

# ACADEMIC COMMUNICATOR

A Publication of the Madonna University Office of Academic Administration

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## LEADING THE WAY CAMPAIGN TARGETS ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

Academic excellence has been a hallmark of Madonna University since its founding in 1937. The new Leading the Way campaign will invest in this tradition by raising \$50 million for a series of targeted projects:

- ▶ To build a 60,000 square-foot science building and media center that will include:
  - specialized labs for astronomy, quantum physics, genetics and microbiology;
  - videoconferencing capabilities and advanced scientific instrumentation;

- advanced instrumentation for the rapidly-growing forensic science program;

- expanded capacity for upper-level chemistry labs;

- increased space for biology labs to meet the growing demand for health sciences; and

- a state-of-the-art production facility for students preparing for careers in television, radio, film and other communications fields and support Madonna's Broadcast and Cinema Arts program.

- ▶ To sponsor a series of projects to promote academic excellence:

- endowed chairs in Catholic studies and human dignity and caring;

- centers of excellence in graduate education, international relations, and community engagement

- programs of excellence in e-business, science, and the performing arts;

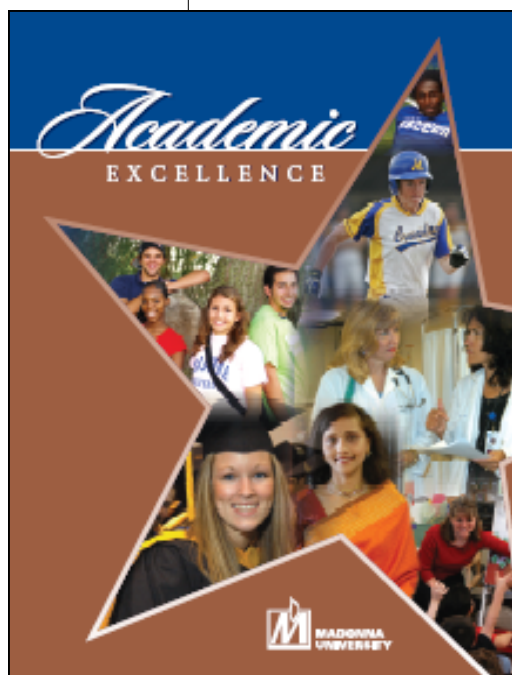
- campus renewal projects; and

- financial aid for qualified and deserving students.

The seven-year comprehensive campaign will ensure a bright future for this "green and growing" university.

## Project LEARN Under Way

A federal appropriation of \$258,405 will fund the infrastructure needed to use two-way, live, interactive video (ITV) instruction to offer training to first responders in disaster relief and recovery in Wayne County. Project LEARN (Learning Environments and Regional Networks) will assist the University with upgrading its ITV classroom to digital transmission as well as provide the capability of connecting to multiple sites simultaneously. In addition, the project will partly fund the adaptation of Kresge Hall, a 275-seat conference facility on campus, for use as a transmission site and the creation of an ITV site at the location of the Southwest Women's Educational Empowerment Program (SWEEP) facility in southwest Detroit. The emphasis of this phase of the project is on building the technology infrastructure to deliver training on-site to first responders. A second phase of the project will develop extensive programming options for a range of first responders on such issues as coordination of services, meeting the needs of special populations, and other critical issues.



*The ability to locate, retrieve, organize, understand, validate, and utilize information has become an even more critical and necessary component of a University education.*



## AT&T EXCELERATOR GRANT TARGETS INFORMATION LITERACY

Information literacy (IL) has become a universal issue as access to information via electronic means has become so pervasive. The ability to locate, retrieve, organize, understand, validate, and utilize information have always been core literacy skills, but, in the Information Age, this has become an even more critical and necessary component of a University education. For this

reason, the University's "Information Literacy for Southwest Detroit" project, funded by AT&T for \$20,000, will enrich the Southwest [Detroit] Women's Educational Empowerment Program (SWEET) with workshops, course modules, and a more robust technology infrastructure to develop information literacy skills. "This is a wonderful opportunity to extend the Univer-

sity's IL-across-the-curriculum program, initiated with a grant from the McGregor Fund," remarked **Dr. Ernest Nolan**, Vice President for Academic Administration. "The project will bridge the urban-suburban digital divide by equipping our SWEET students with the knowledge, skills, and habits of mind needed to become successful leaders in their communities."

### The Parks Charitable Trust Foundation Assists SWEET Students with Textbook Purchases

The Parks Charitable Trust Foundation has established a fund to assist students in the Southwest [Detroit] Women's Educational Empowerment Program (SWEET) with the cost of textbooks through two gifts of \$10,000. Administered by the SWEET Coordinator for the Social Work Program, **Marcia Boehm**, the fund provides up to \$300 per semester for needy students who are enrolled at SWEET. One of the factors that has contributed to the success of SWEET, which targets Latina and African American women from the neighborhoods of southwest Detroit, is the University's aggressive fund raising to provide financial assistance for these students. Without scholarships and other forms of financial aid, a University education would not be affordable for individuals whose household income is at the subsistence level.

## SECOND ANNUAL PAH-FEST MOTOWN MAKERS TO CAMPUS

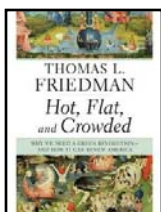
**Project Accessible Hollywood** (known informally as PAH-Fest) enthralled the Madonna University campus July 14-20, bringing in film makers from far and wide to create a "mobiflick" and compete for kudos from Christopher Coppola, nephew of director Francis Ford Coppola and brother of actor Nicholas Cage. "In the old days, only people from Hollywood could make movies," said video production instructor and PAH-Fest organizer **Sue Boyd**. "The whole idea is to let people know that anyone can do this. Everybody's story is important! Christopher is all about empowering people." Coppola's concept is to sponsor this celebration of filmmaking at different locations around the world and capitalize on the unique character of each site. Along with movie-making, the week-long event included creative exploration of other technologies, such as "DigiPortraits," cell phone art, virtual reality, and other expressive means that empower everyone to make art. Local artist Josh White, Jr., provided an evening of stories and songs, and international musician Ridha Ibrahim entertained via a virtual reality connection via Second Life to Italy. The University's video production faculty and students also participated in PAH-Fest Hollywood this past spring, sharing their video production expertise and gaining practical experience.



**"One Community,  
One Book"  
Colloquia 2008-  
2009**

Fall 2008  
**Hot, Flat, and  
Crowded: Why We  
Need a Green Revolution—and How It Can  
Renew America**

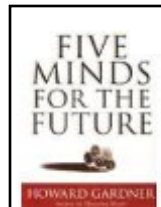
by **Thomas L. Friedman**  
(Author of *The World Is Flat*)



Alternate Dates:  
December 4, 10, and 12, 2008

Spring 2009  
**Five Minds for the  
Future**

by **Howard Gardner**  
(Author of *Multiple Intelligences*)



Dates to be determined.

Sign up for your copy by  
contacting  
vjohnson@madonna.edu.

## THE UNIVERSITY SELECTS GREEN THEME FOR 2008-2009

To celebrate the University's commitment to the Franciscan values of reverence for creation and concern for the environment, the 2008-2009 annual theme will be **"Green and Growing: Madonna University Values Responsible Stewardship for a Sustainable World."** This follows the first year of deliberations by the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Franciscan Values, headed by Registrar **Dina DuBuis**, who has proposed that each year the annual theme address one of the four core values of the University. The 2008-2009 theme relates to the fact that the new Science and Media Building, slated to open in

spring 2009, will be the first "green" LEED- certified building in the City of Livonia. The green theme will be developed through a series of events and activities:

- A campus landscaping project;
- Email taglines for use across the University;
- Green environmental scanning at Planning Committee meetings;
- Green brainstorming at the community-wide gathering in October;
- "One Community, One Book": *Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution—and How It Can Renew America* by Thomas Friedman, author of *The World Is*

*Flat*;

- Common reading and theme for UNV 1010, the required orientation courses for first-year students;
- Exhibit of nature photography/art work from around the campus;
- Emphasis on green curricular programming .

"The exploration of our green theme will provide unique opportunities for engaging the faculty, staff, and students in one of the most pressing issues of our time," said VP Nolan. "The University is at the forefront of a national trend, as higher education across the country mobilizes to promote the green agenda."

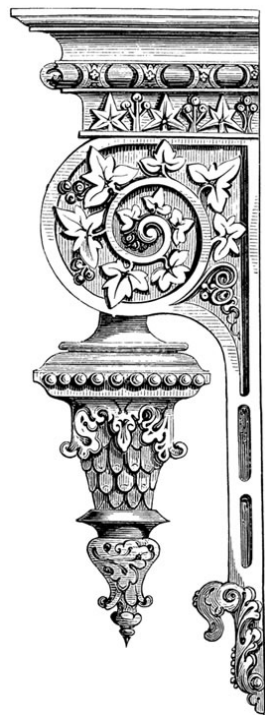




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*Student Success Is Our  
Greatest Achievement!*



*Equal Opportunity  
Educator*

## Fall Semester 2008 Datebook

- **Fall Faculty Conference**  
Monday, August 25, 2008, 9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.
- **New Faculty Orientation**  
Thursday, August 28, 2008, 9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.
- **Classes Begin**  
Tuesday, September 2, 2008
- **November Faculty Professional Development Workshop**  
Friday, November 7, 2008, 1:00 — 3:00 p.m.
- **“One Community, One Book” Colloquium: Hot, Flat, and Crowded**  
Alternate Sessions:  
December 4, 10, and 12, 2008,
- **End of Fall 2008 Semester**  
Saturday, December 13, 2008



### Michigan Campus Compact Grant:

Madonna University received an MCC Venture Grant of \$3,500 for “Metro-Vision: Community Leadership and Lifelong Learning.” Directed by VISTA worker, **Mary Therese LaPalm**, the project will target 40 area youth to teach them about the history and diversity of metropolitan Detroit.

### King/Chavez/Parks Grant:

The Office of Multicultural Affairs continues to receive support from the State of Michigan’s King/Chavez/Parks initiative. The latest renewal provides \$136,000 to offer support services for at-risk students, particularly members of minority groups.

### Harrison Award:

**Dr. James O’Neill**, professor of psychology, was presented the Harrison Award for “significant and lasting impact on school health programs in Michigan.” The award is given jointly by the Michigan Departments of Education

and Community Health each year.

### Student Emmy Award:

Broadcast and cinema arts major, **Dave Brown**, was awarded the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) Michigan Chapter, Student Emmy Award for his video, “Nankin Mills: Best Kept Secret.” This is the second year in a row Madonna University students have won this important award.

### Teachers for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:

Headed by the chair of the teacher education program, **Dr. Rick Benedict**, a team from the College of Education was selected to participate in a national project that seeks to strengthen teacher preparation programs through workshops, webinars, and online communities of practice focused on the integration of new technologies. The team also includes **Drs. Karen Obsniuk, Stewart Wood, and Marjorie Checkoway.**

### Nursing Grants

- The **Bauervic Foundation** recently awarded \$8,000 to the College of Nursing and Health for purchasing symbolic model simulators.
- **Dr. Teresa Thompson** has partnered with the University of Michigan-Flint on a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) project entitled, “Developing Cultural Competencies for Nurses: Evidence-based Best Practices.” Over the next three years, Madonna will receive \$175,025 to support online and face-to-face educational offerings to enhance the cognitive, affective, and psychomotor cultural competencies of nurses and develop their skills in addressing individuals, groups, and communities that are diverse and at risk for health disparities.

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