Appociated Students of Saint Mary's College Presents

President's Perspective

Tricia O'Brien **ASSMC** President

Welcome back fellow Gaels! I hope your year's going well so far. Actually, we're looking forward to our best year ever-so many things have and are going to happen I almost don't know where to begin. I'll start with the end of last year. On May 1st Brother Craig relayed the exciting news that our stu-dent body fee increase was approved from \$117 to \$135! Now we have the task of spending the money-we're definitely not anticipating this to be a problem. In fact, you've already seen where a large portion of this increase is going. t.o our newly ftmded student shuttle on weekends, "Gael Rail." The College has pledged to pay for the first two months, but after two months ASSMC is going to be funding this new campus service. There is still a large amount of money that has not been spent, and from listening to student's needs we would love to apply the rest of our ftmds toward on-campus programming.

Other very exciting things happened this sununer such as funding for a Recreation Center, a center sure to humble both USF and Santa Clara—I can't wait! Hopefully you Freshmen will be able to enjoy it in a few years for all of us, but I'm really holding out for special

alumni membership cards. Saint Mary's during the summer was actually the place to be as the students here had the chance to meet our new Director of Student Activities, Yvonne Canada, and our new Dean of Student Development and Leadership, Pete Simonds. If you haven't met these two new administrators, I strongly urge you to. I think you will find that they are both "big picture" people and have huge visions for Saint Mary's and campus life. I find myself getting goose bumps when talking to them. Please make an attempt to stop by their offices in Ferroggiaro and get to know them, you won't be sorry.

Summer also brought about an overwhelming response to my invitation to students to be the student voice on varying Governance Committees. This was the biggest response ever, somewhere between 150 to 200 students. Because of this great interest please excuse my far from prompt appointments to these committees, and chances are you may still be hearing from me, if you haven't already. This response was a great indicator to me that many students really want and are urging to take on leadership

roles in our school; I couldn't be happier about that. Please, if a governance committee didn't work out, join a student committee-all are welcome. These seven student committees are a result of your senators' goals they hope to accomplish this year and improvements that selves-they need you.

This actually brings me to my next bit o' business. So often I hear students say that there is nothing to do on the weekends or that the senators really don't accomplish much. I was sincerely hoping that with the promising 98-99 school year ahead, this wouldn't be an issue, but already I have heard those dreaded words. I'm not sure if everyone understands that students plan on-campus programming and address stu-dent issues. Saint Mary's does not plan programming, but the students of Saint Mary's do-you do. If you feel that our campus is lacking in areas, take the initiative and try to change it. Apply for Program Board (hundreds of people want to see increased events, but only 7 people applied), attend your class senate meetings (they're open to everyone), or join a student committee. If you haven't made conscious attempts to make positive change, then please-don't complain. We are a limited number of students and doing the best job we can, but we need your help-join us. If we want the student force at sporting games to be stronger and more spirited-sit with your fellow Gaels and learn our fight song. If you don't know the words come into our office, we'd be more than happy to give them to you. With every involved student our school bemore united, and Santa Clara more afraid. That is my challenge to all of you-to help make a difference. Trust me, the sense of accomplishment you will feel, the new pride you will have in our school, is incomparable.

We have so many things planned for the year like Student to Student Town Hall meetings (informal meetings where you can address your student reps.), we're determined to bring back Gael traditions, we want opportunities, communicate better with off-campus students and our town of Moraga, and the list goes on and on. But we need your help, even if it's just through your presence and support. I'm convinced this is going to be our best year ever, I'm sure of it, but only if we work together, with you.

Hello Class of 1999! Your Senior Class Senators have been working to plan an exciting and memorable senior year for all of you. First of all, here's a reminder of who your class representatives are just in case you've forgotten. President is Aubree Swart, Vice Presithey desire to see happen, but dent is Karen Fry, and your seven senathey can't do the work themtors are Barry Alves, Amy Bell, Brandyn Coleman, Annie DeGraca, Karen DeKleine, Tom Lickiss, and Gffia Meneni. Remember

> that we were elected to represent YOU, the Senior Class, so be sure to let us know if there are any campus issues you are concerned about or if you have any suggestions for events you'd like to see on campus.

> Mark your calendars now for Senior Ball on Saturday, May 8 at the Mark Hopkins Hotel in San Francisco. Senior Senate is already brainstorming some fundraising ideas, like t-shirts and pint glasses. We want to make your Ball bids as affordable as possible.

> We know many of you are anxious for the first Senior Social and so are we. We are still working with the Director of Student ActMties to hanuner out the details of the new college alcohol policy, so look for advertisements for the first Senior Social in early October. Thank You Seniors, your senators look forward to seeing you there!



Welcome Back Class of 2000! Hope your summer went well and that you're ready for a fun and exciting year.

Thank you for your support at the Welcome Back Dance. We, raised a substantial amount to aid in funding our Junior Formal. That's right, JUNIOR, FORMAL! It's going to be here faster than you know ... we have a place ... The Hyatt Regency at Embarcadero ... we have a date ... April 24th 1999! So mark your calendar and get your G.Q. or your G.Queen ready Because you can't take them all.

Also, support your class fundraisers to keep the price of bids down. (Hint, Hint). Look for our famous long sleeve, navy blue COLLEGE t-shirts to make a come back. And soon to come, "espresso measurement cups."

Your Junior Senate team looks forward to working for you this year- so if you comes stronger, our students have any suggestions, ideas, comments, questions, or concerns that you would like to voice- please don't hesitate to contact us. Give us a call or place a note In our boxes In the ASSMC office (1st floor Ferroggiaro)

Sharlene Duale x5881, Melissa Hunt x5882, Kelley Bardwell x3793, Jacci Cammarotto x5881, Alisa Macksey x587O, Hector Vergara x5713, Jason Vitucci x6135

SOPHOMORES

to increase community service Sopholyone Social October 22, @ 9PM

> Music, ice cream and open mike...The Sophomore Senate is excited about this year! And wants to hear your thoughts and opinions. Come get to know all the people in your class that you missed last year. Let's have strong Sophonore unity!

APASA is currently in the process of forming committees for various areas that APASA is involved in.

Committees include:

- Asian Cultural Night (ACN) committee
- Community Service committee
- •Socials committee
- Asian Pacific American mural committee

These committees are responsible for where APASA will go this year in their respective areas. Everyone is welcomed to join any or all committees to provide ideas, input, involvement in planning, and/or participation in actual events. These committees provide an excellent opportunity in leadership development, education in APA issues, as well as a great chance to meet and work with other students, facility and staff. Plus, it's a lot of fun. Get involved and remember EVERYONE is welcomed. For further information contact Tony Panlilio at 377-3550

What we did in September

- •Asian Pacific American Welcome Dinner Sep. 9th
 - *co-sponsored by the office of Asian Pacific American Student Programs and APASA featured the up and coming singing group "Touch the World"
- •First APASA general meeting Sep. 15
- "Breakdown" dance APASA fundraising dance
- •Canned good donations go towards Oakland homeless

What we are doing in October

- •APASA general meetings in the Multicultural room from 6pm -7pm October 6 and October 20
- •Ms. Saigon Trip Sponsored by the office of Asian Pacific American Student Programs
 - *spaces limited (for information call the Program Coordinator at
- •APASA Halloween, CANDY grams fundraising event. Selling starts Sep. 13

International Welcome Reception:

The International Student Programs Office and the International Club hosted its Annual Fall Welcome Reception Dinner on Thursday, September 17 at the Soda Center. There were one hundred and seventy people in attendance, including new and returning international students, American students, faculty, staff, and Friendship Partners.

The evening began with an introduction and welcome from Louis Gecenok, Director of the International Student Programs, followed by an address by Jim Divine, Personal Assistant to Bro. Craig Franz, on his behalf. It is also a tradition at the welcome reception to recognize the students from the different countries. Currently, there are students from thirty countries attending Saint Mary's College for the 1998-1999 academic year. Louis Gecenok and Maureen Little named the countries and the student(s) from their specific country stood to be acknowl-

We were then entertained by Carolina Lugo's Brisas de Espana Flamenco Dance Troupe and musicians. Arthinant Mahasuwan, President of the International Club then introduced the Board and Council Members and gave a brief overview of the club and encouraged international students as well as the American students to partici-

pate in the Club activities.

The dinner was a delicious meal of Pad Thai, grilled curried chicken breast, fruit salad, Thai beef salad, stir-fried vegetables, jasmine rice, and cheesecake prepared by Suchin, the chef from Thailand who works for Marriott. The evening came to a close with another perfon-nance by the flamenco dances who took people from the audience to dance with them. All in all it was a beautiful evening that was well organized and was enjoyed by all those present.

In its effort to integrate and aclimatize foreign students with the American way of life, the International Club is hosting

the following events:

•1.0ct.3 Trip to Marine World U.S.A., Tickets are ONLY \$17.50 (need 20 people or more)

•2.Oct. 23- Restaurant Night @ Le Cheval Vietnamese Restaurant Price:\$13/person

•3.0ct.31- Napa Picnic Trip & Factory Outlet Shopping

For any further info. Call Art @ 377-7422 or Shefali @ 631-0681 or you can also come by the International Office, 1st floor De La Salle Hall.

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Greetings from the PROGRAM BOARD! We are getting ready for an exciting new school year filled with lots of fun activities. In case some of you don't know, Program Board is a branch of ASSMC that is committed to bringing you, the students of SMC, the quality activities that you deserve. We've got a really jam-packed month planned for you...starting Friday Oct 2 with the Spirit Rally & Laser Show. Come show your school pride and be ready for some great entertainment. Then, on Saturday, we've planned our annual Homecoming Dance. The theme this year is DANCIN' THRU TIME. Which means, (you guessed it) you get to dig out all of those t-shirt ties, bellbottoms, platform shoes, hyper-color shirts, and poodle skirts from the back of your closet and dress your favorite time period from the twenties to the eighties. Remember: those who do dress up get in free to the dance. It's from 9pm-1am in the Soda Center so remember to brush up on your Hustle, Breakdancing, and Swing... Speaking of Swing, did we mention that October 5-9 is SMC SWING WEEK?? For all of you who took lessons this summer, or just think swingin' is cool ... we have a whole week of Swing Activities planned for you. The last of which is SWING NIGHT from 9pm-1am in the Soda Center on Friday Oct. 9. We're going to have a live Swing Band and some classy surroundings, so we ask that everyone dress up a little ... now, we're not talking formals and tuxes, just nice pants and collared shirts for the guys and dresses or skirts for the girls. You know, swing attire. Well, we hope to see you there (and at the rest of our fabulous activities). Watch for BBQ Cookoff, Rock'n the Lawn, Karaoke Night, and Halloween festivities coming your way later this month!

Attention all full-time students from the 1997-1998 school year:

The 1998 Gael Yearbook will be here on October 19th

•On-campus students will receive their copy through their RAs.
•Off-campus students can pick their book up outside the ASSMC offices between 10am and 2pm, October 19-24. After the 24th, books will be available in the Gael offices during posted office hours.

If you have any questions, please contact Editors-in-Chief, Amanda Todoroff and Heidi Bryant at x4673.

SUBMIT TO riverrun THE SMC LITERARY PUBLICATION

WE WILL ACCEPT POETRY, SHORT STORIES, AND PLAYS NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 9TH. SLIP YOUR WORK INTO THE *riverrun* SUBMISSION BOX LOCATED ON THE 3RD FLOOR OF DANTE. INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER.

QUESTIONS? CALL MARY DALTON AT 631-6246 OR JOHN SHEPHERD AT 377-3603.

The Communication Club

Interested in learning more about the communication industry while meeting new people? If so, joining the Communication Club would be a perfect opportunity for you. Many people don't understand what is meant by "communication", though everyone uses it. Just a little hint: it has to do with everything that is involved with messages that are sent to and from others. As you can imagine, this topic is very broad and applies to everyone. If you would like to know more, please come to a meeting as advertised by posters on campus or contact the Communication Department directly.

A Message from the Gay And Lesbian Association ...

October 11th is National Coming Out Day

Some of the most difficult and important decisions in the lives of gay, lesbian or bisexual people surround "coming out" - that is, deciding to be honest and open about our sexual orientation. GALA is here to help individuals find the strength to come out here at Saint Mary's College. Gay people are everywhere, and every day, more of us are deciding to live honestly. This is critically important to our community because the only way we will stop the discrimination we face is to reveal our true selves to our ftiends, our families and our neighbors. National polls have shown that people who know someone who is lesbian or gay are far more likely to support equal rights for all gay people. So in effect, coming out may be one small step for a gay man or lesbian but it contributes to the giant leap we are making for all gay people, today and in the future. If you are thinking hard about whether and how you should come out, you're probably wondering, "What is this going to do to my life? Will my family accept me, will my friends still like me? How do I know if this is the right thing to do?" These are all valid questions and you are not the first person - nor will you be the last - to struggle with them. But it's our fervent hope that just as the earliest gay activists paved the way for so many people, today's lesbian, gay and bisexual leaders are helping to make life easier for you. We assure you that while being an openly lesbian, gay or disexual person in this society isn't easy, it is so much more gratifying than being in the closet. Lying and hiding, worrying that someone will discover your secret, consumes a lot of personal energy and detracts from the quality of a person's life. No one should be denied the opportunity to thrive and flourish as a full human being because his or her sexual orientation is different from that of the majority. Our community has come a long way in the decades since the rebellion at the Stonewall inn - which began the modem gay rights movement - but it still has a long way to go. GALA is here to help students grapple with the life-altering and potentially life-enhancing decision to come out. If anyone ever suggests that your life won't add up to anything if you're gay, remind them that: Plato was a lover of men. So were Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci. Bayard Rustin, a leader of the black civil rights movement, was gay. So were Oscar Wilde, Gertrude Stein, Marcel Proust, and James Baldwin. Shakespeare wrote about a man's love for a man. Poet Emily Dickinson wrote about her love for a woman. Most recently, musicians Ld. lang and Melissa Etheridge, and actresses Ellen DeGeneres and Amanda Bearse have come out as lesbian; and actors Wilson Cruz and Mitchell Anderson, record producer David Geffen, Olympic swimmer Greg Louganis and Olympic skater Rudy Galindo, and U.S. Rep. Barney Frank have come out as gay. If you would like to receive more information about coming out, please contact the Gay And Lesbian Association so we can give you the "Resource Guide to Coming Out" published nationally by the Human Rights Campaign. We also encourage everyone in the Saint Mary's College community (whether gay, lesbian, bisexual, curious, questioning, or a straight supporter) to get involved with GALA this year. Group coordinators can be contacted by calling campus extension 4354, writing to P.O. Box 3744, or e-mailing gala@stmarys-ca.edu.

Congratulations New Senators!

We (the Exec. Team) would like to welcome new senators to ASSMC—2 Juniors and 9 Freshmen. This fall we had a rather unique situation in which the Junior Class had 2 vacancies that needed to be filled, but now thanks to Maryanne Bisson and Summer Godfrey they have a full house! We are all so excited to have you two join our Senate.

And — congrats to our new Freshman Senate team! Elizabeth Marcum will lead the class in a successful year as Freshman Class President with the help of her newly elected vice-president, Karen Olivar, not to mention our seven newest senators Brian Dougherty, Nicole Gerardi, Megan Hansen, Jessica Lewis, Christina Sobral, Greg Teshara, and Amy Uematsu. We are looking forward to a great year and can't wait to work with all of you!

Road/Mountain Bike aub

It's time to start ridding your bike on the trails and paths that surround the SMC area. If you would like to join others who enjoy the sport please contact the SMC Cycling (Jub. Look for the first general information meeting in October. All abilities are welcome. For more info, contact (hris Griffin at (925) 943-6649 or cgriffin@stmarysca.edu.

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship is an interdenominational group at SMC where students can grow closer to God and explore their faith through weekly small group bible studies, community activities, fun events, retreats, and more.

This semester there are two new student small groups meeting on Monday nights at 9pm in Justin 207 and Thursday nights at 9pm in Augustine 220. Upperclassmen small group meets in North Claeys, first floor lounge at 8:30pm on Wednesday nights. Come explore the life of Jesus through the small group bible studies. No experience necessary!

On Tuesday nights, come over to Hagerty Lounge at 8:45pm for fun, friends, food, and fellowship at Community Life! With talks and discussions based on real issues we can relate to, it is aii awesome experience to grow In your faith, wherever you are.

Everyone is welcome to join in the activities, so check them out. Questions? Call Hope or Julien at 631-5950.

OCTOBER 1998

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CAMPUS SERVICES COMMITTEE

Contact: Gina Meneni Committee Members: Mario Sorrentino, Christina Sobrel, Gina Meneni

MISSION

To provide a campus wide service to improve the quality of life at Saint Mary's College. To work in conjunction with other committees to ensure student concerns are recognized, investigated, and responded to quickly and successfully. It will be the focus of this committee to initiate solution to the concerns that arise from the majority of the ASSMC.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

There are two primary goals of this committee. First we would like to aid and assist those in the community who are less fortunate by donating time and energy.

Secondly we hope to establish a firm relationship between Saint Mary's College and the surrounding community.