To Lead is to Serve

“Whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave.”

Matthew 20:26--27

They come from all walks of life---from health care and business to education and church ministry. And they come with one purpose---to learn to lead others by learning first to serve.

Grad Students Share Leadership Goals

The program that offers them the skills necessary to do this is the latest graduate program at Viterbo University, the Master of Arts in Servant Leadership (MASL). This unique program is believed to be the first of its kind in the U.S.

Based on a centuries-old concept that takes its roots in the teachings of Jesus Christ, servant leadership is an inner desire to lead others in a way that is rooted in the concern for the common good, according to Carl Koch, director for the new degree program.

The program takes its name from a phrase coined in 1970 by the founder of the Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership, Robert Greenleaf. He believed the real test of a servant leader’s effectiveness is whether or not those served grow.

“A good leader is one who fosters the good of all people and serves their real needs. That means meeting their needs for livelihood, ensuring that their relationships are supportive and positive, and encouraging personal and professional growth,” said Koch.

When done right, organizations benefit as well. Koch believes servant leadership can be likened to a circle. If a leader empowers her or his people and treats them with respect, their performance improves, which leads to greater efficiency and productivity, which in turn benefits the organization.

“It starts with leadership,” said Koch. “If leadership is seen as unethical or untrustworthy, why should a worker care about what she or he does? If a company really wants effective leadership, the behaviors that are desired in employees should be modeled by the leaders. But changes can’t happen overnight. Trust is essential. Trust is about character and that takes time to develop.”
That’s where the MASL program comes into play. By seeking to help leaders develop the skills that will make them more effective servant leaders, the program will help them promote the vocation of lay persons to serve in their organizations, the church, and the world.

Designed to meet the needs of busy students, classes are offered one weekend a month at the Franciscan Spirituality Center. Participants form a community that together examines servant leadership principles through scripture, theology, and experience, and learns about organizational cultures and the dynamics of power. Individuals also develop a life of prayer and reflection and learn to practice servant leadership in their own lives.

The MASL program is a chance for people to talk about what's really important to them and with other adults who are supportive and accepting, said Koch. “In constructing the program the way we have, with time for interaction among participants, we hope that people will learn from one another as well as from their instructors.”

Independent study and transfer of credits from other graduate programs are also permitted. Portfolio credits are an option that allow individuals to get credit from significant experience that bears directly on being a leader, for example, participation in a clinical pastoral education or spiritual direction program. Currently, the program has 25 students in its first cohort. Another group started in May.

“This program is a wonderful opportunity for people in a variety of different careers,” Koch said. “Servant leadership gives people whole new sets of skills and affirms a lot of their core values by showing them how to be more effective leaders in their organizations.”

And, for those people who wonder about the practicality of the MASL degree, Koch has an answer. “Ultimately, it’s far more practical than any other management training or leadership style,” said Koch. “If you’re looking for a long-range way of becoming a very effective leader, there’s not a better model. If you’re looking for a quick fix, someone who wants to learn to be a leader in a short amount of time, don’t even consider it. We’re talking here about learning a more effective way of being.

“People in business or leadership roles should take this program if they want to affirm what they are doing and develop the kind of skills and character that will permit them to be a boss that someone wants to work for.”

For more information, call the MASL Program Office at 608-796-3706.

By Beth Erickson '93
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Career Services Offers a Map for the Future

The classified section of any newspaper may be a great resource for job seekers, but it’s not a career planning tool. People interested in fulfilling careers want more than just a quick resource, they want help planning for the long haul.
And that’s exactly what Viterbo University’s Career Planning and Placement (CPP) does. With a staff of two full-time individuals, CPP helps Viterbo students and alumni find direction by providing them with high quality career advice, skill building, and job-search resources that will help them for a lifetime.

“When you see people succeed and be happy, that’s when it’s really worth it,” said Amy Lane, director of CPP, who works closely with Roxie Hefti ’95, career specialist, in helping people explore satisfying career options and get jobs in their field.

With a job placement rate among 2000–01 graduating seniors of 100%, with 92% placed directly in their field, CPP customers have a lot to smile about.

**Not “Just a Job”**

In the U.S. today, the national retirement age is 65. The typical age of a college graduate is 23. That means 42 years of employment for many people and if that seems like a long time, it is. “The career life is a long process,” said Lane. “That’s why it’s important to look at it in terms of having a career versus just a job.”

A job is something one takes for financial reasons, to fulfill a need, while a career becomes a part of our identity. According to Lane, “A career is self-cultural. It becomes part of who we are and uses our skills and abilities to fulfill our potential.”

It is, in fact, part of CPP’s mission statement to provide the kind of services students need that “will help prepare them for careers consistent with their interests, values, personality, and skills.”

The focus on building careers versus jobs is an important one to Lane as increased career or job satisfaction leads to a higher quality professional and personal life for people.

**More Than Resumes**

Building job-search skills like interviewing, networking, and resume development are critical parts of CPP’s offerings. Those skills, coupled with access to job search resources, give students and alumni the tools to help themselves in the job market for a lifetime.

“Our philosophy,” said Lane, “is to develop programs that have an impact throughout the lifespan, whether we’re serving traditional or nontraditional students or alumni.”

Increased skills are needed to deal with the changes in the marketplace and increased technology in the workforce. “Although certain things change, like technology and use of the Web, resumes continue to be an important document that captures peoples’ skills and abilities,” said Lane.

And yet, said Lane, the resume isn’t the only tool to use in the job search. Other skills are becoming increasingly important after the events of Sept. 11. “We are encouraging people to look for employment in more assertive ways. Finding a job is not going to be as simple as sending out a resume, searching the Internet, or opening up the classifieds,” said Lane.

Tara Sime, who graduated in 2001 with a degree in marketing and management, was a frequent user of CPP services. “I received valuable advice on resumes, cover letters, interviewing, and even which companies have good reputations…I even sought their help after graduation for advice on relocating back to La Crosse,” she said.
Sime, who currently serves as a supervisor at Bed, Bath, & Beyond in Madison, still makes use of some of the CPP services on the Web. She cites the job search links on the CPP home page as most helpful to her today.

Leaps and Bounds

With increased offerings, career services provided to Viterbo students and alumni have more than tripled in the past three years. In 2001-02, there was a 108% increase in services provided to students.

Lane cites increased offerings, classroom visits, walk-in availability, better visibility, and improved relations with faculty as major reasons for the increase.

“Faculty now understand what our department does to help the students and to enhance their programs,” she said. “And they’re recommending our services to their students.”

Bethany Trzcinski, a senior human resources and management major, recently returned from a five-month internship at Disney World in Orlando---a position she acquired with help from CPP. “Amy and Roxie have been great in helping me create a resume and get phone numbers and contact information for possible internship sites,” she said.

Though her experience at Disney turned out to be more about flipping burgers than gaining human resource skills, she is grateful for the chance to grow and learn. “It taught me that no matter how different it was from what I expected, I made a commitment to stick to it and I did. Making it fun was very important. Plus, I learned good communication skills with my managers and co-workers,” she said.

Trzcinski, who hopes to someday work in human resources for a hotel chain, is one of a number of Viterbo students and alumni who offer high praise for CPP. Surveys showed 92% of those who used CPP services last year were satisfied or very satisfied with the help they received.

Sime agreed. “I find that the advice they gave me really helped me focus my job search and open myself to new possibilities.”

Programs and Services

- Career planning and job search strategy courses
- Individual career counseling
- Internships
- Career planning resources through print, software, Web
- A walk-in career center
- Resume reviews
- Mock interviews
- Job vacancy listings
- Graduate school resources
- Career fairs
- Workshops on dining etiquette job search, interviewing, resumes
- Direct emails about services targeted to students in specific majors

Helpful Career Links

By Beth Erickson ’93
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ON CAMPUS

Students Explore Viterbo---at the Mall

Viterbo University is sharing space with the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and Western Wisconsin Technical College in a unique venture to promote higher education amid the heavy pedestrian traffic located at the Valley View Mall in La Crosse.

Located by the food court, near Sears, is an information kiosk that features an Internet connection to the three institutions. The display, which will be up through August, is believed to be the first collaboration of its kind anywhere in Wisconsin. “This is a unique experiment,” said Roland Nelson, vice president for admission. “We will be reaching thousands of individuals in a way that was never before possible. We have heard comments that the site is popular and being accessed by many---particularly young adults.”

Have Badge...Will Minister

Fr. Tom O’Neill, director of Viterbo’s campus ministry, never knows what his day is going to end up looking like. At any time, his pager can go off, directing him to report to his latest assignment---as a volunteer police chaplain.

Working with law enforcement brings Fr. O’Neill outside of the campus boundaries and into a world fraught with stress and trauma, where faith and spirituality often provide the only explanations that make any sense.

“I’ve been called to car accidents and to suicides, even to the site of a tragic plane crash that occurred during a local air show. I’m available whenever police feel they need a chaplain,” said O’Neill, who began his duty in January 2001, after completing 10 weeks of training.

In the case of an unexpected death, a police chaplain is able to comfort victims and survivors and help with some of the decisions that need to be made immediately, O’Neill indicated. “It might be something as simple as saying a prayer at the scene of a death, or accompanying a next-of-kin to identify the body of a loved one who has died in an accident. Police officers have asked chaplains to accompany them to a home where a death notification needs to be made. Sometimes, the chaplain can help by answering the person’s first questions, or by contacting a priest or other religious who will help with funeral arrangements.”

Of the 18 chaplains who have volunteered for the program, O’Neill is the only Catholic priest. Each is issued a badge and beeper, and assigned a 24-hour on-call stint each week.

There may be times in the future when the police themselves will need the services of a chaplain and, although O’Neill hopes that day never comes, he plans to be fully ready should his services be required. “Police work is dangerous. Policemen and policewomen can get injured, be involved in a shootout, or suffer other great losses. On occasion, I will accompany the police on routine ‘ride-alongs.’ That way I get to know the officers personally.”

Meanwhile, at his regular day job at Viterbo, O’Neill can be found celebrating daily Mass, teaching classes, working with students, and meeting their spiritual needs. He is on campus most of the time---that is, until the telltale beeper directs him to places and circumstances far from Viterbo.
“Being a police chaplain is a rewarding experience for me and my colleagues,” O’Neill said. “I’ve seen some of the thank-you notes that have been sent to the police department and it’s a good feeling to know that you can help.”

Viterbo Honors Award Recipients

This year’s annual Pope John XXIII Award for Distinguished Service went to three recipients: a priest, a community activist, and a leading organizer of hunger-relief efforts.

The awards, conferred on April 23, honored the accomplishments of (left to right): Leah Mathy, Wayne Kostroski, and Fr. Robert J. Cook.

Fr. Cook, a graduate of Aquinas High School, received the Bishop John Paul Award from his alma mater earlier this year in recognition of his exceptional service.

He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Frederick Freking in 1965, and, in 1973, he received a graduate degree in religious education from St. John’s University in Collegeville, Minn. Since 1991, he has served as rector of the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman. He is chair of the Board of Directors for the Franciscan Skemp Foundation and has served as vice president of the United Way Board.

An active volunteer for many non-profit organizations, Leah Mathy was honored for her longstanding commitment and support. At Riverfront Rehabilitation Center, she was recently named “Humanitarian of the Year,” in recognition of her contributions toward improving services, quality of life, and community presence for people with disabilities. She also serves on the Franciscan Skemp Healthcare Foundation Board as well as the Chileda Institute Board of Directors and Foundation Board. Mathy was instrumental in securing funding for Chileda’s Swiss Resource Center, which provides comprehensive access to articles, books, and research on virtually every known developmental disability.

Wayne Kostroski, a nationally known restaurateur was honored for endeavors outside of his daily business operations. A highly successful fundraiser, he has served on the Board of Directors for Share Our Strength (S.O.S.), a national organization of chefs and restaurateurs who support regional, national, and international hunger-relief agencies. In 1992, he co-chaired the Restaurant Committee for the Super Bowl XXVI Task Force, as well as created and chaired the first “Taste of the NFL.” This annual event brings top chefs and alumni players from each of the NFL cities together for a fun-filled, food sampling gala at the site of the Super Bowl. To date, more than $3.3 million has been raised for hunger relief through this event. Kostroski was also one of the principals who initiated the Jam Against Hunger held at the Mall of America.

Gathering of Waters Has Ripple Effect

Garnering statewide media attention and drawing in new audiences to Viterbo University, this year’s Humanities Symposium was a huge success.

“Gathering of Waters: The Life of the River and Its People,” held Feb. 4--7, was a celebration of the history and cultural impact of the Mississippi River.
"It was also an opportunity for us to look more closely at the life of the river today," said Mary Hassinger, dean of the School of Letters and Sciences, and chair of the Humanities Symposium Committee. "We need to look very closely at issues about modern use of the river and the environment, coupled with the river’s history, in order to find ways to protect this vital resource."

Presenters included:
- Eddy Harris, author of *Mississippi Solo*.
- John Anfinson, historian for the National Park Services' Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.
- Mark Neuzil, author of *Views on the Mississippi: The Photographs of Henry Peter Bosse*.
- Larry Long, singer/ songwriter and founder of the Mississippi River Revival.
- Susen Fagrelius, an independent organization effectiveness consultant.
- Michael Dombeck, former chief of the U.S. Forest Service.
- Earl Madary, musician and Viterbo religious studies professor.
- Bill Stobb, poet and Viterbo English professor.

Of those who attended, 90 percent rated it as valuable or very valuable, and 11 percent of attendees had never been to an event on campus.

“Gathering of Waters” was sponsored in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Humanities Council with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the State of Wisconsin.

**Three to Retire**

The Viterbo community gathered this spring to bid farewell to three members of the university who retired.

They are: Diane Crane (left), an art department instructor since 1979 who has a national reputation for her watercolor paintings; Rose Kreutz (center), assistant professor of nursing since 1970, who has championed fitness and wellness activities on campus as well as nursing camps for minority youth; and Jeanine Luger, OSF (right), a staff librarian since 1988, who has been active in Viterbo’s neighborhood issues and has served as a regular volunteer at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral.

**WHO Was on Campus?**

Viterbo’s spring semester was a busy one with guest speakers and musicians. In addition to those who participated in the Humanities Symposium, here are a few of the other famous faces that were on campus:

**Angela Cheng** -- (photo at left) One of Canada’s most gifted pianists, Cheng presented a piano masterclass for music students in March. In town to perform with the Vogler Quartet as part of the Viterbo Bright Star Season, Cheng was the first Canadian to win the prestigious Montreal International Piano Competition in 1988 and she was given the Medal of Excellence in Salzburg in 1991 for her outstanding interpretations of Mozart.

**Emilio DeGrazia** -- Author of *Canticle for Bread and Stones*, *Enemy Country*, and *Seventeen Grams of Soul*, DeGrazia, a professor at Winona State University, visited Viterbo to talk to students about the art of fiction and literature after Sept. 11.
Jean Bethke Elshtain -- A political philosopher whose task has been to show the connections between our political and our ethical convictions, Elshtain spoke at the 2002 Ethics Across the Disciplines Conference, “Community: Living with Difference in Art, Religion, and Politics” in April. She is the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Professor of Social and Political Ethics at the University of Chicago.

Lois Lowry -- (photo at right) Two-time Newbery Medal Award winning author Lowry visited campus in April and spoke to a full house in the Fine Arts Center Main Theatre about The Giver, her best-selling fiction/fantasy novel for young adults.

Jonathan Montaldo -- A noted author and Thomas Merton scholar, Montaldo led a Merton retreat and gave a talk in February on “The Spirituality of Thomas Merton” as part of the St. Rose Lecture Series at Viterbo.

Esther Wang -- A nationally known pianist and professor at the University of Texas-Austin, Wang served as a visiting artist on the Viterbo campus in January.

Viterbo Biologists Share Expertised

Corn that is resistant to disease. Milk from cloned cows. Genetically altered meat products. With the help of Viterbo University professors and students last spring, youth at Central High School explored the ethics of genetic engineering and got a better understanding of how the sciences are used in developing food products. Glena Temple and Kim Fredricks introduced the teens to the role, technique, and ethics of biotechnology in food through hands-on experiments. Since most high schools don’t have the resources or equipment necessary to educate students about biotechnology, Fredricks and Temple plan to continue the outreach. Above, Viterbo senior Jeremiah Yahn helps a Central student perform an experiment with DNA under the watchful eyes of Temple (second from right) and Fredricks (far right).

Students Get High Marks at Regionals

Several Viterbo University theatre students received high honors at this year’s American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) held in Evansville, Ind. Jan. 913. Dan Nord, a Viterbo junior from White Bear Lake, Minn., won the playwriting competition with his one-act play, King Me. Nord, who received a small monetary award, is invited back to next year’s ACTF to hold a full-scale production of his original work.

Half of the finalists in the ACTF playwriting competition were Viterbo students. Competing with Nord were Ben Minnis, a senior from Des Moines, Iowa, and Keely Wolter, a senior from Eagan, Minn.

Senior Barry Moe, from Sun Prairie, received honorable mention for his makeup designs for the Viterbo University Bright Star Season production of Into the Woods last October. A senior theatre major from Detroit Lakes, Minn. was chosen as a regional finalist in the Irene Ryan Acting Competition. Kristen Husby received this distinction after performing a scene from Lady and the Sea by Henrik Ibsen and Glitter and Be Gay from Candide. Viterbo’s Nadia Wahhab, a senior from Greendale, was a semifinalist in the event. She performed a scene from Wild Honey by Anton Chekhov. Wahhab was one of 40 semifinalists out of 350 competing overall. Husby was one of 16 to earn the distinction of finalist.

Brand new to the ACTF this year was a stage management competition. Viterbo’s Heather Krowiorz, a senior theatre major from Manitowoc, was one of only six
chosen to compete. As such, she helped manage the 10-minute play festival. She was nominated for the competition by Susan Rush, a Viterbo theatre professor. Krowiorz was chosen for the honor on the basis of that nomination and her resume and portfolio.

The winners and finalists were part of a group that included 19 students from Viterbo who entered and attended the competition. “The ACTF is a wonderful experience for our students,” said Rick Walters, chair of the Viterbo theatre department. “They get a chance to compare their work with that of other students in the region. It gives them a better perspective on the caliber of their education and their work. Plus, the festival helps put Viterbo on the map. Viterbo theatre is gaining name recognition among its peers and among students in our region.”

The annual festival is a regional competition involving 2,000 graduate and undergraduate participants from Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. The aims of the Kennedy Center’s ACTF are to identify and promote quality in college-level theatre productions. During the past five years, Viterbo theatre productions and students have been awarded a number of regional and national awards in acting, design, playwriting, and directing. With more than 90 Bachelor of Fine Arts majors in theatre, Viterbo is home to the largest professional theatre training program in the state of Wisconsin.

PHILANTHROPY NOTES

Dr. Scholl Competition Experiences Deja vu

A high school senior from Ellsworth is the winner of the Dr. Scholl Scholarship, which is Viterbo University’s most competitive and lucrative scholarship.

Crystal Kreye, daughter of Sharlene and Charles Kreye, was selected the winner on Feb. 22 at the end of the day of testing and campus interviews provided to the 21 finalists competing for the scholarship. All students have expressed an interest in pursuing careers in health care or science. Kreye plans to major in pre-pharmacy.

The Dr. Scholl Scholarship, which is renewable from year to year, covers complete tuition costs for up to four years, and is valued in excess of $60,000.

When Crystal starts classes next fall, she will be continuing in the footsteps of her mother Sharlene, who received her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1985.

The scholarship is named in honor of Dr. William Scholl who died in 1968. He left the bulk of his estate to a foundation named in his honor.

Positions Filled with New and Familiar Faces

The Office of Institutional Advancement at Viterbo University has created a new position but filled it with a familiar person. Natalie McGarry, who was previously the grants development director, has been named director of development.
McGarry will work closely with Gary Klein, vice president for institutional advancement. Her responsibilities include developing a solicitation program and supervising the fundraising professional staff in planning and implementing programs.

McGarry received her undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in 1996. From 1996--1998, she worked for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as a development associate. She joined Viterbo in 1998. She is currently a member of the La Crosse Symphony Orchestra Development Board.

In addition, institutional advancement recently hired a new grants coordinator/writing specialist. Bobbie Wilson, who previously worked as the community relations director for the La Crosse Coulee Council on Alcohol, started this new role in February. Wilson has an undergraduate degree in French from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with an emphasis on writing/journalism/communications. She is also certified in secondary education. Wilson has more than 10 years of experience in grant writing and fundraising for non-profit organizations in the La Crosse area.

Two Viterbo Faculty Land Research Grant

Can an early intervention program focused on at-risk young mothers experiencing a high level of stress help them and their newborns secure a better future?

Richard “Mort” Morehouse (right) and Pamela Maykut (left)---both psychology professors at Viterbo---think so, and they have received $125,000 from the La Crosse Community Foundation to conduct research that will study the effectiveness of a national model of prevention called the Healthy Families Program (HFP).

On a larger scale, the two will also study the development of mother-child behavior and relationship skills, which they hope will contribute to the research that has already been published on this subject.

Under the HFP model, pregnant mothers are given an assessment at La Crosse area hospitals to measure “risk” based on factors such as alcohol/drug use, income level, age, and single-parent status. Mothers who qualify access the services of the HFP without cost. This includes an intensive education component, weekly home visits with mother and baby, and other services designed to maximize a child’s development and maturation potential.

Participants in the program have access to a range of medical services including immunizations and other proactive health care measures.

The Family and Children’s Center in La Crosse operates the HFP, which is funded through donations and other support from groups that believe prevention and early education programs are the most cost effective way to go. In earlier research funded by the La Crosse Community Foundation, Morehouse and John Berger, a recent graduate of Viterbo, confirmed the hypothesis that the benefits of prevention via the HFP model far exceed the cost of operating the program.

Now, Maykut and Morehouse are ready to take the next step: to determine how and why the HFP works and identify the key characteristics that lead to success. Their findings could provide a powerful tool for professionals who seek to reduce society’s failed cases---that is
those, for example, who are eventually incarcerated, abused, or make increased use of a service agency’s time and money.

The HFP model holds great hope as a viable alternative to failure, Morehouse believes.

“We have discovered that immediately after birth, there are many opportunities for teachable moments. Before all the stress of parenting and other ‘stuff’ get in the way, visits by staff from HFP occur. Mothers are excited—they want to know everything about their child’s development. Once out of the hospital, these visits can continue on a weekly basis for up to six months before contact is gradually and incrementally reduced,” Morehouse said.

And education—lots of it—comprises the hallmark of the HFP.

Mothers get a basic understanding of their child’s development: such as when baby says her or his first words, when and how to toilet train a toddler, how to discipline. Any and all topics are put on the table to help mother and child get off to the best possible start, Morehouse said.

“We have found that often mothers have high expectations and when something doesn’t happen immediately or the way they think it should, it leads to frustration. When a HFP worker is there to help explain the normal developmental behavior of the child, it is very helpful to the mother. This kind of education is a central component of the program.”

Because of the enormity of the project, Maykut and Morehouse hope to enlist some of their psychology students at Viterbo to help with the research. The $125,000 grant will allow the two professors some release time from teaching and the university has agreed to help students who work on the project by offering them financial aid whenever possible.

The project will last five years and involve the in-depth study of 15 HFP families and 15 control-study families.

“We are very excited and ready to go,” Morehouse said. “Right now there is a waiting list of mothers who want to get into Healthy Families. If we are able to identify the many factors contributing to the success of this program, more opportunities will open up for women and their children to take advantage of education prevention programs.”

Alumni, Parents, Friends Help Solve Mysterious Case

During a special phonathon in April, Viterbo University alumni, parents, and friends committed to helping Viterbo solve a special mystery, “The Case of the Mysterious Challenge.”

What is “The Case of the Mysterious Challenge”? It is a challenge issued by an anonymous friend of the university to alumni, parents, and friends to financially support the Center for Ethics, Science, and Technology, a new building on campus that will offer distance-learning capabilities on site so students can connect to worldwide resources. The anonymous benefactor will match every dollar raised—up to $100,000.

The generosity of alumni, parents, and friends continues to make a difference in the education of Viterbo students. With their help, we are closing the books on this case and making the new Center a reality.
Those interested in making a donation toward the new Center may still do so by mailing it to the Office of Institutional Advancement, Viterbo University, 815 Ninth Street South, La Crosse, WI 54601; or by going to www.viterbo.edu and clicking on “Giving to Viterbo.”

**SPORTS CORNER**

**NAIA: Viterbo Athletics Have Character**

Viterbo and its athletics program have been cited by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) as a “Champions of Character Institution.” The focus of this NAIA honor is on emphasizing character-building aspects of sports to student athletes. The five core character values are: respect, integrity, responsibility, servant leadership, and sportsmanship.

The NAIA consists of 332 member institutions. During the past year, the Viterbo V-Hawks were involved in a number of service projects that were factored into the evaluation. Those include:

- **Neighbor Day**---The men’s soccer team distributed more than 100 loaves of bread to neighboring households.
- **Children’s Day**---The volleyball team volunteered during a children’s party at the local museum.
- **Community Clinic**---The women’s basketball team members held a free basketball clinic for the Coulee Catholic grade schools.
- **Adopt-a-Family**---The baseball team hosted families in need at a local restaurant during the holidays. The team also provided children with gifts and shared time with the youngsters.
- **Food Drive**---The women’s basketball team held a food drive. All fans who donated a food item received free admission to the game.
- **Campus Service**---The men’s basketball team volunteered to paint a portion of the gymnasium during their time off.

**Viterbo Basketball Finishes Season on Mixed Note**

The men’s and women’s basketball teams enjoyed very good seasons, which by their own standards, ended a bit short as both fell to their opponents in the second round of the NAIA district playoffs.

The men finished second in the Midwest Classic Conference (MCC) with a 10--4 (16--18 overall) record. The V-Hawks managed to beat every team in the conference at least once. A difficult non-conference schedule early on put the V-Hawks with their backs against the wall. After dropping to 4--15, the team put on a rally posting 10 straight victories. After beating Marycrest 84--71 in the first round of the playoffs, the men ended their season with an 84--63 loss to Iowa Wesleyan.

Seniors Mike Brudos and Mike Glass received individual honors for their play. Both were named First Team All-Conference. Brudos ended the season and his Viterbo career with 1,586
points earning him the distinction of fourth leading scorer of all time. The men’s basketball head coach, Wayne Wagner, was named MCC Coach of the Year.

The women ended their season on a similar note. In the first round of district play, the V-Hawks defeated Iowa Wesleyan 79--65 before dropping from contention with a 67--63 loss to Grandview. The women equaled the V-Hawk men’s conference record at 10--4, which also meant second place. Overall, the women posted an impressive 20--12 record.

Coach Bobbi Vandenberg tied Mount St. Clare’s Meg Schebler for conference Coach of the Year honors. Standout senior Kara Brandau concluded her spectacular college career at Viterbo tallying 2,104 career points---the highest men’s or women’s total in V-Hawk history. Luke Maher (2,030 points) was the previous record holder. For the second year in a row, Brandau was named a NAIA Division II First-Team All-American selection. She was also one of 10 players in the nation (the only one from Division II) chosen by the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association to serve on the Kodak All-American Team. Lisa Saluzzi, also a senior, was an honorable mention on the Division II First-Team All-American. Saluzzi made her mark in the record books hitting 112 3-pointers in one season which was just nine short of matching the NAIA Division II record of 121 set by Ketra Bell of Bartlesville Wesleyan (Okla.) during the 1994--95 season.

Soccer Coaches to Travel "Down Under"

Men’s soccer coach Mark Brandenburgh (left) and women’s soccer coach Will Lemke (right) will travel to Australia this summer with the “People-to-People Sports Ambassadors” program. The two were recently selected from a nationwide pool of applicants to coach top youth soccer players from across the country in the Kanga Cup sponsored by Sports Ambassadors. Inspired by an initiative of former President Dwight Eisenhower, the Sports Ambassadors program has been sending students abroad since 1963 in an effort to encourage meaningful exchanges between young people of different cultures. The trip will run from June 29--July 16.

Women’s Soccer Has New Head Coach

William Lemke just completed his first year as head coach of the Viterbo University women’s soccer team, finishing 4--13--1.

Lemke, who is also the director of intramurals, received degrees in education and history in 1996 from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

He also has an associate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Rock County and is currently completing a specialist degree in educational leadership at Winona State University. He holds an NSCAA National Diploma and a level II goalkeeping diploma.

Since 1998, Lemke had been the assistant coach of the Division II Winona State women’s soccer team and, from 1991--92, he served as the goalkeeper coach for the UW-Rock County men’s soccer team. Since 1993, Lemke has been the manager and coach of the La Crosse United Premier Soccer Club, for which he currently plays. He also co-founded the Edgerton youth soccer association.
During college, in 1989 and 1992, Lemke played for the UW-Rock County men’s soccer team and was twice selected as an all-conference and all-region player. From 1993-94, he played on the UW-La Crosse men’s soccer club team, which qualified for nationals both years.

Three Added to V-Hawk Wall of Fame

Three Viterbo University alumni athletes were the latest additions to the Wall of Fame during Homecoming 2002. Brian Soller ’94 (left), Doug Seigle ’95 (right), and Troy Wagner ’95 (center) were honored with the distinction in February.

Soller was a member of the 1992 NAIA District 14 All-District Team and a member of the Viterbo 100 Hits Club with 122 hits. When he graduated, he was third in career at-bats (400), fourth in career hits (122), and remains in the first spot for hit by pitch-career (30). Soller earned many honors for his performance in the classroom, too. He earned Academic All-conference three times in baseball ('92, '93, '94) and once in basketball ('92). He also was a NAIA All-American Scholar-Athlete in 1994. On the lighter side, one of Brian’s most notable feats came in his final home game as a V-Hawk baseball player against Winona State in 1994, when Brian played all nine positions during a regular nine-inning game.

Seigle was a V-Hawk during the era when the soccer team won two MCC Conference Championships ('92, '93), three NAIA District Championships ('91, '92, '93), and was ranked twice in the NAIA National Polls ('91---21st, '93---14th). He also earned numerous individual honors. He was named MCC First Team All-Conference three times ('92, '93, '94), Third Team All-American once ('93), and Honorable Mention All-American twice ('92, '94). He was also named All-District 14 ('93), NAIA Midwest Region Team ('93), NSCAA All-Midwest Team ('93) and was a unanimous selection to the Umbro Senior Soccer Bowl in 1995. Seigle also earned himself a spot in several categories of the Viterbo Men’s Soccer Record Book. He holds school records as a goalkeeper for most wins---career (49), most wins---season (15), most shutouts (28), and is 4th on the all-time goals-against average (.99).

While Wagner contributed to an MCC conference championship his freshman year and a 21--12 record his sophomore year, it was in his junior and senior seasons that he really blossomed as a basketball player. As a junior, he helped his team finish 23--7, and, for his efforts, Wagner was named Second Team All-conference. His fourth and final year in a V-Hawk uniform was one to remember. He led his team to a 27--7 record, MCC Championship, and a trip to the NAIA National Tournament. That year, he was named MCC Player of the Year, First Team All-American, and was named to the NAIA All-Tournament team. On the season, he averaged 23.1 points, 7.8 rebounds, and had an astounding 70.3 field goal percentage. Wagner currently holds school records for most points in a game (41), most points in a season (796), highest scoring average---season (24.3), most rebounds---game (17), most field goals made---game (17), most field goals made---season (313), best field goal percentage---season (.703), and best field goal percentage---career (.644). He is also a member of the V-Hawk 1,000 point club (1,349).
ALUMNI NOW

Thea, Joyous Troubadour of God

Created by the artistic hands of Maryam Gossling, FSPA '64, this icon of Thea Bowman, FSPA '65, was unveiled during a “Flavor of Soul” event held at St. Rose Convent in April.

The focus of the icon, called Thea, Troubadour of God, is the tambourine, which represents rhythm. “Thea was always inviting us to get up and dance,” said Sr. Gossling in an interview with the first issue of Thea News. Iconography is a style of painting that dates back to the 6th century. Icons are focal points of meditation and prayer.

Sr. Gossling’s talk was preceded by a performance of spirituals led by Dan Johnson-Wilmot, Viterbo music professor, and followed by a “Flavor of Soul” lunch in the Marian Hall Dining Room. The event was held in honor of what would have been the 65th birth year of Sr. Thea and in celebration of her life and work. An FSPA, Sr. Thea served as a troubadour of God, singing and preaching the Gospel throughout the nation. She died in March 1990 after a battle with cancer.

Greeting cards with Sr. Gossling’s Thea icon are available for $1 per card at the Viterbo Bookstore. In addition, 11” x 14” plaques are available for $25 and 4” x 5” plaques for $12.50. A book of her life, Shooting Star, is available for $9.95. To order, contact the bookstore at 608-782-4377, 1-800-482-8398, or email viterbo@bkstr.com.

Master Teachers Nationall Certified

Three Viterbo alumnae recently received the highest honor bestowed on teaching professionals—certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

Next-door neighbors and fellow teachers Margie Ortgiesen and Rebecca Williams, who both received their Master of Arts in Education from Viterbo in 2000, went through the experience together and both received their national certification in November 2001. Ortgiesen, who was certified in adult/young adult English and language arts, teaches language arts in the Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District. Williams teaches in the Union Community Schools. Both live in Vinton, Iowa.

Peggy Weber, who received her bachelor’s degree in math from Viterbo in 1971, also was nationally certified in November 2001 in adolescent and young adult mathematics. She is a teacher in the Dubuque County School District in Iowa.

“The process of nationally certifying is one of reflection, assessment, and processing. It is the highest honor possible in the teaching field. Our excellent training and support at Viterbo was key to our success during the year-long process,” said Williams.

The NBPTS certifies teachers in 16 fields and seeks to improve teaching skills, enhance training, recognize superior teaching, and make it easier for teachers to work in different states.
Dress of Hope Donated

When Cecilia Lillquist ’55 came to the U.S. from China to attend school at Viterbo, she had hoped it was the start of many journeys, including one to Rome to meet the Pope. In fact, she was so certain, that she had an authentic, modest Chinese silk dress made specifically for the occasion. Although she never did get to visit the Pope, Cecilia did hang on to that dress and recently made it a gift to Viterbo. The dress will be framed and will find a home on display at Viterbo. Above left, Gary Klein, vice president for institutional advancement, accepts the gift from Lillquist (center) and her nephew.

Outstanding Alumni Speak

Reconnecting with Viterbo and the La Crosse community was the name of the game when Anna Dolores Balderamos Garcia ’79 and Valerie Jackson Jones ’76 returned to campus during Homecoming in February.

Both Jackson Jones and Balderamos Garcia were in town to receive Outstanding Alumni Awards from their alma mater---Jackson Jones for community service and Balderamos Garcia for professional development.

While in La Crosse, there was hardly time to rest. Balderamos Garcia's schedule included meetings with the La Crosse Rotary and local media; the psychology club; Joan Keller Maresh’s Women’s Health Issues class; Viterbo faculty who traveled to Belize this spring; and the Global Rhythms international club. In addition, she and Jackson Jones teamed up to talk with one of Marlene Fisher’s Human Society classes.

Balderamos Garcia is the Minister of Human Development, Women, and Civil Society in Belize, Central America. Jackson Jones is the executive director of the Community Association for the Welfare of School Children in Louisiana.

CLASS NOTES

1950
Ione (Derner) Schloegel ’57 was awarded the Minnesota AAUW Women as Agents of Change: Community Award. She works with the Rochester branch of the American Association of University Women, and it was her work with the Young Women’s Conference, the Olmsted Youth Commission, and the Somali Women’s Organization that earned the honor for the Rochester branch.

1960
Geraldine Kerrigan ’61 retired from Cochise County Adult Probation, Bisbee, Ariz., where she worked as a pre-sentence report investigator for the Superior Court of Arizona.
Mary Catherine Fogarty, FSPA ’64 was elected vice president of the FSPA. Her term begins July 1, 2002.
Helen Elsbernd, FSPA ’65 received the Spheres of Influence award Feb. 21, 2002 from Franciscan Skemp Healthcare.

Mary Ann Gschwind, FSPA ’65 will be the archivist for the FSPA, effective July 1, 2002.

Carol (Heilman) Smith ’66 is employed by the Kansas University Medical Center. She is working with medical records in the Neurology Department.

Marlene Weisenbeck, FSPA ’67 was elected president of the FSPA. Her term begins July 1, 2002.

Sandra Hoeser ’69 received the Fort Worth Boat Club’s award for PHRF Outstanding Female Crew Member for 2001. The award was presented Saturday, Jan. 18, 2002.

1970


Sharon Berger, FSPA ’72 was elected to Mission Councilor for the FSPA.

Patricia Siepker, FSPA ’72 was elected to Mission Councilor for the FSPA.

Jean Michael Freba, FSPA ’72 was re-elected to Mission Councilor for the FSPA.

Lucille Slinger ’73 began the associate phase of membership in the FSPA, September 2001.

Janet Roskos Passe ’74 graduated from the University of Utah College of Nursing with a Master of Science in Clinical Informatics, May 4, 2001.

Joe Keller ’75 was in France to compete in the Paris Marathon, April 7, 2002. This was his fifth marathon, and his second in Paris.

Sandra Schmidt-Berringer ’77 was promoted to Colonel in the United States Air Force, February 2002.

Karen Lueck, FSPA ’67--’78 was elected to Mission Councilor for the FSPA.

1980

Guy Johnson ’80 became the community integration and leisure coordinator for Opportunity Partners Jan. 1, 2002. He has been with Opportunity Partners since May 1980.

Diane Osterhaus Neefe ’81 received a master’s degree in training and development from UW-Stout, December 2001.

Pamela (Dorshorst) ’82 and Phillip Epple celebrated the birth of a son, Daniel Anthony, Jan. 10, 2002. He joins his brother, Matthew, 4, at home.

Dawn (Braun) Travelstead ’82 was nominated and selected to carry the Olympic Torch as it traveled through New Mexico on Jan. 12, 2002 on its way to Salt Lake City.

Brenda Nash-Reisdorph ’82, ’01 has achieved Advanced Prescriber Nurse Practitioner and Geriatric Nurse Practitioner certification from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Pam (Porter) Hundt ’82 has been appointed as the department director of neuroscience at Sacred Heart Hospital, Eau Claire. She will also oversee the hospital’s pediatric service area.

Susan (Schramke) ’83 and Martin Rhoads celebrated the adoption of a son, John Martin, Nov. 29, 2001. He was born Aug. 30, 2000.

Roxie (Cantu) ’84 married Allan Mills April 4, 2001.

Jeannette Hertges ’85 was promoted to Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy.

Joe Dunham ’83--’85 was appointed to the following Board of Directors: CareMedic Systems, Inc., Phytodyne, Inc., TeleDirect International, Inc., Advanced Analytical Technologies, Inc., and Optimal Electronics, Inc.
Cheryl (Gilles) ’87 and Bryan Van Riper celebrated the birth of a daughter, Anna Marie, July 23, 2001. She joins her sister, Katelyn, 6, at home.

Dawn Kutt ’87 entered into the novitiate program of the FSPA, Aug. 10, 2001. 
Terese (Stark) Bush ’87 recently became employed as a nurse practitioner with Intermountain Neurosurgery, St. Anthony’s Hospital, Denver. 
Kelly (Hogan) Peroutka ’88 is a major in the United States Army, stationed at Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii. She is working as a case manager in the Department of Medicine. Kelly graduated from UW-Madison May 2001 with a Master of Science in Nursing. 
Mason Young ’88 was appointed CEO and chairman of Summit Creek, Inc., Denver Colo. 
Diane (Krause) ’89 and Mike Abnet celebrated the adoption of a daughter, Michaela Marie, Dec. 8, 2001. 

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Mason Young ’88 was appointed CEO and chairman of Summit Creek, Inc., Denver Colo. 
Diane (Krause) ’89 and Mike Abnet celebrated the adoption of a daughter, Michaela Marie, Dec. 8, 2001.
Matt Muyres ’94 teaches Computer Animation and works as a computer-modeling artist at General Mills in Minneapolis.

Todd Nelson ’94 graduated from the Medical College of Georgia with a Master of Science in Nursing specializing in Nursing Anesthesia, December 2001.

Vicki Wunsch ’94 and Dionne Blood celebrated the adoption of a daughter, Emily, November 2001. She was born May 22, 2001, in Guatemala. Vicki is the community education manager at the Harriet Tubman Center, a family violence resource center, Minneapolis.

Tina (Eiken) ’95 and Darin Kampschroer celebrated the birth of a daughter, Sydnie Claire, Aug. 15, 2001.


Julie (Fromm) ’95 and John Falkers celebrated the birth of a son, Andrew John, October 18, 2001. He joins his sister, Rachel, 1, at home.

Michelle Hellwig ’95 married Bryan Cottrell Dec. 8, 2001 in Coon Valley.

Karin Maresh ’95 received a Ph.D. in Theatre Arts from Ohio State University, March 22, 2001.

Theresa McKinley ’95 recently accepted the position of house operations manager at the Weidner Center for the Performing Arts in Green Bay. The Weidner Center is a 2000-seat theatre, hosting a variety of entertainments, including Broadway, dance, and musical productions.


Heidi (Sather) ’96 and Jerrod Roth celebrated the birth of a son, Cade Wayne, Dec. 6, 2001.


Rebecca Rudolph ’97 completed a master’s degree in community counseling from Winona State University. She is a chemical dependency counselor at the Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center, Winona, Minn.


Susan Kammel ’98 was recently appointed the human resource and development manager for State Bank of La Crosse.

Quinn (Marquardt) ’98 and Brian Hause celebrated the birth of a daughter, Caitlin Quinn, Oct. 14, 2001.

Judy (Martin) ’98 and Michael Deegan celebrated the birth of a son, John Thomas, Feb. 9, 2002.

Shelley Perkins ’98 was recently hired as deputy sheriff for the Marathon County Sheriff’s Dept., Wausau.


Julie Blanchet married Jeremy Welch ’98 June 24, 2001. Jeremy received his law degree from UW-Madison June 2001, and recently joined the law firm of Ruder, Ware, and Michler as an attorney. They live in Rothschild.


Pam Mikkelson ’99 recently accepted a position with CenturyTel in La Crosse as a Web sales consultant. She will be consulting with small and medium businesses to assist them in growing business on the Internet.

2000


Mandy Baumbach ’00 married Andrew Butterfield Sept. 15, 2001 at the San Damiano Chapel, Viterbo. Mandy is a R.N. at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital. She also does home health private duty nursing with disabled children for Tender Loving Care Staff Builders. They live in Virginia.

Margie Ortgiesen ’00 achieved National Board Certification in Adult/Young Adult English/Language Arts Nov. 1, 2001.

Shelly (Slominski) ’00 and Thomas Leis celebrated the birth of a daughter, Hailey Marie, Sept. 15, 2000.

Rebecca Williams ’00 achieved National Board Teaching Certification, November 2001.

Sarah Wolfe ’00 married Daniel Larson. They live in Rochester, Minn.


Melissa and Jerald Stratton ’01 celebrated the birth of a son, Chase, Nov. 30, 2001. He joins his siblings, Cody and Shelby, at home.

In Memorium

The Viterbo University community joins in prayerful remembrance of those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.


Mary Bernett, Jan. 27, 2002, sister of Rose Rita Collingon, FSPA ’51.

Flavia Hennig, FSPA ’55, Jan. 21, 2002.


Leann Meyer, FSPA ’54, Aug. 18, 2001 sister of Rita Meyer ’57.


Lee Gilbert, Jan. 19, 2002, husband of Sue (Larkin) Gilbert ’59--’60.
Fr. Elmer Elsbernd, Dec. 9, 2001, brother of Helen Elsbernd, FSPA ’65, Rosemary Elsbernd, FSPA ’70, and uncle of Jean (Elsbernd) Boyer ’81.
Leo Berry, Feb. 28, 2002, father of Bonnie (Berry) Hesse ’65.
Rita Ann Bye, Feb. 4, 2002, mother of Pamela (Bye) Jensen ’72, aunt of Madonna (Banasik) Daly ’76.
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Rita Ann Bye, Feb. 4, 2002, mother of Pamela (Bye) Jensen ’72, aunt of Madonna (Banasik) Daly ’76.
Wanda Grimsrud, Dec. 9, 2001, mother of Gloria Grimsrud ’75.
Barbara Debold, Nov. 20, 2000 mother of Jacqueline Debold ’76.
Dennis Holdt, Aug. 18, 2001, father of Dawn (Holdt) Kiffmeyer ’92.
Joanne “Josie” (Karels) Brague ’92, March 18, 2002.

A FINAL WORD

Student Researchers Find What They’re Looking for Halfway Around the World

by Pat Kerrigan

Jennifer Holtz, Ryan Nelson, and Stacey Scott were assigned to do research, but there was a problem. Their intent was to study human development among Tibetan children living in exile. The research these three Viterbo psychology students had in mind couldn’t be found in the local library---make that the State of Wisconsin or, for that matter, the North American continent.

Psychology professor Pamela Maykut had already anticipated this problem and had the solution ready---she wanted to see her students have the experience of originating research, and what better place than in an exceedingly remote location halfway around the world?

The students’ destination was the Tibetan Home School in Mussoorie, India, which is the site of the largest concentration of refugee children from Tibet. These youngsters, in order to evade the suffocating and brutal oppression associated with the Chinese occupation of their homeland, had escaped via the perilous mountainous routes carved deep within the Himalayas. Tibet, as a country, does not exist on most modern maps and Tibetans themselves have been the subject of very little research.
Professor Maykut had been to the Tibetan Home School in India on a number of occasions to conduct her own research and participate in humanitarian projects. Maykut used her contacts to arrange for Holtz, Nelson, and Scott to visit and conduct research, and she agreed to go along as the faculty director of the six-week project which was funded by the Freeman Foundation.

Holtz, a senior from Wisconsin Rapids, chose to research a study of young children’s ethnic and bicultural identity. She presumed that Tibetan children, would, over time, adapt to their new home. However, she discovered just the opposite. Her research revealed that the children continued to maintain only a strong Tibetan identity. Even after five years or more in India, there is little evidence of the development of any kind of an Indian identity.

A Viroqua native who graduated last May, Nelson researched the Tibetan children’s power of reasoning regarding social conventions. He found that the children, much like their American counterparts, had developed at the same age, a similar understanding of social propriety. Using pictures—children walking into a home with muddy shoes, and so on—he was able to bridge the language barrier to get the research he was after.

Scott was interested in studying perceptions regarding death. Her preliminary analysis indicates that despite their dangerous flight from Tibet, the Tibetan children seemed to have a better understanding of the natural aging process than the more violent forms of death that some American children suggested.

In addition, the research was shared in Chicago April 20 at a conference sponsored by the Freeman Foundation.

In each case, Scott, Nelson, and Holtz validated their results cross-culturally by researching comparable populations of La Crosse area school children prior to leaving for India. All three found themselves transformed by the experience and they shared their perspectives with a larger audience on the Internet at a site (www.asianetwork.org) dedicated to student research funded by the Freeman Foundation.

“My trip to India was a wonderfully enriching experience,” said Holtz. “I gained a new outlook on life and the experience made me appreciate all the things I have.”

Nelson found the experience to be far reaching. “I believe I have become more aware of my culture, my role in that culture, and how actions in the world affect everyone, not just one’s own community.”

Scott, whose only other trip abroad was a brief 4-H sponsored trip to Australia, said she acquired a much greater global perspective. “It has provided me with my first real experience as a minority and glimpses of other peoples’ ideas about and understanding of Americans,” she said. “My emerging global awareness may move me into more of a world focus in my studies.”

As faculty advisor, Maykut is pleased that the students were able to broaden their own perspective and, in doing so, add much needed research to the little that exists on Tibetans and their culture. “The three different student research projects have contributed to an emerging picture of development of Tibetan children in exile, and is a compliment to my own research with this group,” Maykut said.
For more information and pictures on “Viterbo University in India” go to www.asianetwork.org/freeman/2001freeman.