

in brief

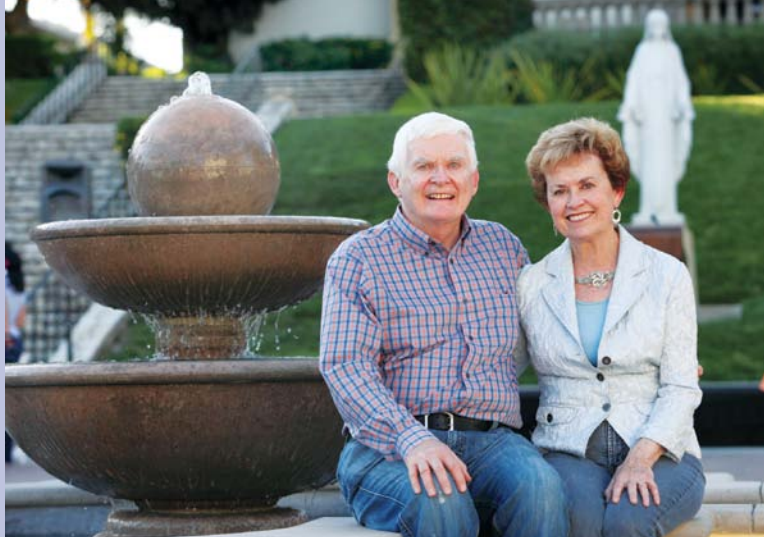
College Participates in Religious Education Congress

The College had a large presence at this year's Religious Education Congress, held in March at the Anaheim Convention Center. The event drew 30,000–40,000 participants, making it the largest annual gathering of Catholics in the world. Gail Gresser, director of campus ministry, served on the Liturgy Committee that planned 19 liturgies during the four-day event. More than 35 Mount students assisted with the liturgies and with hospitality, while Laura Gomez and Gaile Krause, assistant directors of campus ministry, participated in the choirs. The new Archbishop of Los Angeles, José Gomez, presided over the congress for the first time.



Mount Senior Wins Top Honors at Mock Trial Contest

Yevgeniya (Jane) Kutepova '11 was honored at the American Mock Trial Association competition in Los Angeles in February, winning the All Region Best Attorney award. Kutepova, a political science major, and a team of Mount students competed among 300 college and university peers from institutions including Stanford, USC and Arizona State University. In 2010, Kutepova won the Best Witness honor.



Dedicating The Circle at Chalon

The central area of the Chalon Campus, known as The Circle, was dedicated in April in honor of President Emerita Jacqueline Powers Doud. In the center of this newly-redesigned plaza is now a fountain, which provides a beautiful gateway to Mary Chapel. Students paid special tribute to Doud's 20 years of service to the College through song, dance and speeches. Shown here, Jacqueline Powers Doud sits by the fountain with her husband, Robert Doud.

Political Science Majors Awarded Pre-Law Scholarships

Winners of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher pre-law scholarships were announced in April. The \$2,500 scholarship winners are Mayra Duque '11 and Alicia Herrera '11. Winners of the \$1,250 scholarships are Genevieve Cawthorn '11, Adriana Garrido '11, Chloe Long '11 and Natasha Tados '11. All are political science majors, with minors in pre-law.



Student Government Leaders Host Conference

Last November, the Chalon associated student body hosted more than 150 college students from across the country for the annual American Student Government Association Los Angeles conference. The conference offered student government leaders the opportunity to hear various speakers on topics such as improving public speaking skills, reaching out to a student body and advocating for change on campus.

College Community Unites to Serve

In March, the College's largest number of alum, faculty, staff and student volunteers came together for the fifth annual All College Day of Service. More than 95 people spent a Saturday helping local nonprofit groups. Activities included cleaning up two locations of the St. Joseph Center, preparing and serving food at the Union Rescue Mission and Adam's Harbor, sorting food at the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank, and cleaning up a beach in Santa Monica with Heal the Bay.



Graduate Nursing Program Honored As Leader in Health Care

The Mount's graduate nursing program was honored with a Health Care Leadership Award for its innovative curriculum by the Los Angeles Business Journal in April. The Business Journal also named Marsha Sato, director of the master of science in nursing programs, as a finalist for special achievement in health care. The Mount's nursing faculty is nationally recognized as a leader in nursing education for developing two graduate programs: a master's in nursing program and a bridge program designed to prepare RNs to complete their undergraduate coursework and earn a graduate nursing degree.



Mount Students Lobby Legislators for Cal Grants

Students Alicia Herrera '11 (left) and Adriana Garrido '11 (right) greeted California Assemblyman Mike Feuer during a meeting at the Capitol in March for Cal Grant Lobby Day. Feuer's district includes the Chalon Campus, where Herrera and Garrido studied political science. The event, organized by the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, provides students with one-on-one sessions with lawmakers and their staff to make the case for preserving or enhancing Cal Grants.

Team Athena Walks to Fight Cancers in Women

Members of the College community, along with their family and friends, participated in the 18th Annual Revlon Run/Walk for Women in May, raising nearly \$3,000. The 60 members of the Mount Athenians team donned T-shirts designed by Homeboy Industries, and were sponsored by both Omega Rho, the nursing honor society, and Master of Science in Nursing program alums. The College also staffed a water station along the route.

Mount Opens New Student Services Center

In May, the College opened the new student services center on the Doheny Campus at 745 W. Adams Blvd. The building centralizes student support offices, including admission, financial aid, academic advisement, the business office, the registrar and information technology. The offices are located in a renovated historic home adjacent to the College on property purchased this past year.

Religious Studies Hosts Muslim Neighbors Symposium

The Mount hosted a thought-provoking "Muslim Neighbors" symposium at the Doheny Campus in February. "Most Americans are miseducated about Muslim people and have even formed a fear about them," says event creator Rosamond Rodman, an assistant professor in the Mount's religious studies department. "This symposium helped by addressing the source of misconceptions, and by providing better sources of information about Islam." Keynote speaker Sumbul Ali-Karamali, an author and Muslim scholar, offered an introduction to Islam and Islamic law, the Qur'an, the media, and "that veil thing." About 150 people attended the event, which was open to the public.



Students Head to Capitol Hill

Mount students traveled to Washington, D.C., this past year, joining peers from 17 other women's colleges as part of the Public Leadership Education Network. This national organization's sole mission is preparing women for public leadership. In November, Mayra Duque '11, Adriana Garrido '11, Karina Morales '12 and Natasha Tadros '11 attended the Women, Law and Public Policy Seminar. Kelsey Miller '13, Christina Villagomez '12 and Sanam Yaghtin '11 attended the Women, Science/Technology Policy



College Celebrates Commencement 2011

Close to 700 new Mount St. Mary's College graduates celebrated their academic accomplishments in May with a ceremony at Gibson Amphitheatre in Universal City, Calif. Sister Judy Vaughan, CSJ, '68, founding director of Alexandria House, delivered the address. Also at commencement, the College honored Most Rev. Gabino Zavala with the Carondelet Medal. He is auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles' San Gabriel Pastoral Region.

Seminar in January. Students joined interactive panels, met influential leaders and attended dynamic briefings to understand how public policy is influenced and developed. Mount St. Mary's has participated in the PLEN for two decades.

CSJs Celebrate Anniversaries

The Mount community celebrated CSJ anniversaries on the Chalon Campus in March with cake, tributes and song. Sister Mary Constance Fitzgerald is celebrating 80 years, and celebrating 75 years is Sister Patricia Margaret Barnard. Those celebrating 60 years include: Sister Anita Joseph Aragon '50, Sister Kathleen Mary McCarthy, Sister Margaret Anne Vonderahe '58 and Sister Marie Bernadette Walsh. Celebrating 50 years are: Sister

Marilyn Louise Binder '65, '74 MS, a former Mount trustee; and Sister Carlotta DiLorenzo.

Mount Students Tour Cuba

In December, 21 Mount students and faculty members made the College's first group trip in recent years to Cuba. The travelers, most of them students in the Mount's graduate programs and Weekend College, got a rare glimpse of life in the small communist nation. Since 1962, travel from the U.S. to Cuba has been banned, but some Americans and other foreign visitors have been allowed into the country under various policies. The Mount group was welcomed as a humanitarian group and delivered canes and glasses to a school for blind children.



Student Publishes Book

Vernice Grajera '11 (above), a Spanish studies major, became a published author in April when her senior thesis was printed. The 64-page thesis, "Nacionalismo y la expulsión de los judíos de España en 1492," is about the three Jewish expulsions by the Visigoths, the Muslims and the Christians in what is now Spain. This fall, Grajera will begin a doctoral program in medieval studies at the Catholic University of America.

MSMC Purchases Clean-Fuel Shuttles

College officials recently purchased two new, 32-seat buses and converted them to run on the clean-fuel option of compressed natural gas (CNG). "We decided to go with compressed natural gas to do our share and burn cleaner fuel and contribute to helping our planet," says College transportation manager Patricia Williams. Shuttle ridership at the College shot up from an average of about 2,000 riders a week in January 2010 to 3,200 riders a week last August. Shuttles run nearly 17 hours each day. The College has plans to purchase more of the clean fuel buses, which cost about \$135,000 each. The Mount has a total of 10 shuttles in its fleet, as well as two passenger vans.

Mount Nursing Students Win Award for Unmasking Sugary Drinks

At the Society of Pediatric Nurses Annual Convention in April, a group of Mount nursing students received the People's Choice Award for their poster, "What Are You Drinking?"



Using an interactive activity and visual representation, the nursing students asked volunteers to match beverages to the correct amount of sugar in each drink. Bags of sugar demonstrated the content of the beverages. The students are members of the California Nursing Students Association, and represented the association during their presentation at the convention.

MSMC Graduate Programs Excel

Two Mount graduate programs are nationally ranked by U.S. News & World Report. The master's in nursing program was highlighted in rankings released by the news organization in March. The doctor of physical therapy program is ranked among similar programs nationwide.



College Goes Green at Earth Day Festivities

On April 21, the College hosted an Earth Day Fair on the Chalon Campus. Sponsored by the "green

FUN FACTS



Locks of Love

In March, Mount students and staff clipped as much as 10 inches from their hair to help create wigs for women and children with cancer. Here's a look at the event, called "Make the Cut," in numbers:

503

Total inches of hair donated

42

Ponytails

34

People who made the cut

12

Hairstylists

5

Hours of hair cutting

team" sustainability committee, the event promoted responsible stewardship of the planet. Vendors included the Tree People, California Recycles, AMP Radio, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and Creative Faces. Students gathered information on nuclear power plants, designed emergency preparedness plans and emergency kits, and munched on locally-grown produce provided by Bon Appétit, the Mount's catering service.