



From the Hill

The Publication for Alumni of Albertus Magnus College

FALL 2012

Commencement 2012

Celebrating its 89th commencement exercises in May, Albertus Magnus College awarded 690 undergraduate and graduate degrees in front of the iconic Rosary Hall. The College also awarded honorary degrees to Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick, president of Gateway Community College in New Haven; Dr. Ragaa Mazen, adjunct professor of psychology, psychology/counseling coordinator for the Master of Arts in Art Therapy program and director of the Master of Science in Human Services program here at Albertus; Reverend Timothy A. Meehan, pastor of both St. Therese Church and St. Frances Cabrini Church in North Haven, long-time civil rights activist and supporter of the causes of peace and justice, and a former adjunct professor at Albertus; and Dr. Joan V. O'Brien, Albertus alumna and former faculty member, and dedicated scholar of the classics and author. Bishop Theodore L. Brooks, recipient of an honorary degree from Albertus in 2003 and pastor of the Beulah Heights Pentecostal Church in New Haven, delivered the charge to the graduates and benediction. (For more on Commencement, go to www.albertus.edu/2012-photos/)



Left to right: Sr. Mary Faith Dargan, O.P., Dr. Joan V. O'Brien and President Julia M. McNamara.

What's Different About This Year?

It's time to celebrate Our Founders, Our Heritage and Our College; it's time to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Dr. Julia M. McNamara's presidency. Throughout this academic year there will be new events and publications with a new look. Now is the time to reconnect with *alma mater*. Check out the calendar below, and take advantage of the opportunities to return to campus.

St. Thomas Aquinas Lecture Series

This series, one of several exciting events on campus this year, explores our Dominican heritage and tradition from the viewpoint of three members of the Dominican Order.

Monday, November 5

Albert the Great Lecture: Lisa Zuccarelli '75, O.P., chair of the biology and biomedical department, and the department of chemistry at Salve Regina University
11:45 a.m. – Lunch provided
5:15 p.m. – Light refreshments provided

Tuesday, January 29

Thomas Aquinas Lecture: Mary Catherine Hilkert, O.P., professor of theology and director of the Master of Theological Studies at the University of Notre Dame
10:45 a.m. – Lunch provided
5:15 p.m. – Light refreshments provided

Monday, April 22

Catherine of Siena Lecture: David Caron, O.P., Director of the Center for Dominican Studies at Aquinas Institute of Theology
11:45 a.m. – Lunch provided
5:15 p.m. – Light refreshments provided

2012 Events

Friday, September 21 — Founders' Day

The College community will come together and celebrate our founding, featuring an all-campus picnic and guest speaker Sister Margaret Ormond, O.P., prioress of the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

Wednesday, September 26 — Constitution Day

Mimi Marziani, counsel for the Democracy Program at the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law, will share her insights on voter rights and the Constitution at 12:10 p.m. in the Tagliatela Academic Center.

Saturday, October 20 — 16th Annual Fall Fest

12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Falcons Soccer vs. Emmanuel – Women at 1:00 p.m. and Men at 3:15 p.m. Don't miss good food, fun and Falcon friends!

Thursday, November 1 — All Saints Day Mass & Luncheon

All alumni are welcome to join the College in celebrating this noon Mass for deceased alumni and friends. Buffet luncheon immediately following Mass, \$15 per person; \$10 per person for Golden Society members.

To submit the name of an individual(s) deceased during the past year for prayer remembrance, email alumni@albertus.edu, call 203-773-8502 or write to Albertus Magnus College, Alumni Office, 700 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511.

Tuesday, December 18 — Men's Basketball vs. Yale

Cheer on the Falcons in Payne Whitney Gym at 7:00 p.m. Alumni after-the-game party at Anna Liffey's, Whitney Avenue, New Haven.

2013 Events

Saturday, January 26 — Alumni Day

Root for the Men's and Women's Basketball teams. Special seating, refreshments and activities for the whole family. Bring your Future Falcon. Follow the Falcons on-line at www.albertusfalcons.edu.

Sunday, May 19 — Commencement

A long-awaited day for the Class of 2013. Be there to applaud the accomplishments of your special graduate.

Saturday, June 8 — Reunion (Celebrating classes ending in 3/8)

A great day for alumni to come back to campus and re-connect with classmates and friends. All graduates are welcome.

For more information or to register for upcoming events, contact the Alumni Office at:

- 203-773-8502
- alumni@albertus.edu
- www.albertus.edu/alumni
- www.facebook.com/albertusmagnuscollegealumni



Reunion 2012



Student Alumni Association

The Alumni Office will be facilitating the newest organization on campus for traditional undergraduate students this fall—the Student Alumni Association (SAA). Membership in this group will provide students with ample opportunities to meet, interact, network with and be mentored by alumni of the College. This bridge between students and alumni is a unique and sought after quality of student life that was not previously available to students at the College.

The SAA concept was introduced to the Albertus community in late spring, and a group of 20 students have already committed to membership for the fall semester. Of those 20, eight attended and participated in Reunion 2012 in June and found it to be an incredibly rewarding experience.

One of the major goals of the SAA is to help enhance school spirit through various activities and events and to spearhead a “Traditions” project by meeting with alumni to record memories of Albertus, reinstating traditions and creating new ones. They will also

assist the Alumni Office in building a culture of philanthropy within the student body.

If you are interested in supporting the Student Alumni Association, we welcome alumni to serve as mentors, career role models, provide internships and other opportunities to help your fellow Falcons excel in the future. Our aim is to guide our students in the transition from undergraduate to alumni, while also providing and enhancing leadership skills. Please contact Stefanie Stevens at sestevens@albertus.edu or call 203-773-8519 for more information on how you can get involved.



Front row: Liz McGarry '14, Ginette Gonzalez '14, Mimi Mitima '14, Gina D'Agostino '13. Back row: Lindsey Laudano '15, Leanna Velez '15, Darryl Arnold '13, Rob Keidel '15.

Donna Sjogren '00 M.S.M., has stepped down as president of the Alumni Association Board of Governors. In this interview she looks back on ten years of service.

What prompted your interest and decision to get involved?

I knew I wanted to be involved in something at the College after getting my Master's degree as it had been such a great experience. I declined a teaching opportunity (needing a break from the classroom), and as things just happen, was introduced to Carolyn Behan Kraus from the Alumni Association. We talked about her vision for the future of the Board, and I said “Sign me up.”

What was your philosophy in working with the Board?

Just like any other volunteer organization, it's about finding the right combination of people who are passionate about working together toward the same goal. We are extremely proud of the Board, and when we search out new candidates for inclusion, our members take the vetting process very seriously. Everyone is an individual, bringing different experiences, talents and ideas to the table, yet meshing as a cohesive unit. These folks are tremendous people in their own right and do great work together. They are to be commended for their dedication to and love of the College.



What project gave you the most satisfaction?

Without a doubt, reinstating the induction of the new graduates into the Alumni Association as part of the Commencement ceremony has to be the most gratifying. From that moment on, your status changes from being students to becoming part of “the club”—you're now alumni of Albertus Magnus College. I think it's important for not only the graduates to know it, but for their families and friends to hear it formally proclaimed at Commencement. That transition is a moment of great pride and everyone should share in the joy at the moment it happens.

What did you find most challenging?

It's always a challenge to come up with ideas for speakers/presentations or events which we hope will draw our alumni back to campus. Obviously not everything appeals to everyone, and as the population of the College continues to change and grow, our offerings have to reflect those changes. The Alumni Association today is much different from the Alumni Association of 50 years ago.

Ten years is a long time to be president of a board. What kept you going?

The opportunity to work with and meet so many wonderful people, and wanting the Board to reach the level of development we envisioned for it back in 2002, which it has.

What's next for you?

I'll continue to serve on the Board as immediate past president for the 2012–2014 term, acting in more of a mentor/guiding capacity for the new Executive Board.

Alumni Association Board of Governors for the 2012–2014 Term

Voted into office at Reunion 2012, this dynamic group works directly with the Office of Alumni Relations on new and exciting programs for alumni. If you are interested in becoming involved as a potential Board member, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 203-773-8502 or email alumni@albertus.edu.

President

Jennifer Paskiewicz '06 '12 M.S.H.S.

Vice President

Verica Milivojevic '04

Immediate Past President

Donna L. Sjogren '00 M.S.M.

Members

Daniel Bland '07
Melonie K. Bland '05
Diane Campanella '01
Virginie Cohen '04
Anne L. Demchak '04
Margaret Hallinan '03
Lauren Kras '10
Sydney McAvoy '11
Pedro Suncar Jr. '11
Sheila Wycinowski '72

Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations

Carolyn Behan Kraus '86

Alumni Associate

Stefanie Stevens

From the Hill



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

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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

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Come back to Albertus for Founders' Day Friday, September 21, 2012

Celebrate Our Founders, Our Heritage, Our College

Celebrate the 30th anniversary
of Dr. Julia M. McNamara's presidency

Guest Speaker: Sr. Margaret Ormond, O.P.,
prioress of the Dominican Sisters of Peace