SBU receives full Middle States reaccreditation

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education has reaffirmed the University’s accreditation.

In a March 7 letter to University president Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D., chair Judith L. Gay said that at its March 3 session the Middle States Commission acted to reaffirm the University’s accreditation.

“We are deeply pleased that this respected institution has reaffirmed our accreditation status. Academic excellence is one of the foundational goals of our Strategic Plan, and we welcome this recognition of our ability not only to teach our students but to continuously assess and improve that process,” Sr. Margaret said.

The commission also requested a progress letter, due by Oct. 1, 2006, documenting implementation of clearly defined administrative structures. This refers to the Governance Organization Charts found in the Governing Documents. At the time of the submission of the Self-Study Document and Appendix Volume, the University had not formalized the organizational chart to include the new provost position, among other changes.

Sr. Margaret added her thanks to Dr. Eleanor B. English, professor of education and director of the self-study, and Ann M. Tenglund, coordinator of library computer services and bibliographic instruction as well as director of documents for the self-study, who led the process since its beginning in 1999, as well as members of the steering committee and of the task force committees on each of the Middle States standards.

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Correspondent, USA Today columnist chosen as Lenna Visiting Professor

By Benjamin Gregg ‘07

White House correspondent and USA Today columnist Richard Benedetto is spending 10 days in the area as St. Bonaventure’s Lenna Endowed Visiting Professor.

Benedetto gave the Presidents Roundtable Lecture, “Campaign for the White House 2004: Decision and Consequences,” Wednesday at Jamestown Community College.

At 7 p.m. Tuesday, in SBU’s Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts Rigas Family Theater, Benedetto will discuss “Presidential Campaign Reporting: The Inside Story.” A reception will follow. Benedetto will also address SBU faculty and staff during this week’s Friday Forum, discussing “Political Polling in Presidential Campaigns: Are Voters Influenced?”

“Working with Richard Benedetto for the better part of three decades covering government and politics, first in New York state and then in Washington, I quickly realized he is one of the country’s most knowledgeable journalists when it comes to public affairs,” said John Hanchette, a Bona alum and Pulitzer-winning journalist who now teaches in the Russell J. Jandoli School of Journalism and MassCommunication. “His perceptions come out in print as both witty and educating. He knows more about Washington and the White House than most of the TV talking heads combined. I know folks who attend his lectures in the Southern Tier will appreciate his fresh viewpoint.”

A native of Utica, Benedetto graduated from Syracuse University’s Utica College and holds a master of arts

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University Relations takes actions to reorganize and target resources

The University today announced steps in the reorganization of the Division of University Relations, the arm of the University responsible for fund raising, alumni, marketing, and public relations.

The reorganization deals primarily with the University’s fund raising activities and reduces the number of positions within the division.

“For the past year, we have been conducting an intense assessment of the activities and responsibilities of the Division – particularly as they relate to fund raising,” said David P. Ferguson, vice president for University Relations.

“We have concluded that our expenditures have been above what comparable colleges and universities spend for similar activities. We are making adjustments to bring our expenditures more in line with practices elsewhere. Our goal is to ensure that we are using available resources in a manner that maximizes our ability to raise funds in support of The Blueprint for Progress, the University’s strategic plan.

“These actions will reduce expenses and help redirect resources to fund raising in a way that will enhance the return on the University’s investment in this very

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inside bona's

St. Bonaventure students discover the meaning of vocation on spring service trip

By Daniel T. Breheny ’07 and Amalie Donius ’08

While many people spent their spring break lounging, a group of 10 Bonaventure students on a vocational service learning trip on the Caribbean island of Trinidad. The 10 students, Terrence McEluff, Amalie Donius, Thomas Turro, Daniel Breheny, Caitlin Raun, Joel Zarzuela, Lynne Muccia, Alicia Teodorini, Debbie Holihan and Colleen McTammany, were joined by four adults: Sam Sheldon, Ph.D., professor of geography; Daniel Rissi, M.D.; Irene Rissi and the Rev. Cheryl Parris.

McEluff, a sophomore, said, “This experience was above and beyond my expectations, and I would really like to come back someday.” Turro, a junior, commented that his experience was “unbelievable” from start to finish. McTammany had no words, but responded with a big smile.

Upon arrival students had a day of orientation. During this time, students service experiences for the week were verified and adjustments were made. After enjoying some local sites such as the capital of Trinidad, Maracas’ Bay, the rainforest and Asa Wright Nature Center, the students began their journey.

The service trip was a vocational service learning trip, meaning that each student works in the area of his/her academic major. Students did various activities such as teaching in schools, touring businesses, observing classes at the University of the West Indies and many others. Every morning and evening the group gathered for a reflection period where they were given a chance to think about what they did and what they wanted to accomplish.

During the trip, guest speakers entertained the group; each speaker represented a different aspect of both students’ interests and the culture of Trinidad and Tobago. Overall, the students gained an appreciation of another culture and took a step toward understanding their own personal vocations.

“Middle States” continued...

After a Steering Committee was formed, a design for the self-study was drafted, shared with the University community, revised and submitted to Middle States for approval in April 2002.

Work on the self-study continued, and the University community was kept updated and given opportunities for input throughout the process. The result was a 197-page Institutional Self-Study, titled “The Good Journey ... Discovery, Community, Individual Worth.”

The decision for reaccreditation was based on the data in the self-study document, and on the recommendation of the Middle States site visit team, led by Fr. Christian Oravec, T.O.R.

“The commission’s reaffirmation of the University’s accreditation is evidence of the ability, integrity and perseverance of Ann Tenglund, our director of documents, the coordinators and conveners of the steering committee, members of the task force committees, and the administrative units; their efforts in gathering, interpreting and reporting data were both effective and efficient,” English said.

She noted that, as part of the self-study document, the Institutional Assessment Plan (IAP) that encompasses the Student Learning Assessment Plan was granted approval by the commission as well. The IAP will guide and facilitate the annual assessment and collection of data that will be necessary for the Periodic Review Report in 2010.

“To ascertain the University’s quality assurance in meeting its strategic goals is, and should remain, a continuing process,” English said.
SBU Army ROTC battalion to hold two ceremonies and military ball

By Kelly Voll '06

The University’s ROTC battalion will hold two honorary ceremonies and a military ball on Saturday.

The SBU Army ROTC Spring Awards Ceremony will be at 12:30 p.m. in the Rigas Family Theater. This ceremony will recognize Seneca Battalion Cadets for their academic and military achievements in the 2004-2005 academic year. The Seneca Battalion includes 81 cadets from SBU, Houghton College, UPB, Alfred State, Alfred University, SUNY Fredonia and Jamestown Community College.

Lt. Col. Richard C. Trietley said of the ceremony, “The annual Spring Awards ceremony is our opportunity to recognize and showcase the many outstanding achievements of our cadets in front of their parents and the St. Bonaventure community. Cadets from all classes will be honored for their academic, military, leadership and community achievements.”

Immediately following the awards ceremony will be the SBU Army ROTC 2005 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, also taking place in the Rigas Theater. At this ceremony, two individuals, Daniel C. Kane Sr. and J. Willard Taylor, will be inducted.

“We are delighted and honored to induct two nominees of such impressive stature and accomplishments,” Trietley said. “They are role models for our cadets and true American heroes in every sense of the word.”

To be considered for induction, nominees must have demonstrated meaningful contributions to the improvement of the Seneca Battalion and an adherence to and furthering of the standards and ideals that define the ROTC program at SBU.

The evening will conclude with the 62nd Annual SBU Army ROTC Military Ball from 5:30 - midnight in the Premier banquet Center in Olean, N.Y. The cost is $22 a person.

For information, call (716) 375-2567.

Web calendar highlights SBU events

By Kelly Voll '06

There is now a new way to post notices for events at St. Bonaventure. The SBU Web Calendar, accessed by clicking on the “calendar” link at www.sbu.edu, is a place where events can be listed by organizations and read by all parties.

Departments and organizations can go through a process to submit and publish their upcoming events on the Web Calendar. Students, faculty and staff, and members of outside communities can then check the details on these events.

Pamela Say, coordinator of Event Management Services at SBU, said that with the Web calendar, “our department and the University as a whole becomes more accessible.”

Say encouraged all campus departments and organizations to appoint an individual who will post their events as far in advance as possible. Say specified a minimum of one week of lead time for the submission of event listings.

St. Bonaventure offers a wide range of activities on campus. “We’re working to inform the community of what those things are,” Say said.

Say is a 2001 SBU graduate with a bachelor’s degree in journalism and mass communication. In addition to Say, two student workers, Courtney Crabbe, sophomore, and Kate Marone, senior, help run the Event Management Services office.

For step-by-step directions on how to submit an event to the calendar, please see the insert in this week’s Inside Bonas.
Dr. Carl J. Case, associate professor of management science, and Darwin L. King, professor of accounting, presented their paper titled “Confederate Accounting Systems Utilized During the Civil War” at the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences 12th Annual Conference Feb. 24-27 in Las Vegas. The paper was published in the ASBBS 2005 Proceedings.

Dr. Eleanor English, professor of education, co-presented a workshop at the National Council for the Social Studies Conference in Baltimore, Md. The session was titled “Moving History: Children Understanding Early America through Games and Dances.”

Dr. David Flood, O.F.M., a faculty member of the Franciscan Institute, is teaching at the Antonianum in Rome during the Spring 2005 semester. A conference on Das franziskanische Verständnis des Wirkens des Heiligen Geistes in Kirche und Welt sponsored by the Johannes-Duns-Scotus-Akademie recently took him to Aachen, where he delivered a paper titled “Geist und Geschichte: Petrus Olivi zur Heiligen Schrift.”

Dr. Robert Harlan, professor of computer science, presented a paper “Creating Emergent Behaviors: Two Robotics Labs That Combine Reactive Behaviors” at the Association for Computing Machinery’s Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education, held Feb. 23-27 in St. Louis, Mo. The paper was co-authored by Shelley McClarigan, ’00. At the same conference, Dr. Steven Andrianoff, associate professor of computer science, and Dr. David Levine, professor of computer science, presented “TestMe: Teaching Testing Without Coding” as part of the Nifty Assignments Panel. The presentation is an outgrowth of work they have done with Steve Gewand, ’04, Greta Heissenberger, ’05, and Paul Wagner, ’06.

Dr. C. H. “Pete” LeRoy, associate professor of health education, conducted two workshops Saturday at Amherst Middle School in Buffalo. The workshops were a part of a western zone mini-conference associated with New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. The workshops dealt with teaching ideas and strategies for secondary health education programs.

On March 15 and 16, he made two presentations at the sixth annual Northeast Regional Conference on Character Education held at the Sage Colleges in Troy. He was assisted by David Odum, an adjunct instructor of English at Alfred University. Their joint presentation was titled “Character Education Through Literature.”

Chris Mackowski, assistant professor of journalism and mass communication, served as chair of the Pennsylvania Association of Community Theatres’ state festival. PACTFest 2005 was held at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford Friday and Saturday.

Dr. Mark Nolan, assistant professor of management sciences, and Michael D. Kasperski, CPA, lecturer of accounting, traveled with Fr. William “Jud” Weiksnar, O.F. M., of the University’s Franciscan Center for Social Concern, to the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities’ conference on “Advancing the Catholic Social Tradition: Skills for Effective Dialogue and Action.” The conference was held over the weekend of Feb. 18-20 in Washington, D.C., as a wrap-around to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Annual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering.

Dr. Leslie M. Sabina, professor of music, recently had three jazz band compositions published by Kendor Music, Inc., Hotter Sauce, Cooke’s Delight and Deep Fried. Kendor also has two of Sabina’s saxophone quartet arrangements slated for spring release, Duke Ellington’s ‘Don’t Get Around Much Anymore and J.S. Bach’s Air On The ‘G’ String.

Additionally, the British jazz journal, JazzUK, recently published two of Sabina’s jazz solo transcriptions and analyses. Trumpeter Clifford Brown’s 1955 Sandu solo appeared in the Jan./Feb. 2005 issue and alto saxophonist Jackie McLean’s 1956 Stella by Starlight improvisation appears in the current March/April issue.

We’re expanding Spring Weekend! This year’s festivities are slated for the last weekend in April and will include fair-style games and food. Watch the coming issues of Inside Bona’s for more details.

Career Center Events

Business Dining Etiquette
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 21
Quick Center for the Arts
* Payment required with advance sign-up
*March 28 is the last day to sign up for teacher recruitment day