

# FCC NEWSLETTER



**FONTBONNE COMMUNITY CONNECTION – A WOMEN'S GIVING CIRCLE**

## ***The Catholic Intellectual Tradition in the Curriculum***

The FCC received a final report from Dr. Randall Rosenberg and Dr. Mary Beth Gallagher on their project titled “The Catholic Intellectual Tradition in the Curriculum.”(CIT) The grant allowed them to develop several tools for faculty use in the classroom. Tools developed include:

- A 50-minute PowerPoint presentation discussing the foundations of the CIT
- A PowerPoint module on the compatibility and complementarity of faith and science
- A PowerPoint module on the history and challenges of Catholic Identity in Catholic Universities today
- An enhanced website for the Sisters of St. Joseph on Carondelet Endowed Chair in Catholic Thought (ECCT) that includes all the materials and presentations along with announcements and upcoming events related to the CIT <http://www.fontbonne.edu/academics/undergraduate/departments/>

historyphilosophyreligion/  
csj\_endowed\_chair\_in\_catholic\_thought/  
catholic\_intellectual\_tradition\_in\_the\_curriculum/

To inform faculty members of the project and materials available, they presented the CIT PowerPoint to several classes, they also spoke individually with faculty members from diverse departments to discuss using the presentation and sent an electronic message to all faculty regarding the program and materials. It was also announced to all faculty at the All Campus Meeting in October.

They extended their many thanks and gratitude to the FCC for the support of their project. This project has helped them to further understand the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and how alive that tradition is at Fontbonne. This will also help faculty and students to understand and appreciate the CIT even more.

They are willing to offer a 15-minute version of the presentation to the FCC at any time.

## ***Cold Feat***

The Department of Biological and Physical Sciences purchased an Arctic-Temp double-door refrigerator with funds approved by the FCC. This piece of equipment has been and will continue to be extremely valuable to biology students conducting research projects, as reactions have been found to occur more readily in cold temperatures. This piece of equipment is configured to allow a scientist to work inside the unit, preserving the integrity of the research in progress.

“An example of its value is that it has allowed me to mentor a couple of students in a research project involving the staining of butterfly wings,” said Elizabeth Rayhel, Biology Department Chair. “The refrigerator also has an added value to students enrolled in the biotechnology course.” The impact of having the proper equipment for re-

search is immeasurable. Biology alumni often report research opportunities as one the most impactful experiences of their undergraduate curriculum. Rayhel said it is due to the FCC’s generosity that Fontbonne can focus on increasing our ability to serve students in this area.



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## ***A Tribute to Kathy***

### **A Legacy of Leadership and Service**



Kathleen Atchity Coco, 1944 – 2012

Kathy Coco was called to Heaven on Thursday, October 18, 2012, exactly one week after Pope Benedict declared 2013 to be a “Year of Faith.” Kathy’s strength and leadership were unparalleled and instrumental to the founding of the Fontbonne Community Connection. As a charter member, Kathy can be fondly remembered for her feverish work developing the grant guidelines that guide the FCC’s annual review process.

It was shortly after enrolling at Fontbonne University in 1962 that Kathy quickly became consumed with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet’s vision to serve the dear neighbor without distinction. She began spending summers as a camp counselor for the mentally impaired, and took advantage of every opportunity she could to serve others.

Kathy also chose to pursue a career of service. Following graduation from Fontbonne, she began working for the University City School District. She met and married the love of her life, Matteo Coco, and raised four handsome young men. She and her husband were active in their church as well as their children’s schools. They also routinely served meals to the homeless.

Following her mother’s footsteps, Kathy joined the Ladies of Charity. As a member, Kathy spent countless hours sorting clothing for monthly rummage sales, organizing fundraisers, restocking the food pantry, and tutoring disadvantaged elementary school students.

Several years after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, Kathy learned about some 200 homes still in need of repair. In customary enthusiastic fashion, she quickly spearheaded a group of St. Vincent Junior Ladies of Charity to go to New Orleans to meet the call for help.

In spring 2012, Kathy accepted an appointment to serve as president of the Ladies of Charity of St. Vincent De Paul Church. Having organized the church’s first walk-a-thon, she also was approached and agreed to plan its fourth. The walk-a-thon is scheduled for Carondelet Park in September 2013. Always true to commitment, the walk will be held in Kathy’s memory and she will be with all participants in spirit to facilitate its success.

The Pope’s call for people to live a “Year of Faith” has been beautifully demonstrated by Kathy, who chose to live a *life of faith*. We are forever grateful for knowing her and will eternally find inspiration from the contributions she made to our lives.

## ***Digitizing and Indexing the FONT***

During the 2012-2013 fiscal year, Jane Theissen received a FCC grant for digitizing and indexing the FONT (years 1947-1963). Sister Jane, archivist and fellow FCC member, explains the significance. “The early (Font) papers, which have been kept in their original form, are fragile from age and cannot be safely handled without some degree of damage. The FCC’s support is allowing the library to preserve the Font’s history by making them available digitally.” To all making this project possible, we thank you. It is because of you that Fontbonne’s rich traditions will be preserved in perpetuity.

*I've got a woman's ability to stick  
to a job and get on with it when  
everyone else walks off and  
leaves it.*

*-- Margaret Thatcher*

## Mustard Seed Theatre

The first FCC membership event of the academic year was held on November 15 in conjunction with the opening of *Imaginary Jesus* at Mustard Seed Theatre. Approximately thirty-five persons attended, including 20 FCC members and 10 prospective members. Prior to the performance, participants enjoyed a wine and cheese reception with Artistic Director Dr. Deanna Jent and author Matt Mikolatos. In addition to discussing her adaptation of Mikolatos' work, Deanna updated the FCC on her recent adventures opening a show off-Broadway.

*Imaginary Jesus* is a comedy which explores one's search for faith in a very imaginative way. It was well received both by audiences and reviewers.

The next FCC membership event will be held on February 25 and spotlight FCC-funded projects from the Department of Communication Disorders and Deaf Education.



## FCC Members in the News

On Thursday, October 18, the Fontbonne University Founders Award Dinner was held at the beautiful Top of the Met in downtown St. Louis. The Founders Award represents the highest recognition bestowed by the University and is presented annually to individuals who exemplify the mission and values of the Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet. The FCC is especially proud to have two of our members named as recipients of this prestigious honor: Carol Spehr has been recognized for "Distinguished Service in Deaf Education and Volunteerism" and Sr. Mary Catherine O'Gorman, C.S.J. has been honored for "Distinguished Service in C.S.J. Values and Mission." After receiving their medallions, both women eloquently expressed their feelings of appreciation and were quick to

acknowledge the significant lifetime impact of their Fontbonne education and the giving spirit of the Sisters of St. Joseph. As Sr. Mary Catherine commented, "...In considering this honor, I could only think of all the past and present Sisters of St. Joseph upon whose shoulders I have stood...I was blessed to be able to attend Fontbonne after I finished high school and doubly blessed to have followed the spirit that was alive in those who taught me . . . I will ever hold a debt of gratitude to Fontbonne University."

**Note:** Be sure to check out the next issue of "Tableaux" which will highlight each award recipient and their impressive accomplishments!



## Newest Member...

*We welcome our newest member...*

— **Mary Schenkenberg**

## Coming Events

### FCC 2012-2013 Events and Important Dates

**Monday, February 25, 2013, 5:00-6:30 PM**

**Communications Disorders Spotlight**—presentations by the Aphasia Boot Camp and Cognitive Behavior grant recipients Dr. Carmen Russell and Dr. Lynne Shields

**Saturday, April 13, 2013, Time TBD**

**Human Environmental Sciences Spotlight**—Lunch 'n Learn with F.R.E.S.H. Garden presentation and tour

**Thursday, May 16, 2013, 9:00-11:00 AM**

**Roundtable Discussion** of Grant Applications

**Thursday, May 23, 2013, 5:30-7:30 PM**

**Roundtable Discussion** of Grant Applications

**Saturday, June 1, 2013, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

**Roundtable Discussion** of Grant Applications

## FCC 2012-2013 Officers and Committee Chairs

### OFFICERS

**Chair** - Joan Falk

**Vice Chair** - Barb Atteln

**Recording Secretary** - Rosemary Quigley

**Corresponding Secretary** - Kate Gunn

**Treasurer** - Anita Lamont

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Awards** - Kathy Von Minden

**Events** - Kathy Murphy

**Membership** - Maggie Fowler  
Karen Gedera

**PR** - Nila Tuckson & Rosemary Quigley

**Bylaws** - Barb Atteln

**Archives & History** - Nina Bryans



## Message from the Chair

Dear Fellow FCC Member,



At the December holiday program for Fontbonne's LePuy and Lyon Societies, I was impressed by the passion of two Fontbonne students who articulated a few of their already considerable achievements and future dreams. We can feel good about making resources available to talented individuals like these. Through the imagination of our students, faculty and staff, we play an important part in strengthening our community and positively changing the world.

To encourage more student applicants, the FCC hosted a workshop to share the FCC grant writing process with them. The session was very well attended and

Fontbonne is abuzz as students decide which of their ideas they might like to submit.

Following the Letter of Intent deadline on February 15, the Awards Committee will review submissions and invite full applications. Watch your mail near the end of April to learn more about your role in the process, and be sure to mark your calendars to attend one or more of the three roundtable discussions.

Our dear Kathy Coco, in her role as membership chair, challenged each of us to invite a friend to become a FCC member. Recalling that enthusiasm and dedication, please welcome our newest member, Mary Martin Schenkenberg (from Kathy's class of '66), who joins in celebration of her classmate, encouraging Fontbonne faculty, staff and students to aim high in their academic dreams! In Kathy's memory, I urge each of you to bring a prospective FCC member to the February 25th wine/cheese recruitment event. Tour the clinic and see how our support is impacting local aphasia therapy patients, as well as others in the area of Communication Disorders.