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Alumna Jane Nady Sigmon, Ph.D., senior coordinator for international programs in the U.S. State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Global Affairs, spoke to the College community, alumni and members of the public November 17 in a packed Behan Community Room on "Global Issues: Human Trafficking." Prior to the noon talk, she spoke to students from three humanities classes.

[read more](#)



## Renovations Completed at Aquinas Hall



Students returning to campus this fall found that the renovated Bree wing of Aquinas Hall adds a new, open look to the College landscape while providing community space, faculty offices, conference rooms and classrooms. More than 8,500 square feet of redesigned space provides efficient areas for the Information Technology Services department and the Accelerated Degree Program. The new Bree Common is named for the late Dr. Josephine P. Bree, longtime professor of classics, and Devaney Hall for the late Sister Maria Patricia Devaney, O.P., former dean and professor of English.

[read more](#)

## Gstalter Joins College as Director of Information Technology Services

As Albertus continues to expand its goal to provide state-of-the-art information technology services—a strategic factor in ensuring growth and strength in delivery of academic programs and administrative services—the College has appointed Steven Gstalter to the new position of director of information technology services. He will also serve as the College's first chief information officer.

[read more](#)



## College Approved to Offer Online Degree Programs

President Julia M. McNamara has announced that the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), has approved the College's application to offer online degree programs. "This approval by our regional accrediting body is an important step as we implement the initiatives listed in our Board-approved Strategic Plan 2009," she said.



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"No country in the world is without slavery," noted Dr. Sigmon. "Human trafficking is a heinous crime, all about profit, fraud, force and coercion. It is about controlling people, and viewing people as completely disposable." Estimates are that 12.3 million people worldwide are in some form of forced labor, more than 60 percent of them female.

Jane Sigmon has worked to improve the treatment of crime victims in the U.S. and abroad for more than 20 years. Currently, she is responsible for planning and implementing U.S. foreign assistance to combat human trafficking around the world. Prior to her government service, she was director of research and training coordinator for the American Prosecutors Research Institute.

She previously served as the first victim assistance specialist in the Bureau of Consular Affairs, developing new policies and procedures for consular assistance to American crime victims overseas. She developed the State Department's Assistance to Crime Victims course, training consular officers serving in U.S. embassies and consulates worldwide.

At the U.S. Department of Justice, Sigmon served as director of the Office for Victims of Crime and associate commissioner of the U.S. Children's Bureau; she also had responsibility for overseeing the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Prior to her government service, she was director of research and training coordinator for the American Prosecutors Research Institute, meeting the needs of local prosecutors and community-based criminal justice agencies across the country.

As executive director of VALOR (Victims' Assistance Legislative Organization), she helped to improve and expand the treatment of victims of violent crime through public education, training and public policy reform.

For her leadership in establishing victim assistance programs on Indian reservations, Dr. Sigmon received the first Senator John Heinz Award. She also received the Superior Honor Award from the State Department for her efforts to assist victims of September 11 and the American Society of Victimology's Ed Stout Award for innovation in the field of victim services.

In addition to her Albertus degree, Jane Sigmon holds an M. Ed. from Boston University and a Ph.D. from Duke University.



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Gstalder has extensive experience in supervisory and managerial positions in professional and library markets; he has overseen the management of corporate Web sites, maintenance of databases and implementation of information technology training programs. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Georgetown University's College of Arts and Sciences and the degree of Master of Science in Library and Information Science from The Pratt Institute's School of Library and Information Science.



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## Students in the Spotlight

**Jennifer Kordek**, a junior, is passionate about history, her major, and she is looking forward to becoming a high school history teacher.

In this year celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, she applied and was accepted for a 12-week program as an intern for the National Park Service at the Fredericksburg Civil War Battlefield in Virginia.

"One summer internship enabled me to realize the impact that one period of time has on the future. The American Civil War and its causes, battles, politics, repercussions, tragedies and history do not have to be found in a textbook. I learned that it can all be found on the battlefields that are preserved today," Kordek says.

Her responsibilities included researching the Battle of Fredericksburg, conducting tours of the battlefield and helping visitors.

*(Jennifer Kordek's great aunt, Sister Mary Norbert, O.P., (Myra McLoughlin) graduated from AMC in 1937, aunts Elizabeth McLoughlin and Mary Schreiber in 1994, and cousin Shannon McKeon in 2009.)*

**Lizamarie Valle**, a sophomore in the College's biology program, has been selected to participate in the 2010 Yale Biomedical Science Training and Enrichment Program (Yale BioSTEP).

The national competition, funded by the National Institute of Health, offers positions to only 24 undergraduate students for a 10-week summer research experience at Yale Medical School, along with a stipend of \$5,000.00 and room and board at the medical school campus.

This past summer she worked at the Yale University Medical School Department of Urogynecology on a study about women with pelvic organ prolapse; she was asked to continue working on the project during this school year, and will be listed as one of the co-authors of a research paper. During the summer she also worked at Albertus with Dr. Patricia Compagnone-Post, associate professor of biology, on the functional analysis of a chromatin packaging enzyme in yeast.



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The Albertus Falcon (Sha'Ron Young, a member of the AMC men's basketball team) enjoyed a few minutes with Anne Worcester, tournament director of Pilot Pen Tennis and chief marketing officer of Market New Haven, before a match at the August event in the Connecticut Tennis Center at Yale.



Mitch Oliver and Ed Panzo, men's and women's head basketball coaches, respectively, participated in the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce Sports Council "Courtside Chat" October 28. Coaches of the ten men's and women's basketball teams at Albertus, Quinnipiac University, Southern Connecticut State University, University of New Haven and Yale participated in the session to update the public on the upcoming season.

The College's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee volunteered in the American Cancer Society's "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" October 25 fundraiser at Lighthouse Point Park in New Haven. The local walk raised \$160,000 for the organization. "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" is the oldest and largest walking event to raise money for breast cancer in the nation.

In October Daniel Ts'o, associate professor of neurosurgery at SUNY Upstate Medical University, spoke to students and the College community on his research on eye physiology. He explored the neural mechanisms that allow us to see, the basic biological and anatomical components of vision, their organization, their function and their interconnections. Dr. Ts'o is a graduate of Harvard College, received his doctoral degree in neurobiology from Harvard University and continued postdoctoral studies at the Rockefeller University.

Three surprise guests appeared at the Fall Open House for prospective undergraduate students. Charles Dickens (Nolan Dionne), Edgar Allen Poe (Cara Cama) and Lenore (Emily Malousek) brought literature alive for visitors to the campus. The students are members of the first-year English Honors class taught by Professor Deborah Frattini.



Albertus Magnus College and the City of New Haven sponsored the Greater New Haven Leadership Center's breakfast reception at the Business Expo November 18. Speakers for the breakfast were Beau Doherty Jr., president of Special Olympics of Connecticut, Inc., and Sean Stephenson, a disability rights speaker.

In November the Albertus Magnus Community through the efforts of the Campus Ministry Team collected hundreds of toys and stuffed animals, coloring books, drawing supplies and new or gently used books in English and Spanish for the students of a dozen classes at the pre-K-first grade Strong School in New Haven; the special collection also brought in books, dictionaries and other school supplies for seventh graders at St. Martin de Porres Academy, also in New Haven. Student volunteers helped sort the many items. A Mitten, Glove, Hat and Scarf Drive, sponsored by Campus Ministry, Chartwells Dining Services and the Office of Residential Life, will benefit New Haven's Centro San Jose.

The Central Connecticut Chapter of the American Red Cross has selected freshman Brian Bennett to be the collegiate representative on its Board of Directors

The College's Cosgrove Marcus Messer Athletic Center hosted the National Prep Basketball Showcase November 20-22. The Showcase, held every year in New England, attracts top prep school teams as well as many of the top-ranked individual players from around the United States and Canada. National and local press, including Fox Sports and ESPN, covered the event, which also attracted top Division I college basketball coaches.



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## In Memoriam: Alumni, Relatives and Members of the Albertus Community

**Sister Mary Urban Cullen, O.P., '30** died August 25, 2009, at Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus, Ohio. The recipient of a master's degree from The Ohio State University and a Ph.D. in developmental genetics from Yale University, she taught at Albertus from 1941 to 1944 and from 1951 to 1974. Sister Mary Urban received many awards for her work in science and lectured widely on genetics. On learning of her death, one alumna said in a message to @lbertus, the alumni monthly e-mail newsletter: "She was a brilliant, truly outstanding, somewhat intimidating, but always inspiring teacher." Another wrote: "I will forever picture her gliding, more than walking, along the campus pathways between classes. May she rest in peace and know that her work and love of the Lord bore real fruit in her students and associates."

**Mary Gertrude McKeon '47**, a member of the College's Board of Trustees and professor emerita of chemistry at Connecticut College, died August 27, 2009. She received her master's degree from Yale University in 1951, and a Ph.D. from Yale in organic chemistry in 1953. Her field of specialty was electro-analytic chemistry. In 1952 she joined the faculty at Connecticut College, becoming a full professor in 1971. She was named a Margaret W. Kelly Professor of Chemistry in 1973. Dr. McKeon received the Albertus Magnus College Alumna of the Year Award for outstanding professional achievement in 1984; she joined the Board of Trustees in 1986.

**Jean Venditti Leary '34**, recipient of the 1957 Albertus Magnus College Alumna of the Year Award  
September 9, 2009  
Hamden, CT

**Dolores Bouffard Harmon '39**  
Staten Island, NY

**Catherine Conger Hayes '39**  
June 22, 2009  
Potomac, MD

**Jean Posten Walton '50**  
September 23, 2009  
Madison, CT

**H. Teresa "Terri" Fitzgerald Hatch '51**  
July 15, 2009  
Watervliet, MI

**Margaret McBride Fitzgerald '57**  
October 19, 2009  
Stratford, CT

**John A. Barry Sr.**, father of D. Danielle Barry LoCasio '86  
August 12, 2009

**Thomas Browne**, brother of Frances Browne Caspar '57  
July 23, 2009

**Margaret Dell**, grandmother of Garrett Dell '99, '03 MALS; Caitlin Dell '06, MAAT student and Matthew Dell, ADP student  
August 20, 2009

**Sister Bernard Joseph Fitch**, Sisters of St. Joseph, sister of Barbara Fitch Prokop '39 and aunt of Ann Prokop '67  
November 12, 2009

**William Fitzgerald**, son of Ruth McNamara Fitzgerald '53  
November 21, 2009

**Katherine Hannigan**, sister of Anne Hannigan Swift '61  
November 1, 2009

**Robert Kalas**, an AMC faculty member from 1978-1987  
July 17, 2009

**Michael D. Keane**, life partner of Patricia Lipowski Nuelson '63  
August 24, 2009

**Daniel Kops**, member of the College's Board of Trustees (1980-1986) and recipient of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the College in 1998; husband of Nancy Kops, recipient of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, also in 1998  
November 14, 2009

**John Kollias**, husband of Judith Viscio Kollias '64  
August 19, 2009

**David Lloyd**, husband of Arline Walsh Lloyd '56  
November 10, 2009

**Philip Paoletta**, recipient of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the College in 1982; father of Sr. Mary Jane Paoletta, ACSJ, recipient of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters in 1999  
October 26, 2009

**Margaret Russo**, mother of Louise Russo Flanagan-Doe '66  
August 6, 2009

**Eunice Kennedy Shriver**, recipient of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the College in 1985  
August 11, 2009



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*From The Hill* — Keeping in touch with alumni of Albertus Magnus College who remember their days on Prospect Hill.

Julia M. McNamara

*President*

Robert J. Buccino

*Vice President for Advancement and Strategic Planning*

Rosanne Zudekoff '60

*Director of Communications and Community Relations*

*Editor*

[zudekoff@albertus.edu](mailto:zudekoff@albertus.edu)

Carolyn Behan Kraus '86

*Director of Alumni Relations and Special Events*

[alumni@albertus.edu](mailto:alumni@albertus.edu)

Belinda Russell

*Webmaster — Information Technology Services*

*Designer & Developer*

[brussell@albertus.edu](mailto:brussell@albertus.edu)

Contributing Photographers:

*Stephen Allen Photography*

*Carolyn Behan Kraus*

*Judy Sirota Rosenthal*

*Ronald Waite*

*Rosanne Zudekoff*

*From the Hill* is published by the Advancement Division of Albertus Magnus College for alumni. Send address changes to the Office of Alumni Relations, Albertus Magnus College, 700 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511 or e-mail changes to [alumni@albertus.edu](mailto:alumni@albertus.edu).

Editorial offices are located at Mohun Hall, Albertus Magnus College, New Haven, CT 06511.

Albertus Magnus College admits students of any race, color, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin and disability status to all the rights, privileges, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, nor does it discriminate in these areas in the administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

A Catholic College in the Dominican Tradition

[www.albertus.edu](http://www.albertus.edu)



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## Fans of Fall Fest Flock to Campus

More than a thousand alumni, families, friends and members of the College community returned to campus September 26 for a Saturday afternoon of two soccer games and a tennis match, kid-friendly activities, a picnic luncheon and lots of opportunities to re-connect with classmates and friends. Fall Fest weekend kicked off Friday night at the Lansdowne Bar & Grill in downtown New Haven.

A major feature of Fall Fest weekend took place Saturday night at the second annual Albertus Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony and dinner.



Inducted into the Albertus Athletics Hall of Fame were: James Ferraro, women's basketball coach for nine seasons and holder of the highest winning percentage in the College's history; the 1994-1995 women's basketball team--Denise Brace, Diana Burroughs, Megan Callahan, Heather Fenn, Jessica Flood, Kathy Gauthier, Liz Lacroix, Karen Lobasz, Christie Matteo, Kim Pofok and Lisa Ranciato--which won the GNAC championship going undefeated in conference play and had five 1,000 point scorers on the roster; and Andrew Cicarella, named to the baseball First Team All Conference in 1996, 1997 and 1998, and among career leaders in nearly every offensive category including a .525 on-base percentage.

Dr. Donna Lopiano, president of Sports Management Resources, was the speaker at the Hall of Fame dinner. She is the former CEO of the Women's Sports Foundation and internationally recognized as an advocate for gender equity in sports.

### [Fall Fest Photo Gallery](#)



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## Financial Workshops for Students

A three-part workshop to help students increase their financial literacy held its first session, "Creating a Financial Survival Plan for College," in November. The workshop, funded through a grant from the National Collegiate Athletic Association, will be especially helpful to student-athletes whose earning power is significantly decreased in season because of the time commitment of participating in intercollegiate athletics. In January the second workshop will focus on "Understanding Credit: A Student's Guide to Managing Personal Credit" and the final session, in March, will cover "Life After College: Money Management, Taxes and Budgeting."



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## Denys Turner Speaks on Thomas Aquinas

On Saturday, October 3, Dennis Turner, Horace Tracy Pitkin Professor of Historical Theology/Professor of Religion at the Yale Divinity School spoke on Saint Thomas Aquinas in the St. Albert Atrium of the Tagliatela Academic Center to an audience of alumni, faculty and friends. The talk on Thomas as teacher, preacher and theologian, was made possible by the Marie Louise Bianchi '31 Endowment Fund.

For the past two decades, Dr. Turner has been focusing on the study of the traditions of Western Christian mysticism. Prior to coming to Yale, he taught at Cambridge University, University of Birmingham, University of Bristol and University College, Dublin.

Rev. Carleton P. Jones, O.P., of the Church of Saint Vincent Ferrer in New York City and formerly of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, celebrated Mass in the St. Catherine of Siena Chapel. A reception followed.

[Read the full text of Dr. Turner's talk.](#)



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## New Trustees

At its September 18 meeting, the College's Board of Trustees welcomed three new members: Sister Virginia Bruen, O.P.; Sister Maria Ciriello, O.P.; and Sister Margaret Ormond, O.P.

**Sister Virginia Bruen** of New Britain, Connecticut, has been a teacher, high school principal, college administrator, director of campus ministry, pastoral minister and director of an ESL learning center. Her assignments have taken her to New York, Ohio, Connecticut, New Mexico and Puerto Rico. She holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in theological studies.

**Sister Maria Ciriello** of St. Catharine, Kentucky, received her doctorate in research and evaluation from The Catholic University of America, master's degree from the University of Dayton and bachelor's degree from St. John College. She has taught at The Catholic University of America and the University of Portland. During a long career in education, she has authored or co-authored many articles appearing in professional journals.

**Sister Margaret Ormond**, of Columbus, Ohio, currently serves as the prioress of the Congregation of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. She received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Albertus in 1996. A graduate of Ohio Dominican University with a bachelor of arts degree in history, she received a bachelor's degree in sacred theology and licentiate in theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), the Dominican University of Rome.



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## Men's Basketball Team Plays Yale in January

Be a part of Albertus history. See the first-ever game between Albertus and Yale teams when the men's basketball team plays Yale January 7, 2010, at 7 p.m. in the John J. Lee Amphitheater at Payne Whitney Gymnasium on Tower Parkway in New Haven.

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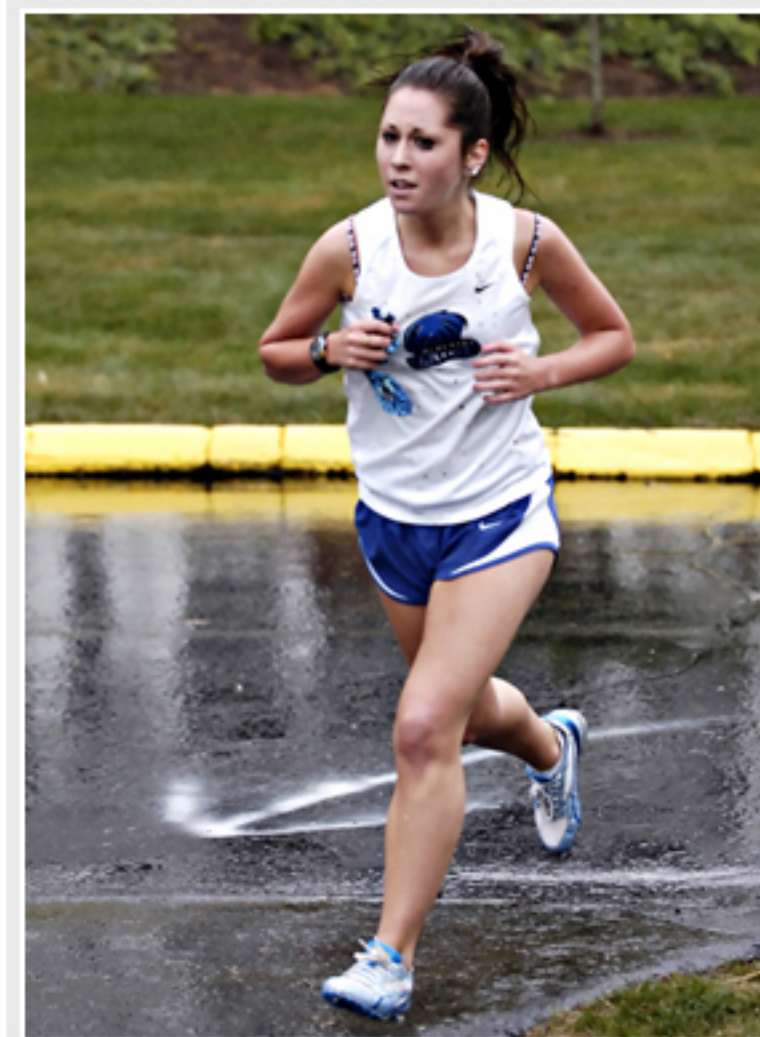
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## Women's Cross-Country Runner Named to All-Conference Team

Alisha Darin, a sophomore, was named 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) meet in Nashua, New Hampshire, October 31. She placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the championship meet with a school record of 22:13:61.



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## Donohue Honored with GNAC and NCAA Awards

John Donohue '09, now teaching in the New Haven Public School System, received the GNAC Sportsmanship Award for his sportsmanlike behavior throughout his college basketball career. He was then recognized as the NCAA 2009 Division III Conference Sportsmanship Award winner. This prestigious award was given to only 32 student-athletes across the country. He received the NCAA award at the first men's home game this season against Western Connecticut State University, November 24.

