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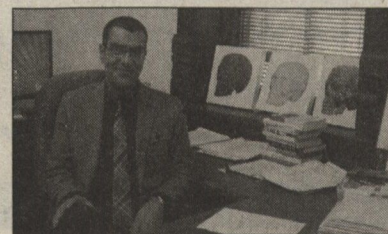
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# THE LAKE FRONT

NEWS FOR THE STUDENTS. BY THE STUDENTS.

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE UNIVERSITY, SAN ANTONIO, TX

April 2013

Volume 56, Issue 4

[lakefrontsa.com](http://lakefrontsa.com)

## Eliminated majors temporarily back

Angelica Casas  
Designer

Last October, Esther Gonzalez found out she could not add philosophy as a second major to her degree plan because it was going to be eliminated. She even considered transferring to a different university that offered the major.

On April 16, an announcement changed Gonzalez's mind – and soon her degree plan.

Sister Jane Ann Slater, interim president for the university, has decided to "delay implementation of the suspension" of 10 of the 12 majors eliminated last semester under the decision of former university president Tessa Pollack. Slater's decision comes five weeks into her term of interim president, which began March 12.

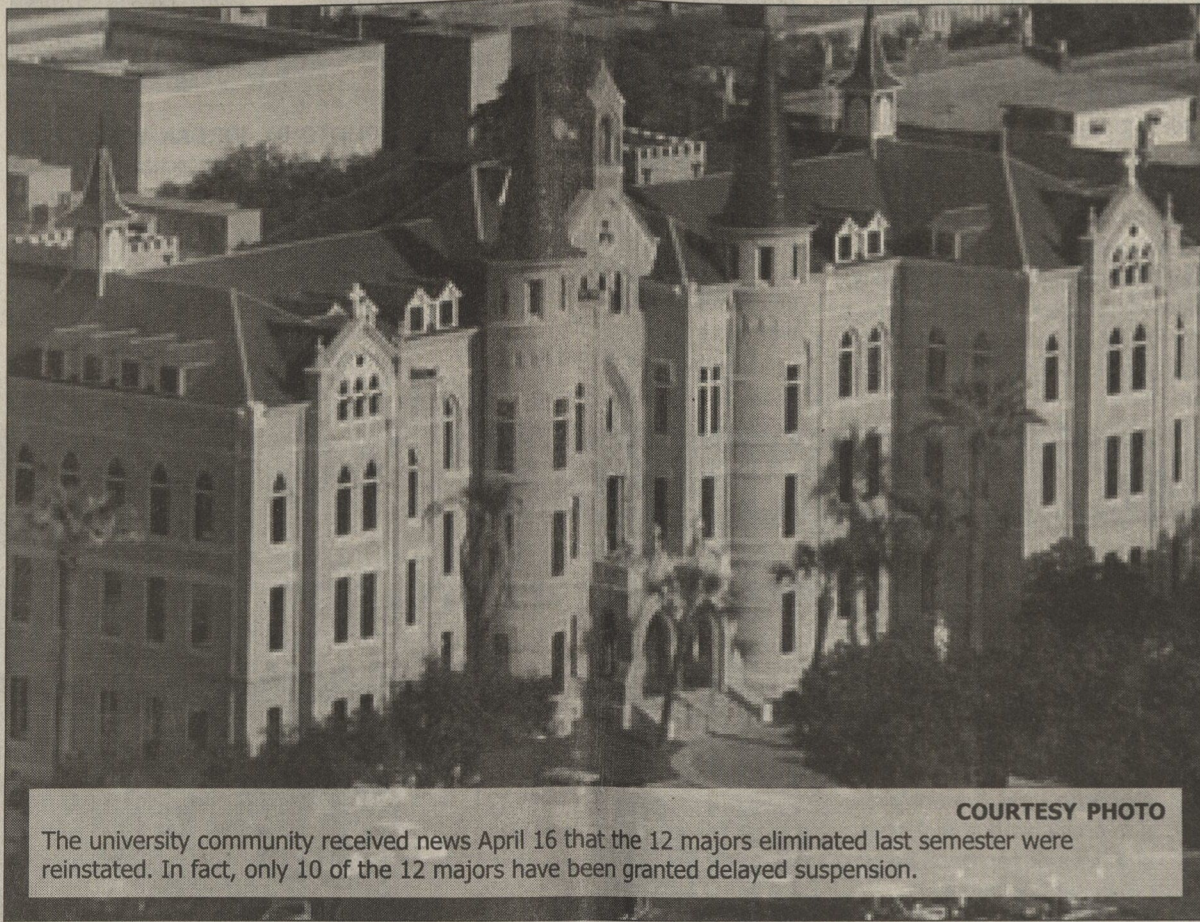
Slater first announced her decision to faculty through an email April 16. Professor Leda Barnett shared the announcement to students and alumni that same evening through a post on the "Stand with the 12" Facebook group page, created by student activist Tyler Tully.

Barnett's announcement was made only hours after the university community received news of Dean Robert Bisking's new position as executive vice president for the university.

"I am happy to report that the 12 are now majors again!" Barnett wrote on her post. "The eliminated majors and those on revitalization probation, must come up with a detailed plan to energize the programs, which is a good thing that faculty have always supported."

The 12 majors eliminated last semester are Art, Drama, Human Sciences and the Human Sciences graduate program, Marketing, Mexican-American Studies, Natural Science, Organizational Leadership for undergraduates, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Social Studies and Spanish.

These are now on delayed suspension with the exception of Organizational Leadership for undergraduates and the graduate Sociology program, because the department heads of these have chosen not to submit proposals to



COURTESY PHOTO  
The university community received news April 16 that the 12 majors eliminated last semester were reinstated. In fact, only 10 of the 12 majors have been granted delayed suspension.

energize their programs.

Incoming freshmen and current students can major in the 10 programs waiting for proposals.

The Faculty Assembly met with Slater on April 3 to propose a resolution they created in November to reinstate the majors. They again met on April 12 but had not reached a conclusion, so Slater promised the assembly she would have a response by the following Tuesday, April 16.

"After two meetings with the affected faculty (of the eliminated majors), it seemed they needed a little more time (to draft proposals for their programs)," Slater said. "Rather than implementing the suspension of programs, I decided to postpone that until the next academic year."

The programs now have until March 31, 2014, to submit proposals.

"She wants creativity, she wants collaboration," said Leah Larson, English professor and Faculty Assembly president. "I've seen faculty very happy this week."

To guide the 10 programs in the creation of their proposals, a

task force consisting of various faculty members from each college and school at the university will be created on May 15.

The faculty members on the task force will be knowledgeable about the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation standards so programs will not face any unexpected surprises down the road, Larson said.

Larson said it is important that departments drafting proposals receive comments and ideas from faculty not in their department, because they may come up with ideas not thought of before. As an example, she said Bisking once suggested an idea to the English department that had not crossed the department members' minds but that turned out to be helpful.

Larson also said she wants student and staff input.

"I hope we create a culture where we're constantly thinking of how to energize and make our programs better and better," Larson said. "We're not dwelling in the past, we

want to move forward."

Slater, like Larson, is optimistic about the future.

"We learn from (the past) so we don't repeat it," Slater said. "But we move ahead with the energy that comes from the passion of moving forward. This is a win-win for everyone."

For Tully, this is a move forward but it also confirms the school's commitment to the community.

"I think Slater's priority is to show us that she's interested in justice," Tully said, adding that she is reasserting the relationship between administration, students and faculty. "It reaffirms that our school is committed to our vision."

By giving the eliminated majors a second chance, Slater is showing that students and faculty matter, Tully said.

"Change in universities is always hard, but it's good because times change," Slater said. "For me, it's a providential moment."

### OLLU community speaks about return of majors

"That's awesome! Enrollment will be better. The more people we have, the better. We can promote our school with the more people we have."

-Laura Echeverria, Junior

"That's great! I thought I was going to be the last Spanish major. I hope they promote the program so this won't happen again."

-Lorena Vera, Junior

"I believe that it was unnecessary to occur... They tried to find the financial value, but now they found the true value."

-Sammy Lam, Junior

"I'm excited. I was actually going to change my major to one that was cut."

-Yadira Montalvo, Sophomore

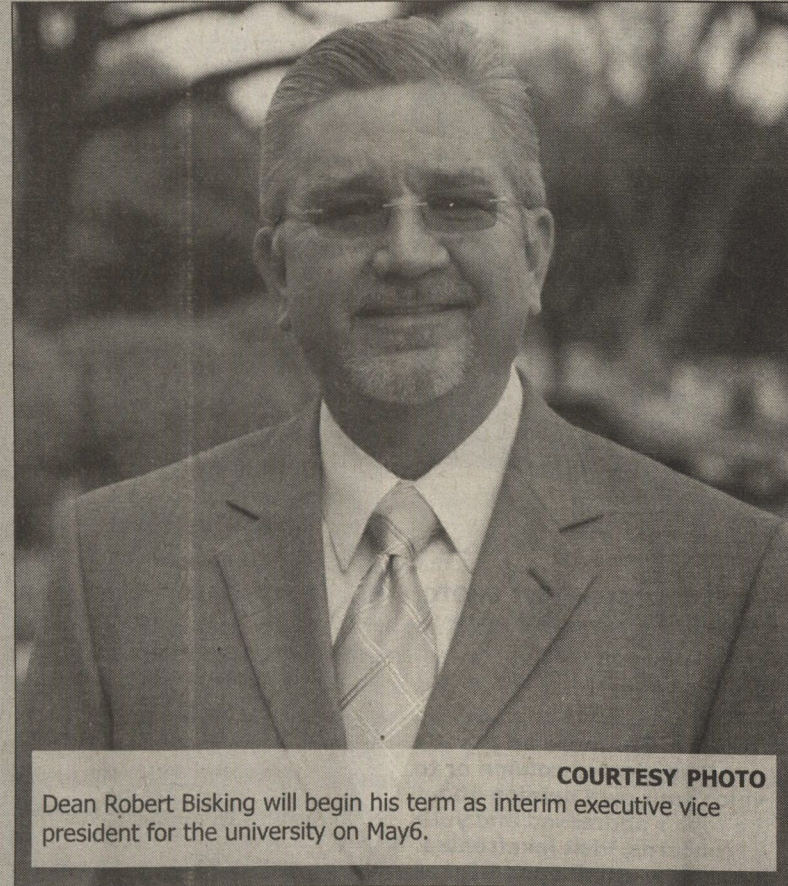
"I was elated in the fact OLLU will remain committed to its mission statement, thus preserving its identity as a distinct institution. I also felt a great sense of joy and satisfaction in pondering how we as the student body, along with our Alumni brothers and sisters, joined together in solidarity to make our voices heard."

-Andres Peinado, Senior

"I think this was great. The students' and communities' voices were heard. The mission and vision of OLLU will be maintained."

-Gabrielle Villafuerte

## Bisking promoted to interim EVP position



COURTESY PHOTO  
Dean Robert Bisking will begin his term as interim executive vice president for the university on May 6.

Jordan Whitfield  
Copy Editor

OLLU President Jane Ann Slater announced through email April 16 that Dean Robert Bisking will be the interim executive vice president of the university for the next academic year.

Bisking is currently the dean of the School of Business and Leadership and interim dean of the School of Professional Studies, but he is excited about taking on the new role and hopeful the change will have a positive effect on the university.

"There's a lot of exciting things that I think are going to be precipitated by the decision, so I'm looking forward to the good work that's ahead," Bisking said.

Bisking will officially assume the position May 6, but he has already begun taking over the duties of the role.

See EVP continued on page 3

## Professors to leave university

Jordan Whitfield and Gianna Rendon  
Copy Editors

At least seven full-time professors are leaving Our Lady of the Lake University in the next year.

The number may appear surprising, but university administrators stated the departures are not connected. The professors who have announced they will be leaving have given different reasons for their departure.

In the March issue, The Lake Front announced that Business Professor Blaise Bender had left the university and that the upcoming academic year would be the last at OLLU for Religious Studies Professor Oswald John Nira. Other faculty members leaving OLLU include Dale Calvert, Business; Hayan Charara, English; Nan Cuba, English; Sanford Nowlin, Mass Communications and Will Rainford, Social Work.

More professors may leave, but university officials would not disclose this information.

Interim Executive Vice President Robert Bisking also declined to discuss specific reasons for their

"Each year they have myriad private and personal reasons as to why they come and go."

-Dan Yoxall, VP for Institutional Advancement

departures. "There are a myriad of reasons why faculty (or staff) choose to leave," Bisking said. "Some may be retiring, being moving for family/ personal reasons or maybe they have found a wonderful opportunity they just could not turn down."

Though members of the university community may wonder about the reasons for seven professors leaving, Vice President for Institutional Advancement Dan Yoxall warned against making generalizations for all the professors.

"I would stay away from any kind of generalization about people leaving," Yoxall said. "Each year they have myriad private and personal reasons as to why they come

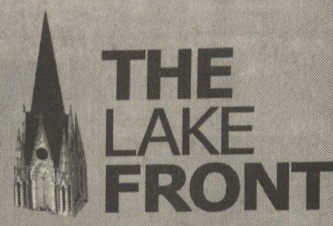
and go." See pages 4 and 6 for profiles on professors that will soon leave the university

# EDITORIAL OPINION

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THE LAKE FRONT | OUR LADY OF THE LAKE UNIVERSITY

APRIL 2013



## Communication with professors key

### OP-ED

**Darian Mendez**

Reporter

With finals around the corner, students face few problems communicating with professors.

But when it comes down to those weird problems that appear after a month or two of class, students should feel comfortable talking to their professors then as well.

Be it grades, assignment issues, their teaching or the way other professors are teaching, open communication between professor and students is needed to make this university a better place for everyone.

Compared to the 2012-2013 undergrad populations alone in St. Mary's (2,508) and Incarnate Word (5,970), Our Lady of the Lake's 1,489 undergraduates leave room for better communication. Students

in other universities don't have the same opportunity as OLLU students to communicate face-to-face with professors.

We can all attest to having an ideal professor who has experience and does what we want to do in the future. With these professionals available in class, office hours and email, there are plenty of chances for advice and networking.

This doesn't mean to use professors solely for this purpose. Getting to know these professionals and how they ended up on the steps of Main, Metz, Moye or Worden is a reminder of Providence and how it works.

It's hard to say whether the student group "The 12" would have been possible at any other university. But by talking to other professors about the concerns of their programs, the group was able to hold silent vigils with confidence because they knew what they were fighting for.

The lack of communication that we've seen in the past couple of years

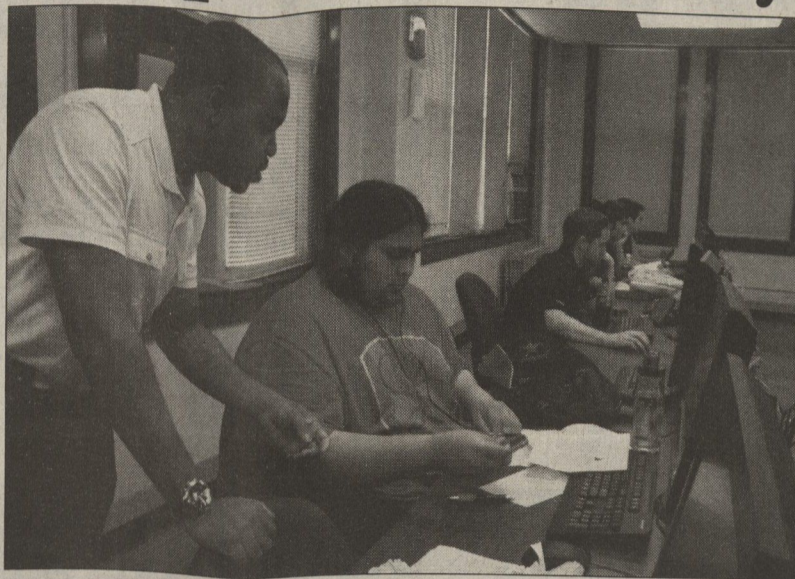


PHOTO BY JORDAN WHITFIELD  
Students consider Math Professor Stephen Salako an approachable and helpful professor.

between faculty and administration is preventable, especially with the opportunity for OLLU to start anew with the interim president.

Instead of repeating the cycle

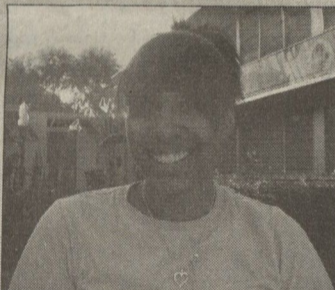
of miscommunication, one of our resolutions should be to better the school by questioning teaching strategies and grades and letting professors to know who you are.

## SOUNDING OFF

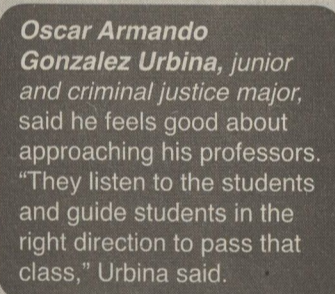
### How do you approach a professor when you are having trouble in class?



**Danielle Leal**, sophomore and social work major, said she does not approach her professors because she feels intimidated. "If I ever do approach them, it's through email," Leal said.



**Naya Willridge**, sophomore and biology major, said that it is a lot easier to talk with young professors and harder with older ones. "But overall, if you have a problem with the class you should be an adult and address the problem," Willridge said.



**Oscar Armando Gonzalez Urbina**, junior and criminal justice major, said he feels good about approaching his professors. "They listen to the students and guide students in the right direction to pass that class," Urbina said.



**Karla Cruz**, sophomore and accounting major, said she is usually intimidated to approach her professor because she's shy in class. "But I take a deep breath and reassure myself that everything is going to be okay," Cruz said. "Then I approach my professor about how I could make better grades in the class."



**Victor Ovalle Jr.**, senior and CISS major, said that for his CISS classes the professor usually approaches him and asks if he is doing okay, before he moves on to a different subject. "In other classes, I approach my professors," he said.



**Marlina Kendrick**, sophomore and biology major, said she normally talks to the professor after class. "They are really good at reaching back," she added.

## IT'S COMPLICATED

The 'It's Complicated' column explores life, love, and relationships through topics like contraception, domestic violence, homosexuality and dating rules. Some of these topics may seem controversial, but discussing them may help our readers understand touchy subjects, see a new perspective and inspire spirited discussions amongst the student body.

**Mariam Kevlishvili**  
Editor

There are certain firsts students almost always share with their parents.

They might talk to them about their first day in the university. They will probably tell them about their first quiz, their first exam and their first research paper.

But while many students explore their sexuality for the first time during college, this is a "the first" they may not want to talk about.

Parents think that the conversation about "birds and bees" is good enough for their children to trust them. But it does not lift a taboo from sex as a topic of conversation.

Parents don't want to look at their "babies" and acknowledge that they might have grown up and are doing something that they successfully prevented by curfews and leaving the bedroom door open when friends came over.

And some students avoid these subjects, thinking what parents don't know can't hurt them.

This lack of communication hurts students.

After years of living in a bubble, many students don't know how to handle adult life. Parental guidance

could help them avoid many painful situations.

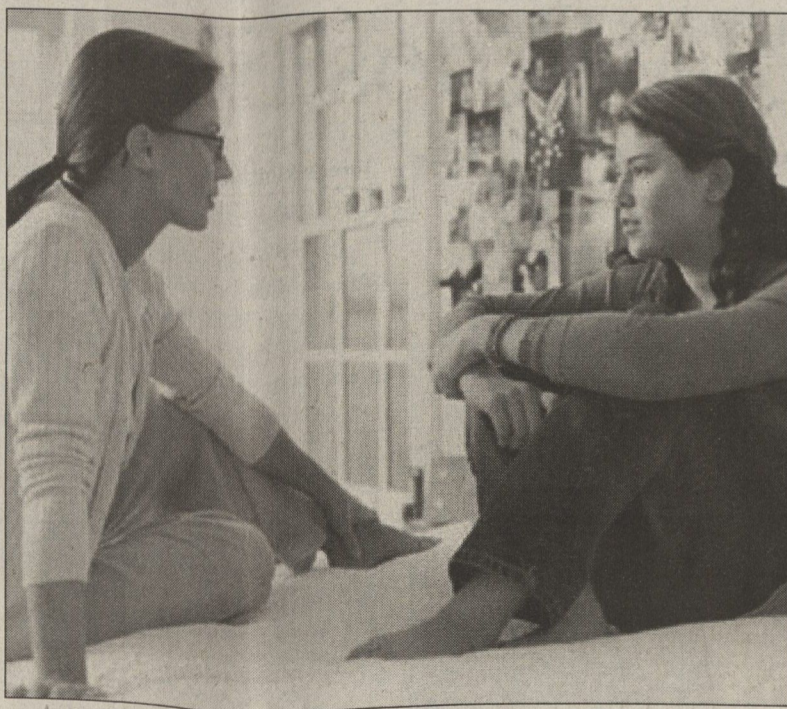
Parents are able to give students advice better than anyone else. A mother who raised, fed and cared for her children for as long as they have been alive should be a little bit better at giving advice and knowing what's better for them than their college roommate or a bartender at a local pub.

College students shouldn't be scared to open up to their parents. Many of us see our parents as role models, examples of perfection, and it might be intimidating to talk to these "perfect people" about sex or intimate feelings.

But without this communication students won't know that their parents had exactly same questions and issues when they were younger, and the gap between generations will get even bigger.

Sex is a part of life, and if you're confused about it, no one will have answers ready faster than the people who you the best and wishes you the best - your parents.

It may be hard for parents to open up and admit that they have made mistakes in their youth. It also may be hard for students to share their feelings in fear of being



COURTESY PHOTO  
Talking to parents about sex as a college student, or at any age, is never easy but it can prevent guilt and regret.

misunderstood.

But the proper communication is crucial to help avoid pain, mistakes and regret.

For more on the It's Complicated column or to voice your own opinion about the topics addressed and your concerns, visit lakefrontsa.com or email our editor at mkevlshvili@ollusa.edu

The opinions published in The Lake Front are not necessarily those of its staff or the faculty, staff, administration or student body of Our Lady of the Lake University. The Lake Front publication strives to inform, entertain and communicate with OLLU and its surrounding communities. Advertisement information is available upon request.

#### Submission requirements:

The Lake Front accepts letters to the editor for publication on the Opinion page of this newspaper. Letters should have the author's printed name and contact information. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters can be submitted in person, electronically or by mail and become the property of The Lake Front upon receipt. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for libelous material, grammatical errors, space constraints and/or offensive language. The Lake Front does not discriminate because of age, gender, ethnicity, national origin, disability or sexual orientation. "Letters to the Editor" is intended to serve as a public forum for issues related to the OLLU community.

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#### The Lake Front Student News

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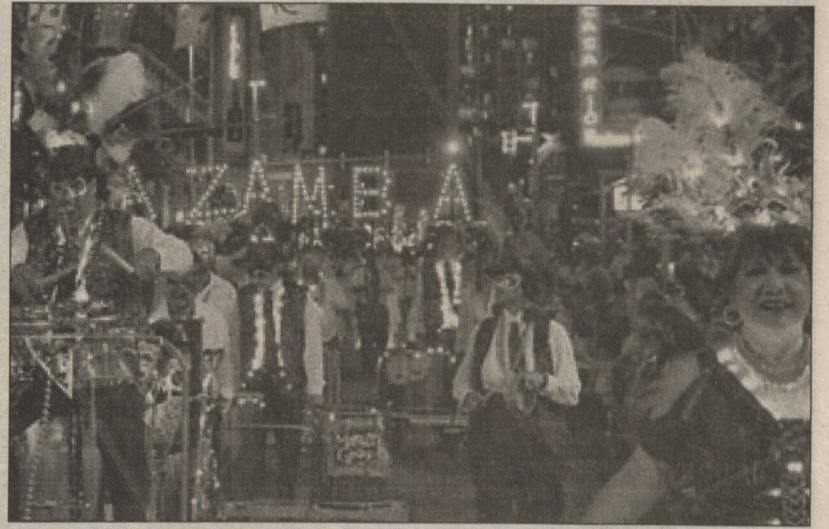
## Athletes to take part in Flambeau

**Jennifer Marroquin**  
Reporter

On the night of April 27, spectators will be watching one of the largest parades in the country. The 2013 Fiesta Flambeau Night Parade will celebrate its 65th anniversary with a theme of "Celebrating San Antonio." OLLU participates in the San Antonio tradition every year, picking a different organization to represent the school in the night parade. This year, the Saints Athletics Department has been chosen. "Given the theme of the parade, we wanted to choose an organization that would represent the best of the West Side of San Antonio," said Elizabeth Longoria, special events coordinator for the event. This academic year, the athletics department sent both its men and women soccer teams to nationals, the women's basketball team

made it to the Red River Athletic Conference tournament finals, and the men's golf team took fourth place in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Classic. "This is a way to show appreciation for all the hard work our athletes do," Longoria said. This will be the second year senior basketball player Robert Martinez will be in the Flambeau Night Parade. "At first I didn't realize what a big deal the parade was," Martinez said. "But walking in the parade, and seeing all those people was breathtaking." The athletics department, created 13 years ago, is already recognized on a national level and attracts players from all over the world. Senior basketball player Marcel Campos was recruited from Brazil. "We are always representing the school in a positive way on the courts," Campos said. "It will finally

be nice to get off the court and represent our school in society." This will be the first time Campos will walk in the night parade. He and other OLLU athletes have been working on building the float since March. Longoria says it takes about 300 hours to build the float. Longoria wants to have the float in the school colors with flashing neon blue lights because the Flambeau Night Parade is famous for the lights. The OLLU dance team will be part of this tradition by wearing lights on their outfits while they perform on the float. "This is going to be a big opportunity for the school," freshman dance team member Natalie Salinas said. "It's going to be amazing to perform for an audience that size, and it will help promote our school." The dance team has not



**COURTESY PHOTO**  
The annual Flambeau Night Parade attracts thousands of visitors to downtown San Antonio. performed in the night parade for over five years. Dance team captain Martha Montoya said she was excited to represent the school in the parade. "We just want to show the community that we are proud to be students at OLLU," Montoya said.

## Anthropology program may return



**PHOTO BY COLLETTE ORQUIZ**  
The anthropology major was cut last year before the decision was made to cut 12 other majors.

**Mariam Kevlishvili**  
Editor

During the last few months, the controversy about cutting majors caused a lot of turmoil at Our Lady of the Lake. However, number 13, much like a 13th floor in a fancy

hotel, was pretty much forgotten. Last spring, the university rejected a proposed anthropology major and threatened to eliminate the minor. Although it was cut before the other 12 majors, some people see a connection between the cuts.

Steve Blanchard, chairman of the Department of Applied Social and Cultural Sciences, said faculty and students overwhelmingly favored the program. Blanchard sees it as the first program affected by the program cuts, and anthropology professor Margaret Greco called it a trial run. "Rejection of the anthropology minor seems to be a mystery," Greco said. "Anthropology fits in very, very well with global issues that are predominant in the academic future." Greco said the only full-time faculty member in the anthropology program, Jennifer Rice, was removed from her position. She said that many students left because the program was hit so hard. Silvia Nunez-Castorena, junior biology major and anthropology minor, said that she felt the negative

change. "Now it's almost impossible to finish my minor," Nunez-Castorena said. "I still need classes, and they keep canceling my courses. It started whenever Dr. Rice left the school. I am in danger of not completing my minor." Nunez-Castorena was told she can substitute her anthropology courses, but she said she is still scared that she will have to take some at a different university. Greco stated that eliminating the only full-time faculty and canceling some of the courses made continuing teaching difficult. "I am able to introduce anthropology in the intro class but not able to give [students] anything further once I get them interested," Greco said. "It actually hurts." Greco said she is missing the ability to introduce students

something important and to offer them a further discovery of the field. However, Blanchard is hopeful that anthropology program will survive because of the recent changes at OLLU and the delay of the elimination of the 12 majors. "I think there will be an opportunity to put anthropology back on the table, perhaps even as a major," Blanchard said. "Maybe with a bit of luck we can get Dr. Rice back." Nunez-Castorena said she would be glad if the anthropology program could offer more. "I want to go to medical school, and I know that they need doctors that will be more interested in people rather than just pure science and labs," Nunez-Castorena said. "Anthropology will benefit me in my career."

## EVP

continued from page 1

"It's hard not to [start now]," he said. "It's just part of my personality." Though Bisking had been planning to take a sabbatical next semester and return to teaching next spring, he agreed the university needs someone in the executive vice president role. "There's too much that needs to be done on a day-to-day basis for the president to be able to handle that plus be able to handle the external engagements they have to be involved in," Bisking said. "I think is a really good move," he added. "It's very much analogous to what happens in other industries, where there's a president and a chief operating officer who is overlooking the everyday operations." Having an executive vice president will allow President Slater to focus on external operations of the university, like working with donors, that Bisking said help "keep our image up in the community." Although former President Pollack eliminated

the executive vice president position a year ago, Slater knew when she went through the hiring process that she would need someone to manage the internal operations of the university. "I made clear I would need someone as a partner on the administrative side," Slater said. Knowing that Bisking has the university "aptly and ably taken care of," Slater said she will be able to better represent OLLU in the community. "I need to do a lot of outreach," she said, "and establish connections with people who previously had a relationship with President Pollack." Slater called Bisking the "logical person to approach for the position" because she had previously worked with him in her role as Superior General of the Congregation of Divine Providence. His business background would seem to make him an obvious choice for the role, but he doesn't want to be labeled as such. "I don't want to necessarily be labeled as the business guy because it's more than business," Bisking said. "Students are real people, and I don't look at each student as a series of numbers and decimal points and dollar signs. We do have to watch the fiscal things, but we also don't want to lose sight of the mission, which is the transformation of the lives that God entrusts to us."

## SGA and UPC elect new student officers

**Selina Diaz**  
Reporter

Recently, both OLLU's Student Government Association (SGA) and University Programming Council (UPC) inducted new members for the upcoming academic year. Newly elected SGA members were sworn in April 17 during SGA's last student voice assembly meeting of the year. University Programming Council's members were announced April 11, during Splash into Action—a pool party held midway between Pacelli and Ayres residence halls. The event was an opportunity to meet and greet newly elected SGA and UPC members. It was also an opportunity for students to voice their concerns on a chalk board. One topic of interest to all students is the upcoming student activity fee increase. The student activity fee increase means more money will be available to student organizations. Both Recognized Student Organizations (RSO's) and Chartist Student

Organizations (CSO's) will have more funds available to them for their expenses. The student activity fee will be raised from \$5 dollars to \$10 dollars for traditional students and from \$2 to \$4 dollars for non-traditional students. The date this stipulation will come into play is still up in the air. As organizations, both SGA and UPC play big roles within the University. SGA serves as a liaison between administrators and students while UPC plans big events and socials such as Candlelight. The elected officers for SGA are as follows: Ashley Guevara as president, Cristian Ortiz-Salas as vice president, Cesar Rodriguez as Dir. of Records and Fin., Eric Quijada as Dir. of Civic Engagement, Elda Barajas as Director of Marketing, Gianna Rendon as Student Body Rep., and Oscar Duenez as Student Body Rep. The new UPC president is Courtney Lynn Dailey and the new vice president is James Crawford.

### Student Success Center

# TUTORING CENTER

**Tutoring Schedule** Spring 2013

Moye Hall 009 (Basement) (210) 431-4114  
 Tutoring hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-6:00pm, Friday 9:00am-6:00pm, Saturday 9:30am-1:30pm, Sunday 2:00pm-7:00pm

Subject/Peer Tutor	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday/Sunday
<b>Business: Accounting and Economics</b>						
Emily Radtke	3 pm - 6 pm	6 pm - 8 pm	3 pm - 5 pm	6 pm - 8 pm		
<b>Math: 0330/0320</b>	1:30/1:30/2:45/2:45	2:45/2:45				
Jeffrey Martinez	9:30 am - 1:30 pm 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm		9:30 am - 1:30 pm			
<b>Math: 0330/0320</b>	1:30/1:30/2:45/2:45	2:45/2:45	3:10/3:10	4:25/4:25		
Rico Salto						9 am - 1:30 pm
<b>Psychology: PSYC 1306</b>	2:45/1:30/2:45/2:45	3:45/3:45/5:30/5:30	4:30/1:44:45			
Ruben Bermea	11:00am-5:00pm		11:00am-7:00pm	1:00pm-5:30pm	11:00am-2:30pm	
<b>Spanish: 1421</b>						
Jeffrey Martinez	9:30 am - 1:30 pm		9:30 am - 1:30 pm			
<b>Science: 0101, 1401, 1402, 1402</b>						
Angie Salto	11am-2pm & 2-7pm			11am - 2 pm	1 pm - 5 pm	10am, 2pm - 7 pm

Tutoring is available only through appointments by e-mail. Walk-ins are welcome however students with appointments will have priority. Students may schedule by e-mail. The Student Success Center provides tutoring in a variety of subjects in addition to the tutoring programs. SearchWing 0101 or MySLU.

The Tutoring Center is seeking students interested in a work study tutoring position in the areas of:

- Math
- Statistics
- Spanish
- Psychology
- Business
- Biology
- Chemistry
- History
- Religion
- Accounting
- Economics
- Philosophy

**Qualifications:**  
 -3.0 Grade Point Average.  
 -6 to 9 hours of availability per week.  
 -The ability to meet a consistent schedule.  
 -A willingness to help other students.  
 -The ability to collaborate with fellow tutors on instruction projects.  
 -A strong recommendation from a professor in your subject area.  
 \*Must be approved by the department area for tutoring in the subject area.

**Please have the student call or come to the Tutoring Center.**

**Got Questions?**  
 Janet Fischer M. Ed.  
 Tutor/Disability Coordinator  
 Instructor, Applications of Learning  
 Our Lady of the Lake University  
 411 S.W. 24th St.  
 Moye Hall 009A  
 jsfischer@ollusa.edu  
 Office: 210-434-6711 ext. 8954 or 431-4010

Applications are due to Janet Fischer by May 3



## CDP cares for animals, plants

Gianna Rendon  
Copy Editor

A fabric cat sign welcomes retired Sisters of Divine Providence into the "Catio" to visit Sweetie Pie, Sissy Poo and Sandy.

These cats live in the Regan-McCullough courtyard between the convent's retirement home and nursing home, where Sister Denise Demel has taken care of the cats for about five years.

"I have a soft spot for animals in my heart, especially for cats," Demel said.

Demel brushes the cats daily and feeds them twice a day.

The cat's feeding schedule is very important, Demel said, because they have an internal clock.

She feeds the cats after breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and after Mass at 5 p.m. A Sister gave her powder medicine that Demel

puts in the cats' food to help their immune systems.

Other than taking care of cats, Demel gardens in the courtyard and cares for the fish aquarium.

"It takes more time to take care of the fish than the cats," Demel said.

Although Demel said she thinks Sissy Poo is the cutest because the cat is part calico, she doesn't have a favorite.

"I have to be careful," she said. "They all have to be my favorite. They get jealous. There is jealousy in cats."

Demel said she cares for the cats out of reverence for nature and God.

"I consider taking care of the animals sacred," Demel said. "My ministry is taking care of human beings, sisters, helping with spiritual as well as all of God's creation."

# Cuban poet finds his America

Steven Santana  
Reporter

As Richard Blanco stepped onto the podium on that cold January morning in front of millions of Americans, not only did he receive the honor of inaugural poet, but he also discovered a nation that was finally his.

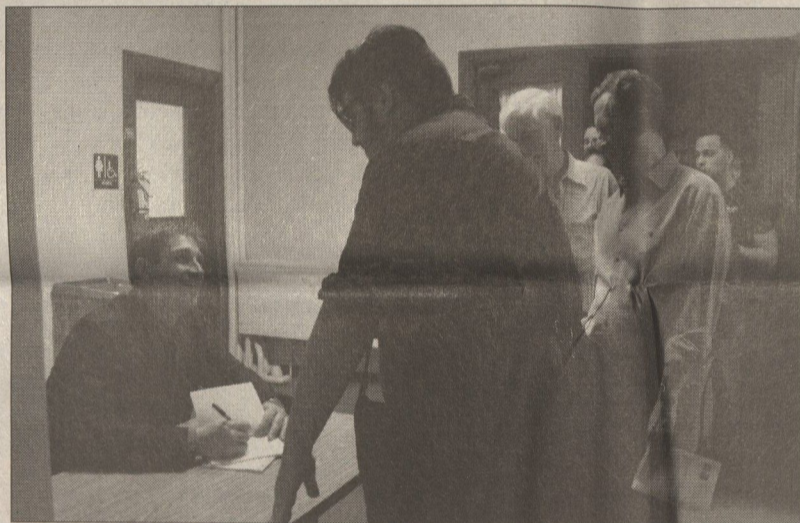
"It wasn't really until that inauguration," Blanco said, "I really finally felt, 'Wow, this is my country, I mean this really is my country.'"

During his visit to OLLU's most recent Literary Festival, Blanco discussed his experience of growing up in a country that did not quite feel like home. He read some of his poetry and talked about how his childhood experience, sexuality and struggle with American identity helped him write the inaugural poem.

The child of Cuban exiles, Blanco was born in Spain in 1968 and then moved to Miami only 45 days after his birth. During that time, Miami was a city made up of a majority of people who left Cuba.

"Everybody was Cuban," Blanco said, "the grocer was Cuban, the mechanic was Cuban, the lawyer was Cuban, all the kids in our class were Cuban."

As a child within a predominantly Cuban community,



PHOTOS BY GIANNA RENDON  
Richard Blanco read some of his poems, including one about when his grandma found out he was gay, to the university community.

Blanco said he always felt a sense of distance between himself and America, even though he grew up in the United States.

"There was always some part of me that said America is somewhere else, or someplace else, or someone else," Blanco said.

He lived between two imaginary worlds of cultural identity that always seemed to contradict each other.

"Miami was kind of like a purgatory," Blanco said, "not in the negative sense, but it was a waiting ground between the real Cuba somewhere over here and the real America that I saw on TV."

Blanco pulled his image of America from popular 1970s television shows like "The Brady Bunch," which portrayed a large blended American family living in the suburbs of Los Angeles.

Blanco said his childhood encompassed that dream of wanting live in his imagined illustration of America, with the large Brady Bunch house, the perfect family and the mother who never worked.

"Then on the other hand, there was that perfect Cuba that supposedly was so much of who I was," Blanco said, "and so there's little Ricky navigating between those two worlds."

Blanco said those same cultural contrasts made the story of his sexuality unique.

"It's more of what I called a cultural sexuality," Blanco said. "It's not the same to be a gay Cuban man who grew up in Miami, as it is to be a gay Irish man in Boston—there's a unique story to be told."

The unique story appeared in the form of poem about his grandmother titled, "Queer Theory: According to my Grandmother," that outlined a woman who viewed anything that was culturally strange as homosexual, but in a more negative sense of the word.

"[She] was also one of those people in your lives that mean well—they love you, and the way they love,

at least, it's this sort of love that's just not loving," Blanco said.

The poem talked about the homophobic verbal abuse he received from his grandmother that pushed him to become a quiet and withdrawn observer of the world around him. Blanco credits that introverted quality for helping him become the poet he is today.

"I became not a participant but an observer, and what do we do as writers after all except sit back and watch people in the café and write poems?" Blanco said.

His role as a silent spectator and his life of multiple cultural identities helped him construct a vision of contemporary America within the stanzas of his inaugural poem, "One Today."

"To me it's that braiding of all the various identities that make the American story," Blanco said. "What makes us individually complex is also what makes a country complex."

When the White House chose him to write the inaugural poem for President Barack Obama's second inauguration, he said that it was his chance to experience America in its truest form.

"That experience gave me permission to be American," Blanco said.

# Professor returns to journalism roots



PHOTO BY MARIAM KEVLISHVILI  
Sanford Nowlin (above) plays guitar for Hogbitch, a rock band that made its debut around midnight on April 13 at The White Rabbit.

Mariam Kevlishvili  
Editor

OLLU will lose a unique professor at the end of the semester.

Sanford Nowlin, journalism professor and Lake Front advisor, is also a fiction writer and plays guitar in a band called Hogbitch. When his yearlong visiting professor position at OLLU ends this semester, he will return to writing.

Although his stay at OLLU has been short, he has been a memorable professor.

If one didn't notice his tattoos under a short-sleeved shirt when he lifts up his arm, it would be hard to guess that Nowlin plays in a metal band.

He started his musical career in the early '90s in a band called Evil Mothers. In 1993 he moved on to a new band called Boxcar Satan,

where he was also a singer. Boxcar Satan is in a dormant stage right now, according to Nowlin.

"Boxcar Satan was not confined in a narrow genre or straight-jacket kind of sound," Nowlin said. "We took the energy of punk, its rawness, and incorporated other elements, like blues, old-timey gospel and folk music, jazz and avant-garde, gypsy music, but always through the energy of punk."

Nowlin's new band, Hogbitch, had a debut Saturday, April 13, at the White Rabbit. The band's name is a representation of a non-patriarchal approach it has taken against the tendency of metal to be male-dominated. Nowlin said the female-fronted band's lyrics do not cater to male adolescent fantasies and show the destiny and power of a woman who will not be dominated.

"I think society uses that word [bitch] to swat down women for being strong and opinionated, and it was important for us to claim the word for our own," Nowlin said.

After leaving OLLU, Nowlin won't be solely pursuing his musical career. He has a full time job at the San Antonio Business Journal. The Eagle Ford Shale petroleum boom

south of San Antonio will be his primary beat. He said he is excited about this beat because it is one of the biggest economic stories in recent memory for San Antonio and Texas.

This will be Nowlin's second time working at the Business Journal. He also has worked at the San Antonio Express-News as a journalist.

Nowlin also pointed out that being a fiction writer taught him a lot as a journalist and vice versa. He said that journalists often dump news into the paper instead of telling it as a story, and some fiction writers don't choose words as economically as journalists, so being both improved his writing style.

"In journalism we strive for fairness and objectivity. In fiction, while we use the same story-telling techniques, we can create alternative realities and tell the truth in a different way. Instead of being objective, we can force an agenda on a reader," Nowlin said. "I am glad that journalists don't do that, but good fiction is still about telling the truth, although we are creating lies."

Nowlin said that a lot of his fiction comments on human condition and real-world issues.

His horror novel, Deadly Passage, coming out this December, takes place on a slave ship at the end of the 18th Century and involves a supernatural creature from African mythology. Nowlin said that the reader might question which is more horrifying, the creature or the slavery.

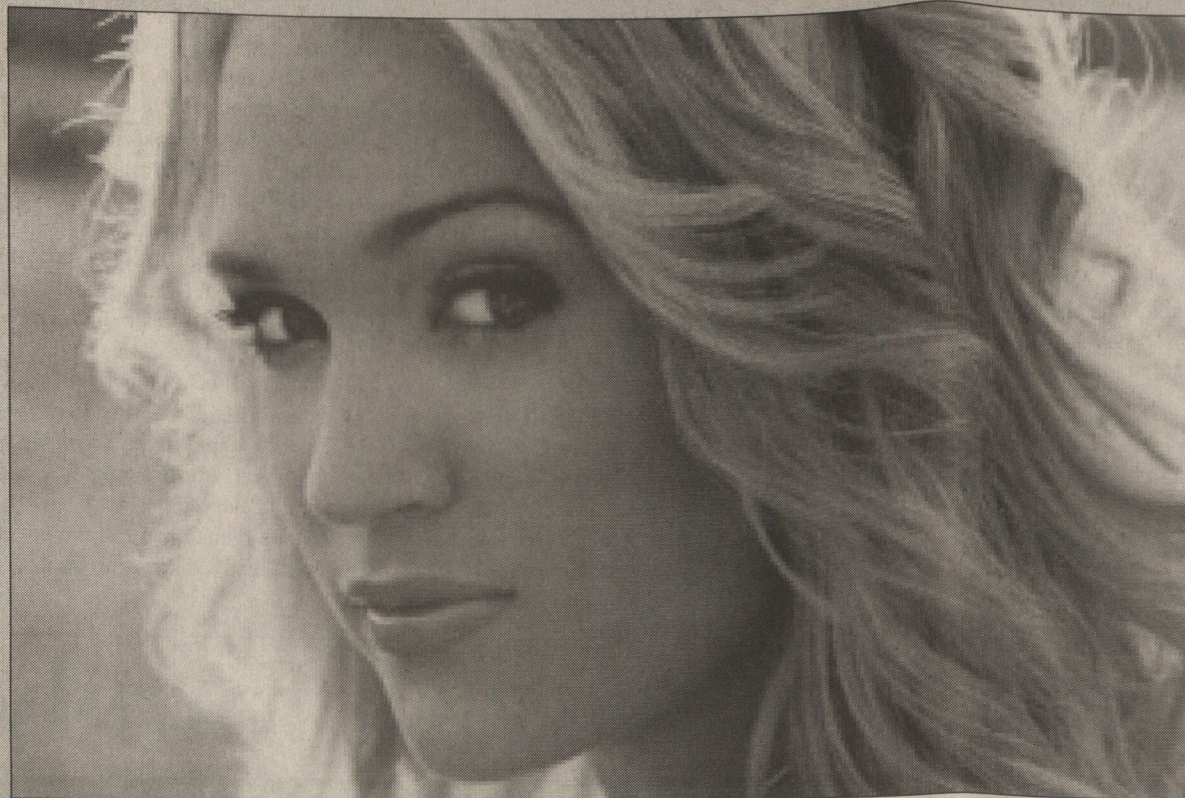
Nowlin said all of his jobs have been interesting in one way or another as he moved from place to place.

"Teaching, I have enjoyed immensely," Nowlin said. "I really like interacting with students. (I'm) struck by how many interesting backgrounds they have. They all have ability to be master story-tellers, and I like to help them discover how they can be better at it. Especially at the Lake, I am so amazed with the diversity of students' experience and how smart and dedicated they are."

Nowlin said that he does not rule out teaching full-time if he gets the right opportunity. He said he loves students' energy and gets a charge from seeing them think critically about news and discovering new things.

"The rewards are enormous," Nowlin said.

## Local Beats



COURTESY PHOTO

Two decades later, The Casualties still get crowds pumped up. They will perform at 7 p.m. on March 29 at the Korova.

**Darian Mendez**  
Reporter

**4/24 Salt N Pepa 7 p.m.**  
Location: GJ Sutton State Park, 321 Center St.  
Tickets: \$78  
The hip hop queens have pushed and shooed their way to the San Antonio area. After inspiring female rappers everywhere for the past 28 years to be independent, you can't help but love those 80's background beats.

**4/25 Papa Roach 6 p.m.**  
Location: Backstage Live, 1305 E. Houston St.  
Tickets: \$10-\$25  
Papa Roach rolls into town as part of Siesta Fest 2013/ Connection Tour bringing their quintessential rock sound and usual vaguely dark message. Papa Roach's newest album dropped in 2012, so it's safe to assume the band did not have to turn to their 'Last Resort'.

**4/25 Carrie Underwood 7:30 p.m.**  
Location: Freeman Coliseum, 3201 E. Houston St.  
Tickets: \$57.08-\$78.64  
Carrie's gentle vocals sound innocent whether she's asking Jesus to take the wheel or bragging about wrecking that cheater's truck. She's a refreshing reminder that Taylor Swift isn't the only Country singer with her more southern than pop sound.

**4/26 Bush 6 p.m.**  
Location: GJ Sutton State Park, 321 Center St.  
Tickets: \$78  
The 90's prodigy band proved they still got their groove with their 2011 release "Sea of Memories". What better place than a state park to reminisce in the dirty, grungy style of the '90s kids?

**4/26 A Day to Remember 6 p.m.**  
Location: Backstage Live, 1305 E. Houston St.  
Tickets: \$27-\$32  
Are you angry? Are you angsty? Do you need someone to yell at you about the unfairness of life? A Day to Remember is back on their Right Back at it Again Tour with opening bands, Of Mice and Men and Issues. A Day to Remember's hardcore beats and pop-punk sound reminds us of the good old days when we totally liked them before they hit it big.

**4/27 Voodoo Glow Skulls 8 p.m.**  
Location: The Korova, 107 Martin St.  
Tickets: \$15-\$40  
Trumpets and jorts (jean shorts) are not all that make up the Voodoo Glow Skulls. This SoCal ska-punk band

mixes a big band sound with fast paced beats and punk vocals that will have you skanking and head banging simultaneously.

**4/27 Caitlin Rose, Daniel Romano 9 p.m.**  
Location: War Room, 2718 N. St. Mary's  
Tickets: \$8-\$10

Caitlin says she's a country singer but if you didn't look it up you could barely tell. Her easygoing style and simple songs are something you can imagine yourself swaying to in the light of a neon moon during the Wild West days.

**4/28 Little Big Town 7:30 p.m.**  
Location: Majestic Theater, 224 E. Houston St.  
Get ready for summer with this country quartet that brought the world the big summer hit "Pontoon." Their sound is a mix between folk and alternative country that will get stuck in your head all week and make you say, "MMMM Motorboating."

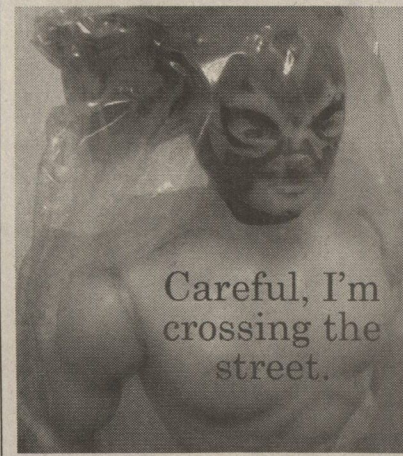
For more on local arts and entertainment events, visit [lakefrontsa.com](http://lakefrontsa.com)



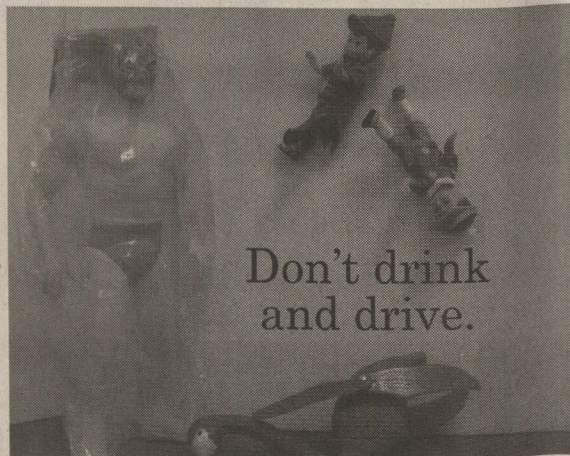
Drinking this horchata at Fiesta is so much fun!



Hurry! It's past bedtime!



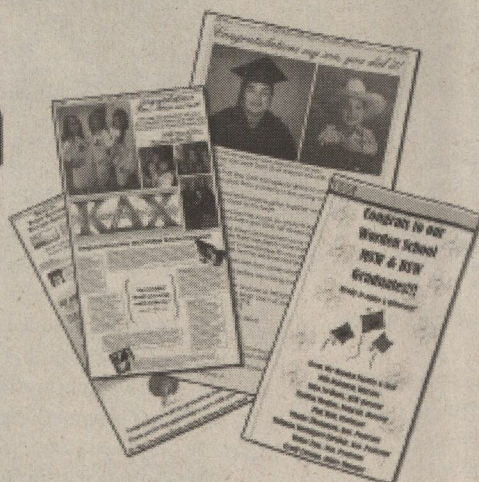
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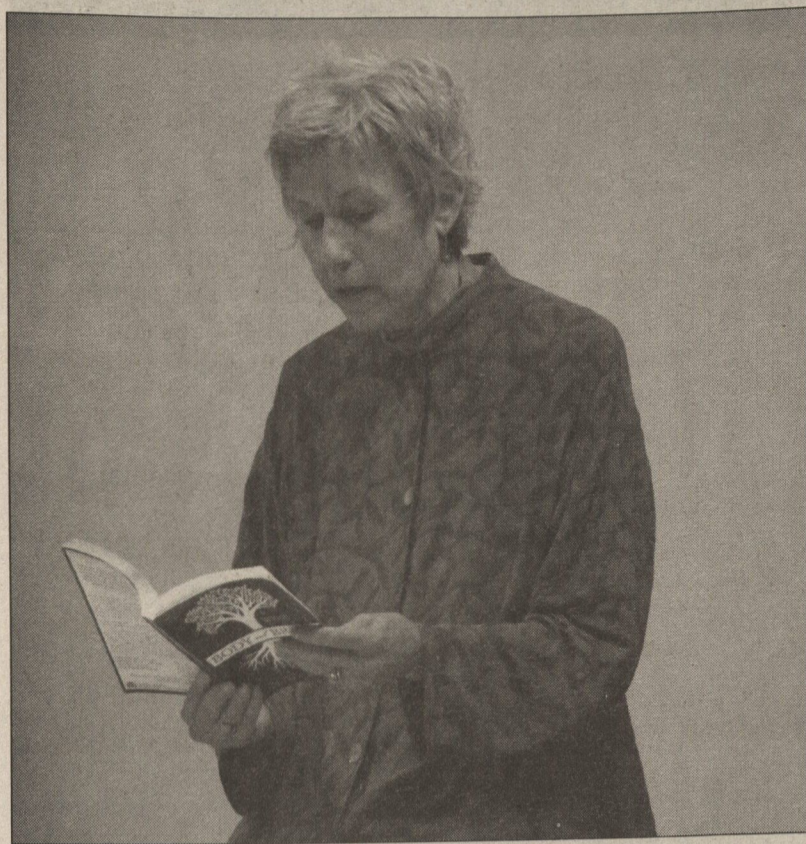
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# Cuba to focus on writing after OLLU



**Darian Mendez**  
Reporter

After giving her advice and coffee to students for 20 years, Nan Cuba is ready to give her full attention to her writing.

Cuba, professor of English, will leave during the fall 2013 semester for a book tour and retire after spring 2014.

This May, Cuba's first novel "Body and Bread" will be released. *O Magazine's* May issue recommended the book as one of "Ten Books to Pick up Now," and after crafting it while teaching, Cuba said she's excited for the experience.

"That's where my heart is," Cuba said "I've waited so long to work on

**PHOTO BY ANGELICA CASAS**  
English Professor Nan Cuba (left) reads a portion of her new book "Body and Bread," to be released in May. The book has already made "The O List."

my fiction."

She spent a good amount of time near the OLLU community before teaching here, Cuba said. Before OLLU, Cuba taught at elementary, middle and high schools in the San Antonio Independent School District as a visiting writer.

"This part of the city played a significant part [to] me as a person," Cuba said.

Cuba started Gemini Ink, a nonprofit literary center, in 1997 with a friend as a reader's theatre project. They later held classes at her husband's law office.

The collaboration between OLLU and Gemini Ink started because of Cuba and will continue after she leaves, she said.

Sister Patricia Marie Lohre, a student in Cuba's Introduction to Fiction class, said Cuba is engaging and great at explaining literature to students in and outside of class.

Corrigan Moran, a former student of Cuba's, said Cuba's

retirement is upsetting.

"[Cuba] was the one who inspired me to write more and to be more open with letting people read it," Moran said.

While Cuba has experience in novel writing and investigative reporting, teaching at OLLU is also important to her.

"I love this place," Cuba said. "I love the students."

Cuba will not leave OLLU until next spring, but she has advice for students to think about during her absence.

"Find an opportunity where you feel safe to begin [writing] and if you're interested you should try it," Cuba said.

There will be a launch party for "Body and Bread" on May 10 at the Coates Chapel in the Southwest School of Art. Admission is free and the event is catered.

After a reenactment of the novel, Cuba will lead a discussion on it.

## Calvert to spend more time with family

**Angelica Casas**

Designer

Dale Calvert had no teaching experience when he set foot on Our Lady of the Lake University in 1992 as an adjunct professor for the School of Business and Leadership.

"Am I going to like this?" Calvert had asked himself. "Am I going to be a decent teacher?"

Calvert must have become a decent teacher because he retires this academic year, after 20 years of service to the university.

Calvert received his Bachelor's of Business Administration from Baylor University and later pursued a law degree at St. Mary's University.

Before working at OLLU, Calvert took an early retirement from his executive position at USAA. After his retirement, former School of Business and Leadership Dean Sandra James invited him to teach at the university.

Calvert served as interim dean for the School of Business and Leadership from 1994 to 1995. During this term, the school was able to secure accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs.

After his deanship, he became a full-time professor, primarily teaching international business and business law courses because of his attorney background. During this time, he also pursued his master's degree at OLLU.

Calvert remembers talking to former dean James about his newfound love of teaching.

"I like this so much, I would almost do this for free!" Calvert had told her.

Calvert was not only involved in teaching. With the help of Spanish professor Nina Patrizio-Quinones, they both organized various summer trips to Mexico for students.

Calvert also organized some trips

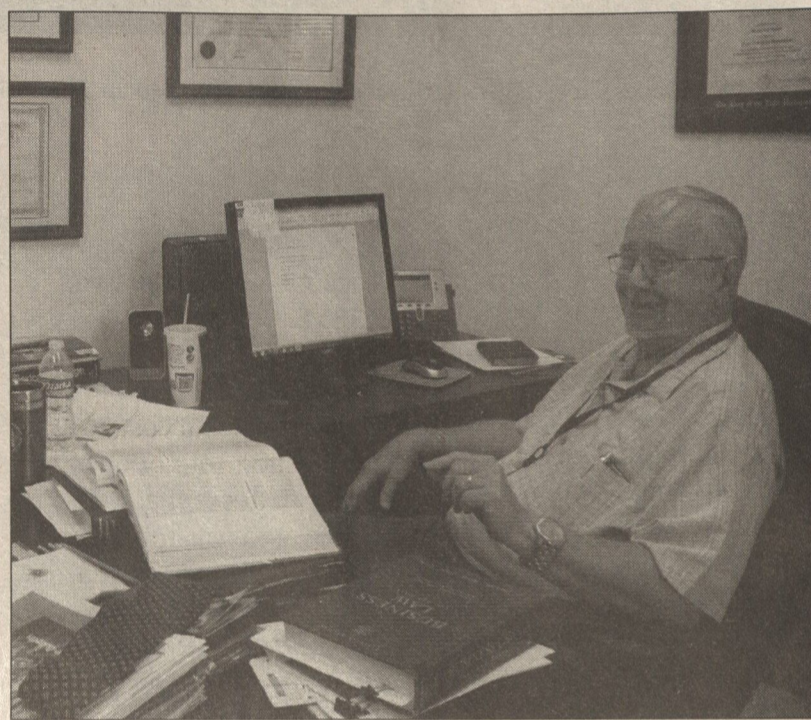
to European countries for both undergraduate and graduate students.

Upon retiring, Calvert plans to either do pro bono (without a charge) work at a large retirement community by his home and help elders with common issues such as wills, or do business research through constructing alternate dispute resolutions. Part-time teaching every once in a while may also be a possibility, he said.

"I want to spend more time working in the yard, and I'd like to have more time for my grandchildren, but they're in Ohio," Calvert said. "Maybe I'll make more trips to Ohio."

As he stepped out of his office after being interviewed, Calvert stopped at professor Ronald Crowe's open office.

"It's kind of fun to reminisce a little bit, you know," he told Crowe laughing.



**PHOTO BY MARIAM KEVLISHVILI**

Professor Dale Calvert retires after 20 years of service to OLLU.

## Rainford takes dean position in Washington

**Gianna Rendon**

Copy Editor

Three years ago, enrollment in the Social Work program at Our Lady of the Lake University was fewer than 50 graduate students and even fewer undergraduates.

Then Will Rainford became director of the Worden School of Social Service. Under his direction, the school grew to more than 300 graduate students and 100 undergraduates.

Due in part to this success he was tenured this year.

But now he's leaving.

Rainford was offered a position as dean of the National Catholic School of Social Justice at the Catholic University of America in Washington DC.

Although he's excited about working at CUA, he said he wouldn't have left OLLU if he hadn't experienced the "academic challenges" that gripped the university this year.

His position as dean becomes effective June 1, 2013. OLLU is now

searching for a new director.

"Dr. Rainford has a clear vision of service within the Catholic intellectual tradition focused on social justice," CUA President John Garvey said. "I am delighted that he will be joining the academic leadership of the University."

Rainford said he came to OLLU providentially, but Providence also led him to CUA. He prayed with Sister Jane Ann Slater, before she was interim president, about his decision to leave. He said the decision was difficult to make.

"Students at the school are so awesome that it makes it hard to leave," Rainford said.

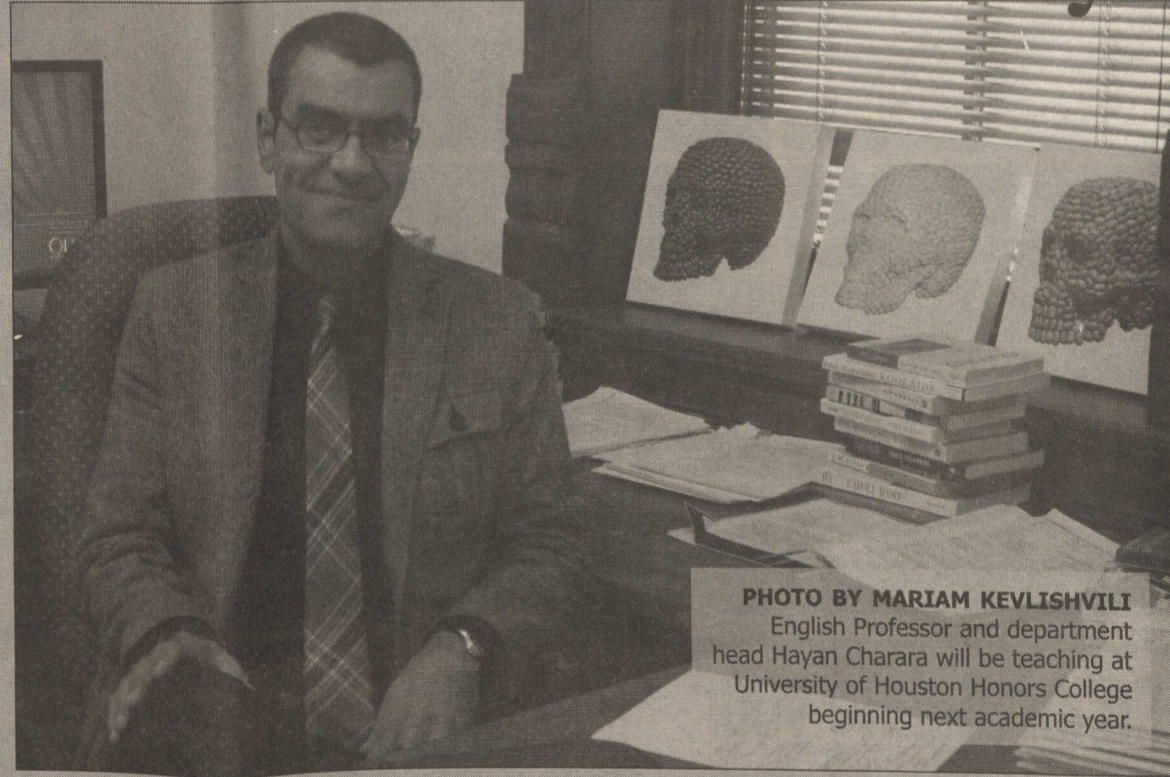
Rainford is also the advisor for Sigma Theta Epsilon, the Christian fraternity on campus.

"It's been a joy to grow alongside my younger brothers," Rainford said. "I will miss that."

Rainford said it will be difficult to leave because of the students.

"I love the students here. It's such a small campus. I stop and talk to them. That's the joy of my day."

## Charara to move closer to his family



**PHOTO BY MARIAM KEVLISHVILI**  
English Professor and department head Hayan Charara will be teaching at University of Houston Honors College beginning next academic year.

**Darian Mendez**  
Reporter

Next semester students won't have the opportunity to be taught by a sharply dressed, espresso-drinking professor and published poet.

Hayan Charara, program head of the English Department, will be leaving after this semester.

Charara has received a teaching position at the University of Houston Honors College, which is closer to his home. After commuting for almost two years from Houston to San Antonio, Charara said it would be easier on his family.

While he has many friends in San Antonio, he couldn't ask his family to move down, Charara said. Charara accepted the offer two months ago.

"I wasn't looking for another job," Charara said. "I was really torn about leaving the Lake. I

really did think this is where I was going to end up."

While Our Lady of the Lake University isn't the first Catholic institution Charara has taught at, what was unique to him was OLLU's size and sense of community, Charara said. The comradery between himself and his fellow staff is something he'll miss.

"[We're] always walking in and out of each other's offices," Charara said.

Ironically, the Honors College in Houston is also a small liberal arts college, Charara said. He referred to it as the kind of place the Lake should be, with a main focus on liberal arts.

Josey Porras, a current student of Charara's, said she wished she had taken a class with him sooner.

"Knowing that he's leaving now when I'm just getting to know him is really bittersweet," Porras said. "His writing is very inspiring

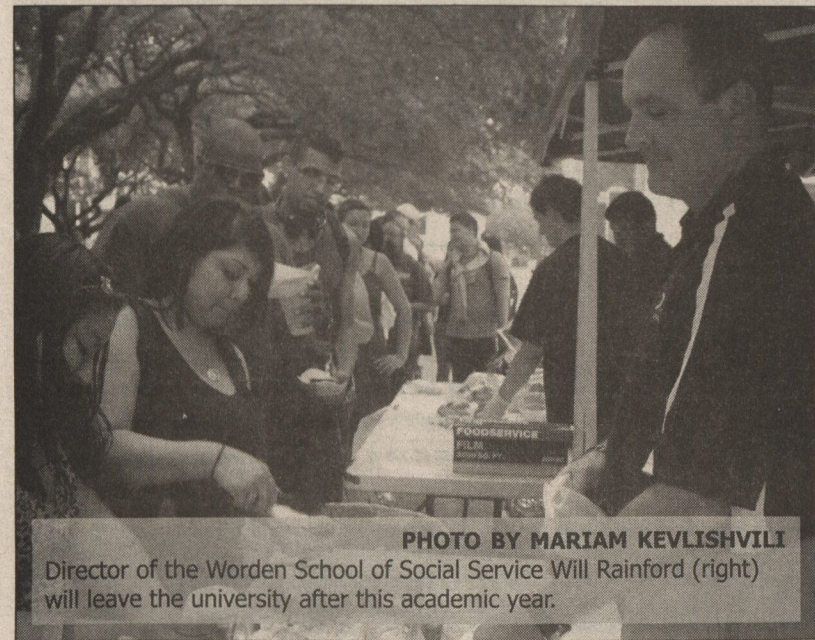
and motivates me to keep going toward my passion. I wish him all the luck in the future."

Two years ago, during his first faculty meeting, Charara heard the words "program analysis." While much has happened in the past two years, Charara and the rest of the English department were creating a groundbreaking program way before the revitalization of the English degrees.

"The Master of Arts/Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, Literature and Social Justice is a collaborative effort [with English Faculty]," Charara said.

Although he is the lead officer of this program, Charara hopes his colleagues will continue to work on the project. If the program is to be approved, he said it would be the first of its kind in the country.

"[OLLU] is at this interesting place in its history," Charara added.



**PHOTO BY MARIAM KEVLISHVILI**

Director of the Worden School of Social Service Will Rainford (right) will leave the university after this academic year.

Looks like somebody's in the market for a monocle.



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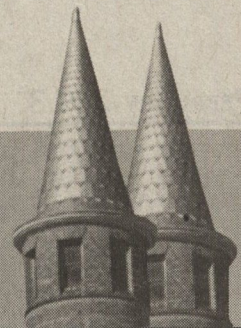
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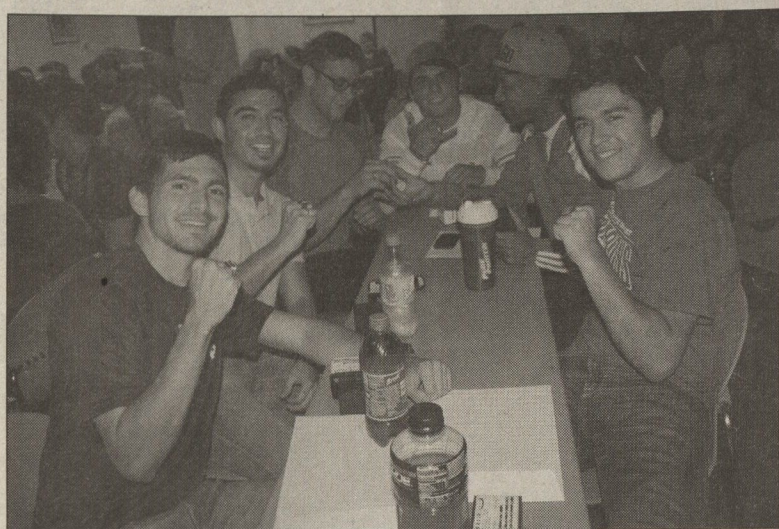


## Saints Kudos

### Men's soccer team receives championship rings

Members of the Saints men's soccer team received their championship rings for winning the Red River Athletic Conference regular season and championship

tournament last semester. The Saints then earned a bid to the NAIA DI Men's Soccer Regional Championship Tournament in California.



COURTESY PHOTO

From bottom left: Jorge Cantu, Salim Sandoval, former OLLU goalkeeper Nick Garza, Jesse Martinez, Yared Temesgen and Robert Alexe wear their champion rings.

### Big Blue Award

Courtesy of Saints Athletic website

Our Lady of the Lake University instituted the first-ever Top Saint Awards this year. The head coaches of each team nominated one player who excelled in academics, athletics and community service as a member of his or her team in 2012-2013.

The names and accomplishments of the nominees were then sent to the selection committee for voting of the Top Big Blue Saint Award

The nominees included: Cross-

Country's Laura Echeverria; Men's Basketball's Juan "Eddie" Ortiz; Women's Basketball's Nashae Owens; Golf's Aaron Flores; Men's Soccer's Martin Hansson; Women's Soccer's Nikole Gase; Softball's Kailyn Miller; Men's Tennis' Matt Ellis; Women's Tennis' Leslie Cooper; and Volleyball's Desirea Aguilar.

The recipient of 2012-2013 Big Blue Top Saint as chosen by the committee was Aaron Flores.

## Golf team ranks high



COURTESY PHOTO

Dustin Blair, Nick Chacon, Aaron Flores, Larry Lopez, John Mulholland and Coach Eric Moore hold up their plaque for winning the NAIA Classic.

**Jordan Whitfield**  
Copy Editor

The word "team" has a unique meaning for the Saints men's golf team.

"All of us want to beat each other," team member Aaron Flores said.

But the team members aren't as cutthroat as they sound. It's the nature of the game to be competitive.

While Flores won the individual medal award in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Classic in Indianapolis on April 9, the team effort won the Saints 1st place. It was the team's first win of the season, but its members have consistently placed as individuals in tournaments all season.

At the NAIA Classic, Flores jumped from a tie for 9th place after the first round to winning the individual medal, while teammates Dustin Blair and Nicholas Chacon

earned three-way ties for 6th and 11th places, respectively.

Because of how the games are scored, it makes sense for golf team members to have a competitive mindset. Each golfer plays for to get the highest score he or she can, but then the individual scores are combined to produce a team score.

Knowing that only four of the five individual scores are included in the team score encourages each player to try a little harder. Not wanting to be the low score that isn't included also adds an incentive.

"If one is playing really good, we really want to catch up," Saints golfer Larry Lopez said. "You don't want to be the dropped score."

Their competitive mindset extends beyond their own team and into their approach to every game. The team said they go into each game expecting to win.

"You always have to have that mindset," Flores said.

Head Coach Eric Moore agrees.

"Otherwise you're not going to be able to compete," he said. "You've already beaten yourself."

Even though the NAIA Classic was Saints' first win of the season, it's still an impressive feat. The team has the fourth toughest schedule in the conference, and that afternoon its golfers had to contend with 25 mile per hour wind.

"We play against the best," Moore said. "We finally put it all together [at the Classic]."

The team's win moved it from No. 10 to No. 7 in the April 12 NAIA Men's Golf Coaches' Top 25 Poll, and Moore said it will help earn the team a spot in the national championship in May.

"Last year we backed our way in [to the championship]," Moore said. But the recent win moves them from having a good chance of earning a spot to being "locked in for the national championship," he said.

This year's visit to the national championship will be the team's third, and Moore said they have a "good shot" at winning the top spot.

Each year the team has improved, from making it through the first cut (from 30 teams to 17) in their first trip to nationals to coming in seventh last year.

During the team's five-year existence, Moore has noticed the team performing better as a whole. One factor in its success has been the improved performance of its members.

Although the nature of the game may seem individualistic, the idea of "all for one and one for all" still applies.

"Everyone is very talented," Saints golfer John Mulholland said. "If we pull together and play well we can probably bring home the national trophy."



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