**Campus recruiting process begins for seniors**

**BY JESSICA MYERS CRUSADER NEWS STAFF**

Although early in the fall semester, on-campus recruiting is already moving ahead at full force. Mainly focused at helping to introduce seniors to prospective employers, Holy Cross maintains extensive lists of companies who visit the campus. The Career Placement Office coordinates recruiting companies into what they call different “cycles,” or phases, of which there are eleven this year, which visit the campus and meet with interested students.

In order to attend, these students must first complete a series of prerequisites workshops. The requirements include an Orientation to Senior Services program in order to help seniors become more aware of options and procedures and an Interview Skills workshop which teaches students proper interviewing etiquette. Students then use their newly acquired skills as they embark on a job search.

By the end of the academic year, approximately 72 companies will have visited Holy Cross and made connections with interested students. According to Associate Director of Career Planning Julie Gomeau, class of ’95, on-campus recruiting is one of the best ways to learn about possible jobs. And although Gomeau advised students not to “relly exclusively” on

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**JCMC debates the role of women in the Church**

**BY KARA JACKMAN CRUSADER NEWS STAFF**

Will women become priests in our lifetime? Will the Pope ever select a female bishop? These questions as well as others pertaining to the role of women in the Catholic Church were hotly debated at the first John Courtney Murray Circle meeting of the year, held on Wednesday, Sept. 19. The event was sponsored by the Center for Religion, Ethics, and Culture.

The students and faculty who filled the room discussed both the present day as well as the future role of women in the Catholic Church from a religious, sociological and historical perspective. David Bonagura ’03, co-chair, opened the meeting with a summary of Pope John Paul II’s apostolic letter Mulieris Dignitatem, “on the dignity of women,” which he described to those in the room as “the most pronounced consideration of the dignity of women” during the current papacy.

In the letter, the Pope articulated a vision of the vocation of women in light of both the Genesis creation story and Mary, the mother of God. Bonagura then explained the church’s reservation of the priesthood for men alone, drawing largely from Pope John Paul II’s letter on the subject. The letter states that in light of the extremely high esteem in which God held Mary, “the non-admission of women to priestly ordination cannot mean that women are of lesser dignity, nor can it be construed as discrimination against them. Rather, it is to be seen as the faithful observance of a plan to be ascribed to the wisdom of the lord of the universe.”

That said, Professor Alice Laffey of the Religious Studies department spoke of her years of service to the Church and how her life changed after the Second Vatican Council. Laffey claims that she “never wanted to be a priest,” during her years in the sisterhood, however she felt there is a push for women to have a greater role in the Church because of the movement within our culture and society to affirm their equality. Currently, Laffey feels there are more important issues facing the Church, such as only twenty percent of Roman Catholics attending Mass regularly as well as the continued ambiguity of women Catholics and the Church toward birth control, an issue which has been heavily debated since the 1970s.

After Laffey spoke, the circle was opened up for discussion. Some topics raised included a concern for history and tradition dictating how the Church deals with women’s positions in the Church. One student spoke of a U.S. diocese does not allow women to serve on the altar. Another debate arose over whether or not women experience the same call to the ministry that men encounter. Some felt it was women’s ambition that drove them to seek higher office, while others argued that, because of today’s widespread secular outlook, religious life as a nun is no longer appealing to women. The United gathering’s conclusion, all participants learned from one another about the Church’s teaching on women’s ordination, even if some people’s views were divergent.


The John Courtney Murray Circle meets four times each semester to discuss issues such as religion, culture, and public life. For more information, contact the JCMC’s co-faculty advisors, Professor Lee Oser of the English department and Professor Jeffrey Bloechl of Philosophy department, or its student co-chairs, David Bonagura and Amanda McNair.

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**“Responding to the Terrorist Attacks” panel at HC**

**BY ANDREW POE CRUSADER NEWS STAFF**

In light of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania, the Political Science Department, along with the Center for Religion, Ethics, and Culture, presented a panel and discussion entitled “Responding to the Terrorist Attacks on America.”

Held on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at the Fenwick Theater, it was an opportunity for open discussion among faculty members and students who wished to share their ideas and opinions concerning the recent breach of American national security.

The panel was composed of four professors from the College: Professor Ward Thomas from the Political Science Department; former U.S. Ambassador to South Yemen, George Lane, from the Political Science Department; Professor Predat Cicovacki from the Philosophy/Peace and Conflict Studies Department; and Captain Terry Labrecque, Professor of Naval Science. In addition, Professor Donald Brand, the Chair of the Political Science Department, moderated the panel.

Following brief introductions by Professor Brand, each panelist gave his view of the current situation following the terrorist attacks. Issues such as how the country could most effectively respond to such a tragedy and how best to prevent another attack were common themes among the four panelists. In addition, the use of diplomacy and military action were also included in their opening remarks.

Questions regarding, for example, the United States’ responsibilities as to the international community, were raised among the panel, in addition to courses of action that would be in the best interest of the country.

Ambassador Lane began by calling attention to a headline that appeared in the Sept. 16 edition of The Boston Globe entitled “Why Do They Hate Us?” He spoke about the foreign policy of the United States in recent years, drawing upon his experience as a former diplomat himself.

He addressed issues such as why the United States is seen as a threat by many countries around the world, and the reasoning behind their aggressive feelings. “I thought it was a very informative and well-balanced discussion,” said Andy DenRuil ’03.

The panel provided students with an intelligent academic analysis of what happened,” he added.

Following Professor Lane, the rest of the panel proceeded with their initial comments.

“While we will definitely see a military response, I think it is important to focus on a diplomatic solution as well,” said Professor Thomas. “A diplomatic response creates challenges for our country, but it also creates opportunities for America to form relationships with other states,” he said. “This attack, while tragic, calls us to get out the old dog-cared lists of our enemies and re-evaluate the possibility of forming better relations with these states,” he added.

During his speech, Captain Labrecque related his own experiences in the Navy to the present situation developing between the United States and countries that harbor terrorists.

“The United States is not always a welcome visitor in foreign ports anymore,” he said. “As a military, we make ourselves a hard target overseas,” he continued. “But now we must also focus on making American soil a hard target as well.”

“In my time in the Middle East during Desert Storm, I had command of ships, and saw first-hand the willingness and readiness of our armed forces to achieve the objectives of the United States,” Labrecque said.

“But the problem with terrorism lies in the fact that they are not an