

## M&T Bank Supports Canisius Science Center



Canisius College is the recipient of a \$500,000 challenge grant from the **M&T Charitable Foundation**, to be used for the creation of the college's interdisciplinary science center.

Payable over five years, the foundation will match, dollar-for-dollar, qualifying cash and pledges received by the college from the Western New York private sector, including alumni, friends and Western New York foundations and corporations.

"We are delighted to receive this generous award from M&T Bank," said Canisius President **Rev. Vincent M. Cooke, S.J.** "Grants from this highly respected institution are very competitive. By selecting the college for this award, M&T has recognized Canisius as a leader in the Buffalo community."

Funds will support the purchase, renovation and development of

technology-enhanced classrooms and laboratories, including five Interdisciplinary Research Training Groups (IRTGs) in the areas of bioinformatics, cellular/molecular biology, analytical chemistry, neuroscience and quantitative science, which will be housed in the college's interdisciplinary science center.

"M&T and Canisius have shared a relationship in this community since 1924," added Shelley C. Drake, president of the M&T Charitable Foundation. "We have grown together, and together we have helped the community to grow. We believe this project will advance Canisius' already outstanding undergraduate science program, as well as help Western New York's life-sciences economy to develop."

The interdisciplinary science center will be developed in what is presently the HealthNow building

and parking pavilion at 1901 Main Street in the heart of the campus. The building is best known as the site of the former Sears Roebuck store, which operated there from 1920-1980. It consists of a four-story building with 237,000 total

square feet (170,000 net usable square feet) set on three and a half acres. It includes a three-level parking ramp with a total of 1,350 spaces. The center will bring together, in one location, the college's biology, chemistry, biochemistry, bioinformatics, environmental science, physics, psychology, computer science and mathematics programs.

With the development of the interdisciplinary science center,

Canisius can play a key role in the emerging life sciences economy developing at the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. The college is a place where the talent necessary to drive this new economy will be developed.



The anticipated cost of the project is \$47 million. In addition to gifts from alumni and friends of the college, Canisius is also seeking support from federal and state sources, and national and regional foundations and corporations. The college is scheduled to acquire the building in late 2007 and plans to begin construction of the science center as soon as possible after acquisition of the site.

**Mitchell L. Feaster '09**, an international business major at Canisius, is one of only 43 college students in the nation to receive a \$5,000 Coca-Cola First Generation Scholarship. Nominated by Canisius College, Feaster's scholarship is renewable for up to three years.

Feaster is a resident assistant in Bosch Hall, a Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) lobbyist and recently participated in a service-learning trip to New Orleans, where he assisted in the reconstruction efforts following Hurricane Katrina. He was one of two students selected to speak at the scholarship recognition luncheon in Albany on March 20.



Mitchell Feaster gets a proud hug and kiss from his mother, Theresa Brady, after speaking at the Coca-Cola First Generation Scholarship luncheon in March.

Student recipients of the Jesuits of Loyola Hall Scholarship said "thank you" to their beneficiaries during a reception in the Grupp Fireside Lounge.

Established in 1988, the scholarship fund supports the best and brightest students who apply for admission from Buffalo-area Catholic high schools or any Jesuit high school in the country. This year, more than \$100,000 was awarded in scholarships to 44 Canisius students.



Pictured are: Hallie Gallagher '08, Michelle Duritza '08, Athletics Moderator Rev. Joseph M. Dugan, S.J., and Kristen Shelley '09

## Donor Profile



PETER AND LIZ TOWER

### Towers invest in Canisius faculty and students

Local philanthropists **Peter and Liz Tower** presented Canisius College with a \$1 million gift in April to establish the Peter Tower Endowed Professorship and the Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Endowed Scholarship Fund.

The professorships will be awarded to faculty members in the college's Richard J. Wehle School of Business to foster entrepreneurship, innovation and economic development in Western New York, and to provide educational programming at the graduate and undergraduate levels that encourages and prepares students to accomplish these goals. Professorships will be awarded on the basis of competitive applications and will be for a term of up to three years.

"The Canisius community is extremely grateful to Peter and Liz Tower for their tremendous support and generosity," said Canisius President

**Rev. Vincent M. Cooke, S.J.** "The Towers' extraordinary kindness will provide many students with the opportunity to earn a Canisius MBA and become leaders in their professions."

"The Towers' magnificent gift to the School of Business has garnered a great deal of excitement among the college's business faculty," added **Antone F. Alber, PhD**, dean of the Richard J. Wehle School of Business. "Several faculty members have already begun the application process for the first professorship, which will be awarded in fall 2007."

The Peter and Elizabeth Tower Scholarship Fund will provide awards to deserving students in the college's Master of Business Administration Program, whose tuition and fees are not otherwise covered by an employer's tuition reimbursement program.