A Call to Service
Forever changed through giving help and hope

Inside: Annual Report 2006–07
President’s View

AS YOU MIGHT IMAGINE, WITH HILBERT COLLEGE CONTINUING ITS 50TH anniversary celebration there have been many conversations about the “good old days.” Alumni have shared with me wonderful stories about Sister Claire Ann Torla’s rowboat field trips on the pond to collect water samples, the cranky disposition of Gilbert the Hilbert Goose, and Sister Adrienne’s famous treat drawer.

The one constant, despite the many changes over the last 50 years, is that Hilbert changes lives. Hilbert has stayed true to the mission of providing access to opportunity. It will always be the college that will take students as far as their hard work and ability will take them to serve and strengthen their communities. This edition of Hilbert Connections describes the transformed lives of graduates and current students who are having a tremendous impact through their service commitments.

Last November, because of the generosity of Hilbert’s donors, we dedicated the new academic building, Paczesny Hall, named in honor of Sister Edmunette Paczesny, and the William E. Swan Auditorium. The real beauty of the building comes out when you see how it is being used by students and faculty. Wireless smart-classrooms that are on the cutting-edge of technology support active and engaged learning. The student gathering spaces in the West-Herr Lobby and atrium balcony encourage informal interaction and impromptu study groups.

When I walked through the doors of Bogel Hall in September, it was hard to believe it was the same building. The renovations have added to Bogel’s attractiveness and functionality. Our students will now be able to work in a facility that provides them with the opportunity to excel in classrooms and laboratories.

All of these projects were made possible through the support of our donors. Another story in this issue of the magazine features the exciting news about the Kresge challenge grant. This prestigious recognition from The Kresge Foundation means that new gifts and pledges to the First 50 Campaign will be matched by Kresge dollars, which will have a significant impact on Hilbert’s ability to challenge and inspire students who can change our world. (See page 11 for more on the First 50 Campaign and Kresge grant.)

In a recent marketing research study on current Hilbert students, 99 percent of those surveyed indicated Hilbert had met or exceeded their expectations. With the help of our alumni and friends, we will continue to change lives by offering a quality Catholic, Franciscan education.

Please accept my invitation to visit our beautiful campus soon and see first-hand what Hilbert pride can accomplish.

Cynthia A. Zane, Ed.D.
President

P.S. We’re excited to announce the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra will give a special performance Feb. 8, 2008 in Hilbert’s magnificent William E. Swan Auditorium. More details to come on Hilbert’s Web site.
Features

Cover Story

A Call to Service ............... 6
Pursuits in communities near and far have a powerful impact

Imagine the Possibilities ........... 11
A challenge grant paving the way, Hilbert sets its sights on largest fund-raising campaign ever

Annual Report 2006-07 .......... 15
Look to this special section for Hilbert’s annual list of donors

In Every Issue

President’s View 2  Alumni News & Notes 13
Around Hilbert 4  Remember When 20
Faculty and Staff File 12
In April 2005, Army Cpl. Jacob M. Pfister, 27, of North Evans, N.Y., was killed when a car bomb exploded near his patrol in Baghdad.

In memory of the Buffalo native and eight other young soldiers and Marines from Western New York who have lost their lives in the war in Iraq, an originally designed Noble Hearts Quilt has been created and placed on display in Hilbert College’s McGrath Library.

Along with color photos transferred on to fabric printer sheets, the handmade quilt features pertinent information for each of nine selected WNY soldiers - name, age, WNY hometown, and date, cause and place of death.

“We wanted to make a connection to the young men and women soldiers who have given their lives in Iraq, many of whom, at the time they died, were close in age to a large number of Hilbert students. In a way, the quilt puts a face with what’s happening in Iraq,” explained Wil Prout, library director, who initiated the project.

Prout’s experience in the late 1960s as a U.S. Army survivor assistance officer spurred his efforts to have a special project created that “appropriately and respectfully honors Western New York soldiers killed in Iraq in a manner that visually captures the attention of visitors to the library.”

The result was a library team effort. Background research on the soldiers was done by Liz Curry, technical services librarian. Hands-on quilting of the 4-½ by nearly 7-foot quilt, which was nine months in the making, was done by Colleen Dippold, night and weekend supervising librarian/assistant technical services librarian.

To better relate to Hilbert’s younger students, WNY soldiers and Marines chosen for the quilt, which is on display in the library’s main first floor study area, range in age from 21-28. In addition to Pfister, other hometown soldiers included on the quilt are Spc. Brian K. Baker, 27, of Springville; Staff Sgt. Aram Bass, 25, of Niagara Falls; Pfc. Tamario D. Burkett, 21, of Buffalo; Sgt. Cari A. Gasiewicz, 28, of Depew; Spc. David M. McKeever, 25, of Buffalo; Lance Cpl. Eric J. Orlowski, 26, of Buffalo; Spc. David L. Roustum, 22, of West Seneca; and Pfc. Benjamin C. Schuster, 21, of Williamsville.

“Seeing the soldiers pictured on the quilt has made the Iraq war that much more realistic and helped raise awareness about the effects of the war,” said Prout, adding that it’s hoped the quilt can be shared with families of the soldiers highlighted.

Displayed near the quilt is a Newsweek story published last April that features excerpts from letters written home by soldiers who have died in Iraq, including Depew native Gasiewicz, one of nine on the quilt. A count on the number of U.S. troops killed in Iraq is also updated daily.

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Installation of a new high-quality 11,000-square-foot gymnasium floor has been completed in Hilbert College's Hafner Recreation Center, a project which provides a safer, more comfortable playing surface for student-athletes and recreational users. "Playing on a wooden floor surface is easier on the body and joints so we expect there to be fewer injuries among student-athletes and recreational users who will be playing on the surface," said Richard Walsh, Hilbert's director of athletics. "The floor complements other improvements at the Hafner Recreation Center, including a modernized weight and fitness center that broadened our on-campus exercise facilities."

Walsh added that "the new surface, which is much easier to maintain than the original floor, will assist with Hilbert's student recruiting efforts as its quality and aesthetic appeal gives us more credibility."

The Robbins Floor System replaces the original surface installed at the time the Hafner Recreation Center opened in 1979. Wood valued at $33,000 installed in the floor was donated by Baillie Lumber Co.

**National Security Certification Received**

Hilbert College’s economic crime investigation (ECI) major, a unique program tailored to teaching students about white-collar crime prevention and investigation, has been certified by the Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS) and the National Security Agency.

Receiving certification for the 4011 standard signifies that courses in the ECI major’s computer security concentration have met the national training standard for information systems security professionals. The computer security concentration educates students in computer crime and forensics, operating systems and networks, programming, and database software.

The special designation was awarded to Hilbert through the CNSS’ Information Assurance Courseware Evaluation (LACE) program, which is set up to expand the use of national standards in information assurance education and training throughout the country.

Chaired by the Department of Defense, the CNSS sets national policy, provides a forum for policy issues, and provides direction on operational procedures and guidance for the security of national security systems.
From Western New York to poverty-stricken Honduras, Hilbert students and alumni are discovering a commonality of inspiration and personal growth in serving the community

by Grace A. Lazzara

Hilbert College alumna Sarah Skelton ‘03 grew up in a poor urban neighborhood, a place, she says, where people “don’t always have the education or experiences to make changes in their lives.” The psychology graduate admits her youth in that environment gave her a somewhat skewed view of the lives of middle- and upper-class people. Today, her work as a volunteer rape and domestic-abuse counselor has put her misperceptions to rest.

“We run into so many different kinds of people, which showed me that everyone can be in pain, anyone can end up in the hospital,” Skelton explains. Sometimes, during moments of intense crisis, Skelton asks victims if they have anyone they can stay with and learns that, no matter their background, some do not have an alternative place to stay. “When I walk out of the hospital later,” she says, “I’m so humble and appreciative for my family.”

Skelton’s inner-city upbringing helped shape her desire to aid low-income people in a counseling career, a passion that remains. But her volunteer role
helped her “humanize everyone. I can see that no matter what your issue is, we’re all the same. That perception will help me in life and counseling.”

Such epiphanies are not as rare as you’d guess for Hilbert students who make service part of their college experience. Elaborates Skelton: “When you’re volunteering, seeing what others experience and hearing their stories makes your life so much more fulfilling and enriching.”

Hilbert students offer their time and talents in two distinct ways—through service learning or community service. The difference: community service is volunteer work a person undertakes to benefit his or her community. Service learning, according to Learn and Serve America, which supports and encourages service-learning throughout the country, “…integrates service projects with classroom learning, engaging students in the educational process to use what they learn in the classroom to solve real-life problems.”

Hilbert’s Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) advisor Daniel Roland, professor of business administration, makes another distinction. “In addition to volunteering, service learning engages students in reflection and assessment which challenges the students to articulate how their involvement affected those they served as well as themselves personally,” he says.

For Hilbert students wanting to offer their time and talents, they have numerous options from which to choose. Dozens of clubs, groups and courses provide a range of opportunities. In fact, Hilbert requires all campus clubs that receive college funding to incorporate a service component.

For instance, Hilbert’s Students Against Destructive Decisions, which has evolved since its origin as Students Against Drunk Driving, offers a full slate. This past year, the group implemented activities that focused monthly on a Franciscan value. Thus, one month featured “integrity,” so SADD members mailed homemade cards to young people going through drug and alcohol treatment. Says advisor Phyllis Dewey, Hilbert’s director of counseling, “Our members came up with the idea; the rehab centers said no one had ever done that before. We got huge letters of appreciation from kids who received cards.”

Among SADD’s numerous other efforts have included safe driving presentations at area high schools; a collection of hats, scarves and mittens for WNY Coats for Kids; a daffodil sale for the American Cancer Society; and a book collection for Women and Children’s Hospital. For its wide-ranging work, SADD was one of three recipients of Hilbert’s 2007 Mission in Action Award.

Community service is a major component of the Hilbert Office of Campus Ministry and its Campus Ministry Club. The office has a long-time relationship with Habitat for Humanity and regularly takes part in home projects in which students do everything from painting to breaking down rooms for renovation to putting up wallboard, insulating ceilings and laying carpeting. “I’ve used power tools I never knew existed,” says Sister Jacqueline Benbenek, director of campus ministry, with a laugh.

The club’s tremendously successful and popular alternative spring break program has involved giving hands-on assistance to poor families in rural Kingstree, S.C., where about 38 percent of the town’s 3,500 residents live below the poverty line, according to 2000 Census data. Through Kingstree’s St. Ann Catholic Outreach Center, Hilbert students rolled up their sleeves and installed sidewalks, helped youngsters with homework, planted a vegetable garden, and participated in home visits to the elderly residents. The club also recently took a short trip to Rochester, N.Y., to work with a shelter for women and children and a food pantry.

Among service-learning efforts, Hilbert SIFE members have taken part in many and varied activities. Explains Roland, “SIFE projects encompass far more than just principles of business and free enterprise. The SIFE experience transcends disciplines, incorporates the liberal learning goals and Franciscan values, and embraces global diversity.”

Aside from its service and experiential excursion over winter break to help in Gulf Coast areas severely damaged by Hurricane Katrina, SIFE’s
projects have included assisting with rebuilding efforts after Hurricane Wilma hit the small island of Grand Bahama; planting a renewable garden at a daycare/nutrition center as part of SIFE’s spring break alternative to the city of Bani in the poverty stricken Dominican Republic; training students in the Catholic Charities Refugee Assistance Program (RAP) on skills needed to be successful in securing employment; and teaching high-school students the principles of business through a real-life challenge where the winning team actually implements one of their promotional concepts for Buffalo-based Parkside Candy Co.

In addition to these groups, several other Hilbert academic programs offer service-learning components. And with the service requirement for clubs in effect, students can take part in an array of activities. Vice President for Student Life James Sturm grants that finding a service project related to the college’s mission can be challenging for, say, a sports club. Nonetheless, he stresses, “We have several campus programs, like our Christmas, Halloween and Easter events for kids in our community, that are appropriate for them to help with.”

History of service at Hilbert

Community service and service learning are not new ideas at Hilbert or nationwide. Hilbert has long encouraged service to others among its students. Since St. Francis of Assisi himself was called to service, Hilbert’s founding by the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph set the groundwork for the college to incorporate some form of service into its very existence. Indeed, says Roland, “Service is deeply rooted in Hilbert’s history and complements our philosophical background, Franciscan values and liberal learning.”

According to Sturm, service among college students is “a growing trend over the past five or so years.” That notion is confirmed by a report, College Students Helping America, from the Corporation for National and Community Service. The report reveals that college student volunteering increased 20 percent between 2002 and 2005, more than doubling the growth in the adult volunteering rate. The report notes that “the growth in college volunteering has primarily been generated by youth who attended high school or were first-year college students during the terrorist attacks of 9/11.”

Sturm believes that more students enter college today with service experience from high school. “This age group is far more concerned with people. It’s no longer the ‘me generation,’ especially because of the world conditions they’ve seen.” He also notes that the last 10 years have seen the rise of “alternative” spring breaks, during which students take part in a service project rather than being on the beach in Florida and other warm locales.

How they serve

The reality of Hilbert students’ experiences is as varied as their personalities. For instance, alumnus John Kordrupel ’06 worked with the Campus Ministry Club on Habitat for Humanity projects and attended the club’s first service learning trip to Kingstree, S.C. He took part with SIFE in hurricane relief efforts on Grand Bahama doing repair, rebuilding and cleanup of houses and implementing two hands-on projects designed to teach elementary students principles of free enterprise. He also helped organize SIFE’s service trip to Mississippi and New Orleans.

Alumna Skelton was very involved in SADD during her time at Hilbert, taking part in programs around alcohol awareness and ecology, among others. Says Skelton, “I was really involved with being a healthy college student.” She also was an active volunteer outside of Hilbert, beginning her service career at age 13 with her school’s honor society.

Senior communications major William Haas ’08 has been involved in SIFE and is an advisor to a youth group at his church. The two efforts mesh well, he says. “Since I joined SIFE, I’ve taken on a leadership role because it’s opportunity to help others gain from service learning. Then, I’ve applied what I’ve learned to my youth group.”

The reasons students participate in service also are diverse. They speak of being able to offer skills and hope, as well as of feeling good because of their work. Sara Skelton references her personal history to explain her attraction to community service. “I appreciate the positive influences I’ve had in my life, and I want to be a positive role model,” she says.

Haas values what his service activities have taught him about life. “When you’re in college,” he says, “service learning is a good opportunity to teach yourself about different ways of learning and ways to help. For me, it adds to college in a way you don’t get in the classroom.” The learning curve in the “real world,” he adds, is much steeper. Being in a foreign country, working directly with people, offers a fast, intensive lesson in today’s global realities.

Kordrupel, a liberal studies graduate, agrees with Haas. “All the projects I’ve been involved in served as a way to bridge the gap between what Hilbert teaches and the real world.”

Before graduating from Hilbert and joining Volunteers in Service to America (considered the domestic Peace Corps), alumna Laura Gokey ’05 worked in the legal field. A highly rewarding profession for many, Gokey explains she personally “wasn’t getting the sense of contribution I wanted
Tangible and intangible benefits
The effects of service learning and community service work by Hilbert students and alumni run the gamut from the concrete to the intangible.

Gokey mentions the opportunity to network within service organizations, which led directly to her current position as administrative coordinator of VISTA in Western New York. As well, one of Gokey’s VISTA benefits was for her student loans to be put in forbearance during her volunteer term. She also received a substantial payment toward her loans.

Almost universally, students and alumni say their service experiences changed their perspective. Encounters during the Hilbert SIFE program for refugees now living in Buffalo left an indelible mark on SIFE’s Bill Haas. Hearing the refugees’ stories of what they’d experienced and why they wanted to come here, he says, “showed me how much I have to be thankful for. They’ll say things like, ‘I don’t have to worry that my kids will die every day, or, ‘there are no bullets flying around all the time.’ ”

Alumnus John Kordrupel considers his service experiences highlights of his time at Hilbert. “They had a profound effect,” he says. “Even since I graduated from Hilbert, nothing I’ve done compares.”

Kordrupel asserts that his way of thinking about his own life changed. “Seeing different parts of the world opened my eyes to the ways others live. Everybody, on some level, is the same, but not everyone is as privileged as we are here in the United States.”

Faculty and staff, too, see the changes that service can bring about in students. Campus Ministry’s Sister Jackie points to pre- and post-alternative spring break surveys for validation of benefits students receive from their work. “They gain personal fulfillment, and they’re able to see beyond their environment to get affirmation on their majors or realize there’s more to life out there than what they may perceive.”

Director of Counseling Phyllis Dewey thinks that students who volunteer their time become gentler, more aware of others’ needs and excited about doing more. One Hilbert SADD student made two safe driving presentations at high schools, serving on panels with law enforcement and other experts. In one instance, the student answered questions that other panel members could not address. “She had worked as an intern in a sheriff’s department and had the facts ready,” Dewey says with pride.

SIFE advisor Dan Roland reiterates the group’s aspects of reflection and assessment, which also measure the core skills developed after each project. Through this exercise, students identify the effect the project had on their skill set. Students also reflect on how a project has changed them. One SIFE member, student Amber Balseca, had taken years of Spanish in school. She worked on a project that taught elementary-school students the basics of the free enterprise system through a real-world project selling Parkside old-fashioned lollipops. Says Roland, “She was so moved by the experience that she converted the entire lesson plan to Spanish and implemented it during our trip to the Dominican Republic.”

The import of service
Perhaps the obvious benefits received are part of the reason Hilbert, faculty, staff and students alike agree that service is an important facet of college life and afterward.

Haas thinks that service is that final part of the collegiate package. Books and classroom learning offer a lot “but Hilbert can offer that extra step that allows you to step outside your boundaries and become a global, well-rounded citizen.”

Kordrupel echoes the notion of moving beyond a circumscribed path. “Not everybody wants to leave their comfort zone for various reasons,” he says, “but we have a responsibility to our fellow man to use our skills to benefit others.”

Service also helps students feel part of the Hilbert and external communities, according to Dewey. For example, volunteering can familiarize them with the kinds of service organizations, such as health-care providers, shelters and similar groups, that exist to help others.

Gokey recommends service for any college graduate. “You’d never meet such interesting people and get the same knowledge base that you’ll get with a year in VISTA.”

VP Sturm’s asserts that, “As a Franciscan college, this is how we give back to community.” Central to the college’s mission, he feels, is teaching students to serve their communities and be active. Students should recog-
nize that they’ve probably had some breaks in life and develop their skills in giving back to others.

For Haas, he continues to call on people he met during SIFE’s program for refugees. In turn, he says, “I still get phone calls from them.” Service hasn’t changed what Haas wants to do with his career, but he says it has affected what he’ll do with his free time, how he’ll spend his money, and how he’s going to vote.

Kordrupel is currently pursuing a master’s degree in urban planning at the University at Buffalo. He would like to organize a service learning trip and return to the Gulf Coast over winter break to continue his work there. His work doing hurricane relief made up “some of the best experiences of my life,” he says.

After graduating from Hilbert, Alumna Gokey spent 18 months serving as a Volunteer in Service to America (VISTA) with Western New York AmeriCorps. She acted as a residential coordinator for Western New York’s VISTA for an organization serving children to rehabilitate homes and to tear down blighted properties. During her second year, she organized a parent library for a non-profit organization serving children with autism and wrote a grant to increase the amount of job coaching available for autistic individuals.

Today, as administrative coordinator for Western New York’s VISTA program, Gokey handles the paperwork for new VISTAs and helps write grants. She’s now on the payroll but credits her volunteer experience as a VISTA with giving her insight into what VISTAs go through, real benefit in her current role. And her enthusiasm for service hasn’t waned. “Everyone should consider VISTA for a year to really serve the community and give back,” she stresses. “They would never regret giving a year of service.”

Even through Skelton’s recent stint as an English teacher in South Korea and her current training before serving with the National Guard’s Recruit Sustainment Program, she seems driven to give of herself. For instance, she was vacationing in Thailand in 2004 when the devastating tsunami hit. During that traumatic time, she offered assistance in any way she could such as listening to refugees from devastated areas who shared many horrific stories.

Skelton currently volunteers in the Erie County Sheriff’s Department Junior Deputy Program, an after school career training program for young adults interested in learning about law enforcement. And this past winter, prompted perhaps by her boyfriend’s and brother’s deployment to Iraq, she sought out a short-term volunteer opportunity during her break from graduate studies at St. Bonaventure University. Through Hope Corps International, she spent an “amazing” Christmas and New Year’s with 25 young residents of a Honduran orphanage, filling in for the orphanage’s vacationing director. Skelton cooked for the children, played with them, took them to church, and helped them decorate a tree. “I didn’t take a shower for three weeks,” she says, laughing.

The hardest part of her stay, she found, revolved around food. The children were fed enough to sustain them, but many had experienced severe want in their lives. “If you weren’t watching,” Skelton recalls, “they’d steal each other’s food or pick up one grain of rice from the floor and eat it, or they’d hoard their food. We (in the U.S.) are worried about obesity, and these children worry about getting their next meal.”

Skelton makes a direct link between her work with children, in particular, and the “amazing people in my life who helped me to become who I am. I feel like I could make a difference to kids in my neighborhood. Having one person, teacher, coach, whomever you can relate to can make a difference.”

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W
hen Sister Edwina Bogel envisioned 50 years ago a college that would educate the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph and, later, lay students, she saw an institution that would change for the better the lives of its students and their communities. Nurturing this vision, Hilbert College has emerged from its days as a fledgling institution to a growing college with a new ambitious goal.

For the first time ever, Hilbert has been awarded a challenge grant, totaling $220,000, from The Kresge Foundation toward the renovation of Bogel Hall, the college's original academic building.

The challenge grant requires that Hilbert raise $729,900 in new gifts and grants by July 1, 2008, which will go toward the college's $3.5 million First 50 Campaign, the largest fundraising endeavor in Hilbert's 50-year history.

With the grant announcement, the college launched the public phase of the campaign of which $2.5 million in pledges and gifts has already been raised.

The major fundraising effort, which will run through next June, will support student scholarships and expand the college's learning facilities that include Bogel Hall and the recently completed Paczesny Hall, a 24,000-square-foot academic building that doubles the college's classroom space, and the 452-seat William E. Swan Auditorium, a theater and performance venue. The academic-auditorium complex opened last fall.

Praising The Kresge Foundation, Hilbert President Cynthia Zane, Ed.D., says the college is "deeply grateful for this generous grant from one of the most prestigious and highly respected foundations in the country.

"Receiving the challenge grant," she adds, "represents a vote of confidence in Hilbert's commitment to providing our students high-quality academic facilities, a major initiative that includes essential renovations to Bogel Hall and the addition of Paczesny Hall, a state-of-the-art academic center with interactive 'smart' classrooms that have greatly enhanced the learning environment for students."

Completed in time for classes in September, Bogel Hall's makeover has consisted of additional faculty office space, new floors and wall coverings, and heating, ventilation and air-conditioning improvements. The refurbished building continues to house Hilbert's economic crime investigation lab, a realistic training environment in the prevention and investigation of computer crimes.

Plans for Bogel Hall, which first opened in 1969, also called for a hands-on forensic crime scene lab with dedicated space for mock crime scenes that serves as an important learning tool for forensic science/crime scene investigation students.

Zane notes the First 50 Campaign will support "the future we envision for Hilbert, a future that's consistent with the college's Franciscan foundation. The campaign is about responding to the needs of our students through scholarship support and modern, high-tech learning facil-

ities. Our capital improvement projects are strengthening Hilbert's dedication to its students, many of whom are first-generation college students with the capacity to advance and strengthen Western New York's communities."

Hilbert's campaign, named in honor of the college's 50th anniversary being celebrated this year, began its quiet phase in 2004 under the leadership of campaign co-chairs and trustee emeriti Karen Gaughan Scott, Thomas Waring Jr., and Merle Whitehead.

"I extend my sincere congratulations to the entire Hilbert community for their outstanding work and effort in securing a Kresge Foundation grant, which is a vital component to the college's capital campaign," says Gaughan Scott, immediate past chairperson of the Hilbert Board of Trustees. "The grant will support Bogel Hall's renovations that brings it to the level of superior standards and quality we now enjoy in our beautiful new academic center, Paczesny Hall, and the William E. Swan Auditorium. We are extremely grateful to The Kresge Foundation for their confidence in Hilbert and for their generous support."

The First 50 Campaign is the most ambitious fundraising campaign ever at Hilbert. Looking ahead, Zane is confident the campaign and challenge grant goal will be achieved.

"We are most appreciative of the many generous gifts already received from the college's special friends and alumni who have enabled us to reach 75 percent of our campaign goal," says Zane. "As we reach out for additional support, the momentum of the Kresge grant will serve as a wonderful inspiration for others to participate and make a difference in the lives of Hilbert students by giving toward the successful completion of the campaign and challenge grant."

The Kresge Foundation, based in Troy, Mich., is a national foundation with $3 billion in assets. Its core grant making activity is its Capital Challenge Grants program, which focuses on opportunities to strengthen leadership and giving through challenge grants for capital project.

Your can play a vital role in Hilbert's future. To learn more, click on "Kresge Challenge Grant" at www.hilbert.edu, or contact Fran Vaughan, vice president for institutional advancement, at 716-926-8790, fvaughan@hilbert.edu.

Imagine the Possibilities
Hilbert receives prestigious Kresge grant; challenge launches largest fundraising campaign in college's history

You cannot pour anything from an empty pitcher.

Mother Colette Hilbert
Faculty & Staff File

GLEN BUSCH II, Campus Safety Officer, received a master's degree in school counseling from St. Bonaventure University.

Several faculty attended the Teaching Professor Conference in Atlanta, including: JOAN CROUSE, Ph.D., professor of history; NICOLE MARTIN, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychology; DEBORAH PALUMBO, assistant professor of mathematics; EDWARD PRISTACH, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology; DANIEL ROLAND, professor of business administration; and MICH SOJDA, director of academic services.

MICHAEL DEGNAN, Ph.D., previously academic dean, has been named director of Hilbert’s new Center for Excellence in Learning. He also completed the sixth International Institute for New Faculty Developers offered by the University of Ottawa in conjunction with the POED Network and the Institute for the Advancement of Teaching in Higher Education.

WENDY EDSON has been promoted to chairperson of legal studies. She most recently served as assistant chairperson/associate professor of paralegal studies and as coordinator of the department’s internship program.

CHARLES Ernst, Ph.D., chairperson of arts and sciences/professor of English, had an article published on “Night-Sea Journeying: The Text-World and Life-Text of John Barth” in Short Story Criticism: Criticism of the Work of Short Fiction Writers.

DENISE HARRIS, who most recently was career consultant in Medaille College’s Career Planning and Placement Center, has been named director of career development at Hilbert. She’s also been appointed chair of the Professional Development Committee for the Western New York Association of College Career Centers.

PATRICK HERATY, professor of business administration, attended a program offered by the Center for the Application of Psychological Type that focused on applying the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator to leaders and managers.

MARY ANN HOBAR, assistant professor of forensic science investigation, has been promoted to assistant chairperson of FS/crime scene investigation.

ANTHONY HUGHES, Ph.D., associate professor of English, was named a runner-up for his poem “Ephemeral” in the 2007 Bridport Prize competition, an annual international creative writing competition for poetry and short stories.

STEVE JACKSON, assistant professor of communication studies, has been appointed to the editorial board of Visual Communications Quarterly.

TIMOTHY LEE, director of admissions, has been named to the New York State Association for College Admission Counseling’s Executive Board and is serving as co-chair of its membership committee.

LISA LOGRASSO ’88, who received an associate’s degree in applied science from Hilbert, has been named an assistant professor of mathematics at the college.

HATE MARAGLIANO, formerly acquisitions librarian, has been appointed coordinator of library communications/humanities librarian at Hilbert’s McGrath Library.

HATE MUNAOE, previously director of academic services, has been appointed to the newly created position of executive director of retention. MICH SOJDA, formerly associate director, has been named director of academic services.

ADAM WAITE, who holds a bachelor’s degree in physical education from the State University of New York College at Brockport, has been named assistant for athletics administration.

The Public Relations Society of America/Niagara Chapter presented five 2007 Excalibur Awards to PAULA WITHERELL, public relations director. She received silver awards in media relations and also for Hilbert Connections and Hilbert’s new college president announcement. Bronze awards were received for Hilbert’s Thanksgiving card and for a press kit for the new president announcement.

DONNA ZIMPFER ’98, who holds a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Hilbert, has been named an assistant professor of criminal justice. She previously was an adjunct instructor.
From the Alumni President

The Hilbert College Alumni Association has been very busy planning and hosting a number of events. This summer we held our sixth annual Hilbert Day at Dunn Tire Park. Many alumni and guests cheered on the Buffalo Bisons and watched a stunning fireworks display.

The third Alumni Reconnection event took place last month during Homecoming Weekend and it was a huge success. We celebrated Hilbert’s 50th anniversary with a fun-filled weekend of events for alumni, students and their families. This special weekend gave Hilbert alumni an opportunity to “Come Home to Hilbert,” observe all the spectacular changes that have taken place on the campus, and reconnect with past classmates.

Several alumni members participated earlier this month in the Light the Night Walk for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Western New York Chapter. We were excited to be a part of this event again and to give back to the community and be a part of supporting research efforts.

We would also like to express sincere sympathy to the family of Dominique Gibson Thompson who passed away Sept. 2. A committed Hilbert Alumni Association board member and vice president, we will hold our memories of her close to our hearts and continue to pray for Dominique’s family.

Hilbert’s Alumni Association strives to continue a sense of family and encourages you to stay connected to the college. Please check our Web site at www.hilbertcollegealumni.org to see our upcoming events. I hope to see you at our next function!

Amy M. Bartz
Alumni President
alumnipresident@hilbert.edu

News & Notes

To contact the Hilbert Office of Alumni Relations: e-mail charris@hilbert.edu

‘60s

SISTER HELEN DIRIG AA ’62 was recognized during Hilbert’s 2007 commencement ceremony as one of nine Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph in Hilbert’s (then Immaculata College) first graduating class.

‘70s

SISTER SHARON GOODREMOLE, FSSJ AA ’71 was honored with the Peacemaker Award at the annual Franciscan Federation Conference held in Minneapolis, Minn.

LAWRENCE JASINSKI AA ’72 has retired from his position as Erie County commissioner of parks, recreation and forestry.

DONALD NITTO AAS ’77 has retired from his position as Department of Veterans Affairs, National Cemetery Administration after 18 years of service. Prior to this position, he served 23 years with the Navy and is currently residing in Gainesville, Va.

MYRA PINKER AAS ’79 AAS ‘87 is assistant principal at Frontier Middle School in Hamburg, N.Y.

‘80s

JAMES LEE AS ’86 is a consultant at TM Floyd & Co. in Columbia, S.C.

KATHERINE (ALEXANDER) MANNS AAS ’86 is employed in the corporate law department at Fisher-Price.

‘90s

JOSHUA BRUSH AA ’98 is an accounting manager at Providence Corp. in Virginia.

JAMES DELACY AA ’93, an Erie County Sheriff’s deputy, was named Bravest of Western New York for rescuing a family from a burning house spotted on the nearby shore while on marine patrol of the Niagara River.

SEAN GREENWAY BS ’96 has completed a master’s degree in human resource management from the University of Richmond.

KENNETH HUFF AA ’90 was one of 93 teachers and the only teacher in New York State to receive a 2006 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Teaching.

KIMBERLY (MASTYKARZ) KING BS ’97 is a digital recording specialist in Erie County Family Court.

CONNIE (JOHNS) MOSKAL BS ’94 has been awarded the Ohio Banker League’s 2007 Bob Albright Scholarship. The annual award is presented to the graduating Bank Leadership Institute student who exemplifies the highest standard of leadership, dedication and commitment throughout the year-long program.

DONNA SPENCER BS ’98 is a paralegal at Wyndham Worldwide Inc., in Orlando, Fla.

RICHARD SZAROWICZ AAS ’94 has retired after 30 years as a court clerk in Blasdell Justice Court.
CHRISTINE ZACHER BS ’07 is an intellectual property paralegal in the Department of Defense in Washington, D.C.

DONNA (McCARY) ZIMPFER BS ’98 is a full-time faculty member in the Hilbert Criminal Justice Department.

‘00s

MELISSA AUGUSTINE BS ’04 received a master’s degree in forensic science in high technology crime investigation from George Washington University and is working as a computer security specialist for the Department of Defense in Washington.

BRAD BARTRAM BS ’07 is an intelligence analyst in the New York State Attorney General’s Office.

KIMBERLY (MISTRELLA) BONNETT BS ’06 is a licensed custom broker and an import audit specialist at Moog, Inc., in East Aurora.

KYLE CAVALIERI BS ’07 is a business risk consultant at Protiviti, Inc.

ANASTASIA CHAVEZ BS ’07 has been accepted into the human rights theory and practice program at Essex University in Colchester, England.

LISA DORMAN BS ’00 was featured in the Buffalo Business First Who’s Who in Real Estate listing.

MELODEE FALLIN AAS ’07 is an intellectual property paralegal at Simpson and Simpson in Williamsville, N.Y.

BENJAMIN GIZZI BS ’05 is a TSYS developer at Barclays Bank in Wilmington, Del.

MARK GOLDEN BS ’03 is an IT analyst at Eagle Global Logistics in Houston, Texas.

DANIELLE (EDWARDS) GONG BS ’01 is an AML operations specialist II at M&T Bank.

DAVID HERATY BS ’03 has completed the law degree program at the University at Buffalo School of Law.

RONALD HESTDALEN BS ’00 has graduated from the Department of Veterans Affairs’ National Cemetery Director Intern Program and is working as an assistant to the director at the Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, Calif.

MARIA MANZONI BS ’07 is employed at Goya Foods Great Lakes in Angola, N.Y.

ANTHONY MARKIEWICZ BS ’02 is a financial cost analyst in the Roswell Park Cancer Institute Cost Accounting and Business Analysis Unit in Buffalo N.Y.

JOHN MONACO BS ’04 has accepted a job as a senior accountant in the Revenue Reporting Compliance Department at Sodexho in Buffalo, N.Y.

LISA MORRIS BS ’03 is a paralegal in the U.S. Attorney’s Office in New York City.

PATRICIA (JONES) PIKUL BS ’02, a certified Six Sigma Green Belt, is vice president for loss mitigation at Bank of America in Buffalo, N.Y.

GREG PLATT BS ’02 is working in the Henrico County Police Department in Virginia.

SIMON RAGONA BS ’07 is a business risk consultant at Protiviti, Inc.

LEANNE ROSNER BS ’07 is pursuing a master’s degree at Niagara University.

RACHAEL SCHUM BS ’06 is a word processor/research secretary at the law firm of Hodgson Russ LLP in Buffalo, N.Y.

LAUREN (LOWOWSKY) SLAWIAK BS ’05 is a mental health counselor at Crisis Services of Erie County.

TONIA TEDESCO BS ’04 is a smoking cessation specialist at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, N.Y.

CHRISTINE TOMASZEWSKI BS ’07 is employed at Jeffrey Freedman Attorneys at Law in Buffalo, N.Y.

AIMEE VON HOUT BS ’05 is a corporate compliance administrator at Ultralife Batteries, Inc., in Newark, N.Y.

JASON WAGNER BS ’04 is an executive chef at Diamond Hawk Golf Course Clubhouse in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

JACQUELINE (HURLEY) WASELL BS ’03 is a financial operations specialist at Pacific Western Bank in Rancho Sante Fe, Cal.

ERICA ZIMNY BS ’03 graduated cum laude from Thomas M. Cooley Law School, passed the Michigan Bar Examination and is now a staff attorney at Legal Services of South Central Michigan.

Weddings

MICHELLE SUZANNE HAYES BS ’04 to BRETT WALTON BS ’04

KIMBERLY MASTYKARZ BS ’07 to Charles King

MICHAEL TYSZKA BS ’02 to Alison Kline

JASON WAGNER BS ’04 to Bridget Coyle

Births

DANIELLE (EDWARDS) GONG BS ’01 welcomed a girl, Aubrey.

MICHAEL LOMAS BS ’96 welcomed a girl, Olivia Regan.

TONIA TEDESCO BS ’04 welcomed a boy, Adrian James Pacer.

MELISSA (QUALEY) SENTZ welcomed a girl, Emma Cate.

In Memoriam

DOMINIQUE (GIBSON) THOMPSON ’04 Sept. 2, 2007

Hilbert College mourns the loss of Dominique Thompson, a devoted alumna active in the Hilbert Alumni Association and serving as the organization’s vice president at the time of her death.

After graduating from Hilbert, she was among other alums featured in Hilbert’s marketing campaign with her photo visible on billboards across Western New York (see photo) and in other marketing pieces. Dominique graciously shared her appreciation for Hilbert and its positive impact on her life by being a part of the college’s “Celebrating 50 Years at Hilbert” video produced in honor of the institution’s 50th anniversary.

Most recently, she was pursuing a master’s degree at the University at Buffalo with a goal of ultimately entering a doctoral program.

Active in the community, Dominique coached the St. Monica Scholars girls’ basketball team in Buffalo and was a youth mentor at Buffalo’s St. Columba-Brigid Church. She also strongly supported the mission and efforts promoting nonviolence and peace in the city spearheaded by the late Sister Karen Klimczak, who had attended Hilbert (see News & Notes in the Hilbert Connections spring/summer 2006 issue).

Dominique was known as a free spirit and known as a loving, giving person. On behalf of the entire Hilbert community, our deepest sympathies are extended to Dominique’s family and friends.
Annual Report 2006–2007
(Total Giving from June 1, 2006–May 31, 2007, excluding capital campaign)

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Richard Garman
Daniel Gernatt, Jr.

St. Clare Society
(Gifts of $5,000 - $9,999)
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Dent Neurological Institute
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(Hamburg, NY)
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Milton Car
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Maureen Mussenden
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National Property Management
Association, Inc.

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Dr. Anthony and Eleanor Yurchak

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American Wire Tie, Inc.
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Kathleen Kazmiereczak
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Eleonore Kolodziej
La Farge North America
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Largo Real Estate Advisors, Inc.
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Lumsden & McCormick, LLP
M & T Bank
M. Wile Factory Direct Fashions
Manning & Napier Advisors, Inc.
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PEL Industrial Supply, Inc.
Pepsi Cola Buffalo Bottling Corp.
Petri Baking Products, Inc.
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Principal Financial Insurance Co.
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Riverside Men’s Shop
Celine Robak
R. Rosenblatt
Rutowski, Inc., dba Tile Pharmacy
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W. Saab
Gerald Saxe
Scandia Tours & Travel
SCC Custom Apparel
Gordon Schultze
Seneca Nation of Indians
Judith Slon

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(Gifts of $1 - $195.69)
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Anonymous in honor of Sister
Eucharis, FSSJ
Amy Anderson
Ashley Atkinson
Sandra Augustine
Lisa Avolio
Lucia Avolio
Margaret Awald
Amy Bailey
Alice Baldo
Pamela Baldo
Joan Banach
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Bradley Bartram
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Barbara Bonanno
Michael Bonilla
Dawn Boudreau
Dajuan Brown
Nicholas Budney
Buffalo Crushed Stone
The Buffalo News

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Montague Family Charitable Foundation
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Michael Bonilla
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Mary Lee Campbell-Wisley and Chester Wisley
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Dr. Charles and Mary Ernst
Ann and Patrick Heraty
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Higgins
Thomas Honan
The Jackson Family
Jaeckle, Fleischmann & Mugel, LLP
Carol Jennings in honor of Vera Campbell Booth
John and Carolyn Koelmel
Richard and Susan Minekime
Maureen Mussenden
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pinkowski
James Sturm
Richard Wipperman

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(Gifts of $1 - $2,499)
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Vladimir Molz
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Anthony S. Wiertel
Lois Wilson
Jerry Wszalek
Gretchen Wylegala

*The compilers have carefully reviewed the names that appear on this list. However, omissions or errors may occasionally appear.
## Financial Highlights

### 2006-07 vs 2005-06

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUES:</th>
<th>2006-07</th>
<th>2005-06</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition &amp; Fees — Gross</td>
<td>$12,932,600</td>
<td>$12,824,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>— Net</td>
<td>$10,732,600</td>
<td>$10,597,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gifts &amp; Grants</td>
<td>$1,718,600</td>
<td>$1,464,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auxiliary Enterprises</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>$1,223,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$312,200</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,993,700</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,193,200</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES:</th>
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<th>2005-06</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instruction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Support</td>
<td>$907,000</td>
<td>$1,082,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$4,294,925</td>
<td>$3,660,900</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,937,573</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,045,500</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Surplus (Deficit)</td>
<td>$2,056,100</td>
<td>$2,147,700</td>
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### OTHER HIGHLIGHTS:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2006-07</th>
<th>2005-06</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td>$20,436,700</td>
<td>$18,380,575</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments, <em>(Market Value on 5/31)</em></td>
<td>$9,630,800</td>
<td>$9,217,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment</td>
<td>$2,942,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
<td>1,100</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$15,700</td>
<td>$14,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room and Board</td>
<td>$5,930</td>
<td>$5,580</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
the ’70s

Hilbert College students work in Bogel Hall on a campus exhibit of African art, which had been donated to McGrath Library by a former board trustee who received the pieces from a parish in Africa. At the time the photo was taken, the male student population was still relatively low as it had been only two years since lay men were first admitted to Hilbert. Shown on the wall next to the display case is a geographical distribution list broken down by towns, indicating Buffalo and Hamburg as the top two places of residence for students attending Hilbert that semester.

To share some of your favorite memories as a student during the ’70s, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 716-926-8888, or e-mail charris@hilbert.edu.