Students discover Roman villa remains

BY ALEXANDRA JONKER (JFRC FALL '15)

Studying at the Rome Center is already an immersive and eye-opening experience for students—so how can it be taken a step further? That’s the question that Jennifer Engel, executive director at the Office for International Programs, and Alexander Evers, associate dean for academic affairs and professor of classical studies and ancient history at the JFRC, sought the answer to last summer. “We were talking about different things that we could be doing during our summer session to update the curriculum and invigorate it,” says Engel. “Then we came up with the idea of what we labeled the Fusion Experience.”

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MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR

Michael J. Garanzini, S.J.
Interim Director, John Felice Rome Center
Chancellor, Loyola University Chicago

Dear Alumni, Family, and Friends,

It is a privilege to serve you and our Rome Center community as the center’s interim director these past few months. As you may have heard, I accepted this role in place of Ted Bohr, S.J., assistant professor of art history and theology here—who had been previously identified as interim director—while we continue to search for a permanent director. We hope to announce the hiring of that person in the next few months.

During the past six or seven years, many of us have had the great fortune to have a front-row seat for the wonderful progress being made at the JFRC. In a short time, we have seen the acquisition of the property, a growth in enrollments, new academic programs that have expanded our reach, and now the expansion of the programs that have expanded our growth in enrollments, new academic

kevin

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On August 1, 2016, Jo Ann Rooney, JD, LLM, EdD, began her role as the 24th president and first lay leader of Loyola University Chicago. Dr. Rooney’s inauguration took place on Nov. 4. This new appointment expands Dr. Rooney’s leadership in higher education, as she has served as the president of both Spalding University—a private, Catholic, doctoral-level university in Louisville, Kentucky—and Mount St. Mary’s College, a baccalaureate-level college offering undergraduate and graduate degrees in Newton, Massachusetts. She has also spent more than 22 years teaching at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

During her eight-year tenure at Spalding, Dr. Rooney led an impressive turnaround of an institution facing severe challenges. Then in July 2010, she was appointed president of Mount St. Mary’s College. After only months in that position, she was called by the Obama Administration to serve her country as the nominee for principal deputy under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness in the U.S. Department of Defense. Dr. Rooney was confirmed for the position by the U.S. Senate in May 2011. In 2012, former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta awarded Dr. Rooney the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service, the highest award given to a civilian by the secretary of defense.

Dr. Rooney joined Loyola from Huron Consulting Group in Chicago, where she was managing director with responsibility for developing strategies to advance Huron Healthcare’s Federal Government Healthcare Sector consulting practice. “My passion is, and has always been, education,” said Dr. Rooney. “During the search process, I was struck by the dedication and commitment exhibited by representatives of the faculty, students, staff, academic leadership, Jesuits, and board members. That commitment, and Loyola’s strong mission, drew me here.”

NEW LOYOLA PRESIDENT

Jo Ann Rooney, JD, LLM, EdD
Please visit LUC.edu/inauguration for event photos and videos

Students discover Roman villa remains

...continued

The Fusion Experience pairs two different, but complementary courses into a single well-rounded study-abroad adventure. Students spend their first two weeks in Rome and their final two weeks traveling to a specific region in Italy, doing different activities outside of the typical classroom setting. By melding two distinctive areas, Evers says that learning is no longer “isolated” into different subjects.

“Students are learning about the content in an interrelated way, versus the traditional way of learning about history in one class and learning about art in another,” she says. “This then makes learning all the more impactful when you can actually learn about something in the classroom and then go out and see it and get your hands dirty.”

The Fusion Experience offered two different course options last summer, each of which allowed students to fuse not only complementary subject areas but also two different regions of Italy. The first was a comparative Italian cultures class focusing on food, wine, and photography. Essentially, the program fused a literature class on Italian culture with a foundational photography course.

The students traveled to Abruzzo—a region east of Rome along the coast of the Adriatic—and visited a range of different sites, learning about the history and culture of the region as well as its environment and sustainability. After participating in wine tastings and going to an authentic cheese production facility, students then honed their newfound photography skills, documenting the connections they saw between food and wine, agriculture, the environment, and Italian culture.

The second Fusion Experience began by pairing a classics course in archeology techniques with a class on classical Roman history. The group, led by Evers, then visited Ragusa, Sicily for a two-week archaeological dig (pictured above). A team of five students and five local volunteers put their spades into the ground on an untouched archaeological site and uncovered a Roman villa.

“There were previous indications that the grounds were pregnant with remains from the distant past, but no one expected to find this spectacular structure,” says Evers. “The walls were in perfect condition and show a continuity of habitation from the second century AD, a peak time of the Roman Empire, well into the Middle Ages.”

The Sicilian authorities were as thrilled as the students to discover the remains and have given the Rome Center unlimited permission for the next three years to excavate in that location. The findings provided an exciting conclusion to the summer, and Evers says that both Fusion Experiences went very well.

“For the students, it’s been a tremendous experience,” says Evers. “Not only learn and study in the classroom but also be able to actually see, feel, smell, taste, dig, find—it makes it all real. It makes it all unforgettable.”
A letter from John Felice

The following letter was written by John Felice to students a few months before he passed away. At the time, Felice was living in Chicago and unable to travel to Rome.

My dear students,

Even though I don’t know you, you are all in my heart. I pray for you constantly that the Good Lord will guide you in this experience you are having at the JFRC. Do your very best to see and study the treasures that surround you. Don’t waste your time and money on the insignificant. You will be richer in mind and spirit when you return home, and you will be able to share your experiences with your family, friends and others you meet in life. I wish that I am with you, but my failing health does not allow me to come. Please say a prayer for me and remember you are all in my heart and prayers.

Sincerely yours,
John Felice

10-18-07

NEW DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Shannon McShane began working at Loyola this past September as the director of development and primary fundraiser in Chicago for the Rome Center. She is a proud University of Michigan alumna who is thrilled to be back in the Midwest after several years away living in New York City and San Francisco. She loved her time studying abroad through the London Dramatic Academy and wishes all college students could have such a transformative experience as attending the JFRC.

Shannon was trained in advancement at Stanford University, where she fundraised for many years, including during their $6.2 billion campaign, The Stanford Challenge. She and her husband cannot wait to take their three-year-old twin boys abroad for the first time soon! She looks forward to meeting and working with the JFRC alumni community.

You can reach Shannon at 312.915.7652 or smcshane@luc.edu.

2016 Felice Award recipient

Amid the founder of the Rome Center, the Felice Award is conveyed annually at the Loyola University Chicago Founders’ Dinner to an alumnus(a) for leadership in business and community along with support of the Rome Center. Meet the 2016 recipient.

KATIE VOGELHEIM (JFRC ’77–’78)

Like many Americans who venture abroad, Katie Vogelheim arrived in Rome and didn’t want to leave. Within days of exploring the city (and minutes of sampling gelato), she knew she wanted to stay the year. However, her parents couldn’t afford it. Two weeks later, they mysteriously reversed course. She eventually learned their decision was made possible by John Felice. To this day, she thanks him for the year that changed her life.

Vogelheim’s time at the Rome Center sparked a lifelong passion for the Eternal City. She returned for two years with her husband, John, and their children, Barrett and Whitney. During that time, she and John founded Rome Luxury Suites, a collection of boutique hotels steeped in the city’s history. Before moving into hospitality, Vogelheim cut her teeth at General Electric Information Services, where she spent 18 years managing global and domestic operations. She became an executive for Windham Hill Records, worked for an internet start-up that almost made it, and founded a consulting business that did.

Vogelheim serves on advisory boards for several institutions and organizations, including the advisory board of the Rome Center. She and John started a family foundation that funds conservation- and education-based projects internationally, and they also launched the Vogelheim Student Scholarship Fund, which supports five students attending the Rome Center each year. She believes this opportunity will inspire these students to give back.

NEW DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Philanthropist supports JFRC students through scholarships

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A  PA S S I O N
for international human rights

by Alexander Jonker (JRPC Fall ’10)

W hat do you get when you put a dancer, a mathematician, and a political scientist in the same room? You get Jacqueline Pavilon, JRPC Spring ’10, BA ’12, who happens to be all three.

Despite recently graduating with a triple major in 2012, Pavilon has managed to meet with the Pope, travel to five different countries (in addition to her previous 25), and also join an underground hip-hop troupe. All this she has experienced during her time at the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), where she recently served as their international communications coordinator, the head of communication for the organization.

For Pavilon, being able to work to further the rights of refugees is something that has been important to her since she was a student at the Rome Center.

“In Rome, I took a human rights course, and my service-learning placement was at the Joaöl Nafuma refugee center there,” explains Pavilon. “My first day on the job, an Iraqi man came up to me, handed me his documents, and said, ‘Please help me. I need asylum.’ It was the most moving experience.”

“I always wanted to work in international human rights, but I didn’t know particularly what that would look like,” she said. “So when I studied at the Rome Center and did that internship, I knew I wanted to work specifically with refugees.” But her path to attain this goal followed a somewhat unconventional route.

“I was graduating in a terrible economy, and there was a job at the Jesuit Refugee Service. My best friend and I applied for it upon graduation, and we were the last two candidates that they were deciding between,” Pavilon says.

In the meantime, Pavilon had been recruited, upon recommendation by the math department at Loyola, by the Jesuit Research Center. Gaming Incorporated to work as a caucus mathematician, something she had never desired but that was nonetheless a good job opportunity in a challenging economy.

“I told myself I would work for the caucus two years maximum, and two years later my best friend was finishing her contract at the JRS and said they were looking for her replacement,” Pavilon says. “I reapplied and was offered the job.” She worked at JRS for just over a year.

“My first day on the job, an Iraqi man came up to me, handed me his documents, and said, ‘Please help me. I need asylum.’” —Jacqueline Pavilon

For Pavilon, despite being able to live in Rome and travel the world, the best part of her job there was being able to work with refugees to further their cause.

“The JRS works in 45 countries, and its mission is to not only serve but also accompany and advocate for refugees worldwide; she says. “Their primary services are in education and psychosocial support, although, because of the crisis in the Middle East, they are doing a lot of emergency work as well providing food and non-food items.”

She helped run a $35 million campaign called “Mercy in Motion” specifically commissioned and endowed by Pope Francis with Syrian refugees.

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“ar as a precursor to the launch of the campaign, we had a private audience with the Pope,” says Pavilon. “I had been working in Lebanon with the Syrian refugees just prior to that, so I presented the pope with a book of these photographs of Syrian children with their drawings and asked if he would pray for Christians and Muslims together in a very interfaith way.”

Once Pavilon had established herself in Rome after being a student at the JRPC, despite it being “really hard at first,” she became more familiar with the city and learned to love it even more.

“But what about that underground hip-hop troupe?”

“Unfortunately, Rome does not have the nightclubs you’d find in Moscow, but that was the only way it was possible to meet each other in a way that was exciting, so we decided to put on a show every Friday night.”

The troupe, which consisted of Pavilon and her husband, performed to packed houses every Friday night, and eventually became a popular attraction in Rome.

“One of the most moving experiences was the time I spent with refugees,” Pavilon says. “I trained with a lot of hip-hop, breakdancing, and freestyle—all the different forms of dance. And it was really exciting to see how each opera house restyles and maintains tradition in contemporary China and Italy. I also performed in Beijing. Inspired by her own experience as a multiracial woman in the United States, Wilson is using her year abroad to test how race is defined and discussed outside the American context.

Marie Hefer nails a lyric in Denver, Colorado, and is majoring in English and art history. She was awarded a scholarship to illuminate perceptions of cultural heritage through an examination of the restoration and conservation of public art in Rome and Beijing. Hefer is focusing on UNESCO world heritage sites that include religious entities, the former residences of wealthy patrons, and burial areas and tombs in the two cities.

Aldo McCaguary, a double major in English and religious studies with a minor in Arabic, is from Elmore, Ohio. His research is looking at the perception and expression of modesty among Muslim women in Rome and Beijing. Blending her international interests and personal values, McCaguary’s timely project is using qualitative methods of observation and personal interviews to determine the relative roles of forms of dress, such as the hijab, and other behaviors to express modesty within largely non-Muslim societies.

Suraj “Niel” Sheth, a Loyola Ignatian Scholar, Loyola Carbon Fellow, and Loyola Provost Fellow from Bolingbrook, Illinois, is majoring in biology with minors in neuroscience, bioethics, and international studies. As a pre-med student and aspiring physician, he was awarded a Ricci Scholarship to examine the cultural norms and societal expectations that shape tobacco smoking patterns in Italy and China, a serious medical problem and global health issue.
L ast spring, we asked JFRC lovebirds—students who met at or because of the Rome Center—to send us a few lines and photos about their Roman romance. Meet the 27 couples below who answered the call! Thanks to these alumni who shared their stories and photos with us.

### Sabeen (Beetley) and Tom Casey
(JFRC ’77–’79)

Even though I didn’t meet my husband at the Rome Center, I did meet his sister, Peggy Cassidy (JFRC ’74–’75) there. She had an older brother, Kevin, who had just moved back to Chicago. I developed a huge crush on him, and Kevin and I were married in 1991. My sister, Kathy O’Brien, was at the Rome Center in 1972–73 with her friend, Anne Sacheli, who met my brother, Mike O’Brien. They were married in 1990.

### Betty (Sachs) and Tom Casey
(JFRC ’77–’79)

I cannot tell you how wonderful a bonding Center. I was planning to attend the Rome Center as a freshman orientation. Within my classmate, John Maher, and Len Cwiklik met at or because of the Rome Center in 1970–71.

### Rose (Skradski) and Jack Calareso
(JFRC ’70–’71, MUNO ’72 and Jack Calareso (70–’71)

My husband, Jack, and I met during our time as students at the Rome Center in 1970–71. We returned to our respective colleges for senior year and graduation. He was a Boston College student, and I was a Mundelein College student. We were married in July 1972, a month after graduation, and we just celebrated our 44th wedding anniversary. We remain forever committed to each other.

### Andrea (Price) and David Baker
(JFRC ’74–’76, BA ’76)

My wife, Andrea, and I met at freshman orientation. Within a few months, we were both planning to attend the Rome Center. I cannot tell you how wonderful a bonding experience it was for us to spend nine months in Rome and travel Europe together. We have been married 40 years.

### Jeanne (Aube) and Jim Brooksbank
(JFRC Spring ’98)

“So where did you two meet?” Jeannie and I always win for best story at cocktail parties when we answer, “We first met in a church...in Rome!” We traveled extensively for four months. No cell phones. With wartime in the Persian Gulf, we had each other. Years later at our wedding, my father-in-law re-read aerograms with several other friends. We trace our falling in love to an excursion we made, having volunteered to buy Joan Baez tickets. The 47 bus was running slow, so we ducked into a little bar by the Vatican Museum. We were married 42 years ago on August 10, 1974.

### Susan (McGinty) and Len Cwiklik
(JFRC ’73–’75)

Len was stationed in Leon, France, with the U.S. Air Force. He travelled to Rome to visit my classmate, John Maher, though Len did not attend the JFRC. He returned to California and graduated from Santa Clara. Len continued his Air Force service and returned to Chicago. Our Rome connection remained strong, however, and on December 20, 1990, Len and I married in Los Altos, California, and later had two children, Jeannie and Danny.

### Martha (Germican) and Chris Harold
(JFRC ’71–’72)

Martha and Chris met in August 1971 on a charter flight from JFK to Fiumicino. Eyes met, smiles shared. They were travel companions while studying at “Camp Viva della Camuccia.” In June 1973, they got married, and their Roman holiday continues.

### Jane (Geldermann) and Bruce Haupt
(JFRC ’77–’78)

It wasn’t love at first sight, but spending a year in Rome—attending toga parties in the Pantheon Room, hanging out in Rinaldo’s, traveling by trolley pass through Europe, and cruising through Rome together on a moped—can make two people fall in love! Rome was the greatest year of our lives, so naturally we had to make it last a lifetime. People get married for lists of different reasons, but we got married because of the pictures! How could we possibly give up our memories and cut each other out of our yearbooks? We couldn’t disappoint Mr. Felice when he worked so hard to keep our Rome-ance alive! We live in Berkshires, California, after raising four children and are enjoying our first grandson.

### Laurie (Doubtich) and Michael Ledonne
(JFRC ’92–’93, BA ’94)

Laurie and Michael met fall semester in 1992 during the introduction tour of Rome at Villa Borghese and continued their conversation later at the Trevi Fountain. Although Michael stayed and Laurie went home to graduate, Laurie returned for spring break so they could go to Venice. This past June, Michael and Laurie brought their children to see the place that means so much to their family in celebration of their 20-year wedding anniversary.

### Katina (Kambanis) and Todd Heintz
(JFRC Fall ’95, BS ’98)

We met at the Rome Center in fall 1995. After our first trip to Florence together in September, we knew that Italy would become a special place for us. We traveled together to other many phenomenal places, though Paris, Munich, Curacao, Prague, and Vienna were favorites. Our journeys abroad and our time spent at the Rome Center helped shape who we are as a family. We married in 2005 and live outside of San Francisco, California, with our wonderful 10-year-old twins, Michael and Audrey.

### Michael and Audrey
(JFRC ’92–’93, BA ’94)

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### Laurie (Doubtich) and Michael Ledonne
(JFRC ’90–’93, BA ’94)

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As I finished my law degree.

Lynn moved to Seattle with me.

We married in Chicago, and then continued dating throughout the spring semester. I attended JFRC Fall '64, BS '68, MSW '71.

Jack and I met in fall 1964. He was an “older” sensor, and at John Feliciano’s invitation he returned the following year as Dean of Men. Since I lived in Rome with my family, I stayed on another year at CIVIS. Although we tried to keep our faculty/student romance a secret from the new crop of students, they soon figured it out. We married in the chapel on the Camilluccia campus in June 1967.

Mary (Murphy; JFRC Spring '64–'65) and Jack McHale (JFRC Fall '64, BS '68, MSW '71)

Peter and Mary Mudd met at the Rome Center 47 years ago. “Our year in Rome remains the most fateful of our lives,” they say. “Inseparable ‘friends’ for most of that year abroad imperceptibly grew into romance as the end approached, and we found ourselves at the altar less than a year later. (No, Mary wasn’t pregnant!) For us, all roads undeniably lead to Rome!”

Mary (JFRC '68–69, BS '72, MSW '90) and Peter Mudd (JFRC '68–69)

I met Mike at Father Al’s pizza dinner the first weekend of the Spring 2011 semester. As a way of getting away from everyone and getting to know each other outside of the JFRC world, we started skipping dinners at Mensa and going for a walk to get pizza at Pizza Magi. We have been together for over five years and returned to Rome this past July. We will be getting married on July 22, 2017.

Alison Owens (JFRC Spring '11, BS '13, MSW '15) and Michael Kahn (JFRC Spring '11, BA '12)

Like so many others, we met the first week in Rome. I found the first guy who spoke fluent Italian to help me get around. I really wasn’t looking for a husband, but I guess as the Italians say, “he conquistato ed io.” We lived in Italy after that for five years, during which time I worked at the Rome Center. We are now in Dallas, but since we’re both European citizens, we’ll probably move back to Italy in a few years!

Anita (McKay; JFRC '68–69, BA '70) and Carlo Pezzimenti (JFRC '68–69)

We met in December 1964 at the Rome Center CIVIS campus. We each decided that the memories of that wonderful year would be best savored if we continued to share them with one another. Over a half century later, we know that we had that one. We have been very happy to return to Rome several times and to visit the new and ever-improving Rome Center along the way.

Catherine (Murphy; JFRC '64–65) and Tom Lyons (JFRC Fall '64)


Mary Lynn (Lucas; JFRC Spring '64–'65 and Royal Martin JFRC '65–'66)

I arrived in Rome in August 1963. Mary Lynn Lucas arrived in January 1964, and I knew I had met the woman of my dreams. We began dating during the first week Lynn was in Rome and continued dating throughout the spring semester. I attended law school at the University of Washington from 1967 to 1970. We married in Chicago, and then Lynn moved to Seattle with me as I finished my law degree.

Laurie (Jackson; JFRC '64–65) and Jack McHale (JFRC Fall '64, BS '68, MSW '71)

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Catherine (Murphy; JFRC '64–65) and Tom Lyons (JFRC Fall '64)

We arrived in Rome on August 11, 1964, met on August 15, became engaged on February 11, 1965, and got married on August 20, 1966. Our year in Rome was obviously one of the high points of our lives, and we return to the city whenever the opportunity presents itself. We are making plans right now for a “tornare a Roma” to celebrate our 50th anniversary. We’ll sit in a sunny piazza, sipping that campari and dreaming about our 50 years together.

Our relationship began over a game of backgammon. Anne Marie and I were sitting in Rinaldo’s eating cookies, drinking cappuccinos, ruthlessly trying to destroy the other in that silly board game. Before long, I had fallen in love, and I think she kind of dug me, too! We ate meals together in the cafeteria and often studied beside each other under the watchful gaze of librarian Martin Mulhar.

Anne Marie (Tersigni; JFRC Fall '65–'66) and Thomas Raddy (JFRC '65–'66)

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Anne Marie (Tersigni; JFRC Fall '65–'66) and Thomas Raddy (JFRC '65–'66)

The year that the lottery dates for the draft were posted on the bulletin board, one of the many young men who read his number was already smitten by a girl named Maria from Chicago. They had become inseparable best friends, and when he saw that he was number 16 in the draft, his plans for attending law school would have to be put on hold. They have been married 44 years as of last July.

Maria (Lass; JFRC '69–70, BA '71) and Gregory Riccio (JFRC '69–70, BA '72, MEd '74, PhD '78)

I met my spouse through the Rome Center. I went first. Then two years later, she attended with one of my best friends, whom I had persuaded to go. After she returned to Loyola, one night I went to a Rome Center party in Chicago. I saw Marietta, turned to my friend, and said, “I’m going to marry that girl!” And nine years later, we were engaged.

Marietta Nolan-Stevens (JFRC ‘74–75, BSN ’77) and Kevin Stevens (JFRC Spring ‘73, BA ’79)

My husband and I met on the first day of our Rome adventure. We became friends over the next few months and eventually grew more serious. Bill left at the fall semester, however, and I stayed for the rest of the year.

Kathleen (Collins; JFRC ‘65–66) and Bill Watts (JFRC Fall ‘65, BS ‘68, MEd ‘70, PhD ‘77)

After seeing one another a few times over the next two years, we finally decided that we belonged together. We were married in December 1968. We have four children and seven grandchildren.

Lyne (Toomey) and Dave Traci (JFRC Fall ’81)

During our semester at the Rome Center, we often travelled together with large groups of students and were just friends for at least half the semester. Then we made the fateful decision to go to Interlaken together with our groups, and let’s just say that the beauty of Interlaken, Lauterbrunnen, and Fondue made us see each other in a different way. We married on May 10, 1985.
AVANTI! CAMPAIGN UPDATE

In July 2014, we launched the Avanti! campaign to complete John Felker’s dream and secure the permanent home of the Rome Center. The transformation of our campus is going very well, both renovating old spaces and paving the way for new construction. Through your support of this campaign, the Rome Center will:

• Erect a new building on campus
• Support student scholarships
• Provide real-world experiences for students
• Grow our endowment through planned gifts

Our fundraising goal is $6 million. As of November 1, the campaign has raised $1,889,559 or 31% of our goal of $6,000,000. We appreciate everyone who has given a gift thus far and hope others will consider this important collaboration. Avanti! Forward!

There are many opportunities for scholarship gifts, capital support, program support, and planned gifts. Please contact us if you have questions. You can make a gift online or learn more at LUC.edu/Avanti.

AVANTI! GOAL = $6 MILLION IN PHILANTHROPIC INVESTMENT

W hen in Rome did you visit the “secret bakery” near the Vatican? Or did you choose from one of the hundred-plus types of pastas at Il Rischotto? It’s said that every JFRC student should visit the Trevi Fountain after midnight to see the entire city: did you?

Share your favorite “must see” spots in Rome with your fellow alumni and today’s students. Let your classmates know where they need to visit or revisit when going back to Rome. Give us your inside scoop on what hidden gems our current students need to find, making it possible for them to create memories of their own in the same places you did.

Visit the Alumni Rome Recommendations webpage to submit your favorite places in Rome at LUC.edu/JFRCalumniRome_recommendations. There you can also see a list of past suggestions.

If you have questions, please e-mail Dana Almdale, JFRC Alumni Relations staff member, at dalmdale@LUC.edu.

ALUMNI ROME RECOMMENDATIONS

The Basilica di San Clemente (Basilica of St. Clement) is an early Christian basilica in Rome dedicated to Pope St. Clement (d. 99 AD) and composed of three churches layered on top of one another. The current ground-level church offers a beautiful interior and was erected on top of a 6th-century 4th-century church (with many frescoes). That was built on top of a 2nd-century pagan temple and 1st-century Roman house. The basilica is a short walk from the Colosseum.

The Rome Center would like to offer its sincere appreciation and thanks to all donors who have given a gift thus far and hope others will consider this important collaboration. Avanti! Forward!

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS 2016

The Rome Center would like to offer its sincere appreciation and thanks to all donors for this past fiscal year, which includes alumni, friends, and other members of the extended JFRC community. We could not do all that we do without your regular support and generosity.

For a list of Società di Donatori donors ($1,000 or more) from our last fiscal year, July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016, please visit LUC.edu/JFRCalumni/donors.

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS HELP BUILD YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

JFRC internships is a course that offers an exhilarating challenge of practical, real-world experience combined with professional skill-building and cultural immersion. This program began more than 10 years ago and continues to grow.

STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN INTERNSHIPS:

• Build their résumés
• Earn academic credit
• Develop global leadership skills
• Grow their professional network
• Prepare for the multicultural workplace

Prior to being placed in internships, students are coached by the JFRC faculty coordinator on how to write résumés, interview, and adapt to office life in another culture. A final paper is required, bringing together the academic world with knowledge acquired in the field.

The 2015–16 academic year marks the first time the internship program was offered in the fall in addition to the spring semester. During the 2015–16 year, 12 students participated in internships in the fall and 15 in the spring. Students can intern at a variety of Italian and international nonprofits, businesses, and cultural and educational institutions, including the following: the Jesuit Refugee Service, the International Law Development Network, Studio UAP (Urban Architecture Project), Baker McKenzie Law Firm, Università Europea di Roma, the Capitoline Museum, and more.

STUDENT PROFILE

Alessandra Wysocki • Junior at Loyola University Chicago
JFRC Student: 2015–16 academic year • Internship: Kino Produzioni
Majors: Communication Studies and International Studies
Minor: Italian Language

“My internship at Kino Produzioni—a small, independent, Italian film production company—was eye-opening in many ways. A lot of my day-to-day work involved translating documents and screenplays, making press kits for each of our projects, doing research about film festivals, and assisting my mentor—the CEO and producer of the company—with the submission of projects to film festivals throughout the world.

“I never thought an internship would teach me so much about myself. Working at Kino was a blessing. As a communications major, I always have been interested in storytelling, particularly through the medium of film. However, I never knew how to find my niche in the world of film until my work at Kino.”

TRIBUTE

The JFRC congratulates long-time staff member Fausto Fecchio on his 50 years at the Rome Center and his recent retirement. Fecchio has been an integral member of the Rome Center community through the years, serving in a variety of positions, most recently as facilities and project manager. He is one of many individuals who make the Rome Center experience unique for our students on a daily basis and who are remembered fondly by our alumni.

Grazie, Fausto, for all you have done for the JFRC students and alumni over the last five decades!”
Recent alumni gatherings

April 13, 2016
NEW YORK CITY SPRING APERTIVO
Alumni in NYC and the Tri-State Area gathered for a private reception at the Royalton New York, enjoying hors d’oeuvres, wine, and a spectacular view of the city. Not only was this an opportunity to catch up with fellow JFRC alumni but also a chance to hear from Kevin Stevens (JFRC Spring ’73, BA ’79), Dean of Loyola’s Quinlan School of Business, about his own unique experience as a student at the Rome Center.

April 20, 2016
CHICAGO GOLD ALUMNI APERTIVO
JFRC Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) came out for their annual gathering to see former JFRC classmates and welcome the newest JFRC graduates. This year, the gathering was held at Pinstripes in Chicago’s River North neighborhood. Alumni spent the evening on three bocce courts, socializing and networking.

April 26, 2016
ST. LOUIS JESUIT LEADERSHIP SERIES
JFRC alumna Anne Bannister (JFRC Fall ’94) was a featured Jesuit alumna during a panel series at the inaugural Jesuit Leadership Series in St. Louis. Hosted by Rockhurst University, alumni from the 28 Jesuit universities came to hear the panel’s local St. Louis leaders discuss ethical leadership in today’s business culture.

May 23–26, 2016
ALL-CLASS REUNION
About 200 alumni gathered in Rome to reconnect with fellow alumni, explore the Eternal City, and see firsthand the extensive renovation and enhancements being made to the Rome Center campus in recent years. Participants attended classes with several Rome Center professors to learn about the wines of Italy, Michelangelo’s, Constantine, and other topics. Some participants attended guided tours to Castel Gandolfo—summer residence to many popes—the Borghese Galleria, and Vatican City. Attendees also witnessed the unveiling of the new Alumni Wall on campus, where many alumni have purchased an engraved tile in support of the Rome Center’s Avanti! campaign. The final evening included a celebratory reception to honor Emilio Iodice, former Rome Center director and now director emeritus, and his nine years of leadership.

August 28, 2016
LA DODGERS VS. CHICAGO CUBS GAME AND RECEPTION
JFRC alumni from the LA area joined alumni from the Loyola LA Alumnae Chapter at Dodger Stadium this past summer for their annual outing to watch the Dodgers play the Cubs. Prior to the game, alumni and friends enjoyed a private reception inside the stadium, alongside a selection of ballpark food, beer, wine, and soda.

September 22, 2016
ST. LOUIS ALUMNI WINE TASTING
The JFRC St. Louis Alumni Chapter and Loyola’s St. Louis Alumni Chapter co-hosted a wine tasting at Rusty Wine Bar in downtown St. Louis. Alumni enjoyed red and white wine varieties alongside a wide selection of hors d’oeuvres and learned the differences between Old World and New World wines.

April 21, 2016
D.C. ALUMNI APERTIVO
Washington, D.C. alumni gathered at Carmine’s and enjoyed dishes of Southern Italian cuisine, a selection of beer and wine, and the opportunity to reconnect. Special congratulations to our chapter representative, Benjamin Pietrzyk (JFRC Fall ’83), and his wife, Mary (JFRC ’84–’93) on their daughter Alice Marie, born this past February 23.

Rome adventure: then & now

BY MICHAEL PHELPS (JFRC ’70–’71)
AND DOROTHY BRENNAN (JFRC ’70–’74)

It was easy to tell that they were students—sitting together in groups, speaking a bit louder than other airline passengers—and they were young, very young. They were anxious and excited at the same time. And they were travelling out of their comfort zones, perhaps for the very first time.

They had already met some fellow explorers at JFK, also awaiting their flight to Rome. Only to find out later that they had a friend for life.

This was not our Alitalia Flight in August 1970. It was an older airline in May 2016, also headed to Rome. We were traveling to our 45th class reunion, and some fellow passengers were headed to the JFRC to start their study-abroad term.

The trip by van from Fiumicino Airport to the JFRC seemed much shorter than the one we remembered 45 years earlier. The dry, gentle hills, green trees, and farm buildings were less prevalent, as both sides of the autobotsra appeared fenced in by modern buildings.

In many ways, Rome has changed dramatically. Not the places of interest or the city’s romantic charm or even its terrific food but rather the demands of the new century—more people, tourists, bicycles, horse traffic: almost aggressive nature of the local guys as you heard that word? It literally means “parrot.” Some of us remember the over-the-top, almost aggressive nature of the local guys as they pursued the American girls. Now Rome is challenged by an invasion of the winged variety of parrots. What are some of your first memories of Rome? Making new friends; exploring a foreign land; experiencing the grandeur of the Sistine Chapel; the happy discovery of a variety of parrots.

The student union offered a full bar! Welcome to Italy! We have fond memories of Sebastiano, our bartender and barista. Most of us became hooked on cappuccinos—and hooked all our family when they visited. The Rome Center experience in 2016 is different from ours in 1971, as it should be.

The current JFRC campus is complete unto itself with classes, administration, cafeteria, dorms, and leisure areas housed in one large, modern facility. The program now accommodates up to 200 students per semester. We had almost 340! There is a lovely, circular two-story library (Information Commons) now, which serves as a temporary chapel until the new one is built. The patio is multilevel and contains the Alumni Wall with rocks that many of us donated.

Something different from our experience, unfortunately, is a permanent, uniformed security presence—a certain sign of the times. One of the highlights of the visit was a private tour of the Garbatella neighborhood, given by a classmate who moved back in 1997. The neighborhood is connected with a mountain complex with murals. The street art is amazing.

Though few from our class of ’70–’71 made this journey, those who were not there were very much remembered and missed. We enjoyed hours of conversations about Roman history, world events, cooking and good food, and of course our memories of a year that shaped our lives.

We look forward to seeing our classmates again at the 50th reunion!
PLANNING A REUNION?

JFRC Alumni Relations is here to support JFRC alumni, including planning class reunions to connect alumni from all class years. Our goal is to assist you in planning a successful class reunion. The following support is available:

- Guidance in event logistics, including venue and food/beverage inquiries
- Event materials, including name tags and JFRC handouts and publications
- Your class list (including fall, spring, full-year, and summer students)
- Promotional opportunities via Il Bollettino, the JFRC alumni website, social media, and e-mail invitations

For more information, please contact JFRC Alumni Relations at jfrcannounce@LUC.edu or visit LUC.edu/jfrcalumni/events.