

UST Senior Jessie Martinez Lands Department of Commerce Internship



One week before classes started, University of St. Thomas senior Jessie Martinez received a phone call which sparked a whirlwind of events.

After applying for the third time to the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) National Internship Program, Martinez thought his application and resume were forgotten. Then the phone call came while he was driving.

A few days later, Martinez was interviewed and was offered an internship with the Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C.

“I was stunned, and questioned if I wanted to take the internship with so little time to prepare,” Martinez said. “I asked my professors and family for advice. They helped me realize the importance of this experience, and I couldn’t miss it.”

However, he will be missed in the Campus Ministry Office. For a year, Martinez was the friendly face that greeted everyone who entered the office.

“Jessie embodies all the goodness that typifies a University of St. Thomas student,” said UST Chaplain Fr. Mike Buentello, CSB. “He freely shared his faith and all his talents with everyone. I was amazed by his ability to be so organized. He maintained a full class schedule, worked

and participated in activities away from the University.”

The HACU program paid for Martinez’s travel expenses and helped him find affordable housing. The program also allotted Martinez a stipend for the semester.

“My education as an international studies major has prepared me for this internship,” Martinez said. “The internship also made me more aware of places where I can apply my education because the Department of Commerce wasn’t previously on my radar as somewhere I could work.”

Martinez will finish his internship and return to Houston in December to graduate. But he will not be here for long. In January, he will depart for Santiago, Chile, where he plans to attend the Pontifical Catholic University and pursue a master’s degree in the field of international relations.

This opportunity was made possible through the Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship from District 5890 Rotary Club. This award gives Martinez the chance to study in Chile for one academic year at a university of his choice. As an ambassador for Rotary, Martinez will serve the community, and he hopes to further develop microlending in Chile through the UST MicroCredit Program.

“I hope during my year abroad, I will educate individuals about American culture, while I gain further knowledge of their culture,” Martinez said.



President's Lecture Series

The Honorable Former US Ambassador to the Holy See R. James Nicholson will speak, at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, **Sept. 15**, in UST Jones Hall.



CSB Open House

The Cameron School of Business with host a Graduate Program open house from 6 to 7 p.m. **Sept. 15** in the Malloy Hall Boardroom.



Destined for Sainthood

The University of St. Thomas and the Franciscan Sisters host a one-man play about Fr. Damien of Molokai, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, **Sept. 19**, in Cullen Hall.



24 Hour Adoration

The 24-Hour Adoration takes place every Wednesday, **Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30**, beginning at 8 am and ending on Thursday at 7:30 am, in the Chapel of St. Basil.



September 11 Concert

UST music students will perform in remembrance of Sept 11 at the eighth annual "The September Concert," 7 p.m., Thursday, **Sept. 10** in Cullen Hall. For more information call 713-686-5867.

St. Thomas Earns Nationwide Recognition

For the 16th consecutive year, the University of St. Thomas has been named to the top tier of the *U.S. News & World Report's* "America's Best Colleges" list of universities offering master's degrees in the Western region of the United States. UST currently ranks 27th in the 2010 rankings.



UST is categorized among schools that provide a full range of undergraduate and master's programs, but few doctoral programs. University of St. Thomas offers eight master's programs and one doctoral program in philosophy. The 572 universities in this category are ranked within four geographic areas – North, South, Midwest and West – because these schools tend to draw students heavily from the surrounding states.



The University of St. Thomas was named as one of the best colleges and universities in the West by *The Princeton Review*. The education services company selected the school as one of 123 institutions it recommends to college applicants in its "Best in the West" section on its Web site feature 2010 Best Colleges: Region by Region that posted July 27, 2009.

In the online profile at www.PrincetonReview.com, UST is described as a place where students admire the academic rigor and rave about the small-school feel, where diversity is welcomed, embraced and celebrated.

Second Collection Opens Doors for UST Students

Recognizing the value of Catholic education, Second Collection donations from generous parishioners in the Galveston-Houston Archdiocese have helped to open doors and provide greater opportunity for students seeking a college education. All parishes in the Archdiocese are invited to continue that legacy and participate in the Second Collection for Catholic Higher Education on Saturday, Sept. 12 and Sunday, Sept. 13.

The money collected is shared between the University of St. Thomas Father Francis E. Monaghan Scholarship Fund and the Catholic University of America. In the past, Second Collection has helped to raise thousands of dollars to support the academic advancements of students. Last year, \$125,540 was directly awarded to UST students. More than 75 percent of St. Thomas students receive scholarships or financial aid, and providing these scholarships helps to relieve the academic stresses of our hard working students.

Read full story at www.stthom.edu.



Center for Faith and Culture Introduces New Master's of Arts Degree

The Center for Faith and Culture is announcing a new Master of Arts in Faith and Culture to be available in fall 2010. The Master of Arts in Faith and Culture seeks to integrate the historical, sociological, anthropological, theological and spiritual dimensions of the American worldview. This approach is meant to ground the M.A. candidate in the American cultural worldview especially in relation its understanding of the nature of the human person, its approach to religion, its values, norms of behavior and its symbols. The M.A. program seeks to form leaders who will be capable of embodying and communicating the implications of the faithful citizenship not only for individual Catholics but also for the Church's efforts to affect structural, legislative and institutional dimensions of our American way of life.



Program candidates must have completed an undergraduate degree (GPA of 2.5 or better) from an accredited institution, and will demonstrate a strong background in theology or pastoral experience suitable for study at the M.A. level. Candidates will complete a two-year cohort experience with a minimum of 36 graduate course hours, consisting of 21 core hours, a three-hour practicum, and 12 hours in electives. The application deadline is July 1, 2010 for fall semester 2010.

Contact Dr. Adam Martinez, Associate Director of Center for Faith and Culture at 713-942-5067, martinag@stthom.edu or visit www.stthom.edu/cfc.

Dr. Poldi Tschirch Moves Forward with Setting Nursing Timeline Goals

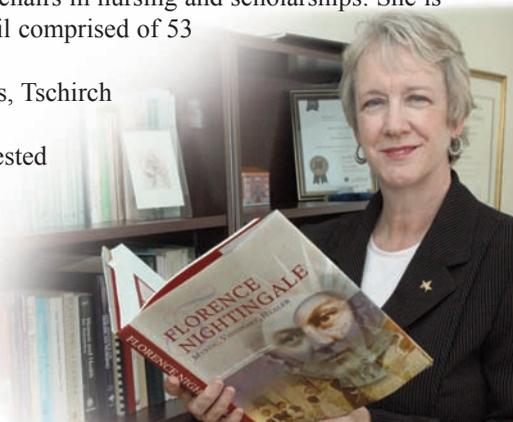
As the University of St. Thomas moves forward with plans to re-establish the School of Nursing, Dr. Poldi Tschirch, director of nursing program development, is laying the foundations for nursing curriculum, policies, admission structures and mandatory accreditation by the Texas Board of Nursing.

"We are absolutely committed to have a program in place by 2012," Tschirch said. "Our desire is to have the School of Nursing in place sooner. We want to be ready for the Texas Board of Nursing review by the end of 2010. We would like to be able to admit students in the fall of 2011, but that will depend on this process and fundraising success."

Tschirch came to UST in July from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, where she held leadership roles in the School of Nursing, The Telehealth Center and, most recently, as Director of Nursing Informatics. Tschirch will also help support the University's efforts to create financial stability for the School of Nursing by developing a healthy endowment. Currently, the Office of Institutional Advancement and University leadership are working to fund a Life Sciences building, which will include facilities for the School of Nursing, raise money for endowed chairs in nursing and scholarships. She is working closely with a broad-based Nursing Advisory Council comprised of 53 community leaders in addition to UST faculty and staff.

Though the School is still in the early development phases, Tschirch said she frequently receives calls from students eager to enroll in the program, and inquiries from nursing professionals interested in teaching at UST.

"Nursing is a perfect fit with the Basilian core values of goodness, discipline and knowledge," Tschirch said. "This University nurtures people who are critical thinkers and people who live their values. That matters in nursing. Most people enter the nursing profession because they feel a calling to service, so it fits naturally with the strengths and aims of the University."



Major Ivany Talks on Psychiatry on Front Lines



University of St. Thomas presents **Dr. Christopher Ivany**, “Practicing Psychiatry Within a Combat Zone and

Integrating Lessons Learned for the Homefront,” at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 24.

Dr. Ivany graduated from medical school in 2001 from University of Texas, Health Science Center at San Antonio, and completed his internship and residency at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. At Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Dr. Ivany sub-specialized in child and adolescent psychiatry. He also served as the division psychiatrist for the 4th Infantry Division in Ft. Hood, TX and Baghdad. Currently, Dr. Ivany holds the rank of major, and is stationed at Ft. Carson, Colo., where he is the chief of the Mobile Behavioral Health Service.

The lecture is free, and will be held in Anderson Hall Room 103, 3913 Mt. Vernon, with \$2 parking available in the Moran Center, 3807 Graustark. The lecture is co-sponsored by Pre-Health Professions Program, Center for International Studies, Psychology Department and UST HOSA Chapter.

For more information, contact Diana Garcia at 713-525-3530.

Students Merit Fr. Vincent J. Guinan Scholarships

The University of St. Thomas has awarded two incoming freshmen with the Father Vincent J. Guinan Scholarship, which covers full tuition. This year’s awardees are Patricia Hotze and **Shelby Stinner-Trimble**.



The scholarship is named after Fr. Guinan, who led the Basilian fathers in establishing the University and served as the founding president.

To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must be Catholic, meet specific academic requirements, submit a 500-word essay and recommendation letter from a high school principal or guidance counselor. The top 10 finalists must also complete an on-campus interview with the selection committee. The recipients are required to join UST’s Presidential Ambassadors and be active in Campus Ministry.

Patricia Hotze, a graduate of St. Thomas Episcopal High School, chose UST because it offered, “the academic options of a big university, with a small-school community feel.”

At UST, Hotze is in the Honors Program, plays for the Lady Celts’ volleyball team and plans to pursue the Cooperative Engineering and Technology program between UST and Texas A&M, University of Houston and Notre Dame.

While at Incarnate Word High School in San Antonio, Shelby Stinner-Trimble visited UST to observe a couple of UST classes with her older sister, Sasha Stinner-Trimble. Impressed by the knowledgeable, engaging and approachable professors and the University’s Catholic identity, Stinner-Trimble was sold on UST. She plans to major in biochemistry, and was also drawn to UST because of the University’s high acceptance rate into medical school.

Lady Celts Earn NAIA Preseason Poll Nomination

The UST Lady Celts Volleyball team were nominated for the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Volleyball Top 25 Preseason Coaches’ Poll. A panel of head coaches representing each of the conferences voted for the preseason national ranking.

“It is great honor to be considered by a national rater as a top 25 program for all NAIA institutions in the country,” said Lady Celts Volleyball Coach Jill Reynolds. “It is an amazing accomplishment in three years. I am proud of how far we’ve come, and I am eager to see how much further we can go.”

The Lady Celts are the reigning Association of Independent Institutions (AII) champions, and will play Texas A&M Kingsville at 7 p.m., Sept. 10 at UST Jerabeck Gym.

For schedule information, visit www.stthom.edu/volleyball.

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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