



The Hill News

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY - FOUNDED IN 1911

Vol. CX No. 15

Friday, February 18, 2005 • www.thehillnews.com

Canton, New York



Photo by Scott Laurin

This past weekend featured three performances of *The Vagina Monologues* in the Black Box Theater.

Merit Scholarship Soon To Expand Into Program

Trish McMahon
Editor-at-Large

For some people, a scholarship is simply financial aid – money to help pay for school, whether it comes from the school itself or an outside source.

This past year, efforts have been made to expand the Presidential Diversity Scholarship from “just a scholarship” to a program as well.

Established with the class of 2004 five years ago, the Presidential Diversity Scholarship is one of the merit scholarships offered by St. Lawrence.

The others include the University, Vilas, Community Service, and Augsburg/North Country Scholarships.

Many of the changes deal with the interactions of PDS students and dynamics of the group. In the past, some students were unaware of who else also held the same scholarship.

“They face many of the same issues HEOP students and other minorities face,” says Margaret Kent Bass, Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs and a faculty advisor for the PDS program, “yet there is no forum for them to discuss it.”

Cultural events, field trips, planned workshops and forums regarding jobs and graduate school, and connecting the group with related programs on campus (such as the McNair Program), are all changes to help make the group stronger.

According to Bass, the changes were implemented as a result of current PDS students.

She interviewed many of the students about what changes they would like to see – how they wanted the scholarship/program to work and if they'd be willing to take the added responsibility.

From those conversations, the scholarship/program was

revamped for the class of 2008.

Another change in the scholarship is maintaining a 3.0 GPA requirement. While the other merit scholarships required a 3.0 GPA to keep the scholarship, the Presidential Diversity scholarship did not. Students believed that if the other merit scholarships had a GPA requirement, then the one they have should too.

There is also an effort to make the group of students more visible entity on campus.

They are asked to contribute to the campus, be active in attending cultural events – especially with issues of diversity. So far, they have had field trips to the Museum of Civilization in Ottawa and down to Syracuse. At the end of each semester, an award is given to the student(s) with the highest GPA, and also to the student(s) who attended the greatest number of cultural events on campus.

There are five advisors for the PDS program, three faculty and two from student life. Faculty advisors are Bass, Martha Chew, Assistant Professor of Global Studies, and Ning Gao, Assistant Professor of Chemistry. The Student Life advisors are Peg Cornwell, Project Director of the Leadership Academy, and Terrance Williams, Assistant Director of Career Services & Leadership Education.

Bass says that the dynamics of the Presidential Diversity Scholars has improved. They are proposing putting on an event sponsored by PDS students.

Some are even looking at creating a PDS theme hall/suite for next year.

With the incoming class of first-years in the fall, she believes they will have more organized planning and a structured welcoming event.

Winston Family Gives to Campus Fund

The Laurentian Room to be Re-Named this Month

University Communications

St. Lawrence University Chair of the Board of Trustees Lawrence J. Winston and his wife, Sally A. Winston, of Bonita Springs, Florida, have pledged \$2.5 million to the University's next comprehensive fund-raising campaign, to be used in support of the St. Lawrence Fund and to provide permanent funding for what is now named The Laurentian Room in the Student Center. In recognition of their gift, the room will be named The Winston Room in their honor, and dedicated in February of 2005.

Lawrence Winston, chair of Distribution Alternatives, Inc., is a 1960 graduate of St. Lawrence, and has been Chair of the Board of Trustees since 2001. He joined the Board of Trustees in 1987, and served as Vice Chair of the University's Campaign Steering Committee during Campaign St. Lawrence,

which concluded in 2002 and exceeded its goal, raising \$132.2 million.

He earned his St. Lawrence degree in psychology and has been active as a volunteer in fund-raising and career advisement. The Winstons established the Lawrence J. Winston Family Scholarship at St. Lawrence in 1986; it has helped pay the costs of the junior and senior years of more than 30 students since its inception.

Sally Winston holds an associate's degree from Green Mountain College. She established the Sally Winston Campus Beautification Fund in 1993 and funds annually the placement of flower arrangements in various locations throughout campus on major college event weekends. In addition, Sally has funded the redecorating and furnishing of several cabins at St. Lawrence's Conference Center in the Adirondacks, Canaras.

Larry Winston stated, “Sally and I felt strongly about orga-

nizing our largest gift to the University while I am chairing the Board of Trustees, to provide an example of the leadership and commitment necessary as the University initiates a major new Capital Campaign. We chose to support the Student Center because it is at the heart of the campus, both physically and in the way it strengthens the student experience. We are especially pleased that, because the Student Center is completed, our gift will free up funds that can now be channeled into other ongoing, critical or new initiatives, including the construction of our new science center and the never-ending goal of increasing the University's endowment.”

“Larry and Sally Winston have done it all for St. Lawrence over a lifetime of commitment and support,” said President Daniel F. Sullivan. “Chairing the Board of a university requires a huge time commitment.

See Alumni - Page 4

Associate Professor Publishes Novel

University Communications

The Family Wound, a novel by St. Lawrence University Assistant Professor of English Ngoc Quang Huynh, has been published by Starborn Books, Wales. It is described as “a young Vietnamese woman's desperate search for inner peace after surviving the horrors of war and the corruption and violence left in its wake.”

The Friends of Owen D. Young and Launder's Libraries will hold a celebration of the book's publication, featuring a talk by Huynh, on Friday, April 29, at 4 p.m. in the Josephine

Young Room of Owen D. Young Library.

Huynh was born in 1957 in South Vietnam. He attended Saigon University until he was thrown into a concentration camp simply, he says, for being a student. After a year of torture and extreme degradation he managed to escape, and eventually found a new life in America. His first book, the memoir *South Wind Changing* (Graywolf Press 1994), was named by Time magazine as a “best book.”

The Family Wound, while dealing with imprisonment, escape and flight to America, is fiction, with a young woman as

the protagonist. She is in love with a student teacher, but her family forbids the union, and he vanishes; she is subsequently pressured by her mother to take a job with a corrupt Vietcong official. After suffering extreme abuse she finds herself accused of murder and is forced to flee. The central portion of the book is a kind of inner journey with touches of magic realism, and marks the transition or emancipation from the “old” world of Vietnamese tradition, culture and society to the “new” world of the United States where she eventually comes to live. But the past, with all its pain and guilt,

See Professor - Page 4

In This Week's Edition

News Outside of Larry Land Page 4

The Vagina Monologues Review Page 6

Word Search Page 7

Womens Track-League Champions Page 8

