

Saint Francis University 2014 Faculty and Staff Recognition Luncheon May 7, 2014

> 11:30 a.m. JFK Lounge

Program of Events

May 7, 2014

Invocation Fr. Gabriel J. Zeis, TOR

President

Lunch

Recognition of Retirees Fr. Gabriel J. Zeis, TOR

President

Faculty Emeriti/Retirees

Dr. Kirk R. Weixel - 47 years of service Distinguished Professor Emeritus

of English

Retirees

Glenda J. Griffith - 33 years of service Director, Residence Life

/Special Projects & Services

Robert A. Low, Sr. - 6 years of service Assistant Professor of

Business Administration

Charmaine Murray - 28 years of service Circulation Interlibrary Loan Asst.

/Nursing Administrative Asst.

Marilyn L. Passanita - 19 years of service Assistant Professor of

Physician Assistant Sciences

Mary J. Weixel - 23 years of service Reference Librarian

Presentation of Special Awards Fr. Gabriel J. Zeis, TOR

President

The 25th annual Soriano Outstanding Service Awards: The awards are made possible through an endowment established by the late Mr. Theodore J. Long of Altoona, PA.

Theodore Soriano – Finalists for Administrators

Kathleen A. Domonkos Denise M. Gilkey
Br. Shamus J. McGrenra, TOR Dr. Frank C. Montecalvo, Jr.

Theodore Soriano Outstanding Service Award for Administrators

Br. Shamus J. McGrenra, TOR Director, International Admissions

"I am fundamentally an optimist Part of being optimistic is keeping one's head pointed toward the sun, one's feet moving forward. There were many dark moments when my faith in humanity was sorely tested, but I would not and could not give myself up to despair. That way lay defeat and death." — Nelson Mandela

"Br. Shamus has been such a positive, transformative force on this campus and he is truly a special person. His efforts to build the International Program and fundraise on behalf of the Dorothy Day Center are just two examples of his outstanding service to Saint Francis University. I can't think of anyone on campus more deserving of this award."

"Br. Shamus has done a tremendous job building the international recruitment efforts at the University. In addition, he has demonstrated a huge commitment to service. His cycling fundraising trips for Dorothy Day has made a significant impact to others. He represents a strong Franciscan presence and is always filled with hope. Speaking with him, builds my passion and faith in our mission."

John Soriano – Finalists for Operational Employees

Christina M. Baughman Linda A. Kline Laurie A. Madison Melita M. O'Donnell

John Soriano Outstanding Service Award for Operational Employees

Melita M. O'Donnell, Executive Assistant, Academic Affairs

"Nothing makes you happier than when you really reach out in mercy to someone who is badly hurt." — Mother Teresa

"Melita gives her all in helping Saint Francis University be a better place. She works very hard herself, and has improved many processes with the Provost's Office. Then she also helps others, leading searches for administrative support positions in academic departments, and chairing the social committee. She also cares for individuals helping people when they need it most."

Melita provides "exceptional effectiveness and willingness to help, all in a very professional and friendly manner."

25 Year Recipients

Michael J. Blaisdell

"To err is human--and to blame it on a computer is even more so." - Robert Orben

Mike began his career at Saint Francis College in March of 1989 as a computer operator within the Computer Services department. He completed his B.S. degree in computer science in May of 1996 graduating magna cum laude. He was appointed Network Manager in 1996 and then Network Administrator in 2007. He also serves as an adjunct instructor in computer science.

Mike is a man of many talents and interests. First and foremost he is an experienced technology professional. He analyzes situations trying to design the most logical, effective, and efficient solution possible. He always displays a creative interest in building, fixing, and improving machines and systems. This "creative interest" also enables him to utilize his machinist and electrician skills. Mike is a train enthusiast and railroad fan. He and his Father actually built a working, scaled, steam locomotive.

Mike is a family man and greatly committed to his wife and three children. He is very supportive of the Boy Scouts of America, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, and is now a leader within the organization.

His professional responsibilities take him far beyond the regular work day and campus office. It is not uncommon to find Mike solving technological issues after the work day, on the weekend, and from remote locations.

His colleagues in the IT Services Department congratulate Mike on his 25 years of dedicated service to Saint Francis University.

Patricia A. Eckenrode

"We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude." -Cynthia Ozick

Patty Eckenrode has been a familiar face in Dining Services and the Physical Plant departments since 1989. She began her work in dining services as a part-time caterer, and advanced to cook's helper in 1994. While working within dining services she excelled at guest relations. In 2006, she transferred to the Physical Plant as a custodial worker. Her work in Physical Plant has been as a Custodian in Saint Agnes Hall and Saint Clare Hall. Patty has always taken an interest in her students and their life on campus. The students of Saint Clare and Saint Agnes have a true respect for her and look to her as a mother on campus. The Physical Plant department congratulates Patty on her twenty five years of service.

Philip A. Fryzlewicz

"My suggestion is that we should first work to ensure the Third World has clean drinking water and sanitation" – Bjorn Lomborg

Phil is a licensed operator at the University's water/sewage treatment plant where he has kept it operational for 25 years. He is committed to explaining the operation of water and sewer plants to students and staff and in maintaining the health and safety of the campus and the Loretto borough population through safe drinking water and the safe treatment and disposal of sewage. Phil is a conscientious employee who takes initiative and always accepts change without question. He is a good record keeper and stays on top of the operation. The Physical Plant department congratulates Phil on his contributions to maintain a healthy and safe campus and for achieving twenty-five years of service.

Shelley A. Kirkpatrick

"Observe always that everything is the result of a change, and get used to thinking that there is nothing Nature loves so well as to change existing forms and to make new ones like them."—Marcus Aurelius

Shelley Kirkpatrick began her career at Saint Francis University in the Learning Resource Center as an Act 101 Tutor Coordinator and in 1991 she was appointed as Act 101 Academic Counselor. In 1995 Shelley was asked to serve as Acting Director of the Learning Resource Center. As Acting Director of the Center she performed admirably, guiding the grant process to a successful conclusion and working tirelessly to maintain services. Shelley's undergraduate education (completed at Saint Francis) was in biology and she began to serve in an adjunct capacity in the spring of 1992. In 1996, she was appointed as Biology Lab Coordinator. In 2001, she was promoted to Instructor of Biology/lab coordinator, and in 2006 she was promoted to Assistant Professor. Shelley has been very involved in the Biology Department and has written grants and funded several projects. She integrated laboratory materials into Blackboard giving students the ability to study and learn outside of lab. Shelley received the Distinguished Faculty Award in 2003. She has developed three on- line courses that support other programs on campus and currently, she's developing an anatomy and physiology course which she will teach this fall in France. The University and Shelley Kirkpatrick's colleagues extend a heartfelt appreciation to her for twenty-five years of service and dedication.

Heather J. Meck

"Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value." - Albert Einstein

In Heather Meck's twenty-five years of service to Saint Francis University, she has striven to be of value to literally hundreds of employees whom she has served in her various roles. Heather began her career at Saint Francis in 1989 as Coordinator of Personnel Services and Institutional Compliance Officer. In 1990 she was promoted to Director of Personnel Services. In 1999, she was appointed Director of Human Resources and Affirmative Action Officer. By 2008, Heather had advanced to the position of Chief Human Resources Officer. In 2010, Heather assumed additional responsibilities in a new role: Associate Vice President for Risk Management and Human Resources.

Heather's winning smile, easy manner, and willingness to help others have been the hallmarks of her career at Saint Francis. Her tireless efforts to improve working conditions, processes, and employee development have served as valuable contributions to institutional renewal and success. Congratulations Heather, and thank you for your twenty-five years of creating value at Saint Francis University!

Douglas E. Noon

"To be a good draftsman was to me a blessing" - John James Audubon

Doug Noon was hired as the draftsperson in the Physical Plant department in March of 1989. He is a thorough professional who performs a very valuable function at the University. Thanks to Doug's work, the University is able to complete a large amount of project work. In 1996, the additional responsibility for design was added to Doug's responsibilities and he always keeps the students and campus community needs in mind when designing projects. Doug's activities and interests include visiting local festivals and historic sites, working around the family farm, travel and outdoor activities with family. The University is grateful for Doug's creativity, thoroughness, and dedication for the past twenty-five years.

Philip F. Penatzer

"Electricity is really just organized lighting" - George Carlin

Phil Penatzer began employment in Dining Services as a shift supervisor in April 1989. In this capacity he took on new projects with developing new meal ideas. With a change in dining services management in 2002, Phil decided to make a career change and took the opportunity to work summers with the electricians in Physical Plant as an electrician's helper. In 2006 he was appointed as an electrician and made the transfer to Physical Plant. Phil works well with others, is dependable, and is always willing to learn about new equipment and techniques. Phil enjoys spending time with his children and spends a lot of his free time renovating his home. Phil stays involved in youth sports, umpiring and helping out when he can. The University salutes Phil on his success and continued efforts.

Timothy J. Shrift

"Hard work is the yeast that raises the dough." - Author Unknown

Tim Shrift has been a familiar face within Torvian Dining Hall for 25 years. Tim grew up in Loretto with his mom and eight siblings. Saint Francis University has been an integral part of the Shrift family and it seems fitting that Tim would find his life's work here. Tim has the essential responsibility to ensure that the dishroom runs smoothly, so most of his work is "behind the scenes". It takes a special kind of person with patience and dedication to serve in such a role, Tim is certainly that! For twenty-five years of faithful Franciscan service, Saint Francis University extends its heartfelt gratitude to Tim Shrift.

Pamela A. Zemrose

"Excellence is an art won by training and habituation. We do not act rightly because we have virtue or excellence, but rather we have those because we have acted rightly. We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit." - Aristotle

Throughout Pam's 25 year career, beginning in 1989 with the Office of Development at Saint Francis College as a data processing specialist, Pam has always made a habit of acting rightly, and repeatedly striving for excellence in her work. As her scope of responsibilities broadened, so did her dedication to acquiring the skills and training necessary to support all technology needs and efforts within the Office of Development. As such, Pam earned her undergraduate degree in computer science in 2003 and assumed additional responsibility for information technology and data services. As technology, the field of advancement services and the business of raising funds in higher education rapidly evolved, Pam assumed a leadership role in advancement services to assist the office in achieving its fund raising and stewardship responsibilities. In 2012 Pam was appointed "Director of Advancement Services."

Today, we recognize Pam's commitment to excellence and her dedication to the University's success.

Anniversary Employee Awards

5 YEAR

Mary C. Adams Kelly Aharrah
Dr. Douglas R. Bleggi
Mark A. Boland
Laura N. Cummings
Dr. Denise H. Damico
Brian J. Davis
Carole A. Dietrich
Cindy J. Drenning

Douglas E. Eppley
Robert D. Fatula, Jr.
Kimberly A. Forst Lisa A. Gillen
Melissa L. Greiner
Dr. Brendon L. LaBuz
Melissa A. Long
David M. McCoy Patricia L. McVicker
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Ryan S. O'Neill
Elizabeth A. Ott
Lori L. Pauley
Christopher H. Villarrial
Heather A. Vitko
Jesse M. Webber
Christina M. Wood
Brian S. Wright
Dr. Glenna Zeak

10 YEAR

Gloria J. Chlopik
Dr. Rita M. Trofino
Brenda Van Stralen

Thomas Kendziora	
Kathleen M. Gaudlij	p
James W. Hegedus	

Richard E. Kirsch
Richard J. Steen
Carol L. Stoltz

15 YEAR

Barbara A. Barto
Annette A. Chunko
Leslie C. Conrad
Bonnie M. Crynock
Denise M. Gilkey
William A. Horner

Rebecca M. Kopanic
Erin E. McCloskey
Br. Shamus J. McGrenra, TOR
Dr. Edward J. Mihelcic
Dr. Marnie L. Moist
Thomas E. Myers
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Karen K. Price
Erika C. Renwick
Michael Rumbaugh
Charles C. Staib
Linda M. Trinkley
Bernadette A. Yeager
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<u>**20 YEAR**</u>

Francis T. Mikula Barbara A. Shingle Dr. Devonna S. Shoemaker Dian M. Smith Dr. John J. Trimble Dr. Edward P. Zovinka

25 YEAR

Michael J. Blaisdell Shelley A. Kirkpatrick Philip F. Penatzer Patricia A. Eckenrode Heather J. Meck Timothy J. Shrift Philip A. Fryzlewicz Douglas E. Noon Pamela A. Zemrose

30 YEAR

Dr. Randy L. Frye Dr. Patricia B. Serotkin Dr. John F. Woznak Annette S. Kelly Thomas M. Sheehan Donna L. Yeisley

35 YEAR

Marjorie A. Conrad Dr. Sara B. King Bernard M. Storm

40 YEAR

Dominick F. Peruso, Sr. Helen T. Vizzini

Employees completing degrees in the past year:

Barbara A. Barto – Certificate in Paralegal Studies

Christina M. Baughman – Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership

Marian E. Bender – Master of Human Resource Management

James M. Donovan - Master of Educational Leadership

Madeline A. Grecek - Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

Grace B. Haid – Master of Business Administration

Lori McClellan - Master of Business Administration

Donald E. Miles - Master of Business Administration

Judith P. Pallone - Doctor of Nursing Practice

Monica E. Shedlock - Master of Educational Leadership

Sherri L. Toth - Master of Education

Dann E. Whitmore - Master of Business Administration

Other Acknowledgements

Student Government Association Outstanding Advisor Award— Dr. Lauri A. Chose and Mr. Curtis C. Kindel

Saint Francis Honor Society Distinguished Faculty Award—Dr. Kirk R. Weixel

Gerald & Helen Swatsworth Faculty Award— Dr. Margaret A. Garcia

Benediction Dr. Patricia B. Serotkin

Vice President for Strategic Initiatives

