Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM:
State of the College

Campus is Growing & Expanding
New Residence Hall Named,
Remodeling of Walsh Hall Begins

Pauline Selenke Pesek ’65
Alumna to Alumna
President’s Message

As I write this Hurricane Sandy is plundering our eastern shores and all that people along the Atlantic coast take for granted has been upended! What an opportunity for reflection especially as we near this time of thanksgiving. What do we assume will be here each day, every day for our use? The telephone, transportation, clean water, heat, food are always available, aren’t they? Our lives are fragile in so many ways and such events lead us to realize the web of relationships we depend upon for health and happiness. It is not just our personal loved ones, but the truck drivers, line workers, vendors and service workers of all types who maintain the various systems of support upon which we rely. At the same time as we pray for and with those affected by this adversity, let us be thankful for all those who are able to provide assistance.

College of Saint Mary relies on so many, including you, to continue its good work of educating women in an environment that calls forth potential and fosters leadership. Thus, in this issue you will find information about our endowment campaign and the importance of our annual fund. There’s admittedly some fuzzy math for the campaign and the importance of our annual fund.

But we are clearer about the need for endowed funds! Our strongest hope is to continue the long line of prospective walking women who will graduate into their futures with courage, conviction and faith. Scholarship funds to offset the cost of higher education, endowed professorships with interest to offset budgeted salaries and other opportunities will provide such support.

We do rely on you and we are thankful! Please know that each and all of you are remembered in our daily liturgy at Our Lady of Mercy Chapel. With great appreciation, I am,

Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM

Board of Directors

Doug Wimberding
Chair of the Board
Managing Principal,
The Optimus Group, LLC

Jean Burtman
Partner, McGuire, LLP

Tari Campbell ’94
Saks Manager, Omaha World-Herald

Jane Cardozo, DNP, RN
Vice President & System Chief,
Nursing Office, Alegence Health

Lorraine Chang, J.D.
Strategic Leadership Consultant

Patrick J. Corrigan
President & CEO, Access Bank

William Cutler
Funerary Director, Heafey, Hoffman, Woods and Peters, Omaha, NE

Kathleen C. Dodge
Vice Chair of the Board
President & CEO, NEI Global Relocation

Ivan Gledzic, MBA
President & CEO
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands

Jane Hueter, J.D.
Secretary of the Board
Retired, Executive Vice President of Corporate Services and Corporate Secretary, Mutual of Omaha

Richard P. (Rick) Jeffries, J.D.
Partner, Clive William Wright Johnson & Oldfather, LLP

Carol Konner
Chartered Financial Analyst
Retired Nebraska State Investment Office

Marcia Kossey
Portfolio Mgr/Principal, Vice President
Research, Plg Kossey, LLC

David J. Kramer, J.D.
Partner, Baird Holm Law Firm

Dr. Joan Laughlin ’62
President, American Women for Graduate Studies and Research, College of Human Resources and Family Sciences, University of Nebraska

Deborah Macdonald, J.D.
Retired, President
Kansas Morgan Natural Gas Pipeline Group

Dr. Shelia E. Megley, RSM
West Midtown Leadership Team
Saint of Mercy of the Americas

Dr. Theresa Delahoyde D’09 Christi Rose

Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM

State of the College

On the cover

Dr. Molly Heaver
First M’UB, D’09

Dr. Carol Conway-Gerhardt ’64

Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM

Dr. Janelle Arthur
Photography

Advancement

15 Leaving a Legacy
16 Fundraising & Development
20 Four Outstanding Alumnae Receive Distinguished Recognition

In Every Issue

4 Upcoming Events
5 Campus News
6 Campus Accolades
18 Athletics
21 Alumnae Achievements

Questions about College of Saint Mary Magazine? Contact Institutional Advancement at 402-399-2464 or marketing@csm.edu.
Blessing of the Pets

On October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, College of Saint Mary (CSM) invited students, faculty, staff, friends and the public to bring their pets for a special blessing at the CSM Prayer Circle. Over 30 pets of all shapes and sizes joined us on this faithful day.

Introducing the Walking Woman Welcome Center

When potential students drive up to campus we are rolling out the welcome mat! The Walking Woman Welcome Center, located in Mercy Hall, is now the new home of Enrollment Services. The new campus visit coordinator will personally greet each student and her family, presenting a personalized itinerary that includes meeting with faculty, financial aid counselors, coaches, fine arts personnel and enrollment counselors. Visitors will also take a campus tour, eat in the dining hall and depart with a special CSM gift. For more information about upcoming high school or transfer visit days please go to CSM.edu/VisitUs or contact 402-399-2355.
To view the 2011-2012 President’s Report and the Donor Recognition Societies visit CSM.edu/About_Us.

Happy Birthday CSM!

Join CSM’s own Village Voices Toastmasters Club on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month 12 – 1 p.m.

Expand your abilities and gain confidence in public speaking! Toastmasters is an international organization devoted to the development of leadership and public speaking skills.

For more information contact Shirley Gunderson at 402-399-2435 or sgunderson@csm.edu.

Congratulations to all 35 College of Saint Mary (CSM) Science and Math Students who developed and orchestrated this year’s CSM Science Day for visiting area high school students. Each year CSM students majoring in the fields of chemistry, biology, physics, anatomy, physiology, math and forensics prepare interactive laboratory experiments for prospective students. This year 75 high school students participated in hands-on laboratory demonstrations, explored the various science majors available to them at CSM, took campus tours and much more. For more information about upcoming high school and transfer visit days go to CSM.edu/VisitUs.
Thanksgiving is one of the few times a year that we calm our schedules enough to spend time with our families and reflect on all the things for which we are thankful. This is one of my favorite times of year because of the incredible food being devoured around the holiday, but it’s also one of the hardest times, too. As leaves start changing color, the weather gets cooler and fall begins, I think of my brother. Growing up, Shawn and I couldn’t spend more than five minutes together without getting into some sort of fight or argument. The World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) would have recruited us had they known our wrestling skills, and I’m sure Muhammad Ali would have been proud of the punches we were able to land. Holding hands while sitting beside each other in silence was the worst punishment because it was the one thing we definitely didn’t want to be doing.

Six years ago, I was a junior in high school and felt invincible. School and sports kept me distracted from everything, and there were ample chances to get out of the house with friends. Shawn had moved across the country, finally letting me have a break from his constant teasing, and sometimes hard-to-bear presence. I wish I could have that time with him back.

At 2 a.m., the morning of September 25, 2006, we received an unexpected phone call from one of Shawn’s friends, instantly yanking us from sleep, eyes wide and hearts racing. Shawn had been in a car accident after he missed a turn, hitting a tree on his way home. The next hour of our lives seemed to last an eternity before the doctor told us that Shawn had passed. My “invincibility” had run out, changing me and the world I was living in. His death changed my entire outlook on life, love and time. Before the accident, I took for granted how important those three things are, but I’m not able to do that anymore.

The past six years have shown me how much I can take. They’ve taught me how fragile life is, how one day I can be listening to a loved one tell me about a crazy adventure that just happened, then realizing the next day that I won’t be able to hear that same voice again. It’s stronger and much more appreciative. It was hard for me to understand what it meant to truly love someone until that happened. But above all, I’ve learned that time isn’t infinite. Each second is a chance to tell someone I love them. Each opportunity to see someone I care about is one I take complete advantage of because it may be the last.

When my family and I gather for Thanksgiving, I think about how I’m lucky enough to see them as often as I do. I think about how much love my family and I share. I think about how much of an unwavering support system my family and friends are as they push me to continue on in everyday struggles. And I’ve learned that it’s the little things that count, making each day a beautiful time to be living. — Olivia Grigg ’12

I’ve learned that it’s the little things that count, making each day a beautiful time to be living. — Olivia Grigg ’12

Thanksgiving is one of the few times a year that we calm our schedules enough to spend time with our families and reflect on all the things for which we are thankful. This is one of my favorite times of year because of the incredible food being devoured around the holiday, but it’s also one of the hardest times, too. As leaves start changing color, the weather gets cooler and fall begins, I think of my brother. Growing up, Shawn and I couldn’t spend more than five minutes together without getting into some sort of fight or argument. The World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) would have recruited us had they known our wrestling skills, and I’m sure Muhammad Ali would have been proud of the punches we were able to land. Holding hands while sitting beside each other in silence was the worst punishment because it was the one thing we definitely didn’t want to be doing.

Six years ago, I was a junior in high school and felt invincible. School and sports kept me distracted from everything, and there were ample chances to get out of the house with friends. Shawn had moved across the country, finally letting me have a break from his constant teasing, and sometimes hard-to-bear presence. I wish I could have that time with him back.

At 2 a.m., the morning of September 25, 2006, we received an unexpected phone call from one of Shawn’s friends, instantly yanking us from sleep, eyes wide and hearts racing. Shawn had been in a car accident after he missed a turn, hitting a tree on his way home. The next hour of our lives seemed to last an eternity before the doctor told us that Shawn had passed. My “invincibility” had run out, changing me and the world I was living in. His death changed my entire outlook on life, love and time. Before the accident, I took for granted how important those three things are, but I’m not able to do that anymore.

The past six years have shown me how much I can take. They’ve taught me how fragile life is, how one day I can be listening to a loved one tell me about a crazy adventure that just happened, then realizing the next day that I won’t be able to hear that same voice again. I’m stronger and much more appreciative. It was hard for me to understand what it meant to truly love someone until that happened. But above all, I’ve learned that time isn’t infinite. Each second is a chance to tell someone I love them. Each opportunity to see someone I care about is one I take complete advantage of because it may be the last.

When my family and I gather for Thanksgiving, I think about how I’m lucky enough to see them as often as I do. I think about how much love my family and I share. I think about how much of an unwavering support system my family and friends are as they push me to continue on in everyday struggles. And I’ve learned that it’s the little things that count, making each day a beautiful time to be living.

*Olivia Grigg ’12 is interning this semester with Momaha for the Omaha World-Herald.
On September 12, during the annual Founder’s Day reception and dinner, College of Saint Mary (CSM) dedicated its newly completed residence hall, built to house the Mothers Living & Learning single student-mothers and their children. Dedication activities included the unveiling of the Donor Recognition Wall, which expresses appreciation to the generous individuals, corporations and foundations who contributed to this significant project.

One of the speakers during the dedication portion of the program was Ann Morgan '14 (nursing) of Crescent, Iowa, who previously lived in the former Mothers Living & Learning facilities with her three year old son on the fourth floor of Walsh Hall. “We are blessed to have this new building. Being near the other residence halls makes us feel more integrated with the other students on campus and more involved in campus activities. The large community areas lend a family-feel to each floor. I am so happy that we have space for more single mothers because it is vital that we are able to improve our own situations through a college education. This program provides us with that opportunity. Many times throughout my life I have heard ‘it takes a village to raise a child,’ and in a way we are creating a village, not only for our children to progress into their own person, but also for ourselves and for each other,” explained Morgan.

The residence hall has recently been named Madonna Hall in honor of the Mother and child. To reflect CSM’s commitment to environmental sustainability, the building industry LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver standards were followed, which designate energy efficient and environmentally-sound design, construction, operations and maintenance.

CSM Campus Highlighted by Growth & Expansion

By Brittnie Long, Director of Public Relations and Communications

On September 12, during the annual Founder’s Day reception and dinner, College of Saint Mary (CSM) dedicated its newly completed residence hall, built to house the Mothers Living & Learning single student-mothers and their children. Dedication activities included the unveiling of the Donor Recognition Wall, which expresses appreciation to the generous individuals, corporations and foundations who contributed to this significant project.

One of the speakers during the dedication portion of the program was Ann Morgan ’14 (nursing) of Crescent, Iowa, who previously lived in the former Mothers Living & Learning facilities with her three year old son on the fourth floor of Walsh Hall. “We are blessed to have this new building. Being near the other residence halls makes us feel more integrated with the other students on campus and more involved in campus activities. The large community areas lend a family-feel to each floor. I am so happy that we have space for more single mothers because it is vital that we are able to improve our own situations through a college education. This program provides us with that opportunity. Many times throughout my life I have heard ‘it takes a village to raise a child,’ and in a way we are creating a village, not only for our children to progress into their own person, but also for ourselves and for each other,” explained Morgan.

The residence hall has recently been named Madonna Hall in honor of the Mother and child. To reflect CSM’s commitment to environmental sustainability, the building industry LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver standards were followed, which designate energy efficient and environmentally-sound design, construction, operations and maintenance.

Growth continues in the health sciences

Now that the third and fourth floors of Walsh Hall are vacated, CSM is moving forward with additional plans to address the needs created by the growth in CSM’s health sciences enrollment – nearly 400% over the past five years. This renovation is vital to the continuous growth of the college.

The third and fourth floors of Walsh Hall, once it’s renovated for appropriate office space and additional classrooms, will be home to CSM health sciences faculty and staff, whose offices are currently located on the ground floor of Walsh Hall. The Walsh Hall ground level renovation project will create cohesion between the entire health sciences division, which includes occupational therapy (OT), nursing and our new physician assistant (PA) program. The project includes the development of two nursing skills laboratories, equipped with a total of 20 patient beds. The labs will be on either side of an observation room which will feature one-way observation mirrors into each lab to oversee student work and progress. Additionally, each laboratory will be “book-ended” by a technology classroom.

As part of the OT wing, laboratories will be expanded, creating a large skills laboratory and a pediatric OT skills laboratory. Additionally, an apartment-style laboratory space, simulating an in-home patient care environment, will be added to the nursing skills laboratories. The OT wing will also include an apartment-style laboratory space, simulating an in-home patient care environment.

Overall, this project will expand essential student learning spaces, as well as renovate existing laboratory spaces, to reflect technology and practices currently found in the health professions. The expanded teaching and learning environment will improve the quality of the students’ experiences, enhance programming flexibility and enable CSM to remain competitive in the health sciences field.
What is the state of the University?

I think it is best described by telling you about our students. Our “census day” for the fall term (September 12) confirmed 1037 students enrolled at College of Saint Mary (CSM). The median age overall this fall is 26 and the median age of the degree seeking undergraduates is 22; they come from 18 states and six countries; 20% are women of color; and over 200 of them are parents. The largest programs remain occupational therapy and nursing with students studying education and biology a close third and fourth; 14% of undergraduates are student athletes competing in basketball, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, swimming and volleyball.

In our admissions office, recently re-named the “Walking Woman Welcome Center” we promise our students that upon graduation they will “Walk tall,” striding confidently into the future with faith, courage and conviction. I tell them to speak up, be assertive about what they need and want. During my official welcome to them, I remind them that they pay our bills; actually, they pay our salaries: This is a dangerous thing to tell our students. Some might even call it subversive because it suggests they are in charge instead of me, the staff or the faculty, but it is an important message because first of all, it is true, they do pay our salaries.

Second, I want them to learn how to tell us what they need and how we might best respond to facilitating their learning because that is what we are here for. Basically, I want our students to learn how to author their own lives and while recognizing authority, never allow authority to be unquestioned. This is what citizenship in a democracy is all about. This is what the best of our education provides: to recognize authority (of course people need positional leadership) but to ensure that we have the courage to risk transforming or changing our situation if it is not allowing us to grow. This is as simple as asking ourselves which relationships really allow us to flourish, and as complex as challenging systems and rules we might be taking for granted, realizing they are not in stone. It takes risk; it takes courage. It takes all of us realizing that we are in this together; we are all jointly responsible for one another.

This is my belief about what we are doing for the women of College of Saint Mary. This is my hope for what we all might do for our church and for our country. We must be assertive, question the authority of anything that keeps us from the best use of our gifts and talents, from being the people we were called by God to become.

(’Dr. Stevens paused to play a recently produced video which reveals, through the heartfelt unscripted words of five recent graduates, the impact the mission of College of Saint Mary had on their lives. You can view the video at www.CSM.edu/About_Us/Mission_of_CSM.)

College of Saint Mary is calling forth potential and fostering leadership. Students are excelling through a variety of academic programs. One of the graduates featured on the video has been accepted into veterinary school and as many of you know this is more difficult than being accepted into medical school. Several students have gone on to medical school, others on to law or other post-baccalaureate programs. Over 96% of our graduates are employed in professions of their choice. Four of our nursing alumni will be inducted into Nebraska’s 40 Under 40 State Nursing Leaders group. I think we must have occupational therapists in every clinic in the country! I am confident that our graduates are prepared for the roles they assume as professionals.

Perhaps the most important learning for our students during the time of rapid and massive change is the need for consistently considering the “art of relationship.” No matter how much technology we have, life, real life, is still about people. We have only to look at Libya or at our own U.S. Congress or at Omaha’s morning paper to know that real relationships, that is the type of relationships that call forth what is best in individuals, neighborhoods, cities, countries and the world, the type of relationships that contribute to no more
Dr. Christine Pharr, Vice President of Academic Affairs, gives a tour of Madonna Hall.

Mary Heng-Braun with Carol Teggart.

Currently 57% of our students are Pell Grant eligible; many are working full-time while attending school. We need to figure out how to keep the costs down, and at the same time, offer the best of education.

– Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM

“Leaving a Legacy"

Our Lady of Mercy Society

Dr. Carol Conway-Gerhardt ’64 was raised on the family farm near McLean, Neb., the second oldest of seven children and the oldest girl among four girls and three boys. Her parents, as farmers, could not envision sufficient finances for their children to receive a college education.

Carol feels she was blessed in 1960 to receive the College of Saint Mary (CSM) President’s Scholarship, as well as a connection to a family who could provide room and board in exchange for Carol’s service as a nanny to their children while she pursued her degree. Over the next three years, Carol worked for several families as a nanny until the second semester of her senior year when she was able to move to campus and enjoy being a resident student. Specifically for Carol, CSM provided three major components that have enhanced her life: a deep Catholic faith that brings continued outreach, lifelong learning not only for herself but for others; and service that helps support others today and into the future.

After graduation, Carol married her college sweetheart, Patrick Conway, in 1964 and moved to Wisconsin. Patrick died in 1980 leaving four children, two girls and two boys. In 1982, Carol married Todd Gerhardt. After 27 years of teaching English in middle school, high school and college, Carol served as an educational administrator for 20 years. She earned her Master in English in 1979 and her Ph.D. in Educational Administration in 2001. Carol retired June 30, 2011, as president of the Green Bay Catholic Education (GRACE) System.

Carol and Todd made the decision to each include their undergraduate colleges in their wills to assure the continuation of the foundation of their post-secondary learning.

“Without College of Saint Mary, I would not have the deep faith and desire for continuous learning and commitment to serve that I currently have,” Carol stated. “In order to recognize the gifts CSM gave me, I want to give back so that CSM more easily continues its ongoing innovation and growth and so that others like me may receive similar gifts. Putting CSM in my will is an important way to demonstrate a legacy, a continuing gift and a gift that gives forward!”

The Our Lady of Mercy Society is comprised of generous individuals who believe in College of Saint Mary’s (CSM) mission and wish to help sustain it in the long-term. They have made the decision to include CSM in their estate plans. These thoughtful gifts create a firm foundation in the form of endowment, which secures the future of the University and ensures that CSM students continue to receive the best possible educational experience, and finally, reach their full potential, which is the ultimate goal.

Making a gift through your estate plans can be a simple, but significant way to make a difference. We hope you will consider joining this group of dedicated friends and include CSM in your estate plans!

If you would like to learn more about including CSM in your will, contact Verlyn Schueler, Vice President of Advancement, at 402-399-2477 or vschueler@csu.edu.

Mary Hong-Braun with Carol Teggart.

Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM
College of Saint Mary’s (CSM) sixth strategic vision involves endowment growth, relationship building and strengthening alumnae engagement. This vision will be realized through the achievement of three goals:

1. Increase alumnae giving percentage by 1% each year.
2. Initiate a campaign to double the University’s endowment by 2016.
3. Welcome five new members each year into the Our Lady of Mercy Society.

Increase alumnae giving percentage by 1% each year.

The impact of alumnae giving on the health of the University cannot be understated. CSM is a private institution of higher learning, but it is also a non-profit whose mission is to call forth potential, foster leadership and ensure accessibility to our students. As a non-profit, our stated tuition rate has never covered the full cost of doing business; there has always been a gap remaining which fortunately, has been reduced by the tax-deductible gifts from those who believe in the value of our mission. Who better to know the value of our mission than those who have benefitted from it – our graduates. Alumnae who have benefitted from our programs report the average size of an alumnae’s gift is $25. It is simply that they give.

In the past several years, CSM’s alumnae giving has decreased. While adding 250 to 300 new graduates a year to our alumnae roster can impact the percentage, actual numbers are decreasing as well. This sobering fact inspired the CSM Board of Directors to embrace an alumnae percentage giving increase of 1% a year, so as to focus on the importance of alumnae engagement and giving to the health of the University.

Initiate an endowment campaign to double the University’s endowment by 2016.

CSM’s current endowment is $8 million. By any standards this is considered minimal, offering little ability for the University to plan for the future, be flexible in embracing opportunities as they arise or provide a secure source of funding during unstable economic times. The minimum level of endowed funds recommended for an institution of higher learning is equal to its annual operating budget, which would be $18 million.

Additionally, the University, approaching its 90th years, does not have, as is common with institutions of higher learning, named Endowed Chairs, Professorships or Fellowships. Establishing these opportunities at CSM would ensure our ability to invest in academic excellence and enrich our foundation of teaching and learning. Interestingly enough, the world’s first Endowed Chair for a university was established by a woman, Lady Margaret Beaufort, Countess of Richmond and grandmother to the future King Henry VIII in 1502, at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. She understood the importance of a permanent source of funds to maintain a high level of academic offerings.

Our goal is to raise $13.65 million in endowed funds by 2016. CSM’s campaign is called Striding Forward: Endowment for the Future. Building the endowment will allow us to continue our long history of providing scholarship support to motivated, capable students who bring a rich diversity to our campus community. An increased endowment will sustain academic excellence, along with encouraging and retaining gifted faculty through competitive salaries and the support of scholarly pursuits in their field. A strong endowment will establish annual opportunities for students to interact with high profile women leaders and stimulate inspiring, reflective leadership in our next generation of students. Finally, it will allow CSM to permanently invest in and preserve those programs which so richly reflect our unique mission.

Welcome five new members each year into the Our Lady of Mercy Society. Optional, of course, such a gift allows you to support a cause they believe in when they no longer need it themselves.

In 2012-13 we will need $3.65 million Academic Excellence.

In 2012-13 we will need $2.35 million Mission-Driven Program Support.

In 2012-13 we will need $1 million Leadership Development.

In 2012-13 we will need $3 million Student Scholarship Support.

In 2012-13 we will need $10 million to make a gift to College of Saint Mary.

In 2012-13 we will need 1,750 of our alumnae to help us as we reach 25% participation.

In 2012-13 we will need YOU. Will you help?
Angela Case Williams ’98 Elected into CSM Athletic Hall of Fame

Angela Case Williams ’98 was inducted into the College of Saint Mary Athletic Hall of Fame during Alumnae Reunion Weekend, as part of 2012 Heritage Week events. Williams led College of Saint Mary’s (CSM) Softball Team to two NAIA Regional Tournaments in 1996 and 1997, including a berth in the regional final. She was one of the most dominant hitters to ever take the plate for the Flames, and won numerous conference titles and set a number of records including: First Team All-American, 1997; Second Team All-American, 1996; four time NAIA-Conference MCAC, 1993-1997; two-time All-Region, 1996-1997; five CSM individual career records; and six CSM single season records. Williams gained national recognition when she was ranked eighth in the nation for runs batted in, fifth for hits per game, fourth with a .506 batting average, second for doubles per game, and was ranked first in the nation for total number of doubles (24). “I have so many fond memories of all my teammates and coaches from CSM softball,” stated Williams. “Without their hard work and dedication I wouldn’t have earned any of the awards I did.” Williams is the 13th member elected to the CSM Athletic Hall of Fame since 2002.

CSM Soccer ‘Pink Game’ in Support of Breast Cancer Awareness

In support of Breast Cancer Awareness, the Flames Soccer Team hosted their 2nd Annual Pink Game on October 13, where the Flames raffled off an autographed soccer ball at halftime and held a silent auction during the game for players’ jerseys in Support of Breast Cancer Awareness.

Cross Country

The Flames began their pre-season with a third place MCAC ranking. They opened their competitive season in August at the Bill Burton Memorial Meet. Facing stiff competition, the CSM runners brought home a second place team finish and first-year runner Haden Mikessell ’16 (biology) from Papillion, Neb., finished second overall. Emily Weber ’14 (occupational therapy) of Dunlap, Iowa, won the Yellow Jacket Invite in Lamoni, Iowa. The CSM Cross Country Team is working hard to make the NAIA National Cross Country meet on November 17, in Vancouver, Wash.

Recognitions:
- MCAC Offensive Player of the Week: Abby Schlater ’16 (elementary education) of Council Bluffs, Iowa, finished 2nd in the conference.
- MCAC Defensive Player of the Week: Ashley Wohlers ’15 (business analytics and communication) of Papillion, Neb.; Courtney Smith ’16 (sociology) of Colorado Springs, Colo.
- MCAC Libero of the Week (twice): Baylee Collins ’14 (business analytics and communication) of Omaha, Neb.

Volleyball

The CSM Volleyball Team has conference wins over Central Christian, Central Baptist, Haskell, Southwestern Christian, Oklahoma Wesleyan and York. Leading the team in kills (509) and aces (59) is Joy Leick ’15 (business analytics and communication) of Omaha, Neb. Bowler Wallace ’13 (rehabilitation studies) of Omaha, Neb., is second on the team in kills (397) and aces (32).

Recognitions:
- MCAC Offensive Player of the Week: Abby Schlater ’16 (elementary education) of Council Bluffs, Iowa.
- MCAC Libero of the Week (twice): Baylee Collins ’14 (business analytics and communication) of Omaha, Neb.

Soccer

The CSM Soccer Team welcomed seven players from last season and added 16 new faces to the roster. Catherine Pickenspough ’15 (nursing) of Omaha, Neb., leads the MCAC with (32) assists and Abby Schlater ’16 (elementary education) of Council Bluffs, Iowa, leads the team in goals (13) and points (32). The Flames wrapped up their regular season with a 9-9 overall record and a 5-2 conference mark. The Flames are seeded third in the MCAC tournament and will play at Oklahoma Wesleyan in the semifinals.

Recognitions:
- MCAC Offensive Player of the Week: Abby Schlater ’16 (elementary education) of Council Bluffs, Iowa.
- MCAC Defensive Player of the Week: Ashley Wohlers ’15 (business analytics and communication) of Papillion, Neb.
- MCAC Offensive Player of the Week: Zach ’15 (occupational therapy) of Gering, Neb.
- MCAC Defender of the Week: Ashley Wohlers ’15 (business analytics and communication) of Papillion, Neb.; Courtney Smith ’16 (sociology) of Colorado Springs, Colo.

Golf

CSM Golf participated in four meets for the fall portion of their season. Their top team result was a fourth place finish in both the Nebraska Wesleyan Fall Invitational and the Dakota Wesleyan Invitational. CSM Golf wrapped up their regular season in the fall portion of the golf schedule will resume in March.

ATHLETICS

ATHLETICS

ALUMNA FEATURE

ALUMNA FEATURE

Pauline, one plus 174 does not equal 1,000! Can you explain this complicated math to us?

It’s really not complicated! When the University told me of their desire to increase alumnae support, I wanted to help in a fun way that would spotlight their efforts. I agreed to give $10,000 as a way to publicize their goal of 1,750 alumnae giving 25%. Instead of giving once the goal was reached, I chose to give in $1,000 increments. Each time 175 alumnae gave, I’ll give. Hopefully, this will provide 10 ways to build the momentum.

Giving has always added to and often multiplied the joy and happiness in my life. The “math” is to increase the percentage of alumnae giving … and I hope to increase their joy and happiness.

You are already a consistent donor. Why did you feel compelled to stretch so that others would give?

It is compelling to give back because of the education, opportunities and experiences that College of Saint Mary (CSM) provides. I also feel it is essential to give forward so that others can enjoy these same benefits. I know that alumnae donations are core to every university. When businesses (and I am a business owner) consider a gift, they look to the core of that institution. If a high number of alumnae are giving back, that speaks volumes to the value they place on their experience.

I’m not sure our CSM alumnae stop and think of this fact. I hope my gesture and the way I’m giving will shine a light so that each alumna will stop and think – I can give and really help CSM. It is the simple act of giving that matters. Maybe one alumna can only make a $20 gift, but another can give $1,000; it is the fact that they give that counts. I’m glad my “challenge” is not related to the size of anyone’s gift. I’m only interested in the fact that my fellow alumna make a gift, not how much!

What transformative change or long range results do you hope to see from your gift?

Giving is a habit. Once a donation is made it is easier to continue giving because you make it a part of your budget. It is my hope to see a noticeable sustained increase in the number of alumnae who give back to CSM.

Editor’s note: Thank you Pauline and to the hundreds of alumnae who have already given to the CSM Fund! Follow our progress each Walking Woman Wednesday on Facebook.
Four Outstanding Alumnae from the CSM Nursing Program Receive Distinguished Recognition

BY BRITTNEY LONG, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With a mission to “improve healthcare access, quality and cost-effectiveness through nurse-led collaborative partnerships,” the Nebraska Action Coalition of Nursing is working to drive necessary change within the profession. In 2012 the Coalition initiated an annual 40 under 40 Nurse Leadership award.

The first recipients of this new award were announced earlier this fall. Four of the forty awardees selected were College of Saint Mary (CSM) alumnae, reflective of the high quality of our nursing graduates. Two of the awardees are current CSM faculty: Dr. Kari Wade D’11, Master of Science in Nursing Program Director and, Christi Rose Glesmann, MSN, ’06, M’08, Assistant Professor of Nursing. Dr. Molly Thayer Fitzke M’08, D’09, is the Director of the RN-to-BSN Online Program at Bryan College of Health Sciences.

The 40 under 40 Nurse Leadership award celebrates young nurse leaders who demonstrate expertise in their field, adhere to high ethical standards and leadership within their profession, organization and community. All four CSM alumnae were honored Thursday, September 13, at an Awards Reception in Lincoln, Neb.

Dr. Wade explained, “This award is beneficial because it unites young nursing professionals and leaders throughout Nebraska. The 40 under 40 recipients have been targeted as the ‘future’ of nursing in Nebraska and will likely be key stakeholders and decision makers for both education and practice. Being held to this high level of regard is a tremendous honor!” Dr. Wade specializes in nursing research and pediatric clinical care. She also serves as chair-elect of the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Special Interest Group of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

Glesmann who received her associates, bachelor and masters degrees from CSM expressed, “Throughout my years as a student and faculty member at CSM, I have found that the CSM faculty and staff really do live the mission of the University. As a student, the faculty were supportive, motivating and promoted academic excellence. As a faculty member, the faculty and staff provided mentoring and really fostered my leadership potential. CSM has challenged me to go further while providing support and inspiration along the way.” A Bellevue, Neb. native, Glesmann joined the University in 2006 as an instructor of nursing and is board certified in pediatrics from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC).

Mary Kay Vba ‘73 stopped in to visit the CSM Campus and meet with Diane Langel Poultix ‘72, Vice President of Institutional Advancement this past October. Mary Kay is currently the Executive Director of Dutchess County Tourism, in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Deb Thor Nesbitt ‘74 joined the Nebraska Skilled Healthcare Rehab in Omaha, Neb., after following her passion to work with the elderly and those in long-term care facilities. Deb lives in Plattsmouth, Neb.

Jo Valaesk ’47 was recognized for her 50-year membership in the Catholic Daughters, one of the oldest and largest organizations of Catholic women in North and South America. She has led her local chapter as regent, helped raise money for various charities and meets monthly with nurses.

Three of my fellow CSM alumnae who are inspiring nurse leaders,” stated Dr. Fitzke, of Saginaw, Mich. Dr. Fitzke received both her masters and doctorate from CSM.

College of Saint Mary (CSM) Office of Alumnae Relations hosted its first alumnae Welcome Back Luncheon on October 8. Throughout our travels around the city, state and country, we’ve met alumnae who have a strong affinity to CSM, but have not been back in a long time or even since they graduated. The Office of Alumnae Relations has pledged to change that! Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM, and Diane Langel Poultix ‘72, Assistant Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Events Coordinator hosted the event.

We want to know your accomplishments! Send your stories to Jaime Conar at jcorsar@csm.edu or use the envelope found in the center of the magazine. You can also update your contact information by logging on to CSM.edu. Click on “Alumnae & Donors” and then “Keep in Touch.”
Iowa Alumnae

One of our latest alumnae trips was to our neighboring state, Iowa. These outstanding alumnae took time out of their busy schedules to meet and chat about how College of Saint Mary impacted their lives.

In loving memory

Hilda Jaen Kramer ‘62 – dear friend, faithful alumna and generous supporter of CSM. Hilda recently celebrated her 50th anniversary during Alumnae Reunion Weekend. She is the mother of Margaret Kramer Esfahani ‘99, David Kramer, a current member of CSM Board of Directors; Dan Kramer, and Tereza Ruback.

Beatrice Houston Jacques ‘42 was a longtime donor of CSM and cherished alumna of the college. Bea was a career-minded woman who worked at numerous large corporations throughout Omaha and was an active community volunteer.

Walking Women in Germany!

Two College of Saint Mary (CSM) alumnae, unbeknownst to each other, were in Germany this summer and both documented their travels with pictures of the Walking Woman! Genevieve Ebel Smejkal ‘67 captured her visit to the Czech Republic, Munich, Weiden and Neuschwanstein Germany. Linda Schnieder Broghammer ‘69 took pictures at the Berlin Wall, the Baltic Sea and in Hamburg. Back in Omaha, Genevieve and Marian Emanuel Wolf ‘67 stopped by CSM to check out the CSM Alumnae/Community Art Show and enjoyed being back on campus again. Thank you for taking the spirit of CSM with you!

Where will the Walking Woman go next? We’re waiting to find out! Send your pictures in before January 15 to be included in our spring CSM Magazine.

Congratulations to the following College of Saint Mary alumnae who have recently celebrated jubilee anniversaries as religious sisters:

50 years
Sr. Mary Keenan Gillagron, RSM, ‘52 (taught at CSM)
Sr. Mary Jude Graham, RSM, ‘52 (taught philosophy at CSM)
Sr. Rita Ann Podbiela, RSM, ‘53
Sr. Mary Patricia Mulkey, RSM, ‘54 (worked in sorority services at CSM)

55 years
Sr. Madeleina Comiskey, RSM, ‘55 (taught at CSM)
Sr. Mary Beth Kubelt, ND, ‘59

60 years
Sr. Mary Beth Kubelt, ND, ‘59
Sr. Kay O’Brien, RSM, ‘67
Sr. Ronalva Burke, ND, ‘65

70 years
Sr. Mary Miguel Gasemmon, RSM, ‘45
Sr. Mary McCrory Gillagron, RSM, ‘51 (taught history at CSM)
Sr. Sr. Mary Jude Graham, RSM, ‘52 (taught at CSM)

Upcoming Events

Alumnae Reunion Weekend.

Two College of Saint Mary (CSM) alumnae, unbeknownst to each other, were in Germany this summer and both documented their travels with pictures of the Walking Woman! Genevieve Ebel Smejkal ‘67 captured her visit to the Czech Republic, Munich, Weiden and Neuschwanstein Germany. Linda Schnieder Broghammer ‘69 took pictures at the Berlin Wall, the Baltic Sea and in Hamburg. Back in Omaha, Genevieve and Marian Emanuel Wolf ‘67 stopped by CSM to check out the CSM Alumnae/Community Art Show and enjoyed being back on campus again. Thank you for taking the spirit of CSM with you!

Where will the Walking Woman go next? We’re waiting to find out! Send your pictures in before January 15 to be included in our spring CSM Magazine.

Congratulations to the following College of Saint Mary alumnae who have recently celebrated jubilee anniversaries as religious sisters:

50 years
Sr. Mary Keenan Gillagron, RSM, ‘52 (taught at CSM)
Sr. Mary Jude Graham, RSM, ‘52 (taught at CSM)
Sr. Rita Ann Podbiela, RSM, ‘53
Sr. Mary Patricia Mulkey, RSM, ‘54 (worked in sorority services at CSM)

55 years
Sr. Madeleina Comiskey, RSM, ‘55 (taught at CSM)
Sr. Mary Beth Kubelt, ND, ‘59

60 years
Sr. Mary Beth Kubelt, ND, ‘59
Sr. Kay O’Brien, RSM, ‘67
Sr. Ronalva Burke, ND, ‘65

70 years
Sr. Mary Miguel Gasemmon, RSM, ‘45
Sr. Mary McCrory Gillagron, RSM, ‘51 (taught history at CSM)
Sr. Mary Jude Graham, RSM, ‘52 (taught at CSM)

Upcoming Events

Alumnae Reunion Weekend.

Two College of Saint Mary (CSM) alumnae, unbeknownst to each other, were in Germany this summer and both documented their travels with pictures of the Walking Woman! Genevieve Ebel Smejkal ‘67 captured her visit to the Czech Republic, Munich, Weiden and Neuschwanstein Germany. Linda Schnieder Broghammer ‘69 took pictures at the Berlin Wall, the Baltic Sea and in Hamburg. Back in Omaha, Genevieve and Marian Emanuel Wolf ‘67 stopped by CSM to check out the CSM Alumnae/Community Art Show and enjoyed being back on campus again. Thank you for taking the spirit of CSM with you!

Where will the Walking Woman go next? We’re waiting to find out! Send your pictures in before January 15 to be included in our spring CSM Magazine.

Congratulations to the following College of Saint Mary alumnae who have recently celebrated jubilee anniversaries as religious sisters:

50 years
Sr. Mary Keenan Gillagron, RSM, ‘52 (taught at CSM)
Sr. Mary Jude Graham, RSM, ‘52 (taught at CSM)
Sr. Rita Ann Podbiela, RSM, ‘53
Sr. Mary Patricia Mulkey, RSM, ‘54 (worked in sorority services at CSM)

55 years
Sr. Madeleina Comiskey, RSM, ‘55 (taught at CSM)
Sr. Mary Beth Kubelt, ND, ‘59

60 years
Sr. Mary Beth Kubelt, ND, ‘59
Sr. Kay O’Brien, RSM, ‘67
Sr. Ronalva Burke, ND, ‘65

70 years
Sr. Mary Miguel Gasemmon, RSM, ‘45
Sr. Mary McCrory Gillagron, RSM, ‘51 (taught history at CSM)
Sr. Mary Jude Graham, RSM, ‘52 (taught at CSM)
Walk tall toward your advanced degree.

- **Master of Arts in Teaching** – Change careers and become a teacher in Nebraska with our accelerated program for teacher certification.

- **Master of Science in Education** – Are you a practicing or experienced educator? You can earn a MSE degree in four semesters while continuing your teaching career.

- **Master of Science in Organizational Leadership** – Designed for working women, you can complete this cohort program on Saturdays in only three semesters.

- **Master of Science in Nursing** – Advance your nursing career with a personalized, hybrid-based curriculum in just four semesters.

- **Doctor of Education** – Custom-designed for working professionals, choose an emphasis in Educational Leadership or Health Professions Education.

Contact us today!
402-399-2355 • 800-926-5534
enroll@csm.edu • CSM.edu

All graduate programs are open to women and men.
College of Saint Mary is accredited by
The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.