

## Core Curriculum Gets Full-Scale Revision

Canisius College revised its core curriculum this spring. It is the first full-scale revision of the core since 1971. The core curriculum is central to a Canisius education because it provides a well-rounded liberal arts education. And while the new curriculum bears the imprint of the current core, it differs significantly from its predecessor, as well.

Specifically, the new core emphasizes the college's mission as an American Catholic Jesuit university. It now requires that the basic religious studies and philosophy courses include components of the Catholic philosophical and religious traditions.

"Under the old core curriculum, a student could graduate without ever being introduced to either of these," states **Peter J. Galie, PhD**, chair of the Faculty Senate. "The new core requires students to take courses that will introduce them to both. That fills a huge gap in the old curriculum."

The new core builds on this Catholic Jesuit foundation by introducing four 'knowledge-based attributes' (justice, ethics, diversity and global awareness) and two 'skill-based attributes' (intensive writing and oral communication). Students must

satisfy all six attribute requirements, through their field-of-knowledge (formerly area study) or elective courses.

"The rigor and quality of the core curriculum are being increased substantially," says **Herbert J. Nelson, PhD**, vice president for academic affairs. "This is in the spirit of the adage used by Ignatius: '*non multa, sed multum*' – the important thing is not how many things we do but how well we do them."

The new core also provides more electives for students, so they may pursue multiple majors, minors or other interests. And it adds a capstone course, in which students are able "to demonstrate their mastery of the skill attributes, in the context of topics that focus on leadership and the importance of public service, thus integrating academic skills with the college's mission of service to others," notes Galie.

Finally, the new curriculum provides well-defined learning goals and built-in assessments. Each faculty member must outline his/her learning goals for students and demonstrate whether those goals were met.

"The new core focuses as much on what students learn as what instructors teach," states Galie.

The college hopes to implement the new core curriculum for students entering in fall 2008, but a firm decision on that won't be made for another six months or so.



## Chadwick Named New Vice President for Academic Affairs



**Scott A. Chadwick, PhD**, is the new vice president for academic affairs at Canisius and will assume the position this summer. His appointment is the result of a national search.

Chadwick comes to Canisius from Creighton University in Omaha, NE, where he serves as associate vice president for academic

affairs and director of the Office of Academic Excellence and Assessment. He joined the university in 2003 as an assistant vice president. Prior to Creighton, Chadwick was an assistant professor in the Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication at Iowa State University (1997-2003) and an assistant professor in the Department of Speech Communication at Oregon State University (1994-1997).

"Dr. Chadwick has extensive experience in strategic planning, assessment and faculty development," said Canisius President **Rev. Vincent M. Cooke, S.J.** "I am confident that his experience along with his vision and collaborative leadership style will serve the college well in the future."

As the chief academic officer for the college, Chadwick will oversee all academic areas, as well as enrollment management, and library and information services. He will report to Father Cooke and serve as a key member of the administrative team.

"I am pleased to join such a strong college as Canisius," said Chadwick. "I look forward to working with the exceptional faculty, staff and administrators as we use our gifts for the service of others and to the benefit of our students and society."

Chadwick holds a PhD in communication studies and an MBA from the University of Kansas. He earned his BS in psychology, with a minor in business, from the University of Iowa.

Chadwick replaces Herbert J. Nelson, PhD, who will retire after 39 years at the college, 11 of those as vice president for academic affairs.

## Excellence in Accounting

The Canisius College Accounting Society recognized two alumni for excellence in accounting at its 51st annual Accounting Society Banquet in April.

**Morton H. Wittlin '66, CPA**, received the society's Accountant of the Year Award for outstanding professional achievement and community service. Wittlin is senior partner at Wittlin Cain and Dry LLP, located in Western New York and Florida. His expansive practice serves a variety of clients in business and personal matters, and is renowned for providing personal attention to its clients.

A member of the Canisius College Council on Accountancy, Wittlin is active on the Student Financial Aid Committee. He is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), the AICPA's Litigation Support Committee and the New York State Society of CPAs. He is a board member of the Town of Amherst Senior Citizens Foundation.

**Timothy A. Burley '80, CPA**, was also recognized at the Accounting Society Banquet. A partner at Ernst & Young LLP, Burley was presented with the Dr. Joseph R. Coppola '40 Award, which recognizes the exceptional achievements of a Canisius College accounting alumnus.

At Ernst & Young, Burley is area director of state and local tax. He is also a member of the Americas Ethics Oversight Board, responsible for the development and oversight of Ernst & Young's compliance and ethics programs.

The Honorable **John J. LaFalce '61, HON '90** served as keynote speaker for the event.

WITTLIN



BURLEY



## Rev. Cooke Recognized with Citation Award



The National Federation for Just Communities (NFJC) of Western New York presented Canisius President **Rev. Vincent M. Cooke, S.J.**, with a 2007 Citation Award at its annual Citation Banquet in March. Conferred to community leaders who demonstrate respect, service and care for others, the award also recognizes those who exhibit responsible citizenship.

**Mary S. Martino MBA '83**, vice chair of the Oishei Foundation, was also a recipient of a 2007 Citation Award.

Formerly known as the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ), the NFJC fights bias, racism and bigotry, and it provides educational programs on diversity and equality.

## EUROSIM

More than 200 students and faculty from 25 colleges and universities in the United States and Europe converged on the Canisius campus in April for EUROSIM 2007. The annual international, intercollegiate event simulates how issues related to the European Union (EU) are handled. This year's issue was the EU Energy Policy, which was addressed through the simulation of the legislation process on energy efficiency.

"EUROSIM offers students a unique opportunity to work and learn in an exciting multicultural environment," explains **John D. Occhipinti, PhD**, professor of political science and the American director of the international consortium that plans and runs EUROSIM. "Students gain a broad-based understanding of policy issues and deepen their knowledge of the European Union. At the same time, they hone their negotiating and public speaking skills."

This is the first time Canisius College has hosted EUROSIM. Since 1997, Canisius student participation has been subsidized by the Fitzpatrick Chair for Political Science and the Undergraduate Student Association through the EUROSIM Club, which is advised by Occhipinti.

