University Marks 125th Anniversary


The high point of the festivities was the announcement that the CUA community had completed 352,627 hours of service, nearly tripling the goal originally set to mark the school’s 125th anniversary.

CUA Completes 352,627 Hours of Service

The Cardinal Service Commitment, which began on May 15, 2011, was the cornerstone of the University’s anniversary celebration. It challenged students, alumni, faculty, staff, and trustees to complete 125,000 hours of service before April 10, the date that commemorates Pope Leo XIII’s 1887 letter to Cardinal James Gibbons, archbishop of Baltimore, giving his formal approval for the founding of Catholic University.

In announcing the final number of service hours, President John Garvey noted how the virtues behind the challenge connect the University community to the American bishops who founded the school. “To the bishops, the ideas that “love and wisdom go together” and “how we live shapes our pursuit of knowledge” were central to Catholic education, Garvey explained. The bishops’ “wanted to offer a world-class intellectual formation, but also to form students to become good, holy people,” he added.

During the ceremony Garvey recognized all those who made outstanding contributions to the Cardinal Service Commitment.

The University reached the original goal of 125,000 hours of service on Jan. 24. In mid-March, students alone exceeded 125,000 hours of service. During the last week of March, the hours of service performed within Washington, D.C., also passed that mark.

The University celebrated its anniversary through Founders Week with historic tours, an anniversary Mass celebrated by Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington and chancellor of the University, a panel discussion with longtime faculty members, a student Founders Ball, and alumni events (more on the alumni events, page 26).

To read more coverage of the anniversary events and to view photo galleries and videos, visit www.cua.edu/125.

By the Numbers!

CUA Completes 352,627 Hours of Service


At the University’s 123rd Commencement on Saturday, May 12, approximately 1,500 bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees were conferred upon graduates on the east steps of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. In addition, approximately 250 degrees were distributed at the Commencement ceremony for CUA’s Columbus School of Law on Friday, May 25. Cardinal Timothy Dolan, archbishop of New York and president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, delivered the main Commencement address, focusing on selfishness and the vigorous defense of religious — specifically Catholic — values and teachings.

That Catholic University is both Catholic and American flows, he said, “from the most noble ideals of truth and respect for human dignity that are at the heart of our Church and the country we love.” A university’s genuine greatness, he continued, “comes not from pursuing what is most chic, recent, or faddish, but what is most timeless, true, good, and beautiful in creation and creatures.

Cardinal Dolan said, “Religion, faith, the Church promote a culture built on the Law of the Gift.” He explained the Law of the Gift by offering definitions, including one from Jesus: “Greater love than this no one has, than to give one’s life for one’s friend,” and another from St. Francis: “It is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.”

During Commencement, Catholic University awarded the President’s Medal to Cardinal Dolan. Honorary degrees were conferred on Rev. Julian Carrón, leader of the lay ecclesial movement Communion and Liberation; Giuseppe Marozza, Sterling Professor of Humanities for Italian at Yale University; Carmen Ana Casal de Unanue, community leader and philanthropist; and Joseph A. Unanue, alumnus and former president and CEO of Goya Foods.

Alyssa M. Pellegrino, who earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing, received the President’s Award, the highest honor given to a graduating senior in recognition of service, leadership, and outstanding scholarship.

Catholic University President John Garvey concluded the ceremony, saying it was his custom to speak about one of the virtues.

“Patience is the disposition to await God’s grace,” he told the new graduates. “Commencement is the beginning of a new life, and filled with uncertainties. The two biggest are: What will I do? And whom will I do it with? Have the patience to answer these questions right. Get up every morning with the disposition to await God’s grace.”
30 Years @ CUA
Susan Pervi
Vice President for Student Life

- **Favorite experiences**
  - Definitely all the campus tours. It is so wonderful to see our current students sharing their excitement about Catholic University with prospective students.
  - A special memory is getting to know Eddie Pryzbyla (B.A. 1925) — from my very first encounter with this spirited alum as a newly appointed vice president in 1987, until the very last conversation we had just before he passed away. When I met Eddie the first time, he had arrived at the steps of McMahon Hall 40 minutes ahead of schedule for his traditional fall walking tour of campus. When I greeted him as Mr. Pryzbyla, he promptly replied, "Oh heck, call me Eddie!" As we waited for others to join us, he said, "I want you to promise to help me show students and stuff how to love and care for this University as much as I do."

- **Best part of the job**
  - I look forward to the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of students and the institution every day. The students keep me thinking and acting young.

- **Favorite spot on campus**
  - I am drawn to green spaces where I can take some time to really think and act young.

- **Favorite spot on campus**
  - My favorite spot on campus is a common interest in connecting with their Irish cultural heritage through language," says Ronan Connolly, class instructor.

Catholic Press Association (CPA) Honors

The Catholic Press Association (CPA) has honored Catholic University with three awards. **CUA Magazine** received a third place award for best essay, "Love, Sweat, and Radical Stubbornness" by Kevin Ryan (B.A. 1989), which appeared in the Fall 2011 issue and addressed the topic of service. The magazine also received an honorable mention for best coverage of the 10-year anniversary of 9/11 recognizing the summer 2011 cover story, "10 Years After 9/11: Faith and Hope Endure."

The University also received a third-place award for best online content for a series of articles that celebrated service in honor of the Cardinal Service Commitment.

Gaelic Course Makes Headlines

In 1896, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, an Irish Catholic fraternal organization, gave a $50,000 endowment to CUA to support instruction in Irish literature and language. CUA is still teaching Gaelic language and literature. And as the only school in Washington, D.C., offering this instruction, Catholic University was featured in news stories in March produced by The Kojo Nnamdi Show on WMU radio station, The Washington Post, and the BBC.

The Irish-Gaelic classes aren’t required for any specific programs, so students are enrolled for “sheer interest in the language for its own sake,” says L.R. Poes, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. This year’s Gaelic students were seeking degrees in programs including architecture, music, finance, and social work.

“What seems to bring the students together is a common interest in connecting with their Irish cultural heritage through language,” says Ronan Connolly, class instructor.

Monroe Street Market Becomes a Teaching Tool

When Julie Ju-Youn Kim, associate professor and director of the Summer Institute for Architecture, heard that CUA’s chapter of American Institute of Architects Students (CUA-AIAS) had organized a tour of the new Monroe Street Market project, she welcomed the opportunity to take advantage of the “real world classroom” on the other side of Michigan Avenue.

This past spring, Kim taught Construction II: Materials and Methods to undergraduate and graduate students in the School of Architecture and Planning.

“One of the most challenging aspects of teaching building construction is its abstractness,” Kim says. “When concepts are introduced to students with words or via 2D images, it is difficult for them to truly visualize the three-dimensional implications of the various concepts. You really need to see a foundation being poured or how a masonry wall is constructed, or how the various layers of a building assembly are put into place.

And once they see a site in action, it becomes relevant to how they consider their own design studio projects and will aid them as they develop as young professionals,” says Kim.

The University has partnered with residential real estate company The Bozzuto Group, Abdo Development, and Pritzker Realty Group on the project. Kim and Barry Yat, professor and associate dean for research in the School of Architecture and Planning, accompanied the group of about 20 students when they were hosted by The Bozzuto Group in April.

“I was excited about the Monroe Street Market project before the tour and I am even more excited now,” said Ryan Nugent, of New Orleans, who is president of CUA-AIAS, after the tour. “It’s so great to see a crane over Catholic University. It’s a sign of progress.”

Nugent will be a graduate architecture student at CUA in the fall and has organized fall visits to the site.

The School of Engineering has taken advantage of the construction site along Michigan Avenue as well. In February, soon after the groundbreaking on the project, Gartner Lucko, associate professor of civil engineering and director of Construction Engineering and Management, took a group of engineering students on a Bozzuto-hosted tour of the site.

“This was the earliest in the life cycle that we had ever visited a project,” said Lucko.

“Our walk back to campus the students were talking about how much they enjoyed the visit, how it helped make their coursework applicable, and how they look forward to following the progress of the project.”

Lucko and his students returned to the site in April and he plans to follow its progress as a teaching tool.

“Making the site available to CUA students is a natural offshoot of our partnership with the University,” said Kelly Wallace, construction executive at Bozzuto who hosted the architecture and engineering students. “It’s also a lot of fun. The students have great ideas and questions. We’ve had some great conversations with them. They keep us on our toes.”

Monroe Street Market will consist of approximately 720 residential units, 45 townhomes, 83,000 square feet of street-level retail, 15,000 square feet of artist studio space, a 3,000 square-foot community arts center, and 850 parking spaces.

To view a photo gallery of the architecture students’ tour of the Monroe Street Market construction site, visit the digital edition at http://cuamagazine.cua.edu.
Radio Scholar
Alexander Russo, Media Studies

Russo is associate professor, academic advisor, and author of the well-received Points on the Dial: Golden Age Radio beyond the Networks. In addition to his research on the era — 1926 to 1951 — Russo studies the technology and cultural form of radio and TV; the development of "old" new media (e.g., telegraph, vinyl records, typewriters, and videotapes); and the history of music and society, among other areas.

Q: Why do you study radio?
A: I worked all four years at my college station. I interned one summer at a classic rock station in Youngstown, Ohio, where I drove around to county fairs in a hot rod racer that the station was giving away. I also interned for NPR's Car Talk. When I worked one summer as a research assistant for radio historian Susan Douglas, I realized how much I love research and being in the archives.

Q: What does your book reveal about Golden Age Radio?
A: I think most people have that fireside-chat listening experience has technically disappeared, but when car radio was first introduced, several local and state governments considered banning it. Would people have the cognitive ability to listen to radio and do other things? We can’t imagine that the holy trinity of American Culture — the car, the radio, and the open road — were ever a concern, but when car radio was first introduced, several local and state governments considered banning it.

Q: What are you researching now?
A: I’m interested in the transition and transformation of radio when TV was introduced. TV’s emergence was a moment when radio had to redefine itself. A decade before television was widely available, the radio industry was planning its response. While the fireside chat listening experience has technically disappeared, I think it still exists as a cultural ideal. It migrated to TV, then to the home theater, and now we see it in ads for video games where the whole family plays together.

Q: Why do you study new media?
A: When media first emerge, what later seems normal is considered strange. That tells us how culture influences media technologies. For example, in the 1920s some people were very worried about distracted listening. Would people have the cognitive ability to listen to radio and do other things? We can’t imagine that the holy trinity of American Culture — the car, the radio, and the open road — were ever a concern, but when car radio was first introduced, several local and state governments considered banning it.

Q: What are you researching now?
A: I’m interested in the transition and transformation of radio when TV was introduced. TV’s emergence was a moment when radio had to redefine itself. A decade before television was widely available, the radio industry was planning its response. While the fireside chat listening experience has technically disappeared, I think it still exists as a cultural ideal. It migrated to TV, then to the home theater, and now we see it in ads for video games where the whole family plays together.

Q: What are you researching now?
A: I’m interested in the transition and transformation of radio when TV was introduced. TV’s emergence was a moment when radio had to redefine itself. A decade before television was widely available, the radio industry was planning its response. While the fireside chat listening experience has technically disappeared, I think it still exists as a cultural ideal. It migrated to TV, then to the home theater, and now we see it in ads for video games where the whole family plays together.

Q: What are you researching now?
A: I’m interested in the transition and transformation of radio when TV was introduced. TV’s emergence was a moment when radio had to redefine itself. A decade before television was widely available, the radio industry was planning its response. While the fireside chat listening experience has technically disappeared, I think it still exists as a cultural ideal. It migrated to TV, then to the home theater, and now we see it in ads for video games where the whole family plays together.

Q: What are you researching now?
A: I’m interested in the transition and transformation of radio when TV was introduced. TV’s emergence was a moment when radio had to redefine itself. A decade before television was widely available, the radio industry was planning its response. While the fireside chat listening experience has technically disappeared, I think it still exists as a cultural ideal. It migrated to TV, then to the home theater, and now we see it in ads for video games where the whole family plays together.

Q: What are you researching now?
A: I’m interested in the transition and transformation of radio when TV was introduced. TV’s emergence was a moment when radio had to redefine itself. A decade before television was widely available, the radio industry was planning its response. While the fireside chat listening experience has technically disappeared, I think it still exists as a cultural ideal. It migrated to TV, then to the home theater, and now we see it in ads for video games where the whole family plays together.

Two Students, One Professor Awarded Fulbright Grants

New graduates Helen Marie Berg of Detroit and Timothy J. Schmalz of Howell, N.J., received Fulbright Fellowships for the coming academic year.

Schmalz, who graduated with a degree in psychology and a minor in German, will study the Austrian public’s collective memory of the Holocaust and how they are “coming to terms with the past,” he said. Specifically, his research in Austria will focus on the display of public memorials, the country’s educational system, and the overall history of the Austrians as they confronted their collective past.

Berg received her degree in history with a minor in Spanish and was an honors student. Her award, an English teaching assistantship at a Turkish university, begins in September and will finish in June 2013. She became interested in going to Turkey thanks to a connection through a CUA theology lecturer, who taught the introduction to Islam course. Berg received a scholarship to a language-immersion course through the Yavus Emre Institute, a Turkish cultural institute, allowing her to attend a two-week Turkish Summer School. Her Turkish studies continued on her return.

“CUA undergraduates are much more globally aware than they were when I arrived here a decade ago,” said Peter Shoemaker, director of the University Honors Program, associate dean for undergraduate programs, and associate professor of French. “I think that this explains our recent success in winning Fulbrights — three undergraduate awards in two years.”

In addition to the two students, Maria Sophia Aguirre, associate professor of economics and head of the University’s Integral Economic Development Management (IEDM) program, has received a Fulbright award to implement the program’s approach to sustainable development in Mexico, a western suburb of Guatemala City. Mexico is a zona rojas, a high-crime area.

Aguirre will study the impact of the Nqatoqi’ program, which has been teaching civic values and social responsibility to teachers and school administrators in Mexico since 2008. Working with faculty and students at Universidad del losatos to analyze how the Nqatoqi’ program has affected the way people view civic and social responsibility, Aguirre will look for ways to improve the program.

The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.
Coming Up on Campus

American Cardinals Dinner

August 27
First day of classes.

August 30
Mass of the Holy Spirit and University picnic.

September 12
International Religious Freedom: An Imperative for Peace and the Common Good is jointly sponsored by CUA, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Catholic Relief Services.

September 26 to 29
The symposium Reform and Renewal: Vatican II after 50 Years, opens with a keynote address by Cardinal William Levada, former prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and a former Catholic University trustee. The Sept. 26–29 symposium, titled Reform and Renewal: Vatican II after 50 Years, opens with a keynote address by Cardinal William Levada, former prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and a former Catholic University trustee. The event will be held in the Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center. To register, visit http://trs.cua.edu/vaticanII.

Symposium — Vatican II after 50 Years

The School of Theology and Religious Studies will host a four-day symposium in September to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, described by Pope John Paul II as “the great grace bestowed on the Church in the 20th century.” The Sept. 26–29 symposium, titled Reform and Renewal: Vatican II after 50 Years, opens with a keynote address by Cardinal William Levada, former prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and a former Catholic University trustee.

Focusing on reform and renewal, the council expanded Church teaching on all aspects of the Church’s liturgy and life. Conference participants will reflect both on how well the teaching of council documents has been implemented and on how the implementation fell short.

“The purpose of this symposium is to shed light on what the council said and did and to consider how its accomplishments can be applied in today’s Church,” said Rev. Mark Morozowich, acting dean of theology and religious studies. “Overall, the symposium will seek to assess how the Church in the 21st century can and should respond to the demands of the Gospel and to the needs of the world today in light of the teachings of Vatican II.”

Father Morozowich says he expects hundreds of participants from all over the United States to attend.

The event will be held in the Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center. To register, visit http://trs.cua.edu/vaticanII.

Innovation and Collaboration

Bel Cantanti Summer Opera Festival

The Catholic University of America and Bel Cantanti Opera (BCO) jointly presented Summer Opera Festival 2012 in mid-June, at Ward Hall of the Benjamin F. Rome School of Music. Forty-three U.S. and international singers were chosen through auditions to participate in this year’s festival. The participants included high school, undergraduate, postgraduate, and young preprofessional artists. They received individual attention from leading teachers, coaches, and professionals in the area.

Included in their training were voice lessons, coaching, diction lessons, daily yoga sessions, as well as master workshops, classes, and seminars. The singers worked for two weeks to prepare for five performances (June 15–17) including Wolfgang Mozart’s Le Nozze di Figaro and Georges Bizet’s Carmen, as well as a separate performance of An Evening of Arias and Opera Scenes. Performances of the operas (with English supertitles) and the concert of opera scenes and arias were accompanied by the BCO chamber orchestra. All performances were fully staged in costume.

For a complete list of University events, visit www.CUAtoday.com. For more information, visit www.cua.edu/calendar.