

# Misericordia volunteers reach out around the world

College Misericordia incorporates service-learning projects into many of its courses. The projects engage students in the development of life-long civic responsibility through academic coursework. Students gain knowledge, skills and commitment to make a significant impact in their communities. The combination of strong academics, career development and community-service leadership fosters the development of citizens who will take active leadership roles.

Students work on community projects and in hospitals, long-term care facilities, schools and parishes while volunteering their time and services abroad and in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Oftentimes, students and faculty volunteer in their fields of expertise, like education, health care and social work.

For example, students organize, distribute and read to elementary school children through the First Book program. The program provides free books to children at the McGlynn and Mineral Springs Learning Centers in Wilkes-Barre, and the Kids Café in Plains Township. Misericordia students active in several campus volunteer organizations also tutor these same students in reading, writing and arithmetic.

"Service to community is a time-honored tradition at Misericordia," said Dr. Michael A. MacDowell, president of College Misericordia. "Nurtured by our founders and sponsors, the Sisters of Mercy, every Misericordia student, faculty and staff member understands that service to others is an expected and honored part of their association with this institution."

Campus Compact has conducted an annual membership survey since 1987. Its purpose is to assess the current state of campus-based community engagement and to identify emerging trends. It has shown a strong trend toward increased engagement among member institutions, as measured by service opportunities, participation in service-learning, community partnerships, and resources and infrastructures to support service work.

"Service learning is contin-



Jamaican children give Misericordia student Joelle Rhayem a new hairdo during the annual service-learning trip to Lionel Town, Jamaica in January 2007. Rhayem graduated magna cum laude on May 19th with a bachelor's degree in biology. She plans to attend medical school.

uing to grow as a valued pedagogy, and our member institutions are pioneers in the field," said Maureen F. Curley, president of Campus Compact. "Support for service learning and other engagement activities at the institutional level is at an all-time high and students are eagerly participating."

Misericordia provides several opportunities for students, faculty and staff to participate in service-oriented projects. The Service Leadership Center, under the direction of Linda Ross, manages and coordinates service learning. In the 2005-06 academic year, Misericordia provided 32 service-learning courses and had 662 students participate an average of 9.4 hours per week.

"Our students have been volunteering their time and talents for many years," said Ross. "More than 41 percent of our students were actively involved in civic engagement activities.

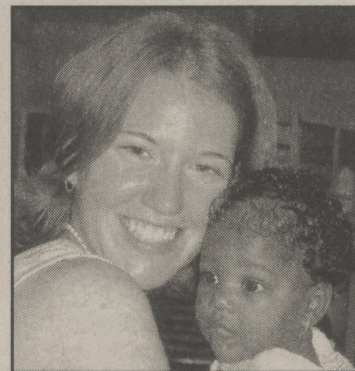
It helps them develop as professionals and as individuals while also helping the greater community."

Misericordia's students also have numerous civic opportunities available through Campus Ministry under the direction of Rev. Michael Bryant. In the 2005-06 academic year, Campus Ministry students provided 1,508 service hours through 25 different programs, including the Adopt-A-Friend and Adopt-A-Grandparent programs, and service trips to Jamaica, Guyana and Mississippi.

Campus Compact is a national coalition of more than 1,000 college and university presidents - representing about 6 million students - who are committed to fulfilling the civic purposes of higher education. As the only national association dedicated to this mission, Campus Compact is a leader in building civic engagement into campus and academic life.



Misericordia student Stephanie Pellegrino, right, and a seventh grade student from St. Peter Memorial School clean the littered banks of the Rio Grande River in Laredo, Texas, during this year's spring break service trip.



Leah West, a senior physical therapy major from Felton, Del., spends time with a Guyanese child during the service learning trip in 2006. West graduated May 19, 2007 with a master's degree in PT.

Alyssa Lefano, an occupational therapy student at College Misericordia, holds an elementary-aged Jamaican boy during a service trip to Jamaica with Campus Ministry.

## Dr. Jon Carson is PSU/WB top faculty

Jon Carson, Ph.D., P.E., Associate Professor of Engineering at Penn State Wilkes-Barre, received the Hayfield Award for Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year.

The award is based on a combination of teaching excellence and contribution to the general welfare of students at the campus and is determined by the student body.

According to the nominations, Dr. Carson often works very long hours and offers a helping hand to "anyone with anything." He is a dedicated teacher and advisor and an excellent mentor.

As noted by one nominator, he is "one of the most intelligent and pleasant professors I have met."

Dr. Carson was also recognized for his use of real life scenarios in his course projects for students so students have hands-on experience when they enter the workforce.

As advisor to the Engineering Club, Dr. Carson supported their work with the Haunted Forest and was instrumental in helping create a Holiday Train Display at Penn State Wilkes-Barre where the campus buildings were creat-



Dr. Jon Carson received the Hayfield Award for outstanding teaching at Penn State Wilkes-Barre at a recent awards ceremony. Shown with Carson are, from left, Jessica Wysocki, Student Government Association President; and Vern Gernhart, Engineering Club's Outstanding Club Member of the Year.

ed in a precise 1 to 174 scale.

Dr. Carson received his B.S. in Agricultural Engineering from Penn State in 1977 and both his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Agricultural Engineering from the

University of Illinois. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in both Illinois and Pennsylvania.

He joined the Penn State faculty in 1985.

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

Puzzles, Page 2

### King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

LAP	LUGS	LAME
ATE	ANEW	IDOL
AMOUNT	LOAF	
MOSSQUITO	LEA	
ICE	LOCUST	
BROTH	BEN	SUI
LOGE	CON	NEED
ALL	CHA	RUDDY
BEETLE	LET	
AUK	ATTEND	
BELL	HONEY	BEE
OLEO	ORAL	ORB
OMEN	VEIL	NOT

### Go Figure!

answers

5	x	7	-	9	26
+		-		-	
6	-	4	x	7	14
x		÷		x	
2	x	3	+	8	14
22		1		16	

ADD	MAP	BRAGA	SHADOW
DUE	ALE	REVILE	TACOMA
APE	VAT	RYANSDAUGHTER	
MERCEDES	TOODY	YEENS	
END	MESA	NOD	
ABTESIRISHROSE	LIVED		
SAN	NOLTE	NIL	AVALON
TREND	OER	MAMAS	FAMILY
ABROAD	SAGA	PIT	PECS
STALE	DULL	NATE	LEE
MARTHASVINEYARD			
PAL	TRAE	HERE	MIRTH
AVOW	LLB	RARE	SCARAB
CATHYS	CLOWN	EMT	SWEDE
ENTAIL	OSH	GIBED	VEE
TEMPO	SCHINDLERS	LIST	
SEW	MUSE	AHA	
SHEA	ESTAB	MICAWBER	
HUMBOLDT	TSGIFT	RUM	ADO
EMILIO	DAUBED	OLA	RIM
MERELY	REEDS	NAN	KEY



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