

Post 9-11 GI Bill Provides Tuition for Veteran Husband, Wife



Military personnel and their families must always be ready to relocate at a moment's notice. So when a last-minute opportunity arose for United States Coast Guard Lieutenant Edward Lacy and his wife, Christie, to pursue degrees concurrently at the University of St. Thomas, the family possessed the adaptability and received University support to make it all happen in less than 45 days.

Edward, a seven-year veteran of the Coast Guard, is currently pursuing a Master in Liberal Arts with a concentration in political science. Christie is working toward an undergraduate joint major in English and philosophy.

This opportunity was made possible by the Post 9-11 GI Bill, which gives veterans who have served at least 30 days of active duty since Sept. 11, 2001, the option of applying their educational benefits at a private institution like St. Thomas with little to no out-of-pocket cost. The educational benefits can also be transferred for use by veterans' spouses or dependents.

After 13 years in the National Guard and Coast Guard combined, and assignments in North Carolina, Connecticut, Alaska and Louisiana, Edward and Christie are grateful to stay in one place for the next few years. The Lacys, who have two daughters, ages seven and 11, relocated to Houston from Nacogdoches in a rush to get enrolled at UST. The family was able to move into a house on campus, get both parents enrolled in the University and the girls enrolled in local schools just in time.

"This is the first time we have had a veteran student and his wife attend while using the same Post-9/11 GI Bill benefit," said Shannon Wilson, director of Veteran Services. "The Lacys are able to live on campus, with their two kids, while they work to complete their educational goals."

The Lacys said they received outstanding personal attention and service from University staff and faculty who have helped them find a new home at UST. Edward said Dr. Ravi Srinivas, dean of Extended Programs, explained the MLA degree program and helped him enroll with very short notice. Wilson assisted them in transferring veterans' benefits for Christie; Lee Holm, director of Admissions, was familiar with Christie's needs as an adult transfer student and helped them find University housing.

View complete story at www.stthom.edu.

Veterans Day at UST

Honor America's heroes and thank them for their loyal and dedicated service to our country at UST's Veterans Day Celebration, 9 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 11, at the Campus Life Mall.

The event features:

- A veteran run around campus: 9:45 a.m.
- Veterans Day message from Dr. Robert Ivany, Ret. Major General, U.S. Army
- Refreshments

RSVP to wilsonsl@stthom.edu.



'Three-peat' Recognition

The University of St. Thomas has been named a Champion of Character Institution by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) for the third year in a row. UST was one of the 231 institutions that made the list for the 2008-2009 school year.

NAIA developed the Champions of Character program in an effort to instill an understanding of character values in sport. The program is dedicated to the principle that character is a choice, and that being a champion is not just about winning, but making good decisions consistently in daily life.

Member institutions are selected on the basis that they embody the five tenets of Champions of Character: respect, responsibility, integrity, servant leadership and sportsmanship. These institutions must also demonstrate how the campus incorporates the Champions of Character program in five specific areas: athletic contests, public service projects, established policies related to behavior in practice and game situations, athletic and academic environment and character education.

UST Student, Faculty Earn Maritain Awards

At the 33rd Annual International American Maritain Association Conference held Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 22-24, two University of St. Thomas professors and a student garnered awards from the Association.



Conference host **Dr. John Hittinger** (left) presented the American Maritain Association (AMA) graduate student essay award to **Stephen Sparks** (right), a graduate student at the Center for Thomistic Studies.

Hittinger also presented a posthumous AMA award to **Fr. Victor Brezik, CSB**, for lifetime achievement. Fr. Brezik was a student and friend of Jacques Maritain, the Association's namesake. Fr. Brezik co-founded the Center for Thomistic Studies, and awarded Maritain the position of honorary faculty member of the Center. **Dr. John Deely** received the AMA award for scholarly achievement from Fr. Ted Baenziger, CSB.

MLA Adds Public Administration Option



The University of St. Thomas now offers a Master in Liberal Arts concentration in public administration. The public administration concentration is designed for students who currently work in the public, nonprofit, or private sector or for those students who are interested in pursuing a career in these areas.

"Public administration is the fastest growing area of political science nationally. With nearly 300,000 federal, state and local government employees in the greater Houston area and relatively few public administration program options, we recognized that there was a major need to assist our MLA students who were interested in pursuing a public service career," Political Science Department chair Dr. Jon Taylor said.

Courses will be offered both during the day and at night. Weekend courses on Saturday will be offered during the summer semester.

Contact the Office of Extended Programs for information about the MLA Program and the concentration in public administration. The deadline to apply for the MLA program for spring 2010 is Dec. 1 and May 1 for summer 2010.

<p>MLA Open House:</p> <p>Date: Saturday, Nov. 7,</p> <p>Time: 10 AM to 11:30 AM</p> <p>Place: Malloy Board Room</p>
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UST Offers Mass in Spanish Every Thursday

Nearly 40 percent of University of St. Thomas undergraduates are Hispanic. Recognizing this enrollment trend, a new Campus Ministry student-led initiative seeks to meet the spiritual needs of the growing Hispanic campus demographic by offering Mass in Spanish at 12:30 p.m. every Thursday in the Chapel of St. Basil.

Campus Ministry student workers Alena Acosta, a sophomore accounting major, and Jesse Martinez, a senior international studies major, collaborated with Fr. Michael Buentello, CSB, to introduce a Spanish language Mass on campus. Martinez is currently in Washington D.C. for an internship. Acosta assists Fr. Mike by maintaining a schedule and training Spanish-speaking Catholic students to be lectors and extraordinary ministers (more commonly known as Eucharistic Ministers.)

The students were prompted by the results of a Hispanic student survey, which was sent out last spring, and indicated “tremendous student support of a Spanish Mass, feast days and other events such as the Posada,” Acosta said. “This is another way to celebrate our cultural diversity on campus and reach out to the Hispanic community,” Acosta said.

Fr. Mike said he hopes to offer an additional Spanish Mass during the weekends some time in the future, so more parents and community members can attend.

For more information, or to sign up to be a lector at Spanish Mass, contact Fr. Mike at 713-525-6981 or e-mail Campus Ministry at campusministry@stthom.edu.



Monica Aleman

UST Presents First Friday Forum: “Caritas in Veritate”



On Friday, **Nov. 6** at 7:30 p.m. on the University of St. Thomas campus, a distinguished panel of scholars will discuss Pope Benedict XVI’s recent encyclical, *Caritas in Veritate* (Charity in Truth), which provocatively revisits and re-evaluates Pope Paul VI’s encyclical on promoting

integral human development, *Populorum Progressio* (1967), especially in terms of the challenges before us in the 21st century. This diverse set of panelists – Louise Zwick, Casa Juan Diego, Fr. Jack Gallagher, UST School of Theology and Dr. John Hittinger, UST professor of philosophy - will discuss the key issues and pivotal facets of Pope Benedict’s intricate and timely presentation. University of St. Thomas, Rev. William J. Young Social Justice Institute, Maryknoll First Friday Forum and the Pope John Paul II Forum for the Church in the Modern World are co-sponsors. This free event will be held in Ahern Room, Crooker Center, 3909 Graustark. For more information, call 713-525-3812.

PBS, Center for Business Ethics Host Best-selling Author John Bradshaw

Best-selling author and motivational speaker John Bradshaw will come to the University of St. Thomas to discuss his new book, *Reclaiming Virtue: How We Can Develop the Moral Intelligence to Do the Right Thing at the Right Time for the Right Reason*, at 7 p.m. on Thursday, **Nov. 19** at Jones Hall.



The Houston native studied for the Roman Catholic priesthood at a Basilian seminary in Toronto where he remained for nine and one-half years, leaving just a few days prior to being ordained. He attended the University of St. Thomas, but left in 1956 without earning a degree.

General admission is \$25. For PBS members and students, admission is \$20. For ticket information, visit www.houstonpbs.org or call 713-743-8459.

The Houston PBS Elevate Lecture series is presented by the John P. McGovern Foundation. The series promotes enlightening and thought-provoking conversation and provides practical everyday applications.

Mark Your Calendar



Día de los Muertos

The UST Spanish Club will celebrate *Día de los Muertos* at 12:20 p.m. Tuesday, **Nov. 3**, with a potluck lunch and memorial display on the second floor of Malloy Hall. *Día de los Muertos* is a holiday celebrated in many Latin American countries when people pray for and remember friends and relatives who have died.



MicroCredit Chocolate

Join the UST MicroCredit Program during activity period, Tuesday, **Nov. 3** and Thursday, **Nov. 5**, on the Academic Mall to sample the delicious handmade chocolates from Chile and savory St. Basil Coffee. *La Pintana*, the Program's project in Santiago, Chile, was made possible by microloans given to eight women.



Changes in Liturgy

The UST Chi-Rho Theology Club will host "Changes in the Liturgy," a presentation given by Fr. Janusz Ilnatowicz, former chair of theology at 7 p.m., Thursday, **Nov. 5**, in the Old Bookstore. For more information, contact the Theology Department: 713-525-3582 or Sr. Madeleine Grace, CVI, 713-525-3529.



St. Martin De Porres

Join University of St. Thomas alumni, current and prospective students and community members for the inaugural Feast Day Celebration for Saint Martin de Porres Society on Saturday, **Nov. 7**. Activities will begin at 5 p.m. with a Mass in the Chapel of St. Basil, and will be followed by a Caribbean-themed reception in Malloy Hall.



Etiquette Dinner

Career Services will host Diane Gottsman, director of the Protocol School of Texas, on dining and networking etiquette, 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, **Nov. 9**, in Scanlan Room, Jerabeck Center. All students are encouraged to attend. Seating is limited and students must sign up through the Career Services office to attend. Cost is \$10.



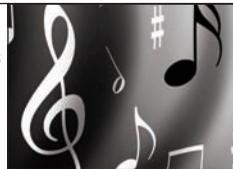
Puss in Boots

The Fine and Performing Arts Department invite you to enjoy "Puss in Boots and Other Cat Tails," a children's play. The play will be performed at 10 a.m. in Jones Hall primarily as an outreach for elementary school audiences **Nov. 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, Dec. 1** and **3**. The play is open to the community for \$4, and is free for the UST community.

November Music Program Events

The Fine and Performing Arts Department Music Program invites you to enjoy a month of music in November, at the following events:

- **Monaghan Organ Recital:** 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 10, Chapel of St. Basil.
- **UST Jazz Ensemble Concert:** 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 17, Cullen Hall.
- **Irish Musicians David and Kieran Munnely:** 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 18, Cullen Hall.
- **Pop Singers Revue:** 7:30 p.m., Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 23 – 24, Cullen Hall.



Sports Schedule

Home games:
Basketball
 7 p.m., Tuesday, **Nov. 10**, vs. Paul Quinn College in Jerabeck
Volleyball
 Thursday-Saturday, **Nov. 12-14**, Association of Independent Institutions Tournament in Jerabeck Athletic Center

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