Preparing students to succeed in a changing digital age

The New Age of Communications

Preparing students to succeed in a changing digital age
Happy Spring!

It has certainly not been a typical winter in Western New York and we are all rejoicing at the blossoming trees and blooming daffodils (not so much the return of the geese) that grace the campus.

This issue of *Hilbert Connections* showcases a relatively new, ground-breaking academic program – digital media and communication (DMAC). DMAC is educating students for a rapidly changing communications industry where being connected 24/7 is the new norm. We are excited to share with you the hands-on experiences that are an integral part of the program and testimonies from four alumni who have launched innovative careers.

This issue also includes information about Hilbert’s new Accelerated Degree Programs, which are currently accepting students for admission in the Fall 2012 semester. Faculty and Dean Walter Iwanenko have designed a “user-friendly” way for adult students to earn their degrees in a flexible, timely manner while juggling family and work commitments. Also, our graduate programs are thriving with staff and faculty now beginning to admit our second cohort of students.

One new addition to our student engagement spaces on campus was made possible with the generous gift of Trustee Emeritus Brad Hafner. As you read about the November dedication of the Hafner Veterans Center, I know you join me in thanking Brad for finding a magnificent way to honor these brave men and women who have served our country and are now pursuing their degrees at Hilbert.

As the academic year ends, it coincides with the sunset of our strategic plan, *Destination 2012*. It has been exciting to look back on the range of accomplishments achieved by Hilbert in the past five years. Our hard work, aided by generous support from alumni and special friends, has yielded significant dividends, including a new general arts and sciences curriculum; successful completion of the First 50 Capital Campaign; construction of Trinity Hall, a new 155-bed residence building; establishment of a service learning requirement; and the initiation of Hilbert’s first graduate programs in Fall 2011. These accomplishments are surpassed only by the extraordinary laser-like focus faculty and staff have devoted to ensuring student success as they journey toward their goal of earning a college degree. Our quest for excellence is palpable throughout campus. We are raising the bar!

I extend my gratitude to all who have participated in our current strategic planning process as we envision Hilbert in 2017. Under the exemplary leadership of Drs. Tara Jabbaar-Gyambrab and Ed Pristach, the planning committee is in the final stage of establishing goals and priorities to guide future decisions that will be presented to the Hilbert Board of Trustees for final approval. We look forward to sharing the new plan with you in the next edition of *Hilbert Connections*.

During these exciting times, it is good to give thanks. To the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph who continue to support us through board leadership and their prayers, to the faculty and staff who go the extra mile in serving our students, to the alumni who are engaging with the college through Facebook as well as attending campus events, and finally to our special friends and generous supporters who are investing in our Catholic Franciscan mission, we are deeply grateful.
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Combining practical, skills-oriented education with hands-on experience, Hilbert’s DMAC major is responsive to preparing the next generation of professionals for a rapidly changing communications industry.

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Fitting Tributes: Hafner Veterans Center Opens

It was a poignant sight. Following hours of dedicated work by Hilbert College’s Military Club members, more than 6,100 American flags – one for each soldier who has lost their life in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan – lined the main entrance and campus grounds as part of the college’s Veterans Day observance held in November.

The visible remembrance in honor of fallen U.S. soldiers created a fitting campus setting for the ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the new Hafner Veterans Center housed in the Campus Center. It is named in honor of Brad Hafner, trustee emeritus whose generous gift made it possible to establish the center, which is dedicated to Hilbert students who are currently serving in the U.S. military or are veterans and for students from military families.

Other Veterans Day activities included a flag ceremony with the Army Honor Guard, and an opening reception for a student-created McGrath Library display on “Representations of War: World War I” and the “War to Save the World for Democracy.”

The day also featured a flag folding ceremony by the Air Force Honor Guard, which was followed by a walk by Hilbert students, faculty and staff on the main campus road in honor of current military service members and veterans.

Brad Hafner is honored at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the college’s new veterans center, as Hilbert President Cynthia Zane looks on.

Community activist and author Kevin Powell

Powerful Message Delivered on MLK’s ‘Dream’

Nationally known community activist and author Kevin Powell delivered a powerful speech on “Looking for Martin: Are Dr. King and His ’Dream’ Still Relevant?” as keynote speaker at Hilbert College’s 2012 Martin Luther King Commemoration Lecture.

During his lecture at the third annual event, Powell talked about the ways in which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. fought for equality in the U.S. and urged Americans to consider the many facets of diversity, including race, religion, age, gender, and disability.

Author of several books, Powell most recently published Barack Obama, Ronald Reagan, and the Ghost of Dr. King: Blogs and Essays. His autobiography, The Education of Kevin Powell: A Boy’s Journey Into Manhood, is due out in 2013.

As a leading political and cultural activist, Powell has addressed many civic and social issues, including education, the environment, poverty, voting rights, Hurricane Katrina relief, and support for post-earthquake Haiti.
Get In the Swing

A day filled with golf and other activities will be featured at Hilbert College’s 22nd annual Scholarship Golf Tournament taking place June 18 at Wanakah Country Club in Hamburg, N.Y. The tournament will officially begin with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m., followed by golf contests, awards, cocktails and a dinner to conclude the event. Gift baskets will also be raffled.

Chaired by Hilbert trustee Deborah DiMatteo, the 2012 tournament sponsor is National Property Management Associates with many other generous sponsors supporting the event. All proceeds benefit Hilbert student scholarships.

To register for the tournament or to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, contact Alaina Houseknecht, special events coordinator, at 716-926-8938 or e-mail ahouseknecht@hilbert.edu.

High Marks Received in Student Survey

A recently release national survey has found that Hilbert College ranks well above the national average in providing a supportive campus environment, a key area that’s indicative of the college’s strong commitment to students succeeding academically and socially.

The 2011 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), a highly regarded comprehensive assessment in higher education that measures the extent to which colleges effectively engage students in their education, surveyed randomly selected Hilbert freshmen and seniors. Using five benchmarking categories, the annual survey focuses on the level of academic challenge, active and collaborative learning, student-faculty interaction, enriching educational experiences, and supportive campus environment.

Christopher Holoman, Ph.D., provost and vice president for academic affairs, said the findings validate that Hilbert has been effective in developing a college experience that fosters student success, a major institution initiative that’s been enhanced since the college’s First Year Experience (FYE) Program was established in 2008.

“High marks in providing a supportive campus environment is an affirmation that many strides have been made since the First Year Experience program was launched and reflects positively on the college’s strategic efforts to provide students the resources and other supportive measures needed to increase student success. It’s a strong indicator that we’re making the Hilbert experience better and preparing students to succeed in college and into their careers,” said Holoman.

In the 2011 NSSE, 92 percent of Hilbert seniors, who are among the inaugural class to participate in Hilbert’s FYE program, reported a favorable educational experience at the college. Eighty-nine percent of seniors also indicated they would choose Hilbert again if they had to start their college career over.

First-year students gave Hilbert high marks for the quality of academic advising (93 percent) and for contributing to the students receiving a broad general education (88 percent), an area that received an even higher score from seniors (93 percent).

“We’re making the Hilbert experience better and preparing students to succeed in college and into their careers.”

~ Dr. Christopher Holoman

An impressive 93 percent of seniors and 87 percent of first-year students said Hilbert has contributed to their development of thinking critically and analytically. Nearly the same percentage of seniors (90 percent) and first-year students (86 percent) reported the college has contributed to their development of writing clearly and effectively.

What’s more, Hilbert excelled in providing quality relationships with faculty with the college earning a 91 percent score from seniors. A large number of this student group (94 percent) also reported discussing career plans with a faculty member or advisor.
Allen Leight ’06, then a WKBW-TV News videographer and now a reporter at the Buffalo station, was walking the unusually quiet halls of New York’s State House in Albany in the immediate aftermath of Gov. Eliot Spitzer’s resignation. Around the corner walked the man soon to be named governor, David Patterson. Leight and the reporter he was accompanying were the only TV news team around.

“No other television news media had talked to Patterson yet,” Leight recalls, so he and the reporter quickly jumped on the opportunity to ask a few questions. Soon, Leight’s video sound-bite of the state’s new governor, the only one at the time, was carried not only by WKBW, but also by media outlets nationwide.

It was a heady experience for a newly minted graduate of Hilbert College’s Digital Media and Communication (DMAC) Program. “That was the first time I was involved in such a high-profile story,” he says. “It was an unforgettable experience.”

Launched in 2005, DMAC encompasses several professional disciplines, including print and broadcast journalism, marketing, performing arts, public relations, electronic media and education. DMAC takes its graduates to workplaces ranging from advertising firms, television stations and corporations, to production companies, government agencies and colleges.

“Hilbert’s DMAC program is a flexible degree that prepares students with the academic knowledge and practical experience needed to be successful in a multitude of career paths in communications,” says Christopher Holoman Ph.D., Hilbert provost and vice president for academic affairs. “Communications is a highly competitive field that’s evolved from the traditional outlets we relied on years ago. While emphasizing the fundamental principles needed for students to succeed in the industry, the program’s curriculum incorporates emerging tools and technologies to make the educational experience even more relevant for our students.”

In 2006, Leight was part of DMAC’s first graduating class, which had a handful of students at the time. The program has quickly grown, today counting around 30 majors.

With evolving technologies at their fingertips, practical experience and preparation in foundational skills, Hilbert’s digital media and communication major is fostering a new kind of industry professional destined for success in the workplace.

“We recognize that staying current with the digital revolution is vital for our students’ learning experiences.”

~Dr. Donald Vincent
According to Assistant Professor Christopher Gallant, the DMAC curriculum is designed to address the fast-changing media environment with the goal of providing students basic technical knowledge. “The multimedia courses all majors take are intended to give students an edge with employers,” Gallant says.

Being technically skilled is vital but other abilities are equally important. “We also teach students how to be problem solvers, how to adapt to change and think for themselves,” says Gallant. “You can learn the equipment, but being able to work with others and problem solve are core components in the field.”

Getting to the Heart of It

Aside from the required DMAC courses, students also can choose one of four concentrations—integrated marketing, communication, media arts and production, and media writing and journalism—in which to specialize.

The coursework is a thorough foundation but, according to faculty associated with DMAC, the beating heart of the program is the students’ beloved Center for Digital Media Arts and Communication (DMAC). js

As technology changes, says Donald Vincent, Ph.D., DMAC assistant professor, so too does the media landscape. “There have been many significant changes in radio, particularly over the last several years,” he says. “As the communications industry continues to adapt to incorporating new technology, we recognize that staying current with the digital revolution and incorporating new elements into the curriculum is vital for our students’ learning experiences in a highly competitive field.”

But that also makes more opportunities for people who are savvy with the Web. “The recent launch by DMAC of Hilbert’s HAWK radio station is a concrete way for students to get the hands-on experience in Vincent’s former field.”

Indicative of the overall quality of the DMAC program and the students who enroll, several program majors already are at work in their chosen field. Thomas Wills ’12 has been working as a professional videographer since his freshman year, making the majority of his income as a freelancer since he was a sophomore.

“Through Hilbert, I gained some really fantastic connections with local industry professionals,” he explains. “At this point, I’ve worked on NFL games in Philadelphia, nationally broadcast commercials, interviews with Toby Keith for the GAC channel, and a multitude of short films and music videos.”

Jamie Bigaj ‘12 jumped into radio as an intern at 103.3 The Edge in Buffalo, one of several radio stations owned by Cumulus Media. He now works directly for three radio stations as a board operator and promotions assistant. “I’m part time now, but I’ve got my foot in the door for when I graduate,” he says.

Jamie Bigaj ‘12 jumped into radio as an intern at 103.3 The Edge in Buffalo. He now works directly for three radio stations as a board operator and promotions assistant.

Into the Real World

DMAC students can put their hands-on training to work with real-world experience via various internships that many undertake. Over the past few years, DMAC majors have interned at WKBW-TV, Buffalo Spree magazine, graphic design firms, WNYmedia.net, The Buffalo News and other employer sites. The field experience is vital, says Gallant, adding that a DMAC Advisory Board serves as a bridge between the program and distinguished professionals from various specialty areas who mentor and provide networking opportunities for students, share information on industry trends and serve as guest lecturers.

“With the field experience and interaction with working professionals, it gives students an opportunity to see how professionals react to the problems they encounter, to be given responsibilities by people who aren’t their professors, which brings a different kind of pressure,” Gallant says.

The experience also helps students decide if communications, known for being high pressure, is an industry they really want to pursue. Another important aspect of the DMAC preparation is the diversity of its courses and training Employers in the field more and more require employees “who can jump from one medium to another,” Vincent explains. Many broadcast news operations, for instance, now want reporters who know how to use a video camera and capture images for their stories themselves. “Our students can do that comfortably. We stress flexibility.”

Broadening its reach into the Western New York community, the DMAC program
recently sponsored a “Social Media 2012” regional conference at Hilbert that brought together local experts who discussed current business, marketing and legal issues in social media. Audience reach extended well beyond campus with a live video stream of the conference along with a live audio broadcast on Hawk Radio, and the opportunity for off-campus participants to ask speakers questions via Twitter and Facebook.

Ultimately, the broad-based academic and technical knowledge and the practical experience DMAC students gain allows them to take on a multitude of careers in their chosen field. The following four profiles offer a glimpse at how some DMAC alumni are doing just that.

Rachel Dobiesz ’11

Rachel Dobiesz used DMAC as a springboard for what she’s always known she wanted to do. She began writing at age 15 for The Buffalo News’ teen section called NeXt, and continued her focus on writing at Hilbert. Today, less than a year since graduating, she’s a reporter for the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo’s Western New York Catholic, a monthly newspaper that reaches 450,000 readers throughout the region.

As one of the newspaper’s three reporters, Dobiesz both develops her own story ideas and takes on stories her editor assigns. Her assignments have ranged from reporting in a supplement on vocations, to an article on cloistered nuns to a piece on lay associations attached to religious orders of sisters.

“Knowing I had such a solid education has given me confidence that I can do my job and have been well prepared for my career.”

—Rachel Dobiesz

Dobiesz’s obvious drive to succeed in her chosen profession has served her well. While she was a student at Hilbert, she interned at Buffalo Spree magazine and in public relations with therapeutic social community Therapals. In addition to classes in her concentration, Dobiesz took non-writing courses like Web design. “Taking courses in various aspects of communications helped me to better understand the responsibilities of my colleagues, like photographers and graphic designers, and to relate better to them,” she says.

Knowing she had “such a solid education,” says Dobiesz, “has given me confidence that I can do my job and have been well prepared for my career. When potential employers became aware during my job search that I had been in the DMAC program, they knew I had not only a strong communication foundation but knowledge in the technical end of the field, which gave me an advantage.”

Dobiesz finished her Hilbert degree in three years, and graduate school is already on the horizon. This fall, she enters the integrated marketing communications master’s degree program offered by St. Bonaventure University on the Hilbert campus while continuing to work in the field.

One point Dobiesz stresses is this: “One of the biggest gifts Hilbert gives all its graduates,” she says, “is the opportunity to take the Franciscan values out into the world with them and apply those to their future careers and through interactions with others.”

Steven Fox ’07

For Steven Fox, his DMAC degree gave him the opportunity to tap into his creative talents, which the Western New York native has used to develop short films on INSERT INFO.

Since graduating, he worked as a freelance editor for Buffalo Advertising Management. There, he handles production work on commercials and other projects for a range of clients. “With the skills I gained at Hilbert,” he says, “I was able to find my first freelance editing gig about eight months after I graduated.”

His return to Hilbert came about a few years ago after faculty asked him to assist in the Center for Creative Media. He also serves as a classroom assistant and helps upper-level DMAC students network with people with whom they might work after graduation.

And if two jobs aren’t enough, Fox is also finishing up his master of fine arts degree in media studies at the University at Buffalo. His thesis focuses on the intersection of documentaries and video games, taking real stories and turning them into interactive media.

Fox believes his time in the DMAC program “completely and totally” prepared him for a career in his field. “Hilbert equipped me with valuable skills and a strong work ethic. As a student, I received so much attention from faculty and staff. They would even spend weekend helping me. That makes a student hungry to keep working because it’s clear the faculty and staff have a drive, too. I’ve gained the tools needed to help me be successful.”

Fox has discovered he has a real passion for working with students and serving in an academic setting. Being around students who want to learn “makes you want to be better so you can give them a great education and help them achieve their goals.”

“Hilbert equipped me with valuable skills and a strong work ethic. I’ve gained the tools needed to help me be successful.”

—Steven Fox

PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER GALLANT
“We had the freedom to do a lot and to learn from our mistakes. That creates confidence, which is important when you’re applying for positions. You can say, I’ve done all of this.”
~Allen Leight

Allen Leight ‘06

After spending about a year using the communications skills he gained in DMAC in a sales position, Allen Leight landed what is the ultimate goal for many DMAC graduates: a job in broadcast news with WKBW-TV in Buffalo.

For the first year at the station, he shot and edited stories. Then, he began writing and providing voice-over for stories. He also had the opportunity to fill in with various roles—writing, editing, and producing—as needed. After about two years, Leight took over as the station’s Internet content manager, creating most of the Webcasts and Web stories, as well as posting video. Today, he’s a multi-media reporter who does it all: shooting video, editing, writing, and reporting.

Leight understandably relishes the access his work gives him to people and places he might not otherwise encounter. “I feel privileged to see many things and meet a variety of people—and you have to share those stories,” he explains. “That’s an incredible aspect of the work.” Indeed, as described at the beginning of this story, his encounter with soon-to-be New York State Gov. David Patterson was one of his first such experiences.

“You do something new every day, and you do it all. You’re so busy,” he says. Working with his wife, Cheri, on projects for their company, LeightHouse Productions, also keeps him busy. “We both work full time, so we take projects that come to us right now. Our wish is to do more documentary work as an enterprise. I love politics and Buffalo, so I’d like to do something about Western New York history or politics.”

He credits the experience he gained in Hilbert’s Center for Creative Media for jump-starting his career. “Being able to shoot and report is a big benefit in getting in the door,” he explains. “When I first entered the field, people had to start out in smaller markets and then move to bigger markets, but that’s changing. Multiple skills make you very marketable to employers.”

He remembers most clearly the freedom he had in DMAC to “find out what drives me. Within communications, there’s the creative, the administrative, the marketing, PR, strategy—all parts of the brain are used. I found out that I am passionate about politics, and I enjoy telling stories and finding out how things work behind the scenes. For me, the investigative aspect is a fulfilling part of the job.”

As nearly all DMAC graduates seem to do, Leight recalls the hands-on experience and access to the equipment, professors and other students that made learning everything possible. “We had the freedom to do a lot and to learn from our mistakes. That creates confidence, which is important when you’re applying for positions. You can say, I’ve done all of this.”

Leight offers this advice for current and potential DMAC students: “Do as much as you can. Don’t be afraid to learn as much as you can as a student. You’ll benefit from it all in your career.”

Cheri Leight ‘06

One of the first DMAC majors when the program began, Cheri Leight has used the skills she gained at Hilbert to make it in the milieu of a Fortune 100 company.

Since 2006, Leight has moved up the corporate ladder from a marketing assistant position to her current role as marketing manager II at the Buffalo offices of Ingram Micro, the world’s largest technology distributor. Today, she manages a number of marketing programs for Ingram, one of which is the Ingram Micro Solution Centers, hands-on laboratories for training and demonstrations that are located in Buffalo and Santa Ana, Calif. The centers feature cutting-edge technologies and solutions, configured into working demonstrations in formats that include face-to-face interactions, hands-on training, Webcasts, video conferencing and more.

Leight says she uses what she learned at Hilbert every day. “The hands-on experience, having the ability to access the camera, the editing systems, and having creative freedom and learning how everything works—that was important,” she says.

What’s more, she notes that her time in Hilbert’s Leadership Program provided her additional crucial experience. “Finding out where I stand as a leader on a team, how I interact with others and my leadership style, all of it has been, without a doubt, beneficial to me in my career.”

Along with her full-time position, Leight works with her husband, Allen (also profiled in this article), as part of LeightHouse Productions. The couple started the company in an effort to pursue work in documentary filmmaking, a medium they became involved in during their time in DMAC. Their current projects are made up mainly of promotional videos, but Leight’s dream, she says, “is to make documentaries, to find unique stories about people and what they’re doing.”

Leight and her husband keep that possibility afloat even with their busy schedules. She mentions a mission they took to the Dominican Republic, during which they filmed the work of a group of doctors who perform free surgeries on children with cleft palates. In the three years since that time, they continue to work with more than 60 hours of resulting footage, logging it over more than a year and putting it together to focus on one little girl whose story was especially moving.

“That was a pinnacle moment,” Leight recalls. “I learned about humanity and that we had the skills and capabilities to tell the girl’s story and to show the hearts of these individuals.”

Grace Lazara is a freelance writer and public relations consultant residing in Buffalo, N.Y.
New evening Accelerated Degree Programs fit adults’ career choices, life demands.

By Paula Witherell

A new educational option aimed at addressing the needs of busy adults has taken shape at Hilbert College.

The college is launching this fall bachelor-level accelerated degree programs for adult learners seeking to advance their education and career prospects in a fast-tracked academic format.

Offered in two sought-after majors, Hilbert’s Accelerated Degree Programs (ADP) were developed specifically for adult learners who have already earned a minimum of 48 college credits and want to complete their undergraduate degree. Bachelor’s degrees will be available in conflict studies and dispute resolution and also in organizational development. Students enrolled in either program with maximum allowable transfer credits can complete their degree in as little as 12 months.

“Many adult learners are looking for a viable way to finish their bachelor’s degree for career improvement or career change but face the challenge of attending college while also raising families and handling other commitments,” says Hilbert President Cynthia Zane, Ed.D. “Having earned all three of my degrees as an adult student with a family, I have a special interest in ensuring that Hilbert’s Accelerated Degree Programs will provide students an outstanding learning experience that best serves their particular needs and is most convenient for them.

“We are increasing access and opportunity for adult students throughout Western New York who are not defined by the traditional college format,” adds Zane. “To that end, Hilbert’s programs respond to what is fundamentally essential to working adults advancing their professional goals.”

The new programs, which reflect and incorporate Hilbert’s strong liberal learning foundation, feature a flexible hybrid format that merges traditional classroom-based sessions with online education, a blended learning approach that’s integral to making it easier for working adults to pursue a Hilbert degree. Based on seven-week terms, all classes are scheduled Tuesday evenings in the fall, spring and summer.

Christopher Holoman, Ph.D., provost and vice president for academic affairs, says Hilbert’s ADP underscores the college’s historically strong commitment to adult students.

“Capitalizing on the college’s strengths, the programs are tapping into Hilbert’s long tradition of educating and serving adult learners,” he says. “With this in mind, we’ve refocused our efforts for these students and created a new model of course delivery that will best accommodate an ever-increasing demographic of nontraditional-age students who want to complete their degree in an expeditious manner.”

Through comprehensive coursework, the programs aim to foster new career opportunities for adult learners from a range of backgrounds, including individuals who hold associate’s degrees, working adults looking to further their job options or veterans continuing their academic experience.

A highly interdisciplinary field, the conflict studies and dispute resolution curriculum integrates coursework from the college’s social sciences and professional studies divisions. Altogether, the core program is intended to prepare students for careers in human resources, public policy, criminal justice, community planning, education and other areas where practical conflict resolution skills are needed.

In addition to receiving specialized training in the growing professional fields of alternative dispute resolution, mediation and labor relations, students will explore the nature of conflict in human relationships and its role in shaping behavior and effecting change. To supplement student learning, majors may participate in an optional internship in a community-based setting, which provides students an opportunity to connect classroom-based skills development in mitigating conflict with the real work arena.

Associates with Hilbert’s well-regarded business administration program, the organizational development major will educate students on principles vital to promoting positive change in organizations and acquire competencies in functional organizational areas, including human resources, budgeting and management. Beyond this, students will explore contemporary ethical issues.

Program graduates will be knowledgeable on relevant concepts and strategies in effectively managing organizational change. Using a process-driven, value-centered approach, the program will be beneficial to managers from organizations of all sizes, from small businesses to large corporations.

According to Holoman, “both degree programs will introduce students to many opportunities for professional growth that will enable them to immediately enter the workforce or go on to graduate studies. Given the framework of the majors, it will be a natural transition for students furthering their education in specific professional fields to enroll in Hilbert’s recently established master’s in public administration or master’s in criminal justice administration programs.”

Looking ahead, Holoman says the accelerated degree programs were developed with the expectation that more majors will be added in the future to further expand learning options for students.
Research Ready

Nearing a year since Hilbert’s first graduate-level programs debuted, students are now immersing themselves in research-based master’s projects. By Paula Witherell

Almost one year into Hilbert College’s first graduate programs getting underway, students in the master of public administration and master of science in criminal justice administration degree tracks are at a pivotal point that integrates classroom learning with real-world professional practice – master’s research projects.

From the 24 students enrolled in the programs, a distinctive range of discipline-focused topics are being explored and researched. Here, two from the college’s first cohort of students share insight into their ambitious master’s projects, a capstone experience which they have been preparing for since starting the programs in Fall 2011.

Erin Carmina ‘13
MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

Over the past six years, close to 40 businesses in the Village of Hamburg, located just up the road from Hilbert College’s campus, have benefitted from nearly $800,000 in matching grants from the New York Main Street Grant Program. The state initiative is designed to revitalize mixed-use neighborhood commercial districts and historic downtown areas through façade renovations, building upgrades and streetscape enhancements.

With the revitalization work completed in the village, MPA student Erin Carmina’s master’s project is examining an issue that’s at the heart of the Main Street grant: the financial impact of the improvement program on the Route 62/Main-Buffalo Streets corridor (the area targeted by the revitalization effort).

“Overall, the intention with the grant monies was to bring people back to Main Street in the village. I’ll be looking at whether the rehabilitation and repurposing work has been effective in bringing new life to the village center and if the efforts have strengthened the economic vitality of the neighborhood retail district,” says Carmina.

A native Western New Yorker, Carmina moved back to the area in 2008 after living in Virginia following graduation from SUNY Potsdam where she earned a bachelor’s degree in archaeology and anthropology. Now working as office manager at her father’s architectural firm, Carmina Wood Morris, P.C., studying the improvement project in Hamburg village is opening up many doors for this self-professed “novice” in this type of renewal work.

“Being involved in this master’s project is giving me opportunities to interact and network with many individuals I otherwise wouldn’t have contact with, including government officials, business owners, village residents and other constituents. It’s still hard to believe that I’m involved in such an amazing project and that it’s actually become a reality,” she says. “In the process, I’m learning a great deal about the village while also fine-tuning skills that will serve me well professionally.”

In some ways, adds Carmina, the graduate project has sparked her interest in urbanization movements and renewal beyond the village. “Working in downtown Buffalo,” she says, “I’ve become involved in the 500 Block Association, a group that’s pursuing ways to improve that section of the city. I’m connecting what I’m learning with my work and my role in the community.”

Ultimately, explains Carmina, “results from my master’s project will be presented to the Hamburg village so they have valid, tangible data on the revitalization project, which hopefully will assist them with future planning efforts.

“The MPA program,” she adds, “has been outstanding from the start. When I came back to this area, I did a lot of soul-searching about what I wanted to study in graduate school. I wanted to do something more and I’m thrilled to be enrolled in Hilbert’s program. Whatever option I pursue after graduation, I know my degree and this master’s project experience will help me reach my professional goals.”

Randy Zimpfer ‘13
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

As disciplinary lieutenant at Lakeview Shock Incarceration Correctional Facility in Western New York’s Chautauqua County, MSCJA student Randy Zimpfer is well experienced in dealing with prison gang misconduct and violence. Yet, with his 25-plus years in the field, the corrections veteran is acutely aware of the implications that can result from labeling an inmate as a gang member when they first enter the system, a practice not applied by the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision.

“With a gang-validation system, once an inmate is labeled a gang member then... Continued on page 13
A Faithful Journey

Inspired by lifelong religious study, Erika Haygood is exploring Christian hip-hop while also making her mark in the spoken word genre. By Paula Witherell

As the daughter of a Pentecostal pastor, Erika Haygood spent most of her childhood in Sumter, S.C., where her father’s ministry took the family to a church in nearby Lynchburg. Returning at age 11 to her native Rochester, N.Y., by the time Haygood entered college, her familial immersion in the church and fascination with faith had lit an intellectual spark that evolved into a scholarly exploration into the rich history of African-American religion and black church studies.

The Hilbert College assistant professor of liberal studies went on to receive a bachelor’s degree in political science and Africana studies from New York University’s Gallatin School of Individualized Study. Then, as she about to enter law school, Haygood found her calling, a spiritual journey that took her to Colgate Rochester Cozer Divinity School where she earned a master’s degree. Eager to put her faith into action, she served as associate minister at a church in Niagara Falls.

Coming to Hilbert in 2006 as a graduate assistant in campus ministry, Haygood has been teaching at the college over the past five years while finishing her doctorate at the University at Buffalo and focusing her research on Christian rap in Buffalo. Along the way, she has found her voice as a poet and featured artist at spoken word concerts and, most recently, at this spring’s Hilbert Visiting Artist Series.

Why did you decide to study African-American religion? I’ve been interested in the lives of African Americans since childhood. Later, in college I took an independent study with my academic advisor Angela Dillard, who went on to write several articles and books in religious history. Leaders like Alexander Crummel and Bishop Henry Turner had a tremendous impact on black religion and I wanted to be a part of the preservation of its religious history.

What role has Christian rap played in Buffalo’s urban culture and history? Hip-hop spirituality is the ongoing consideration within secular and religious themed rap of notions of God, ultimate purpose and meaning. Christian rap in Buffalo is an outgrowth of the black church history within the city.

Explain the influence of hip-hop in personal identity, popular culture and shaping the beliefs of black youth. In more informal ways, hip hop allows listeners to express their views regarding the meaning of life, the nature of the divine and many other topics. As a cultural production, hip hop represents the prerogatives of our times—popular culture and individual contradictions.

What was the experience like interning for Hillary Clinton at the time she was a New York State senator? At times, the experience was extremely exciting. I’ll never forget the final roundtable she held with all the interns. One intern asked a question that weighed heavily on our minds after spending months answering phones, filling out form letters and performing other mundane tasks. “How do you stay motivated when constituents require so much assistance and it seems that very little is being achieved?” Senator Clinton responded: “Never be discouraged by setback, be motivated.” These words have guided me through some frustrating and difficult times.

How did you become involved in spoken word concerts? I’ve been performing since childhood and poetry has always fascinated me. I’ve participated in a lot of performance poetry events. The word “concert” is used because these are the largest spoken word events of its kind in North America. A spoken word concert I participated in last year was part of a tour to a couple cities where five other poets and I performed original pieces, each in 20-minute spots.

This spring you were a featured poet at Hilbert’s Visiting Artist Series. What inspires you when writing poetry? History inspires me the most. I’m deeply fascinated by certain historical narratives and the tremendous bearing they have on our contemporay world. For instance, a poem which I do on Christopher Columbus seeks to explore and critique Western expansion and exploitation. Beyond a retelling of past problems, I also try to suggest new trajectories and invite audiences to consider a more hopeful and inclusive vision for our future as global citizens.

You have served as an associate minister at a church in Niagara Falls. What set you on the path to ministry? I’m a product of the black church. We believe in a deeply experiential mode of religious expression. Being a part of that culture in many ways prepared me for ministry. In addition to my father, my grandmother and several aunts and uncles were ministers. When I received the call to ministry at age 21, I was headed to law school and had my sights set on private practice. Yet, the steady leaning on my heart led me to seminary and then ministry following my undergraduate studies.

What led you to teaching at Hilbert? I began as a graduate assistant in the Office of Campus Ministry six years ago when I first began my doctorate work, which led to an adjunct position teaching world history and geography. A few years and a few courses later, curriculum needs led to a full-time position.

What is something unexpected you have learned from your dissertation research? Through my research on Christian rap, I’m amazed at the city’s rich religious history. It’s quite interesting what complex subjects we are as human beings and how historically oppressed groups construct fresh identities for themselves despite their marginalization.
the inmate tends to exhibit a self-fulfilling prophecy by engaging in more disciplinary misconduct. However, New York State uses a behavior-based model in which gang members are not segregated in the prison population according to their gang affiliation and are held accountable for their own behavior,” explains Zimpfer, who, after receiving a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Hilbert in 2010, returned to the college last fall for graduate studies.

Having such a foundational, professionally-based knowledge on this topic is making Zimpfer’s master’s project on the labeling theory and prison gang misconduct all the more relevant and useful to him in his day-to-day responsibilities at the correctional facility. “I see this project as furthering my professional duties,” says Zimpfer.

Zimpfer’s master’s project on the labeling theory and prison gang misconduct is relevant and useful to him in his day-to-day responsibilities at the prison.

“In the end,” he adds, “my goal is to put the message out to corrections systems in other states, like California and Texas, that a gang-validation system can actually lead to more disciplinary issues, and, at the same time, reinforce the positive outcomes from using a system like the one used in New York. Lack of a gang label generally means less prison misconduct.”

In addition to enhancing his professional work, Zimpfer’s master project is focusing on an area he anticipates will benefit criminal justice students at a local community college where he teaches corrections and a one-credit course on gangs in the criminal justice system. The research he is conducting, Zimpfer says, will strengthen and broaden his background in ways that he can then “use to augment the material he is teaching in the classroom.”

That teaching experience is something he hopes to one day bring to the Hilbert campus. “Since returning for graduate studies at Hilbert, I’ve realized how much I really missed being at the college and having that connection. In the long-term, I’d like to give back to the college by sharing my educational and professional experience with future students who will one day enter the field.”

“Wonder of the World,” a Buffalo Laboratory Theater play directed by Taylor Doherty, assistant professor of drama, received 3.5 stars in a review published in The Buffalo News.

Katie Donahue, assistant library director, co-presented a hands-on workshop on lesson planning for new librarians at the “Energize Your Teaching: Effective Strategies for Engaged Learning” conference held at Nazareth College.

Jenna Dulak, Web manager who is pursuing a graduate degree in networking and systems administration at the Rochester Institute of Technology, presented a poster on her master’s thesis at the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing Conference in Portland, Ore.

Maggie Fage, who received a bachelor’s degree in human services from Hilbert in 2010, has been named Excel Program advisor.

Selected as Hilbert 2012 Franciscan pilgrims are Erika Haygood, assistant professor of liberal studies, Maia Kapuszczak, payroll/benefits coordinator, and Jean MacDonald, director of student activities. The three are participating in a 10-day pilgrimage to Assisi, the birthplace of St. Francis, and Rome.

Jean MacDonald, director of student activities, has been named by Power Performers as the 2011 Campus Event Planner of the Year in the most memorable event category for the Hilbert event “Robert Channing–The World’s Greatest Mind Reader and Hypnotist.”

Gordon Snow, Ph.D., professor of philosophy, will be a speaker at “The Gathering: A Literature Conference” being held in July at Keystone College.

James Sturm, vice provost for leadership development and dean of students, was a keynote speaker at the Association of College Unions International Region 2 conference held in November. He discussed infusing leadership education throughout a curriculum. HC
2011 Award Recipients (left to right)

- **Sister Edmunette Paczesny, FSSJ, Ph.D.**
  Hilbert College Franciscan Values Award
  Former Hilbert President

- **Wendy Edson**
  Sister Adrienne Faculty/Staff Lifetime Achievement Award
  Chairperson of Hilbert’s Professional Studies Division and associate professor of paralegal studies

- **Anthony Wiertel ’78**
  St. Francis Award for Community Service
  Hilbert assistant vice president for business/finance

- **Kathryn Dorsheimer ’05**
  Athletics Hall of Fame Inductee
  10-time individual winner in Hilbert cross country career

- **Brian Kruska ’09**
  St. Francis Award for Community Service
  Office manager at Rosenthal, Siegal & Muenkel, LLP

- **Emili Ripley ’12**
  St. Clare Student of the Year Award
  Hilbert accounting major and academic honors student

- **Karen Kalwicki ’06**
  G.O.L.D (Graduate of the Last Decade) Award
  Paralegal at Neighborhood Legal Services

Jerome ’73 and Joyce Wszalek

Hilbert President Cynthia Zane, student award recipient

Emili Ripley ’12, and Dr. Christopher Holoman, provost and vice president for academic affairs

David ’03 and Jonathan ’97 Heraty

Thomas McArthur ’06, president of the Hilbert Alumni Association, and Amy Meisner ’01, immediate past president
Greetings! On behalf of the Hilbert College Alumni Association, I extend an early welcome to the Hilbert College Class of 2012 to the college’s alumni family. I hope you stay involved with the college and the alumni association and take advantage of the many opportunities to personally and professionally network using our Facebook and LinkedIn groups, as well as attend the many alumni events that take place throughout the year.

Over the next few months, there will be many opportunities for alumni to gather together and celebrate our alma mater. Last October we held the first-ever Hilbert alumni wine tour. The activity proved to be a lot of fun and was a great opportunity to meet other alumni from the area. I hope you will join us on the next adventure this fall. We look forward to offering new and different alumni events. If you have any ideas, feel free to share them with me at alumnipresident@hilbert.edu.

The sixth annual Awards and Reconnection Dinner held in November was a tremendous success and a great evening. At the event, we honored several outstanding alumni, a current student, donors and friends of the college who have had an amazing impact on their community or in their field of work (see page 14). Please note that starting this year this special event is being newly designated as the San Damiano Awards Dinner, a distinction that reflects on Hilbert’s Franciscan foundation. You are asked to take a moment to make a nomination for one of the six awards that will be presented at the dinner. Award descriptions may be found on the Hilbert college’s Office of Alumni Relations to be sure your contact information with the college’s Office of Alumni Relations to be sure you receive information about upcoming events and other alumni news.

I look forward to seeing you soon and welcoming you back to Hilbert.

Thomas McArthur ‘06 alumnipresident@hilbert.edu

‘70s

**NINA (LAMONT) ARENDT** AAS ‘75 is a fifth grade teacher in the East Aurora Central School District in East Aurora, N.Y.

**MICHAEL FANTASKE** AA ‘74 is self-employed at Key Video Productions in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

**DWAYNE HOLLINS** AA ‘79 is principal agent at Hollins Insurance Group LLC, Nationwide Insurance in Cleveland, Ohio.

**MARGO MAUTE** AAS ‘71 is a social worker in the Erie County Department of Child Protective Services.

**SANDRA PHILLIPPI** AA ‘79 is owner of Sand’s Fertile Soils G&N in Redlands, Calif.

**JACQUE (MORANO) WAGNER** AAS ‘79 works in medical records at Mercy Hospital in Buffalo.

‘80s

**TAMMY TOSCANO BARRY** AAS ‘80 is an accounting manager at FIS in Amherst, N.Y.

**JANE BOURGOINE** AA ‘84 is employed in Livingston County Social Services.

**HILDA LIEBNER** AAS ‘87 is a volunteer at the Southtowns Christian Center Food Pantry in Lake View, N.Y.

**ALISE (JOHANTGEN) ROUNSVILLE** AAS ‘81 is employed in the Livingston County Health Department in Mt. Morris, N.Y.

**MICHAEL SCHMITT** AAS ‘87 is employed in customer service at Quad Graphics in Depew, N.Y.

**DEBORAH (DOBSON) STRITZEL** AAS ‘82 is town justice for the Town of Williamson, N.Y. She also continues in her position as court analyst for the New York State Unified Court System, Monroe Supreme & County Court and Rochester Treatment Courts.

‘90s

**CYNTHIACASSAVINO** BS ‘99 is program director at Aurora Adult Day Services in East Aurora, N.Y.

**CHRISTOPHER CHAPMAN** BS ‘98 has been promoted to resident agent in charge in Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Office of Professional Responsibility for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Buffalo.


**CONSTANCE (JOHNS) MOSKAL** BS ‘94 is assistant vice president at Liberty Bank in Ohio.

**CHRISTIAN PARISI** BS ‘99 is a detective in the Erie County Sheriff’s Office in Buffalo.

**RICHARD SCHARA** BS ‘93 was presented a certificate of commendation by Village of Hamburg Police Chief Dennis Gleason.

**MELISSA (QUALEY) SENTZ** ’94 has been appointed assistant principal at St. Bernadette’s Elementary School in Orchard Park, N.Y.

‘00s

**JASON BONA** BS ’08 has accepted a position with the U.S. Marshals Service in Philadelphia, Pa.

**KYLE CAVALLERI** BS ’07 was interviewed and pictured in a Business First and Buffalo Law Journal story on “Catching
Data Crooks: Computer Forensics Specialists Are Watching” for his work as a computer forensics and investigations officer at DIGITS LLC in Buffalo. He was also interviewed for a WIVB-TV News 4 Buffalo story on identity theft.

KRISTEN CONNOLLY BS ’07 has completed a master’s degree in criminal justice at Buffalo State College.

ANDREA CROCE BS ’05 is human resources manager at UB Orthopedics & Sports Medicine in Williamsville, N.Y.

AMY (HENRY) FATTA BS ’09 is pursuing a master’s degree in counseling psychology at Medaille College in Buffalo.

LORETTA (LABBY) FELDER BA ’05 is a mental health counselor at East Aurora Psychological Services in East Aurora, N.Y.

ALLYN FERGUSON BS ’06 has been appointed general manager at Aeropostale in Buffalo.

JOSEPH FERRARA BS ’06 is employed as new business developer at Staples in Buffalo.

DEVON HERKIMER FIK BA ’02 has been promoted to vice president, claims manager at NCAComp in Buffalo.

JAMES FLOWERS BS ’07 is a deputy in the Erie County Sheriff’s Department in Buffalo.

MICHAEL GANNON BS ’02 received a doctorate of philosophy in organic chemistry from Buffalo State College.

STEVEN GOLDSMITH BS ’09 has been selected as an intern in the Juvenile Justice Policy Unit of the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

SHAWN GOURDINE BS ’05, a New York State trooper, was deployed to Iraq in May 2011 and was expected to return in March 2012.

AUTUMN LEE-JEFFRIES BA ’07 is day rehabilitation program administrator at Autistic Services in Buffalo.

TRAVIS JACKSON AA ’09 has graduated from basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

TIM KEOHANE BS ’02 is a senior market development specialist at Ingram Micro in Buffalo.

JESSICA KRUG BS ’10 has been promoted to senior purchasing agent in M&T Bank’s Corporate Procurement Department in Buffalo. She was also named banking officer, a position she was selected for by the board of directors.

MARSHALL McCARTY BS ’09 is a substitute teacher in various Western New York school districts.

AMANDA McCULUE BS ’08 is a marketing assistant at Clinical Support Services in Buffalo, and is a volunteer firefighter in the Springbrook Fire Co. in Elma, N.Y.

KELLY MERZ BA ’09 has been selected as marketing coordinator at DIGITS LLC in Buffalo.

DANA MISENHEIMER BA ’07 is employed at Kaleida Health in Buffalo.

MICHAEL O’DIERNO BS ’06 has completed basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

JACY WOODWORTH BS ’03 won an online contest that gave him the opportunity to do some behind-the-scenes work for the Buffalo Sabres. Spotted at a game by Professor Patrick Heraty on First Niagara Center’s Jumbotron, Plant watched the game from the press box, visited the Sabres locker room, attended Lindy Ruff’s post-game press conference, and conducted a one-on-one interview. Plant is employed at Joe Basil Chevrolet in Depew, N.Y., and teaches drum lessons at Crossroads Music Center.

LEANNE ROSNER BS ’07 is a market development specialist at Ingram Micro in Buffalo.

KELLY CLINE BS ’11 is a medicaid service coordinator at People, Inc. in Buffalo.

FALLYN REICHERT BS ’06, an associate in Goldberg Segalla LLP’s Global Insurance Services Practice Group, has been admitted to the New York State Bar. She concentrates her practice on insurance coverage analysis and litigation at the law firm’s Buffalo office.

KAREN (KREUTTER) RUSSELL BS ’01 is a paralegal at Troutman Sanders LLP in Virginia Beach, Va.

LINDSAY RYAN BS ’09 has been promoted to human resources generalist at Calspan Corp. in Buffalo.

JAMES SCHUNK BS ’04 has been accepted into the U.S. Air Force Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama.

RENEE STONITSCH BS ’08 is regional credit manager of the Northeast Region at Ryerson in Lancaster, N.Y.

MICHAEL TYSZKA BS ’02 was a guest presenter to students in Hilbert’s Business 101 and Accounting 205 classes.

JACOB WHITEHEAD BS ’07 has been appointed as investigator in the New York State Department of Corrections in the Buffalo/Rochester area.

JACQUELYN BERST BS ’11 is employed at Tops Markets.

RAINBOW BLOCK BS ’11 is employed at Bouvier Partnership, LLP in Buffalo.

AMANDA CIESLA BA ’11 is employed at JCPenney in Buffalo.

10s

JACQUELYN BERST BS ’11 is employed at Tops Markets.

RAINBOW BLOCK BS ’11 is employed at Bouvier Partnership, LLP in Buffalo.

AMANDA CIESLA BA ’11 is employed at JCPenney in Buffalo.

KELLY CLINE BS ’11 is a medicaid service coordinator at People, Inc. in Buffalo.
To contact the Hilbert Office of Alumni Relations: 716-926-8791, dmessinger@hilbert.edu

NICHOLAS DELMONACO BS ’10 has accepted a position with U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

RACHEL DOBIESZ BA ’11 is a reporter for WNY Catholic newspaper. Her story on former president Sister Edmunette Paceszny, FSSJ, Ph.D., was a front cover story in a recent edition of the paper.

JULIE HAZLETT BS ’11 has been promoted to Medicaid service coordinator at Heritage Centers in Hamburg, N.Y.

ROSALIE HERBERGER BS ’10 is undergoing training for the U.S. Secret Service Uniform Division in Glenco, Ga.

MICHAEL KESSLER BS ’11 has joined Veracity Research Co. Investigations as a surveillance investigator. He will be located in the Buffalo region after completing training in Texas.

MADISON LUX BA ’11 is a check-in coordinator at Author Solutions in Bloomington, Ind., and serves as the first point of contact for new authors.

JEFFREY MANGOLD BS ’10 is a crime scene specialist in the Violent Crimes Unit in Phoenix, Ariz.

DINO MARROCCO BS ’11 is an investigator in the New York State Police Department.

JAIMEE MATTeson BS ’11 is a transportation security officer in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Buffalo.

SAMANTHA MATTOCKS BS ’11 received a scholarship from the American Society of Industrial Security (ASIS), which recognizes students who have the potential to contribute to the security field.

JENNIFER MESCH BS ’10 works at R.A. Mercer & Co. in Springville, N.Y.

JALONDA MINOR-ROGERS BS ’11 is pursuing a master’s degree in mental health counseling at Medaille College in Buffalo.

NICOLE PETRELLI BS ’11 is a pathology intern at Yale University where she assists with autopsies.

LATOYA SEALs BS ’11 is pursuing a master’s degree in mental health counseling at Canisius College in Buffalo.

JARRETT SZYMANSKI BS ’11 is employed in operations at JLC Automotive in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

JASON YORMICK BS ’10 is employed at Delta Sonic in Buffalo.

SHAWN YOUNG BS ’11 is working in the Erie County Sheriff’s Office in Buffalo.

ANGELA ZAK BA ’11 is pursuing a master’s degree in mental health counseling at Medaille College in Buffalo.

In Memoriam

JOHN GUADAGNO AA ’73 Oct. 31, 2011

Births

MARK GORDON BS ’95 and Sharon Gordon have welcomed a son, Andrew.

MATTHEW STONITSCH BS ’06 and Valerie Stonitsch welcomed a son, Derek Daniel, on August 25, 2011.

MATTHEW GUNNARSON BS ’02 and Katherine Gunnarson welcomed a daughter, Natalie.

KIMBERLY KING BS ’97 and Charles King welcomed a son, David Charles, on Dec. 9, 2011.

If you are a Hilbert College alumnus, we’d like to welcome your baby Hawk to the family with a Hilbert onesie or bib. Simply share with us news of your birth announcement and we’ll send you a complimentary new baby item.

Provide your littlest Hawk update by e-mailing: dmessinger@hilbert.edu.

Hilbert College Day at Coca-Cola Field

Popular Bisons’ FridayNightBash! featuring pre-game entertainment and post-game fireworks show.

Look for more details to come in the mail and on www.hilbert.edu.

Buffalo Bisons vs. Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankees

Friday, July 20
Game time 7:05 p.m.
Hilbert College’s endowment provides valuable financial support for the current and future needs of the college. A strong endowment is a perpetual source of funding for student scholarships, faculty support and key programs and initiatives on campus – whatever is designated by the donor.

Unlike annual contributions, endowment funds are invested to provide steady amounts of spendable income over time. A portion of the annual income generated by the endowment is used each year to support the scholarship or program designated by the donor.

The Hilbert Board of Trustees determines what percentage will be distributed each year. For fiscal year 2010-2011, the college trustees approved a 5 percent distribution.

2010-2011 Highlights
In fiscal year 2010-2011, the Hilbert endowment:

- Added four new named endowment funds for scholarships for a total of 89 named endowment funds.
- Distributed $194,216 for scholarships and programs, as designated by donors.
- Earned a 21.2 percent return on investment.
- Ended the fiscal year with a fair market value of $4,725,211.

Endowment Funds Established in Fiscal Year 2010-2011 (June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011)
- Leo & Stella Kamykowski Endowed Scholarship
- M & T Title III Scholarship
- Hilbert College Staff Senate Endowed Scholarship
- Hilbert Connections
- Envelope Project
- Envelope Project II
- Kamykowski Scholarship
- Leeanne & Joseph Riegler Scholarship
- Leanne, Ronnie, Joseph, and Larissa Riegler Scholarship
- Giving Trees
- Michael F. & Mary A. Preischel Scholarship
- Rita D. Falkensteen Endowed Scholarship
- Reginald Smith Jr. ‘02 Scholarship
- Hilda R. and William Zasowski Scholarship
-基站 Scholarship
- Esalend Scholarship
- Graceland Scholarship
- Prof. Michael M. and Mrs. Mary Lynch Scholarship

Endowment Fair Market Value
(May 31, 2011)

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</table>

Growth
At the end of fiscal year 2010-2011, Hilbert’s endowment stood at $3.42 million compared to $3.27 million the previous year. The one-year return on the endowment was 21.2 percent for fiscal year 2010-2011. The average annual compound rate of return for the three- and five-year periods was 3.8 percent and 1.8 percent, respectively. Since 1990, Hilbert’s endowment has grown by 15.3 percent annually.

Investment Objective
The long-term objective of Hilbert’s investment policy is to achieve growth while also providing for sufficient income to achieve the annual goals of the college.

Investment Oversight
The Hilbert Board of Trustees, with guidance from its Audit and Finance Committee, oversees the college’s endowment funds. The college employs private investment consulting firms Manning & Napier and Sanderson & Company Investment Consultants, LLC to manage the funds.

Creating an Endowment
For information about creating an endowed fund in support of Hilbert scholarships or other programs, contact:

Craig Harris
Director of Development
716-926-8888
charris@hilbert.edu
Thank you, Lorraine Hritcko, for your commitment to Hilbert and its students who have followed in your footsteps.

Servant leadership has always been a core characteristic of Hilbert College alumni. This is certainly the case with Lorraine (Sturdevant) Hritcko ‘81.

She showed her commitment to being a strong leader for her fellow classmates by serving as president of the Hilbert Student Government Association and as president of her freshman class. Since graduating from Hilbert, Lorraine has demonstrated her dedication to advancing the college through her generous support and her previous service as a member of the Legal Assistant Advisory Council.

According to Lorraine: “Hilbert’s small classroom size, access to faculty and encouragement to participate in campus activities helped facilitate my academic success and to gain confidence in my abilities.”

Hilbert prides itself on developing and guiding the leaders of tomorrow. Through the support of Lorraine and others like you, we have been successful in making an indelible impression on the importance of service and leadership in our student’s lives.

For information on ways you can support Hilbert students:
Craig Harris
Director of Development
716-926-8888
charris@hilbert.edu
When Remember

the ‘00s

Students relax outside Hilbert College’s residential apartment complex, a two-phase project that, when the initial two buildings opened in 2003, marked the college’s first new student housing in more than three decades and was the institution’s first-ever apartment-style on-campus residences. In all, four two-story buildings were included in the 68-bed project, providing resident students modern apartment living space featuring many amenities. Since opening, the apartments have been at full occupancy every academic year.