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University lauds employees for years of service

At its Annual Recognition Ceremony, held Tuesday, May 6, St. Bonaventure University honored employees who have given a total of 675 years of service to the University and two employees who will be retiring.

Individuals with 10 years of service and up were recognized, with those reaching 25 years of service and retirees receiving special recognition.

Those recognized for 25 years of service were: Mary Jo Brockel, senior associate director of financial aid; Barbara Brookins, registrar’s assistant; Darwin King, professor of accounting; Dr. Vinay Pandit, professor of marketing; Mary Piccioli, assistant vice president for institutional research and planning; and Mary Jane Wepasnick, a library assistant at Friedsam Memorial Library.

Mary Jo Brockel is the senior associate director of financial aid. An Allegany native, Brockel received her bachelor’s degree in mathematics from SUNY Geneseo as well as her teaching certification in elementary education and secondary math. She also earned an MBA with a concentration in accounting/finance from St. Bonaventure in 1989.

Brockel began her career at St. Bonaventure in 1983 in the Business Office as the accounts payable clerk. She moved to the Financial Aid Office in 1986 as the assistant director, and was promoted to associate director of financial aid in 1990, a position she held from 1990 to 1999 when she was promoted to her current position. She has also taught as an adjunct professor in St. Bonaventure’s Department of Mathematics.

Brockel has served on a number of University committees over the years. She is a member of the University’s Judicial Board, as
well as an active member of the New York State Financial Aid Administrators Association, where she has held many leadership positions and served on numerous regional and statewide committees.

The New York State Financial Aid Administrators Association has granted Brockel numerous awards, including: the Region Award of Merit for Outstanding Achievement in 1990; the Region I Service Award in 1997; and in 2001 the association recognized her for distinguished service to the association and the financial aid community by extending membership to her in the Association’s Circle Club.

Brockel is active as a Eucharistic minister at St. Bonaventure’s chapel. She lives in Allegany with her husband, Paul. She also has three stepchildren and three grandsons.

Barbara Brookins has spent all 25 of her years at St. Bonaventure in the Office of the Registrar, where she is an assistant to the registrar and maintains the files of graduate students.

The Registrar’s Office, combined with the Record’s Office, is responsible for all student records and academic data at the University.

“Once a student is admitted to grad school, I maintain their files through graduation — and assist with all questions, concerns, sorrows and joys,” Brookins said.

Brookins was the Staff of the Year Award recipient during the 2008 Fr. Joe Doino, O.F.M., Honors and Awards program.

Brookins is an active member of the First Baptist Church of Olean, where she has served on several committees and is a former youth leader.

She and her husband of 37 years, Robert, live in Olean. They have one daughter, Wendi Grace Brookins, class of ’97.

Darwin King is a professor of accounting in the School of Business.

A native of Flint, Mich., King earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of Michigan in 1970, and MBAs in management and marketing from Michigan State University the following year. He is also a Certified Public Accountant in Maryland and New York.

King joined the St. Bonaventure faculty as an assistant professor of accounting, and since then, has taught myriad undergraduate and graduate accounting and business courses. Since 1971, he has taught courses in accounting, marketing, management, information systems, economics, and finance.

The recipient of a number of awards and honors, King has received three “Distinguished Research Awards” from Allied Academies, four “Best Paper of a Track Chair Awards” from the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences, and was presented with the Allied Academies “Outstanding Educator Award” at this spring’s International Conference. This is the highest honor issued by the Academy of Educational Leadership.
King has had more than 50 journal articles published, 18 of those in the Oil, Gas & Energy Quarterly, a professional journal for accountants and attorneys nationwide. This publication is the premier journal in natural resource accounting and taxation.

Some of his recent papers include “The Importance of Internal Controls: Yesterday and Today,” co-written with Carl Case and winner of the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences (ASBBS) Best Paper of a Track Chair Award in March 2008. It will be published in the ASBBS 2008 Electronic Journal.

He also co-authored “A Review of Civil War Tax Legislation and its Influences on the Current U.S. Income Tax System” with Carl Case and Mike Fischer. The article was the winner of a 2005 Distinguished Research Award from Allied Academies and was published in the 2006 Academy of Accounting and Financial Studies Journal.

King has served on numerous committees at the Department of Accounting, School of Business, and University levels. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Institute of Management Sciences and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. He also holds two vice president positions with the local chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants.

Within the local community, King has served as assistant Scoutmaster and Merit Badge counselor for Boy Scout Troop 677 for the past 15 years. He also holds a number of board positions at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Allegany.

King lives in Allegany with his wife, Lois, and son, Edward.

Dr. Vinay Pandit is a professor of marketing and management sciences in the School of Business.

A native of India, Pandit holds a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay, India, a master’s degree in Powder, Technology from King’s College in London, and an MBA, master’s degree in philosophy and Ph.D. in business administration from Columbia University. He is also a Certified Management Accountant.

Pandit joined SBU’s faculty as an associate professor of marketing and management science and has taught courses in business policy and marketing at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Pandit has received many awards and grants throughout his career, including a Doctoral Study Award from 1971-74; Kennecott Copper Fellowship Award in 1970-71; British Ministry of Technology Fellowship in 1968; Merck, Sharp and Dome Award in 1968 and 1969; Best Track Paper in Marketing Research Methodology at the Academy of Marketing Science Conference in 1984; Outstanding Paper in Consumer Behavior in 1987; Listed in Marquis’ Who’s Who in Education in 1988, Marquis’ Who’s Who in the East in 1988; Listed in Marquis’ Who’s Who in Marketing in 1988; and was recognized by the India Association of Buffalo as “Man of the Year” in 2003.

On campus, Pandit has served for 20 years on committees of the Faculty Senate, including three years as chair, six years as chair of his department, and six years as coordinator of the Friday Forums.

Pandit was a member of the Academy of Marketing Science. He has also been active in Olean’s National Accounting Association, the United Way of Olean and the India Association of Buffalo.

Pandit and his wife, Rajashree, have two adult daughters.

Mary Piccioli, who recently assumed the role of assistant vice president for institutional research and planning, has served St. Bonaventure in a number of leadership positions since she joined the University.

In 2003, Piccioli was named dean of enrollment and director of institutional research. She previously served as director of financial aid, director of enrollment research, and assistant director of financial aid, a post she was appointed to in 1983.

She has also served as a University advocacy officer.

Active in the ministry of Mt. Irenaeus since its founding more than 20 years ago, Piccioli has aided the Franciscan mountain retreat through her role as a trustee and operating officer. She will again be joining the Mountain community in the fall as a trustee.

Piccioli, a native of Olean, holds a bachelor of science degree in mathematics and an MBA from St. Bonaventure. She resides in Allegany.

Mary Jane Wepasnick works in the acquisitions/periodicals department of Friedsam Memorial Library.

A native of Olean, Wepasnick earned a bachelor’s degree in French from St. Bonaventure and a master’s degree in library science from the State University of New York at Geneseo.

Wepasnick has had a lifelong interest in libraries — she was a library cadet as an undergraduate and she worked in libraries in the Olean and Salamanca school systems for 10 years prior to her employment at St. Bonaventure.

At Friedsam Library, Wepasnick assists library users with microfilm, microfiche, and the electronic versions of periodicals and newspapers. She also checks in the magazines and microfilm as it comes in to the library.

The biggest and most daunting change at the library she has seen during her tenure is the automation of her department, a project begun in 1993. With the transfer of information from paper to computer, the library’s holdings became searchable on FRIAR, an electronic card catalog that has streamlined research for library users.

The University also gave special recognition to those retiring, including Dr. Patrick Casey, associate professor of Education, and Dr. Eleanor English, professor of education.
Honored for 40 years of service was: Raymond Magara, maintenance technician/painter.

Honored for 35 years of service were: Dr. Paul Schafer, associate professor of reading education, and Dr. Charles Walker, professor of psychology.

Honored for 30 years of service were: Dr. Peggy Burke, dean of the School of Education and dean of the School of Graduate Studies; Robin Hurlburt, associate director of facilities for maintenance; and James Peace, manager of University Mail Services and reprographic center.

Honored for 20 years of service were: Stephen Campbell, associate athletics director for internal operations and golf coach; Dr. Lauren De La Vars, associate professor of English; Elizabeth Whitney Holihan, lecturer in management sciences; James Miller, lecturer in biology; and Yvonne Peace, Friary guardian secretary and administrative assistant to the vice president for Franciscan mission.

Honored for 15 years of service were: C. Kevin Brayer, director of the Buffalo Center; Leslie Chambers, lecturer in education; James DiRisio, director of undergraduate admissions; Constance Mooney, Health Services nurse; and Dr. Joseph Zimmer, associate professor of reading education and chair of the M.S. Ed. Literacy Program.

Honored for 10 years of service were: Dr. Susan Anders, professor of accounting; Dr. Paul Brawdy, associate professor of physical education; Dr. Nancy Casey, director of the First-Year Experience Program and associate professor in undergraduate teacher education; Debra Crowley, housekeeper; Robert DeFazio, director of the Richter Center, intramurals and club sports; Sharon Godfrey, administrative assistant; Nichole Gonzalez, director of Residence Life; Betty Harmon, dean’s secretary; Christopher Heil, housekeeper; Fr. Robert Karris, O.F.M., professor of Franciscan Studies; Ann Lehman, academic coordinator and research associate in the School of Business; Dr. David Levine, professor of computer science; Sandra Mulryan, lecturer in English; Dr. Phillip Payne, associate professor of history; and Dr. Kevin Vogel, lecturer in biology.

SBU announces Keenan-Martine grants for 2008-09

Developing innovative classes and workshops are a few of the projects to be funded by faculty development grants announced by St. Bonaventure University.

The awards are funded through a gift from Leslie C. Quick III, member and past chair of St. Bonaventure University’s Board of Trustees, and his wife, Eileen. In 1999, two $1 million endowments were named after longtime faculty members, the late Dr. Leo E. Keenan Jr. and Dr. James J. Martine. The grants to faculty, now in their ninth year, are funded through the interest generated by the endowments.

The Leo E. Keenan Jr. and James J. Martine Faculty Development Endowments are intended to “provide funds to faculty engaged in activities designed to improve the quality of the teaching and learning process at St. Bonaventure University.” The Martine endowment provides for funding of activities associated with the general education core curriculum (Clare College),
while the Keenan endowment provides funds for all other areas.

Through the Leo Keenan Faculty Development Endowment for the Improvement of Teaching and Learning at St. Bonaventure, 19 members of the University community received grants totaling more than $30,000. Dr. Rene Wroblewski, assistant professor of education; Leslie Chambers, lecturer of education; Claudette Thompson, assistant professor of education; and Kayla Zimmer, lecturer of education, received funding for “Building Bridges: Aligning Curricula to Better Help Teachers Candidates Understand and Meet the Needs of All Learners.”

Dr. Barbara Trolley, associate professor of education, and Dr. Craig Zuckerman, associate professor and counselor of education, received funds for “Skill and Knowledge Enhancement of Counselor Education Students in regard to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).”

Constance Pierce, associate professor of visual arts, received funding for “Creative Renewal and Inward Journey.”

Rebecca R. Misenheimer, assistant professor of theater, was awarded the funds to prepare and develop a course in theatrical scene painting.

Julie Hall, director of field services in the School of Education, was awarded funds for “The Second Annual Conference on Student Teaching and Supervision.”

Dr. Mark Huddle, assistant professor of history, and Dr. Phillip Payne, associate professor of history, were awarded funds to develop a First-Year Experience for history majors: “Garvey’s Ghost: Pan Africanism, Black Nationalism and Black Separatism in American History.”

Dr. Robert Harlan, professor of computer science, received financing for “Implementing Behavior Control for a PeopleBot Robot, II.”

Anne-Clair Fisher, assistant professor of education, was awarded funds for a “BOCES Collaborative parent/professional group.”

Dr. Nancy Casey, associate professor of education; Dr. Robert Amico, professor of philosophy; Dr. Maureen Cox, associate professor of mathematics; Dr. Carol Fischer, professor of accounting; Sandra Mulryan, lecturer of English; Kathy Premo, lecturer of management sciences; Craig Sinesio, lecturer of education; Dr. Barry Gan, professor of philosophy; Ann Lehman, academic coordinator and research associate in the School of Business; Alison More, assistant professor of Franciscan studies; and Pat Vecchio, lecturer of journalism and mass communication, were awarded funds for the St. Bonaventure University Teaching Center.

Dr. Adam Brown, assistant professor of education, and Dr. Mark Huddle, assistant professor of history, were awarded financing for “A Proposal for an Integrated Drug and Drug History Multidisciplinary Course.”

Dr. Paula Scraba, associate professor of physical education and Dr. Paul Brawdy, associate professor of physical education, received funds for “Systematic Observation in Physical Education Teacher Education: Linking Technology with Teaching Practice in the Gymnasium.”
Kayla Zimmer, lecturer of education, was awarded financing for “Tablet PCs: An efficient and meaningful means for gathering data on pre-service teachers.”

Some 16 faculty members were awarded $36,000 in funds from the Martine Faculty Endowment for the Improvement of Teaching and Learning in Clare College.

Dr. Michael Klucznik, assistant professor of mathematics, was awarded funding for “Adding Challenge to the Early Mathematics Curriculum.”

Kevin Vogel, lecturer of biology, was awarded the means for “Technological Support for Inquiry in the Natural World, (Clare 102).”

Dr. Xavier Seubert, O.F.M. guardian of the Franciscan Friary, was awarded financing for “Catholic-Franciscan Heritage, (Clare 107): Tutors Seminar.”

Br. F. Edward Coughlin, O.F.M., vice president for Franciscan mission, was given funding for “The Intellectual Journey: A Faculty Development Seminar,” and “College Core Curriculum: A New Faculty Orientation Program.”

Dr. Danette Brickman, assistant professor of political science and pre-law adviser, and Tracy Schrems, lecturer of English, received funding for “The Social World of American Politics (Clare 105) Through Art and Literature: (Clare 109).”

Dr. Joel Benington, professor of biology, received funding for “Son of Inquiry in the Natural World Course Renewal.”

Dr. Danette Brickman, assistant professor of political science and pre-law adviser, received funds for Clare 105. This class will examine the politics and policies that led to the systematic failures in both the state and federal disaster systems following Hurricane Katrina and integrate the annual BonaResponds service trip to the Gulf Coast.

Dr. Anthony Murphy, professor of philosophy; Dr. Michael Chiariello, professor of philosophy; Dr. Todd Palmer, associate professor of management sciences; Dr. Charles Coate, associate professor of accounting; Tracy Schrems, lecturer of English; Sr. Suzanne Kush, C.S.S.F., director of the Franciscan Center for Social Concern; Dr. Paula Scabra, associate professor of physical education; Dr. David Blake, O.F.M., assistant professor of sociology; and University President Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T. D., were awarded financing to participate in a national symposium.

Dr. Oleg Bychkov, professor of theology, received funding for “Improving Teaching in Clare 109.”

The University has also announced the recipients of three summer Faculty Fellowship awards to:

- Dr. Mary Adekson, associate professor of counselor education, “Investigating Native American Healers,” $2,500
- Dr. Oleg Bychkov, professor of theology, “Researching, writing, presenting and publishing two essays on the philosophy and theology of John Duns Scotus,” $2,500
- Dr. Mary Rose Kubal, associate professor of political science, “Transnational Policy Networks and Citizen Security in the
Americas,” $2,500.

The University has also announced the awarding of Faculty Research Grants to:

- Dr. Neal Carter, associate professor of political science, “Establishing Personality Profiles of Canadian Political Leaders: The Creation of a Database for Comparisons,” $650
- Dr. Les Sabina, professor of music, “Essential Rock, Pop and Soul Sax Solos: Transcription and Analysis,” $600
- Dr. John Mulryan, Board of Trustees Professor of English, “Dante, Milton, and the Narrative Art: A Bibliographical Survey,” $650
- Dr. Julie Hens, assistant professor of biology, “PTHrP Regulates Msx2 Expression by LEF1 in Embryonic Mammary Gland Development,” $650
- Dr. Rodney J. Paul, associate professor of finance, “Labor Market Participation and Performance Due to Changes in Marital Status and Number of Children: The Case of the PGA Tour,” $650
- Dr. Kaplan P. Harris, assistant professor of English, “The Selected Letters of Robert Creeley for the University of California Press (book),” $650

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Senior Ken Lish named McGowan Scholar

St. Bonaventure University’s School of Business has announced that Ken Lish, a senior finance and management major from Boulder, Colo., has received the 2008-2009 McGowan Scholar Award.

The McGowan Charitable Fund awards a scholarship of $18,000 to one business student at St. Bonaventure, as well as other colleges and universities.

Named in honor of William G. McGowan, founder and chairman of MCI Communications Corp., the scholarship recognizes business students who possess qualities of such as excellence of character, intellectual curiosity, a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurial potential.

In order to be eligible for this scholarship the applicant must be a full-time student who has a primary major in an academic program offered by the School of Business. The student must also be recommended by at least one member of the business school faculty, have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0, and submit a 1,000-word essay on the contributions of William G. McGowan to today’s business world – and to the telecommunications field specifically.

In his winning essay, Lish praised McGowan’s “changing the face of telecommunications. … Without him, we would be living in a very different world.” McGowan was instrumental in the deregulation of the telecommunications industry in the 1980s.

“McGowan’s efforts are a great example of how one person can achieve anything with enough dedication and fortitude,” Lish wrote.

Finance Professor James Mahar was one of several faculty members who recommended Lish for the scholarship.
“While a very good student, Ken is amazingly well-rounded,” Mahar said. “It is hard to find a student more deserving of the scholarship.”

Lish is a goalie for the men’s soccer team, has been on the dean’s list and the Atlantic 10 Commissioner’s Honor Roll for four years, serves as a business tutor in the Teaching and Learning Center, is active in the Finance Club, and had a perfect score on the writing section of the GMAT. He also volunteers four hours a week to read to Olean schoolchildren.

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University celebrates $2 million gift from Quick family

St. Bonaventure University recognized the Leslie C. Quick III family with a campus reception on Friday for their “extraordinary commitment” to arts education through the establishment of the $2 million Thomas T. and Mary W. Clarkson Arts Education Endowment.

A reception was also held Friday afternoon at The Saturn Club in Buffalo for area arts educators to talk about the gift, and to promote the University’s new art history program, funded by a $600,000 grant from the Oishei Foundation of Buffalo.

The purpose of the Quicks’ endowment is to ensure that regional elementary, middle, and high school students and their teachers have access to the superb collections and facilities of The Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts. The endowment will provide funding for support of exhibitions, performances, and arts education programming, as well as transportation for K-12 students to the center’s programs, and transportation of the center’s programs to students at their schools or other venues.

“My wife, Eileen, and I intend for this endowment to be the catalyst in stirring the imagination and curiosity of young audiences throughout the region,” said Leslie C. Quick III, class of 1975, a founding partner of Massey, Quick and Co. LLC, and a University trustee.

Named in honor of Regina A. Quick’s parents, the Thomas T. and Mary W. Clarkson Arts Education Endowment will provide for on- and off-campus programs designed to encourage students to immerse themselves in the Quick Center’s wide-ranging collection of fine and applied art and historical artifacts.

“Every gift from the Quick family is filled with heart and humanity, and none more so than this endowment that honors the beauty of art and its importance in the intellectual development of our area’s youth,” said Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D., president of the University.

The Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts opened its doors January 1995 to house and showcase the University’s extraordinary art
collection, while creating a regional outlet for culture and expression for Western New York. Since that time, the programs offered by The Quick Center have grown exponentially, offering a rich cache of resources for academic instruction in the visual and performing arts while also serving as a cultural hub for regional collaboration and thought.

“This endowment ensures the stability of the very program Regina Quick loved so much, which was principally the outreach to children in the region,” said Joseph LoSchiavo, executive director of The Quick Center for the Arts.

“The Quick Center is the sole museum and performing arts venue for school districts of six area counties in New York and Pennsylvania,” he said, adding that the endowment will maximize the center’s outreach to school populations.

The Quick family’s legacy of gratitude and giving spans several generations. Among other charities, Eileen Quick is a volunteer for Operation Smile, a worldwide children’s medical charity. Mr. Quick has served for nearly 20 years on St. Bonaventure University’s board of trustees, including six years as vice chair and two years as chair. In addition to his board service, Quick has given of his time to the University’s National Alumni Board, Annual Fund and its first capital campaign. He is presently co-chair of the 150th Anniversary Campaign, where more than $88 million has been raised toward the $90 million goal. He was an honorary degree recipient in May 2001 and was Alumnus of the Year in 1990.

Following the campus gathering, a reception was held at the Saturn Club in Buffalo to share with area educators news of the Quick family endowment and the University’s new Art History program, which was launched in 2007 with the help of a $600,000 grant from the John R. Oishei Foundation in Buffalo. The foundation was established in 1940 by John R. Oishei, founder of Trico Products Corp. Its mission is to enhance the quality of life for Buffalo-area residents by supporting education, healthcare, scientific research and the cultural, social, civic and other charitable needs of the community.
Newsmakers

Dr. Neal Carter, associate professor of political science, has had three pieces accepted for publication this semester. "A League of Our Own: Creating a Model United Nations Scrimmage Conference," co-authored with the co-founders of the Mid-Atlantic Model United Nations Consortium, will appear in the Journal of Political Science Education. "Beyond Neocon Ideologue or Liberal Pragmatist? A Personality at a Distance Profile of Stephen Harper" will appear in Inroads: The Canadian Journal of Opinion. His review of Le débat qui n'a pas eu lieu: La Commission Pepin-Robarts quelques vingt ans après by Jean-Pierre Wallot will appear in the journal Quebec Studies. Additionally, Carter was featured on an interview with WBEN radio to discuss the links between religion and politics in light of recent events in Texas. Carter also reviewed research grant applications for the Quebec government, and has received a grant from the University to pursue his research on personality profiles of Canadian leaders.