Harre Union Brings Heart to Campus

Traffic patterns changed in January when the Harre Union opened its doors. The 202,000 square-foot gathering place has added convenience for all, especially for the students. Under one roof students eat, receive mail, shop at the book center and have fun.

During the inaugural semester, Union Board sponsored wild events such as ice skating and American Idol winner David Cook in the Union's ballroom, which seats up to 1,000 people. Jenny Halbert, a senior from the College of Arts and Sciences, served as Union Board's chair during the transition. She said that some of the plans for fall include making sushi in the ballroom, comedy shows and a late night carnival.

Students have 24-hour access to a wing that provides meeting and storage space for more than 40 student organizations. Austin Hook favors this student organization suite. The junior from the College of Business Administration said, "Before, organizations were scattered all over campus and for the most part, were carrying documents from one dorm room to another. This area allows student organizations a place for meetings, mail, a central location...."

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Students relax together at the Harre Union. Pictured: Jeannie Halvorsen, junior; Josh Davidson, senior; Rachel Steele, junior, Ben Taylor, junior; Rachel Evans, junior.

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With One Voice
by Linda Deal

What does it mean to be a group member? Think of the groups you belong to—family, church, workplace and other organizations. How is membership defined in each of those settings?

Membership involves being connected with others in the group and sharing values or goals. It is also important to be involved in the group. As members of the University Guild, we are connected by our mission to support Valpo students. We share the goal of making a positive impact on every VU student and we have the opportunity to be involved in the Guild through our unique contributions.

Our challenge is to decide just how engaged we will be. We become members of the Guild through our annual financial commitment. But we can do so much more! Each of us can make the Guild “ours” by actively participating in the Guild at the local and national levels. Here are some ways you can move from “membership in the Guild” to “ownership of the Guild”:

• Participate in a Guild web conference and invite others in your community
• Plan a Guild event when a Valpo ensemble or team comes to your town
• Host gatherings for local students in your area
• Make your opinion count by voting for Guild board members and Campus Gift Grants

There are many other possibilities of how you can become more involved in the mission of the Guild. You are not just a member of the Guild—this is YOUR Guild. How will YOU make a unique contribution to the Guild this year? We look forward to hearing YOUR voice as together we support the students at Valpo!
During the dedication weekend in January, about 1500 people gathered to celebrate the completion of the largest construction project on campus and the dawning of a new era that builds on the University's 150-year history. Hook said, "With the high ceilings, open areas and modern yet comfortable atmosphere, the architecture was exactly what the university needed to help its advance into the future."

The University Guild funded a stage area in the Founders Table, the primary dining space for campus which seats 620. The stage will be used for "eater-tainment" and special events.

Taylor Bryan, a junior from the College of Arts and Sciences, said one of the best features is the tray collector in the Founders Table which transports trays to the kitchen. She said, "What we can't see back behind it is an efficient and eco-friendly system that disposes all trash and food products."

This is one of several green features in the new facility. Other examples include a white-colored roof that increases reflectivity, sensors that turn off lights in unoccupied rooms, tinted and insulated windows that provide significant natural light, and considerable use of natural materials.

Across the campus community, it seems the Harre Union has exceeded everyone's expectations. Halbert said, "When I first saw the Harre Union, I think I was in awe of how it actually turned out. I had so many images in my head but it ended up being even better."
Guild Hosts Web Presentations

Guild supporters value being connected to each other and knowing what is taking place on the campus we support. However, people can't always get to campus. To share "Valpo" world-wide, the Guild has started to broadcast web presentations.

In August, Guild board members hosted **VU Guild: Students Give Us Purpose** to share updates on the University Guild. The presentation is available as a recording on the Guild's webpage (valpo.edu/guild).

On November 1 at 4 pm (CST), Barb Lieske from the Office of Admission will present **"Talking VALPO to Students and Families"**. Barb leads the "Valpo Admission Network" a group of volunteers who connect prospective students to Valpo. She will provide tips that we can all use to make others aware of what Valpo has to offer.

The November conference is free, open to the public and will last around 30 minutes. To attend, simply visit http://interactive.ihets.org/r12473198/. The Guild office can guide anyone who has questions.

It is easy for individuals to participate in the web conferences at home. Even more ideal is using these web presentations as programming for Guild gatherings. Groups may host the presentation at a central location such as a library, church or office, then follow the presentation with fellowship and project planning.

Kate Kilpatrick, chair of this project explained, "Both presentations offered this year are being offered for free to demonstrate how easy it is to use the web conference platform." The planning committee also includes Christine DeLooze, Megan Burke, and Sylvia Lukenes. Bonnie Ornat served on the ad-hoc committee that developed preliminary ideas.

Kate added, "We will continue to offer occasional Guild updates in free web conferences, but beginning in 2010 we will be offering a wide variety of self-improvement and general interest conferences that will require a modest fee to participate." The funds generated from upcoming conferences will go directly into the Guild Endowment Fund, providing more funding for students.
Cathie Conley

> Home: Omaha, NE
> Family: Husband: Patrick, Children: Brenden and Kevin
> Valpo Connection: 1963 graduate
> Guild history: Charter Member of the Des Moines, IA Guild.

While at Valpo, Cathie was involved in her sorority Phi Beta Chi, as well as participating in social work missions. Her fondest memories at Valpo include Chapel services and time with friends. Cathie also enjoyed the interesting and challenging classes. Cathie graduated in 1963 with a degree in Social Work.

Cathie enjoys being a Guild member because it allows her to keep in touch with friends. She supports the Guild as a way to assist others in obtaining a quality Christian education. Her favorite part of being a Guild member is helping students feel at “home” whether helping support campus projects or delivering goodie bags to students from her area.

Cathie spends significant time RVing with her husband. This past winter, the two made trips to Egypt and Arizona.

Fifth Conference Shares Light

The Guild welcomed 170 women to campus for its fifth Christian Women’s Conference. It was an opportunity to introduce Mark and Veronica Heckler to the attendees as well as showcase the new Harre Union.

The theme, “Live in the Light,” was carried out in all of the sessions. Keynote Speaker Sue Steege set the right tone from the beginning until the close. A greater number of breakout sessions were offered on a variety of topics including Faith-Full Yoga, Cultivating Spiritual Friendships, Centering Prayer and How to Quiet Your CrazyMakers! More than half of the presenters have a direct affiliation with Valparaiso University, giving the Guild an opportunity to exemplify the University’s quality.

The Guild volunteers who plan this conference pay attention to every detail right down to the colored M&Ms. The Guild thanks Ann Ashmon (chair), Christine Blake (worship), Nancy Janke (secretary), Kathryn Meyer (publicity), Stephanie Stalmah (logistics), Diane Vollrath (speakers), as well as those who served on subcommittees.

If interested in assisting with the 2011 conference, please contact the Guild office.
When Guild members voted to restructure the University Guild, the organization set out hopeful about what the future would bring. The Guild embarked upon a new vision in order to build a contemporary organization that is more agile in serving members and the students whose lives we seek to enhance.

From time to time, a member calls the Guild office to ask, "How is it really going?"

Certainly there have been challenges, but these have been outweighed by many blessings. Though it may take time to reach the Guild's fullest potential, the organization is moving forward.

The first sign of the Guild's progress is among the membership. Members believe in what the Guild seeks to do. Members have experienced the ease of managing the local projects with the Guild office providing financial support and lists. With only a few exceptions, fund-raising that members have wanted to continue has continued. Projects such as Valpo's cake project and the Guild ornaments have stopped at the request of the members coordinating these projects.

Another positive outcome for the Guild has been its visibility on
campus. The Guild Campus Gift grants are appreciated by the campus community.

This fall, the Guild office begins focusing more effort on student outreach. Offering life skill seminars give Guild members the opportunity to share knowledge with students. The Guild office will also partner with campus departments to provide programming valuable to students. In addition, the Guild will celebrate “Guild Week” on campus in November. The campus sees the Guild serving Valpo students.

The Guild has operationally benefited from the support of other campus departments who process donations, fundraising proceeds, data and direct mailings. The most significant support relates to technological advances that help the Guild send information to every member through the e-update, the Guild’s webpage and web presentations. This prepares the Guild for connecting with students (i.e. future members) who value connecting virtually.

The Guild Board of Directors has worked especially hard to develop new norms for themselves and the several national committees that carry forth the functions for the Guild. After three years, annual activities are becoming standardized and best practices have been discovered. And, the board continues to take advantage of this flexibility to try new ideas such as taking the 2009 Annual Meeting to Milwaukee, WI.

One example of a new process is the Guild vote-by-mail procedures. For the 2009 election, with nearly 380 ballots received, approximately 60% of the membership voted. This high level of participation would have been unheard of when every member needed to attend convention to cast a vote.

Even with all of these blessings, there are still areas that make the Guild vulnerable.

The growth of the Guild Endowment Fund has been slow (the slow economy has not helped). Members need to let go of the “dues” mentality and embrace giving. Making tax-deductible contributions that directly benefit Valpo students is critical. By increasing annual giving to the Guild and taking advantage of the more flexible giving opportunities (such as monthly deduction, matching gifts), the Guild will see the Guild Endowment Fund grow. This is how the Guild will financially respond to student needs.

Members need to actively outreach to increase the membership. As of the end of June 2009, the Guild had 645 members. Between 2006 and 2007, the Guild lost about half of its members for a variety of reasons. Some wrote thoughtful letters claiming they wanted to retire or falsely assumed a local group could not exist without a checking account. With more members, the Guild has greater potential.

More members make social gatherings and service projects

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more meaningful. Connection to other members keeps everyone motivated. It does take one person willing to coordinate gatherings. Building events around the web presentations provides a reason to get together. Web presentations have the potential to serve as a new fundraiser which appeals to a wide audience.

As an organization, we don’t have the leisure to wait and see what happens next. We need to continue to make bold decisions to adapt to the constant change taking place around us.

We will see the University evolve in the coming years. Demographically, it is clear that Valpo students will not all be the 18–22 residential students we have grown to envision. The number of graduate and law students, adult scholars, international students and commuters continue to increase. The Guild needs to ensure its service supports ALL students. The University still looks to the Guild to rise up to meet the needs of Valparaiso University students.

So, really, how is it going? That depends on the perspective of the membership. The members who continue to believe in enhancing the student experience while exemplifying the University’s ideals will help the Guild meet its greatest potential. We are not there yet, but the steps taken since 2006 have certainly been the right steps.

2009 Guild Board Election Results

Congratulations to the following three members who were elected to the Guild board of directors. Their term will be from January 1, 2010–December 31, 2012.

Linda Ertel ’69, is from Wauwatosa, WI. She was a Guild member in the 70s and 80s, returning in 2001. She is married to Valpo alumnus Tom Ertel ’70 and is parent of Valpo alumna, Andrin a ’05, and former student Nate (attended ’04–’06). She is an active volunteer and retired professional educator.

Ethel Kallsen ’58, is from Coronado, CA. She has been active in the Guild since 1960. She is married to Valpo alumnus Fred Kallsen ’58. She is a retired elementary school teacher and active volunteer.

Kathleen Nowak ’04, is from Chicago, IL. She joined the Guild soon after graduating. She facilitates expansion and marketing efforts for a major health care provider.

The 2010 Guild board will also include Jan Duesenberg, Carolyn Hanes, Kate Kilpatrick, Kristine Krueger, Kelley Madden, Rebecca Otte.
Many of Valparaiso University's engineers participate in the Society of Women Engineers (SWE). SWE focuses on the professional development of engineers by offering speakers and outreach activities. A number of their activities allow the 25 members, who are both women and men, to work with young people. This provides an opportunity to teach the children about engineering and see it as a future career.

"We worked with the kids on developing creative solutions to problems and working in teams to build towers out of spaghetti and marshmallows, and roller coasters out of pipe insulation, duct tape and marbles," said Kirsten Swanson, a senior from the College of Engineering and section president for SWE.

The organization also hosted an Internship and Dessert Night last year where the current members discussed summer internships and cooperative education experiences which included Motorola, Caterpillar and GE Aviation.

All of this helped Valpo's SWE chapter to win silver level for Outstanding Collegiate Section on the national level and first place in the Chicago Regional Section for both Best Collegiate Section and Best Collegiate Website.

According to Swanson, The section has recently started a mentoring program for incoming freshmen engineering women.

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**Did you know...**

A total of 4,070 students (2,892 undergraduates, 579 graduate, 599 law) are enrolled at Valpo, a 2% percent increase from last year's fall enrollment.
What a time to be connected to Valparaiso University! As we moved through the past academic year, we experienced an inauguration, the installation of an additional university pastor, the opening of the new union, and the 150th anniversary.

As I reflected upon my final year as a Valpo student and realized how rapidly the past four years have flew by, Isaac Watt’s hymn “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” comes to mind. Referred to as the unofficial university hymn, the fifth verse proclaims,

Time like an ever-rolling stream
soon bears us all away.
We fly forgotten as the dream
dies at the opening day.

Initially, these words bear a reality true in every stage of our lives—the new student who feels forgotten by high school friends, the college senior who hopes personal research contributions will be remembered, or the parents who watch their children move toward adulthood.

When we focus on the here and now, we forget to look beyond that bleak current reality. The stream of time eternally bears us away from present happy, comfortable times toward uncertain experiences.

Yet, we discover hope in this verse. As we move individually and as a university into the new wilderness, we find comfort that although we may feel abandoned during a transition, the stream of time eventually pulls us back together into eternal life with Christ.

No matter our life stage, find courage that the stream of time brings us closer to Christ. Enjoy the journey! 🌞

Paula Maust is a May 2009 graduate with a Bachelor of Music degree in church music and organ. In the fall, she will begin graduate studies at the University of Alabama to pursue the Master of Music degree in Organ Performance. She is the organist for the First United Methodist Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

2009 GUILD CAMPUS GIFT GRANTS

This year, the Guild allocated $17,912 in Guild Campus Gift grants to the following recipients.

- Provide new sound equipment for the Chapel’s Celebrate! service
- Fund fees associated with the Education Department’s service learning experience in Nicaragua
- Refurbish Chapel handbells
- Install wireless access in Miller Hall
- Support Engineers Without Borders’ Tanzania water project
- Upgrade the Kretzmann Hall welcome desk

Guild grants give funding to academic departments and student organizations to enhance the student experience. Thank you to all the members who participated in the 2009 election!
Molly (Halvorson) Nagel

Home: Bronxville, NY

Family: Christopher “Kit” ’78, Children: Jonathan, James (current Valpo student)

Valpo Connection: 1980 graduate

Guild history: Mother and mother-in-law were both Guild members. Joined in 2006.

Being the youngest of five children, Molly visited several schools before deciding to attend Valpo. “Valpo was large enough to be interesting and small enough not to get lost—both literally and figuratively. I have special memories of the Choral Society, assisting Dr. Koettke with his scientific research in neutrino particles and the formative overseas program in Cambridge.”

Molly joined the Guild when her son, James, enrolled. “All my life I’ve known about and admired the work of the Guild,” said Molly. “I recognized that I also wanted to do all that I could to promote and support quality Lutheran education at Valpo.” Molly wanted to honor the dedication of her mother and mother-in-law in their belief of the effectiveness of committed Guild members in making a difference in the lives of Valpo students.

Molly does whatever she can to help improve the quality of students’ experiences at Valpo.”

Upcoming Events

November 1, 4 pm — Web presentation “Talking VALPO to Students & Families” Free access at http://interactive.ihets.org/r12473198/

Contact the Guild office for details.

November 9-13 — Guild Week at the Harre Union

November 14, 1 pm — Volunteer at the Guild’s Football Stand. Contact Guild office for details.

November 21, 12 noon — Volunteer at the Guild’s Football Stand. Contact Guild office for details.

November 21-29 — Thanksgiving Break

December 4 & 5 — Christmas Concert, Chapel

December 10, 10 am — Finals Care Package Packing and Delivery

December 11, 7 pm & 10 pm — Advent Vespers, Chapel

December 13 — Commencement

December 19 — Winter Recess Begins

January 6 — Classes Begin

January 31, 4 pm — Web presentation “Creating an Environment that Promotes Creativity and Innovation” presented by Dr. Doug Tougaw from the College of Engineering.

Check www.valpo.edu/guild/events for more event information.
Chapel Celebrates 50 Years

The Chapel of the Resurrection will celebrate its 50th anniversary with special programming throughout the year.

The celebration began with a festival worship service with elements drawn from the September 27, 1959 services of dedication. Rev. Daniel Brockopp, University Pastor Emeritus, presided; and former University Associate Pastor Rev. David Kehret preached.

A full list of all the activities planned for this year is available at the valpo.edu/chapel/anniversary webpage.

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