The College of St. Scholastica along with the Social Work Department and the blessing of Sister Janelle Cahoon have created the Sister Janelle Cahoon Scholarship Fund. This scholarship is the first ever offered at the College for social work students.

Unfortunately, with the sudden passing of Sister Janelle on Thursday, April 20th, the word “Memorial” had to be added to the name of the scholarship.

Sister Janelle had planned on attending the Social Work Reunion on June 24th. She was going to start the day off with greetings and a prayer.

After receiving her Doctorate, Sister Janelle concentrated on teaching sociology and served as chair of the Sociology/Social Work Department from 1959 to 1980, here at The College of St. Scholastica.

She received the Lavine Award of Excellence for Teaching in 1990 and was awarded the title of professor emerita in 1993.

When she could no longer teach, she continued to serve the College as a mentor for students who were unable to take tests in a normal classroom setting.

Sister Janelle was in her 59th year of monastic profession.

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The Social Work Department is celebrating 30 years of accreditation!

During the All College Reunion, the Social Work Department will be holding its own reunion for all past graduates on Saturday, June 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Penthouse.

The day will begin with greetings from President Larry Goodwin and current faculty. A program with brunch will follow and finish up with a group picture and an anniversary cake.

A complete itinerary is found on page 7 of this newsletter.

Many previous faculty will also be attending. Come see some old friends and make new ones.
They quietly go about their work at the College, clearing tables in Storm’s Den and removing the trash from office to office. They are developmentally disabled workers, and they often go unnoticed—but not by Laura Doty.

The junior Social Work student saw their hard work and noted that “these members of our College community had gone unnoticed and perhaps unappreciated by most of us.”

In late October she threw a reception to honor the 10 Udac employees who work at the College. Udac Inc. of Duluth provides customized day services to people with developmental disabilities, and employment is one part of that mission.

No other employer in Duluth has ever recognized its Udac workers in such a way, according to Bobbie Lenz, Udac executive director. Udac workers have been at the College since 1988.

“They were just absolutely thrilled with the reception and to get the plaques,” Lenz said. “What was really fun afterward was to hear them talking about their plaques, and I also heard that every time Laura sees them, they are always so grateful—she’s made friends for life.”

Doty planned the reception as a project for Benedictine Traditions class.

“Sister Mary Josephine (Torborg, associate professor of Humanities) asked that I define a Benedictine value from my viewpoint and use that definition in a practical way,” she said. The value Doty chose was respect, “because I had so often seen a silent form of unintended disrespect occurring at school” toward the Udac employees. She decided that a reception honoring them for their contributions would be a good way to demonstrate respect.

“I also decided it would be good to have some of the College community participate so we could show our appreciation in a tangible way and show the Udac employees that our support is widespread.”

Doty spent a month planning the event, which was open to the College community.

“I had hinted to the workers that something special was going to happen, but they weren’t sure what. It was fun to create a little excitement for them. I wanted to tell them so badly—I’m horrible at keeping secrets.”

Denno said he was surprised by the awards. “Laura is a pretty nice person,” he said. “I wrote her a thank-you card for giving us the awards. There are good people here at the College.”

The reception was well-attended and “everyone was so kind and gracious to each honoree,” Doty noted.

“IT was a wonderful thing that she did for my guys,” said Susannah Olson, Udac job coach for six of the 10 workers at the College. “They were really excited about being recognized by the College.”

At the reception Doty thanked the workers for all they do.

“I couldn’t help but get choked up because when I looked at their faces, they were grinning from ear to ear. The people who attended had tears in their eyes, too. It was pure joy to be able to positively impact so many people with the simple gesture of acting out the value of ‘respect.’”

Some of the workers who couldn’t express themselves “caressed the plaque as if it were an Oscar,” Doty said.

Mark Schuman (left) and Jim Denno (right) are two of the 10 Udac workers honored in a reception planned by junior Social Work student Laura Doty (center).
Social Work Club Electrified

By Michelle Robertson
The Cable—April 28, 2006

This year’s social work club has proven to be one of the most active clubs in the social work program’s history.

CSS social work students from both on-campus and the Fond du Lac campus have been extremely busy supporting people, causes and agencies in the community. The current officers, Ann Marie Krupa, Sarah Hebl, Heidi Ogg and Maija Swanson have led the club in many directions.

Fall semester, the club held a clothing drive that yielded 20 boxes of clothing, which were donated to the Damiano Center.

A silent auction held in December was a huge success with over $940 being raised. Some of the money was given to the Fond du Lac Reservation’s Families First Program and CHUM for their work in the local community.

Spring semester included special Valentines given to all social work majors and faculty. The club designed a social work club t-shirt to be worn at volunteering events such as Relay for Life and the Take Back the Night table in the union. The club assembled a 15-member team for the Relay for Life, donating $100 in addition to the money the team members raise individually. Another fundraiser was selling polar fleece sweaters to faculty, students, alumni and field supervisors.

The club also had a table in the union during the last week of March for Social Work Awareness Month, where they distributed information from the National Association of Social Work.

A food drive was conducted with more than four boxes of dried goods that was donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank. The club participated in the “Social Work Day at the Capitol” in St. Paul, which inspired them to do a political action piece for next year. The social work club also sponsors a monthly bowling night for all CSS students at Skyline Lanes.

As faculty advisor to the social work club, I would like to thank all the club members for their endeavors and want to recognize the exemplary work they are doing for the College and local community. They are truly committed to service and community, an example of parallel Benedictine and social work values.

Social Work Faculty

The department has seen a doubling of faculty in the last 2 years, with the addition of Dr. Lee Gustafson, Department Chair & Michelle Robertson, Field Education Coordinator. They join Marcia Runnberg, Assistant Professor, who has been with the College since 1994.

There are presently 7 adjunct faculty members: Bob Aebl, Lynn Goerd, Matt Johnson, Jenny Petersen (1976 graduate), Russell Rowenhorst, Kevin Skwira-Brown & Mark Snyder.

Fall semester 2006 will include a new faculty member, Dr. Dorothy Graff. Dorothy recently taught at Texas A & M University, and comes to the College with many years of teaching experience. She has a strong commitment to diversity, social justice and social change.
CSS Brings four-year degree to Fond du Lac

By Ada Igoe

The Times - Winter 2006

Responding to a growing interest in social work, the College of St. Scholastica has established a four-year degree in the field at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College (FDLTCC).

The collaboration between St. Scholastica and FDLTCC began this past fall semester. Now FDLTCC students who have already obtained an A.A. or A.A.S. degree in Human Services are able to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and can begin the program in either September or January. Upon graduation, students are qualified for a Minnesota State Social Work license.

“We’ve always had Fond du Lac College students come to St. Scholastica after they completed their A.A. degree there and then complete their social work degree with us,” said Marcia Runnberg, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the collaborative social work program between FDLTCC and CSS. “On average, we’ve had four to five students transfer to us a year.”

After discussing collaborative possibilities with Don Jarvinen, the head of the Human Services Program at FDLTCC, it was determined there was probably a number of other rural students who would pursue a degree in social work if it was offered at FDLTCC, Runnberg said. So the two colleges decided to collaborate their resources by sending CSS professors to the FDLTCC campus in Cloquet to make a B.A. in social work a reality at FDLTCC.

Currently there are approximately 15 FDLTCC students taking advantage of the program. There is a maximum of 20 students admitted to the program each year.

“Fond du Lac is very pleased with the program,” Runnberg said. “Both sides think it’s a really good thing for the area.”

The social work program is the fifth largest program at CSS, doubling in size in the past two years. Part of the social work program’s success, Runnberg said, stems from the strong relationship between the CSS program and area community colleges such as Lake Superior College, Mesabi, Itasca, and especially, FDLTCC.

In addition, a large number of social workers from the baby boomer generation will soon be retiring, opening up opportunities for college graduates interested in social work. There also tends to be a lack of cultural diversity among social workers and it is hoped that the new CSS program at FDLTCC will help in this area by promoting social work as a career for American Indians.

“Research demonstrates that on a regional level, a lack of adequately prepared social workers is negatively impacting area reservations,” Runnberg said. “American Indians make up 1.5 percent of our nation’s population, but only 0.2 perfect of the social workers. This program can help address this area of need in our region.”

The program does place an added demand on the social work faculty of St. Scholastica. Faculty members, including Runnberg, split their time between the CSS and FDLTCC campuses. Rather than hiring part-time professors to specifically teach at FDLTCC, St. Scholastica decided it would be best to send their current full-time and adjunct professors to teach.

“While the partnership has created more work, it just wouldn’t be fair to the students and faculty to put a bunch of new professors out there,” said Runnberg. “We pride ourselves in providing a quality program.”

Currently St. Scholastica has a five-year contract with FDLTCC for the social work program. Throughout that period, the CSS and FDLTCC administrations will meet to review the program’s progress. Runnberg said she believes everyone will consider the program successful, adding that it is hoped the partnership will continue indefinitely.

The partnership between CSS and FDLTCC is just one of many exciting happenings in the social work program at St. Scholastica. The social work profession is one of the top growing career fields right now. Because the retirement of the baby boomer generation also means an aging population, CSS has implemented a Social Work and Health Care Certificate to help prepare graduates for the United States’ changing demographics. The program makes multi-disciplinary learning available to social work students by pairing social work students in collaborative courses along with students majoring in fields such as physical therapy, nursing and health information management. The social work program is in the forefront of this type of interdisciplinary learning on campus, Runnberg said.

In fact, you never know what’s going to happen in the social work department. This December, a husband and wife graduated from the program together, while this spring will see a mother and daughter graduating.

“There are truly exciting times for the social work department,” said Runnberg.
Social Work students involved in heritage

Andrea Monson, a junior social work student, performed at the American Indian Art and Music Festival at The College of St. Scholastica on Friday, April 28th. Andrea is pictured here with performer Walker Mallory.

The College celebrated the Benedictine value of community through its 15th annual International Week 2006, held on campus in late February. The kickoff event was an International Bazaar in the Student Union featuring colorful displays and included many of St. Scholastica’s 80 international students. Rhonda Lee, (pictured above) is a Junior Social Work student from St. Vincent.

Lee Yang, a junior social work student & Bao Lor, a sophomore social work student performed traditional dancing of their Hmong heritage during the Asian Heritage Festival at The College of St. Scholastica. Bao is second from the left and Lee is second from the right.

Social Work student Laura Lief with a Somali refugee.

Pictured above is a Hmong refugee learning a trade at LEAP Academy.

Social Work student Sandy Davis with a group of Somali refugees.

A Social Work student tries on a traditional costume.

Students in the Immigration / Refugee Issues course, which is taught by Marcia Runnberg, visit with a group of students in a Hmong classroom.
The Social Work Department began offering a Social Work in HealthCare Certificate this past academic year.

The purpose of the certificate is to prepare undergraduate social work students with specialized knowledge and skills for social work practice within a broad array of health-delivery contexts. This certificate will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the healthcare system and the knowledge and values necessary to function as a beginning social worker in the healthcare field.

There is a minimum of 18 credits required to receive this certificate. The courses include Special Topics Course, Medical Terminology, Health Science Leadership, Senior Field Practice Experience in HealthCare Setting, and one of the following: HealthCare System, Religious Perspectives of Healthcare Ethics or Healthcare for All.

Students will learn to:

- identify and examine the various roles and practice settings of healthcare social workers.
- understand the interdisciplinary healthcare team and the social worker’s role within the team.
- examine the myriad of ethical issues in the healthcare field and the role of the social worker in ethical issues.
- acquire knowledge of the relevance of human diversity as related to healthcare.
- apply generalist social work assessment skills to clients with healthcare issues at individual, family, group and community levels.
- develop competency in documentation and the use of medical terminology in order to work in healthcare settings.
- learn to implement effective interventions that are based on an assessment of the needs, strengths and goals of the client system(s).

Listen With the Ear of the Heart
- St. Benedict

2005—2006 Social Work Graduates

Congratulations to all the 2005—2006 Social Work graduating class.

This academic year produced the largest number of graduates ever from the program.

Summer 2005
Beth Emmons, Jaime Lescarbeau, Lynette Shelton

Winter 2005
Michelle Alexy, Michelle Brichacek, Abbey Francois, Carolyn Golen, Greg Golen, Lisa Mehling, Stephanie Pessenda

Spring 2006

Pictured above is Spring 2006 graduate Beryl Rock with her family.
Social Work Reunion Itinerary
June 24, 2006
10:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.
The College of St. Scholastica—Penthouse

10:00—10:15 Arrival
Complete Alumni Survey & View Silent Auction Items

10:15—10:30 Welcome by Dr. Lee Gustafson
College Welcome by Dr. Larry Goodwin

10:30—10:45 Introduction of Current Faculty, Former Faculty and Alumni

10:45—11:55 Honoring of Sister Janelle Cahoon by Marcia Runnberg
Introduction of Sister Janelle Cahoon Memorial Scholarship by Lee Gustafson
Invocation by Sister Edith Bogue
Brunch

11:55—12:30 History of Program Up To Current Times by former faculty Ken Sundarborg & Joanne Neher & current faculty member Marcia Runnberg

12:30—1:15 Mixer—Anniversary Cake, Punch & Coffee
Last Chance To Bid on Silent Auction Items

1:15 Silent Auction Ends—Winners Announced

1:30 Group Photo

Be sure and register ahead of time for the reunion.
The Alumni website address is http://www.css.edu/reunion.xml
Expanding Our Teaching and Learning......

From Marcia Runnberg

I reflect in amazement over the past 12 years as faculty with our Social Work Pro-
gram. In 1994, I was teaching 10 to 12 students in a cohort with two full-time pro-
gram faculty and two adjunct faculty. We have grown through many changes in
faculty, (now, four full-time faculty and seven-plus adjunct faculty), student en-
rollment (now, up to 30 in a cohort!), the addition of a distant site program with
FDLTCC, and the development of our Social Work in Healthcare Certificate, to name
only a few. This past year we have increased the diversity of our student body to in-
clude students from all six MN Ojibwe tribes, African-American, Latin-American,
Hmong and Iranian descent. We even find a few more male students taking the
plunge into social work!

In the past few years our curriculum has shaped and shifted in exciting ways with
the grant support of BUSH course enrichment, international and interdisciplinary
learning initiatives, and recent grants from the Duluth Superior Community Found-
dation and the Miller Dwan Foundation. During spring break of '05, social work
and nursing students headed to Cuernavaca, Mexico to study rural Mexican social
and health care issues and alternative healing. An exciting practice course elective
was developed in fall '04, which is delivered every semester, on issues with immi-
grant/refugee populations in MN. The course includes a 3-day field trip to the Twin
Cities area, visiting agencies that serve S.E. Asian, African, and Latino populations
and mentorship opportunities with local community youth and adult E.S.L. pro-
grams.

This past year, social work seniors interested in healthcare had the opportunity to
participate in a capstone course on “health service leadership”, which included teams
of students from various health service disciplines. All social work majors also have
the opportunity to utilize new technology with the ATHENS Project. The ATHENS
Project is a first in the nation program, focused on phasing in the integration of
hands-on experiences with state-of-the-art, computer-based clinical information sys-

term applications.

With local foundation support, our program has developed partnerships with North-
wood Children Services, Center for American Indian Resources, and the Fond du Lac
Mino-aya-win Clinic to provide integrated field placement learning opportunities in
social work, medical, psychology, education, spirituality, and cultural diversity. We
were also able to hire our own academic support counselor for social work students of
color.

I look forward to ongoing adventures and initiatives that can improve the quality
and impact of social work education on our students and community!
# Reunion Registration 2006

Registration deadline: **June 9, 2006**. Early registration is May 19. Register online at [http://wwwcss.edu/reunion.xml](http://wwwcss.edu/reunion.xml) or on this form. **Clip and mail to:** The College of St. Scholastica, Alumni Relations, 1200 Kenwood Ave., Duluth, MN 55811-4199.

Your registration packets and meal tickets can be picked up at the registration table on Somers Patio. For more information, contact Alumni Relations at (218) 723-6071, (800) 447-5444 x6071, or [alumni@css.edu](mailto:alumni@css.edu).

Friday Golf $100 per person includes golf, cart, dinner and prizes. Call the Athletic Department at (218) 723-6551 to reserve a spot for yourself or your group.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s Hospital Tour</td>
<td>must preregister</td>
<td>$10</td>
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<td>(people) x $10 per person</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duluth Trolley Tour</td>
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<td>(people) x $15 per person</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday Social hors d'oeuvres and drinks</td>
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<td>Friday Italian Buffet Supper</td>
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<td>(12 and younger) x $5 per child</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday Continental Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Work Reunion Brunch</td>
<td>(people) x $19 per person</td>
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<td>Saturday All Reunion Picnic Buffet Luncheon</td>
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<td>(12 and younger) x $5 per child</td>
<td>$15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifty-year Reunion Class Luncheon</td>
<td>by special invitation to the class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifty-five to Sixty-five-year Reunion Class Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday All Alumni Grand Celebration</td>
<td>includes social and banquet (people) x $25 per person</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sister Agnes Somers Society Breakfast</td>
<td>must preregister</td>
<td>No fee</td>
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**Subtotal:** $____

Early discount: If this registration is postmarked before May 19, subtract 10% from your total. (Do not include your Class Gift in your discounted total.)

**Class Gift:** You are welcome to add a Class Gift to your registration!

**TOTAL:** $____

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**Name (please print)**

First ___________________ College last name ___________________ Last ___________________

**Graduation year** ______ Phone number (____) ___________________

Major ___________________ E-mail ___________________

**Address**

City ___________________ State ______ ZIP ______

**Guest names**

**Payment method:**

- [ ] Check payable to The College of St. Scholastica
- [ ] VISA  [ ] MasterCard  [ ] Discover

Card # ___________________ Exp date ______

- [ ] Special needs (explain) ___________________

- [ ] Tell me more about President’s Dinner (6/22/06) ___________________

- [ ] Tell me more about Sister Agnes Somers Society Breakfast (6/25/06) ___________________

- [ ] Please send directions to the College campus ___________________

**Office: Date received ______**
The mission of the social work profession is “to enhance human well being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed and living in poverty”. Social work addresses the needs of individuals, families, groups, and communities. The core values of the profession are service, social justice, dignity and worth of the individual, importance of human relationships, integrity and competence. The College of St. Scholastica’s Social Work Program embraces the mission of the social work profession in the context of the College’s Benedictine tradition.

“Listen….with the ear of your heart.”
(Taken from St. Benedict’s Rule)