

After a successful Fall Travel season, the Admissions Staff would like to thank all of you for your time, energy and support. Every year we rely upon the enthusiasm of our Alumni to help us attract talented students to our Saint Mary's Community. This fall Alumni-Admissions Program (AAP) members covered 19 college fairs and 8 prospective students receptions in the states of California, Arizona, Oregon and Illinois. The personal perspective AAP members offer students is critical in helping them appreciate the unique and truly wonderful qualities of Saint Mary's College. The college appreciates the support of AAP members in helping enhance the Saint Mary's experience in areas where we are not able to send Admission Counselors. Without our dedicated AAP membership, the Admissions Office would not be able to reach out to the hundreds of interested students who attend these events. THANK YOU!!

Yours for Saint Mary's,
Gina Meneni '99
AAP Program Coordinator

ADMISSION NEWS

FALL TRAVEL: This year the Admissions Office expanded its recruitment area in hopes of attracting a more geographically diverse applicant pool. As an office we visited a total of 622 high schools, 144 College Fairs, and held 8 Receptions and two on-campus recruitment events. In a short three months we visited 13 states and 6 countries!

SMC ONLINE APPLICATION: This fall our online application will directly uploaded into our database. This first-time link will streamline the application process for students.

MEET CHRIS CARTER: The Saint Mary's Office of Admissions welcomed a new face this fall. Chris Carter '97, M.A. '02, joined the staff as Senior Admissions Counselor. Many of you in Southern California may have met Chris during the fall as he visited high schools in Los Angeles and Orange County. Chris' wife is also an alumna, and both their best man and maid of honor were friends from Saint Mary's! We are thrilled to have him on board and excited to have another SMC alum representing the College.

US NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS: In its latest ranking of U.S. colleges and universities, *U.S. News & World Report* rates Saint Mary's College of California ninth best among all schools in the western U.S. offering comprehensive undergraduate and masters-level programs. Saint Mary's ranked fourth overall among schools in its category for average graduation rate (68%) and freshmen retention (88%).

RECORD NUMBER OF VISITORS ATTENDED

FALL PREVIEW DAY: This year over 506 students attended our Fall Preview Day on Sunday, October 12th. Thank you to everyone who helped encourage this unprecedented attendance!

PROFILE OF THE CLASS OF 2007

Number of freshmen: 562

Average High School Grade point average: 3.33

SAT1 scores for the middle 50% Of the class

Combined 1020-1190
Math 510-600
Verbal 510-590

Gender

Female 56.6%
Male 43.4%

Ethnic Diversity

African American 7.1%
Asian 9.6%
Hispanic / Latino 19.4%
Native American 0.9%

Geographic Diversity

California / North of Fresno 61%
California / South of Fresno 17%
Out of State 18%
International 4%

High Schools Attended

Catholic 34%
Public 56%
Other (independent) 10%

Number of New Transfers: 148

For more information about the Alumni-Admissions Program
Contact: Gina Meneni
(925) 631-4189, gmeneni@stmarys-ca.edu

UPCOMING AAP VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Alumni Endorsement Application:

This past September all of you should have received the Alumni Endorsement Application in the mail. Please share this application with any talented student you feel would compliment the traditions of Saint Mary's College. Over the years we have found that admitted students who applied using the alumni endorsed application enroll at a much higher rate than those who submit a regular application. The \$45.00 application fee will be waived because of your endorsement.

Contact Accepted Students:

A very enjoyable opportunity awaits alumni this spring. AAP members are invited to call or e-mail accepted students to offer their congratulations. The goal is to have every accepted student speak to an Admissions counselor, current student, and alum in their area. This is your chance to follow up with those students you met at your reception and/or fair and encourage them to become a Gael!

CAMPUS NEWS

A Generous Gift from the Syufy Family: New Building Benefits Student Performers

Saint Mary's students involved in music, dance, and theatre gained a brand-new space as the Raymond J. Syufy Performing Arts Hall debuted this fall. The building, named for the family that founded Century Theatres (several members of the Syufy family are fellow alums), is connected to the College's LeFevre Theatre and dramatically improves performing arts facilities on campus. Syufy Hall contains such essential behind-the-scenes amenities as individual music practice rooms, a music classroom/large rehearsal space, a dance studio and a scene shop. It also provides a place for new classes such as string and woodwind tutorials and hip-hop and tap dance. The building's design creates a gateway from the nearby residence halls to the central campus, surrounding passing students in the performing arts.

"The design of the building is lovely. Students coming to and from the residence halls are literally walking through the arts. They're able to see the arts happening," said Professor of Performing Arts Martin Rokeach, who directs the Chamber Musicians student group. "Somehow, art is a fundamental component of being human. This building sends a clear message: This College supports you. It understands your creativity."

- By Amy DerBedrosian

DECEMBER 2003 ALUMNI EVENTS

Wednesday, Dec. 3 - Men's Basketball vs. Notre Dame de Namur. Come cheer the Gaels to a victory as they face Notre Dame de Namur at 7:05 p.m. in McKeon Pavilion. For game tickets call (925) 631-4392.

Saturday, Dec. 6 - Women's Basketball vs. UCLA and Men's Basketball vs. USC and Special Dinner. Join us to honor the 1958-59 men's basketball team that advanced to the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament! The women's basketball team will face UCLA at 2:05 p.m. and the men's team will host USC at 7:00 p.m. After the women's game and before the men's game, all fans and alumni are invited to attend a pre-game dinner in honor of the team. The dinner will take place from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the Soda Center. The dinner is \$20 per person, including cocktails. Noted Bay Area Public Address Announcer Dick Callahan will serve as emcee and George Baljevich ('60), host of "Lets Talk Sports," will be the featured speaker. During halftime of the men's game, the team will be introduced and a special banner will be unveiled in their honor. Tickets for each game are \$10 reserved, \$8 general admission adult, \$7 general admission senior, and \$5 general admission child. Tickets to the dinner and game can be purchased by calling the Ticket Office at (925) 631-4392. Visit SMCGaels.com for more information.

Saturday, Dec. 6 - A Musical Celebration for Christmas. Get into the Christmas spirit with this annual concert at 8 p.m. in the Saint Mary's Chapel. This festive concert features the mesmerizing Sonos Handbell Quartet and the angelic voices of the San Francisco Choral Artists under the direction of Magen Solomon. Tickets are \$20. For more information, visit the CLAM (Committee for Lectures, Art and Music) web site at www.stmarys-ca.edu/arts/clam/.

Wednesday, Dec. 10 - Sacramento Chapter Christmas Party. Come celebrate the Holiday Season with students, faculty, and staff at Christian Brothers High School, 4315 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Sacramento, CA. \$15 per person covers appetizers and Christmas beverages. For more information and to RSVP please contact the Alumni Office at 1-800-800-2586. RSVP by Dec. 5th.

Saturday, Dec. 13 - G.O.L.D. Social at Petar's in Lafayette with Diamond Dave. Come out for a night of fun and dance to the tunes of Diamond Dave at Petar's in Lafayette. He's still rocking! Diamond Dave begins performing at 9 p.m., but come early to reserve seats. Typically it gets crowded by 9:30 p.m. Please RSVP online by Wednesday, Dec. 10 so we can have an accurate count of attendees. Sometimes, bars and restaurants will offer us discounts if we let them know we are bringing a large group. Questions? Contact Lloyd Schine '98 at lschine@stmarys-ca.edu. Are you signed-up to receive the G.O.L.D. e-newsletter for Gaels Of the Last Decade? Visit our latest issue and go to the "About G.O.L.D." section to sign-up. The G.O.L.D. e-newsletter is published every other month and includes events, news and other information for young alumni.

Sunday, Dec. 14 - Men's Basketball vs. UC Santa Cruz. 7:05 p.m. in McKeon Pavilion. For game tickets call (925) 631-4392.

Sunday, Dec. 28 - Women's Basketball vs. Nevada. 1:05 p.m. in McKeon Pavilion. For game tickets call (925) 631-4392.

Sunday, Dec. 28 and Monday, Dec. 29 - Men's Basketball Hosts Holiday Classic. Birmingham Southern, Loyola-Chicago and Saint Peter's join the Gaels at their hosted Holiday Classic. Visit SMCGaels.com for more information.

Tuesday, Dec. 30 - Women's Basketball vs. UOP. 7:05 p.m. in McKeon Pavilion. For game tickets call (925) 631-4392.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALUMNI EVENTS CONTACT: LLOYD SCHINE (925) 631-4026 or lschine@stmarys-ca.edu

ADMISSIONS CALENDAR

November 30	Priority Application Deadline
January 24	37 th Annual President's Open House
February 1	Freshmen Application Deadline