Coming April 2007:

JFRC all class Bay Area reunion!

Date & San Francisco location to follow soon!

A Letter from John Felice

Three wonderful things happened to me this spring that I'd like to share with you.

First, I was happy to welcome over 300 attendees back to Rome and JFRC at “Ritornare a Roma!,” the all-class reunion held May 3-6. Almost 100 alumni chose the JFRC dorm rooms for their accommodations, which must have really brought back memories of their student days! During the four-day reunion we dined together in the incomparable settings of Piazza Navona and the Villa Miani overlooking Rome. Both occasions were absolutely perfect “Roman” evenings. We were also very privileged to have the President of Loyola University Chicago, Father Michael Garanzini, S.J., join us and host the opening reception at Monte Mario. It was a fabulous event which people are still talking about. So for those who could not join us, you will have another chance: “Ritornare a Roma II” is in the works. I’d like to publicly thank the Loyola University Chicago staff for all the fine work they are doing for the JFRC, and I’d like to especially thank all of you who were able to participate in this momentous occasion. There really was something very special, fulfilling, and heart warming about being with all of you in Rome again. I know that those who attended felt the same way.

Letter continued on next page;
more Rome reunion photos p. 7
The second thing that happened is that Loyola University Chicago honored me as their 2006 recipient of the “Heart of Loyola” Award. This award is presented at the annual Loyola Founders’ Dinner gala, along with other prestigious awards given by the University. The “Heart of Loyola” Award is aptly named: it signifies a total commitment to the Jesuit spirit and tradition and honors one who is committed to that spirit through education. About 1,000 people attended the event and there you were again—seven tables of JFRC alumni—turning up for this event to cheer me on. It was a very special evening, and turned out to be even more significant because of the third thing that happened to me just two days later.

This might take a bit longer to explain. Before the reunion in Rome, I was not feeling so well. So, once the reunion was over, we returned to Chicago where doctors discovered that I needed further heart surgery—and in somewhat of a hurry. They agreed that it could wait until after the Founders’ Dinner. On June 6, I was back in the operating room for my seventh heart intervention. I feel like I’m really beginning to sound like a broken record because here I am thanking you all once again for your many prayers and good wishes on my behalf. I thought the good Lord might be calling me to my eternal reward—but, once again, your prayers intervened and helped me overcome yet another delicate procedure and surgery. I am now recovering rather well considering all of my ongoing health problems and my age. I was deeply moved by the overwhelming number of letters alone—of prayer and best wishes from my JFRC friends—over 700 in number. Your deep support of JFRC and me continue to give me so much strength and courage. Sometimes you tell me that I am a great inspiration to you, but very often I think it is the other way around—that you are my inspiration, my very reason for being and forging ahead. So together, let us continue on behalf of each other and on behalf of all that the future has to hold for our beloved JFRC.

God love you,
JFRC alumni philanthropy transforms students and center

The Robert F. Ward Scholarship (RFW) is one of several unique student awards created and funded by Mary Jo Meade-Weinig (JFRC Spring ’76) and Sheldon Weinig and the Weinig Foundation. Established in 2004, the award enables JFRC student recipients to pursue an ambitious independent endeavor during their time abroad, while carrying it out with the same kind of “purposeful commitment” that characterized the work of the award’s namesake, Robert Ward, during his career in advancement at Loyola University Chicago.

During the summer of 2006, RFW Scholar Heather Callen (LUC ’08) assisted with a research project for the International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) based in Vienna, Austria. The ICMPD offers training and conducts research working to stem the flow of illegal trafficking of humans, with the support of 30 international governments. Elise Trossero, ICMPD project officer who hopes to have more JFRC interns in the coming years, commented “I was extremely pleased with Heather’s initiative and ability to integrate with the whole team while creating a training manual for professionals working to support victims of trafficking in southeastern Europe.”

2005 RFW Scholar Angie Bullaro (LUC ’06) launched a film project in Serbia, aimed to counter misrepresentation and racist media projected upon the gypsy community in the Balkans. While working for the KUDA Arts Organization in Novi Sad, Serbia, Angie began to document the lives of women gypsy activists. Angie and the Gypsy organizers appeared on Serbian radio and at the Novi Sad Museum of Contemporary Art during the course of their work.

“Working with the Romani women in Serbia was one of the most amazing and influential experiences in my life,” reflects Angie. “Witnessing firsthand the impact of education on poverty has infinitely changed my worldview and my life course. My experience in Serbia tested my strength and courage everyday, but was the most rewarding experience I have faced. I am utterly thankful for that once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

Very special thanks to Mary Jo Meade-Weinig and Sheldon Weinig for supporting these transformational opportunities for our JFRC students and establishing new opportunities specifically unique to the John Felice Rome Center. The impact of their philanthropy can be seen and heard in the stories of our award recipients. It illustrates the profound difference alumni and charitable gifts can make in the lives of students and on JFRC overall.

For more information on establishing a JFRC award or scholarship, please call Elaine Kreuz, JFRC director of development, at (312) 915-7652 or ekreuz@luc.edu.

Dynamic JFRC spring program leads to Fulbright Scholars!

The JFRC spring trip to Tunisia was initiated by Loyola University Chicago political science professor Peter Schraeder, past JFRC faculty member and Fulbright Scholar in Tunisia. The dynamic partnership with the University of Tunis brings JFRC students together with Tunisian students to discuss issues of democratization, Islam, and the war on terror. JFRC students annually report that the conversations they were able to have with Arab students prove to be the highlight of the academic travel program.

The study trip also exposes students to Roman archaeological sites including the El Jem Colloseum which rivals the Rome Colosseum. Adventures also include camel rides and camping in the Sahara desert.

As a result of the annual spring break journey to North Africa two JFRC alumni, Dan Coslett (JFRC Spring ’04/Davidson College) and Pauline Eveillard (JFRC Spring ’04/Tufts University), won prestigious Fulbright awards to live and study in Tunis.
Greetings from the Development Office!

The campaign for the John Felice Rome Center continues to gain momentum, with JFRC alumni and friends contributing to the center in record-breaking numbers.

In fiscal year 2006 (July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006) gifts to the Rome Center totaled $215,740 from 574 generous supporters—surpassing the FY05 results by $57,932!

We are incredibly grateful for all the support of our alumni and friends. We extend our special appreciation to members of our giving club, the Società di Donatori. These generous donors support JFRC with annual gifts of $250 or more. We have listed this year’s members in recognition of their support and generosity and for serving as leaders in our campaign efforts.

This year’s JFRC Honor Roll follows.

Thank you all for your continued support, and with your help, we look forward to even greater success this fiscal year.

>> HONOR ROLL Società di Donatori

BENEFATTORI ($1000+)

Anne Bannister
Richard Bell II
James Brophy
Michael and Kathryn Carlson
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James and Margaret Gehret Erskine
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Suzanne Bazzano McCarthy
Robert Meade Jr.
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Thomas and Kathy Rucker
Robert and Maureen Schuberth
William Shaver and Mary Jo Strusz
Joseph Silliman, PhD
David and Laura Van Etten
Richard Walsh Jr.
Sheldon, PhD and Mary Jo Weinig

SOSTENITORI ($500-$999)

Dean Allara
Hugh and Jacqueline Arnold
Thomas and Laura Bacon
Peter Blythe and Mary Jo Valentine-Blythe
Susan Gaffney Carter
Claudette Roy Dachowski
Cormac and Judith DeLaney
Gary and Donna Dhein
Katherine Falk
John and Diana Faulhaber
Arthur Ferrara
Brian and Marie Fitzpatrick
Paul Gearen
Cindra Gravelle Nicholson
John Klink
Marsue Cumming MacNicol
M. Kevin McLaughlin
Eric and Mary Mollman
John and Susan Welch Murphy
Arthur Murphy and Audrey Davis-Murphy
John Nicolai

Cheryl O’Donnell
Donald Pelliioni, MD
Paulette Petretri
Anthony Jr. and Susan Piazza
Conrad Radcliffe
Albert Riederer, III
Robert and Donna Galasso
Rissone
Carol Robbins
William Schuberth, OD
Leonard Slotkowski Jr.
Raymond Stauber Jr.
Susan Thompson
Virginia Turner
Norman Weeks
Richard and Eileen Weicher

AMICI ($250-$499)

Thomas Adams
Dennis Amato
Peter Ambrosini
Brian Arnold
Thomas and Dale McDonald
Auffenberg
Col. Richard and Janice Butler
Bart
Michael Berman
Thomas and Janice Notch
Berthold
John and Deborah Blumenstein
James and Ethna Byrne
Robert and Deborah Callahan
Roseann Cioco
Lisa Cipiti
Terry Colwell
John and Nicolette Conway
Melissa Daniel
Anthony DeNicola
William III and Alicia Derrah
Vincent and Martha Driessen
Mary Elizabeth Eraci, MD
Joseph Falcone
Marilyn Forest
Kent and Mary Anne Curnes Fuller
Edward Goldberg and Linda Trytek
Peter Jr. and Marie Goschy
Joy Grossman
William Hartray
Kevin and Nancy Haverty
Charles Higgins
Patricia Hinckley
John and Mary Ann Hofherr
Susan Kempter
Jane Kieman
William Kirst
James and Susan Klutnick
Barton and Colleen Kramer
Elaine Kreuz
Robert Krug
Warren LaFray
Anne Byrnes Landrum
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Michael and Eileen Lee
Rachel Lionberg
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Mary Mathews-Stevens
Richard Matre, Jr.
Timothy Mayer
Michael and Carol McCabe Schubert
Christopher and Aarti McDonald
Jhonna McHenry
Joseph McKasy
Michael Miller
John, MD and Charlotte Mulvihill
Thomas Murphy
JFRC alumni classes step forward to endow scholarships!

The first 30 JFRC alumni classes are asked to support the campaign by creating Alumni Class Endowed Scholarships in honor of each of their class years. The minimum goal to start an endowment is $25,000. Congratulations to those classes who have reached this initial benchmark! See the table to the right to find your class’s progress!*  

*These totals comprise all gifts, including individual gifts, donor-advised funds, family foundation gifts, and corporate matching gifts. Additionally, all totals have been doubled to account for Loyola’s one-to-one matching challenge.

|               | Spring of ’62 | ’62-'63 | ’63-'64 | ’64-'65 | ’65-'66 | ’66-'67 | ’67-'68 | ’68-'69 | ’69-'70 | ’70-'71 | ’71-'72 | ’72-'73 | ’73-'74 | ’74-'75 | ’75-'76 | ’76-'77 | ’77-'78 | ’78-'79 | ’79-'80 | ’80-'81 | ’81-'82 | ’82-'83 | ’83-'84 | ’84-'85 | ’85-'86 | ’86-'87 | ’87-'88 | ’88-'89 | ’89-'90 | ’90-'91 | ’91-'92 | ’92-'93 | ’93-'94 |
|---------------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|               | $6,610       | $11,220 | $22,382 | $13,020 | $50,830 | $30,824 | $14,788 | $19,670 | $15,306 | $7,490  | $6,630  | $14,540 | $7,750  | $2,900  | $17,030 | $32,860 | $4,074  | $6,220  | $3,450  | $4,720  | $14,880 | $3,780  | $6,440  | $7,300  | $1,600  | $4,840  | $2,340  | $6,326  | $404    | $440    | $720    |         |

Robert and Clare Napleton
Kristen Smith Natter
Patrick and Christine Padon
Mark and Sheila Curry
Perkovich
Stephen Piccone
Michael, MD and Tina Plunkett
Lucy Redmon
Michael Rosendin
Joseph Ruiz
Mark Russo
Karen Ryan
Gregory Ryken
James Schaffer
Richard Schnitz
Matthew Slaggie
Mary Sliwinski
Christopher and Antoinette Barbieri Spohn
Sally Stanton
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James and Cindy Tanner
Michael Thomey
Domenic Toni
William Turner
Edward Volk
Wendy Walter
Michael Weaver
James Michael Weiss, PhD
and Mary Glavin
James Wells
Raymond and Laurie Wience
Yvonne Zecca
Barbara ZoBell

We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions, but if you find a correction, please feel free to contact Annual Fund Director Shena Keith at smcnama@luc.edu or (312) 915-7642.

FLASHBACK!

Loyolans in front of Trevi Fountain in Rome the day after the Ramblers won the NCAA Championship, 1963

**2006-07 JFRC STUDENT LIFE ASSISTANTS:**

Daniel Erwin (JFRC Fall ’04/Santa Clara University ’06)
Mike Beazley (JFRC Fall ’03/LUC ’04)
Colleen Calvey (JFRC Spring ’05/LUC ’06)
Ray Mitic (JFRC Spring ’05/LUC ’06)
Alexandra Manzella (JFRC Fall ’05/LUC ’06)
A Letter from the Director

DEAR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF THE JOHN FELICE ROME CENTER,

It has been an eventful half-year at the Rome Center since the previous issue of Il Bollettino. In addition to the usual array of outstanding classes and engaging study trips, the spring semester students enjoyed several specially arranged extracurricular opportunities that helped to make their experience all the more memorable.

One group traveled to Torino, where, amidst the excitement of the Winter Olympics, they got to see a match featuring the U.S. hockey team. Students who stayed behind were able to watch the Olympics on the new widescreen television that has been purchased for Rinaldo’s Bar, thanks to Forza Roma funds, and everyone could travel vicariously via the subsequent guest lecture by distinguished English art historian John Wilton-Ely on the subject of Piranesi and the Grand Tour to Italy.

Other guest speakers included Rome Center alumnus Robert Geisinger, S.J., procurator general of the Society of Jesus, who returned to campus in the company of other prominent American Jesuits at the Curia in Rome to lead a mass in celebration of the Jesuit Jubilee year. New U.S. Ambassador Ronald Spogli, an alumnus of the Stanford program in Florence, spoke to a large group of students, faculty, and staff and graciously stayed for a reception. At term’s end, Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago, made his third trip to the Rome Center, offering an eloquent homily during mass and visiting with students happy for such a good excuse to put off studying for finals. We were delighted that John Felice could join us for all these events.

It was a pleasure to reconnect with so many alumni during the all-class reunion here in May. It was wonderful to hear not only about your experiences while at the Rome Center, of course, but also about your reflections on the difference that time has made in your lives and your interest in how this special place may continue to serve deserving young people in the future. The new fall group of 162 students from 29 different universities and institutions has now arrived, the inheritors of traditions you have created, the beneficiaries of funds you have provided, and often your very children. I know you will join us in welcoming them all to the John Felice Rome Center family.

Eric Apfelstadt

“Ritornare a Roma!” photos, continued from p. 1
John Tolva (JFRC Spring ‘93/ Vanderbilt University ‘94) and his wife Robyn welcomed a daughter into their family on May 29, 2006. Baby Charlotte joins her brothers Nathan (5 years) and Andrew (3 years).

Sarah Feder (JFRC Fall ’01/Loyola University Chicago ‘04) and Tom Sullivan (JFRC Fall ’01/Loyola University Chicago ‘02) became engaged in Rome in November 2005. Their wedding will take place in Chicago in February 2007. Sarah and Tom both live and work in Chicago.

Marina Mihailovic Cato (JFRC Fall ’86/ Loyola University Chicago ‘87) recently joined the team of mortgage professionals at American Financial Group, Inc. as a licensed mortgage broker. Marina lives in Chicago with her husband, Kent, and their 5-year-old son, Alexander. She is a member and officer of the Loyola University Rome Center Alumni Board.

John O’Malley Jr. (JFRC ’82-83/ Loyola University Chicago ‘86) was named a general partner of the Private Equity Group of WestLB Mellon Asset Management (USA), LLC and leads the Chicago office. The Private Equity Group is a fund of funds provider with offices in N.Y., Chicago, L.A., and affiliated personnel in Dusseldorf and Tokyo.

Damon Marano (JFRC Fall ’01/ Loyola University Chicago ‘03) and Elizabeth Cairo (JFRC Fall ’01/ Marquette University ’03) became engaged on August 4, 2006.

Carla Gini (JFRC ’02-03 and Summer ’03/ University of Iowa ‘04) recently returned to the U.S. after working at the Rome Center as a student life assistant for the past two years. She was accepted into the Loyola University Chicago School of Business Administration, where she began in August 2006. Carla will specialize in marketing and international business.

Janet Markel (JFRC ’99-00/ Loyola University Chicago ‘02) became engaged to Reed Gillis on May 20, 2006. They will be married on June 16, 2007.

Bridget Gallagher Longoria (JFRC Spring ’01/ Loyola University Chicago ‘02) graduated from Loyola University Chicago School of Law in May 2006. Bridget will begin her legal career clerking for the Honorable William D. Maddux, presiding judge of the Law Division of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

Peter Gianopulos (JFRC Fall ’99/Loyola University Chicago ‘01) and Kate Henderson (JFRC Fall ’99/ Loyola University Chicago) were married on September 3, 2006, in Chicago. Many JFRC alumni were present at the wedding!

Joe Wolff (JFRC ’64-’65) recently won a Travel Book of the Year award from ForeWord Magazine for his Café Life Florence, a delightful book about all the hidden café gems in Florence, Italy. Those “Ritornare a Roma!” reunion alumni who participated in the Florence daytrip received this book as part of their travel package.

Joe Turano (JFRC ’96-’97/Cornell University ’98) and Emily Kresyman (JFRC ’04/Loyola University Chicago ’06) were married on August 12, 2006 in Chicago. Joe proposed to Emily in March 2005 in Verona, Italy. They met in 2003 at the Rome Reunion 40th anniversary party honoring John Felice in Chicago.

Tracy A. Cinocca (JFRC Spring ’97) of Cinocca & Associates, P.C., will be teaching her first class through the Lorman Institute on Advanced Topics in the Family Medical Leave Act in Tulsa, OK on August 24, 2006. She has also been appointed the Newsletter Chair of the American Bar Association Young Business Lawyers.

If you have news you would like to share in an upcoming Il Bollettino, please send a brief blurb to JFRCForum@luc.edu.

We will need:

- Your full name (include maiden/former name if it has changed since you were a student)
- Year/semester you attended JFRC
- Name of institution where you completed your undergraduate degree and grad year.
- Up to 50 words describing news of events such as births, marriages, retirements, engagements, promotions, awards, degrees, etc.

We reserve the right to edit, omit, or hold submissions as needed.
Ronald Spogli, the U.S. Ambassador to Rome, spoke to the JFRC student body in March 2006. Ambassador Spogli emphasized the significance of an international study abroad experience in helping students to gain insight and access into the global workforce. Spogli, who spent his junior year of college studying in Florence, fielded questions on a range of topics from students. It had been more than a decade since the highest ranking U.S. official in Italy visited the JFRC.

In April 2006, JFRC was honored by a visit from His Eminence Francis Cardinal George. Father John Chandler, director of JFRC campus ministry, noted that “the night was spectacular and the cardinal thoroughly enjoyed his time at the Rome Center—especially the opportunity to talk with students at a memorable reception following a brilliant homily and Mass.”