Spring 2010

Valparaiso University Guild

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Chapel of the Resurrection
50th Celebration Event

The Chapel of the Resurrection on Valparaiso University's campus stands as a symbol of the University's commitment to faith. Throughout the past year, the campus community celebrated what this place—so much more than just a space—has meant for 50 years.

The University Guild's ties to the Chapel are strong. Guild member contributions and fundraising have supported several projects for the Chapel including funding renovation projects, equipment, and sound systems.

In fact, the Guild funded and was key in naming the Gloria Christi Chapel. Through a contest, Guild members submitted possible names for this space. The administration then determined the name from the three finalists: Chapel of the Abiding Presence, Chapel of the Holy Spirit, and, the winner, Gloria Christi Chapel. Gloria Christi means Glory of God out of love for Christ.

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When the Guild Board of Directors met on campus April 30—May 1, we had an opportunity to meet with President Mark Heckler.

As the University prepares to finalize its strategic plan, it is clear that Valparaiso University is moving fast. Progress can be witnessed in three areas: new buildings, increased enrollment, and innovation related to the student experience.

The Guild board experienced two construction projects by attending the launch of the Donald V. Fites Center and by touring the Uptown East Apartments. The Fites Center will allow the College of Engineering to expand (photo page 10). Uptown East provides near campus living for upperclassmen and is the first of many projects that will revitalize student accommodations.

Regarding enrollment, the University is already taking steps to expand its student body—starting with this fall's new students. As Guild members, we are encouraged to serve as Valparaiso University ambassadors and connect prospective students with the office of admission.

The most comprehensive area of advancement builds on the University's commitment to educate the whole person. Valpo grads will be known for their ability to communicate, investigate, work globally and adapt to be successful in fields that have not even been established yet. President Heckler shared a prediction that today's student will have 19 careers!

As President Heckler reflected on the Guild's service, he complimented us by noting that our support of students through scholarships, grants and undergraduate research funding matches the University's needs.

In this inspiring time in the life of Valparaiso University, let's deepen our commitment to support the student experience by growing our Guild Endowment Fund so we can continue to have a stake in the University's progress!
Sylvia Wismar, Guild President from 1964–1966, processed as part of the Guild board at the dedication of the Chapel on September 27, 1959. She remembers the day and said, “everything was done up very nicely in good tradition of the church.” She remembers how O.P. Kretzmann and his brother, A.R., expressed the importance of having a Chapel to unify the entire campus.

Five decades later, the Chapel continues to draw the campus community together as a place of celebration, reflection, mourning, music and worship. Students participate in the life of the Chapel. In particular, students serve on the Student Action Leadership Team (SALT), which raised more than $14,000 for their “Casas for Kids: From House to Hope!” project this year, and enjoy the evening Celebrate! and Candlelight services.

Emily Fitch, ’11, who has been involved with SALT and assists with services, said, “The history of the Chapel as a building and community is quite fascinating and powerful. As many campus building gets torn down and we build new, the Chapel of the Resurrection will still stand as a symbol of Valpo’s history and a reminder of the importance of faith as a guiding light for this institution.”

As part of the 50th anniversary celebration, several special events took place. The yearlong celebration concluded on May 2 with an outdoor worship service and a performance of the Mahler “Resurrection” Symphony.

The handbell choir performs as part of the Chapel’s 50th celebration. The Guild funded the refurbishing of the handbells as a 2009 Guild Campus Gift grant.
GUILD NEWS: Upcoming Guild Elections

The 2010 Nominating Committee has presented its slate for the Board of Directors elections. Three candidates will be chosen to serve from January 1, 2011—December 31, 2013. The nominees are:

- Allison Clark ’07 St Louis, MO
- Deb Evans ’89 Wheaton, IL
- Kristine Fox ’85 Ada, MI
- Lois Mitchum ’06H Laurens, SC
- Kim Olsen ’83 Snyder, NY
- Sandy Paukner ’08H New Berlin, WI

Members will also have the opportunity to elect the 2010 Guild Campus Gift Grants. A committee narrowed the proposals to a slate of 12 for the ballot. The less than $1000 category was eliminated this year to focus on larger projects. Members rank their choices 1 through 4 with 1 being the most desirable and 4 being the least desirable. When the tellers meet on August 28, 2010 in South Carolina, they will determine the overall ranking preference for the members.

If you have an interest in serving on the nominating, grant or tellers committees, please let the Guild office know. Members may indicate an interest by completing the membership survey mailed in June.

Ballots will be mailed to current members (those making the minimum membership contribution of $50 by June 30, 2010) in July. The deadline to return the ballot is August 20, 2010.

University Guild Welcomes New Students

The Guild participated in FOCUS, the annual new student orientation that took place in June. Students visit campus, meet their peers, stay in a residence hall and soak up the college experience. Each year, the Guild attends a Student Service Fair to talk to the students and their parents about the Guild. The handout was a “Thing-a-me-want” (left), which is also known as a smiley stressball. Visit the Guild Facebook Fanpage to see more photos.
MEET A MEMBER

Bobbie Wilson

> Home: Kalamazoo, MI
> Family: Husband - Don, Children - Rick, Dave ('72)
> Valpo Connection: Son, Dave 1972 Graduate
> Guild History: Active locally, Area Director

Bobbie visited campus at the suggestion of her pastor and Valpo's first Lutheran President, O.C. Kreinheder. Bobbie decided to attend Western Michigan, however, where she was an Art major. A generation later, her son Dave attended Valpo. As a member of the Swim Team he was inducted in the Athletic Hall of Fame and was a five-year All American Winner.

Bobbie became a Guild member through the encouragement of good friends. Her support of the Guild is evident by the many positions Bobbie has held locally. Her family also housed visiting pastors for Valpo Sundays.

Bobbie declares that she has been a supporter of Valpo for many, many years. Her dedication was recognized in 1988 when Bobbie was named an Honorary Alumna. She shares, "I don't know if you can imagine how proud I am of that, but I am."

2011 Christian Women's Conference

Good News: The sixth biennial Christian Women’s Conference will take place on campus April 8-10, 2011. The theme, “The Story for All People” is based on Luke 2:10, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”

The planning committee is pleased to announce E. Louise Williams as the keynote speaker and Walt Wangerin, Jr. as a special guest speaker for the conference. Workshops and worship will enhance our understanding, sharing and living The Story.

The committee is comprised of the following Guild volunteers: Diane Vollrath, chair; Michele Karpenko, speakers; Gail Lutze, logistics; Sue Mullen, secretary; Claire Schoepp, worship and music; and Elsa Felten, publicity. Kathryn Meyer is overseeing publicity design work.

Please promote this conference and make plans to attend with a group of friends.

Registration will begin in January 2011. Information will be posted at valpo.edu/guild/cwc as details become available.
As a nationally recognized university known for its strong reputation for preparing its graduates to be leaders in church and society, many people aspire to receive a Valparaiso University degree. Though students are sold on the academic experience they will receive, the price tag associated with obtaining a college degree in general can make students and their families hesitate.

This is when financial aid can make the difference. According to Valparaiso University’s financial aid website (valpo.edu/financialaid/) the University provides 92% of all first time freshmen with financial aid. This aid comes in the form of scholarships, awards, grants, loans, and employment opportunities.

The University Guild recognized the importance of scholarships several decades ago. In 1972, Guild members created and sold cookbooks and the proceeds were deposited into an endowment fund. While the first scholarship award was a modest $500 annually, today, up to eight students receive the “Cookbook Scholarship” at $5,000 per year. Since the 1970s, more than 50 students have received this award.
With the success of the Guild Cookbook scholarship as its base, the Guild went on to create the Past National Officers scholarship which awards two students with $3,500 annually during the student’s junior and senior years.

A third Guild scholarship honors Shirley Ayers Jud, a dedicated Guild member who passed away. One student receives the Shirley Ayers Jud Memorial Endowed scholarship annually in the amount of $4,000.

Guild scholars are students with a relative who is a current member in the Guild. The simple application is available on the Guild’s web page or can be received by contacting the Guild office. It is preferable to have the application submitted by January 15 before the student’s freshmen year. Students may apply at anytime during their Valpo experience and need only apply once as the Guild office keeps the application on file.

Anyone may still make contributions in support of these Guild scholarship endowment funds. Donations will continue to accumulate so bigger awards can be given in the future.

The Guild Endowment Fund is intended to work the same way as the scholarship endowment funds have been used to benefit students. By contributing to and increasing the Guild Endowment Fund, members are making a lasting contribution to Valparaiso University that will continue deep into the future.

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**Gather more financial aid and scholarship information online:**

Valpo’s Office of Financial Aid – valpo.edu/financialaid/

Valpo’s Office of Admission – valpo.edu/admission/

Guild scholarship application – valpo.edu/guild/scholarship/index.php

About the FAFSA – www.fafsa.ed.gov/

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be submitted any time after January 1 of the year you are applying.
Valpo Welcomes New Vice Presidents

Valparaiso University has been fortunate to have new influential staff join the President's Council. In the past year, the University has welcomed Dr. Mark Schwehn as Provost, Darron C. Farha as VP and University Counsel, Scott D. Ochander as VP for Integrated Marketing and Communication, and Dr. Boyd A. Bradshaw as VP for Enrollment.

President Mark Heckler sees Valparaiso University as "a Lutheran University with a passion for excellence, a commitment to integration of the liberal arts with professional learning, expertise in international education, and a healthy mix of undergraduate and graduate programs." He said, these Vice Presidents will implement "the University's strategic plan after two years of broad-based and inclusive conversation around visioning and planning."

Schwehn's experience as a Valpo graduate and Dean of Christ College as well as his involvement with the Lilly Fellows Program give him a profound understanding of the University. As Provost, he oversees the academic programs. Upon his appointment to the position, Schwehn said he is committed to Valparaiso's philosophy of education that is built around a distinctive integration of the liberal arts and professional education.

In October, Farha came to the University from Pittsburg State University in Kansas. There are policies and legal issues in higher education that Farha will guide.

With years of marketing strategy experience, Ochander started in January to oversee a new Integrated Marketing and Communications (IMC) unit. This unit was formed by combining staff who were previously within separate departments at the University. With Ochander's leadership, IMC will promote the areas of distinction that align with Valpo's vision.

Bradshaw joins the University from Saint Louis University in St. Louis, MO. He anticipates that in his first year he will, "create a foundation within the enrollment management infrastructure to better support recruitment and retention initiatives."

During this stirring time in the life of Valparaiso University, the leadership of President Heckler and his senior leaders will be key to carrying forth the plans to implement the University's strategic vision.

Kristin Rein ('11) contributed to this article.
STUDENT LIFE: Students Launch Campus Television Channel

By Kalyn Unger

The dream for a campus television channel has been around for years. About a year and half ago students, Laurin-Whitney Gottbrath ('11), Jeff Greco ('10) and Jim Bogdanich ('10) decided to turn that dream into reality. With a full television studio in Schnabel Hall and the help of Dr. Phillip Powell, an Assistant Professor in the communication department, the students could move forward to request "VUTV" be recognized as a media organization.

VUTV had to create a full proposal for both the administration and Student Senate including a demo reel to demonstrate what they were capable of doing on air. The demo reel was developed by 15 members and included news, sports, weather, and original shows. The Torch and WVUR served as models for an operating structure. The management staff includes an Executive Director, Programming Director, News Director, Sports Director, Weather Director, Video Editing Director, and a Business Operations Director.

Throughout the process, the VUTV organization grew to 50 members. Students from a variety of different majors are involved. It is going to take numerous student staff members to establish the quality shows they want and to keep generating programming once the station is on the air in the fall. Another goal of VUTV is having as many new original shows as possible. They are lucky that an automation system provides a range of programming, but since the channel will only be available on campus, they ultimately want to program shows about life on campus.

Gottbrath said, "While I know it will be a lot of hard work, I am excited to see what exactly is in store for the future of VUTV."
Recent grads have moved out all the memories they've accumulated over four years; back home, across the nation, across the pond. As graduates, we will continue to hold these memories dear to us wherever we may go. Throughout my four years at Valpo, I've been able to renew my faith through friends, faculty, service and of course the Chapel of the Resurrection. Though my time as a Valpo student has drawn to an end, I cannot fathom where I would be without this wonderful place.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, starts out “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under Heaven.” We've all seen Valpo's “seasons” rain, rain with wind, heavy snow and occasional sun, but the real Valpo experience, weather aside, has been bright and beautiful. The community is unlike anything I could have dreamed of and I wonder often if there will be another place like it in my upcoming endeavors.

Though grads may be mourning our departure from Valpo—while celebrating our first fall semester without textbooks and homework—a season in our life has passed. The memories made during this time will hopefully stay close to the heart for recent graduates as we enter the next season.

Jennifer Halbert is a recent 2010 graduate of Valpo, double majoring in Public Relations and Global Issues, from Battle Creek, Michigan.

A robot turned the first scoop of dirt for the Donald V. Fites Center. This addition to Gellersen Hall will support the College of Engineering. It is anticipated to open Fall 2011.
MEET A MEMBER

Dori Freundt

- Home: Melrose Park, IL
- Family: Husband – Herb, Children – Jessica, Corine
- Valpo Connection: 1976 Graduate
- Guild History: Glenbrook Chapter 1976–79, Geiseman Chapter 1979, secretary and president, Cookbook committee and By-Law Review

Looking for a small Lutheran school conveniently located close to home, Dori chose to attend Valparaiso University. While attending Valpo Dori was a member of the Phi Omega sorority and a representative on Inter Sorority Council. The commitment of her professors and friends are what really made a difference in Dori's life and are her fondest memories at Valpo (in addition to how beautiful campus was after the snowfall).

In 1976 after graduation, Dori joined the Guild to stay in touch with Valpo and friends. She remains active with the Guild as a way to give back to Valpo for a quality education. Staying actively involved with the Guild by serving on any committees she is asked to and attending any meetings that are close enough to home makes her feel that what she does is important for the University.

Dori is most proud of the Guild Scholarships for students. She continues to support the Guild as a way to continue her support of Valpo and help others have a wonderful experience. Dori encourages, "The Guild is a great way to stay connected to Valpo and you can be as involved as you want to be.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 30 – Membership contributions are due to receive the 2010 ballot

August 21–23 – Student Welcome and Orientation

August 28 – Tellers Meeting in South Carolina

September 24–26 – Homecoming/Reunion Weekend

October 8–10 – Guild Board Meeting

October 9 – Guild’s Annual Meeting

October 9–10 – Family Weekend

October 21–22 – Fall Break

November 20–28 – Thanksgiving Recess

December 12 – Commencement

FOOTBALL STAND DATES

September 18 – Football Stand* when Valpo plays Saint Joseph’s

September 25 – Football Stand* when Valpo plays Drake

October 9 – Football Stand* when Valpo plays Marist

October 16 – Football Stand* when Valpo plays Jacksonville

October 30 – Football Stand* when Valpo plays Butler

* Volunteer in the Football Stand to raise funds that support the Guild’s service to students.

Check www.valpo.edu/guild/events for more event information.
MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

In June, members received a Member Interest Survey. This survey gives members an opportunity to express opinions about Guild activities. Members will also have an opportunity to indicate an interest in the many volunteer activities the Guild offers.

One opportunity is sharing knowledge through the Life Skills Workshops. These workshops give students information that will assist them after they graduate. Last year, the Guild presented "Keeping the Peace" to more than 60 freshmen. The workshop gave information on how to resolve conflict.

In the spring, the Guild presented "Easy Eats" to share tips and recipes with students who may be cooking on their own for the first time.

The feedback for both events was positive. The Guild plans to expand the number of Life Skills Workshops offered. Topic suggestions are welcome.

facebook.

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