

Profile in Leadership

In the Canisius classrooms, at campus clubs and through community service, junior **Gabrielle R. Paoletti** is learning to become a leader.

Gabrielle R. Paoletti '09 is fascinated by the mathematical constructions of Markov chains but what intrigues this math and economics major most are the possibilities that lie ahead for her. At Canisius, Paoletti says she is learning about the person she is and the person she wants to become.

"I am learning the importance of intellectual curiosity, the value of integrity and how compassion can effect change. I am learning how to be a leader."

An All-College Honors student, Paoletti thrives on the discussion-driven classes. She "loves to be proven wrong" and welcomes dialogs that challenge her mind and her beliefs. "Such stimulating class environments teach the importance of maintaining an open mind and respect for others," adds Paoletti.

They also open up new opportunities. Paoletti is one of only two Canisius honors students invited to participate in the Bates White LLC Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU). Bates White is a leading economic consulting firm in Washington, D.C. and was co-founded by **Matthew E. Raiff '91**. Through the REU grant, Paoletti conducts research on the economics of addition, under the direction of **Larry Lichtenstein, PhD**, associate professor of economics/finance. Paoletti also participated in the highly competitive Bates White Summer Consultant Program, where she worked on cartel cases in the company's antitrust practice.

"Gabrielle was the only sophomore, nationwide, selected to participate in this program," notes **Bruce J. Dierenfield, PhD**, director of the All-College Honors Program and professor of history. "Her intellect, winning personality, can-do attitude and poise under pressure make

her an asset in everything she does."

Math Club, the pre-law fraternity Phi Alpha Delta and the Canisius College Chorale are just a few of the many extra-curricular activities in which Paoletti is involved. She also builds a strong community atmosphere for students, as a resident assistant.

"I've learned the importance of integrity and the benefits of leading life with the awareness that others are watching you and looking up to you," says Paoletti. "I've learned that I need to do the right thing for myself, for my residents, for the college community and for God."

In fact, it is Paoletti's strong Christian values that help her realize the Jesuit ideal of using her gifts for the service of others. An accomplished pianist, Paoletti performs at Canisius events and also in the community. She is music director at Clarence Center United Methodist Church. Paoletti also shares her knowledge of quantitative numbers as an assistant in the college's Tutoring Center. As a member of the All-College Honors Student Council and Honors Committee, Paoletti coordinates some of the program's service projects, including those for Habitat for Humanity. And as a Winter Service Week volunteer, she mentors and tutors at-risk children in New York City. It is through these

trips, says Paoletti, that "the desire and effort to make change are learned."

"Gabrielle is always the bright light in the tunnel," says Associate Campus Minister **Sarah E. Signorino '04**, who met Paoletti through the Christian Life Community, a weekly student prayer group. "She has a blatant enthusiasm for life and always finds the positive side in everything she does."

Paoletti notes her time on campus has been among the best in her life and she plans to make the most of her remaining three semesters at Canisius. And when she does graduate?

"Canisius taught me what it means to live life with purpose and how to take the most out of all things in life. This is a skill that will serve me forever. The best years are just beginning." 📖

