

## Campaign plans for multi-sport stadium announced



Geller Sport's rendering of the completed multi-sport stadium, looking toward the north.

The College recently announced plans to construct a \$3 million multi-sport stadium. The stadium will be the key capital project of the second phase of the \$30 million Centennial Campaign, for which plans include: endowment support for scholarships and financial aid grants; the Annual Fund; and capital projects. The stadium is scheduled to be completed by Fall 2005.

The stadium will be constructed on the current site of Assumption's football and lacrosse field. The new facility will support six athletic teams (football, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's soccer and field hockey) as well as a full-fledged outdoor intramural sports program on an infilled, synthetic turf field. It will include lights, elevated grandstand seating, and a game

management box. Intramural sports such as flag football, ultimate frisbee, and soccer may be added to the current indoor programs.

The existing baseball and softball fields will be maintained with some enhancements. In addition, a dedicated practice area will be located to the north of the competition field.

"This facility will allow the Greyhounds to remain competitive in the

Northeast-10 conference," said Ted Paulauskas '67, director of Athletics.

"It will boost our recruitment efforts of student-athletes and will help bring prospective students on campus for other scheduled events. This facility will put an exclamation point on all the other significant and positive additions the College has made to its physical plant in the last decade."

### From the Parents Chairs

Greetings parents! We were appointed co-chairs of the Parents Committee last year after Bob and Pat Laut led the Committee to tremendous success in their four-year tenure.



**Gerri and Paul MacKinnon**

The mission of the Parents Committee has been refocused over the past few years to include subcommittees for career services and admissions. Parents represent Assumption at College Fairs in their area, assist with Admissions Open Houses, and participate in discussion panels with prospective students and their parents.

Through our annual Parents Career Networking Dinner, we have helped students make professional contacts and aid in the job search process.

In addition, parent giving to Assumption has reached unprecedented levels. In 2003–04, parent giving set a record high for the fourth consecutive year with nearly \$240,000—a 44% increase from last year and more than triple the total of three years ago!

We have an enthusiastic committee and hope that you will consider joining us. We welcome your involvement.

Sincerely yours,  
Gerri and Paul MacKinnon, P'02, '05  
Co-chairs, Parents Committee

# Campus Ministry builds community and develops student leaders

If students are looking to get involved outside of the classroom, among the many clubs and student organizations at Assumption is the Office of Campus Ministry (CM), which strives to give meaning to the College's motto, "until Christ be formed in you." CM enables College community members to embrace their baptismal call to bring about a world of justice, peace and love. This mission is carried out through liturgy, programs, prayer, retreats and mission experiences.

## About Campus Ministry

Sister Cathleen Toomey, R.S.M. G'69, director of Campus Ministry, describes CM as a place where students can nurture the development of the whole person, spiritually as well as socially and academically.

"A large part of what we do is community building, empowering students and developing student leaders," Sr. Cathleen says. "Students discover an ability to establish connections with other students, finding friends who will listen, and mentors who will accompany them along their journey in life."



Sr. Cathleen Toomey

## Student Staffing

Much of the programming available through CM is administered by a "core team" of a dozen students. This team is trained by CM staff and acts as a liaison with the student body, developing and promoting CM programs. "The students prepare extensively for the many programs and events," said Sr. Cathleen.

## Programming

Each Tuesday at 7 p.m., CM hosts a dinner and discussion group, open to all students. Each discussion is centered around a specific theme, which the core team selects and prepares for discussion. The conversation, however, can lead into current global, national, local, or personal issues raised by those in

attendance. According to Sr. Cathleen, first-year students become peers with upperclassmen, and many students are surprised to learn how much they enjoy this group, returning regularly due to the deep friendships they have formed. As many as 25 students gather each week for this home-cooked meal and lively discussion.

## Prayer

On Sundays, several options for worship are available to students. The 10 a.m. Mass draws many neighbors and friends, along with students, staff, alumni and parents.

The 7 p.m. Mass involves students in planning and in carrying out various ministries, including singing, acting as lectors, ministers of the Eucharist, greeters and ushers.

The 10 p.m. Mass is celebrated in a candlelit Chapel for those students who want a time of quiet, reflective prayer. Candlelight Prayer, held each Tuesday at 10 p.m., provides time to reflect on a theme set by students and prepared and conducted by them.

Each November, a special Candlelight Mass is held to remember loved ones who have preceded us in death.

## Retreats

More than 400 students have participated in the retreat program over the past four years, according to Stephanie McCaffrey, director of retreats. About 175 students have become members of the retreat team, preparing and giving retreats to their peers. Stephanie expects that at least 100 new students will attend a retreat for the first time in 2004-05.

A large number of students also prepare and run retreats for high school students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation in local parishes. "When college students come to their classes and talk about God and connection

with a community it means something," said Sr. Cathleen. She believes that high school students listen more attentively to college students, seeing them as role models for those who hope to attend college themselves.

## Missions

John Fleming directs the CM mission program. He prepares students for their mission experiences, where they travel to another location, meet the local people, serve others, and see life from a totally different perspective. They live and work among the people to build a strong sense of community among everyone involved.

Students have traveled to Philadelphia; Washington, DC; Baltimore; the Bronx; Lansdale, PA, and New Mexico; and to foreign countries including Mexico, Nicaragua, Cuba and Guatemala. "Students often go on a mission with the intention of giving of themselves," said Sr. Cathleen. "They are surprised to return from a mission enriched, having received so much more than they were able to give."

## Music

Frank Corbin, Ph.D., director of chapel music and college organist, and Jane Shivick, associate minister of music and college cantor, lead an excellent CM music program. This year 65 students participate in the Chapel Choir. "Jane is a highly talented vocalist," said Sr. Cathleen, "with a wonderful ability to draw out the gifts of others. We are so fortunate to have both Jane and Frank as part of our CM team."

## Other services

CM attempts to address the spiritual needs and hopes of the students and the Assumption community.

"We're always open to new ideas about how we can come closer together as a community," Sr. Cathleen said.

Visit [www.assumption.edu](http://www.assumption.edu) and click on Campus Life for more information, or call 508-767-7419.

# Academic Support Center: tutoring, workshops, and more

“The Academic Support Center (ASC) is a true ‘learning community,’” says Allen Bruehl, ASC director. “It is a place where top students give back to Assumption, what the College has given to them ... knowledge.”

Located on the second floor of the Emmanuel d’Alzon Library, the ASC offers peer-to-peer tutoring in most every academic discipline available on campus.

The ASC and its 40–42 tutors are nationally certified by the College Reading and Language Association. “We are one of the few Centers to be nationally certified at all three levels of tutoring—basic, advanced and master’s,” Bruehl said. “To achieve a master’s level, the tutor has to give back to the ASC, such as publicly presenting a topic at a conference. Last year, seven students presented, and in turn, earned their master’s level tutoring certification.”

The competition to fill open tutoring positions is quite tough. Candidates are recommended by professors, academic advisors or administrators. “This year, we had 78 applications to fill 22 slots,” Bruehl explained. “Making those selections is the most difficult part of my job.”

Tutors are compensated through either work study or institutional funds. They work an average of six to seven hours per week on a set schedule and more than 90 percent of tutoring sessions are appointment-based.

In addition to tutoring, the ASC also provides some specialized services. Workshops focusing on time management and organizational skills are offered, as well as study skills sessions, designed to assist students with notetaking, reading strategies and test preparation.

Mary Driscoll, associate director of the ASC, coordinates the workshops. The ASC also collaborates with faculty to provide study strategies to improve the students’ results on exams. A



**Students and tutors work in the ASC.**

voluntary workshop Driscoll offered for students in Professor Margaret Lanieri’s General Psychology course was attended by 27 students. “Several students returned after the exam to let me know that the new study strategies proved very helpful and that they planned to form a small study group to prepare for the final exam,” she said.

Driscoll is invigorated by her work. “The ASC’s philosophy of education flows directly from the concept of developing the individual. I believe the ASC’s greatest achievements are seen in students who arrive freshman year with average skill and self-confidence and each year develop personally, academically and spiritually into persons who have



**Allen Bruehl (left), former tutor Laura Raymond ’00, Mary Driscoll, and former tutor Robyn Pellerin ’00**

achieved their academic goals and are interested in helping other students succeed in college. Liz Irwin ’04 came through our doors in the fall of her first year for help in her general education courses. By her junior year she was on staff as a certified writing

and Social and Rehabilitation Services tutor. She is now in her final year of a Master’s program and works with me as a Graduate Assistant to support students on academic probation.”

In addition to the aforementioned assistance, a wide range of services are available for students with disabilities, which Bruehl coordinates.

“I was hired in 1992 to establish the Center and create a learning community,” he explained. The Center started with 15 tutors, served 250 students in 454 tutoring sessions that year. In 2003–04, 40 tutors helped 800 students in 3,200 sessions.

A total of 400 out of 600 first-year students used the ASC last year, a staggering number considering that participation is voluntary. “We help students feel more comfortable here, and ease the transition from high school to college,” Bruehl said.

Bruehl attributes much of the success of the ASC to his dedicated group of tutors. “We’ve created a very welcoming community and the tutors consistently blow me away with their commitment to the Center,” Bruehl beamed. “The interaction and fellowship is based on the students’ commitment of what they put into assuring the success of the Center, and they take it very seriously.”

Over the years, the ASC has administered surveys to identify which type of student it services most often. The student with a C+ to B grade average uses the ASC most frequently, but the second largest group was those with a B to A average. “We’re a resource for all students,” Bruehl said. “I’ve had many students tell me that their involvement in the ASC was, by far, their most positive experience at Assumption.” Judging from its success, it’s easy to see why.

For more info, call (508) 767-7099 ext. 5232 or visit the ASC on the Web at [www.assumption.edu/acad/ASC/](http://www.assumption.edu/acad/ASC/)



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## Assumption College: Did you know?

Below are some general facts and figures about Assumption College:

**Most popular majors:** business, English, psychology, education (concentration), social and rehabilitation services, natural sciences

**Average Class size:** 22

**Student/faculty ratio:** 14:1

**Average SAT score:** 1050-1150

**Varsity sports:** 23 (12 men, 11 women)

**NCAA affiliations:** Division II, Eastern College Athletic Conference, Northeast-10 Conference

**Fall 2004 undergrad. enrollment:** 2,164 (from 23 states and 10 foreign countries)

**Faculty:** 94% have terminal degree

**New Facilities:** \$18 million Testa Science Center, four suite-style residence halls, six new classrooms and art studios, new

information technology center

**Financial Aid:** FAFSA is required, 90% receive some form of merit or financial aid

**Residence Life:** 90% of undergrads live on campus; housing is guaranteed all four years; 1/3 of student body is involved in the College's Reach Out Center (volunteer organization)

**Study Abroad:** 61 students will travel to foreign lands to study this spring. During the past five years, AC students have studied in places such as Italy, Ireland, France, Spain, Greece, and Australia.

**Parent giving** rose from \$78,000 in 2000-01, to \$100,000 in 2001-02, topped \$165,000 in 2002-03 and reached \$239,000 in 2003-04!

## 2005 Calendar

Jan. 17 .....	Registration
Jan. 18 .....	Classes begin
Feb. 25-27 .....	Siblings Weekend
Mar. 5-13 .....	Spring Break (no classes)
Mar. 24-28 .....	Easter recess (no classes)
April 21 .....	Honors Convocation
May 2 .....	Last day of classes
May 4-10 .....	Final Exams
May 13 .....	Baccalaureate Mass
May 14 .....	Commencement

For the full College calendar, visit  
[www.socialweb.net/assumption](http://www.socialweb.net/assumption)