



May 18, 2006

1. [Bennett, Cressler named Ideal Bonaventure Students](#)
2. [Four outstanding faculty members recognized](#)
3. [Fifteen seniors earn Honors Degrees](#)
4. [Local agencies benefit from student donations](#)
5. [Etchings on the life of St. Francis on display at QCA](#)
6. [University celebrates faculty endowments](#)
7. [Newsmakers ...](#)

Bennett, Cressler named Ideal Bonaventure Students



ST. BONAVENTURE, N.Y., May 14, 2006 — St. Bonaventure University seniors Lois Bennett and Matthew Cressler were recognized as Ideal Bonaventure Students on Saturday, May 13, during the University's Honors Luncheon, and again Sunday during its 146th Commencement Exercises.

The Ideal Bonaventure Students, who are selected by a committee that receives nominations from the University community, are recognized as exemplifying the spirit of St. Bonaventure and the ideals of St. Francis through community service and academic excellence.

Lois Bennett was born in Wimbledon, England, and currently hails from Calgary, Alberta, Canada. She visited SBU originally as a recruit for the soccer team but chose to enroll because of the journalism program.

She is a leader both on and off the athletic field.

Bennett, a journalism and mass communication major, has earned a 3.6 GPA in her major and an overall GPA of 3.6. She has been lauded for her GPA as a member of the Atlantic 10 Conference's Commissioner's Honor Roll and helped revitalize the St. Bonaventure Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. She served as women's soccer team co-captain for two years. During the summer between her sophomore and junior years, Bennett interned at CNN in Miami. She has been a reporter for The Bona Venture student newspaper and has researched, produced and edited numerous broadcast news reports for SBU-TV. She also served as secretary for the University chapter of the

American Advertising Federation.

The faculty in the Russell J. Jandoli School of Journalism and Mass Communication, in their nomination letter, noted Bennett "has demonstrated abilities in her major far beyond mere competence in the basic skills required of a journalist — the abilities to observe faithfully and completely, to record accurately, to organize sensibly and to present compellingly. She has done so under the workload of being a full-time student and a full-time student athlete."

In addition to her commitment to her studies and athletics, Bennett was also a member of the a cappella singing group Vocallusion and the International Student Association. She has participated in service trips to Guyana, Belize, Mexico and New York City and volunteers with the Feed The Hungry Program.

Her post-graduation plans include working in San Diego, Calif., for one year before beginning the University of San Diego Law School.

Bennett is the daughter of Paul and Beth Bennett.

Matthew Cressler, the 2006 Ideal Bonaventure Man, mirrors St. Bonaventure's passionate quest for knowledge while embodying St. Francis' love for others.

Cressler, a dual theology and history major, is from Smyrna, Ga. He has excelled in the classroom, earning a 4.0 GPA in his majors while maintaining a 3.9 GPA overall. He has received a Presidential Scholarship each of his four years and was a member of the University Honors Program.

Cressler has immersed himself in the life of the University over the last four years, including a number of leadership roles. He has worked to develop and build healthy community among students in the residence halls as a resident assistant for three years and has been an active member of Students for the Mountain for the past three years. He has been a member of St. Bonaventure's Musical Theater Company, The Last Second a cappella group, and various intramural sports teams, including indoor and outdoor soccer and flag football.

As a Mary Yankelovich Endowed Fellow, Cressler worked to create a system for linking students with local service programs where they could fulfill the seven-hour service requirement that accompanies University Forum. He then formed a Web site that will serve as a channel to link local organizations with student volunteers.

Dr. Susan Abraham, assistant professor of theology and Cressler's academic adviser, said he has been deeply committed to the intellectual life and spiritual life of the campus. "His service to Mt. Irenaeus, Students for the Mountain and to Campus Ministry in general shows that he really seeks to integrate the academic study of theology with the pastoral," she said.

Cressler's engagement with the University's Catholic and Franciscan tradition has nurtured in him a concern for social justice and serving others. Last summer, he used a Journey Project internship to explore ways to integrate social justice programming into

the life of a Catholic parish. By the end of the summer he had produced a 50-page resource guide, *An Exploration of Social Justice in the Ministries of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church*.

Cressler is the son of John and Maria Cressler. In the fall, he will begin studies at Harvard Divinity School on a full scholarship.

[Click here to return to the top of the page](#)

Four faculty members recognized

ST. BONAVENTURE, N.Y., May 15, 2006 — St. Bonaventure University recognized four outstanding faculty members Saturday, May 13, during its annual Honors Luncheon and again during the University's 146th Commencement Exercises on Sunday, May 14.

Denny M. Wilkins, Ph.D., associate professor of journalism/mass communication, received the Award for Professional Excellence in Teaching; Zahid Y. Khairullah, Ph.D., professor of management sciences, received the Award for Professional Excellence in Research and Publishing; Thomas P. Delaney, Ph.D., professor of counselor education, was chosen to receive the Professional Excellence in Service Award; and Susan Abraham, Th.D., assistant professor of theology, received the Junior Faculty Award for Professional Excellence, which recognizes the work of faculty in their second through fifth year at the University.

Dr. Denny Wilkins is best known for his outstanding style of teaching. In nominating Wilkins, Lee Coppola, dean of the School of Journalism/Mass Communications, noted that Wilkins' story is best told by what his students have said about him.

One student dubbed him "The Spawn of Satan," a title he relishes. But, he's more like a gift from God, the student continued, once you get to know him and spend time with him, seeking his advice, and once you get out into the real world and put into practice what he taught in the classroom.

Another admirer wrote: "As a student I dealt with low self-esteem and some powerful emotional issues. Dr. Wilkins never let go. When I started skipping classes, he dragged me outside in a snowstorm, wagging his finger in the air as he lectured me about responsibility. When I slacked off on a paper, he marked it with so much red (ink), satellites in space could spot it. When I dropped out of school for two years, he showed up at my job demanding my return date. And when my writing took off, he introduced me as one of his best. He built me up and guided me until I became a professional young woman with a solid career. Together, we beat the odds."

"To me," said Coppola, "Denny Wilkins is the rock upon which the journalism school has grown for the past 10 years. He has been my closest confidante in all things academic. He has been central to the curriculum the school now offers. He serves as mentor to every new faculty member and continues to mentor students long after they graduate."

Dr. Zahid Khairullah joined St. Bonaventure in 1977. Throughout (and before) that time he has been an active and productive scholar. He has authored or co-authored approximately 19 papers published in refereed journals during his career. In addition, Khairullah has had approximately 20 papers published in conference proceedings; is the author of two published book chapters; and has had approximately 35 of his papers presented at scholarly conferences. Three of Khairullah's presented papers received "Best Paper" awards in the conferences at which they were presented.

Khairullah has been active as a conference track chair, session chair and discussant as well as in the role of referee and reviewer for journals in his field. He has, over the years, applied his skills as a researcher to assist in a number of projects to serve the University and local businesses.

Khairullah's scholarship has covered a variety of areas, including the significant amount of work that he has undertaken in the application of techniques from the field of management sciences to the study of marketing. Some of his most significant contributions — for example, his 1987 publication in the *European Journal of Operational Research*, the premier European journal in the field of Management Science and Operations Research — date back almost 20 years, to a time when the School of Business had much less of an orientation to scholarship than it does today.

"With our School of Business' decision in 1997 to pursue AACSB accreditation came significantly increased expectations for faculty scholarship," wrote Dr. Michael Fischer, dean of the School of Business and recently appointed provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, in his nomination. "Dr. Khairullah was a very significant contributor to this effort by increasing his own scholarly productivity and he served as chair of an ad-hoc faculty committee that guided the development and implementation of a comprehensive faculty evaluation system in our school, which include very substantial and specific expectations for faculty scholarship; the development and implementation of these standards was a very significant factor in increasing and sustaining the level of faculty scholarship in our School of Business."

Dr. Thomas Delaney has been a faculty member in counselor education at St. Bonaventure for 35 years. In service to the University, he was largely responsible for the initiation of the psychological services component of the University Counseling Center and spearheaded the development of the mental health track for counselor education in the early 1970s.

Delaney has served the School of Education on a variety of committees: the Lenna Visiting Lecturer Committee, the Military Science Advisement Board, the Education Faculty Evaluation Committee, the Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committee, the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Accreditation Standing Committee and Graduate Admissions Committee and Graduate Assistantship Selection Committee, to name a few.

"He has provided extensive community service that represents the University favorably in the broader community," said Dr. Peggy Yehl Burke, dean of the School of Education, in her nomination. The ReHAbilitation Center in Cattaraugus County was a one-man operation when Dr. Delaney arrived in Olean in 1971. The center flourished under the

leadership of Patrick Carroll and Jim Bellanca. Delaney continues to serve the needs of this organization via his association with the ReHAbilitation Center and has provided service through workshops and professional consultation to such agencies as Cattaraugus Community Action, The County Guidance Center and The Guidepost.

Delaney also provides service for law enforcement for the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department and the FBI. He serves as a hostage negotiator for the SWAT team of the Sheriff's Department Special Response Team. Working with the FBI, he engaged himself in teaching about topics such as hostage negotiation and violence prevention and debriefing law enforcement personnel involved in violent incidents.

Brad Burnett, supervisory special agent of the Buffalo Division of the FBI, commented: "Dr. Delaney was a guest of the FBI's while attending training at the National Crisis Negotiation Course held at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va. Very few individuals are chosen to attend this highly sought after training."

Delaney has continued a tradition of service to the St. Bonaventure community of friars, the local parishes and Holy Name Province that has included committee work, psychological consultation and active participation in these religious communities.

Since joining the teaching faculty in the Department of Theology in fall 2002, Dr. Susan Abraham has taught multiple courses in St. Bonaventure's liberal arts core curriculum (Clare College). Additionally, she has taught courses in the Department of Theology, the Honors Program, the Women's Studies Program and the Theology Graduate Program (dormant since spring 2005).

Abraham approaches her students with maximal interest and dedication. Her energy is consistently at a high level of intellectual engagement, but displayed in a non-intimidating manner so as to cultivate an expansive, global vision among her students.

"Dr. Abraham's scholarship is active, promising and intellectually demanding while at the same time eminently practical," wrote Dr. James Fodor, associate professor and chair of the Department of Theology, in his nomination. "As a junior faculty member, Dr. Abraham's academic work is absolutely first rate. Dr. Abraham's forthcoming book (a revision of her dissertation) is poised to make a major contribution to systematic theology as refracted through a postcolonial lens. Dr. Abraham's long-term goal is to further the convergence between teaching and scholarship — witness her planned participation in the Wabash Center's 2006 summer programs for Teaching and Learning Theology and Religion. She personifies the teacher-scholar in a most commendable manner."

Abraham contributes to the intellectual life of the University in ways that are both imaginative and genuinely distinctive. Her service as co-chair of the University's Diversity Action Strategic Planning Committee is but one example of her marvelously creative efforts to help people think differently and constructively about diversity by rooting the concept in the theology of Francis and Bonaventure — thus making it integral to the mission of the University.

Abraham's dedicated willingness to serve over the past several years as director of the

graduate program in theology and her steady, insightful and trustworthy contributions to the internal workings of the Department of Theology are cherished and much welcomed.

[Click here to return to the top of the page](#)

Fifteen seniors earn Honors Degrees

ST. BONAVENTURE, N.Y., May 13, 2006 — During its Honors Luncheon Saturday, May 13, Dr. Daniel Tate, the Honors Program director at St. Bonaventure University, recognized the 15 members of the Class of 2006 who are candidates for an honors degree. In addition to the two-semester honors project, students must take four honors courses, an advanced honors seminar, and achieve a minimum 3.25 grade point average to be awarded an honors degree.

Jacqueline Babich, a political science major from Warren, Mich., completed "Title IX's 2005 Additional Clarification and its Effects on Division I and Division III Universities" under the direction of Dr. Mary Rose Kubal, assistant professor of political science.

Michelle Ballerstein, a psychology major from Rochester, completed "The Effect of Communication Network & Priming on the Transmission of Rumor & News" under the direction of Dr. Charles Walker, professor of psychology.

Talia A. Coveleski, a psychology major from Union City, Pa., completed "Sexually Explicit Material: An Investigation of Personality, Choice, and Its Effects on Attitudes Towards Women" under the direction of Dr. Stephanie Vogel, assistant professor of psychology.

Matthew John Cressler, a theology major from Smyrna, Ga., completed "God For Us and We For God: The Cappadocian Emphasis in the Trinitarian Theologies of Bonaventure and Catherine Mowry LaCugna," under the direction of Dr. Susan Abraham, assistant professor of theology.

Kaitlin Drago, a finance major from Lakewood, N.Y., completed "An Econometric Analysis of the Determinants of Credit Ratings for the Issuers of Municipal Bonds" under the direction of Dr. Jeffrey Peterson, professor of finance.

Rachel George, a journalism/mass communication major, completed "The Kournikova Effect: How a Russian Tennis Beauty Changed the Portrayal and Marketing of Female Athletes" under the direction of Chris Mackowski, associate professor of journalism/mass communication.

Andrea M. Kelley, a philosophy major from Fort Montgomery, N.Y., completed "A Tale of Two Heroines: The Constructions of Value, Freedom, and Purpose as Conveyed through the Philosophies of Simone de Beauvoir and Ayn Rand" under the direction of Dr. Robert Amico, professor of philosophy.

Andrea G. Michnik, a journalism/mass communication major from Elma, N.Y.,

completed "Arts Smarts: How to Plan an Advocacy Event for Arts Educators" under the direction of Chris Mackowski, associate professor of journalism/mass communication.

Susan Minchin, a chemistry major from Elmira, N.Y., completed "Understanding Intermolecular Interactions via Computational Modeling" under the direction of Dr. Jerry Godbout, assistant professor of chemistry.

Patrick Powers, a history major from Clarence Center, N.Y., completed "The Ethical and Military Validity of General William T. Sherman's Tactics during the Civil War" under the direction of Dr. Mark Huddle, assistant professor of history.

Rose Proto, a political science major from Olean, completed "Explaining Ireland's Success: The Application of a Development Model" under the direction of Dr. Mary Rose Kubal, assistant professor of political science.

Sarah Veeder, a psychology major from Avon, N.Y., completed "Role of Estrogen and Progesterone on Escape Learning in the Rat (*Rattus norvegicus*)" under the direction of Dr. Darryl Mayeaux, assistant professor of psychology. Veeder was been awarded a \$1,000 Grant-in-Aid of Research from Sigma Xi for her work on her project. The Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid of Research program has a highly competitive application process and only approximately 20 percent of more than 1,200 applicants receive any level of funding. The average amount of grant money Sigma Xi gives out to recipients is \$600, but Veeder's project received \$1,000. Veeder competed against many graduate students for this award.

Teresa Welte, a psychology major from Aliquippa, Pa., completed "Examining the Paradigm of Conservation as a Function of Prosocial Behavior" under the direction of Dr. Charles Walker, professor of psychology.

Allyson Weymouth, a biology major from Quaker Hill, Conn., completed "Effects of Sedimentation on Net-spinning Caddisflies: A Survey of Two Headwater Streams in Cattaraugus County, New York" under the direction of Dr. Ted Georgian, professor of biology.

[Click here to return to the top of the page](#)

Local agencies benefit from student donations



ST. BONAVENTURE, N.Y., May 15, 2006 – Representatives from local service agencies gathered Monday in Francis Hall for first pick of items collected by SBU's University Ministries through the Move-Out Program.

Ten agencies, including Genesis House, the ReHAbilitation Center and Cattaraugus County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, signed up for the collection.

Each representative was allowed one box and a chance to browse through a room

overflowing with various recycled goods, all of which were collected from students moving out after the spring semester. Items were grouped into about seven categories including bedding, text books, office supplies, cleaning supplies, clothing and miscellaneous. Each agency was also allowed two big ticket items, such as televisions, computers and refrigerators.

The Rev. Cheryl A.E. Parris, director of SBU's Social Ministries program, greeted each agency representative with a smile, telling everyone to grab the biggest box they could find. "I want people to take stuff. I want people to make good use of the stuff Bona's students left," Parris said. "We are so grateful for this opportunity to provide a valuable service to the community, which benefits. It's a win, win, win. It's a total win, win, win situation."

Jennifer Nasuta from the ReHAbilitation Center was one of many who will put the items, which would have otherwise been thrown away, to good use. "I think it's fabulous. I think it couldn't go to a better cause and I think it's a terrific idea," Nasuta said. "All of this stuff will be going to the agency and the folks that we serve."

Parris said the Move-Out Program began two years ago and improves every year. Students are encouraged to drop off goods they no longer want to collection sites in their dorms. Faculty and staff were allowed to purchase items on Tuesday, May 16.

On Wednesday, May 17, any remaining items were sold in a giant community yard sale in front of Francis Hall beginning at 9 a.m. All proceeds will go to SBU's Social Ministries program.

By Heidi Ofinowicz, '06

[Click here to return to the top of the page](#)

Etchings on the life of St. Francis on display at Quick Center

ST. BONAVENTURE, N.Y., May 17, 2006 – The Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts at St. Bonaventure University is displaying etchings by James Munce that are based on the story of St. Francis' restoration of the Church of San Damiano. "Telling Tales: the Franciscan Storytelling Art of James Munce" opened May 16.

Munce received his bachelor's degree in printmaking from the Minneapolis School of Art in 1966, and completed his master's degree in printmaking at Indiana University in 1971. He has long been a professor in printmaking at Kansas State University.

For the past 30 years, Munce has devoted his professional life to making prints, primarily of subjects from Christian literature. Working with the intaglio printmaking process, Munce thinks of himself primarily as a storyteller. "My function as a visual artist is to create a two-dimensional formal structure that will best contain the story being told," Munce notes.

Munce's first works based on the life of St. Francis were inspired by Nikos Kazantzakis' 1962 novel 'God's Pauper: St. Francis of Assisi.' That artistic project concluded with a series based on St. Francis' beginning – his restoration of the church at San Damiano. The San Damiano series makes up the 'Telling Tales' exhibition. Munce's images in this series are built around basic contrasts: simplicity/complexity, clarity/obscurity, large/small, dark/light, organic/geometric. The intaglio process used to create the works perfectly suits Munce's artistic purposes.

As he notes, "The possibility of developing the plate through many additive and reductive modifications often allows the image to mature beyond it's original conception, while the physical reworking of the copper usually results in an increased visual richness."

Additionally, the majority of the works were created with multiple plates. The technical virtuosity of Munce is readily apparent in all his prints. 'Telling Tales: The Franciscan Storytelling Art of James Munce' remains on view through Oct. 22.

Summer hours began Tuesday, May 16. Galleries will be open Tuesdays through Saturdays, noon to 5 p.m., closed Sundays and Mondays. Admission to the galleries is always free and open to the public. Regular museum hours will resume Tuesday, Aug. 29. Visit us at www.sbu.edu or e-mail us at Quick@sbu.edu.

[Click here to return to the top of the page](#)

University celebrates faculty endowments



ST. BONAVENTURE, N.Y., May 11, 2006 — The Leo J. Keenan Jr. and the Dr. James Martine Faculty Development Endowments annual luncheon was held May 4, affording the award recipients the opportunity to share the results of the work they produced in the 2005-2006 academic year, through the use of the funds, with the University community.

The endowments, established by Leslie "Les" C. Quick, III, and Eileen Quick in 2000, honors Dr. James Martine and the late Leo J. Keenan who were both members of the English faculty. Les Quick felt they both dedicated their lives to St. Bonaventure and the students here. The endowments are intended to provide funds to faculty engaged in activities designed to improve the quality of the teaching and learning process at St. Bonaventure.

The Martine endowment provides for funding of activities associated with the general education core curriculum, Clare College, while the Keenan endowment provides funds for all other areas. ([A list of Martine Grants awarded for 2006-2007 is available in .pdf format.](#))

"With this gift, I hope to encourage others to imitate their selfless dedication to their profession, and to maintain the teaching quality and effectiveness that has always been a hallmark of St. Bonaventure," said Quick.

Dr. David DiMattio, dean of Clare College, said, "Through the gracious generosity of Les Quick, Dr. Martine and Bob Kennan, representing his family, I know that much of what we accomplish in the core curriculum at Clare College, as well as across the University, would not be accomplished if it weren't for Les Quick's generosity.

"Looking forward with respect to Clare College, I want to draw on our professional schools to make it a well rounded core experience. We have to appreciate the fact that we all come from different disciplines and at the same time we are all housed in this Franciscan-based heritage."

"It connects Bona's rich past with its very vibrant present and supports the things that a lot of us from the Quicks on endorse and support. It is what Bona's is all about," said Dr. James Martine.

"My father worked for St. Bonaventure University for 52 years," said Robert F. Keenan, associate director of planned giving and development officer for athletics. "During his career here, among other things, he was elected to the SBU Athletic Hall of Fame, the SBU Alumni Hall of Fame, the SBU ROTC Hall of Fame; he was the alumnus of the year and also received an honorary doctorate. Les and Eileen Quick also recognized him with the Keenan~Martine Grants. He told me that of all of the recognition he received from St. Bonaventure, this endowment from Les and Eileen, in his name, meant the most to him."

A Martine Grant awarded to Constance Pierce, professor of visual and performing arts, encompassed examples of 30 Imaging Journals created by students who represent a wide variety of majors, including biology, finance, education, management, political science, sociology, accounting, art, music, physical education, languages, history and journalism.

"My Clare 109 sections attempted to excavate the depth and breadth of the human heart in its innate desire to engage in literacy and artistic expression," she said. "I provided alternative experiential modes of pondering texts, musical compositions and artworks. Each students creation became a synchronistic integration of image making with an array of visually expressed texts, critiques and reflection papers."

Under a Keenan Grant, Dr. Dalton R. Hunkins of the Department of Computer Science, fostered collaboration between computer science majors and non-majors in producing a computer graphics artifact that required the development of 3D graphics content through revisions to two computer graphics courses taught at St. Bonaventure. ([A list of Keenan Grants for 2006-2007 is available in .pdf format.](#))

"Students previously studied a traditional approach used in other universities for computer science majors studying computer graphics," he said. "This new approach is for students to learn the 'underpinnings' of computer graphics and how 3D content is produced (rendered) to a 2D media (e.g., computer screen). The challenge is to keep the new content but also add back some of the content on the 'rendering pipeline.' This is important since it is traditional and considered by other universities as an integral part of an introduction to computer graphics for computer science majors."

The review committee included: Paul Wieland (J/MC), Laura Peters (Arts), Kevin Vogel (Science), Alison More (Franciscan Institute), Rene Wroblewski (Education) and Dave DiMattio (Clare College).

[Click here to return to the top of the page](#)

Newsmakers ...

ST. BONAVENTURE, N.Y., May 17, 2006 - Dr. Zennia D. Hancock, assistant professor of modern languages, served as a discussant on the panel "Reflections on the First Year on the Tenure-Track" at the Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America held in Boston in April. The panel, which included participants from Purdue University, Church Divinity School of the Pacific, University of Oxford, and Yale University, addressed the issues that junior medievalists face on the job market. In May, Hancock presented at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Mich. Her paper, titled "El libro de los engaños de las mujeres: Sexual Education in Medieval Spanish Exempla," explored how early Spanish exempla encoded descriptions of, and relayed knowledge about, officially unsanctioned sexual practices. Hancock teaches Spanish and German in the Department of Modern Languages.

• • •

Darwin L. King, professor of accounting, and Dr. Carl J. Case, associate professor of management science, recently received word that their paper titled "Historical Roots of the U.S. Income Tax System" that was presented at the 13th annual meeting of the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences (ASBBS) in February will be published in the ASBBS E-Journal. The paper won the "Best Paper of a Track Chair" award at the ASBBS honors banquet held on the final day of the conference.

• • •

The St. Bonaventure ROTC Color Guard had the honor of presenting the National Colors Monday, May 15, for game four of the NBA Eastern Conference playoffs between the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Detroit Pistons, in Cleveland at the Quicken Loans Arena.

[Click here to return to the top of the page](#)