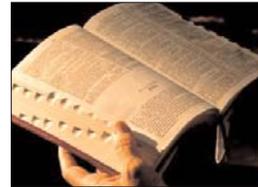
Celebrate winter graduates at a 6 p.m. Mass **Dec. 18** in the Chapel of St. Basil and a 7 p.m. reception in Scanlan Room, Jerabeck Center.

Christmas Liturgy

Come celebrate the true reason for the season at Christmas Masses held 7 p.m. Dec. 24 (in French), Midnight Mass, 12 a.m. **Dec. 25** and Christmas Day Mass, 10:30 a.m. **Dec. 25**.

Campus Ministry Requests Readers for Ecumenical Continuous Bible-Reading

The University of St. Thomas Campus Ministry is seeking people of all faiths to publicly proclaim the word of God for the “Continuous Reading of the Bible: An Ecumenical Event.”



This three-day event will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 20 and end at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 23. During the event, the Bible will be read aloud, around the clock, cover to cover, at the Chapel of St. Basil, stopping only for regularly scheduled Masses.

Campus Ministry is inviting UST faculty staff and students, various Catholic parishes and interfaith community members, and noted religious leaders to read the Bible aloud for 15-minute intervals.

UST Chaplain Father Mike Buentello, CSB, said he was inspired when the recent Senate of Bishops started the session in Rome with a non-stop reading of

the Bible. “I thought, we can do that,” Fr. Buentello said. “We are a Catholic institution. Let’s unite under the reading of the Bible.”

Fr. Buentello went on to say, “One criticism and misconception that you often hear about Catholics is that we all have a Bible in our homes, but we seldom open and read it. It’s very important that we are comfortable with scripture. Too often, we talk about what divides us, and we overlook what we have in common. We should concentrate on what unites us, what brings us closer together and closer to God – and that is our Bible.”

This is the first time UST has held an ecumenical continuous reading of the Bible, and further details will continue to unfold as the event approaches.

Campus Ministry will accept readers until Feb. 6. Those interested in reading should e-mail campusministry@stthom.edu.

University of St. Thomas Hosts annual “Express Your Stress Event”

Pulling an all-nighter to complete papers or to study for semester exams may seem like a good idea, but even missing two hours of sleep two nights in a row may leave someone feeling foggy and unable to concentrate. To help alleviate some of the many pressures students face this time of year, the Offices of Counseling & Disability Services and Health & Wellness Promotion will host the annual “Express Your Stress” event from noon to 2 p.m. **Tuesday,**

Dec. 2 at Crooker Center. To beat stress, try the following strategies:

- Eat regular, nutritious meals and limit caffeine.
- Get enough sleep, preferably seven to nine hours per night.
- Take breaks, and try not to study continuously for more than two hours at a time.
- Examine priorities, handling the most pressing tasks first. Structure your time to avoid procrastination. For more information call 713-525-2169.



UST Study Abroad Program Receives National Ranking Recognition

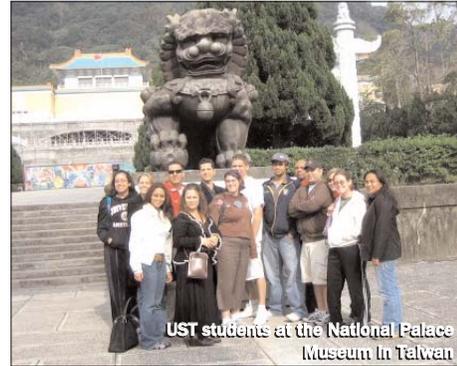
Recognizing the importance of an international education in today's global society, the University of St. Thomas Study Abroad Program continues to garner nationwide recognition for undergraduate study abroad participation.

For the fourth time in the last five years, the Institute of International Education (IIE) has named the University of St. Thomas as one of the top 20 master's schools in the United States for study abroad programs. This year, UST ranked 16th out of 169 participating master's institutions.

Over the past decade, the University of St. Thomas has sent from 7-10 percent of its undergraduate students abroad each year in stark contrast to the national

average of 2-3 percent. The 2008 Open Doors Report ranks universities' participation rates by comparing the number of students studying abroad to the number of degrees granted in a given year. For academic year 2006-2007, UST's participation rate was 44.8 percent.

"The survey results continue to show that we can compete with the elite schools in the area of study abroad," said Dr. Hans Stockton, UST study abroad director and international studies associate professor. "In fact, we are one of the nation's elite schools for study abroad. In relation to our mission of shaping leaders of faith and character, studies abroad give our students



greater global exposure, expand their world view, and expose our students to the challenges and opportunities that they, as global leaders, will face in such a diverse world."

See the complete story at www.stthom.edu. For more information, contact Study Abroad at 713-525-3530 or e-mail garcia@stthom.edu

UST Freshman Uses Pageant Title to Raise Depression Awareness

As the newly crowned Miss Black Teen Texas, University of St. Thomas freshman **Nicole Hickl**, can smile proudly as she walks around campus. But the poised, confident communication major who serves as a UST Presidential Ambassador, Student Government Association Freshman Senator and member of the Black Student Union, did not always have such a sunny outlook.

Hickl suffered with depression through her freshman year at Dulles High School. Her struggle inspired her to mentor teens with depression and to enter the Miss Black Teen Texas pageant to pursue depression outreach on a larger scale.

"Speaking from personal experience, I can tell teens with depression

that even if you hit a down period in your life, you can learn and grow from it and be a success despite depression," Hickl said. "I didn't enter the pageant to win the crown or the scholarship. If the pageant didn't have any of that, I would still enter just to have the opportunity to bring a message of hope to more teens, because depression is something I've dealt with and it's something I'm passionate about."



Hickl chose to attend UST's because she thought she would benefit from the University's small classes and values-based community. She feels right at home on campus, as she sees her fellow students share a similar commitment to helping others.

See the complete story at www.stthom.edu.



UST Remembers Prof. Wilma Goetz

University of
St. Thomas
Professor Emerita
Wilma Goetz
passed away on
Monday, Nov. 17.
She was a 1951
UST



graduate, the first class to graduate from the University. After completing a master's degree at Catholic University of America in 1962, Professor Goetz joined the UST faculty in fall semester of that year. She served as the Dean of Women and taught full-time until her retirement in 1997, serving as chair of the Sociology Department during many of those years. The University honored Professor Goetz with an honorary doctorate in 2000. After her retirement, Goetz taught part-time every semester through fall 2005. She taught at Georgetown University and St. Mary's Nursing School in Galveston. She was a member of the American Sociological Association, Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society and Pi Gamma Mu, International Honor Society in Social Sciences.

Dr. Jon Taylor, Political and Social Sciences Department Chair, said, "She was an amazing woman who had a wealth of knowledge and a lifelong dedication and love for the University."

Lady Celts' Season Ends After Meteoric Rise

After only three years of competing in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, the University of St. Thomas Lady Celts Volleyball Team climbed the ranks to the NAIA National Tournament Opening Round on Nov. 22, completing their momentous season with a 22-11 overall record. Though the Lady Celts will not continue to advance in the Tournament, the team will hold fast to their victory as the 2008 Association of Independent Institution Champions.

Commenting on the successful season, Coach Jill Reynolds said, "I am so proud of the strides the team has made in the last three years to qualify for the opening round of the NAIA National Tournament.

"Competing at the national level was awe-inspiring," Reynolds said. "It was a great honor and a blessing to compete among the top 36 NAIA teams in the country. Our opponent, Point Loma Nazarene University of San Diego has a very strong program, and they have been to Nationals 11 times. It was a



great learning experience to show the girls the level at which they need to play to make it to the final round next year."

The team's impressive record was topped additional recognition for Jill Reynolds and many of the team's players. Reynolds was named A.I.I. Coach of the Year. Sophomore middle blocker Casey Mulryan was named A.I.I. Player of the Year. The Lady Celts lead the list of A.I.I. All-Conference Team with five UST players appointed to the All-Conference Team: Heather Hardy, Keanne Smith, Casey Mulryan, Lauren Poe, and Sarah Curiel-Thompson.

Reynolds said she was honored and humbled to be named Coach of the Year, and attributes her recognition to the team's talent and hard work.

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.

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Cameron School of Business to Host CASE Competition



Cameron
School of Business
UNIVERSITY of ST. THOMAS

The Cameron School of Business will host two Graduate Case Competitions, at 7 p.m. Thursday, **Dec. 4**, and Wednesday, **Dec. 10** in Welder Hall.

The Case Competition is designed to provide the graduate students with an educational experience that will showcase and enhance their problem analysis and presentation skills. Students are charged with applying their creativity, knowledge, and experience to analyze the diverse issues facing real world managers.

The Dec. 4 Case Graduate Competition will feature Dr. Rupak Rauniar's class, and the Dec. 10, Dr. Lynn Godwin's class.