San Francisco Alumni Reunion

San Francisco will once again host the John Felice Rome Center All-Class West Coast Reunion on Saturday, April 28, 2007. While invitations are only being mailed to alumni living on the West Coast, all JFRC Alumni are invited to attend.

The reunion will take place at Palio d’Asti, the same wonderful Italian restaurant that hosted the 2004 reunion. We’ll once again have the place all to ourselves.

Located in downtown San Francisco’s financial district, Palio d’Asti is named after the famous medieval bareback horse race (Il Palio) in the town of Asti, Italy. It serves a variety of Italian dishes with an emphasis on food from the regions of Piemonte and Toscana.

The reunion will feature passed hors d’oeuvres, a terrific buffet dinner, and dessert. Wine, beer, and soda are included in the $85/person advance ticket price.

Space is limited, so make your reservations early. Tickets are only available online at LUC.edu/romereunion. For more information, call (800) 556-9652.
One of the great things about being a JFRC alum is that there is always a terrific party to attend. In the past several months there have been some memorable parties and reunions: the Class of 1963/64 reunited in Vancouver, the JFRC Alumni Board members celebrated together over the holidays, a Chicago JFRC Young Alumni group attended a winter happy hour, and JFRC Cleveland area alumni reconnected in March—not to mention all the smaller reunions and celebrations happening on a regular basis. We have another big celebration coming up in San Francisco, and all JFRC alumni are invited. I really hope to see as many of you as possible at the 2007 JFRC All Class Reunion on April 28th at the Palio D’Asti Restaurant. Those of you who attended a few years back know the Bay Area reunions are very well attended, very successful, and very fun. So please, join us for an evening of great food, great company, and endless stories in typical JFRC fashion.

In addition to being especially talented at throwing and attending parties, the JFRC alumni are a dedicated, spirited, and generous alumni body. When I see the progress the JFRC campaign for perpetuity is making with your continued contributions, when I read about remarkable JFRC alumni and their donations of time and resources to others, including JFRC students, and when I learn what our fellow classmates have gone out and accomplished in the world, I really appreciate how profound our shared experience at the John Felice Rome Center was, and how it helped shape each of us. I am proud to represent our unique group, and hope you will continue to make positive and powerful differences in society and in the lives of others.

I wish you all a wonderful spring and summer, and hope to see you in April at the reunion!

Warm Regards,

Leonard Slotkowski
JFRC Alumni Board President
Class of 1965/66-CIVIS
In the summer of 2005, I was honored to be selected by the Center for International Legal Studies as a Visiting Professor of Law in the Comparative Law program of the Nicolaus Copernicus University (NCU) in Torun, Poland. Over the years I had been involved in several Rome Center events, had stayed in close touch with John Felice, and my son Joe had made a late spring decision to attend the JFRC. I decided to invite a dozen JFRC students to come to Poland for a study tour over the Thanksgiving weekend. This was a unique opportunity for cultural exchange and a chance to give back to my alma mater.

NCU had never had such a delegation of American students and was very excited about the idea, as was JFRC Director Eric Apfelstadt. The response was incredible—seventeen people signed up initially and eleven eventually made the trip. The group included my son Joe and the sons of two of my JFRC classmates (and still close friends) Jack Conway (JFRC ’73) and Charlie Noell (JFRC ’73-’74).

On Friday, the JFRC and over 50 NCU students came together for a session on human rights. There was an instant connection between the two groups. The opening address came from NCU Vice Dean Bozena Gronowska, a human rights scholar, who told the JFRC students they were “pioneers” in being the first Americans at NCU for an intellectual exchange. She also told them about NCU along with an overview of European human rights issues. Visiting professors from Germany and the Ukraine also participated in the day.

With compelling topics such as abortion, torture, and the death penalty, a lively discussion followed 15-minute presentations from three of my students (all in English). The international exchange of ideas that day was remarkable. JFRC students candidly shared their own life experiences in talking about abortion and the death penalty and engaged in lively debate with Professor Gronowska about the ethics of torture. Polish students did the same and demonstrated an incredible depth of knowledge.

The Torun visit closed with a reception at a cellar bar in the Stare Miasto. Over 100 students attended. JFRC students Noell and Conway and Student Life Assistant Beazley found a piano in the corner of the room and led the international group in song and revelry that brought a camaraderie that I can only describe as magical.

Loyola University Chicago and JFRC wish to extend heartfelt thanks to John Kurowski for his contributions of time and financial support, and for carrying on the JFRC tradition.

By John Kurowski (JFRC ’73-’74)

**JFRC Students Visit Poland**

**Top Photo:** JFRC students on a tour of Warsaw, November 25, 2006. (left to right) Student Life Assistant Mike Beazley, Amy Koehler, Charlie Noell, Danielle Decina, Jake Brainard, Joe Kurowski, Nick McMillan, Beata Kosydor, Pat Fahey, John Grana, and Jack Conway.

**Middle Photo:** NCU grad student Zuzanna Peplowska, our Polish host, is presented with a gift by JFRC Student Life Assistant Mike Beazley at Thanksgiving dinner on November 23, 2006.

**Bottom Photo:** Visiting Professor John Kurowski addressing the human rights symposium on November 24, 2006.
Update from the Development Office

Now in its third year, the John Felice Rome Center's campaign for perpetuity has made great strides. Since Fall 2004, alumni and friends alike have stepped forward to show their support and to ensure the JFRC will be around for many years to come. There are several ways to support the JFRC.

Join the Società di Donatori by making a gift of $250 or more to one of the following funds:

- The Alumni Class Scholarship Endowment Fund – Class scholarships honor JFRC attendees and help future students who require financial aid to share the experience.
- The John P. and Mary K. Felice Scholarship Endowment – Created by alumni in honor of John and Kate Felice, this fund provides full-year and/or fall semester JFRC students with tuition assistance based on financial need and merit.
- Forza Roma – This alumni-initiated fund provides travel grants to students demonstrating need or compelling academic study proposals and supports the highest priority needs of the JFRC.
- The Steve Wolf Memorial Travel Fund – Established in memory of JFRC student Steve Wolf, this fund assists students demonstrating need with supplemental travel funds.

More JFRC Alumni Classes

Step Forward to Endow Scholarships!

We are delighted to announce that three more classes have reached endowment status in JFRC’s campaign for perpetuity. As you know, the first 30 JFRC alumni classes were asked to support the JFRC campaign by creating Alumni Class Endowed Scholarships. The minimum to create an endowed scholarship is $25,000 which includes a 1:1 match from Loyola University Chicago. Last spring, we announced endowment status for alumni class years 1965-66, 1966-67, 1976-77. This spring 1963-64, 1968-69, and 1975-76 stepped forward, and their class scholarships reached endowment status as well. We are pleased to report that all six endowments are going strong and continue to grow. Congratulations and thank you to all the alumni who continue to make this campaign a success!

President Michael J. Garanzini, S.J., demonstrated Loyola’s commitment to the JFRC by providing a challenge match of $1 for every $1 of alumni support up to $500,000. We have nearly exhausted the match! Show your commitment to the JFRC by making a gift before the match runs out.

IF YOU WANT YOUR GIFT TO DOUBLE, MAKE IT NOW!

Interested to know how your class is doing? Take a look to the left to find your class’s progress.

GO 1967-68!

With less than $2,000 (and a $2,000 match from Loyola University Chicago) to go, 1967-68 is sure to reach endowment status by our April 2007 all-class reunion in San Francisco. 1964-65, 1969-70, 1977-78, and 1981-82 are not far behind. Keep up the great work!
WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO GO TO THE JOHN FELICE ROME CENTER?

Sara: When I decided to attend Loyola, the Rome Center was a major part of my decision. The idea of studying abroad in the historical city of Rome sounded like an amazing opportunity – it did not disappoint!

Domenic: First, my uncle planted the program in my mind when I was 16 years old. The second reason was the Vietnam War—I had a low draft number.

DID YOUR TIME IN ROME INFLUENCE YOUR VISION FOR YOUR FUTURE OR YOUR LIFE’S ACCOMPLISHMENTS?

Sara: Yes, it did. It strengthened my love for traveling and learning different languages. Because of my time abroad and the friends that I made, I am now studying French. I am also contemplating teaching English in Europe for a few years.

Domenic: We all know what a great life changing experience Rome was. My time at the Rome Center indirectly introduced me to Ignatian spirituality, which I adopted some years later: in the late ’70s, John Felice gave me some direction which started my walk towards Ignatian spirituality.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR LIFE JOURNEY SINCE LEAVING JFRC?

Domenic: Within two days of returning from Rome in 1973, I was introduced to a guy (who is still a good friend), through the parents of another JFRC classmate. He told me his company was always looking for people with technical interests and international experience. The firm hired me, and five years later, I joined a competitor. After a series of re-organizations, I was the only person in a $500 million subsidiary of United Technologies that had any international experience. I was offered and accepted an ex-patriate European assignment. Now, after living in the Netherlands, Germany, and the United Kingdom for a total of 21 years, I still wonder what I want to do.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 10 YEARS?

Sara: I hope that I will have gained teaching or volunteer experience in a different country before pursuing a career in medicine.

Domenic: We may never know what they could have become if they had that incredible JFRC experience.

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE HANGOUT?

Sara: At the JFRC, it was Rinaldo’s. In Rome, my friends and I loved going to La Radio or an outdoor bar/café around Piazza Navona.

Domenic: Mario’s Restaurant (Burino’s Restaurant) on Via Trionfale—great spaghetti alla carbonara, pizza, white wine, and sambuca. I don’t know how I managed to keep my eyes open in the library after Friday lunch in 1972–1973.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO ENCOURAGE JFRC ALUMNI AND FRIENDS TO MAKE CHARITABLE DONATIONS TO PROVIDE MORE SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDY AT THE JFRC?

Sara: Your funds are greatly appreciated by all the students. I personally benefitted from the Forza Roma Scholarship and as a result got to experience Tunisian culture – something I never thought I would have the opportunity to do. Your continued support is an immense service to the JFRC community. Thank you.

Domenic: Some students will be unable to attend without scholarship support. We may never know what they could have become if they had that incredible JFRC experience.
JFRC LINKS YOUNG STUDENTS TO THE GLOBAL WORKPLACE

The JFRC Student Internship Program places responsible full-year JFRC students in European government offices, non-profit charitable organizations, private companies, and international relief and news organizations, where they gain practical work experience as well as invaluable global market exposure. “My internship has been a life-changing experience. It has helped me discern who I am and what direction I want to take in my career. As someone who wants to practice law, I was given the opportunity to see firsthand how a firm with a global outreach operates behind the scenes,” says Guillermo Vallejo, who interned at Baker & McKenzie Law Offices.

The program began in spring 2004 with 13 students placed in 9 Roman businesses, and this spring 25 students have been placed at 21 different organizations and private firms. In anticipation of their spring term placements, the 25 students each prepared curricula vitae, worked hard to strengthen their Italian language skills, and went through extensive interviews during fall term. The students are now working approximately 10 hours per week in various locations in and around Rome such as Youth Action for Peace, Comunità di S. Egidio, Emergency, the Italian Senate, and others. In addition to providing great experience, the placements have helped expand the perceptions of students on the European workplace and Italian companies’ views on American students. “I was able to learn in three months about NGOs, international conflicts, humanitarian aid, and about myself,” says Robyn Russell, Emergency intern. “This internship has made me realize that I have so many more options than I ever dreamed imaginable. After working at Emergency, I think on an international scale and acknowledge the importance of knowing at least one foreign language.”

Explains Rebecca Edwards, JFRC Vice Director, “Internships were among the fundamental student experiences that [Co-Director] Eric [Apfelstadt] and I wanted to bring to the JFRC when we were recruited to be its directors. The value of hands-on experience can hardly be over-estimated. We’ve been gratified by the growth in numbers and the steady improvement in the quality of the students’ experience over the four years of the program, and we think it will be one of the strongest parts of the JFRC experience.”

The Loyola Oral History Project focuses on documenting the history of the University through oral interviews. The project is currently focusing on the Rome Center, and we are conducting interviews with faculty, administration, and alumni. We are looking for alumni participation from all decades, including both Loyola and non-Loyola graduates. At this time, interviews will take place in the Chicagoland area only. If you are interested in participating in the project or would like more information please, e-mail Maria Reynolds at mreyno5@luc.edu or call the University Archives at 773-508-2661.
Jacqueline Nussbaum (JFRC Fall '01/John Carroll University '03) and Michael DiNatale (JFRC Fall '01/University of Iowa '03) became engaged on February 2, 2007. Their wedding will take place in Chicago in August 2007. Jacqueline works as a second grade teacher at Hatch Elementary in Oak Park, and Michael works as an attorney at Jenner & Block, LLP, in Chicago.

Claire (Edwards) Armstrong (JFRC Fall '95/Loyola University Chicago '97) and her husband Sam are thrilled to announce the birth of their son, Oliver, on June 11, 2006. Oliver is their first child.

Michelle Niebur (JFRC '99-00/Loyola University Chicago '02) and Nathan Jun (JFRC Spring '00/Loyola University Chicago '01) will be married on September 1, 2007. They met at the JFRC. Nathan expects to defend his dissertation and receive a joint PhD in philosophy and literature from Purdue University in the fall.

Todd Heintz (JFRC Fall '95/Loyola University Chicago '97) and Katrine (Kambanis) Heintz (JFRC Fall '95/Loyola University Chicago '98) welcomed twins, Audrey Sophia and Michael John, in April 2006. Todd and Katrine live in Chicago, and Todd works for JP Morgan Chase.

Jason Grill (JFRC Spring '99/Saint Louis University '01/University of Missouri-Columbia Law School '04) was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in the 2006 election. He will represent constituents from around the Kansas City, Missouri area at the State Capitol. Jason also works as an attorney in private practice and as a professor at Park University in Parkville, Missouri.

William Loris (JFRC '66-67) was selected for a 2007 Alumni Association Special Achievement Award from Santa Clara University of Law. Recipients are those graduates who have distinguished themselves in their profession, the community, and in service to humanity. The award will be presented by the Dean of Law along with university officials and law alumni leaders, at a dinner scheduled for Friday, April 27, 2007.

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 the John Felice Rome Center
- Name of institution where you completed your undergraduate degree and grad year
- No more than 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.

HAPPY 45TH ANNIVERSARY to the John Felice Rome Center and the JFRC Class of Spring 1962!
On Thursday, November 2, 2006 young alumni of the JFRC gathered at Bella Lounge in Chicago for a mini-reunion. Over 50 alumni from the last ten years attended. Another social event is being planned for the late summer/early fall of this year.