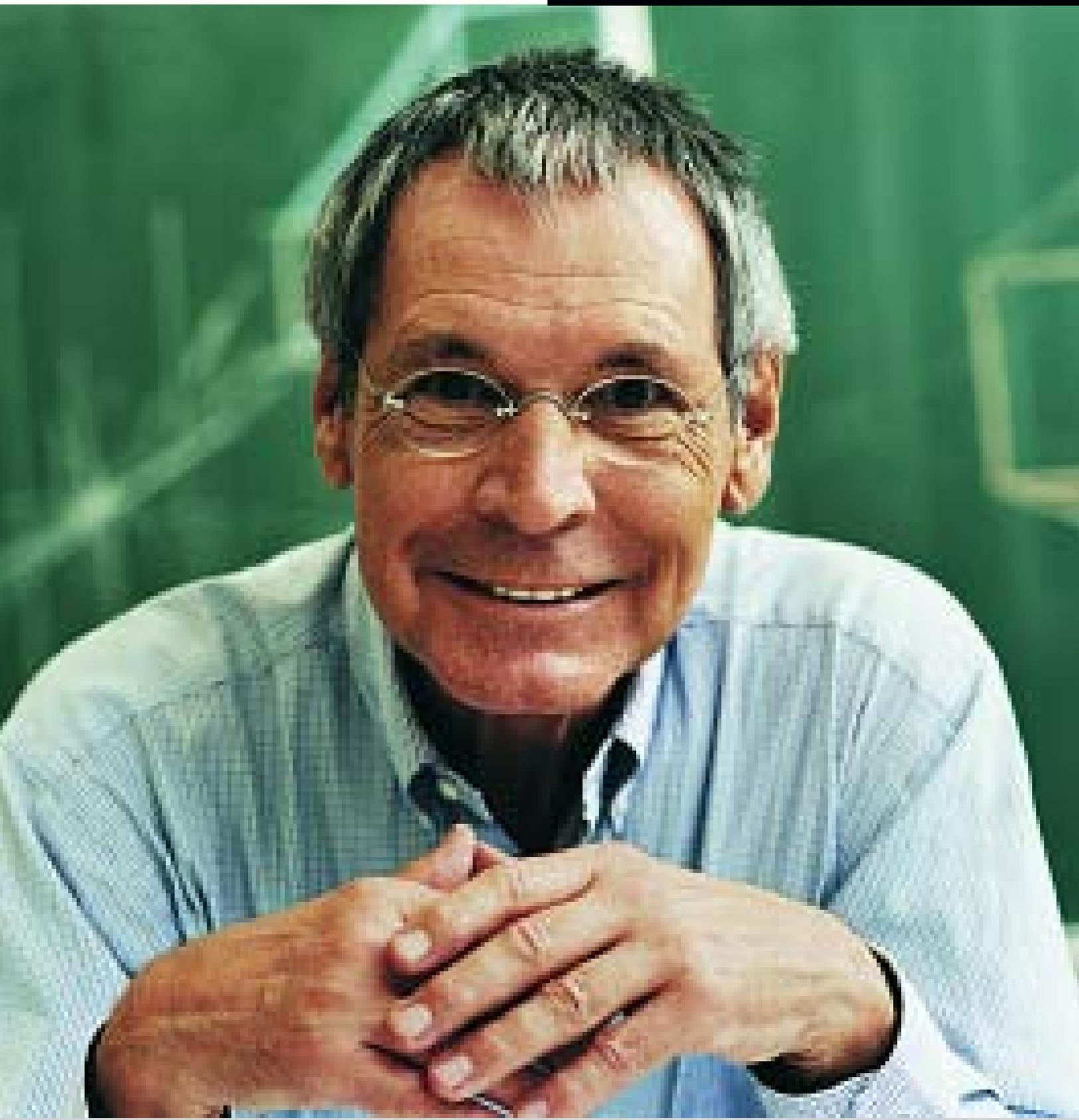


the TORCH

Winter 2011

News and features
about and for the
Dominican community

Dominican University of California





The Torch

The Torch is a publication presenting the news, people, and progress of Dominican University of California. The symbol of the flaming torch, representing truth, is rooted in the history of St. Dominic. The University's motto is "Truth, a flaming torch." The torch is carried by one of the "hounds of the Lord," or, in Latin, "Domini canes."

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Dominican University of California educates and prepares students to be ethical leaders and socially responsible global citizens who incorporate the Dominican values of study, reflection, community, and service into their lives. Guided by its Catholic heritage, the University is committed to diversity, sustainability, and the integration of the liberal arts, the sciences, and professional programs.



Dear alumni community,

It is difficult to believe that nearly 14 years ago I was a senior in high school writing college entrance essays and studying for the SATs. At 18 years old, I made one of the most important decisions of my life by selecting Dominican; a school that educated me for my chosen career, prepared me for the real world, and fostered lifelong friendships.

For some of us it has been only a few years since attending Dominican; for others it has been decades. However long it has been since you were on campus, I encourage you to return and reconnect. Cheer for your adored Penguins at a NCAA Division II sporting event, listen to world renowned authors and diplomats in the Institute for Leadership Studies' lecture series, or visit with one of your former professors.

It is an amazing time to be part of the Dominican community. As Dominican moves into its 122nd year there is much to celebrate: the inauguration of President Mary B. Marcy, the first new president in 23 years; renovation of the Edgehill mansion, St. Catherine Benincasa Chapel, and Alumni Relations offices; and ground breaking of the new outdoor athletics facility. Every time I am on campus I am reminded of and thankful for the support of alumni and donors who enriched my Dominican experience, and that of my fellow alums, by making scholarships, programs, and facility enhancements possible.

"This October we celebrated the inauguration of Mary B. Marcy as the ninth president in Dominican's 122-year history."

As students, we came to Dominican to learn from the traditions and values of Saint Dominic and the Dominican Sisters, and we left as scholars. Now, as alumni, it is our responsibility to ensure that other students share in the same experiences we once did. More students are enrolled now than ever before and I urge you to reach out to our Alumni Office to find out how you can get involved and make a positive contribution.

Sincerely,

Pepé Gonzalez '02
President, Alumni Association Board of Directors

the torch winter 2011



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Picture on cover: Mary B. Marcy being welcomed by Mary Helen Power Fairchild '48

Meet Dr. John Baworowsky Our new VP for Enrollment Management



With more than 25 years of experience in enrollment management, student affairs, and marketing, John Baworowsky has served as vice president at a total of six institutions and as a faculty member. Baworowsky also has served as senior associate consultant for Noel-Levitz, the nation's largest higher education consulting firm. He has taught online graduate higher education courses at Capella University, Bay Path College, and the University of Florida, as well as traditional undergraduate courses at Benedictine University and North Park University.

"Dominican offers a particularly compelling student experience," Baworowsky said, "With excellent undergraduate and graduate education on a beautiful campus in a wonderful part of the country. I look forward

to working with President Mary B. Marcy and the team of enrollment professionals to further the mission of the University."

Baworowsky earned a PhD from Saint Louis University, a master's degree from the University of Miami, and a bachelor's degree from Loyola University of Chicago.

Some leaders are born women

A panel of female executives participated in a lively discussion focused on empowering women's leadership in the new economy during an event this fall held in association with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's address to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Women and the Economy Summit held in San Francisco.

Moderated by President Mary B. Marcy, the September 16 discussion titled "The New Economy: Women, Leadership, and Innovation," focused on developing and supporting women's leadership in business and community.

Participating panelists included: Belinda Guadarrama, president and CEO, GC Micro; Kim Kaselionis, chairman/CEO Circle Bank; Dana King, journalist/anchor, CBS-TV; Kathy Tierney '67, former CEO, Sur La Table and Smith & Hawken; and Debra Reisenhel,

vice president for development, United Way of the Bay Area.

The simulcast and panel discussion was held in the Creekside Room on the Dominican campus and presented by Dominican's Institute for Leadership Studies, in association with the Bay Area Council, the North Bay Leadership Council, the Marin Women's Commission, and Women's Initiative for Self Employment. This was the only North Bay screening of Secretary Clinton's address.

"By increasing women's participation in the economy and enhancing their efficiency and productivity, we can have a dramatic impact on the competitiveness and growth of our economies," Clinton shared with a responsive room of women and men.

Music to our ears

Dominican recently acquired a beautiful 9'6" Imperial Bösendorfer Concert Grand piano. The Bösendorfer is a magnificent piece of craftsmanship that celebrates the rich heritage of Dominican's music program while providing the exceptional education and performance experiences our students and the local community have come to expect.



Our Business School takes leadership role

Dominican's School of Business and Leadership is one of only 25 U.S. business schools nationwide invited to participate in a new consortium being launched in 2012 by the Aspen Institute's Business and Society Program. Dominican was invited to join the consortium based on the University's leadership in promoting the liberal arts – including a First Year Experience in Big History – as essential learning for business undergraduates.

The Aspen Undergraduate Business Consortium will provide a forum for peer learning among a set of diverse institutions to raise the visibility of innovative pedagogies, curricular designs, and campus cultures that promote liberal learning. Funding is provided by the Teagle Foundation.

"As our global economy struggles to regain its financial footing and create jobs, the roles of management educators and their students are particularly salient," notes Dr. Dan Moshavi, dean of Dominican's School of Business and Leadership. "A strong liberal arts foundation provides an education that will enable our graduates to demonstrate responsible, competent, and ethical leadership."

The Aspen Institute is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering enlightened leadership and open-minded dialogue on contemporary issues.

Nothing ventured, nothing gained

President Mary B. Marcy and San Rafael Mayor Albert J. Boro, along with keynote speaker Lynelle Cameron, director of Sustainability at Autodesk, formally opened Dominican's new Venture Greenhouse in October during a green ribbon-cutting ceremony at VG headquarters in San Rafael.

"This is exactly what a university should be doing in Marin County. It represents so much of what we want to do at Dominican," President Marcy said. "The Venture Greenhouse gives the means to individuals and to ideas to do something more in the world than we can do individually. The idea of an incubator and a greenhouse is perfect."

Inspired by Dominican's MBA in Sustainable Enterprise (the GreenMBA®), the Venture Greenhouse is a business development

accelerator for social and environmental entrepreneurs, a learning laboratory for the University's business students, and a community resource for innovators and new ventures.

The Venture Greenhouse "soft opened" in February with four "beta" clients. An additional four clients have joined the accelerator. Clients remain in residence for a maximum of one year. Companies currently involved with the Venture Greenhouse focus on a wide variety of sustainable issues, including solar maintenance, biofuel, waste-to-energy, LED lighting, video production, employment coaching, and non-toxic lunchware.



Dominican responds to a special need

In order to meet an urgent need for special education teachers, as well as an anticipated growth in demand for elementary school teachers, Dominican has launched a new dual degree/dual credential program. This is the only such program in the Bay Area.

The program leads to two degrees, a BA in Liberal Studies and an MS in Education, and two teaching credentials, a Multiple Subject credential and an Education Specialist Preliminary credential. The course of study encompasses five academic years and two summers.

Both the undergraduate capstone and the graduate thesis projects will provide opportunities for in-depth study. Each student also will spend at least 20 hours per semester involved with fieldwork, beginning the first year.

5 years
+ 2 summers
=
2 degrees
+ 2 credentials

So they think he can dance...

Jeffrey Van Sciver, a Dominican junior, is one of 21 winners of the Princess Grace Awards, given annually for theater, dance and choreography, and film to continue the legacy of Princess Grace of Monaco who anonymously helped emerging artists. Van Sciver received his \$10,000 grant at the Princess Grace Awards Gala on 42nd Street in New York City.



Van Sciver also received the dance panel's special Chris Hellman Dance Award. It is endowed by Prima Ballerina Chris Hellman and her husband, Warren, and represents the panel's high regard for her work and dedication to dance.

In addition, Van Sciver has been named the 2011 Shenson Performing Arts Fellow by the San Francisco Foundation and was awarded a \$10,000 scholarship from the Dizzy Feet Foundation.

Preparing students for life

Dominican is committed to preparing students to embark into the world by offering career development programs, services, and networking opportunities.

An annual event, Dominican's Career, Internship, and Graduate School Fair puts students in contact with employers, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and graduate programs. The fall 2011 event drew over 55 exhibitors and was rated highly by students, alumni, and participating organizations. Students networked with representatives, learned about internship and job opportunities, and gathered graduate program information. Several alumni returned to represent their employers including Deloitte, UC Hastings College of Law, and Young Imaginations.

The University's Mentorship Program matches students and young alumni with an established professional in their field of interest, affording students

a friend and advisor to turn to as they enter the career world. Mentors provide professional and academic advice and assist students in setting goals, writing résumés, honing interview skills, and networking. Mentors are asked to make a one-year commitment, devoting at least two hours per month to the program. Students seeking mentors are responsible for setting goals, making contact with the mentor, agreeing on expectations, and reaching out for help.

Students or potential mentors interested in the Mentorship Program may contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 415.485.3242 or alumni@dominican.edu.

Loticia Sandoval '09 and Michelle Mitrer '07 recruiting Dominican students for Deloitte



Institute for Leadership Studies Fall 2011 Leadership Lecture Series

Actress, Jane Lynch of *Glee*, *Hardball*'s Chris Matthews, bestselling authors Khaled Hosseini, David McCullough, and Bill Bryson, cosmologist Brian Swimme, and Dr. Andrew Weil headlined the Fall



2011 Leadership Lecture Series, a cooperative effort between Dominican's Institute for Leadership Studies and independent book store Book Passage. Each year, the series features leading figures from the world of business, politics, entertainment, academia, and literature.

Sponsored by the Marin-based wealth management company Private Ocean, owned by trustee Richard Stone, the series began with a lecture by Brian Swimme and a screening of "Journey of the Universe," his new film about the origins of everything, the

stardust that holds it all together, and humans' role in this intricate web of life. The event was offered in cooperation with Dominican's First Year Experience Big History.

Jane Lynch discussed her memoir, *Happy Accidents*, reflecting upon the successes of her recent past and her earlier struggles. MSNBC host Chris Matthews presented *Jack Kennedy: Elusive Hero*, a remarkable new portrait of JFK woven from interviews with those who knew him best. *At Home: A Short History of Private Life* is Bill Bryson's look at the history of domesticity and was the topic of his lecture.

David McCullough discussed three generations of young Americans living in Paris from 1830 to 1900 and how it changed their lives and the course of American literature, medicine, art, architecture, and history, as outlined in his book *The Greater Journey*. Khaled Hosseini presented a new graphic novel rendering of his bestselling work, *The Kite Runner*. And Dr. Andrew Weil spoke about attaining and sustaining optimum emotional health as detailed in his book, *Spontaneous Happiness*.

Dominican graduate student awarded \$100,000 NIH grant

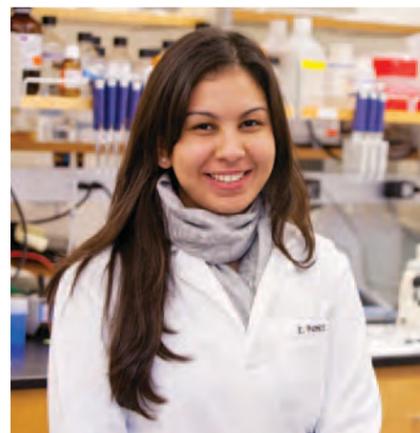
Dominican graduate student Esmeralda Ponce has been awarded a \$100,000 grant by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in support of her research examining the role environmental contaminants play in the progression of breast cancer.

Ponce's research is conducted in association with Dr. Maggie Louie, an associate professor in the Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

Ponce, who earned her undergraduate degree in biology with an emphasis in cell and molecular biology from Dominican in 2010, is enrolled in the University's MS in Biological Sciences program. Louie has served as Ponce's research mentor since her sophomore year at Dominican. It was the University's research-focused curriculum that helped Ponce realize early in

her undergraduate studies that she was interested in research focused on human health related issues.

Ponce was the first in her immediate family to finish high school and pursue higher education. The recipient of the Dean's Scholarship (2006-2010) and a member of Tri Beta, the National Biological Honor Society, Ponce presented her original research at the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research in 2009. Ponce plans to pursue a PhD in cancer biology and become a research scientist in academia.



Joan McDonald '61, Stephanie Bulich '72, Jean Nelson '72, and Sr. Gervaise Valpey '61 at Shield Ceremony



Photo and memorabilia on display at Dominican Heritage and Alumni House



Aminata Diagne (current student, second from right) with her family at Parent's Reception



The Dominican campus was abuzz with exciting assorted activities on October 27-29 when it hosted the annual "Spirit Week" to celebrate the traditions and ideals of the University with alumni, students, parents, faculty and friends of Dominican. The event paid tribute to the Dominican values of service, reflection, study and community and focused on engaged learning.

Among the highlights was a presentation in the Dominican Heritage and Alumni House by Dr. Alan Guskin, who 50 years ago organized a student group at the University of Michigan that inspired President John F. Kennedy to establish the Peace Corps. In addition, Dominican's faculty pioneering the University's new Big History program presented a multidisciplinary program in Angelico Hall. Spirit Week also included soccer games played in front of the largest crowds of the year.



Dominican vs. BYU-Hawaii soccer game



Comedian Jeff Appelbaum entertains students in Guzman Hall



Center: John Cox inspects skull during Big History presentation
Bottom: Chris Gallagher '83 and Dr. Sibdas Ghosh at Alumni Reception



Stephanie Bulich '72, Barbara Fitzgerald '69, and Jean Nelson '72 at Mass of the Holy Spirit



Performance of Dominican/LINES Ballet students

In a regal ceremony on October 29 in Angelico Hall before an enthusiastic crowd that included delegates, trustees, faculty, students and alumni, President Mary B. Marcy was installed as the ninth president of Dominican University of California.

Led by a bagpiper on a beautiful autumn day, the inaugural procession from the Dominican Heritage and Alumni House featured delegates from the University of Oxford and Harvard University. Elaine Tuttle Hansen, executive director of John Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth, presented a state of higher education address before President Marcy delivered her Inaugural address. President Marcy outlined her goals and vision for the University with an eloquent speech that was received with a standing ovation.

President Mary B. Marcy greets Dominican Sisters



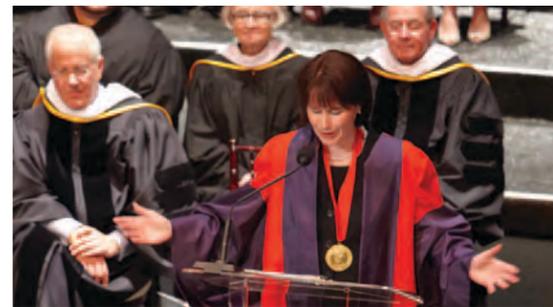
President Mary B. Marcy and Amiya Powell-Hodge '11



Bagpiper leading the procession



Faculty procession to Angelico Hall



Center: Todd McCleary, Esmeralda Ponce, and Alexandra Slatoff ring ceremonial bell
Bottom: President Mary B. Marcy delivering her Inaugural address



Inauguration luncheon on Meadowlands lawn

President Marcy B. Marcy

From Golden Grasslands to the Golden State

College changed Mary Marcy's life. In an educational odyssey that began in a one-room schoolhouse in western Nebraska, Marcy found her eyes opened to a world of possibilities when she first attended the University of Nebraska, and then earned a scholarship to – and master's and doctorate degrees from – the University of Oxford.



"For the first time, I was really asked to think – not for grades or exams, but they challenged you to think and come up with your best ideas," Marcy said of her time at Oxford. "They made sure you were pushed to your fullest capacity. It was a transformative experience for me."

Marcy took that experience and ran with it, pursuing a career in higher education where she

has sought to help many others transform their lives through learning. Those who know her say she brings a rare combination to the job – a powerful intellect as well as a feel for people.

"She's brilliant," said Alan Guskin, who met Marcy when she was a young administrator at Antioch University Seattle and he was president of the five-campus Antioch system. "When you combine her intelligence with her strength, her ability to relate to people, it's a very powerful force."

Marcy was the youngest of five children in a successful cattle ranching family, on land homesteaded by her great-grandfather in 1888. Her parents both went to college, and expected their children to get the education necessary to achieve their life goals.

Part of that education included working on the farm, where they raised Angus cattle and Morgan horses. Raising animals helped teach the children responsibility. "From a young age, Mary was very

much involved with the animals," her mother, Barbara Marcy, said. (Her father, Charles Marcy, died in 2005.) "She knew how to manage horses, which is a discipline in itself."

At age eight, Marcy gave her first speech, a determined effort as part of her 4-H activities. "It broke the judge's heart that he couldn't give her the top prize," Barbara Marcy said. "I said, 'That's fine. She can't start at the top. She won't have anyplace to go.'"

The ranch was 20 miles from the nearest towns, Hay Springs, population 650, and Rushville, population 890. The family moved to Rushville during the school year and commuted to work, to foster the children's education. Photos of the ranch – 8,000 acres of gorgeous golden grassland, stretching to the horizon – are on Marcy's walls and laptop, a constant reminder of her roots.

"The luxury of growing up in a small community is you get to do everything. I played trombone, I was on the speech team, I played volleyball and basketball, I showed horses, cattle, and dogs in 4-H."

“At Dominican, President Marcy has embraced an agenda for engaged learning that rejects the false dichotomy between the liberal arts and practical education.”

"The range of experience gave me an appreciation of exploring all kinds of avenues – athletics, education, the life of the mind," she said.

The University of Nebraska boasted more than 20,000 students, and Lincoln, Nebraska was a city of 250,000 people. That did not intimidate small-town Mary Marcy, who dove right into student government. Sara Boatman, who administered the University's office of campus activities and programs, met Marcy as a freshman, when she joined the Nebraska Union Advisory Board, which advised on many campus

programs, including those for women, minorities, and international students.

"Mary, as an 18-year-old, came into my office one day to ask me why on earth did we need a women's center?" Boatman recalled. The idea was so foreign to the girl from the ranching family that she needed an explanation.

"She did not come in as an 18-year-old with an agenda. She was curious," said Boatman, who became a mentor and lifelong friend of Marcy. "That was one of the things I have seen in Mary ever since we became acquainted, her incredible curiosity. She is always searching out information, which makes her a great leader."

Marcy quickly became the president of the union board, and ultimately became an advocate for a multicultural center. "At the University of Nebraska, students of color were not very well-represented, and having a space where they were not constantly in the minority was important," she said.

She won numerous awards and scholarships, most notably when she was named one of *Glamour* magazine's Top 10 College Women in the United States. She spent a memorable week in New York City, attending a Broadway show and meeting the dean of Columbia Law School. "It was a very

interesting, exciting experience for a girl from a ranch, who didn't subscribe to *Glamour* magazine, but instead read *Western Horseman* and *U.S. News & World Report*," Marcy said.

Upon graduation in 1987, she earned a Rotary International scholarship to Oxford, along with three of her fellow *Glamour* honorees – her first trip abroad.

"I was surrounded by people from all over the world," she recalled. "It marked the first time I had seen significant live theatre, heard world-class music, and traveled to countries where I didn't speak the language. Everything was challenging and new."

At Oxford, Marcy wrote her dissertation on women in American politics. She continues to write on the subject. In a paper published in 2010, Marcy connected the career of former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin to a long line of frontier women politicians. "The media treated her as if she emerged from the head of Zeus, fully formed, when she's really a prototype," Marcy said. "She's good at playing on people's assumptions about women in the west."

Although she had the chops for a career as a professor, she moved into the administrative side of academia. She was the first dean of university relations and planning at Antioch University Seattle, and it was there that, with former university president

Those who know her say she brings a rare combination to the job – a powerful intellect as well as a feel for people.



Amiya Powell-Hodge '11, Mary B. Marcy, and Nicholas Parrish '12

Alan Guskin, she led a national Project on the Future of Higher Education.

“It was a very formidable group we had,” Guskin said, noting it included several university presidents. “The job demanded someone with a tremendous sense of confidence and the ability to relate to people and push them a little bit.”

“She’s a relational leader, rather than a command and control person. She’s strong and she’s clear. Working with her is a pleasure.”

Although still in her 20s, Marcy showed the necessary skills. “She always has a good sense of what she would like to accomplish,” Guskin said. “She’s a relational leader, rather than a command and control person. She’s strong and she’s clear. Working with somebody like that is a pleasure.”

Marcy also served as the lead researcher and policy advisor to the president of Western Washington University before taking a role as vice president and provost of Bard College at Simon’s Rock, a small liberal arts school in Great Barrington, Massachusetts.

Throughout her 18-year career in higher education leadership positions, Marcy has driven major education reform and diversification initiatives, created prestigious and rewarding university partnerships, developed significant fiscal and physical resources, supported the advancement of faculty and students, and enhanced the reputation and reach of the institutions she has served.

Marcy’s own background as an active and involved student has influenced her decision making as a university leader.

From left: Timothy Blackburn, President Marcy, Andy Barowsky, and John Gaulding

At Dominican, she has embraced an agenda for engaged student learning that rejects the false dichotomy between the liberal arts and practical education. The goal is to ensure that every student receives a rigorous liberal arts education. The classroom experience will be augmented with a strong set of partnerships that ensure students put their learning into action.

All undergraduate students will be asked to participate in at least three experiences that use their education in an active way. The out-of-class experiences will include service-learning projects, study abroad experiences, internships, student research, or leadership development projects.

“Imagine a campus where every student will receive a challenging classroom experience grounded in the highest ideals of liberal education. Now imagine a campus where every student will graduate having actively applied those intellectual concepts beyond the classroom,” Marcy said.

“The result will be the best of the liberal arts: the ability to think clearly, to analyze thoroughly, to reason, to assess, to communicate, to make connections across difference. The result will be the best of practical education: the ability to put knowledge to use, to resolve problems and implement ideas, to adapt, to apply intellectual skills to practical challenges.”



Learning by Doing

Engaged Learning at Dominican

Engaged learning is an educational approach based on the idea that students learn more effectively by doing rather than listening to abstract concepts in the classroom. Through participation, students connect classroom learning to the real world, gaining insight into the relevance of academic knowledge, an understanding of their own personal impact, and an enriched capacity to become effective and creative community builders. As President Marcy noted in her inaugural speech, “Our vision for engaged learning works because it represents Dominican values in action: to study, to reflect, and to serve our community.”

Soon all undergraduates will be required to participate in at least three out-of-classroom experiences in service-learning, student research, study abroad, internship, or leadership development programs.

Service-Learning

Service-learning affords students the opportunity to apply academic skills and critical thinking to societal issues. Now in its eighth year, the program offers more than 40 courses and works with many community organizations and agencies.

Service at Dominican also extends globally. Students have worked in Uganda, Mexico, Tanzania, Belize, Ethiopia, Mali, Morocco, and Nepal. Last year nearly 400 students contributed more than 8,000 hours of service-learning.

Undergraduate Research and Scholarship

Dominican is one of only a few smaller universities that have successfully embraced undergraduate research and scholarship as a training tool. Dominican professors train students to work independently on specific research topics beginning as early as their freshman year, providing a unique experience for undergraduates and contributing to the success of faculty research programs.

Dominican’s student research has resulted in more than 130 conference presentations. Last year more

than 70 student papers were presented at the Conference on Undergraduate Research, the most in the nation.

Study Abroad

As part of Dominican’s mission of fostering an appreciation of cultural diversity and global interdependence, students are encouraged to consider study abroad opportunities. Students may study in virtually any country where an accredited study abroad program exists. Opportunities are available for periods of study from one week to one year. Last year 47 students participated in study abroad programs to eight countries.

Internship

Dominican’s internship program integrates students’ academic learning and personal development with hands-on work experience related to their major. In collaboration with faculty advisors, students receive individual guidance in selecting appropriate internships and understanding internship policies. Last year 165 students participated in internships.

Student Leadership

Across the University, student leadership initiatives prepare our students to lead productive lives as engaged citizens. These initiatives include the LeaderShape Summer Institute, an advanced six-day, on-campus, ethics-based leadership development experience for young adults. Each summer, approximately 45 undergraduate students from many universities live in Dominican dorms while building leadership skills and practices they will utilize in their academic, personal, and professional lives.



Elaine Ikeda, executive director of California Campus Compact, discusses the national and global service-learning movement at the Engaged Learning event during Spirit Week.

Big History

The First Year Experience at Dominican

Throughout history, great things happen when people think big – whether they were cave dwellers harnessing the power of fire, Greeks establishing democracy, Columbus discovering a new world or Einstein finding new laws of physics.

Dominican is thinking big as well, and the subject is history itself. A groundbreaking new course sequence called Big History, required of all first-year students, is changing the way people think of the events that shaped our world.

“Dominican is a very innovative school. The rest of us in Big History around the world just said, ‘Wow, this is what we’d all like to see at our own university.’”

In Big History, faculty from a diverse range of subject areas – from science to humanities, from astronomy to literature – have created a curriculum that in 12 weeks takes students from the formation of the universe, to the first appearance of life on earth, to the significant developments in the rise of human beings. That is, it covers 13.7 billion years of history, and more, if you consider its emphasis on the future.



“We were looking for something foundational and global,” said Mojgan Behmand, director of the program and Dominican’s 2010 Teacher of the Year. “We wanted to give students a sense of their place in the world, without them being at the center of it. This course teaches them about the past, looks at the now, and challenges the student to think about the future.”

At least 40 other colleges have some course in Big History, Behmand says. But most offer it as a lecture, and none require all first-year students to take it.

“This was very innovative on the part of our faculty,” she says. “We can use Big History as a platform, a

larger framework to teach everything – women and gender studies, the arts, humanities, science, the social sciences, everything. That was very valuable.”

Craig Benjamin, associate professor in the history department at Grand Valley State University in Michigan and treasurer of the International Big History Association, praised Dominican’s pioneering spirit.

“Dominican is a very innovative school,” Benjamin says. “The rest of us in Big History around the world just said, ‘Wow, this is what we’d all like to see at our own university.’”

As the faculty grew more inspired, the administration encouraged them, giving money for a summer institute in 2010 in which 30 faculty members participated. Dominican supported the development of a curriculum, and saw the value of requiring it for all incoming students.

Dominican President Mary B. Marcy believes in the Big History program as a far more meaningful experience than what most other colleges offer. Other programs may have students reading the great books of Western civilization, but Dominican wants to go deeper.

“We think our job is to model the best of contemporary intellectual thought, and we think Big History embraces that idea,” Marcy said, in introducing a lecture by Brian Swimme, a professor and co-producer of the film, “Journey of the Universe,” on the Dominican campus this fall. “It brings interdisciplinary knowledge to bear on our understanding not only of Plato and Aristotle, but of their place – and our place – in literally the history of the universe.”

Two critical developments have coincided to bring Big History to the forefront of academia.

• Science – The development of new dating methods such as carbon-14 and genetic dating in the mid-20th century led to what Big History experts call “the chronometric revolution,” in that suddenly historians could put dates on ancient events. Instead of merely relying on written history, scientists can now estimate geologic time, among other things, giving a new long lens to the view of history.

• History itself – As more and more historians tend to specialize in the 20th century, or even smaller subsections such as World War II, and others in merely American history, a number of other academics are calling for broader views – more expansive both in time and place. “We’ve all been getting concerned about the increasing compartmentalization of

The Skull Lab

Fourteen students sit around tables in Meadowlands Hall and ponder the skulls before them. Professor Tom Burke has brought the skulls (models of primate, human, and early hominid heads) to demonstrate threshold six of Big History, the emergence of human beings.

“In one class session,” he told the students, “we’re going to do what took anthropologists 200 years.”

The students examine the models, looking for tell-tale signs of evolution – fang-like canine teeth, a large bump on the back of the head, a sagittal crest, or bony ridge at the top of the skull that gives a caveman his distinctive profile.

The exercise helps show the connection from the rise of human beings in the Paleolithic era.

“We’ve been covering a longer time span than I ever had before,” said Rachael deVries, a first year student from Davis, California. “It’s interesting to relate different topics to each other – science, history, language, literature.”



First Year Experience

BIG HISTORY
DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA

The 8 major thresholds

- **Cosmology**
The creation of the universe.
- **Astronomy**
The creation of stars.
- **Chemistry**
The creation of chemical complexity.
- **Geology**
The creation of the earth and the solar system.
- **Biology**
The creation of life.
- **Biology**
The creation of human beings.
- **Anthropology**
The origins of agriculture.
- **Sociology and history**
The origins of the modern world.

knowledge, the balkanization of different disciplines, in which students get only bits and pieces and not any sense of the whole,” says Benjamin.

As these concepts gained traction in the 1980s and 1990s, the idea came to the attention of Dominican professor Cynthia Brown, now retired, who began incorporating Big History into her own classes on education and history. Ultimately, Brown began to bring the idea to her colleagues, and enthusiasm for the concept mushroomed.

“Dominican is all about community,” Behmand says. “It’s one of our main values, and this program really lives it. Everyone came together and created something together.”

Cynthia Brown

It’s only natural that Dominican became an early adopter of the Big History movement, as one of the foremost thinkers in the field is Dominican’s own Cynthia Brown.

Brown first caught the Big History bug in the late 1980s, when professor Philip Novak brought the late philosopher Thomas Berry to campus to tell “The Universe Story.”

In 1991, Brown read an article about David Christian, who was teaching a Big History course in Australia. “The minute I read the article, I said, ‘Yes! That’s it!’”

Brown was teaching a course at the time called “Columbus and the World Around Him,” and she just kept adding onto it. Eventually, Novak and biology professor Jim Cunningham also taught the course, continuing to refine it.

When Brown retired in 2001, she began work in earnest on her book, *Big History: From the Big Bang to the Present*, published in 2007.

“It doesn’t stop at the present,” she notes now. “It always goes to the future.”

Even faculty members who were not teaching in the program advised those who were. “We felt their voices should be heard,” Behmand said.

And the faculty come from diverse departments at Dominican, giving First Year Experience “Big History” a big perspective. Participants include biology professor Jim Cunningham, the “bird man” of Dominican, Cynthia Taylor the “Americanist” of the history and religion departments, and Rich Simon, Tom Burke and Judy Halebsky of the english and humanities departments.

As a literature professor, Behmand’s approach may differ from that of a science professor. Behmand uses Margaret Atwood’s novel “Oryx and Crake,” for instance, not only to teach scientific concepts that are relevant now, like genetically modified organisms in the food supply, but also to delve into myths, stories and legends that other cultures used throughout history to explain scientific concepts.

“There’s the question of how these stories envision the creation of humans and animals and their relationship to each other, to nature, to the sun and the moon,” Behmand says. “Every culture sees it differently.”

Dominican also thought carefully about the pedagogy of Big History. It did not want to force students to sit through a series of lectures in crowded halls. Each teacher only has 20 students. “We’re not cramming facts and dates into them,” Behmand says. “We want it to be tangible, something they can touch and feel. The main goal of the program is for students to leave this year able to do critical and creative thinking. We want them to understand global interdependence and the interconnectivity through this larger narrative.”

Big History faculty divide history into eight major thresholds. As outlined in “Big History: Between Nothing and Everything,” a textbook coming out from McGraw Hill and written by Cynthia Brown, David

“We think our job is to model the best of contemporary intellectual thought, and we think Big History embraces that idea.”

Christian and Craig Benjamin – the latter two Australians who are among Big History’s pioneers and foremost advocates – the thresholds and the disciplines that inform them are:

- Cosmology: The creation of the universe.
- Astronomy: The creation of stars.
- Chemistry: The creation of chemical complexity.
- Geology: The creation of the earth and the solar system.
- Biology: The creation of life.
- Biology: The creation of human beings.
- Anthropology: The origins of agriculture.
- Sociology and history: The origins of the modern world.

In a way, it’s the course that everyone wishes they had when they were in college. “One student said she valued Big History because when she grows up and has kids and they have questions, she said, ‘I will actually have answers,’” said Jamie Castner, a recent Dominican grad who now helps Behmand administer the program.

The course also brings several big advantages:

- It takes complex material and breaks it into easy-to-understand chunks of information. Rather than view the material as intimidating or beyond one’s area of interest, Big History makes all of those topics accessible by putting them into the context of a larger narrative. In the biology threshold, for instance, Cynthia Taylor describes “the Goldilocks principle: What made earth the right planet at the right time for life to emerge?”
- It gives people a view of where humans fit in the grand

scheme of the universe. “Since we’re such a dominant species now, we can consider our role as caretakers and think about the future implications of what we do,” Taylor says. Rich Simon notes, “When they study industrialization, they can see that a whole host of problems arise. But if you give students a sense of how we got here, they can think about how to solve those problems.”

“In a way, it’s the course that everyone wishes they had when they were in college.”

Simon says. “It’s okay not to buy it, or to buy only parts of it. To recognize it helps to build creative thinking skills.”

“College is a time to challenge your beliefs,” says Cynthia Taylor. “It’s a safe place for students to grow and question and separate from the belief systems of their parents.”

“There’s still room for awe in this story,” Simon says. “We don’t have all the answers.”



Dr. Brian Swimme with audience members after September 7 lecture

Rolf and Valerie Lewis

Full lives and generous hearts

In 1960, the *San Francisco Chronicle's* legendary columnist Herb Caen wrote about a conversation with the owner of a newly opened restaurant near Aquatic Park.

Rolf Lewis, Caen wrote, had selected the location because of its “wonderful view of Alcatraz.” Now, with \$200,000 invested in the place, Caen noted that the owner’s outlook had changed slightly. “What I’m wondering, is what the view is like *from* Alcatraz.”

As it turns out, the investment proved a sound one. Rolf’s Since 1960 became a San Francisco destination frequented by politicians, business leaders, and celebrities, including Bing Crosby, Glenn Ford, and Kim Novak. Patrons enjoyed the rich interior of purple rugs, soft lights, and silvery walls, as well as a spectacular view of the Bay.

Rolf became a local celebrity himself, described by one San Francisco columnist as “a charming young European with a quick wit and ready smile ... plus the gallantry of the ‘continental’ that the gals so dearly love.” In later years, both *Gourmet* and *Bon Appétit* magazines profiled the restaurant, praising its

continental cuisine and in particular its signature dish, beef stroganoff.

But, the secret to the success of Rolf’s Since 1960 was more than the spectacular ambiance, excellent food, and stunning views. The restaurant flourished as a result of Rolf’s tremendous work ethic.

Rolf Lewis immigrated to San Francisco from Germany in 1947, sailing under the Golden Gate Bridge. He came in pursuit of the American dream. That year Rolf and his brother, George, pooled their money to open a coffee shop in Burlingame. Over the years, they opened more shops in other locations, including the former Gold Pheasant on Union Square.

There was one spot Rolf had long coveted, a vacant building next to a lumber yard near Aquatic Park and close to the Buena Vista. One day a ‘vacancy’ sign went up, and Rolf jumped at the opportunity.

Rolf’s Since 1960 opened in January 1960, with then-San Francisco Mayor George Christopher as one of the first guests. With Rolf managing the front of house and his brother in the kitchen, Rolf’s Since 1960 quickly became one of the city’s premier dining spots. The restaurant thrived until 1985, when the landlady informed Rolf the rent was to double.

“My brother and I talked and decided to go out on a high note. It was time to say ‘thank you very much’ and move onto the next project.”

In 1985, Rolf and his brother partnered in notable San Francisco restaurants including Sutter 500, Rosalie’s, The Atrium, and Café Majestic. Rolf also found new passion: teaching restaurant management at the California Culinary Academy.

Rolf and Valerie generously support several of Dominican’s most important initiatives and programs.

Rolf continued to play an active role within his industry, serving as president of both the Golden Gate Restaurant Association and the California Restaurant Association. In 1995, he was selected to evaluate food service operations at Air Force bases worldwide through the elite Hennessy Program and was awarded honorary brigadier general status for the trip. Rolf regards being a guest on Air Force One and meeting President Bill Clinton as a most memorable moment.

Today, Rolf divides his time between San Francisco and Kentfield with his wife Valerie, whom he met over an evening of Tchaikovsky at the San Francisco Symphony in the late 1990s. It was a desire to give back to that led Rolf and Valerie to Dominican.

“I have enjoyed a meaningful life and have received so much from America that I want to give something in return to this wonderful country.”

Valerie, who received a nursing degree from Stanford University in 1962, was keen to support nursing education in the community. Her own career is as

“When we heard about Dominican’s nursing program, we thought that supporting student scholarships would be a wonderful way to help people who themselves would be helping people,” says Valerie.

In 2010, Rolf and Valerie met Martha Nelson, dean of the School of Health and Natural Sciences, who invited them to tour the Department of Nursing. Valerie and Rolf were both amazed to see the technology used to train students. Their expectations of the program were exceeded, resulting in a transformational gift designated to the department in support of scholarships, technology and equipment, undergraduate research, community outreach, and the graduate nursing program.

In 2011, Rolf and Valerie increased their support of both nursing scholarships and the newly created Dominican Fund for Innovation: Engaged Learning. This project supports engaged learning, an area of distinction for the University and a centerpiece of Mary B. Marcy’s presidency. Their gift will allow the University to expand the array of engaged learning opportunities offered to all students, as well as lay a cornerstone for future growth in this area.

In addition, Rolf and Valerie are supporting Dominican’s athletics campaign with a generous gift to the Allen Family Athletics Complex and Kennelly Field.

“Dominican’s students are so fortunate that they can learn from the highest quality of teachers,” says Rolf, who recently joined Dominican’s Board of Trustees. “I feel fortunate that I can provide a gift that will help students gain a tremendous education.”



Rolf pictured with Richard and Barbara Pivnicka at Spirit Week dinner

“Dominican’s students are so fortunate that they can learn from the highest quality of teachers. And I feel fortunate that I can provide a gift that will help students gain such a tremendous education.”

impressive as her husband’s. Valerie worked as a hospice nurse for 14 years. In the 1970s, recently widowed, she moved to Kabul to work as a nurse at the National Organisation for Ophthalmic Rehabilitation (NOOR) eye hospital.

A commitment to supporting those who, in turn, will devote their careers to caring for others is one that resonates with both Valerie and Rolf.



New Faculty

Graciela Carranza joins the Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics as Assistant Professor. Graciela earned her PhD in Organic Chemistry from Baylor University; her area of expertise is synthetic organic chemistry.

The Department of Occupational Therapy welcomes **Kitsum Li** and **Shad St. Louis** as Assistant Professors; Li received her Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions; her research focuses on fall risk in seniors. St. Louis received his MS in Occupational Therapy from Tufts University; his research focus is wheelchair-seated drivers.

Toby Embry joins the Department of Nursing as Assistant Professor after receiving his MS in Nursing Education from Dominican.

Jacob Massoud joins the School of Business as Assistant Professor of Strategic Management holding a PhD from New Mexico State University, Las Cruces. His academic interests are in environment management and sustainability in organizations.

Rajeev Sooreea is an Assistant Professor of International Business hailing from Western Michigan University where he received his PhD. His academic interests focus on foreign markets entry strategy, foreign direct investment, monetary policy and stock markets, financial integration, and time series modeling.

Faculty Research and Presentations

June Wilson, Assistant Professor, Nursing, has been elected to the 2012 Board of Directors, Division 46, Media Psychology, of the American Psychological Association.

Sibdas Ghosh, Associate Dean, School of Health and Natural Sciences, has been appointed to the Council of Colleges of Arts & Sciences 2011 Standing Committee on Private Institutions.

Professor **Luanne Linnard-Palmer**, Nursing, has been elected Chair of the National Society of Pediatrics Research Committee. Linnard-Palmer also presented “Transforming Lives – Public Health Partners for a Global Community” at the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society Biennial Convention.

Ruth Ramsey, Associate Professor-Tenured, Occupational Therapy, presented “Healthy Seniors, Phase 1: Development and Implementation” at the Occupational Therapy Association of California annual conference in Sacramento.

Barbara J. Ganley, Associate Professor-Tenured, Nursing, **Patricia Harris**, Assistant Professor, Nursing, **June Wilson**, Assistant Professor, Nursing, and **Toby Embry**, Assistant Professor, Nursing, presented research at the Magic in Teaching conference in San Diego.

Dr. Jennifer Lucko, Assistant Professor, Education, published an article entitled, “Tracking Identity: Academic Performance and Ethnic Identity among Ecuadorian Immigrant Teenagers in Madrid”

in *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*; she presented her findings at the International Conference on Negotiating Identity in Migration Processes Center for Human and Social Sciences in Madrid Spain.

Dean **Edward Kujawa**, School of Education and Counseling Psychology, has joined the Board of Directors of 10,000 Degrees, formerly known as the Marin Education Foundation.

The School of Education and Counseling Psychology

co-sponsored the event “Rethinking Federal Aid to Education in a California Context” with the League of Women Voters, the American Association of University Women, and the Marin County Office of Education. Dominican Trustee and Superintendent of the Marin County Office of Education, **Mary Jane Burke**, introduced the keynote speaker and later gave an overview of outstanding educational projects and programs in Marin County. **Dean Kujawa** did a welcome and later provided closing remarks.

Professor **Lynn Sondag**, Department of Art, Art History and Design, received a \$12,000 grant from the Marin Community Foundation for the implementation of two community arts projects. She also presented at the Imagining America Conference: Artists and Scholars in Public Life, University of Minneapolis, MN, and exhibited her work at Sanchez Art Center, Pacifica, CA.

Martin Anderson, Assistant Professor, History, and **Harlan Stelmach**, Professor-Tenured, Philosophy, Religion, Social & Cultural Studies, will be published in the journal *Confluence* on “Deep Reading and the Future of the Humanities.”

Laura Stivers, Chair, Religion and Philosophy Department, co-authored *Christian Ethics: A Case Method Approach, Fourth Edition* with Jim Martin-Schramm and Christine Gudorf (Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, forthcoming spring 2012).

Gigi Gokcek, Assistant Professor, Political Science, published an article titled “Irredentism versus Secessionism: The Potential for International Conflict” in *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* vol. 17, no. 3 (2011).

Political Science Assistant Professor, **Alison Howard**, presented a paper with Donna R. Hoffman (University of Northern Iowa) entitled “Presidents and the Rhetoric of Recessions” at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle.

William Phillips and **Afshin Gharib**, Psychology, presented the paper “Differences Among Exam Types: A Comparison of Open Book, Cheat-Sheet and Closed Book Exams” at the 3rd International Conference on the Teaching of Psychology, Vancouver, BC.

Harlan Stelmach, Humanities, **Christian Dean**, Political Science, and Executive Vice President/Chief Academic Officer **Luis Calingo**

presented at the American Association of University Professors Shared Governance Conference in Washington, DC, on “Impact of Dominican University of California’s New Decentralized Management for Changes in the Governance Structure.”

Admassu Bezabeh, Associate Professor, Business and Leadership, presented a paper entitled “Banking Reform in Ethiopia” at the 86th Annual Conference of the Western Economic Association International, San Diego.

Professor **Asayehgn Desta**, Business and Leadership, published a paper entitled “Reversing Ethiopia’s Intellectual Capital Flight” in *Journal of International Management Studies*.

Professors **Denise Lucy**, **Françoise Lepage**, and **Jayati Ghosh** published a paper in the *Journal of Management Sciences* entitled “Going Global: U.S.-Based SMEs’ Change Imperatives”. They also had an abstract presented at the International Association of Management and Business Conference in San Francisco. The paper is entitled “International Trade Profile and Activity of California SMEs.”

Jacob Massoud, Assistant Professor, Business and Leadership, has a manuscript accepted for publication by *International Journal of Operations and Production Management*. The paper (co-authored with Bonnie F. Daily and James W. Bishop) is entitled “The Role of Training and Empowerment in Environmental Performance:

A Study of the Mexican Maquiladora Industry.”

Business and Leadership Dean **Dan Moshavi**, and several co-authors published, “A Proposed Model for the Role of Physician Peer Mentoring in Improving Physician Communication and Patient Satisfaction” in the *Academy of Health Care Management Journal*.

Assistant Professor **Rajeev Soorea**’s paper, “U.S. and European Stock Market Crashes: Any Evidence of Interdependence?” has been accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Monetary Economics and Finance Issue*; Co-author: M. Wheeler.

Sherry Volk Retires

Dr. Sherry Volk has retired after a distinguished career at Dominican spanning more than four decades.

She guided the science program for many years, serving as chair of the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences. She was later named Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Volk served in other academic and administrative roles as well. She co-founded and directed the Pathways program, served as Director of the Library and as Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs.

She worked tirelessly to strengthen Dominican’s academic programs and her teaching excellence won her numerous awards.

Building the Dominican dream teams one player at a time

The building of Dominican's basketball programs, more so this season than any other, has required its energetic and dedicated coaches to work overtime.

When new Men's Basketball Head Coach Booker T. Harris arrived from Metro State of Denver in mid-May, he hit the ground running to find more players in a shorter period of time than is the norm. Harris was often up at dawn and recruiting beyond midnight, watching more than 100 potential recruits in at least 175 games over the summer.

Brianna Chambers, in her fifth season as Dominican's Women's Basketball Head Coach, spent a day recruiting in San Diego where, after watching players the previous night, she was out of her hotel at the crack of dawn for an early morning game, grabbed a fast-food breakfast then saw two more games across town before returning to the first gym she had visited that day. All this on her birthday.

These are the sacrifices Dominican coaches are making with unlimited resolve and limited resources to find student-athletes who can meet the athletic and academic challenges the University presents at the NCAA Division II level.

"It's 24/7. It doesn't stop," Chambers says. "But I do love it."

Chambers had a fairly typical recruiting year. She replaced five players who graduated with three recruits and two walk-ons.

With the help of contacts he made over the years in NCAA Division I and II and the addition of new Head Assistant Coach Rich Mendoza, Harris has recruited players with a variety of skills who can play multiple positions.

"It's like being a chef," Harris says. "You have all these ingredients and spices [and] if you turn up the heat you'll come up with a great dish or a different recipe."

Coaches know the recipe begins with motivated student-athletes who can compete on the court and in the classroom. Coaching them is one thing. Finding them is another.



New Softball Coach

Roni Sparrey, Dominican's new softball coach, is helping the Lady Penguins be stronger players through weight lifting and conditioning. Her goal: to instill confidence in them by the time the competitive season begins in the spring.

1950s

Classmates from the **Class of 1951** gathered at the Dominican Sisters Retreat House in Bolinas on September 21st. They connected with each other as they spent the night sharing updates, memories, and laughs.

Ann McCann Cerney, '56 has received an honor from her *alma mater*, Humphreys College: Lawrence Drivon School of Law, and will be inducted into the Humphreys College Hall of Fame. Cerney is a partner at Cerney, Kreuze & Lott in Stockton, focusing on disability and Social Security cases, probate, trust and conservatorship. Cerney earned her law degree in 1975 and, with her peers, established the county's first all-women law firm Cerney, Mellwrath, Fass & Yecies.

1960s

Classmates from the **Class of 1961** gathered for a summer mini reunion to bask in good company for the second time this year at the home of **Sharon Smith Campodonico** '61. They wanted to reconnect again after celebrating their 50th Reunion in April.

Congratulations to **Barbara "Bobbie" Fitzgerald** '69 on the birth of her two granddaughters Riley Fritsche (4 months) and Brooklyn Thomas (2 weeks). Riley is the daughter of **Courtney Fitzgerald Fritsche** '03.

1970s

Donna Borok Moss '77 and **Jeffrey Moss** '77 were married June 14, 1986 and celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary this past summer. They still reside in San Rafael. Jeff continues to work in his law practice and Donna works at Zenith Printing.

1980s

The picture book biography, *Cixi, The Dragon Empress*, by **Natasha Yim Carter** '83 MS '86, was launched at Book Passage in Corte Madera in October. It's one of six books in the series; *The Thinking Girl's Treasury of Dastardly Dames* published by independent press Goosebottom Books. The series explores the lives of some of the most fascinating women in history, each of whom got labeled with a terrible nickname.

1990s

Ben Stricker '95 and Katie Jaeger were married on June 11, 2011.

2000s

Pepe Gonzalez '02 and Danielle Gomez were married on July 14, 2011.

Congratulations to **Dean Aclan** '04 and his wife Sharon Goya Aclan on the birth of their twin sons Liam and Ethan Aclan.

Congratulations to **Becky Kingsbury** '06 and Trey Melton on the birth of their second child, Ava Reese Melton.

Megan Sullivan '07 and Ned Webster were married on July 1, 2011.

Emmy Alexander '10 was sworn in as a Lieutenant in the United States Navy this past August on the Dominican campus.



Dean, Liam and Ethan Aclan

Top: Class of 1951 at Long Sands
Center: Lieutenant Emmy Alexander '10 getting sworn in to the Navy on the porch of Meadowlands Hall



Pepe '02 and Danielle Gomez Gonzalez

Top: Barbara Carcione Erle '61, Bernie Esteves Kelleher '61, and Marge Riley Summerville '61
Second from top: Sister Gervaise Valpey, O.P. '61, Ann Devlin Ford '61, Diane Clecak Farley '61



Second from bottom: Donna Borok Moss '77 and Jeffrey Moss '77
Bottom: Barbara Liston Fitzgerald's '69 grandchildren – Riley Fritsche and Brooklyn Thomas

Dominican Men's Lacrosse Coach Ned and Megan Sullivan '07 Webster



Ben '95 and Katie Jaeger Stricker

Our sympathy

Elaine Cassidy Duncan '43, Kathryn Cassidy Riedy '46 on the death of their sister, and Sue Worner Tierney '68 on the death of her mother, and Elizabeth Harrison Worner '05 on the death of her mother in-law, Evelyn Cassidy Worner '42

Marie Taylor Bettencourt '47 on the death of her husband Richard Bettencourt

Mary Gravitt '74 on the death of her father, Frank Gravitt

Gary Hickox '77 on the death of his mother, Irma O. Hickox

Nicki Petruzzella Kerns '86 on the death of her father, Antonio "Tony" Petruzzella

Renae Walters-Kohlman '91 on the death of her father, Thomas R. Walters

Rev. Christian Lehrer '01 on the death of his mother, Joan K. Sontz

In memoriam

- Pauline Ivancovich Teller '36
- Virginia Mazzini Smith '36
- Barbara Johnson Hoagland '37
- Sr. Marjorie Stadler, O.P. '39
- Evelyn Cassidy Worner '42
- Virginia Ringer Antrobus '43
- Ailene F. Kelso '50
- Helen Grennan Kaiser '50
- Alice Zwierlein Schlim '52
- Barbara Brandt Livernois '52
- Diane Marian Della Santina Baldrice '55
- Eleanor Burchett Perkins '56
- Noreen O'Sullivan '56
- Beaudine Jones Dallara '59
- Cathy Anne Murphy Neuschatz '66
- Jerry Campbell Leith '72
- Sr. M. Agatha Meister, O.P. '72
- Adrienne E. Stroub '76
- Krista Frances Walker '91
- Susan P. Harmon '96

Remembering Sr. Marjorie Stadler

“Sister Marjorie changed the course of my life. The support, encouragement and guidance she afforded me during my four years at Dominican helped alter my career path. She touched my daughter's life in the same way years later when she, too, attended Dominican. We both have fulfilling careers in music and owe a debt of gratitude to Sr. Marjorie. She was our guidance counselor, our mentor and, most of all, our friend.”

Susan Demattos Winckler '65

Honor the past by creating a legacy

Many alumni describe their years at Dominican as some of their happiest, where lifelong friendships were formed. This year several alumni chose to honor their time at Dominican by making bequest gifts. One alumna of the class of '70 made a bequest to establish an endowed scholarship fund to support students in need of financial aid. Her gift creates a legacy that will continue to help deserving students in perpetuity. If you are interested in honoring your special experiences at Dominican with a planned gift, visit www.dominican.edu/plannedgiving or contact Vern Ummel, director of planned giving, 415-257-0125.

Lorraine Barry
A remarkable woman and lifelong learner

Lorraine Barry is driven by her desire to grow and learn. She has always taken the road less traveled.

“I did all right in high school, but I wasn’t interested in going to college,” Lorraine said. Her peers were going to college to become teachers or nurses, but she was intrigued by the business world.

Immediately after high school, Lorraine took a job as a clerk-typist, working for a boss who trained her at every desk... except his. She subsequently attended a one-year business school then worked in finance and investment in New York. A job brought her to the Bay Area in 1969 with Dodge & Cox where she became one of the first women shareholders of the firm.

In addition to her love of business, Lorraine has always nurtured her desire to explore other interests. In the early 80s she left work to attend the College



of Marin, and there Lorraine met a student who introduced her to Dominican.

Lorraine brightens when she talks about her time as an older student. “I loved having interaction with students of all ages.” During her summer of 1986 at Dominican, she studied in Oxford, taking courses on Gandhi, Shakespeare, and terrorism. But it was back in San Rafael in Professor Jaye Miller’s Latin American History class where her life took a dramatic turn.

A fellow student introduced the class to the Peace Corps. Lorraine applied immediately and served in Belize teaching business skills for two years.

Never shying from a challenge, Lorraine then rejoined Dodge & Cox where she completed a satisfying career. Since retirement, Lorraine has been studying in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and has found time to be a caregiver to a number of friends.

Brigitte Moran
CEO and Executive Director of the Marin Agricultural Institute



Brigitte Moran was not your typical Dominican student. Yes, she was in her 20s, took a full course load, played volleyball, and studied with her classmates. But she was already married and had three young children at the time.

In 1982 Brigitte and her high school sweetheart, Herb, started their family but she was eager to return to school. With a scholarship from the Marin Education Fund, the help of a Dominican student babysitter, and the support of her

husband, Brigitte was able to attend Dominican. She raves about the positive experiences she had in the classroom. “I wanted to be there,” she says.

She started an event company in 1988, joined the San

Rafael Chamber of Commerce, and soon found herself running the downtown Farmers Market, and then the Marin County Farmers Market as well. Brigitte, who has helped grow the Marin Farmers Markets into the successes they are today, credits the Dominican business and leadership courses, particularly those that empowered women, with providing her a solid foundation and the courage to succeed.

In 2006, Brigitte handed oversight of the downtown Farmers Market to her daughter Monique, another Dominican alumna. For the past five years, Brigitte has focused on seeking approval for a covered, pavilion-type Farmers Market. “I got to know the farmers, their lives, and their families and now I want to create a place to honor them while sharing their locally grown products with the rest of Marin.”

My lifetime intertwined with Dominican

I was raised in a Dominican neighborhood surrounded by fragrant eucalyptus trees. In 1963, I attended Sr. Patricia Lyons O.P.’s Garden School, housed in the beautiful Dominican Heritage and Alumni House. Girls wore dresses and boys sported bow ties, and our Christmas pageant that year was performed in Angelico Hall, where I learned to play piano.

My early work as a special educator was also rooted in Dominican. High school summers were spent working with physically and neurologically disabled young children at Forest Meadows Development Center, across the street from the Dominican Convent motherhouse.

Masters level graduate studies drew me to Dominican again in the early ’80s where my life took an unexpected and very positive turn. Dr. Madalienne Peters, current Professor of Education, Director of the Masters Program in Curriculum and Instruction, and one of my professors at the time, was staffing that semester’s new student orientation with me. During a lull in the morning event, she handed me a slip of paper on which

Q. What do these things have in common?

- graduate school
- the aroma of eucalyptus
- kindergarten
- meeting the love of your life

A. Dominican University of California.

she’d written a name and phone number. “Here, Mike...I want you to meet a nice Italian girl,” she offered with a smile. One thing I had learned from the Dominican sisters was when a teacher issues a directive, you follow it. I did...and 29 years, two sons and a daughter later, Joanne and I remain fondly indebted to Madalienne, our Italian Yenta.

To this day, the aroma of eucalyptus evokes powerful and positive associations for me. Walking past eucalyptus trees after a rainfall I find myself back at the Garden School playing tag...or tossing a football behind Caleruega Hall...or leaving Bertrand Hall to meet Joanne for a late night cappuccino. The common denominator in these memories is Dominican, a place that has left an indelible imprint on a life and career in which I feel incredibly grateful to be engaged.



Dr. Michael Pelfini

Dr. Michael Pelfini is president and CEO of Easter Seals Bay Area (www.bayarea.easterseals.com), a social sector company leading the way to ensure that children and families affected by autism and other disabilities can live, learn, work and play to their full potential.

During his 20 years with Easter Seals, Dr. Pelfini has led innovative improvements in organizational development, programs and fundraising, and financial performance. Prior to his work with Easter

Seals, Pelfini was a leader in special education, teaching in both public and private school settings. He resides in San Rafael with his wife, Joanne. They have two sons, Joe and James, and a daughter, Gwen. Dr. Pelfini’s dedication to special education is motivated by the memory of his sister, Theresa, who within her first 12 months developed a severely disabling neurological condition that eventually took her life.

This past summer and fall semesters Dominican alumni have gathered together for a variety of events including; Dominican Athletics Bocce Tournament, Shield Ceremony, Mini Class Reunions, Spirit Week, Alumni Receptions and the Inauguration of our Ninth President.

These events gave alumni the opportunity to reconnect and share memories of their times at Dominican. The highlights of the events included an alumni reception hosted at the President's home. Dominican looks forward to welcoming you back to campus for future events. Find a calendar of events on the back of The Torch.

Dominican Alumni Travel Club has launched its first trip planned for September 2010. Join fellow Dominican alumni on a 7-day fall journey aboard the Caribbean Princess to the scenic waterways and quaint towns of Canada and New England. For more information contact the Alumni Office at 415-485-3242.

Sister Karen Marie Franks, O.P. '49 and Mary Corbett McCaffrey '49



Top: Erica & Scott Lindstrom Dake '96
Center: Bocce Team SUMO – Roberto Zuniga '08, Todd Seech '07, Mark Orcholski '07 & MS '10, Rhiannon McGrew '06, Brian Uribe '07 & MA '11



Ellen Gargiulo Gillen '72 and Stephanie Bulich '72



Students, alumni, family, and friends gather for the Inauguration Luncheon on Meadowlands Lawn



Lily Allen & David Hughes MS '09



Maureen De Nieva '07 & MBA '11, Elizabeth Campi '10, and Valerie Chua '08



Patty Trosclair '75, Pepe Gonzalez '02, Robin Gayle



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calendar

January

An Evening with Tom Brokaw

January 22
Angelico Hall, 7:00 pm
ils@dominican.edu

Forms & Structure & Botanic Art Exhibition

January 20 – June 22
Science Building, 1st floor
sandi.chin@dominican.edu

Athletics Booster Receptions

“Chilly’s Cove”
January 28, February 7, February 25
Conlan Recreation Center
Beer, wine, soft drinks and buffet.
\$20 per person. Boosters: free.
(415) 482-1843

February

Tilden Trio with Nanci Severance, Viola

Guest Concert Series
February 5
Angelico Hall, 3:00 pm
concerts@dominican.edu

An Evening with Robert Bellah

February 9
Angelico Hall, 7:00 pm
ils@dominican.edu

An Evening with Eve Ensler

in conversation with Isabel Allende
February 24
Angelico Hall, 7:00 pm
ils@dominican.edu

March

Bridge Chamber Virtuosi

Guest Concert Series
March 18
Angelico Hall, 3:00 pm
concerts@dominican.edu

An Evening with Jennifer Granholm

in conversation with Dan Mulhern
March 25
Angelico Hall, 7:00 pm
ils@dominican.edu

April

Alumni Reunion 2012

April 20-21
Shield Room
Dominican Heritage & Alumni House
alumni@dominican.edu

Jonathan Vinocour Viola Recital

Guest Concert Series
April 22
Angelico Hall, 3:00 pm
concerts@dominican.edu

One Book One Marin: An Evening with Michael David Lukas

April 25
Angelico Hall, 7:00 pm
events@dominican.edu

May

Dominican 2012 Golf Classic

May 7
Meadow Club
alumni@dominican.edu

Business Edge Breakfast

May 16
Creekside Room, 7:30 – 9:30 am
Featuring political philosopher and Harvard professor, Michael Sandel
ils@dominican.edu