Today's Valpo Offers Even More

Alumni fondly recall memories of being inspired in the classroom and developing one's self outside of the classroom while at Valparaiso University. Their experiences set a benchmark for when they, as parents, nurture their own children through a college search.

Legacy students, those who have had a parent, grandparent or sibling attend Valpo, have witnessed the value of a Valpo education. Among this year's new students, 16% are legacies. Their parents or older siblings proudly pass the torch to the next generation with confidence that a Valpo education will prepare them well for the future.

When comparing experiences, John ('77) and Sandy (Hart '77) Hallman recognize that "Our students have been much more involved at Valpo than we were." The Hallmans have had three children attend Valparaiso University, including Briana who is a junior.

"Our three children all had different majors, and even enrolled in different colleges within the university, one in the College of Engineering, one in the College of Business and one in the College of Arts and Sciences," said the Hallmans. "We like that they all could find their niche at Valpo, yet stay in touch with each other as much or as little as they wanted while on campus."

While on a campus visit, the Hallmans recognized how their alma mater offers even more to today's students. They were "impressed by the facilities" such as the newer Center for the Arts and Christopher Center. Yet, there are still the same attractive qualities that have spanned generations, such as participating in Chapel life and building relationships with professors.

The Office of Admission welcomes the opportunity to share with prospective students what today's Valpo offers—legacies or not!
With One Voice
by Candace Kilpinen

I love awarding Guild Campus Gift grants to see our Guild efforts affect the lives of students! Even better...what a blessing it is to see students affect the lives of others in the world. Our 2007 grants provided funding for equipment, events, programs and experiences that will undoubtedly enhance the education of students who will be better prepared to affect lives far beyond the boundaries of Valparaiso University.

That's why we share our unique combination of gifts as members of the Valparaiso University Guild. Some would say that makes us philanthropists. Isn't that a fancy word for our Guild efforts? Yet philanthropy is defined as a desire to improve the material, social and spiritual welfare of humanity. Gifts of all sizes and kinds are philanthropic.

The Guild is about utilizing the diverse gifts and blessings that God provides to improve the welfare of humanity by enhancing the experiences of students at Valparaiso University. So, indeed, we are philanthropists!

While our grants enhance specific student experiences at Valpo, the grants also exemplify philanthropy. Not only do we touch student lives today...not only can those students touch lives in the future because of those experiences...we also model the power of philanthropy through our gifts. What an honor it is to give of ourselves and to prepare others for their role as future philanthropists!

Thank you for taking time to vote for the 2007 Guild Campus Gift grants! Thank you for your commitment to the Guild's efforts to enhance the student experience! Thank you for being a philanthropist! You have improved the welfare of humanity through the VU Guild!

Candace Kilpinen completed her term as Guild Chair in December 2007. Thank you, Candy, for your outstanding leadership and service!

UNIVERSITY NEWS

Transportation is easier for students through the Union's Online Ride Board and the V-Line Transit System. The online ride board connects drivers with riders, especially for breaks. Many Valpo students are using the new bus service to travel locally or to the South Shore Train Station in Chesterton.

Prospective students may register to attend Valpo Visit Days on April 5, July 21 or July 25 (valpo.edu/admissions/visit/). These sessions include a campus tour, academic presentations, lunch and an introduction to the University, the admission process and financial aid.

One of the oldest collegiate liturgical drama troupes in the country, Valparaiso University’s Soul Purpose, celebrates 20 years of traveling from coast to coast presenting the Word of God.

Page 1 photo: Lisa and Christine (Wiechmann '80) DeBruzzi with Susan (Mellendorf '80) and Emily Dippold on move-in day.
Report of Financial Activities

The structure implemented in 2006 has streamlined the Guild financial system. All income, whether received from membership contributions, fundraising, or estate giving, is invested toward building the Guild Endowment Fund. The Guild Endowment Fund provides the funding to support the Guild’s mission and operating costs. As the Guild Endowment Fund grows so will the Guild’s philanthropy. Members are to be applauded for their support which led to a 77% endowment growth in the last fiscal year.

After years of seeing fundraising revenue and membership support shrinking, it is encouraging to see this growth. Increasing dues, as was done in 2003-2006, was not stretching far enough to cover the Guild’s expenses and philanthropic commitments. Replacing the past “raise and spend” method with a “raise, invest and spend the endowment’s interest” practice gives the Guild greater financial stability.

The Guild board is focused on its goal of having a $1 million endowment fund by 2010. A $1 million endowment would generate an estimated $40,000 annually. With a $10 million endowment, it would be $400,000 annually.

While the endowment is growing, the Guild will be conservative about its spending. The Guild has reduced its budget. The greatest area of reduction was a change in policy regarding volunteer travel. With dramatic postage increases the Guild has utilized technology to reinforce news. Reducing operating and greater membership support makes the Guild better stewards of its financial resources.
The membership elected Jan (Schur '73) Duesenberg, Carolyn (Altobelli '73) Hanes and Kelley (Knight '83) Madden to the Guild Board of Directors. They join Linda (Schuessler '88) Deal, Jackie (Wagemann '59) Jungemann, Candace (Conrad '89) Kilpinen, Lois Mitchum ('06H), and Kristy Paukner ('02) to create the 2008 Guild Board. Sue (Russler '74) Steinbruecker resigned in January 2008. This position was filled, according to the Guild's bylaws, by Anne (Koch '90) Franklin who will complete Sue's term.

The Guild extends its appreciation to the outgoing 2007 Guild Board members who completed their term on December 31, 2007: Jennifer (Bonner '03) Campbell, Christine (Kerst '90) DeLooze, and Dee (Bartels '63) Stritof. A gift to the library was made in their honor.

Approximately 67% of members participated in the vote-by-mail election. The Teller Committee, chaired by Colette Irwin-Knott ('81), met in Indianapolis to count the votes.

The process to elect the 2009-2011 Guild Board members has started. A nominating committee consisting of Kim (Mathews '83) Olsen, Lois Mitchum, and Judy (Beckman '58) Wolff Low has been appointed. Nominations are due to the Guild office by March 15, 2008.

Nominations for the annual Alumni Association awards are due annually on February 15. Five Guild members, pictured below with President Alan Harre, received awards from the Alumni Association in 2007.
Dot Nuechterlein

Home: Valparaiso, IN  
Family: Husband, Jim ('60), three children  
Valpo Connection: 1960 graduate  
Guild history: After graduation, Dot joined the Nutmeg chapter in Connecticut. She resigned while living in Canada, then rejoined in the late '70s.

Dot (Allwardt '60) Nuechterlein arrived to attend Valparaiso University never having set foot on campus before. As a student, she participated in the Youth Leadership Training Program (YLTP). She valued her mentors including Walt Reiner (YLTP director) and Bob Schultz, her adviser from the Theology department. At Valpo she met her future spouse, Jim.

As a University employee Dot has served as an administrator and a faculty member in the Department of Sociology & Criminology. Guild members may have gotten to know Dot when she served as Executive Director for the Guild from 1983-1989. Beyond her employment, she has supported Valpo as a Guild member, alumna, parent and as an advisor to her sorority, Gamma Phi. Basketball fans have seen her in action as a scorebook keeper for basketball games.

At present, Dot teaches sociology part-time. She consults for the Indiana State Department of Health in long term care and operates CC Vacations, a full service internet travel agency. She has continued her involvement with the Guild which she says “helps further the name and fame of this special place.”

Welcome New Members

Roseanne Acciaioli  
Birmingham, MI  
Trish Acton  
Valparaiso, IN  
Dawn Aisbet  
Hubertus, WI  
Gail Beckman  
Henderson, NV  
Amanda Cleary  
Lexington, SC  
Julie DeKeersmaecker  
Chicago, IL  
Betty Eberle  
Cambria, CA  
Carl Galow  
Valparaiso, IN  
Nancy Hunt  
Naperville, IL  
Brett Iafigliola  
Parma, OH  
Robin Karaffa  
Chardon, OH  
Dorothy Kehe  
Valparaiso, IN  
Carol Klevenow  
Chapel Hill, NC  
Jon Kilpinen  
Valparaiso, IN  
Marlene Kules  
Chicago, IL  
Jennifer Lake  
Chicago, IL  
Connie Lechner  
Darien, IL  
Pamela Lecy  
Fish Creek, WI  
Sheryl Mullins  
Carmel, IN  
Julie Nolan  
Valparaiso, IN  
Kathleen Nowak  
Elmhurst, IL  
Kraig Olejnyczak  
Valparaiso, IN  
Gayle Renden  
San Jose, CA  
Jackie Riedel  
Oconomowoc, WI  
Mary Schmidt  
Cambria, CA  
Alana Shuma  
Aurora, IL  
Barbara Sink  
Princeton, IN  
Joyce Weiblen  
Shawnee Mission, KS

Please send prospective member names to the Guild office.
Members Award Guild Campus Gift Grants

The Guild's enhancement of the student experience comes in many forms, one being the steady support provided through the Guild Campus Gift grants. Twelve departments benefited from the 2007 grants.

In the spring, every department and student organization is eligible to apply for grant funds. Grants are awarded in any amount between the minimum of $250 and the maximum of $5000. Applications received by the March deadline are reviewed by a committee of Guild board members to verify that the applications meet the criteria. This committee also narrows the number of grant requests while ensuring a fair representation of requests. In 2007, 42 grant applications were received, 20 were selected for inclusion on the ballot and 12 were funded.

The Guild seeks proposals that demonstrate the potential to impact student life. Christine DeLooze who served on the Guild board's grant committee said that, "Proposals affecting the most diverse group of students were favored while retaining at least one proposal impacting a small group of students." Proposals are arranged into categories by the amount requested.

Members choose their preferences by ballot. Tellers use the ballots to...
present a preferential ranking to the board. Knowing how much funding is available through Guild Endowment Fund spending and other resources, the Guild board determines how many proposals can be awarded. In 2006 the Guild awarded seven proposals totaling $20,750. In 2007 awards increased to 12 proposals for $25,085. The annual amount awarded is anticipated to grow as the Guild Endowment Fund grows.

In October, the recipients are announced with the expectation that the funds will be used by December 31 of the following year. Recipients are notified in person by a Guild board member. Jenn Campbell had the honor this year and said she was “pleased to experience firsthand the excitement that the grants generate on campus.” She added, “The grants are becoming a surefire mechanism for the Guild to increase its visibility.”

In response to the Guild funding benches for Mueller Hall, Christ College Dean Mel Piehl said, “The fact that you selected this much-needed item from among the many undoubtedly worthy requests indicates your recognition of the impact such things have on students.” He added, “That students and professors will now be able to converse on attractive seating in the Mueller hallways is one of those small, gracious encouragements to the very kind of personal teaching and learning that Valpo – and the Guild – have always stood for.”

By funding these grants, the Guild affirms the students, faculty and staff who strive to make Valparaiso University the community of learning dedicated to excellence and grounded in the Lutheran tradition of scholarship, freedom, and faith so eloquently stated in the University’s mission.

2007 GUILD CAMPUS GIFT GRANTS

- Student Retention Program
  Multicultural Programs
- Academic Success Booklets
  Counseling Center
- Capital Trip
  Social Work
- Wireless - Diaconal Center
  Lutheran Deaconess Association
- Mueller Hall Benches
  Christ College
- Reutlingen Equipment
  International Studies
- Astronomy Lab Renovations
  Physics and Astronomy
- River Monitoring Equipment
  Biology
- Mock Trial Programs
  Communication
- Education Trip Fellowships
  Education
- Strength Training Air Conditioning Unit
  Athletics
- Mobile Videoconference Unit
  Information Technology
Student Skills Enhanced through Program

by Amanda Batovski

The Information Technology (IT) Fellows Program helps students to intersect scholastic learning with technology. More than 75 students, from a variety of majors, will take part in the program's inaugural year. Upon completion, fellows graduate with professional experience and the necessary skills to catch a prospective employer's eye.

"There are IT Fellows in all areas of expertise to learn and to help expand this University's capacity to use technology and information to everyone's greatest benefit," said Ariel Redfield, a junior music industry major.

After being selected through a competitive process, students spend the first year as apprentices in four six-week training rotations. This introduces them to a variety of technologies.

As they continue, IT Fellows gain associate experience by choosing from seven different rotations. Rotations include web design, digital video, instructional design, hardware and software, Help Desk support, networking and programming. They also work on team projects and conduct training.

Once through the rotations, fellows intern for 8-10 hours a week in a position that reflects their interests. Their work is compensated.

"I am learning how to function in a workplace with colleagues, superiors and customers—this will be very valuable experience to work from when I am out of college and in the working world," Redfield said.

To learn more about the IT Fellows program, visit valpo.edu/it/itfellows.

Receive News Electronically from the Guild

For several years, the Guild has offered a monthly e-update to its members. This benefit keeps the Guild connected to what is taking place on campus. Guild members not receiving the e-update should confirm that the Guild office has the correct e-mail address and make sure that they have enabled their computer to receive e-mail from Guild@valpo.edu. Some e-mail programs consider mass e-mails, such as the e-update, spam. The e-update is viewable as text or html and provides links to other web pages. For a sample of what the e-update looks like, visit the webpage valpo.edu/guild/eupdate/.

8 GUILD BULLETIN • WINTER 2008
Mark Heckler Named New President

Mark A. Heckler, provost and vice chancellor for academic and student affairs at University of Colorado Denver, will become Valparaiso University's 18th president. He replaces Alan F. Harre, who is retiring June 30, after 20 years as president.

Heckler earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications with honors from Elizabethtown College in 1977 and a Master of Fine Arts degree in drama with an emphasis in directing from Catholic University in Washington, D.C., in 1979. He is nearing completion of a doctorate in educational leadership and innovation from the University of Colorado. He and Veronica, his wife of nearly 30 years, have four children.

In announcing Heckler’s selection, David Hessler, chair of the University’s Board of Directors, said that Heckler’s breadth of experience and his proven leadership skills at a large and complex institution first attracted the attention of the Search Committee, which was charged with guiding the presidential search and ultimately recommending a candidate to the Board.

Support the Guild, One “GoodSearch” at a Time

GoodSearch.com—powered by Yahoo—donates 50% of its revenue, approximately a penny per search, to the charities designated by its users. Anyone may designate “Valparaiso University Guild” as their charity, and then use it exactly as they would any other search engine. If 2000 people searched once per day, the Guild would earn $7300 annually. It is not exclusive to Guild members so relatives, co-workers and friends may raise funds through searching.

The new search engine was developed by Internet entrepreneurs and brother/sister team Ken and JJ Ramberg. “We know there are a lot of people who want to do good but may not have the time or the money to help out,” said Ken Ramberg, the former President of MonsterTRAK, the largest online career site for college students (now a division of Monster.com). “GoodSearch makes it as easy as possible. We’ve taken something people do every day—searching the Internet—and have turned it into doing good.”

If you already Google why not GoodSearch? Users are assured of high quality results—but each time you search, money is generated for the VU Guild. This is an easy and profitable way to earn income for Valpo.
“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” – Joshua 1:9

There is not one person out there who can truthfully admit that they have the strength to accomplish everything they have to do. We are hindered each day in our walk through life by the little things that should not matter and the big things that mean so much to us, that we can not seem to forget them. Sometimes, the bad times can even cause us to take for granted the happiness that is in our lives.

When I lack the will to carry on with what God has called me to do in my life, the Bible verse above comes to mind. Joshua 1:9 proclaims: God is our ultimate power and strength in all trials, tribulations and triumphs. If He allows those times to happen, who are we to disagree?

There is a common misconception that you have to have it all together to come to God; however, that could not be further from the truth. He wants you to come to Him even if we are broken and on our knees.

There is never a promise that God will calm our life’s storms. Terror and discouragement will distract us; however, God commands that we be courageous. How? He is right there—always. And with His presence, we are made strong.

Amanda Batovski is a senior from Brookfield, IL. She plans to graduate in May of 2008 with a degree in Journalism. Amanda enjoys watching sports, shopping, hanging out with her friends and reading.
Fond memories of cheering at games, building homecoming floats, making house decorations and attending Songfest have caused Judy Rullman to keep her connection to Valpo strong. She even spoke at the Guild convention her senior year about how much Valpo meant to her.

Through joining the Guild in 1961, she has been able to give back to the university for years, serving as chapter president and working on numerous national committees. Her name is synonymous with Valpo in the Quad Cities where she drives with “VALPO 57” on her license plate. She supports the Guild because she believes in Valpo, and she has enjoyed the friends she has made both at the local and national levels.

Judy retired in June 2004 but stays active with considerable volunteering, including two Thrivent Builds World Wide trips to Ecuador and Mexico and Gulf Relief work. She will travel to Guatemala for Thrivent Builds in 2008. As a Thrivent chapter records director and Habitat for Humanity volunteer she learned that Thrivent Financial and Habitat work together to build homes in the U.S. and overseas.

Her advice to new grads is to carry the torch. “Hopefully you saw light in His light—now it is your task to share that light in the world.”

Upcoming Events

March 1-15 – Spring break and music tours
Visit valpo.edu/music/tour

March 15 – Board Nominations Due

March 27 – Guild participates in the campus “Grad Finale”

March 31 – Guild Campus Gift Grant applications due

April 13 – Guild web conference featuring Mark LaBarbera, Director of Athletics at Valparaiso University

April 12 – Milwaukee Luncheon and Basket Auction, 11:00 am, Luther Manor, Wauwatosa, WI. Tickets are $15.

April 13 – Guild Day of Prayer

April 16 – Celebration of Undergraduate scholarship

May 15 – Graduating Seniors Luncheon

May 31 – Guild Board of Directors meeting, Chicago

Contact the Guild office at 1-800-748-4538 for more information on any of these events.

The following women are serving on the Guild’s 2009 Christian Women’s Conference planning committee.

Ann (Harding ’94) Ashmon – Committee Chair
Christine (Ruppar ’95) Blake – Worship and Music Chair
Nancy (Duke ’88) Janke – Secretary
Kathryn (Mangelsdorf ’94) Meyer – Publicity Chair
Stephanie (Bebout ’88) Stalmah – Logistics Chair
Diane (Zimmerman ’67) Vollrath – Speakers Chair
DEAR VU GUILD:

On behalf of Valparaiso University's College of Engineering (CoE) faculty, staff, and most importantly, students, I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for what the Guild does in adding value to our students' engineering education. Whether supporting our Undergraduate Research Grant Recipients (e.g., Kristen Painting now at NASA Johnson Space Center or Michael Steffen now pursuing his Ph.D. at Iowa State University) or other CoE projects, the VU Guild is a vital partner with the faculty and staff, side by side, helping us educate young men and women engineers of the future who will lead and serve in their profession, in their community, and in their Church.

I am so very proud of Barb Meyer (Milwaukee), Linda Allen and Lorraine Dorough (both in Georgia), and the many other engineering graduates who serve so well in the Guild!

Please know that what you do is noticed, is substantial, and most important, is crucial to the development of our students.

With best regards and blessings,

Kraig Olejniczak
Dean, College of Engineering