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Upcoming Deadlines
May 23 Summer Sessions Begin
June 1 Format check deadline for August graduates
June 4 Incomplete grades due from Fall 2011
July 2 Final copies deadline for August graduates
August 1 Application to Receive a Degree deadline for December 2012 graduates
August 27 Fall 2012 semester begins

Please visit the Graduate School website’s Key Dates and Deadlines for a complete list: http://www.luc.edu/gradschool/key_dates.shtml

Volume 4, Issue 4 May 2012

Taskforce Mary Magdalene - Grad Students Investigate

In the Spring Semester of 2011, Professor Edmondo Lupieri, John Cardinal Cody Chair of Theology, taught a course entitled, “Mary Magdalene from New Testament to New Age.” That graduate students from various disciplines enrolled in the course evidenced both the interdisciplinary focus of that course and the multi-faceted figure of Mary Magdalene. The course began with an analysis of the varied presentations of Mary Magdalene in the New Testament and then looked at how both apocryphal renditions of that literature and the Church Fathers enhanced, transformed, expanded, and in some cases omitted her figure. The course also emphasized the ongoing prominence that Mary Magdalene found in her expressions in medieval art, literature, and theater. Cambray Pardee, a PhD student in New Testament, commented on the course, “Dr. Lupieri’s course was valuable because by devoting an entire semester to a single individual we were able to investigate in depth the dynamic nature of Mary Magdalene’s figure as it transformed throughout history in various contexts.” The class culminated in student presentations of their original research into her development in a particular field.

Professor Edmondo Lupieri, John Cardinal Cody Endowed Chair

Professor Lupieri’s interest in the figure of Mary Magdalene grew into a major publication on her figure in Italian: “Maria Maddelena: Ovvero la necessità di una sposa per il Cristo,” Pages 195-280 in I Vangeli Gnostici, Brescia 2011. He explains the impetus of his research, “Most bibliography focuses on the idea that MM was a historical figure that was silenced by the church; a closer examination of the sources shows that the figure of Mary Magdalene is one that grows over the centuries rather than decreases in prominence.” This trend of increasing significance can be demonstrated even by looking at her role as a prostitute in the Middle Ages. Her role in the New Testament is transformed by the church in order to fill the need of having a model of personal redemption of the greatest of sinners. More recently she has been portrayed as the spouse of Christ which evidences her continuing prominence in Christian thinking even into the modern period. This growing prominence throughout the ages merits further investigation.

Together with an enthusiastic group of Loyola graduate students, Professor Lupieri decided to put together a “task force” of young scholars who will research the figure of Mary Magdalene. The goal of this task force is not to reconstruct the historical Mary Magdalene; rather, it will investigate how her literary and figurative image was constructed and how it was transformed through the centuries, from the New Testament to New Age religiosity.

Erica-Lyn Saccucci, PhD Student

~continued on page 4

Biology student awarded NSF Research Fellowship

The first time that Miguel Rojas submitted a proposal for the prestigious NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) grant, he, like many others, was disappointed when his name did not appear on the website’s award winner page. Not to be deterred, he applied again this year – and won. “I know I probably checked a couple of times, just to make sure. This was my second year applying so I already knew it was very difficult to get the NSF fellowship.”

According to their website, the purpose of the NSF GRFP is, “To help ensure the vitality and diversity of the scientific and engineering workforce in the U.S.” Miguel’s research titled, “Influence of Algal/Bacterial Interactions on Denitrification in Stream...”

~continued on page 2
On March 23rd, GSAC hosted their annual fundraising event, a screening of *The PhD Movie*. The movie is an adaptation of the popular internet comic strip, PhD Comics. Nearly 50 students took part in the event. 100% of ticket and concession sales were donated to Care for Real.

Care for Real is Edgewater’s Food Pantry, but they also house a clothes closet, collect and distribute backpacks and school supplies, provide winter clothing to newly arrived refugees and others in need, and provide services to the homebound, monthly counseling, and referrals to other specialized services.

Thanks to GSAC’s organization of the event, and the participation of students, GSAC was able to collect more than 50 food items and raise $131 in sales. The Graduate School generously matched the cash amount and in total, GSAC was able to donate $262 to Care for Real.

If you are looking for a place to volunteer, this summer, please contact Care for Real at 773-769-6182 or email them at info@careforreal.org.

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**Biology Student—NSF Grant, cont’d**

Biofilms” is an example of the research-based proposals that the NSF is looking to fund.

In addition to opening up international research and professional development opportunities, Miguel will receive three years of support including a $30,000 annual stipend, and a $10,500 cost-of-education allowance.

As an NSF Fellow, Miguel is in good company. The ranks of NSF Fellows include numerous individuals who have made transformative breakthroughs in science and engineering research, many who have become leaders in their chosen careers, and some who have been honored as Nobel laureates.

Congratulations Miguel! Best of luck to you as you conduct your research.

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**2012 Graduate School Research Symposium**

The Graduate School and the Graduate Student Advisory Council hosted its 5th Annual Graduate School Interdisciplinary Research Symposium on Saturday, April 21. The Graduate Research Symposium was part of the University’s Weekend of Excellence, which hosted a variety of graduate and undergraduate events throughout the weekend.

The theme for this year’s symposium was “Pursuit of Truth: Jesuit Ideals in Graduate Research”. Graduate students from various disciplines interpreted the theme in the following categories: Ethics and Values; Global Awareness; Faith and Spirituality; New Approaches and Methods; Community Service; Social Justice. A total of 17 posters and 36 papers were presented by graduate students.

The event closed with an awards ceremony recognizing the best paper and poster presentation of each theme category. The paper presentation winners were Ethics & Values: Valerie Flores, Developmental Psychology; Global Awareness: tied - Jessica Mecellem, Political Science, and Nathan Jeremie-Brink, History and Gihane Jeremie-Brink, Counseling Psychology; Faith and Spirituality: tied - Seth Alexander, Theology, and Devon Wallace, English; New Approaches: Allison Tan, Social Work; Community and Service: Jennie Johnson, Nursing; and Social Justice: Kasey Henricks, Sociology.

The poster presentation winners were Community and Service: Ashley Rolnick, Clinical Psychology; New Approaches and Methods: Bilge Cerezci, Child Development – Erikson Institute; Global Awareness: Vytas Karalius, Public Health; and Social Justice: Ewune Ewane, Community Counseling.

Congratulations to all the award winners!

We thank all the graduate students who participated in this year’s symposium. A special acknowledgment goes the Research Symposium Committee for their time devoted to planning the program and to the volunteers: Devon Wallace, John Hill, Justin Hastings, Kala Melchiori, Kathryn O’Toole, Peter Kotoswki, Sema Taheri, Stephanie Besser, Timothy Hazen (Chair), Mary Van Opstal, Amelia Serafine, and Katie Heaton. The symposium was a huge success because of your dedication. Thank you!

Finally, a special note of appreciation goes to Dean Attoh of The Graduate School for his generous funding of the symposium.

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**Volunteer!**

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**2012 Graduate School Research Symposium**

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**Biofilms poster winner for New Approaches & Methods**

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**Bilge Cerezci, Child Development poster winner for New Approaches & Methods**
Awards
Dr. Jose Cossa, Cultural and Educational Policy Studies (2008), Joyce Cain Award for Exceptional Research
Dr. Erwin Epstein, Emeritus Professor, Cultural and Educational Policy Studies, Honorable Fellow of Comparative and International Education Society with a three-year term on the Board of Directors
Rachel Wasserman, Clinical Psychology, was awarded the APA 2012 Graduate Student Ethics Prize for her paper entitled “Ethical Issues and Guidelines for Conducting Data Analysis in Psychological Research”

Grants:
Mary (Betsy) Wilber, Nursing, from the Alpha Beta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, to support her dissertation work
Sharon Jones, Nursing, from the Alpha Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, to support her dissertation work

Placements
Jamila Cunningham, Clinical Psychology, Post-doc, Georgetown University Counseling Center
Bonnie Essner, Clinical Psychology, Post-doc, Seattle Children’s Hospital Research Institute - Pediatric Pain Research
Andrea Hollingsworth, Theology, Department of Religion and Philosophy, Berry College, Rome, Georgia
Amy Lyons, Clinical Psychology, Post-doc, Loyola University Medical Center, Pediatric Neuropsychology
Lauren Kelly O’Hara, Clinical Psychology, Post-doc, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus, OH, Hematology/Oncology Pediatric Psychology
Edin Randall, Clinical Psychology, Post-doc, Boston Children’s Psychiatry Consultation Service
Caitlin Sparks Roache, Clinical Psychology, Post-doc, Dartmouth Medical School, Department of Psychiatry
Kriston Schellinger, Clinical Psychology, Post-doc, University of Colorado Denver, Irving Harris Infant Mental Health Program
Daniel Wood, Theology, Interdisciplinary Assistantship in Philosophy/Theology, Villanova University

Presentations
Brett Beasley, English, “Wordsworth and the Poetic Occupation of Time” at the Occupied: Taking Up Space and Time conference, Indiana University, Bloomington
Darla DeWolff, Nursing, poster presentation, “In Search of Resilience and Positive Health Outcomes in Adolescents with Asthma,” Midwest Nursing Research Society, Dearborn, MI, April 2012
Jennie Johnson, Nursing, Poster presentation, “Risk Perception and Health-promoting Behaviors in Persons Informed of a Coronary Artery Calcium Score,” Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association meeting, Washington, DC, April 2012
Jason Renkin, Theology, “Defusing Religious Violence through Interfaith Service: Miroslav Volf’s “Right Remembering” as a Model,” Assisi 2012, Assisi, Italy, April 2012
Laura Rogers, Nursing, poster presentation, “Opening the ‘Black Box’,” The State of the Science Regarding Inpatient Falls, Midwest Nursing Research Society, Dearborn, MI, April 2012
Connor Stratman, English, “The Poetry and Poetics of Jack Spicer and Robert Duncan” at the American Comparative Literature Association conference at Brown University, March 2012
Cynthia Wallace, English, “‘Not Rivals, God and I’: Purple Hibiscus and the Paradoxes of Postcolonial Faith,” at the Modern Language Association annual meeting, Seattle, WA, January 2012

Promotions
Dr. Wendy Cotter c.s.j., Theology, received promotion to the rank of Full Professor
Dr. Hugh Nicholson, Theology, received promotion to the rank of Associate Professor

Publications:
Mary Magdalene, cont’d

Erica-Lyn Saccucci, a PhD student in Ethics and participant in the project, described her interest in Mary Magdalene’s transformation, “As an ethicist, people interest me; specifically how people reappropriate historical figures, myths, legends, stories, and other forms of media and art for their current day needs or wants.”

The fruit of this research has already been evidenced in that three participants have presented their findings at the Spring 2012 meeting of the Chicago Society of Biblical Research. The final fruit of this project is to produce a collaborative volume with contributions from both Loyola students and professors that analyzes the way in which different authors, artists, playwrights, and producers have appropriated the figure of Mary Magdalene to meet the needs in their communities and have thus transformed her figure. An outline of the volume and its contributors is provided here:

- Anna Hartzell, MA Student
- Bernadette Raspante, Master’s Student
- Theresa Gross-Diaz, PhD, Associate Professor
- Jayna Hoffacker, Master’s Student
- Jef Tripp, PhD Student
- James Mastaler, PhD Candidate

Graduate Faculty of the Year
Ruben Mestril, PhD, Physiology

Dissertations of the Year

Humanities
Peter Hudis, Philosophy
“Marx’s Concept of the Transcendence of Value Production”

Natural and Biomedical Science
Bharath Kumar Mani, Pharmacology
“Vascular KV7 (KCNQ) Potassium Channels as Therapeutic Targets in Cerebral Vasospasm”

Social Sciences
Erin Wilkerson, Psychology
“The Role of Prior Knowledge of Parent-Child Interactions in Children’s Learning in Museums”

Commencement Student Speaker
Brendan Busse, S.J.
MA, Social Philosophy

Schmitt Fellowship Awards
Matthew Bartucci, Chemistry
Gillian Bauer, English
Adam Hankins, Theology
Elizabeth Hanson, English
Matthew Hoffmann, Sociology
Crystal Jackson, Sociology
John Kelleher, History
Jessica Martone, Social Work
Kathleen McGuire, Microbiology/Immunology
Andrew Morris Microbiology/Immunology
Russell Newstadt, Philosophy
Jayalakshmi Sastri, Molecular & Cell Biochem
Jennifer Smith, Psychology
Anna Starks, Chemistry
Megan Stout Sibbel, History
Dana Wagner, Psychology
As we wind down the academic year, I’d like to take a moment to congratulate the graduating class of 2012 for their significant accomplishments and milestones. As you move on to pursue new and exciting endeavors, please keep us informed on your ongoing accomplishments and feats. This semester has been filled with several important events and activities. I would like to thank the Graduate Student Advisory Board for cosponsoring last week’s Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Research Symposium with the Graduate School. This year’s theme the “Pursuit of Truth: Jesuit Ideals in Graduate Research” tied in nicely with our quest to investigate the essential characteristics of Ignatian spirituality, social justice, ethics and values, and community service. The Graduate School sponsored two other conferences: the Association of Jesuit Schools and Colleges’ Graduate Deans meeting and the National Science Foundation’s Grants Conference. Several members of the Graduate School staff played prominent roles at this year’s Midwest Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS) meetings. Assistant Dean, Jessica Horowitz was elected Member-at-Large, Associate Dean Patricia Mooney-Melvin was elected to serve on the nominations committee, and I concluded my service as chair of the Excellence in Graduate Education Awards Committee.

We were also fortunate to receive a grant from the National Science Foundation and the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) to investigate factors that contribute to the success of underrepresented minorities in STEM and STEM-related doctoral programs. This comes on the heels of another grant from CGS and the Alfred Sloan Foundation. We will be sharing best practices on doctoral student retention and completion with twenty other institutions including Brown, Drexel, Iowa, Northwestern, and Princeton among others. Looking towards next year, we will be looking to enhance program quality, advance accountability, and promote awareness about career pathways for our graduate students.

Throughout this year, there have been many members of our graduate community that have steadfastly contributed to our efforts. Our graduate program directors continue to assist in implementing policies and procedures that ensure student learning. The Graduate Council continues to modify and shape academic policies that ensure student success. Members of my staff have worked effectively with related offices to provide needed support services and advance the programmatic aspects of graduate education. Finally, my thanks to Provost Pelissero and Reverend President Garanzini for their continued support and encouragement.

Have a pleasant, relaxing, and productive summer.

~ Samuel A. Attoh, Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Provost for Research

The Graduate School

The Midwest Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS) had their annual meeting in Chicago on April 11-13th. Deans Attoh and Mooney-Melvin each presented on a session; Dean Attoh discussed the update on the Master’s Attrition and Completion grant awarded to Loyola, while Dean Mooney-Melvin served on a panel focusing on career tracks for Humanities graduate students. Dean Jessica Horowitz was elected to serve on the MAGS Executive Board, culminating in the position of Chair of the organization in two years.

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We invite you to send us information that you think should be shared – an outstanding student, faculty mentor, research initiatives and anything else that helps us improve how we spread the word about graduate education at Loyola. Send your submissions for the next GSQ to gradnewsletter@luc.edu by August 7, 2012.

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