

tableaux

October 2013

PROJECT BRICK BY BRICK

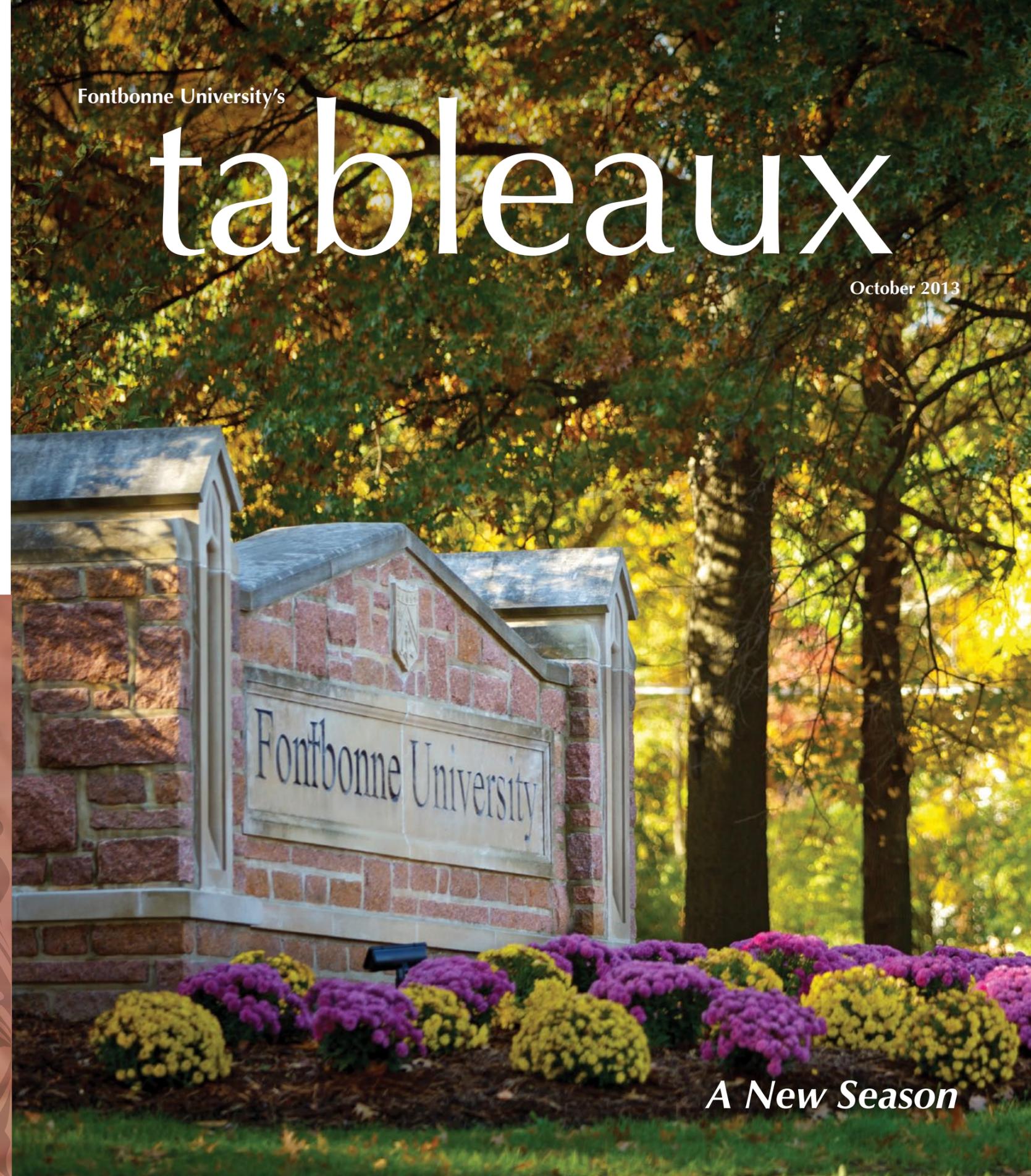
Save your place in Fontbonne University's history with an engraved commemorative brick located on the walkway in front of Anheuser-Busch Hall or the East Building. Honor your education at Fontbonne and leave a lasting legacy in your name or choose to honor a family member, an upcoming graduate or a favorite professor who has made a difference in your life.

Each gift of \$200 entitles you to a 4"x8" brick and each gift of \$1,000 entitles you to an 8"x8" brick.

HURRY AND BUY ONE THIS FALL.

Minimum donations for the bricks will increase after January 1, 2014!

For more information, or to purchase your brick, visit
www.fontbonne.edu/brick or call Angela Ness at 314.889.1408
or email at aness@fontbonne.edu.



A New Season

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On the cover: Warm, golden light filters through the leaves during an autumn morning on Fontbonne University's campus.

CREDITS

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SFI logo placement



Change Agents

The class of 2017 arrived on campus in a flurry of Tweets, Tupperware tubs and trepidation. Like every new class, these millennials were anxious and excited, eager and enthusiastic, leaving parents and high school behind to step into a brave new world. Their presence brings change to the university, as each new class does. Tone, demographics and energy all shift along with the season.

Change, in whatever form, can be difficult, exciting, trying, challenging and rewarding. In this issue of *Tableaux*, we feature change in many contexts: Dr. Dennis Golden, Fontbonne's president for nearly 19 years, will retire in the summer of 2014, a change that will bring a new and different perspective to Fontbonne (page 2). Halbert Sullivan made some drastic changes in his life on page 14, and he now helps change the lives of others; St. Louis City Chief of Police Sam Dotson works every day to change the perceptions and realities of violence in our neighborhoods (page 20); Monica Ellebracht will soon move back to the U.S. after living in Bolivia for three years (page 32), a change she is anticipating with both eagerness and anxiety; and Bryan Quinn, who graduated from Fontbonne in 1985, changed the course of his life and career through the education he had here (page 35).

Change can be hard, yes, but change is also opportunity. Whatever change may come to Fontbonne, we ask you to stay connected. As our alumni, friends and supporters, you are also our most ardent ambassadors and strongest advocates. With your help, our transitions will be smooth, and each new season, a metamorphosis.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Elizabeth Hise Brennan'.

Elizabeth Hise Brennan

*Do you have a story idea? Let us know.
Email me at tableaux@fontbonne.edu with your thoughts.*

news briefs

FONTBONNE PRESIDENT TO RETIRE; SEARCH FOR REPLACEMENT CONTINUES

When the members of the Fontbonne University class of 2014 receive their diplomas next spring, Dr. Dennis C. Golden, president of Fontbonne University, will preside over commencement as the university's leader for the last time. Upon his retirement June 30, 2014, Golden will have served as president of the university for 19 years. Golden came to the university in 1995, the first male, married, lay president of Fontbonne, which was founded and continues to be sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

"As I reflect on 47 years in higher education, I can say with certainty that my journey has been both a career path and a calling," said Golden. "Here at Fontbonne, it is also a labor of love because we constantly strive to develop our students into global citizens who are competent, ethical and prepared to serve a world in need."

The search for the next president of Fontbonne University is under way. Applications for the position are due by Oct. 11, 2013. The new president will be announced in the spring of 2014. Look for an in-depth feature on Golden and his tenure in the next issue of *Tableaux*.

www.fontbonne.edu/presidentsearch



▲ **A TRADITION OF SERVICE** More than 250 Fontbonne University faculty, staff and students traded their jobs and homework for a day of community service this April. The event, dubbed Fontbonne Day, was the university's 6th annual campus-wide service effort. Participants worked in teams at 26 different sites around St. Louis city and county, including Operation Food Search, North Grand Neighborhood Services, Pony Bird Inc., Project Backpack and Operation Brightside St. Louis.

Watch the video at www.fontbonne.edu/fontbonneday.



The Mayor of the City of Clayton, Harold J. Sanger (left), congratulates Fontbonne President Dennis Golden after presenting the university with the Export Achievement Certificate.

AWARD REFLECTS COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUCCESS

Fontbonne University was recognized with the Export Achievement Certificate at a ceremony at the Old Post Office in downtown St. Louis in late May. The Commercial Service division of the International Trade Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce gives this award to a business or organization that has displayed excellence in export services and strengthening international relationships.

"We've been moved over the years by Fontbonne's commitment to international students," said Cory Simek, director of United States Commercial Service in St. Louis. "It's rare that a university gets this award, but Fontbonne has not only shown dedication to their international program, they've inspired other schools to do the same."

In 2007, approximately 68 international students from 12 countries were enrolled at Fontbonne. By fall 2012, enrollment had increased to 192 students from 27 countries, nearly a 180-percent increase.

"Fontbonne staff have traveled the world to admit the best international students," Simek said. "From Canada to Katmandu – literally Katmandu!"

Mayor of the City of Clayton, Harold J. Sanger, presented the certificate to Fontbonne president Dr. Dennis Golden at the ceremony.

"We are honored to receive this award," Golden said. "Fontbonne's increase in international enrollment is attributable in part to the relationship with the U.S. Commercial Service. They have provided expertise and counsel that has greatly helped in our goal to strengthen our international student population. We are grateful and look forward to continuing this relationship well into the future."

www.fontbonne.edu/international



SOFTBALL TEAM UNDEFEATED IN SLIAC PLAY

The Fontbonne softball team went undefeated in regular season conference play for the first time in school history with a 16–0 record this spring. The Griffins were 30–10 on the season and finished their home stance 12–0. This was the third year in a row that the Griffins have been named regular season St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Champions. The team went on to play in the NCAA regional tournament but was eliminated in the third round.



▲ **GOLF GATHERING** University supporters gathered this summer for the 25th annual Fontbonne University Golf Classic at The Country Club of St. Albans in St. Albans, Mo. Red Schoendienst, Cardinal baseball great and husband of alumna Colleen Schoendienst '73, both pictured front row center, above, served as the honorary chair. Proceeds supported scholarships for new and current Fontbonne students.

STUDENT ONE OF FOUR TO RECEIVE FOOD SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP

Fontbonne University senior dietetics major Shauni Hernandez was selected to receive a 2013 Clark E. DeHaven Scholarship award from the National Association of College & University Food Services (NACUFS). The scholarship, worth \$5,000, is one of only four given to students in the U.S. each year.



Randy Loechner



Michelle Siegel



Angela Ness

NEW FACES IN ADVANCEMENT

Fontbonne University has named Randy Loechner vice president of institutional advancement, Michelle Siegel as senior director of alumni relations and annual giving, and Angela Ness as director of annual giving.

Loechner was hired as director of major gifts in 2012 and then served as interim vice president of institutional advancement until his most recent appointment.

Siegel is responsible for engaging alumni as well as overseeing fundraising initiatives aimed at supporting scholarships and other improvements.

As director of annual giving, Ness will work with alumni, parents and friends to help support the university through philanthropy.

www.fontbonne.edu/giving



On May 29, 2013, Fontbonne University President Dr. Dennis Golden was notified that the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, the university's founders and sponsors, granted his request for a \$750,000 gift to the university. The gift is intended to meet any pressing financial needs Fontbonne may have.

"I am deeply appreciative of the generosity provided by province leadership and members of the corporate board of the CSJs," said Golden, who views the gift as testimony of the sisters' commitment and mission of Fontbonne, as well as their willingness to assist the university during a challenging financial period of time.

Two of the university's most immediate financial needs include scholarship funding for presently enrolled students and the establishment of additional parking for students and staff.

news briefs



FONTBONNE RECEIVES \$30,000 NCAA CHOICES GRANT

As colleges around the country crack down on student alcohol consumption, Fontbonne University has received a \$30,000 grant to proactively approach the issue. The NCAA awarded the university a three-year, \$30,000 CHOICES grant to equip students with the knowledge and support needed to make smart decisions and prevent alcohol and substance abuse. The program kicks off this week on the university's Clayton campus.

"A committee of seven students and six staff developed our NCAA grant request," said Claudia Charles, director of Fontbonne's counseling and wellness program and leader of the CHOICES implementation committee. "We want to provide our students with healthy alternatives that diminish reliance on easily available, negative coping mechanisms like alcohol. By increasing access to peer support, we will strengthen our campus experience and reduce the number of students who abandon their dreams of a college education when the going gets rough."

The committee planned a variety of alternative activities for the 2013–2014 school year, and it established a social norming campaign to extinguish misnomers students have between perceptions of peer behavior and reality. This campaign includes a peer listening component known as STARS: Students Thinking & Acting Responsibly & Safely. STARS trains students to serve as nonjudgmental listeners for teammates, friends and classmates. The first cohort is comprised of a group of peer-nominated student-athletes representing each of Fontbonne's athletic teams. As the program continues, it will expand and engage student representatives from each social organization on campus.

The NCAA CHOICES program was endowed by a \$2.5 million gift by Anheuser-Busch Companies in 1991. Its goal is to help NCAA member institutions and conferences integrate athletics into larger campus-wide alcohol education efforts. CHOICES began awarding one-year project grants in 1991 and three-year project grants in 1998. It has awarded more than \$5.7 million to 229 member institutions since program inception.



ALUMS EARN TEACHER HONORS

The Missouri Association of Colleges for Teacher Education selected two Fontbonne University alumni among their 64 Outstanding Beginning Teacher honorees for 2013. Thomas Puetz '11 teaches mathematics at Marquette High School in the Rockwood School District, and Kara Welty '11 teaches first grade at J.L. Mudd Elementary in the Fort Zumwalt School District. This award is given to teachers within their first two years of teaching in school districts across Missouri. Recipients are selected based on evaluations completed by their college or university and recommendations from the school district.

REFRIGERATION GIANT SPEAKS ON CAMPUS

Dennis Gipson, (at left with Fontbonne President Dennis Golden) chief executive officer for the Hussman Corporation, one of the largest producers of refrigeration solutions and services in the food retail industry, spoke this spring with students, faculty and staff about food preservation and sustainability and the role it plays in protecting our environment. The event was sponsored by Fontbonne's Eckelkamp College of Global Business and Professional Studies.



FONTBONNE TEAMS WITH AVILA TO HOST MENTORING CONFERENCE

This coming February, Fontbonne and Avila Universities, both sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, will co-sponsor a regional gathering focused on the mentoring of students. Called "Vocation and the Common Good: Mentoring and Advising Students," the event will bring together Fontbonne and Avila faculty and staff, including formal and informal advisors, as well as visitors from universities around the region.

This event is funded by the Council of Independent Colleges' Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education program, known as NetVUE. It will take place Thursday, Feb. 27 – Friday, Feb. 28, 2014. Look for more information as it becomes available. Contact Dr. Janelle Densberger, director of leadership education and student activities, at jdensberger@fontbonne.edu, with questions.



A GREENER CAMPUS

Thanks to the efforts of Fontbonne University's Environmental Club and the club's president, senior Marielle Counts, the school is one of only 35 colleges in the nation to receive a grant from the Alcoa Foundation Recycling Bin Grant Program, a collaboration between Alcoa Foundation, Keep America Beautiful and the College & University Recycling Coalition. Now, 500 new recycling bins line academic and administrative offices and resident rooms, enhancing Fontbonne's recycling infrastructure in an effort to divert recyclables from the waste stream.

BOSNIA MEMORY PROJECT MAKES AN IMPACT

Fontbonne's Bosnia Memory Project, dedicated to establishing an enduring record of Bosnian genocide survivors, hosted earlier this year a campus presentation and discussion about Prvi Mart, an initiative to use legal and ethical means to positively influence the 2014 general elections in Bosnia-Herzegovina. A key component of the initiative encouraged voting by Bosnians who were forced to leave Bosnia-Herzegovina during the 1992–1995 war and genocide — many of whom now live in St. Louis.

This year marks 21 years — a generation — after the start of the genocidal war in Bosnia-Herzegovina. In April, a public symposium held at Fontbonne examined the idea of "Being Bosnian: Identities after the War." The symposium was hosted by the Bosnia Memory Project and the Bosnian-Herzegovinian American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Speakers included Time Magazine-featured writer Aleksandar Hemon; Dr. Esad Boskailo, author and survivor of six concentration camps in Bosnia-Herzegovina; Dr. Amila Buturovic, a specialist in Islamic studies with specific interest in collective memory; and Patrick McCarthy, a St. Louis author who has worked with the local Bosnian community since 1993. The event was made possible by a generous grant from the Missouri Humanities Council.

FOCUS ST. LOUIS NAMES PROJECT "WHAT'S RIGHT WITH THE REGION"

The Bosnia Memory Project at Fontbonne University was honored this spring as a FOCUS St. Louis What's Right with the Region! awardee in the category "Improving Racial Equality & Social Justice."

Each year, FOCUS St. Louis recognizes 20 organizations, individuals and initiatives that have made a profound difference in the St. Louis region. The 16th annual What's Right with the Region! awards recognized outstanding individual leadership and community success stories.

The Bosnia Memory Project began in 2006 when Dr. Ben Moore, Fontbonne English professor, and Dr. Jack Luzkow, history professor, developed an undergraduate course titled "The Bosnian Immigration: Narrative, Memory and Identity," designed to give students a better understanding of St. Louis' Bosnian community and the tragic events that account for its existence. The course grew quickly into something much bigger: the Bosnia Memory Project.

www.fontbonne.edu/bosnia



■ academic updates

EVENING AND ONLINE PROGRAMS GET FORMAT MAKEOVER

Fontbonne's evening and online programs recently underwent format changes in an effort to provide maximum convenience for the adult student population. Bachelor's degrees are now offered exclusively in a blended format, which includes four classes online and four classes face-to-face within each eight-week course. A new healthcare management program is the notable exception and is offered exclusively online. Students in this program will learn to analyze internal and external data and apply their findings in real-world settings to make effective and ethical decisions in healthcare settings. The Master's of Management and the MBA, previously offered in the evenings or online, are now offered in either a completely online format or a blended format. The Master of Science in Nonprofit Management, previously offered in the evenings, is now offered exclusively in a blended format as well. www.fontbonne.edu/eveonline

CYBER SECURITY UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Beginning this fall, students can earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Cyber Security, the only program of its kind in St. Louis, and one of only two in Missouri. The increasing importance of online security and the demand for cyber security professionals in the job market prompted Fontbonne to develop this new academic opportunity. Heading up the program is a new professor to the Fontbonne faculty, Yi Yang, who holds a doctorate in computer science and engineering from Penn State.

"Because of the critical importance of cyber security in today's world, Fontbonne had to develop a program that helps students understand the computer science behind cyber threats," said Yang. "Our program will teach students to examine the weaknesses associated with database systems, web applications and operating systems, how to find them, and how to recover data corrupted when systems are compromised. Our graduates will be qualified to analyze, plan and implement security strategies to safeguard organizations and data."

Within this full-time degree program, developed by Fontbonne faculty members in consultation with local industry experts, students will take a foundation of mathematics and computer science courses, as well as a series of courses developed specifically for the cyber security program, including Network and Security Management, Wireless Communications and Mobile Forensics, and Computer Forensics. www.fontbonne.edu/cyber

MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES DEGREE

Fontbonne University has partnered with accredited, teaching hospital laboratories to offer students the basic science background and the clinical experience needed to be part of the medical laboratory sciences field. Students interested in pursuing certification in medical laboratory sciences, or MLS,

have two options at Fontbonne. A single-major degree program can be completed in a standard four years, leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in MLS. Or, in five years, a double-major degree option will lead to majors in both biology and MLS. In both cases, one full year of clinical instruction at a partnering hospital is required.

CHIROPRACTIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Fontbonne University now has an articulation agreement in partnership with Logan College of Chiropractic/University Programs. The 3+3 program allows qualified students to earn both a Bachelor of Science degree from Fontbonne and a Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Logan in just six years, one year less than a traditional Doctor of Chiropractic degree program. www.fontbonne.edu/chiropractic

NURSING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

A partnership between Fontbonne and the Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish helps students maximize their time and education. Students complete 55 hours, or two years, at Fontbonne studying general coursework, then apply for admission at Barnes-Jewish College to complete specialized nursing coursework, labs and clinical experiences, eventually earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. www.fontbonne.edu/nursing

RELIGIOUS STUDIES PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Fontbonne and Aquinas Institute of Theology have created a partnership program that gives Fontbonne religious studies majors additional options for fulfilling upper-division requirements as they earn undergraduate and graduate credit at the same time. Upon graduation from Fontbonne and admission into Aquinas, students may pursue any Aquinas certificate or degree with a few graduate-level courses already included in their transcript. www.fontbonne.edu/aquinas

ENGLISH UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

Students interested in an English degree now have three options. As of this spring, Fontbonne offers Bachelor of Arts degrees in Literary Studies, Professional Writing and English for Secondary Certification. The diverse English degrees, which all have a foundation in literature and language, analysis and reflection, cater to unique career opportunities suited for various studies of the English language. www.fontbonne.edu/undergrad

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MINOR

Students passionate about the biological world and its sustainability can now minor in environmental studies at Fontbonne, regardless of their major. Program content includes classes in plant biology, field ecology and environmental ethics.

■ faculty notes



Dr. Stephanie Afful, Fontbonne University assistant professor of psychology, received the Jane S. Halonen Teaching Excellence Award from the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP; Division 2 of the American Psychological Association). The national award, given annually, recognizes an outstanding educator within the first seven years of his or her career.

Afful, Fontbonne's 2011 Joan Goostree Stevens Excellence in Teaching Award winner, will also be featured in the October issue of Teaching of Psychology, the official journal of the STP.

Dr. Sarah Huisman advanced in rank to associate professor. Huisman teaches early childhood education in the College of Education and Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Sharon Jackson '96 advanced in rank to associate professor. Jackson, who is chair of Fontbonne's social work department, also gave the keynote speech at the 2013 Show-Me Annual Symposium sponsored by the National Association of Social Workers-Missouri in March. Her presentation was titled "The Role of Critical Thinking in Social Work Practice," and defined the relationship between social work knowledge, values and skills, and the application of critical thinking in social work practice.



Deanna Jent's original play, "Falling," performed Off-Broadway in the fall of 2012, was nominated for a 2013 Drama Desk Award in the category of outstanding play.

Dr. Richard Lewis advanced in rank to professor. Lewis teaches in the department of communication disorders and deaf education, part of the College of Education and Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Dr. Linda Magrath advanced in rank to professor. Magrath, dean of the Eckelkamp College of Global Business and Professional Studies, teaches business.

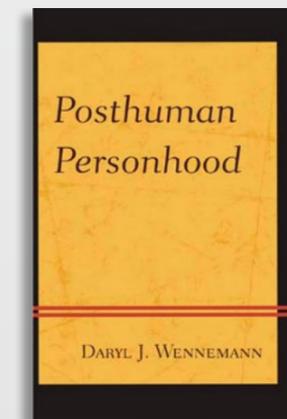
Mary Beth Ohlms advanced in rank to assistant professor. Ohlms teaches dietetics in the department of human environmental sciences.



Dr. Suzanne Stoelting advanced in rank to associate professor. Stoelting currently teaches sociology in the department of behavioral sciences and is transitioning into a new role as director of retention for Fontbonne.



Dr. Minh Truong advanced in rank to associate professor. Truong teaches physics in the department of biological and physical sciences.



Fontbonne University associate professor of history, philosophy and religion, **Dr. Daryl Wennemann**, recently published his second book, "Posthuman Personhood" through University Press of America. In his book, Wennemann discusses the ethical challenge presented in Francis Fukuyama's book, "Our Posthuman Future," and suggests that the traditional concept of personhood may be applied to the ethical challenge faced in the post human age.

1960

CAROLYN OSIEK, RSCJ '62 is the general editor of a new study Bible: The Anselm Academic Study Bible, published by Anselm Academic.

ANN AMANTEA BLUM '65 has written a new book titled "The Steamer 'Admiral' and Streckfus Steamers: A Personal View," which contains her memoir of the 18 summers she spent working on the St. Louis-based Admiral and a history of the Streckfus company. The book is available at local independent bookstores and at amazon.com.

1970

LINDA HAINES KAISER '72 was selected as Alumna of the Year by her high school, St. Elizabeth Academy in St. Louis.

SUSAN FRANKLIN '79 is the operations director at St. Paul's Home for the Aged in Belleville, Ill. She was recently quoted in the St. Louis Business Journal about renovations at the home.

1990

KATHY GOUWENS '91 graduated from Webster University in May 2011 with a Master of Arts in Professional Mental Health Counseling. She is currently a provisionally licensed professional counselor with Preferred Family Healthcare in Wentzville and St. Charles, Mo., working with adolescents and their families.

DWIGHT CARTER '96 is the owner of Blue Bird the Boutique and Rock Uniform PR, businesses located on Washington Avenue in downtown St. Louis. Carter encourages his fellow alumni to visit the area and enjoy new shops and restaurants.

RICHARD DIERKER '97, MBA '01 was promoted to senior director of corrugated segment sales analysis at RockTenn, a packaging and recycling business based in Norcross, Ga.

JULIANNE HAYES '97 was promoted to systems administrator in the information technology department at Fontbonne University.

CATHY GOLDSTICKER '98 is a tax partner at St. Louis-based Brown Smith Wallace, LLC, and was interviewed by the St. Louis Business Journal about tax tips for readers.

JAMES GRIMES '98 was promoted to manager at RubinBrown, an accounting firm in Clayton, Mo.

BEN SHAMBACK '98 was one of 29 artists from around the country accepted for exhibition in "The Figure Now," Fontbonne University's annual, juried art exhibition. The exhibition took place at the Fontbonne Fine Arts Gallery in February.

2000

KALA CHASE '00 joined Stone Carlie, an accounting, auditing, tax and management firm, as business development executive. She lives in St. Louis.

JOSH VOEGTLI '00, CPA, joined Guarantee Electrical Co. as controller. He was previously manager of internal audit at Sigma-Aldrich Co. and had worked more than 10 years in public accounting at UHY Advisors in St. Louis. He is a resident of south St. Louis County.

SAM DOTSON, MBA '01 was named chief of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. He is an 18-year veteran of the department. Pictured: Dotson (left) and **TIM FITCH '99** (right), chief of the St. Louis County Police Department, connected with Fontbonne President Dr. Dennis Golden at a St. Louis event.



CHRISTINA ANDERSON '03 joined Eagle Bank & Trust of Missouri as vice president of marketing. Additionally, she was elected to serve a second term as president of the Fontbonne University Alumni Association.

KIMBERLY OUGHTON BROWN '05 was married in Florida in June 2013. She resides in Belleville, Ill.

DAMON WILLIAMS MBA '05 is director of graduate placement, also overseeing the McNair and SuperScholar/EXCEL programs, at Xavier University of Louisiana. He is involved with the National Black MBA Association.

NICK MORRIS '06 proudly announced the birth of his daughter, Phoebe Theresa, on Oct. 12, 2012. He lives with his family in Fenton, Mo.

CARRIE WENBERG MM'06 joined Webster University as development officer, alumni programs. She was formerly director of alumni relations at Fontbonne University.

ALEX CORNWELL '07 joined the law firm of Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale PC. He is an associate in the litigation practice group, representing clients in general civil and commercial litigation matters, including product liability and mass toxic tort litigation. He will work in the firm's Belleville, Ill., office.

CRYSTAL SHELTON SPINNER MM'09 was inducted into the Webster University Athletic Hall of Fame for her years on the women's volleyball team.

2010

CAITLIN HARVEY '10 was promoted to manager of marketing and communications at The Net Impact, a web marketing company located in St. Louis.

LINDA SCHAEFFER '10 was promoted to office manager in the business office at Fontbonne University.

MELANIE PATICOFF '11, author and CEO of Sophie's Tales, has published a second book. Called "Overcoming Obstacles," the book introduces a Labradoodle with glasses named Champ, who joins Paticoff's original character, Sophie, a Maltipoo with a cochlear implant. Together, they help children learn about friendship, overcoming adversity and sportsmanship. You can learn more at www.sophiestories.com.



THOMAS PUETZ '11 was selected as a recipient of the 2013 Outstanding Beginning Teacher Award given by the Missouri Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. He teaches mathematics at Marquette High School in the Rockwood School District in St. Louis County.

KARA WELTY '11 was selected as a recipient of the 2013 Outstanding Beginning Teacher Award given by the Missouri Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. She teaches first grade at J.L. Mudd Elementary in the Fort Zumwalt School District in St. Louis County.

MICHELLE KILPER MM'13 and her husband, John, proudly announce the birth of their son, Cole Sahn. Michelle is alumni coordinator in the office of alumni relations at Fontbonne University.

in memory

PAULINE REARDON '34
of Kansas City, Missouri
December 12, 2012

VIRGINIA OTTSEN DRIEMEYER '38
of Emmett, Idaho
March 6, 2013

ROSE MARIE BRUEGGEMANN GEOGHEGAN '40
of St. Louis, Missouri
April 17, 2013

MARY MEYER OTT '42
of St. Louis, Missouri
December 21, 2012

JACQUELINE BROE DUFF '44
of Los Alamos, New Mexico
December 29, 2012

MARJORIE WALKER PEAK '45
of Virginia Beach, Virginia
December 10, 2012

FRANCES HIGGINS BREHM '47
of Mission Viejo, California
January 22, 2013

MARY KUHN, CSJ '47
of St. Louis, Missouri
February 24, 2013

JEANNE SCHATZMAN ALLEN '48
of Bloomsbury, New Jersey
February 2, 2013

ROSEMARY BURKE HOFFMAN '49
of Florissant, Missouri
December 24, 2012

MARY REEDY HOLMES '49
of Kansas City, Missouri
April 9, 2013

VIRGINIA ALEXANDER ALLENSWORTH '50
of Foristell, Missouri
January 22, 2013

ROSEMARY RYAN BANGERT '50
of Marthasville, Missouri
June 22, 2013

MARIE LYONS MALECEK '52
of Chesterfield, Missouri
March 31, 2013

JEANNE PHILLIPP KLEINER '54
of Albuquerque, New Mexico
March 20, 2013

EILEEN GAMACHE, CSJ '57
of St. Louis, Missouri
February 22, 2013

THERESA DESROCHERS, CSJ '58
of St. Louis, Missouri
October 21, 2012

JUDY AYDT HANAGAN '58
of Indianapolis, Indiana
April 19, 2013

MARY GARVEY WAXMAN '63
of St. Louis, Missouri
November 30, 2012

HENRIETTA BAHR BASLER '64
of Bloomsdale, Missouri
January 6, 2013

DIANA DIAL '68
of Springfield, Illinois
January 12, 2013

ELLEN O'HARA, CSJ '68
of Cleveland, Ohio
March 31, 2013

PAULA BLAKE KEY '71
of St. Louis, Missouri
October 6, 2012

LYNNE COOPER '73
of St. Louis, Missouri
March 16, 2013

WILLIAM WESTER '83
of Golden Eagle, Illinois
March 24, 2013

ELOISE FOSS '89
of St. Louis, Missouri
March 3, 2013

BERNICE TOBBEN MARQUART '89
of Ballwin, Missouri
November 30, 2012

EDITH HOFFMAN PATTON '94
of Florissant, Missouri
May 14, 2013

SCOTT HAWLEY '97
of Staunton, Illinois
December 17, 2012

SEND US YOUR NEWS ... AND PHOTOS!

If you've recently moved, married, had a baby or changed jobs, or you have other information to announce, we welcome your news.

We also welcome your photos! Email your information and photos to the Alumni Office at alumnievents@fontbonne.edu or send to Office of Alumni Relations, 6800 Wydown Blvd., St. Louis, Mo., 63105.





"My experience here has been amazing. We grow good teachers. The kids here are good people, and good people make good teachers."

The *Accidental* Teacher

by Jamie Sokolik

To say that Nancy English, Fontbonne University's 2013 Joan Goostree Stevens Excellence in Teaching Award recipient, is well known on campus is, perhaps, an understatement. The beloved mathematics professor, affectionately referred to as Doc, always has a smile on her face and an enthusiastic, "hello," for all she encounters. Her passion for teaching, for her students and for the university itself is evident from your first conversation with English. But ironically, she never intended to be a teacher at all.

So, how did she become one of Fontbonne's most beloved professors?

English grew up in Tulsa, Okla. and attended the University of Oklahoma where she earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics.

"I thought I'd be a programmer or a systems analyst," she said. "I got my teaching certificate kind of as a side project, and when I did the student teaching, I just loved it."

Upon graduating, she was offered the corporate position she had hoped for, but instead, she asked the company for a one-year extension to try teaching full time. She headed to St. Louis with two of her sorority sisters and taught math at Parkway West High School. English never looked back and has never regretted it.

"When you're a teacher, you get to know the kids so well," she said. "That's what makes teaching fun, getting to know the students and watching them grow and become more confident throughout the year." She paused for a second and then added, "Maybe that's seen even more in math than in other subjects, but that's the part about teaching that I love."

While at Parkway West, English went on to earn her master's degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia, and then her doctorate from Saint Louis University. After 32 years, she retired from high school teaching and took adjunct positions at Webster University and Fontbonne, and she taught at both schools for three years. When she heard that Fontbonne was looking for a mathematics professor with a Ph.D. who also had high school teaching experience and could work with students studying to become math teachers, she jumped at the chance.

"It was incredible. It was exactly what I'd always wanted to do," she said. "My experience here has been amazing. We grow good teachers. The kids here are good people, and good people make good teachers."

Since she started at Fontbonne, English's passion for her students and her dedication to them has been obvious and

prevalent both in the classroom and off campus. She's one of those professors who goes above and beyond for her students, a fact she would unwittingly prove to DeShawn Stewart, the student who nominated her for the Teaching Excellence Award this year.

"In 2012 I became sick and suffered from a pulmonary embolism," Stewart described in his nomination. "When I missed two classes consecutively, Doc inquired about my well-being, and a fellow student told her I was in the hospital. She'd only known me for one semester, but she came to see me."

Shortly after Stewart was released from the hospital, he fell on hard times once more. English again supported him.

"Knowing how important my education is to me, she wouldn't let me quit ... At the darkest hour of my life, she provided light, love and kind words. It's because of her that I am still here at Fontbonne. And it is because of her that I pledge to live my life helping others and continuing the Fontbonne mission."

Hearing of these actions, many would assume English a shoo-in for the teaching award, but English said she never expected it.

"It's not something I thought I'd ever get," she said. "When I heard I was the 2013 honoree, I was taken aback, but it made me feel really good, too. I appreciate the fact that other people might appreciate what I do. Reward is the farthest thing from my mind — but recognition is always nice."

The 2012–2013 school year marked one more milestone for English — after 12 years of making a difference in the lives of Fontbonne students, she decided to retire.

"I'm looking forward to having a little more time to pursue my personal interests," she said.

However, the word "retirement" seems to have a different meaning for English than many other retirees. Although she will have some more freedom to designate how she spends her time, it sounds like she will still be very, very busy.

"I'm going to bike. And hike. And read the paper. I might have a book in me, I'm not sure yet," she said. "I am insatiably curious, so I'm sure I'll have no problems occupying myself. I have never been bored."

And, of course, English wouldn't feel herself if she weren't a part of the Fontbonne community. In her "retirement," she will remain a part-time associate professor.

"I couldn't just leave," she said. "I can't just quit and walk away. That's too hard. I love Fontbonne!"



An Advocate for Change

by Jamie Sokolik

Tamitha Price is often asked to nominate other people for awards in her position as the executive director for the National Association of Social Workers-Missouri Chapter. When the phone rang, and she was informed that she was the honoree this time, she was shocked.

"It didn't compute at first that this was for me!" she said.

But for those who have been in her classroom, it was no surprise that she was honored with Fontbonne University's 2013 Part-Time Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award. And those who know her story were even less surprised.

After graduating from college with a bachelor's degree in business, Price got a job as a manager at a Wal-Mart in Lexington, Tenn. As manager, one of her responsibilities was to testify against anyone who shoplifted from her store. This had never been a problem. Those who break the law should be prosecuted, right? But then one day, it wasn't so cut and dry.

"A woman stole formula for her baby," she explained with tears in her eyes as she recounted this defining moment in her life and her career. "This was not a dress. It wasn't makeup. She needed the formula for her child."

Price didn't feel right about testifying against the mother, and she carefully considered her options.

"I thought, is that what I want to do? Is this what my father, a police officer, would do? The answer was no – I don't want this, my father wouldn't want it, and neither would my higher power."

Price turned in her resignation shortly after the incident and did some soul searching. She went back to school at Southeast Missouri State and earned a bachelor's degree in social work – a field that closely aligned with her personal values and would allow her to help other people like the young mother.

Price went on to earn a Master of Social Work from Saint Louis University, and then, at 29, she was selected for her current position, becoming the youngest leader the association had ever had.

"I wasn't sure I could do it," Price said. "I had never led a

nonprofit, but 15 years later, I'm still there!"

With her previous success and obvious passion for the field, it's no surprise that Price has been involved with Fontbonne's social work program since Sharon Jackson, head of the program, began developing the curriculum in 2009.

"Sharon asked me if there was anything I thought today's social workers should have more knowledge of before they graduate. Anything that undergraduate programs should expand upon, and the answer was easy," she said. "I told her they need more knowledge of administration."

Price had fallen in love with administration and policy herself while completing her undergraduate course work.

"I suddenly realized that I didn't have to help just one child at a time. Through lobbying and legislation, I could help hundreds of people affected by a variety of circumstances," she said. "I love seeing that moment when my own students have the same realization."

Price currently teaches an eight-week policy course.

"I don't want them to just be listening to a talking head," she said. "I want them to feel it, experience it, hear it, read it, and then apply it in the real world. Sometimes we stay in the classroom, sometimes we don't. Whatever is the most effective way to understand a concept, that's what we do."

One of the projects Price's students complete is to choose a piece of legislation, research it, and then actually make appointments with their legislators. She takes them to Jefferson City to lobby on Policy Day, which is hosted by NASW-Missouri Chapter. (Read about this on page 36.) By the time Price's students graduate, they haven't just learned about policy, they've experienced it firsthand. The ability to offer this unique opportunity for future social workers is something Price treasures.

"I'm very grateful to Fontbonne as a whole to have allowed Sharon to develop this program so comprehensively," Price said. "I'm happy to be one small piece of the pie that contributes to creating good, sound social work education for our amazing students."

"I'm happy to be one small piece of the pie that contributes to creating good, sound social work education for our amazing students."



BREAKING *the* PATTERN

by Elizabeth Hise Brennan



Halbert Sullivan may very well be one of the best-dressed men in St. Louis. His suit, suspenders and tie — worn even on a humid Thursday afternoon — set an example, one he hopes the men his organization mentors will take under serious consideration. Sullivan, a Fontbonne University alumnus, is the chief executive officer of Father's Support Center, a St. Louis nonprofit that helps fathers become responsible parents. And although he wants the fathers to improve themselves, in appearance, behavior and attitude, what drives him is the goal that their children will benefit from their improvement, leading healthier, happier lives.

Located in north St. Louis City, the main Father's Support Center (FSC) location is a sprawling complex of offices, classrooms and computer rooms. The organization, a nationally recognized model for fatherhood development, has 44 employees and programs operating at four locations. About 375 fathers go through its programs each year.

But when the center first opened 15 years ago, Sullivan,

man of faith, father and former drug addict, was the only FSC employee.

An Evolution

To get to know Sullivan, to understand his drive and his passion, you need to know his story.

"I was born to a 15-year-old mom," said Sullivan, the oldest of eight siblings. "She couldn't read or write. We grew up together, and I saw firsthand what a single parent goes through."

His family was poor, he said, but his mother loved her children fiercely and raised them strictly. When Sullivan was a teenager, his mother and stepfather moved the family from Memphis, Tenn., to Rochester, N.Y., although they would eventually settle in St. Louis.

"In Rochester, we lived just one block over from where all the action was. I got caught up in it. At 17, when I should have been graduating from high school, I was incarcerated for the first time."

Sullivan began hustling. He landed in prison three times during the 70s and 80s. He dealt and used drugs. But even as he was using, he knew he had to stop.

"But I kept putting myself in bad environments. Life just kept getting worse," he said. "I lived in vacant buildings, I begged on the street, and I was still committing crimes."

His life was dark for a long period of time, but in 1989, sitting in a jail cell, waiting to be extradited back to the St. Louis area on a criminal charge, he saw the light. An actual light, he said, very bright, in an interior cell in a maximum-security prison.

"It was God," Sullivan asserted. From that point on, faith became a theme for Sullivan. He decided to turn his life around. It wouldn't be easy, and there would be setbacks along the way, but it was never as hard as it had been previously, he said. And in 1993, with a little encouragement, he went to rehab to clean up completely. Weeks later, on the day he left the rehabilitation facility, he went directly to Forest Park Community College to enroll in classes.

"I knew that I wouldn't be successful in life if I just tried to stop using drugs," said Sullivan, who is 20 years sober this year. "I had to remove myself from the people, places and things that I associated with. And there would be no more hustling, so to make money, I had to get a job. But to get a job, I needed training."

At this point, Sullivan was 43, and he knew he wanted to earn a degree in social work as quickly as possible to make up for lost time. A community college counselor told him about the 3-2 partnership program between Fontbonne and Washington University, allowing students to earn a bachelor's and a master's from the two schools within five years. It was then the only program like it in the St. Louis area. So Sullivan transferred to Fontbonne.

Learning More

"It was tremendous to be able to have that kind of academic experience," said Sullivan of his time at Fontbonne. "As an adult learner, I had a greater appreciation for learning. I had more

(continued from previous page)

questions. And it was much easier to ask those questions in a smaller classroom.”

Fontbonne’s human services curriculum taught him terminology, writing style, research approaches and theory — all essentials he would need to excel as he continued his education.

After graduating from Fontbonne with a bachelor’s in human services and from Washington University’s George Warren Brown School of Social Work with a Master of Social Work, Sullivan began working contentedly as a middle school social worker. Within a year, he was approached by two community supporters with an idea for a nonprofit, inspired by a presentation on fatherlessness at a teen pregnancy prevention conference they had attended. They didn’t yet have a 501c3 tax status, nor did they have any money, but they envisioned a program that helped men become better fathers. And they wanted Sullivan to run it. He wasn’t interested — until an incident with a student he was working with changed his mind.

“A kid I worked with was just waiting to turn 16 so he could drop out of school,” Sullivan remembered. The student had a reputation for being a bully, but in reality, in 1996, designer clothes were a big deal and he was poor and couldn’t afford them — so he lashed out at the bullies who teased him.

“We bought him some clothes, which decreased the problem, but he was still missing school on Mondays. I knew something was going on, so I made an appointment to meet with him and his mom around 3:15 after school. When I got to the house, his mom and a bunch of her friends were smoking weed and drinking forties [beer] on the front porch.”

The student, who had three younger siblings, was making up for his mother’s weekend alcohol and drug binges, staying home from school on Mondays to take care of the kids because his only parent wasn’t able.

It was then Sullivan knew that something needed to be done, and he was the man to take it on.

“It made me think about my life,” he said. “The men in my life never drank or cursed around me. They’d correct bad behavior. This kid didn’t have that.”



Being More

Father’s Support Center began slowly. Funding was, and always will be, a struggle, and it took two-and-a-half years to really get FSC off the ground.

“I remember trying to implement the components we had developed,” said Sullivan. “Because of research I had done previously, I was able to get some grant money. [A founder] knew everyone in town; the United Way gave us grants; and one supporter reviewed all of our grant proposals.”

Today, the center offers a holistic approach toward shaping men into better fathers. Sullivan and his staff are motivated by statistics like those from the Missouri Department of Social Services: Children living without an involved father are more likely to run away, commit suicide or drop out of high school, and 82 percent of all teen girls who get pregnant come from fatherless homes. Although the numbers clearly show the importance of a father’s positive presence, make no mistake: The path is not always easy.

The center, which typically recruits men who want to participate and who want to be involved in their children’s lives, offers assistance in parenting skill development, navigating the child support system, relationship skill building, violence prevention and child abuse prevention. The main component is structured like a job for participants — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday for six weeks, each week focusing on a different topic, including personal responsibility, communication, fatherhood and job readiness.

At the end of six weeks, a graduation ceremony brings together fathers and families, rallying supporters, building the fathers’ confidence and giving them a sense of accomplishment like they’ve never previously experienced. Participants then enter phase two of the process. They team up with social workers to make goals and take steps to become permanent fixtures in their children’s lives.

Many FSC facilitators are also graduates, fathers who have improved their own and their children’s lives and, in turn, can provide firsthand knowledge and tough love for others.

“I’m most proud of our fathers,” Sullivan said. “People thought this was a great idea, but they said it’s not going to work; we have too many rules, and the fathers won’t stay.”

The results, however, say something else entirely. According to the organization’s data, 75 percent of the men who start the program complete it. Seventy-five percent retain jobs. Eighty percent interact with their children on a regular basis.

“I tell our fathers to focus on the things you can control — how you look, your interactions with others. There are so many outside factors, but you can’t worry about those. Get past those things and work on the people, places and things around you.”

And Sullivan, with his courteous demeanor and sharp suits, is a living, breathing example of just how well that advice works.

“I tell our fathers to focus on the things you can control — how you look, your interactions with others. There are so many outside factors, but you can’t worry about those. Get past those things and work on the people, places and things around you.”

History Uncovered

by Elizabeth Hise Brennan



“What Mollie has done is a striking example of what education can do. It makes you more aware of the world around you, including the past.”

— Dr. Ben Moore

Dr. Ben Moore and student Mollie Wasson examine a letter written in the 1860s by a father to his son. These letters, as well as her classes at Fontbonne, inspired Wasson to study history.

Fontbonne University’s staff and supporters often site the school’s close-knit community, the strong relationships between its students and faculty, and its small class sizes as some of the university’s best assets.

Students like senior Mollie Wasson know that all of these points aren’t just marketing jargon. This 22-year-old history major’s experience at Fontbonne is marked by the personal encouragement and support of her professors and the independence she’s gained during her years here. By the time she graduates in December, she’ll leave her own mark as an ambitious and accomplished young woman.

Wasson grew up in East Prairie, Mo., a small, agricultural community about three hours south of St. Louis. After her father was arrested and her parents divorced, her mother worked two jobs to make ends meet, and Wasson’s grandparents helped raise her and her brother.

“I moved out of the house at 18, so I’ve been on my own for awhile. I had to grow up really quickly,” she explained. Because of her family’s situation, she has always had a very close relationship with her grandparents, especially her grandfather, a history buff.

Two years ago, a loss put additional strain on Wasson and her family: her brother, just 16, was killed in a car crash. Wasson was devastated. She was close to her brother, who loved history like their grandfather, and who begged to visit battlegrounds, museums and Civil War reenactments.

At the time, Wasson felt lost. She was studying education at a large Missouri university. But in the wake of her brother’s death, she wasn’t thriving, and she started looking for other options.

“My boyfriend’s cousin-in-law graduated from Fontbonne,” she explained. “She had transferred too, so I said I’d go check it out. Fontbonne accepted most of my credits. At my old school, no one was there to explain anything. I got more guidance at Fontbonne.”

Wasson began to thrive. “I’ve just gotten so much help, my GPA has improved significantly. Here, I can go to any one of my professors and they will genuinely help me. I wish I could have started here at the beginning.”

During her first semester at Fontbonne, Wasson took a course in which she and her classmates researched and studied a historic 1970 sit-in that

Fontbonne students staged to protest racism and encourage change at the university.

“I interviewed one of the women — this got me started in my curiosity of history and how it relates to today,” Wasson explained. Soon, she changed her major.

“This is the kind of educational experience that a student like Mollie can get at Fontbonne,” said Dr. Ben Moore, English professor and Wasson’s unofficial advisor. He began working with her during an English literature class. When he brought out a yellowed essay from the early 1700s to use as a teaching tool, Wasson realized she had a similar artifact at home.

“My grandfather bought old letters and a writing desk at a South County antique store for \$135. He encouraged me to take the artifacts and have them appraised,” she explained. “Dr. Moore wanted to see them.”

It turned out that the letters her grandfather had purchased were, in fact, very real. They were written by a man named Arthur Hoyt to his son, Charles, away at school at Norwich University in Vermont in the 1860s.

Moore helped Wasson begin to research the letters and the people behind them. Soon, she was captivated with the contents, the research and the lives of the Hoyts.

“I find them interesting because to me, these are real people,” said Wasson, who does much of her research online using Google and Ancestry.com. “I’ve researched, and I know they were alive and had an impact on their communities. It makes it personal. The fact that I have these letters — I can see day-to-day thoughts — it makes it real.”

Wasson’s work led her to Norwich University, which, as it turns out, has companion letters corresponding with those in her possession. If they want them, she said, she’d consider donating them.

“What Mollie has done is a striking example of what education can do,” Moore said. “It makes you more aware of the world around you, including the past.”

After she completes her degree, Wasson, who is particularly interested in World War II history, wants to remain in St. Louis and work in an archives department. This summer, she interned at the St. Louis Holocaust Museum.

“I’m doing this for my grandpa and my brother.”

THE BUSINESS OF PROTECTING ST. LOUIS

by Elizabeth Hise Brennan



In 1975, Officer Friendly, dispatched by the local police department as part of a learning program, visited a small classroom in a public grade school in south St. Louis City. His presentation, on the role of policemen and their job protecting the community, made a distinct and permanent impression on a young first grader named Sam. At the end of his presentation, Officer Friendly presented Sam with a Junior Citizen Award certificate, a possession that Sam kept for weeks ... months ... years, all the while, dreaming about someday wearing a uniform and badge.

Fast forward 35 years. That first grader is now Chief Sam Dotson, Fontbonne University alumnus and head peacekeeper for one of the 20 largest metro areas in the United States. He leads a force of 1,300 officers, protects a city of 300,000 people, and is on call 24 hours each day. He has accomplished much, and yet, in his downtown office overlooking the city, one piece of paper he keeps framed on his desk is the certificate from Officer Friendly, a simple reminder of why he got into the business in the first place: to serve and protect.

"There were 23 of us eligible for the chief's job," Dotson said in an interview just 100 days after taking office. He noted that in order to be considered for chief of police in St. Louis, an officer must have achieved the rank of captain, which he did in 2008. "I had been promoted a couple of times, and I thought, 'Wouldn't it be great to have that challenge?'"

Dotson has always sought out challenge. Throughout his undergraduate career at Webster University, he worked during the day and attended school at night, applying to the police academy during his junior year and joining the force after he graduated. His next step toward advancement, he knew, needed to be a business degree, and he enrolled in Fontbonne University's MBA program.

"By nature, I like school, and I felt like this was the perfect place for me. I got to know a lot of great people," he said, acknowledging that he knew he wanted to reach higher than his position as an officer. "If I take on a challenge, I want to be good at it. I wanted to achieve as much as I could."

With two degrees under his belt, Dotson is marking nearly 20 years on the force, two of those as the director of operations for Mayor Francis Slay and now as St. Louis' 34th chief of police.

Dotson wears his uniform comfortably. He seems confident and at ease, whether in his own office, on the street, or out at a local neighborhood association meeting (he attends at least

two per week), recalling crime statistics and critical numbers like a CEO. But, he confesses, his job is anything but easy, and he's often kept up at night worrying about his officers out on St. Louis streets. His days are consumed with meetings — he ticks off a typical schedule, starting with a communication strategy meeting in the morning, heading into talks with labor officials, a 3 p.m. scheduling with the mayor, and end-of-day planning for a downtown event. And on weekends, he'll sometimes take the midnight shift to go on ride-alongs with on-duty officers.

"We need to let them know we support them," he explained. As he throws himself into his job, he confesses that he rarely has time for anything else.

"Chiefs in big city departments last maybe three to five years. My window to drive change is small," he said, at the same time, acknowledging some big goals. "First, we need to assimilate the police department and the city to local control. Change is difficult," he explained. "And I want to reduce crime. My objective is to leave the city better than I found it."

As he works toward those goals, he strives for three things: keeping people safe, eliminating the perception that the city is unsafe ("Ten neighborhoods account for 90 percent of the violence in St. Louis," he cites), and being the best communicator he can be both inside the department and with the public.

"Taxpayers have a right to know what we're doing," said Dotson, who, along with his staff, personally Tweets, blogs and communicates information about the department on a regular basis. He's open, eager, and ready to invest the time needed to tackle St. Louis' often-systemic crime problems in an effort to help make the city a better, safer place.

"The complicated thing about police work is that we have a \$173 million operation and 1,800 employees — 1,300 of them who carry guns. The department taught me how to be a police officer. Fontbonne taught me how to manage the business."

A Fruitful Collaboration

by Elizabeth Hise Brennan

If you visited the Missouri Botanical Garden this summer, you may have noticed a popular exhibition called “Foodology: Dig In!”

Sound familiar?

In 2012, Fontbonne University’s annual Dedicated Semester focused on the culture, economics and science of food. It was termed, “Foodology.” Coincidence? Decidedly not. The dual names are the result of a fruitful connection between the two St. Louis institutions, one through which six Fontbonne students achieved valuable practicum experience and the university gained a new community collaborator.

“It was an amazing experience,” said Karen Mills, a 2013 dietetics graduate who began the practicum at the Garden in the fall of 2012. “People at the Missouri Botanical Garden were welcoming, warm, supportive and creative. It was an amazing group of people to work with.”

The connection began in 2010, when the leadership of both institutions came together to discuss opportunities for collaboration, according to Sheila Voss, vice president of education at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

“The Garden enjoys collaborative relationships with many institutions of higher education throughout the St. Louis region and beyond, and we were pleased to deepen relations with Fontbonne,” she said.

“We were impressed with Fontbonne’s Dedicated Semester initiative to immerse students in a singular topic in multi-disciplinary ways,” Voss explained. “As such, we pursued a partnership related to the topic of food, given the Garden’s 2013 ‘Foodology: Dig In!’ year-long series of exhibits, programs and special events. As part of that partnership, the Garden held

food-related classes and tours for Fontbonne students in the Fall of 2012, then initiated a Foodology Practicum program with six Fontbonne students.”

Those six students arrived at the Garden with a variety of backgrounds and interests: two biology majors, one university major focused on consumer affairs, two dietetics majors, and one dual major in dietetics and biology. The majority of the students worked in the Garden’s Brookings Interpretive Center, a family friendly facility with hands-on activities and numerous opportunities for exploration and inquiry. While some students created visual displays, Mills and one other student, Sarah Woods, collaborated with Garden staff to create an interactive wall within the center.

“The great thing about the Garden is that they never told us no. The freedom they gave us was incredible.”

— Karen Mills, 2013 Dietetics Graduate

“The great thing about the Garden is that they never told us no,” Mills said. “The freedom they gave us was incredible.”

During the fall, Mills recalled, she and Woods learned all about the Garden’s philosophy, explored the background of



Fontbonne students (l-r) Nicole Farmer, Amanda Macklin '13, Sarah Woods, Karen Mills '13 and Carly Reidt participated in a practicum at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Behind them is one of the projects they developed. Not pictured: Jessica Oliverson.

the Foodology exhibition, and began strategically developing a food- and Foodology-themed wall display. In the spring, they began bringing their ideas to life. They devised a plan for an “Ask the Experts” mailbox, a “Famous St. Louis Eats” display, and a “Food Story” submission form, allowing guests to tell their own stories about the food that has shaped their lives. The display team at the Garden made their plans reality with colorful signage, props and supplies. The result? A fun, interactive and informative booth for kids and adults to learn and think more about the foods they eat, and a chance for Fontbonne students to showcase their expertise.

“The goals of the practicum program were two-fold,” explained Voss. “Immerse Fontbonne students in what it takes to engage, educate and inspire visitors at an open-to-the-public learning destination, and leverage student expertise, insight and ideas in core content areas — nutrition and dietetics, biology and ecology specifically — to inform and influence

the Foodology series of exhibits and programs. I’m happy to report that both objectives were met!”

Indeed, Fontbonne was so impressed, it presented the Garden with the 2013 Jason Sommer Dedicated Semester Award for its contribution to the university.

Mills, who will complete a dietetic internship with the St. Louis VA Medical Center in May 2014, plans to combine clinical and community dietetics in her future practice. She felt like her Fontbonne education and her experience at the Garden helped ready her for this next step.

“I feel very prepared,” she said. “We’ve had so many opportunities to go out in the community. We’ve been able to go out and apply what we learned in class. Real world work differs from book work — we can see how one translates to the other.”

You can see the work of Fontbonne University students through the end of the year in the Brookings Interpretive Center at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

As soon as you walk into Robbie's House of Jazz in Webster Groves, Mo., you know this is a place for people who love music.

The seating area is comfortable, but not huge. What it lacks in size it more than makes up for in intimacy. The stage is cluttered with a drum set, a piano, microphone stands — the works. Bright red vinyl covers the seats of the black chairs, lamps in a matching shade hang from the ceiling, and a long bar lines the back wall. The atmosphere is perfect for a jazz club — you could reach out and touch the performer if you really wanted.

Enter Dorothy Edwards, owner of Robbie's and a Fontbonne University alumna, and the scene is complete. She looks like she belongs in this place, almost like she's been running the club her whole life. You would think that someone who obviously loves music as much as Edwards would have hit the ground running in the business, but her path to Robbie's wasn't without twists and turns.

Growing up in St. Louis, Edwards and her five sisters were surrounded by music.

"My dad played piano by ear," she said. "He couldn't read a note of music, but he could play that piano."

Edwards was also very close with her godparents who owned a bar in the city. She would often go and watch them work after school and on the weekends.

"They were having so much fun," she said. "I thought, 'OK. This is what I want to do.'"

But then, while in high school, Edwards participated in a work-study program at St. Louis Children's Hospital and found a new niche among the histologists who examined cellular matter to glean information and diagnoses. She decided to change her course and enrolled at GradWohl School of Laboratory Technique where she completed training and earned certification in histology.

As a histologist, Edwards enjoyed a 25-year career with Monsanto, but she never gave up on the idea of owning her own bar. She continued to participate in business workshops and classes, and the seed that had been planted so many years before began to grow. When Monsanto downsized and offered early retirement packages, Edwards saw the sign and took the deal. It was time to move on.

She attended business workshops, wanting to know as much as possible before taking the plunge, but it was becoming apparent that going back to school

and getting a bachelor's degree would be extremely beneficial in her new career path.

"Everything was going my way," Edwards said. "I had a loving husband, two daughters. Everyone was happy and healthy. This was my last goal, the one thing I still wanted to achieve, and I was going to make it happen."

And then, suddenly, not everyone was healthy. Edwards was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2000.

"I knew I wouldn't let this defeat me or get me depressed," she said. "I want other women to know the diagnosis doesn't mean they have to give up on their dreams."

Edwards underwent surgery, and as soon as she recovered, she enrolled in Fontbonne's Bachelor of Business Administration program.

"I originally chose Fontbonne for the location and because they offered the opportunity to take classes in the evening," Edwards explained.

But when she started the program, she realized many other benefits. She appreciated the individual attention she received from the instructors and the fact that they were truly interested and invested in her success. It was during the program that she wrote the original business plan for Robbie's with input from her professors and fellow students.

"It just fit," she said. "Working people like me need universities like Fontbonne that make it possible for us to get our degrees and follow our dreams."

In 2007, Edwards graduated with her bachelor's in business administration.

"When I graduated, I felt good. I really did," she said. "I was confident in what I'd accomplished. I knew my business would be a success. And I knew that if I stumbled along the way, I had surrounded myself with the most positive people who would be there for me, including my Fontbonne family."

She was 62 years old, a college graduate, and ready to start her newest adventure: finally fulfilling her dream and opening a jazz club.

The last few pieces started to come together. She decided to name her bar for her mother, Robbie Mae. She found the perfect storefront in Webster Groves, and she officially opened Robbie's House of Jazz in 2009. She's always ready to tell anyone who will listen how Fontbonne helped her get there.

"I'm so proud of that school," she said. "Any time someone I care about so much as mentions going back to school, I immediately tell them, 'Go to Fontbonne.' Just like that."

a DREAM REALIZED

By Jamie Sokolik

"I knew that if I stumbled along the way, I had surrounded myself with the most positive people who would be there for me, including my Fontbonne family."



DESIGN A MAJOR ... CREATE A CAREER

When Krystal Taylor, a 2010 Fontbonne University graduate, was enrolled here, she was everywhere: coaching new students through their first few weeks of college as a FOCUS leader, lending school spirit to the Griffin Girls dance team, participating in Fontbonne TV commercials and, of course, making the grade as a motivated student. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree focused on corporate and legal communications, a program she designed herself with the help of her advisor. Taylor was a "university major," a design-your-own path for proactive students who thrive on challenge.

Today, Taylor continues to seek out challenge. Tableaux caught up with her this summer at the downtown St. Louis office of The Mission Continues, where she has served for two-and-a-half years as the executive assistant to founder and CEO, Eric Greitens, a Navy SEAL, author and Rhodes Scholar. The Mission Continues is a nonprofit that awards community service fellowships to post-9/11 veterans, helping them find empowerment, connection and purpose after their years of service. For Taylor, the job blends everything she studied during her time at Fontbonne — law, business, communications — and allows her to combine career goals with community impact, which, she says, is both meaningful and rewarding.

"I had so many interests as I started college . . . The university major allowed me to explore all of these interests."

At Fontbonne, why did you choose the university major?

I had so many interests as I started college. I wanted to learn more about the law, understand business practices and learn how to be an effective communicator. I also had interests in psychology and women's studies. The university major allowed me to explore all of these interests.

I studied pre-law, business and communications. I was required to take the core classes from each program, but then I was able to spend the rest of my time taking the classes that interested me the most. Even though I was taking classes from all three concentration areas, I found that what I was learning in one class was always complementing the others.

How did you determine your course of study?

I had an advisor guiding me through the process, and we built a good plan for deciding where I would focus my energy while at Fontbonne. I focused on knocking out the general requirements during my first two years, but I would take one class per semester to explore my interests. This approach ensured that I would graduate on time, and it allowed me to make good decisions about what I would study during my junior and senior years. I guess it was probably early junior year when I made the decision to focus on pre-law, business and communications.

Who was your favorite professor at Fontbonne?

This is a really hard one for me. So I'll name two professors. Corinne Taff, assistant professor of American history and culture and director of intradisciplinary initiatives, and Heather Norton, English professor and current interim associate vice president for academic affairs, two of my favorite professors for many of the same reasons. They were passionate about teaching, and their classes were always the most challenging. I appreciated that, even as a college student. I learned the most from their classes, and I walked away with a sense of accomplishment.

As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

As a kid, I wanted to be a teacher. I always enjoyed planning, organizing and leading others. I also knew that I wanted to do something that would make a difference in the lives of others, and I knew that I wanted to do meaningful work. A teacher seemed like the perfect fit.

How did you find your position?

I was waitressing after graduation, and a Fontbonne alum stopped by to grab dinner one evening. We started to talk about our plans for the future, and I told her about the positions that I was applying for at the time. She mentioned that her company was hiring. The next day, I followed up, and from there, I interviewed for a few months (yes, a few months), and I was offered the job.

Describe a day in your work life.

The first few hours of my day are usually dedicated to preparing for meetings, calls and travel since I work to support the CEO. Then, I'll turn to the priorities and projects that I manage on a daily basis. For instance, I help to manage the top development prospects for The Mission Continues. So I'll do some work identifying potential donors, completing prospect research, creating strategies and stewarding prospects.

Next, I might turn to a project that I'm managing for the Greitens Group (Greitens' for-profit venture). For example, I'm currently managing a consulting relationship that our CEO is working on this year. We are doing talent recruitment for a large hedge fund. So I might spend a few hours doing candidate research and assessment.

During the last part of my day, I usually focus on returning emails and phone calls so that I can depart for the day knowing that I have responded to priority emails and requests.

What has been your favorite project while working for The Mission Continues? The Greitens Group?

I'd have to say that one of the coolest things that I've done while at The Mission Continues is helping to manage our partnership with J.J. Abrams and "Star Trek." J.J. owns Bad Robot, a successful production company well known for the television series "Lost," and films like "Star Trek" and "Star Trek Into Darkness." So for the release of "Star Trek Into Darkness," J.J., Bad Robot, Paramount and the cast of "Star Trek" came

together to support The Mission Continues by helping us to raise awareness, build our brand and raise money to fund our programs.

At the Greitens Group, the coolest project that I've worked on is the release of Eric's book, "The Heart and the Fist." At the start of the release, our team set the goal of getting the book on the New York Times Best Seller list. After months of promoting the book, helping to manage media around the release, and organizing and managing book events, the book hit the New York Times Best Seller list for eight weeks in a row.

How did your degree and your time at Fontbonne help you in your current career?

Fontbonne did an excellent job of helping me to develop my writing, which is such an important skill. I remember being pushed to write well in the communications program, and I value that experience today. I'm also thankful for my background in American culture studies, my minor. At Fontbonne, we explored trends in American thought and culture that I feel make me a sharper observer of the world today.

What are your goals for the future?

These are more short-term goals, but this year I'll be finishing up coursework for my master's degree in public policy administration with an emphasis in nonprofit management from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. I also hope to be accepted into the Coro Women in Leadership Program offered by Focus St. Louis for the fall 2013 class.

When you're off work and wanting to kick back, where would we find you?

You can usually find me in South City. I love the area. It's a fun, young and energetic part of St. Louis. You can find so many unique bars and restaurants, and I really appreciate that.

"At Fontbonne, we explored trends in American thought and culture that I feel make me a sharper observer of the world today."

Ambassador. Graduate. Teacher.

by Erica R. Van Buren '13

"Teaching is in our blood."

That, from Daniel Lisch, a 2012 Fontbonne University graduate, and one of three immediate family members with teaching degrees. His mother and sister are both educators and Lisch intends to carry on the tradition. After graduating from Fontbonne in 2012 with a degree in special and elementary education, he was hired by Rockwood Summit High School in Fenton, MO, to teach in the Therapeutic Intervention Program, developed for students with emotional distress.

"I've always enjoyed working with kids," said Lisch, whose degree qualifies him to teach K-12 special education or elementary school in grades 1-6. Lisch transferred to Fontbonne from Saint Louis University during his sophomore year.

"Fontbonne challenged me so that I could easily define where my strengths and weaknesses were and still are."

"I thought Fontbonne would be a great place to help me continue to grow spiritually, and it definitely was just that for me," he recalled. "When I set foot on campus I could tell there was a great sense of community and fellowship among the faculty and students here, and I wanted to be a part of that."

As a Fontbonne student, Lisch got involved immediately and remained an active member of the campus community, trusted by other students as well as staff and faculty.

"One of the words that pops into my head when I think about my experience at Fontbonne is 'balanced,'" he said. "The school does a great job of offering and promoting many opportunities to get involved in different capacities. Besides asserting myself in the classroom and on the basketball court, I was involved in intramural activities, charity events, campus ministry groups and retreats, the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, and more."

Lisch also spent his college career on the men's basketball team, which led to his nomination as representative for the 2012-2013 NCAA Division III National Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), an honor that is extended to only one student-athlete from the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference every two years. Lisch was one of 22 student-athletes representing the nation's Division III schools.

"As expected, Dan did a wonderful job gathering information from SLIAC student-athletes to ensure that their voices were heard at the national level," said Maria Eftink, Fontbonne's director of athletics. "He represented us well and made sure he expressed the views of our student-athletes and kept administrators informed of the dialogue that occurred during his meetings. He really exemplifies what we expect from a student-athlete and made Fontbonne proud on the biggest stage."

For Lisch, the experience offered an opportunity to lead and grow.

"Being on the National Student Athlete Advisory Committee has been an eye-opening experience. One of the most interesting parts of this position was seeing the inner workings of the NCAA at the national level," he said. "I had such a great experience as a student-athlete. I have a new appreciation for the work of my fellow committee members, the different councils within the NCAA, faculty athletic representatives, sports information directors and the athletic directors."

Lisch credits Fontbonne with the skills he has cultivated as an educator.

"Fontbonne challenged me so that I could easily define where my strengths and weaknesses were and still are," he said. "My experience as a special education major has been outstanding due to the extremely professional and experienced faculty. I learned so much from observing each of my professors effortlessly model how to teach."

THE ART AND EDUCATION OF CYNTHIA PROST

By Jamie Sokolik

Cynthia Prost, Fontbonne University alumna and president of the Arts & Education Council of St. Louis (A&E) leads me on a tour of the Centene Center for Arts and Education, an arts incubator owned by her organization. As we walk, she stops often to relay a recent event, performance or accomplishment of one of the other 17 nonprofit organizations housed in the white, gothic-style building that Prost likens to a wedding cake. Employees of various organizations say “hi” as they pass and give her their latest updates. It doesn’t seem to matter which nonprofit we’re talking about — Prost couldn’t be happier for them or more excited about A&E’s part in their success.

“I stumbled into the nonprofit world,” Prost said. “And I’m so glad I did.”

Prost was working as the director of marketing for a group of radio stations when she heard about an opening for an executive director of the St. Louis Art Fair. She got the job, and during her nearly 12 years there, she experienced great success; the fair was consistently recognized among the top five outdoor fine art fairs in the country. But, even with her progress, Prost realized that she wanted to get her bachelor’s degree.

“I was fortunate enough in my career that my lack of a degree never held me back,” she said. “But this was something I always wanted to do.”

In the past, the time commitment had played a huge role in her hesitation to go back to school, so flexibility was key. When she came across Fontbonne’s corporate communication evening program, she realized she could get a degree without her career suffering.

“The uniqueness of being able to complete this robust program with such flexibility was very attractive to me,” she said. “Being able to attend class in the evening and to study on my own time allowed me to get my degree without my job paying the price.”

In 2008, Prost was still working toward her bachelor’s degree, but she already had her eye on her next career move — the Arts and Education Council was looking for

a president. Armed with experience in nonprofits, a deep understanding of the arts and the community, and her bachelor’s degree under way, she applied and got the job.

“At A&E, I support not only arts and arts education organizations, but I am part of this powerful organization that mentors and nurtures art programs,” she said. “It was such a unique opportunity. It’s really just been a great experience all the way around.”

Two years after starting at A&E, Prost graduated from Fontbonne with her undergraduate degree. Many people might grant themselves a break at this time. But not Prost. She turned around and immediately enrolled in Fontbonne’s master of management program.

“The management program is so well-rounded,” Prost said. “It gave me a deeper understanding of the various methods and strategies of running a modern-day organization, whether for-profit or nonprofit. Many times while in class, I’d have an ‘Ah-ha moment’ where I could immediately connect the lesson to something currently happening at work. It’s definitely made me a better manager.”

But even with a master’s degree in hand, her time at Fontbonne was not over yet. The university was considering a new graduate program in nonprofit management, and Prost was consulted during the program creation. Once the degree was in place, Prost agreed to serve as an instructor.

“It feels very full-circle for me to go from an adult student to an educator of adult students,” she said. “As such I have a unique understanding of the balancing act my students are maintaining to get their degrees.”

Now entering her third year as a Fontbonne instructor, Prost loves that her students have chosen to make a difference. And, luckily for them, she shows no signs of slowing down.

“I really believe that the feeling and confidence you get from achieving your degree is something no one can take away from you,” she said. “The more you know, the better you do. Education is a powerful tool.”

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“I really believe that the feeling and confidence you get from achieving your degree is something no one can take away from you. The more you know, the better you do. Education is a powerful tool.”

Service without Borders

by Jamie Sokolik

A parent's job is never finished. From getting children off to school or chauffeuring them to ballet recitals and karate classes, kissing bumps and bruises, or offering emotional support and unconditional love — and all this barely scratches the surface.



there, was responsible for her charges' complete wellbeing. "When the girls were sick or missed their families or needed someone to talk to, we were there," she said. "Sitting by their beds, reading them stories, showing them love and listening — that was our job."

Ellebracht's volunteerism had its roots in Midland, Mich., where the high school student participated in a service trip to the Dominican Republic. She gravitated toward opportunities that involved children.

"There are many wonderful projects where you build or start



something, and the results of your hard work are clearly visible," she said. "But there are also others who serve, and the results are invisible, in a sense. You know that you made a difference, and you feel changed too, but you may never actually see the change.



That's more the kind of service I'm interested in."

While in the Dominican Republic, Ellebracht said she experienced a joy unlike any she'd felt before.

"I couldn't shake that feeling of being fully alive," she said. "I knew I wanted to do something more long-term. A month wasn't enough."

Once at Fontbonne, Ellebracht's focus on service aligned perfectly with a mantra from the university's sponsors, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet: "Serve the dear neighbor." She was able to find a multitude of service opportunities on campus and in the community, and these experiences strengthened her belief that she was needed elsewhere after college. It was while looking through the Fontbonne Campus Ministry book of Catholic service organizations that she found the program that would lead to her post-college service: The Salesian Lay Missioners needed help at Hogar San Francisco, an orphanage in Bolivia. She applied, and after being accepted, she headed to New York for five weeks of orientation and preparations.



Now, imagine that you're not a parent at all, yet you're responsible for nearly 60 girls ranging in age from five to 18, all of whom already have stories of heartbreak to tell and a mountain of obstacles to climb. They rely on you as any daughter would, but you're just 22 yourself. And you took on these responsibilities voluntarily and with the utmost excitement.

Meet Monica Ellebracht, who graduated from Fontbonne University in 2010 with a degree in business focusing on nonprofits and a minor in religious studies. Following graduation, Ellebracht traveled to Bolivia, uprooting her life and leaving everyone she knew and loved, to work as a caregiver at two orphanages for girls. Ellebracht, along with the nuns who work

▲ After deciding to live outside the orphanage, Ellebracht's goodbye celebration included a dance performance by her young charges.

▶ Ellebracht gives one of the younger girls a piggy back ride.

▶▶ The girls help create Christmas cheer while baking and decorating Christmas cookies.

◀ Ellebracht takes some time off from homework to have fun with the kindergartners.

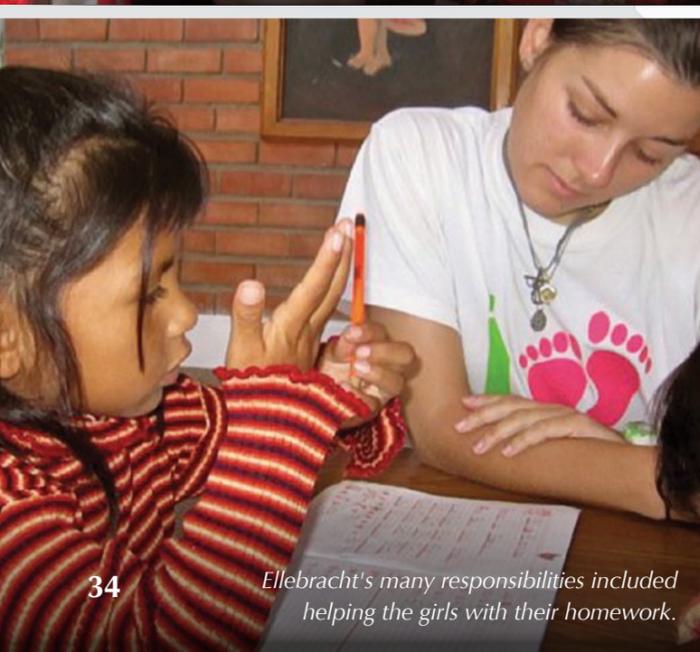




Like any good caretaker, Ellebracht taught the girls to take care of themselves, including brushing their teeth before bed.



Ellebracht poses with her togas dance partner before entering the big Carnival parade in Oruro, Bolivia.



Ellebracht's many responsibilities included helping the girls with their homework.

Service without Borders (continued from previous page)

"I was excited, but also a little nervous," she said. "I really didn't know what to expect."

When she arrived at the airport in Bolivia, six beautiful little girls and the orphanage director lovingly greeted her with flowers, hugs and open arms.

"I instantly fell in love," she said.

She soon found herself performing all the duties of a mother for the many girls who called these orphanages home. There were some hard moments — stressful situations with the girls, tantrums, all made more difficult in the beginning by her own short-lived struggle to acclimate to a new life and a new culture. But she was sustained by the happy occasions — birthdays, holidays, games and praying together at church, as well as the satisfaction derived from making a difference in the lives of the girls.

"The girls have their issues, of course," she said. "But they are kids and young ladies. They like to have fun and dance and enjoy life, too. They deserve that."

After two years of dedicating 24 hours a day to two different orphanages, Ellebracht decided it was time to live on her own and experience Bolivia in a new way. However, she still remains involved and tries to get to the orphanage at least once a week.

"It was such a tough decision to leave," she explained. "I enjoy spending time with them, but I also know I made the right decision. I'm so happy to still be able to offer my help and have a little more free time as well."

She now enjoys the little things, like cooking for herself and hanging out with her friends. She learned Quechua, an indigenous language, and takes dance classes. She even danced in the Carnaval de Oruro celebration in Oruro, Bolivia, this past February. Living outside of the orphanage has also allowed her to contribute to Bolivian youth in new ways. She teaches English at two language institutes and a kindergarten, and she is the assistant director at a Salesian vocational school for culinary students.

Ellebracht's next move is to come back to the U.S., reconnect with friends and family, and then pursue a master's degree in international relations.

"Here I am again, making a tough decision to leave all my girls, my students, my friends and my experiences," she said. "Change is really hard. But it's not the first time I've made a big move. So far, change has been good. I'm confident the pattern will continue."

No matter where she ends up, whom she meets or what experiences are to come, Ellebracht will take her memories of Bolivia with her everywhere, no doubt continuing to make positive changes in the lives of those in need.

For more information on the Salesian Lay Missioners, please visit: www.salesianmissioners.org

"You know that you made a difference, and you feel changed too, but you may never actually see the change. That's more the kind of service I'm interested in."

A Life Altered

80s Alum Grateful for Education

Note from the Editor: On occasion, Fontbonne University faculty and administration will receive letters or notes from alumni, grateful for their time and experience here, and extending a hearty thank you or acknowledgement to the people who impacted their lives. The following letter is from 1985 graduate Bryan Quinn, who, in telling his own story, makes an impactful statement about the quality of education found at Fontbonne. Thanks, Bryan, for reminding the campus community why we do what we do.



To the friends & family of Fontbonne University,

I recently received my Certified Financial Planner (CFP) designation from The Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc., and was reminded of my years at Fontbonne University (College, at the time). In high school I never finished the 10th grade. I was distracted by the temptations of youth and personal freedom. My father, F.W. Quinn, professor of fine arts at Washington University in St. Louis, came to me with an offer to help me with college. I was to get my GED and apply to Fontbonne.

My father, having worked next door, was familiar with the nature of education at Fontbonne. His attraction was the personal nature of the student/teacher ratio, which was about 11:1 in the 80s. The conservative religious foundation at Fontbonne was also an important factor in the decision.

As I began my studies for the CFP® exam, I used the tools that I learned at Fontbonne. When I was in high school, I cut most of my classes and did not read my books. What got me through my studies successfully at Fontbonne was attending class, taking good notes, reading the text, studying for all exams and most importantly, seeking out the advice and guidance from my instructors.

Special thanks to:

Francis Kinkel: my first instructor for remedial courses and English. Without Mr. Kinkel I would never have made it to my sophomore year. His patience and desire to see me make it was one of the most pivotal points in my life. Without Mr. Kinkel, I feel my life would have turned for the worst. God bless Mr. Kinkel.

Dr. William Friedman: professor of business. Dr. Friedman was my first interaction with a business professional. He took interest in my school career and provided me with valuable insight into what it was to be a professional businessman. Dr. Friedman also selected me to attend a summer work program at Fireside, Stone & Carlyle Accounting Firm, which was an extremely valuable experience.

Bruce Halliday: professor of economics and finance. This was the point where I went from a student of business to someone with a life-long passion for economics and finance. I have read the Wall Street Journal since I took Mr. Holliday's class.

Cat Talasek: professor of fine arts. Her classes were a great way to relieve stress and find a creative outlet, and I think they should be required for all business students. Physical creativity helps develop abstract creativity.

While getting my CFP® designation, I reflected many times on my years at Fontbonne. I realize that without the campus, faculty and staff, and the stability of the granite buildings, I never would have made it in seeking my B.S. degree. To be honest, I may have never made it in life.

Thank you to all friends & family of Fontbonne University who were involved in my career and my life.

Bryan Quinn, CFP®

Fontbonne University Alumnus, 1985

"While getting my CFP® designation, I reflected many times on my years at Fontbonne. I realize that without the campus, faculty and staff, and the stability of the granite buildings, I never would have made it in seeking my B.S. degree. To be honest, I may have never made it in life."

JOURNEY TO JEFFERSON CITY

A Student's Account of the Legislative Process

Note from the Editor: This summer, the Fontbonne University social work program, introduced in 2010, received accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education, Commission on Accreditation. In the four years that the program has worked toward this goal, its faculty and students have emerged as a very active and vibrant element of the Fontbonne academic community. Social work major **Carolyn Compton '14** offered to share her account of a critical part of the social work program — firsthand experience lobbying legislators in the Missouri State Capitol.

This February, Fontbonne University social work students boarded a bus in the early hours of the morning and traveled to Jefferson City, Mo., to participate in the Lobby and Policy Day of the National Association of Social Workers-Missouri Chapter. Our Policy Day experience began with a welcome from Tamitha Price, NASW-Missouri's executive director and a Fontbonne instructor. In addition to receiving an agenda for the day's events, we also heard from the current interns of Missouri Senator Bob Dixon and House Representative Sandy Crawford about their roles and experiences at the State Capitol. The NASW-Missouri Chapter's lobbyist from Penman and Winton, a lobbying and consulting group, also addressed us. She was great at explaining what to expect from our day and how to navigate speaking with our representatives and senators.



Fontbonne University social work students traveled to the Missouri State Capitol to learn more about the legislative process. Tamitha Price (far left), Fontbonne instructor, led the group, which included Carolyn Compton (third from left), this article's author.

In preparation for our Policy Day activities, our class formed groups, chose a piece of legislation and prepared talking points that we took with us to the State Capitol. Each group was charged with locating the politician sponsoring their bill of choice and used these talking points to discuss strategies for supporting or opposing the bill and the bill's movement

status in the House and/or Senate. Pulling a representative from the floor during session is one of the most intimidating exercises I have ever encountered. It was the most exhilarating and stressful experience of the day. In the end, our group's representative was gracious and knowledgeable, and it was very fun and rewarding.

Our group spent the majority of the day meeting with representatives from our own districts as well as the sponsors of our chosen bill. Saying the day was fast paced would be an understatement. We lapped the building more times than we could count, and we met incredible people while we toured the Capitol. During lunch, another informational session was hosted, and we heard from a Penman Winton representative regarding the role lobbyists play in politics. We learned about different pieces of legislation that shape how lobbyists operate and their impact on policy and the legislative process.

Christopher "Kit" Crancer, a Fontbonne alumnus, took our entire class on a tour and was gracious enough to spend time answering our questions about his position as the legislative director for President pro Tempore Tom Dempsey, and how his career has evolved in politics, including previously managing campaigns and attending Fontbonne as a social work student. Kit demonstrated the etiquette used by representatives when they are in session on the Senate floor and gave us a tour of where State Senate hearings are held.

As we headed back in the evening, we shared our favorite stories about the day. What I loved most about being part of that day was that while we all have varied political backgrounds and points of view, we were able to leave that behind and just enjoy the fact that we were watching our government at work. We learned so much in such a short amount of time. It was an absolutely extraordinary learning experience, and it changed the way I look at how to affect change in people's lives.

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