



Michael Colquhoun, PhD

Flute Talk Features Colquhoun

The February issue of *Flute Talk* magazine featured **Michael W. Colquhoun, PhD** and his *Charanga* for solo flute. Colquhoun is an adjunct professor of fine arts at Canisius. He teaches music theory, 20th century classical music, and Afro-centric and world music.

Outside the classroom, Colquhoun is a flutist and composer whose music incorporates both jazz and classical forms with elements of digital and improvisation. Colquhoun's *Charanga* was commissioned by the National Flute Association for the High School Soloist Competition and according to *Flute Talk*, "has become a staple of the flute repertoire, and is an excellent introduction to extended techniques for advanced high school and college students."



Brenda B. Benzin

French Government Bestows Medal on Benzin

Brenda B. Benzin is the newest "educational ambassador" for France. In April, the adjunct professor of French received *Les Palmes Academiques* (academic palms), a prestigious medal presented by France's deputy cultural attaché for educational affairs at the French Embassy in Washington D.C. *Les Palmes Academiques* recognizes teaching excellence, and the promotion of French language and culture in the United States.

Benzin is national vice president of the American Association of Teachers in French. She also chairs activities for National French Week in Western New York and organizes student-adult exchanges.

Newly-Named Peter Canisius Professorships Promise Diverse Programs

THE PETER CANISIUS DISTINGUISHED TEACHING PROFESSORS PROGRAM awarded a new round of professorships this spring in the History, Modern Languages, Communication and Biology/Psychology departments. The three-year grants provide the college's best faculty with the resources to create innovative programs that enhance undergraduate teaching through exciting initiatives such as interdisciplinary projects, scholarly travel, experiential courses and the incorporation of technology into the classroom. The professorship recipients are:



Larry E. Jones, PhD



Peter Boehm, PhD



Barbara J. Irwin, PhD



Michael Noonan, PhD

Larry E. Jones, PhD, professor of history and **Peter Boehm, PhD**, assistant professor of modern languages. The Holocaust in History, Literature and Film, combines historical, literary, cinematic and philosophical analysis to help students understand the cultural, ethical and religious implications of the Holocaust. Students will visit the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. and Holocaust sites in Germany and Poland.

Barbara J. Irwin, PhD, chair and professor of communication studies, will develop the Canisius College Video Institute. Students will produce public service video projects that profile college programs, as well as community and humanitarian agencies. Emphasis will be placed on media literacy skills to increase students' understanding of video documentaries and help them discern the ethical and moral obligations of the medium. The institute will also

offer public screenings of student works to Canisius, its neighboring community and area high schools.

Michael Noonan, PhD, professor of biology/psychology will continue the Canisius Ambassadors for Conservation (CAC) program with his professorship. CAC students travel with Noonan to distant sites to conduct in-depth field studies of a particular wildlife species. Following their return, they produce and present multimedia presentations on wildlife conservation at local and national zoological institutions and schools.

The Peter Canisius Distinguished Teaching Professors Program was established in 1998 with a gift from the John R. Oishei Foundation and renewed in May 2002 with joint funding from Canisius. For more information, visit www.canisius.edu/petercanisius.

Paul Young, PhD, Awarded for Academic Excellence

Paul A. Young, PhD, is the 2005 recipient of the **Kenneth L. Koessler Distinguished Faculty Award**. Presented by the Canisius College Alumni Association, the award recognizes a faculty member's outstanding contributions to academics and teaching excellence.

Young is an associate professor of education with more than 37 years of teaching experience at the college. Throughout his tenure, he has designed and implemented innovative curricula; contributed substantially to teaching literature and presented countless papers at the state and national levels; and secured numerous competitive grants for the college including his most prestigious program GEMS (Great Explorations in Math & Science), which is now in its 14th year of funding.

Young is noted for his ability to motivate and inspire students. His ability to transform dry facts into lively and engaging classroom activities has won him the admiration of his students, many of whom are now dedicated and energetic leaders in education.



Paul A. Young, PhD