From Dawn to Dusk

A day in the life of a Rockhurst intern
Growing Involvement

Meaghan Fanning, ’12, always wanted to be a woman for others. During a trip to El Salvador she realized she wanted to devote more of her life to helping her fellow man, but she knew she needed to help at home.

This spring she found out about a community garden project being run by the Don Bosco Center in Kansas City, Mo., and volunteered. She impressed the center staff so much that when they got enough grant money to expand the project, they hired her to be the garden’s director.

Fanning loves the idea of the community getting involved to take care of their own nutrition because she said many urban environments lack access to fresh produce. Now that she has graduated from Rockhurst University, Fanning plans to earn a master’s in social work to continue to help others.
INSIDE

A Day in the Life of an Intern 8
Do you ever wonder what internships are like today? Five Rockhurst students showcase what a typical day is like for them as interns in a variety of fields, from international business to marketing to biochemistry.

A World in Need 12
Sometimes the seeds of service are sown into the character of our students to be cultivated and harvested later, after they leave campus.

DEPARTMENTS

ROCK REPORT 2
HAWK TALK 16
GIVING BACK 18
FOR ALUMNI 20
CLASS NOTES 22

ON THE COVER: Grant Fischer, ’12, works as an intern in the lab at the Vision Research Center at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine.

WHERE LEADERS LEARN

Rockhurst, the magazine of Rockhurst University, is published by the Office of Public Relations and Marketing.

Rockhurst welcomes letters and comments.

Send letters to:
Katherine Frohoff, Rockhurst University
1100 Rockhurst Road, Kansas City, MO 64110-2561
E-mail to katherine.frohoff@rockhurst.edu.

ROCKHURST

Editor
Katherine Frohoff, ’09 EMBA
Director of Public Relations
Lauren Debiak
Director of Marketing

Design
Joe Boeckholt

Contributing Writers
John Dodderidge, Estuardo Garcia,
Jennifer Price, Andrea Sobczyk, ’12

Photography
John Dodderidge, Estuardo Garcia,
Mark McDonald, Dan Videtich

Rockhurst, the magazine of Rockhurst University, is published by the Office of Public Relations and Marketing. Rockhurst welcomes letters and comments.

Send letters to:
Katherine Frohoff, Rockhurst University
1100 Rockhurst Road, Kansas City, MO 64110-2561
E-mail to katherine.frohoff@rockhurst.edu.
It’s not too often that someone can use one passion to fuel another, but Mary Schletzbaum, junior from Atchison, Kan., has done just that. Schletzbaum is using her love of cooking to fulfill a dream: perform service in Africa.

“I’ve always been interested and curious about the culture and society in Africa,” Schletzbaum said. “I think the only way to learn about the history and people of a culture is to experience it for yourself.”

On May 31, Schletzbaum left Kansas City and head to Africa, where she will spend nine weeks in Arusha, Tanzania, with Global Service Corps to educate youth about HIV and AIDS as well as help the surrounding communities establish sustainable agriculture.

Schletzbaum was looking to raise nearly $2,500 for the trip. To accomplish this goal, she decided to sell cookbooks at $25 each. The book contains more than 75 different recipes that Schletzbaum either created or modified from other recipes, and is titled Cook. Eat. Live.

Although she is currently a practicing vegan, Schletzbaum said there are recipes for everyone. “I grew up in a steak-and-potatoes family, but now I’m a vegan,” she said. “This book kind of follows the evolution of my eating habits.”

By mid-March, Schletzbaum already had sold 25 copies of her first printing. She is humbled by all of the support she’s been given to help make her dream a reality.

To learn more about the endeavor, visit Schletzbaum’s blog at atanziansummer.blogspot.com.
Sabbatical Program Promotes Faculty Research

Five Rockhurst University faculty members will devote one semester during the 2012-13 academic year to their research and academic interests, thanks to the presidential grants and sabbaticals program. Faculty were selected by the Presidential Grants and Sabbaticals Committee, led by Joann Spillman, Ph.D., professor of theology and religious studies.

Lisa Felzien, Ph.D. associate professor of biology, spring 2013
Felzien will work in University of Kansas Medical Center, University of Kansas, and Missouri Western University laboratories to incorporate new technology and techniques in her molecular biology research.

Laura Janusik, Ph.D. associate professor of communication, spring 2013
Building on her 10 years researching listening cognitions, Janusik plans to develop a research-based curriculum to teach listening metacognitions.

Annie Lee, Ph.D. associate professor and department chair of chemistry, spring 2013
Lee will collaborate with the director of the KU Diabetes Institute to use the atomic force microscope to measure physical properties of human islet cells and develop publications related to service learning in general chemistry.

Daniel Martin, Ph.D. associate professor and department chair of English, fall 2012
Martin will write a collection of personal essays surrounding the theme of The Retold Story to be submitted to literary magazines.

Robert Vigiotti, Ph.D. associate professor of philosophy, fall 2012
Vigiotti will begin writing a textbook for introductory philosophy and ethics courses, focusing on service learning.

The Results Are In and Students Are Happy

How happy are Rockhurst University students? Let us count the ways.

Recent results from the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and the Student Satisfaction Inventory (SSI) showed that Rockhurst ranks above other Jesuit universities and other private four-year schools when it comes to student satisfaction and quality of their undergraduate experience.

“It was no surprise to me that our satisfaction scores were high,” said Matthew Quick, Ph.D., dean of students and vice president for student development and athletics. “But we were excited to learn that our students scored Rockhurst significantly higher than other national four-year private colleges and universities on all 12 major scales of the SSI.”

The NSSE asks students to rate Rockhurst from 0 to 100 on five benchmarks such as level of academic challenge and student-faculty interaction. This survey is distributed to freshmen and seniors each year during the spring semester.

Quick said while he is happy that Rockhurst’s scores continue to improve each year, the University practices one of its core values – “magis,” which means “more” – by closely examining results so that those areas needing improvement can be thoroughly addressed.

Surveys show students’ satisfaction and happiness at Rockhurst continues to rise.
Trip to the Hospital Makes Students Feel Good

Nancy Donaldson, Ph.D., wants her pre-med physics students to be cursed. Not in the way wand-wielding wizards curse people, but in the way these students will forever see physics in every aspect of their life.

“We tease, but we want our students to make the connection of taking their science knowledge outside of the classroom and into the real world — especially into the world of medicine,” said Donaldson, assistant professor of physics.

For the past four years, Donaldson and a group of her physics students have taken their love of science to young patients at Children’s Mercy Hospital in Kansas City for Wacky Science Night.

This year, 38 underclassman and four upperclassman assistants used toys such as yo-yos, Slinkys and bubbles to demonstrate principles of physics to groups of hospitalized children and teens. A total of three science nights were held at the hospital this spring.

“The kids just light up when they see the exhibits,” Donaldson said. “They get to touch, play and ask questions.”

At the end of program, the students are asked to write reflection papers on their experience, how it relates to what they are learning in the classroom, and about the service work they are providing. Donaldson said she has yet to find a student who didn’t like the time spent in the hospital.

Upper division physics of medicine student leaders Chris VandeVen, Stephen Tipton, Courntey Stanger and John Lazenby demonstrate some of the fun tools they used to teach physics to sick children.

Take Rock E. Hawk With You

Your favorite Rockhurst fan, Rock E. Hawk, wants to tag along with you. From running errands around town to globetrotting around the world, Rock E. is eager to join in on the fun.

Play along – it’s as easy as 1-2-3.

1. Print your own Rock E. Hawk at www.rockhurst.edu/FlatRockE.
2. Take Rock E. with you to grab some groceries, hit the beach, or join your entourage on a road trip.
3. Take photos with Rock E. and upload them at www.rockhurst.edu/FlatRockE.

Don’t forget to browse the site’s photo gallery chronicling Flat Rock E.’s adventures. Be sure to check out www.facebook.com/RockhurstU for more fun photos.

Clockwise from left, Martin Vargas, ‘05, proudly displays his Flat Rock E.; Rock E. Hawk took in some sights at the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden alongside Jen McGarry, ’11; Rock E. spends the day with Benjamin, son of Molly Thiessen, ’01.
Economist Returns to Campus for a Visit

When LaVaughn Henry, Ph.D., ’83, returns to his alma mater, he says he’s always impressed with the direction it’s going.

“I always thought campus was pretty, but now it has entered the beautiful stage,” said Henry. “It feels much more complete, but one thing remains the same: it still has that strong community feel. That’s what attracted me to Rockhurst.”

Recently, Henry, vice president and senior regional officer of the Cincinnati Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, gave a lecture at Rockhurst titled “The Role of Leadership and Ethics in an Evolving Economy,” which focused on leadership and success in our current economic environment.

Henry’s love for economics came about in a strange way. He said he spent too much time early in his college career socializing. Because he had to take an economics course, Henry chose one late in the morning so he could continue his late-night social habits.

But during one fateful class, his economics professor explained the principle of diminishing returns in a way Henry understood perfectly: with a story about a desert and beer. On that day, Henry was hooked.

Henry said he loved the common-sense nature of economics and decided to make that his chosen field.

“People like to think economics is the study of employment, interest rates, and international trade — and yes it is — but fundamentally it comes down to why we make the choices we make with the scarce resources we have to achieve our goals,” he said.

Rockhurst Community Finds God in All Things

Every fall as the freshmen unpack their bags they are greeted by enthusiasm orientation leaders and caring staff members, but another more subtle presence welcomes the freshmen to Rockhurst as well — the theme for the year.

“Finding God in All Things” was not only this year’s theme, but a Rockhurst core value as well. Last year, the First Year Experience Committee, which selects the theme, chose to use a core value for the next six years to reinforce the values throughout the entire university community.

This year’s value was carefully woven into every aspect of the freshman experience. During the summer the freshmen read the book How Can I Find God?, edited by the Rev. James Martin, S.J. As part of orientation, a book discussion was held to engage the freshmen with the theme and the book was incorporated into freshman seminar classes.

While the theme for the year has traditionally been targeted toward the freshmen, this year it went campuswide. “Finding God in All Things” was woven into lectures, and a fall film series centered on the theme. Every week throughout the academic year, a student-written reflection on finding God at Rockhurst was distributed by email. These reflections give the community a unique point of view on a Rockhurst core value and allow the readers to reflect on and enrich their own understanding of the value through the students’ observations. Weekly reflections can be found online at http://rockhurstfindinggod.blogspot.com.
Most people like to mark important chronological milestones with a big celebration. The Jesuits aren’t any different.


“It’s a way for us to celebrate the life and ministry of these men and honor their lifelong dedication,” said the Rev. William Oulvey, S.J., assistant to the president for mission and ministry. “It’s also a way for these men to say, ‘thank you,’ to the people who have supported them throughout the years.”

Fr. Byrne graduated from Rockhurst High School, where he has taught pottery for nearly 20 years. Fr. Dunfee is a nurse practitioner in the Kansas City area.

A special jubilee Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 9, at Saint Francis Xavier Church, 1001 E. 52nd St., Kansas City, Mo. Fr. Oulvey said the special Mass will be oriented towards the jubilarians with special prayers honoring them. Immediately after the service, a reception for the men will be held in Massman Hall.

Fr. Byrne will also be honored during Family & Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28-30, for his service to Rockhurst athletics.

Fr. Oulvey said everyone is invited to come and celebrate the momentous accomplishment of these men.
Dress Drive Gives Joplin Girls Dream Prom

When she first started collecting donated dresses, Megan Green, assistant director of student life, knew she would get a few. She never expected 2,200. “We had more dresses than we knew what to do with,” Green said. “My phone is still ringing with folks who want to drop off dresses.”

Green began collecting prom dresses for the high school students in Joplin, Mo., whose town was devastated by a tornado on May 22, 2011. As she collected more dresses, word got around. Local media outlets picked up the story and that’s when dresses really started coming in. These dresses filled Green’s office and parts of her house.

In March, Green and another volunteer drove the dresses down to Joplin to make them available at a shopping day. There, the girls from Joplin High School planning to attend the April 21 prom browsed through the massive dress selection and picked out their gown for the evening.

Green said they ended up giving out around 400 dresses that initial shopping day. “I just go back to my time at prom and how much fun I had,” Green said. “I am just so glad we were able to do that for the students.”

Some of the remaining dresses were used for a shopping day for another high school and volunteers were looking for a home for the rest.

U.S. Open Greens Overseen by Rockhurst Graduate

If you are planning to check out the U.S. Open this June, pay close attention to the course at the Olympic Club in San Francisco. If you like what you see, you can thank a Rockhurst University graduate.

Patrick R. Finlen, ’80, got his Rockhurst degree in business administration before switching to the world of course maintenance. While most people in his position have degrees in agronomy, Finlen was able to combine his previous golf course experience with his business degree to give himself a competitive edge.

“I excel in the business side of course maintenance,” he said. “Rockhurst gave me a great foundation of skills, like managing large budgets, that I’ve carried with me. This is how I moved the Olympic Club from an 18-hole facility to a 45-hole facility.”

Finlen had worked on golf courses for a number of years in college before getting a maintenance job at Lake Quivira Country Club. He was quickly moved up to superintendent of that course in 1984 before accepting a position as a course superintendent in Virginia Beach, Va. In 2002, he moved to the Olympic Club where he later was named director of golf maintenance operations. He also serves as the vice president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Finlen said that he always loved the sport because it is the only sport where its participants call penalties on themselves so it not only teaches focus, but builds moral integrity.

In 2005, the US Golf Association named the Olympic Club as the home for the 2012 U.S. Open. Since then, Finlen and his crew have been working to get the facility ready. He said they had to extend a couple of holes, create gravel roads and actually close down some holes in order to accommodate the event.

This will be the fifth time the club has hosted the event. It has previously held the U.S. Open in 1955, 1966, 1987 and 1998.
To gain first-hand experience in their prospective fields, many students look to internships. While the term internship may generate flashbacks of coffee errands, malfunctioning copy machines and long hours with little or no pay, these five Rockhurst students prove otherwise. Learn a bit about each of them, and take a peek at what their typical day as an intern is like.
in the Life of an Intern

By Jennifer Price

Sheila Helms, ’12
accounting
American Century Investments

Helms works at American Century part-time during the academic year and full-time in the summer, completing tasks such as daily reconciliations of trade confirmations, enhancement of data systems, trade analysis and data summary reports for senior management. She frequently uses commercial market data tools, including Bloomberg and Reuters Knowledge. In addition to her internship, classes and extracurricular activities, Helms is also a member of Rockhurst’s women’s soccer team.

Fred Grossman, ’12
accounting, Spanish
Cerner Corporation

Grossman is part of the Cerner’s IP compliance and regulatory group, charged with maintaining internal controls and documentation. He assists with internal audits and is given tasks similar to those of full-time associates. In addition to enhancing his business skills, Grossman also made important connections within the business realm. One connection was especially important, landing him a full-time job at Ernst & Young after graduation.

Katelin Saalfeld, ’12
nonprofit leadership, psychology
Children’s Mercy Hospital

From writing articles for hospital publications to media relations to event planning, Saalfeld has been able to experience a variety of areas within the field of community relations. One of her largest projects includes the promotion of an early literacy program for children called “Rhyming to Reading.” Saalfeld is charged with creating a national, comprehensive marketing plan to get program DVDs in front of key audiences – all with a $0 budget.

Lais DaSilva, ’13
international business
Capistrano Global Advisory Services

As a Portuguese speaker and Helzberg School of Management student, DaSilva’s internship with CGA allows her to use her native language while also shaping her business expertise. Her primary responsibilities include communicating with CGA’s Brazilian clients, and assisting with event and business-trip planning. DaSilva was able to experience one of her planned trips, traveling to São Paulo, Brazil, from March 22-30 alongside another intern and two CGA executives.

Grant Fischer, ’12
biochemistry
Vision Research Center at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine

Fischer’s internship involves researching the role of an important regulatory protein in the brain, understanding the defects of this protein, and the conditions that result from these defects. He utilizes a variety of biological techniques including sterile tissue culture, protein purification, and molecular biology. Fischer submitted his research manuscript to a peer-reviewed scientific journal in May 2012.
6:30 a.m. Sheila Helms wakes up and prepares for her day.

7 a.m. Fred Grossman turns off his alarm and makes his usual eggs for breakfast.

8 a.m. Katelin Saalfeld arrives at Children’s Mercy Hospital’s community relations office, and sits down for a brief meeting with her supervisor, Stacy Duane, to discuss the overview of the day.

8:30 a.m. On Brazil time – two hours ahead of Kansas City – Lais DaSilva, a fellow intern, and two Capistrano Global Advisory Services executives meet with one of their clients in São Paulo, Brazil.

9 a.m. Grant Fischer attends a pre-med Club meeting – one of his many extracurricular activities – before heading to his research internship at the University of Missouri-Kansas City’s School of Medicine Vision Research Center.

9:15 a.m. Helms and her supervisor, Sara Gude, work on trade confirmations at American Century Investments, connecting with brokers to verify accuracies so their trades settle in the market on time.

9:30 a.m. Grossman and his intern team at Cerner meet to discuss work load, report on the status of projects and gather feedback from supervisors.

10 a.m. Saalfeld is developing a marketing plan for Children’s Mercy’s new “Rhyming to Reading DVD” – an early literacy program for children that the hospital’s speech pathologists are looking to implement throughout the nation.

10:30 a.m. Helms gathers foreign exchange data to compile price currencies for foreign exchange trading.

11 a.m. DaSilva prepares to board a flight from São Paulo to Curitiba, Brazil.
11:30 a.m. Saalfeld attends an off-campus visit in Overland Park, Kan., to conduct a physician interview.

Noon Fischer meets with his research supervisor, Simon Kaja, Ph.D., to showcase any findings of the day and discuss next steps.

12:30 p.m. Grossman monitors Cerner reports and client complaints, problem-solving for customers and reaching out to in-house representatives to get issues resolved quickly.

1 p.m. DaSilva lands in Curitiba, Brazil, and quickly heads to a lunch meeting with one of her company’s clients.

1:30 p.m. Saalfeld writes an article for the hospital’s newsletter, adds it as a blog post to the corporate blog, and promotes it on the Children’s Mercy Facebook and Twitter pages.

2 p.m. Fischer is in the lab, conducting research on how a particular regulatory protein in the brain affects cerebella cell development.

3 p.m. Grossman reviews the reports collected by his team that day, correcting any mistakes.

4 p.m. DaSilva heads to another client meeting.

4:30 p.m. Helms is busy completing daily reconciliations of trade confirmations.

5 p.m. Fischer records his findings in a lab notebook and plans for the next day.

6 p.m. Helms leaves the office and heads to a happy hour event downtown.

7 p.m. Fischer finishes the day by meeting with Kaja to discuss project results, then heads home.

8 p.m. DaSilva attends dinner with clients, CGA executives and two representatives of the local government before finally heading to her hotel, wake up the next day and do it all over again.
A World in Need

Students and alumni answer call to serve on a global scale

For more than a century, Rockhurst University has been trying to instill in its students a strong willingness to make God’s good world a better place.

Some students take advantage of their opportunity to serve others while within the school’s hallowed halls, but for others, the real service doesn’t begin until they leave the Hawks’ nest. Here’s a look at what one student and several alumni are doing to extend their gift of service beyond domestic borders.
Global teachings

Sometimes when you want something done right, you just have to do it yourself. At least that’s what Shea, ’03, and Jeff Brasier thought when they were looking to make a difference in the world.

The couple started their own nonprofit organization, The Global Village Project, which is aimed at providing educational support and resources to developing nations.

Through research and their church, the Brasiers discovered that there was already a network of support waiting for their help in Nicaragua.

“Education has always been our central focus,” Shea said. “Through education, these children and people will have more success in the future.”

At first, the Brasiers were sponsoring a student in Nicaragua, but they soon became more involved.

As a teacher at Piermont Elementary School just outside of St. Louis, Mo., Shea began to have her students communicate with their counterparts at the Elba Zamora School, near Granada, Nicaragua.

While in the states, the Brasiers hold trivia night fundraisers at local restaurants to raise money for the school. They also get the students involved with school service projects, raising money to buy school supplies for the Nicaraguan children.

Shea says $10 will buy an entire year’s worth of school supplies for one student.

The Brasiers make visits to Nicaragua whenever they can. One of their biggest goals is to build a new school for the 150 Nicaraguan children who currently share a one-room school.

Healing hands

Adjusting to life in the Dominican Republic has sometimes been a challenge for Laurie Keitzman-Greer, ’07 DPT, and her husband Nick Greer, DPT.

The enchantment of a Caribbean nation soon wore off when the modern convenience and luxuries of life, like hot showers, were difficult to come by. But that didn’t stop the couple who have committed to spending the next few years using their knowledge and talents to help the people of the Dominican Republic.

The couple started this journey at the end of May 2011. They came to the Dominican Republic after using connections Nick made through his time at Creighton University.

One of their goals is to instill some of the critical thinking skills they obtained through their Jesuit education into the next generation of physical therapists in the country. The couple said this could be difficult sometimes because of the way the education and health care systems work in the Dominican Republic.

They’ve had to treat patients who have complications from previous injuries that weren’t properly treated because the patient didn’t have enough money for treatment at the time.

“I think the Jesuit emphasis on the whole person also forces you to think about all of the contributing factors to someone’s pain or why their quality of life is what it is,” Laurie said.

The couple has committed to be in the country for at least three more years, and then decide what their next move will be.
Rebuilding for children

For Ted Toczylowski, ’99, a philosophy he learned at Rockhurst University about being men and women for others really struck a chord. He knew he wanted to be a helping hand somewhere in the world, so when an opportunity came his way to work with orphaned children in Lima, Peru, through Global Volunteers, he jumped at the chance.

Last year, Toczylowski spent two weeks at the Puericultorio Perez Aranibar where 400 orphaned children call home.

He was troubled by how few children were adopted each year from the orphanage.

“It was humbling knowing these kids are in that orphanage from the time that they are born to the time they are 18 with little to no transition to normal society,” he said. “I think that was the biggest eye-opener for me.”

In between interacting with the children, Toczylowski and the other volunteers were used to help fix up the orphanage by doing things like painting or replacing windows.

Even when he returned to the states, Toczylowski still had the orphanage in mind. He spent time raising $2,500 for the orphanage so they could buy needed items.

For Toczylowski, the chance to make these kids smile was completely fulfilling. “I would love to go back there,” he said. “It was an incredible experience that everybody should try.”
The Achés

When Rodolfo Mariotti, ’13, traveled back to his home country of Paraguay over the Christmas holidays, he didn’t just have visions of sugar plums dancing in his head. The Asuncion junior wanted to serve.

His goal was to help the indigenous people of his country, the Achés. These people have been pushed into a small protected reserve and now need help integrating themselves into modern Paraguay.

“They don’t know how economics or money works,” Mariotti said. “They don’t know how to pay for something because they never needed to do that. They go to the capital and beg for money or they steal what they need to survive.”

After arriving home, he ventured into the heart of the reserve to a school set up by the Moises Bertoni Foundation. There, he spent a week teaching a group of young women, the future leaders of the matriarchal Achés, about economics, agriculture and hygiene.

As he wrote in his reflection paper following the trip, because of Rockhurst he tries to find God in all things and he found God in the Achés.

After the quake

When tragedy strikes, people like to open their pocketbooks and give what they can. But some won’t feel like they are helping until they get their hands dirty.

In the early morning of Feb. 27, 2010, a magnitude 8.8 earthquake devastated parts of Chile’s mainland and a resulting tsunami devastated areas of the Chilean coast. Among the devastated areas was a small coastal town called Constitución and a nearby village called Empedrado.

In Empedrado, the village’s only church, St. Ignatius, was damaged by the tremor. The church, which was both a place for worship and a popular gathering place for locals, would be able to rebuild, but it needed $20,000 it didn’t have.

William Dugan, former Rockhurst undergraduate student and owner of Prime Lead Inc., found out about the damage through his pastor at St. Agnes Church in Roeland Park, Kan.

Not only did he and his company front the money needed to repair the church, he also made it a point to fly down to Chile to lend a hand in its rebuild.

“A lot of people donate money, but on this one particular project I wanted to go see the impact and meet the people,” Dugan said. “Giving that personal touch obviously makes a world of difference.”

The first Mass after the church’s reopening was one of the biggest in its recent history.

Dugan has already pledged more money and support to expand the existing church to include classrooms and a rectory.
Rockhurst Receives DII Presidents Award for Academic Excellence

Rockhurst University is one of 24 NCAA Division II schools to be recognized as a recipient of the first Division II Presidents Award for Academic Excellence honoring athletics programs with four-year academic success rates of 90 percent or more. Rockhurst achieved the highest four-year academic success rate in the Great Lakes Valley Conference and ranked 10th nationally, graduating 93 percent of its student-athletes within six years of original enrollment.

The Division II Academic Requirements Committee established the Division II Presidents Award for Academic Excellence to recognize programs achieving long-term academic success. The Division II academic success rate measures graduation rates for virtually all Division II student athletes, including transfers and those not receiving athletically related financial aid. Active and provisional member institutions when the data were submitted for 2010-11 were eligible for the award.

The Division II academic success rate captures about two-thirds more student athletes than the federal graduation rate, which does not count incoming transfers, counts outgoing transfers as having not graduated and counts only student athletes receiving athletically related financial aid. The national four-year academic success rate average is 72 percent. Regardless of the measure, Division II student athletes graduate at a higher rate than the general student body.

Rockhurst students are recognized for excelling both on the field and in the classroom.

Mark Sappington: A Pitching Sensation

One of our Hawks is taking flight and heading for the City of Angels. On June 5, Mark Sappington was selected in the fifth round of the 2012 Major League Baseball Draft to play with the Los Angeles Angels.

“It feels great to get drafted by an organization as good as the Angels,” said Sappington, who is from Peculiar, Mo. “I was optimistic that I would get drafted about where I was picked. I can’t wait to play at the next level.”

Sappington was nearly unhittable in his first five starts of the 2012 season. He struck out 38 hitters in 33 innings while pitching in front of 10 to 15 big league scouts in each of his starts.

The 6-foot-5, 209-pound Sappington has been clocked as high as 96 miles per hour with his fastball. He worked hard at getting stronger last summer while pitching in the Prospect League in Hannibal, Mo. He credits Rockhurst baseball coach Gary Burns for helping him grow as a baseball player.

At 177th overall, he is the highest draft pick in the history of the Rockhurst baseball program.

Sappington is one of the school’s biggest supporters. He attends nearly all of the home games of the soccer, volleyball and basketball teams.

“I’m into the school spirit and I want the students to have pride,” said Sappington, who is a double major in accounting and economics. “I would love for all of our teams to do well.”
Sporting Kansas City Hosts Rockhurst

The Rockhurst men’s soccer team never imagined getting an opportunity to play against a professional soccer team in one of the top soccer stadiums in the country. The Hawks got that chance on March 13 when they played Major League Soccer’s Sporting Kansas City in an exhibition match at Livestrong Sporting Park in Kansas City, Kan.

In front of a crowd of nearly 2,000 fans, the Hawks held Sporting KC to a pair of goals while playing their entire roster of 24 players in the 2-0 loss. Former Rockhurst All-American defender Kyle Miller played in the second half for Sporting KC.

Rockhurst coach Tony Tocco said the game was a great experience for his players to be able to play soccer against a professional team.

“This game gave our players a chance to see how professionals play,” Tocco said. “This was a dream come true to play in this stadium and get the chance to be on a major league soccer field. Hopefully, it will make them want to play harder and be better players next season.”

Rockhurst finished with a 17-2-3 record and advanced to the NCAA Division II quarterfinals last season. The Hawks will return 10 starters and 17 of their top 22 players from last season.

“The game is a part of the celebration of last season,” added Tocco, who became the third men’s college soccer coach to win 600 games. “Next year is a new season and anything can happen. Everyone is going to come after us because we have a target on our back.”

Katie McCune: A Life-Changing Experience

Katie McCune has been one of the busiest students at Rockhurst the past four years. Not only does she pitch for the Hawks softball team, but she has served on the Rockhurst Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) and been an active member with the Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority.

McCune, who is majoring in business and sport science, is currently the SAAC president. She joined SAAC during her freshman year and attended the Great Lakes Valley Conference’s SAAC Conference in St. Louis.

“I learned a great deal about what other schools did for their athletics culture and about all of the possibilities for Rockhurst,” McCune said. “This year as president I am finally beginning to make some concrete improvements within SAAC and among the student body in regards to athletics.”

McCune received the national Alpha Sigma Alpha Outstanding Athlete Award last summer. The award recognizes an undergraduate member who exemplifies the sorority’s physical aim by representing her college or university as a member of an intercollegiate athletic team.

“I was honestly shocked when I got the phone call from my sorority’s national headquarters. It was a brand new award. I was blessed and honored to receive it,” said McCune, who served on her chapter’s standards board and recruitment committee and co-chaired the 2011 Hopkins Skip and Run 5K.

Playing an intercollegiate sport has taught McCune countless life lessons along the way that has helped her become a well-rounded person. She credits her softball coaches for pushing her to be the best that she can be on and off the field.

“My time at Rockhurst has truly been a life-changing experience for me,” said McCune, who has been an Academic All-Conference honoree the past three years.

“I have seen so many individuals, including myself, completely transform into well-rounded and achievement-oriented young adults.”
Campus Plan Moves to Second Phase

With the parking garage completed and in use, attention now turns to Phase 2 of the campus master plan: construction of a new, state-of-the-art academic building.

Slated for a location south of the bell tower on the current parking lot, this project has two components. Phase 2A includes construction of the building itself, which will include smart classrooms, academic suites, faculty offices and community spaces. Phase 2B involves the addition of a black-box theater.

“Not only will this building feature additional classroom space, it will be a place for students to gather, share and reflect,” said Maggie Smith, senior. “It is a symbol of Rockhurst’s commitment to providing high-quality education, and will serve as a source of pride for both the RU campus and surrounding community.”

“Not only will this building feature additional classroom space, it will be a place for students to gather, share and reflect,” said Maggie Smith, senior. “It is a symbol of Rockhurst’s commitment to providing high-quality education, and will serve as a source of pride for both the RU campus and surrounding community.”

Through the generosity of Rockhurst alumni and other supporters, the University has raised more than $16 million of the $25 million needed to fund the project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Building Timeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar Year 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Semester 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Construction of the academic building is contingent on funds raised. To help make this much-needed building a reality, visit www.rockhurst.edu/giving or call Amy Drouin at 816-501-4628.

Rockhurst Faculty and Staff Give Back

When it comes to seeing the impact financial gifts have at Rockhurst University, nobody sees it better than the people who teach classes every day and perform the many functions necessary to keep a high-quality university competitive.

Perhaps that’s why this year’s Faculty and Staff Campaign hit a new high with a 58 percent participation rate — a six percentage point increase from last year and higher than many other private universities.

“I believe the education received by Rockhurst students is excellent and I want to help ensure that future students will have access to its quality programs,” said Mary Pat Shelledy, Ed.S., who is a frequent faculty donor.

Staff and faculty gifts do a lot more than help with the University’s finances. This tangible support shows alumni and friends of Rockhurst that the employees truly believe in the mission of the University.

Internal giving can also have a greater influence on the amount of outside support the University receives through corporate and foundation grants. For many of these grants, the percentage of faculty and staff contributions are taken into consideration when awarding.

Mary Pat Shelledy, Ed.S., was among the 58 percent of faculty and staff who gave back to the University this year.
Scholarship Helps Woman Return to School After 20 Years

For Julie Osby-Flynn, going back to school after more than 20 years was a bit of a change, but something she took on so she could start a new career as a life coach.

“At my age, it’s challenging,” Osby-Flynn said about returning to school. “But now I find myself more focused on my school work. I’m also a little harder on myself than I was when I was in school in 1980. But, overall, it’s a better experience.”

One of the reasons why Osby-Flynn was able to come to Rockhurst was because she received the Critical Investments Scholarship, which was set up to help non-traditional female students who have experienced barriers and disadvantages in their pursuit of an education.

The scholarship was founded in 1995 by Vivian Sosland, Mary Shaw “Shawsie” Branton, and the Edith and Harry Darby Foundation.

This year, four students, including Osby-Flynn, were chosen to receive the scholarship.

“My Aunt Vivian’s dream of a college education ended with the onset of the Great Depression,” said Debbie Sosland-Edelman, president of the Sosland Foundation, which gives to the scholarship. “This scholarship was a way for her to help other women get their dreams back on track.”

Branton said she always tries to fill the need to help when she finds it.

“It’s the way I was raised: if you are blessed, you share,” Branton said. “It’s just that easy.”

Osby-Flynn is expected to graduate with a degree in organizational leadership studies in 2013.

Project 700 Encourages Alumni Giving

Alumni gifts are an important part of continuing the Rockhurst tradition. They allow Rockhurst to update facilities, fund academic departments, and provide financial aid to students. Last year, 11 percent of RU alumni donated financially to the University.

In an effort to increase this alumni giving percentage, Rockhurst has launched an alumni challenge campaign – Project 700.

What is Project 700?

Three generous donors have offered to donate a total of $30,000 if 700 alumni, who haven’t given yet this fiscal year, make a gift before June 30, 2012.

“Any gift made, whether it is large or small, counts toward the overall goal and helps Rockhurst,” said Deanna Johnson, ’06, director of annual giving. “We encourage alumni to think back to when they were a Rockhurst student, and how they can give back to their alma mater to make a difference for today’s students.”

Accept the Challenge

Visit www.rockhurst.edu/project700 to explore all the ways you can give and learn what a difference your gift will make. You can also view a number of short Project 700 videos.

“Like” Rockhurst on Facebook to access the customized Project 700 Facebook tab, where you’ll find fun inspiring student testimonials and more.
Robert Chapman’s road to success started humbly enough. As the son of a rural Missouri dairy farmer, Chapman, ’89, didn’t think the transition to Rockhurst in the middle of a city was going to be easy. He was pleasantly surprised.

“I was impressed with the kindness from the Rockhurst community,” Chapman said. “You’ll never meet a stranger on campus. There was really a family spirit for me when I went to college.”

Soon after graduating from Rockhurst University with a degree in physical therapy he began working at a private practice near his hometown. At the age of 23, Chapman seized the opportunity to start his own practice. With a loan from his father, he successfully grew Sunlakes Physical Therapy to the point he was able to compete for bigger contracts.

There was one group that had interested him: veterans. Although he had never served himself, Chapman said many of his family had served. He heard the call to give back to America’s wounded warriors. His practice had competed for and beat out much larger physical therapy centers to serve the needs of veterans in Missouri.

Chapman said that he focused on this group because “we are all able to lead because of these men and women who fought for our country.”

Chapman said that he uses his background in a Jesuit education to better understand and connect with his patients so he can care for the whole person.

New Group Builds on History of Rockhurst Regents

After a period of reorganization and strategic planning, the Rockhurst University Regents were officially retired in December 2011. A new volunteer organization, the Rockhurst University Leaders Council (RULC), was chartered in January 2012.

“The group took time to examine its role and what it brings to the University,” said Tom Coppinger, ’58, chair of the former Regents, now the Rockhurst University Leaders Council. “We have identified one sole focus: to positively influence the community at large. While this was always one of the objectives, it was time we put all efforts in one direction and define clear tasks.”

Two roles have been identified: council membership and signature events.

The group has defined term limits to three years, with an option of one renewal, so there is always fresh enthusiasm in the mix. They will plan one large-scale, leadership- and ethics-focused event each year, with the goal of raising awareness of Rockhurst. The first signature event is already planned for Sept. 27, bringing Pulitzer Prize-winning political columnist George F. Will to Kansas City. Learn more on page 21.

Coppinger said the University appreciates all who have given their time and support through the Rockhurst Regents.

“From helping to launch the Helzberg School of Management mentoring program to their active participation in campus events, this prestigious group had tremendous impact on the University,” said Coppinger. “The council looks forward to continuing this tradition of being a valuable liaison between Rockhurst and the community.”

To learn more about the RULC, contact Mary Landers, director of alumni and constituent relations, at 816-501-4199 or mary.landers@rockhurst.edu.
The Rockhurst University Leaders Council Announces Inaugural Event

The Rockhurst University Leaders Council is proud to announce the inaugural event within the council’s new Rockhurst University Leadership Series – a presentation by George F. Will, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist, respected political commentator and The New York Times best-selling author.

This luncheon and presentation, titled “The Political Argument Today,” will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 27, at Kansas City’s Downtown Marriott. The event coincides with the 2012 Family and Alumni Weekend, Sept. 28-30.

Will, whose popular column for The Washington Post syndicate reaches more than 400 newspapers throughout the United States and Europe, will present commentary on the Washington political scene. He will offer a glimpse into what the future holds for public affairs, public policy, and leadership and ethics in American society.

“This event fulfills the mission of the RULC because it raises the profile of Rockhurst by bringing in a presenter who sparks the interest of community members and local business leaders,” said Tom Coppinger, ’58, chair of the Rockhurst University Leaders Council. “Through events like this, the council hopes to positively influence the community at large.”

To register for the event or learn about the sponsorship opportunities available, visit www.rockhurst.edu/leadershipseries. Learn more about this year’s Family and Alumni Weekend at www.rockhurst.edu/weekend.

Alumni Partner to Capture Life of Texas Immigrants

Kansas City is thousands of miles from Hollywood both in distance and in star power, but that won’t stop a Rockhurst alumnus from trying to premiere his film on campus this fall.

For the last two years, Chris Trani, ’03, along with filmmakers JD Schuyler and Seth Rainwater, spent his spare time and money trying to capture what life is like at Annunciation House – a shelter in El Paso, Texas, for undocumented immigrants.

Their film, An American House, showcases this shelter, which was founded in 1978 by Ruben Garcia, ’69, and other college students, to help the people that weren’t being helped by the state – undocumented immigrants. The home has become a refuge for the more than 100,000 immigrants that have walked through its doors.

“If you were a Mexican national living on the streets, you had nowhere to go,” Trani said. “For more than 30 years they have given shelter, food and hospitality to immigrants from all over the world.”

Trani, who studied economics and Spanish at RU, found out about the shelter after spending some years living and working in Juarez, Mexico. He had already picked up the filmmaking bug after shooting a movie showing how large developers were pushing people out of their homes in the border town. He wanted to take his new-found talent and tell the story of Annunciation House.

Currently, the three men are editing more than 30 hours of footage to create their documentary. The group hopes to finish editing the film over the summer, with plans for its premiere this fall.
Vincent Hauber celebrated his 90th Birthday on July 5, 2011.

William Dunn Sr. and his wife, Jean, have been awarded the 2012 Cross of St. Benedict. He is chairman emeritus of JE Dunn Construction.

Charles Royce Fugate has been presented the John “Tom” Tinsley Distinguished Service Award by the Missouri Public Utility Alliance. Fugate worked for the city of West Plains for 15 years and retired in September.

Tom Audley retired from Rockhurst University as special assistant to the president on March 1. He was honored with a reception in the Massman Gallery.


Jim Wanserski is principal of Wanserski and Associates, a Marietta, Ga., business advisory services firm. He is president of the Atlanta chapter of Financial Executives International. He was selected as a trustee by the U.S. Department of Justice, is an expert on corporate and government fraud, the telecom industry, business forensics and turnarounds.

Ann Hoy has been promoted to partner at Cochran Head Vick & Co. She has more than 19 years of experience as a certified public accountant.

Richard Dreiling was appointed to the Lowe’s Companies Inc. board of directors. He serves as vice chairman of the Retail Industry Leaders Association and chairman of the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt University. In 2011 he was named “Retailer of the Year” by Mass Market Retailer.

Victor C. Colwell was recently elected vice president of sales and marketing at Loren Cook Company of Springfield, Mo.

Mark Lamping has been named president of the Jacksonville Jaguars. Lamping is the former president and CEO of MetLife Stadium and the former president of the St. Louis Cardinals.

Frank Schoenen is the 2012 recipient of the University of Kansas Research Achievement Award. The award is the highest honor given annually to a full-time academic staff researcher working in a department or research center on campus. Schoenen is associate director of the Specialized Chemistry Center.

Tom Gerke has been named senior vice president and general counsel of H&R Block Inc. He will oversee H&R Block’s legal activities. Gerke is the former CEO of Embarq Corp. He serves on the Rockhurst University board of trustees.

Mark Meierhoffer is a senior consultant at DeMarche Associates. He is also a member of the Financial Executives Institute, the American Institute of CPAs and the Missouri Society of CPAs. He serves on the University of Missouri Alumni Association national board, is a member of the College of Business Strategic Development board and the School of Accountancy Advisory KC, and the Kansas City Community Blood Center board of directors.

Dennis Coday has been named the new editor of the National Catholic Reporter.

Jud Neal has been elected vice president of the 2012 Healthcare Billing and Management Association executive board. This is Neal’s seventh year serving on the board. Neal has also been the president of Physicians Business Network since 1999.

Michael Nill is the executive vice president and chief operating officer for Cerner Corp. Nill is in charge of Cerner’s core worldwide business operations, including intellectual property development and all sales, consulting, technology and solution direction.

Susan DeAnn Lehigh is the staff judge advocate at the 452nd Air Mobility Wing at March Air Reserve Base, Calif., and has been selected for promotion to colonel.

Michael Payne has been appointed as the hospital chief executive officer for the Girard Medical Center. Payne has been serving as the interim CEO since July 2011.

Michael Renard has been appointed executive vice president of Commercial Operations at Organovo Holdings Inc.

Rose Gerke Lloyd has been appointed to the advisory board of the brand new Fr. Augustine Tolton Regional Catholic High School in Columbia, Mo. The first students began this past fall and are taking classes in the new, state of the art building.

Jim Millard has joined Vital Support Systems as systems engineer. He will provide high-level data center installation and support of Microsoft, Citrix and VMware for Vital’s customers. Jim is married to Caroline Vetter Millard, ’94, and they have two daughters, Lauren and Anna.
Go Hawks!
Be sure to visit www.rockhurst.edu/athletics for complete sports news, rosters, schedules and more.

Births

'98, '08 MBA
Ron and Megan Filipowicz, '04, welcomed son Samuel Joseph Filipowicz to the world on Dec. 30, 2011. Sam is welcomed by his siblings, Elena and Harper.

'01
Karen Dormeier welcomed into the world Gillian Rose on July 28, 2011. Gillian joins her big brother Jackson.

Weddings/Anniversaries

'02

'05, '08 DPT

'09
Kyle Bruns and Rachel High were married on July 23, 2011, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Lincoln, Neb. The couple resides in Fort Meyers, Fla.

Sign Up for Your Alumni E-Newsletter
To stay up to date with the latest Rockhurst news and gatherings in your area, sign up for the University’s alumni e-newsletter. You’re also invited to log on to RU’s online alumni community, where you’ll have access to news, events, career services, an alumni directory, member photos and more. Sign up for both by visiting www.rockhurst.edu/alumni and selecting first time log-in.

submit a class note
We’d love to hear from you.
Submit a class note online at www.rockhurst.edu/classnotes.

'90, '92 MBA
Matt Stasa has been hired as a commercial loan analyst at Gershman Mortgage. Stasa has more than 18 years of experience in the industry. Most recently, he was senior risk manager for a national lender targeting middle market companies.

'90 DPT
Teresa Miller has joined the staff of Physical and Respiratory Therapy Services LLC at the Hiawatha Athletic and Fitness Center.

'92 MBA
Roger Payne has purchased Mack Hils Inc. and will serve as president of the company.

'93 MBA
Cathy Allison has been appointed chief operating officer of US Highland. She has more than 25 years of experience in manufacturing.

'96
Jeanne Cline is a senior manager for Ernst & Young, offering information technology consulting for the firm.

'97, '99 M.I.H.E.
Jennifer (Jeni) Fowler DeFeo was named the 2011-12 Jefferson City Public Schools Teacher of the Year and one of six finalists for Missouri Teacher of the Year. She was also Keynote Speaker for the Missouri Future Teachers of America Conference in Columbia and has been a featured speaker across the country on the topic of “Use of Comics in Education.”

'00
Angela Hayes has joined the sales team as account manager at ReQuire Release Tracking. She will be responsible for acquiring new accounts and fortifying existing accounts in the Washington, D.C., and Maryland areas. Hayes previously worked for RH Donnelley.

'06
Charlie Schloegel has recently been hired as the Handyman Division manager for Schloegel Design Remodel. He was previously the Midwest regional business development manager for Overhead Door Company of Kansas City.

'08
Matthew White joined Liberty Mutual Insurance as an associate in talent management to develop and launch Internet talent mobility solutions for the workforce of more than 50,000 employees across the United States.

'11
Jason Zimmerman is a fifth-grade math teacher at the Ewing Marion Kauffman School in Kansas City. He has spent the last two years as a part of Teach for America by teaching in the Kansas City School District.

Kyle Miller was drafted as a defender for the MLS team Sporting Kansas City.

'01
Karen Dormeier welcomed into the world Gillian Rose on July 28, 2011. Gillian joins her big brother Jackson.

'12 DPT

Ann Marie Elliott married Torrance Reed Parkins on Aug. 12, 2011, at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Lawrence, Kan.

Submit a Class Note
We’d love to hear from you.
Submit a class note online at www.rockhurst.edu/classnotes.

Go Hawks!
Be sure to visit www.rockhurst.edu/athletics for complete sports news, rosters, schedules and more.
In Memoriam

Theodore P. Azar, ’40 – Feb. 23
Patrick H. McGill, ’41 – Dec. 10
Paul A. Schwarz Jr., ’41 – Dec. 18
Dr. James F. Loftus, ’44 – Dec. 15
George G. Reintjes, ’44 – Dec. 6
Michael Ingrisano, ’48 – Feb. 11
James F. Lillis Jr., ’48 – Dec. 31
Jerry H. Brennan, ’50 – Nov. 25
Leo C. Gotschall, ’50 – Dec. 12
Frederick H. Kuchem Jr., ’50 – Feb. 6
Dr. Roger L. Rice, ’50 – Feb. 12
David A. Stickelber, ’50 – Nov. 25
Dr. George R. Surprise, ’50 – Feb. 3
S. Preston Williams, ’50 – March 4
Franklin H. Brinkley, ’51 – Dec. 5
Albert J. Lewis, ’52 – Dec. 30
Robert T. Schweiger, ’52 – Nov. 24
John C. Holland Jr., ’55 – Nov. 11
Philip J. Smith Jr., ’55 – Nov. 30
LeRoy H. Joehnck, ’56 – Feb. 25
James Joseph Daly, ’57 – June 14
Mark S. Mulvany, ’57 – Nov. 23
Salvatore C. Cerniglia, ’58 – Dec. 24
Rev. Matthew J. Horvat, ’58 – Nov. 21
William V. Craddock, ’62 – March 25
Francis E. Hashman, ‘63 – Nov. 18
Thomas J. Caenen, ’64 – Dec. 31
Robert G. Courter, ’65 – Nov. 19
Bernard J. James, ’66 – Dec. 8
Robert T. Rowe, ’69 – Dec. 16
Charles M. Brown, ’73 – Dec. 5
Dale E. Parker, ’73 – Dec. 16
Michael S. Maloney, ’74 – Feb. 11
Paul F. Richardson, ’74 – Dec. 7
Geraldine M. Burton, ’75 – Nov. 6
Joseph A. Decoursey Jr., ’75 – Feb. 18
Daniel McEniry, ’76 – March 27
James P. Reinhart, ’76 – March 15
Sean M. Holton, ’81 – Nov. 29
Lisa D. (Rodarte) Kratofil, ’82 – Nov. 13
Mark S. Hendricks, ’83 – Jan. 31
You’re never too young...

It is never too early to think about planned giving. Consider Rockhurst University in your estate plans.

To help you look ahead, Rockhurst now offers a new online tool that provides helpful tips based on age range, including resources for those under age 40, 40-54, 55-69 and 70+.

“Giving to Rockhurst is our way of fulfilling one of the core values we were taught there – to be men and women for and with others. Including Rockhurst in our planned giving was an easy choice. It was a simple way to express our gratitude and give back to the University we love. The Jesuit experience is one we both embraced and have been able to pass along to our children.”

— Glenn, ’83, and Maureen, ’84, Heitmann

Explore our new online tool at www.rockhurst.edu/plannedgiving.

For information on the many giving options available, contact Amy Drouin, director of major giving, at 816-501-4628 or amy.drouin@rockhurst.edu.
Upcoming Events

**July 21**
National Jesuit Alumni Event
Loyola University Chicago

**July 28**
Cubs on the Rooftop
Beyond The Ivy, Chicago, Ill.

**Aug. 22**
The first day of classes for the fall semester.

**Sept. 9**

**Sept. 27-30**
Family and Alumni Weekend