

# ParentScope

A Publication of the St. Lawrence University Parents Committee

Fall 2003



## From the President's Desk

### Welcome parents and families!

Ann and I look forward every year to welcoming you to campus for Family Weekend. Being here with us allows you the opportunity to see how your St. Lawrence student is flourishing, and gives him or her the chance to share with you some experiences since arriving in August. Your visit also makes it possible for us to have helpful conversations with you to find out how things are going from your perspective. We'll work on the weather, and provide a program that we think you'll enjoy.

This is a special place—deeply serious and challenging but also lighthearted and warm, devoted to students and their academic and personal development. As you get to know us, we hope to see you often. So, stay in touch, and enjoy Family Weekend.

Sincerely,

Daniel F. Sullivan  
President

## PREVIEW SCHEDULE

# Family Weekend 2003

A complete finalized schedule, with event locations, will be available upon your arrival for the weekend. Check the Web site anytime at [www.stlawu.edu/family/family.htm](http://www.stlawu.edu/family/family.htm) for up-to-date information.

### — Friday, September 19 —

#### 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

**Class Visitations**—Parents are invited to visit classes to meet faculty, or to visit administrators in their offices. Appointments in advance are encouraged and should be made through your student or by calling the department directly.

#### 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

**Coaching Staff Appointments**—Families interested in meeting with members of the coaching staff are encouraged to do so. Appointments should be scheduled in advance; coaches can be reached by calling 315-229-5421.

#### 12:00 Noon—10:00 p.m.

**Family Weekend Registration**—Families not pre-registered may do so at this time.

#### 12:00 Noon—8:00 p.m.

**Art Exhibition: "Beggars and Choosers": Motherhood is not a Class Privilege in America and "Lejos de Dios / Far from God,"** Leah Krieger '03.

#### 3:30—3:45 p.m.

**Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) Induction**—Members of the Class of 2005 tapped in the spring of 2003 will be inducted into this national leadership society. *All are welcome.*

#### 4:30—5:30 p.m.

**Honors Reception**—President Daniel F. Sullivan will offer remarks at this reception hosted by Vice President & Dean of Academic Affairs Grant Cornwell '79 and Vice President & Dean of Student Life & Co-Curricular Education M.L. Petty. Academic honorary organizations and departments will also celebrate the accomplishments of their members. **SLU Fellows** will have poster presentations on their summer research projects. *All honor students and their family members are invited.*

#### 5:00 p.m.

**Bachelor Memorial Chime Concert**

#### 5:00—7:00 p.m.

**Dinner on Your Own**—For a fee: *Dana Dining Center* or *Northstar Pub, Noble Center*; or local restaurants (for a partial list, check our Web site at [www.stlawu.edu/restaur.html](http://www.stlawu.edu/restaur.html)).

#### 7:00 and 9:30 p.m.

**Movie: *Bruce Almighty***

#### 7:30—8:30 p.m.

**Laurentian Singers Concert**

#### 8:00 p.m.

**The Underground**—*E.J. Noble Center, Ground Floor*. Open for billiards, ping pong, foosball, light snacks and beverages.

#### 10:00 p.m.

**Better Late Than Never V: A Ten O'clock Musical Revue**—Join a cast of nine students with varied talents under the direction of Connie Meng '61.

### — Saturday, September 20 —

#### 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

**Family Weekend Registration**

#### 8:30—9:30 a.m.

**Continental Breakfast with Student Life Staff**—Dean Petty invites families to join her staff for an informal breakfast and discussion of life at St. Lawrence.

#### 9:00 a.m.

**Doubles Tennis Tournament**—*Sammis Tennis Center*.

#### 9:00 a.m.

**Little River Trail Run**—Registration at *Main Entrance, Appleton Ice Arena*.

### Various FYP Presentations

#### 9:30—10:15 a.m.

• **Getting Ready for Off-Campus Study**—Patricia Alden, associate dean for international and intercultural studies, will meet with students and families preparing for off-campus study.

#### 10:30—11:15 a.m.

• **Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation at St. Lawrence**—Join Margie Strait, chair of sports studies and exercise science and director

*continued on page 4*

# International Study: Some Tips for Parents

## *Despite concerns that world*

events might discourage college students from studying abroad, both the number of students going overseas and the number coming into the United States have held steady. Enrollment for St. Lawrence's 14 programs this fall follows the same trends, though interest in some programs has declined while applications to other programs have risen.

Students applying for international study programs say that worldwide political tensions have influenced them, but in a positive way: they want to know more about international relations, other cultures and the history of conflicts. Going abroad to study and experiencing another culture first-hand is the best way to learn about other countries.

From a practical perspective, each program has an emergency plan, with strategies for safe behavior and options on site and strategies for returning home should that be warranted. St. Lawrence has been complimented for these well-developed plans and for our responsiveness to parental concerns, according to Associate Dean for International and Intercultural Studies Patricia Alden.



*On the Kenya program, students frequently engage in archaeological projects.*

**Program options at St. Lawrence:** Austria, Australia, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, England, France, India, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. (In the United States: Washington, D.C.; Fisk University; Adirondack Semester.)

**St. Lawrence's programs have these elements in common:**

- St. Lawrence students pay regular comprehensive fees.

- Financial aid is applied.
- Each program has an academic prerequisite.
- Students take an appropriate language course while participating in program (except Australia, England, and Canada).
- Each program includes group excursions and field trips.
- A mix of majors and social groups participate in each of the programs.
- Acceptance is based on academic record, quality of essays, demonstrated preparation for the specific program and intercultural study in general, maturity, faculty recommendations, responsibility, and good communication skills. Only in exceptional circumstances will students with less than a 2.8 GPA be considered.
- Travel grants and research grants are available.

*Several St. Lawrence programs are set, purposely, in developing countries, allowing students to see first-hand conditions which underlie some of the most important global concerns for the next century.*

### **Choosing a Destination**

Some students arrive at St. Lawrence with a particular off-campus program in mind, sometimes one clearly connected to their major. Other students develop interests in their first two years and find a program that complements those interests. When they are ready to plan for study abroad, they should attend one of the several information sessions held on campus each semester. They'll learn that while none of the St. Lawrence programs is exclusively for students in a specific major, each has specific courses and as-

**ST. LAWRENCE**  
UNIVERSITY

## Whom To Call

*All are 315 area code; extensions should be preceded by 229.*

Academic Advising .....	5876	Information Technology (computers) .....	5595
Academic Services for Students with Special Needs .....	5104	International Student Advisor .....	5991
Alumni and Parent Programs .....	5504	Mail Center (CMR) .....	5710/5718
Athletics Info Line .....	7587	President's Office .....	5892
Brewer Bookstore .....	5460	Parents Committee .....	5915
Business Office .....	5591	Registrar .....	5267
Career Services .....	5906	Residential Learning Communities .....	5250
Counseling Services .....	5391	Security and Safety .....	5555
Dean of Academic Affairs .....	5993	Student Life .....	5311
Dining Services .....	5995/5983	Switchboard (phone numbers) .....	7411
Financial Aid .....	800-355-0863	Telecommunications (phone bill info) .....	5500
First-Year Program .....	5909	Writing Program .....	5367
Health Center .....	5392		

sets. Students should look for a good fit between their own objectives, including the environment in which they will live and study, and the offerings of particular programs, advises Alden.

Several St. Lawrence programs are set, purposely, in developing countries, allowing students to see first-hand conditions which underlie some of the most important global

*Going abroad to study and experiencing another culture first-hand is the best way to learn about other countries. From a practical perspective, each program has an emergency plan.*

concerns for the next century: balancing economic development with environmental concerns, water and other key resource management issues, AIDS and other global diseases.

It's important for students to have access to developing countries, such as Kenya, says Alden, but they must be safe while there.

"SLU has run our program in Kenya since 1974, for over a quarter of a century. This is exceptional stability for a program in a developing country," she says. "We own a five-acre property with its own water source and power supply, electrified security fence and secure vehicle fleet. We have three administrators who live on the compound with the students, along with 17 staff (including a program driver, cook, and eight guards). While we want students to get to know Nairobi, should conditions become unsafe there we can hold all their classes on the compound."

Alden continues: "Approximately 10 weeks of the program, however, are spent in rural communities outside of large cities, areas where we have become well known. In one of these, St. Lawrence alumni have built or renovated several primary school buildings. We are known to the population and our students are warmly received. We believe we have possibly the safest situation for a program in a developing country of any college in the country."

Staff members of St. Lawrence University's Center for International and Intercultural Studies have compiled a list of questions for the parents of students considering extended study abroad. Parents should feel well informed about the program in which their sons and daughters are participating, and should feel free to ask St. Lawrence for information at any time (see right for contacts).

### **For Parents: Questions You Should Ask**

**How can I prepare myself?**

Parents should consider reading the same materials their son or daughter reads when making the decision to study abroad. You should also read international news stories in order to keep up with what is happening in the host country, as well as globally.

**What are the "symptoms" of cultural adjustment, and will I recognize them in my child?**

It would be a good idea to know something about cultural adjustment for the specific program your student selects in order to help your child get through the initial "roadblocks" when minor problems seem like major crises. Check with Center for International and Intercultural Studies staff; they have a lot of experience dealing with such "symptoms," and are the best resource for parents.

**Who is the primary contact at my child's college and at the program office abroad, should I need to be in touch? Have I provided my child's college with accurate and updated contact information so that she or he can reach me in an emergency?**

St. Lawrence's Center for International and Intercultural Studies is the main contact point, and a comprehensive Web site includes safety planning information, updated regularly. The staff maintains an e-mail listserve with parents for instant, proactive communication.

**Does my child have enough money to have a safe, enriching experience?**

**Is my son or daughter sufficiently insured, with worldwide coverage including medical evacuation?**

**Does my child have a credit card to use in case of medical and other emergencies that must be covered immediately?**

### *For more information:*

**Center for International and Intercultural Studies**  
Carnegie Hall  
St. Lawrence University  
Canton, New York 13617  
315-229-5991

On the Web:

[web.stlawu.edu/ciis/html/off\\_campus/index.html](http://web.stlawu.edu/ciis/html/off_campus/index.html)

### *From a Parent's Perspective:*

**Susan Abkowitz, whose daughter Alyssa is a student at Emory University, wrote to St. Lawrence after Alyssa's spring 2003 study in Kenya. She has given us permission to excerpt her letter:**

"Throughout the entire four months, some of which were quite stressful due to international events, we had the utmost confidence in the program's supervision and guidance, both in this country and in Kenya. Not once did we feel that Alyssa's personal safety was at risk.

"We appreciate that St. Lawrence was always in direct communication with parents of the students who were abroad, keeping us apprised of how our children were faring. It was comforting to know that our daughter was in good hands, especially when out of communication in remote areas.

"Your program is well organized and we cannot rave enough about the combination of classes and the urban/rural homestays. Alyssa appears to have formed several close and lasting friendships. Already she misses the genuine spirit of her African families, friends, co-workers and acquaintances. ... Mark and I would highly recommend this program to anyone considering an African abroad experience.... The lessons that Alyssa has returned with have changed her outlook on life. She has gained self-confidence and maturity to handle new cultures, trying situations and language barriers. She has a renewed commitment to help those in need, particularly in third-world countries where her energy and resources hopefully can be most effective. Perhaps most importantly, Alyssa has expressed a desire to return to East Africa for a prolonged stay sometime in the future. What better testament for such a wonderful program!"

# Family Weekend 2003 Preview...continued from page 1

of athletics, and Michael Howard, associate athletics director, for a question-and-answer session on athletics, club sports and intramural programs at St. Lawrence.

•**The World as Your Classroom: Planning Ahead for Off-campus Study**—Patricia Alden, associate dean for international and intercultural studies, will present an overview of international and domestic off-campus study. Students, faculty and staff will then give short presentations and answer questions about SLU study opportunities at sites from the Adirondacks to Kenya, England to Japan.

•**First-Year Program Information Session**—Steve Horwitz, associate dean of the first year, Shawn-Eric Brooks, director of residential learning communities, and Bill Burns, director of counseling services, will discuss the goals and objectives of the First-Year Program and answer questions about the first-year experience at SLU.

**10:30–11:15 a.m.**

**A Conversation with the University Chaplain**—*Gunnison Memorial Chapel*. Join Rev. Kathleen

## Other Information

### Alcohol Policy

The Family Weekend Committee reminds parents that St. Lawrence is governed by New York State alcohol consumption laws. The state legal drinking age is 21. The University alcohol policy applies to students, faculty, staff and guests of the University. It prohibits consumption of alcoholic beverages at public events (including, but not limited to, films, lectures, athletic contests and performances).

### Emergency Contact

To assist our staff, family and friends are encouraged to leave an emergency contact number at Registration in the Formal Lounge, Noble Center.

### Meal Pass

During Family Weekend 2003, guests will be provided with a meal pass to use during those meals included in the registration fee (Friday honors reception, Saturday breakfast with student life staff, Saturday picnic, Saturday reception with President and Mrs. Sullivan, and Sunday brunch). Your St. Lawrence student must **also** use his or her **meal card** during this time since students' meals are **not** included in the Family Weekend registration fee.

### Parking

Families are invited to park in any of the available University parking lots. Should you drive a self-contained trailer or motor home, parking is available at the Appleton Arena lot and "J" Parking Lot; however, there are no facilities or hookups. We ask that you park in these areas only.

### Security and Safety

Please call 315-229-5555 in an emergency.



Buckley, University chaplain, as she shares an emerging vision for religion and spirituality on college campuses, specifically here at St. Lawrence.

**11:00 a.m.**

**Cross Country: SLU Hoffman Invitational**

**11:00–11:30 a.m.**

**Bachelor Memorial Chime Concert**

**11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.**

**First-Year College Receptions**—Each college will host a reception for first-year students and their families. *A schedule of reception locations will be available at Registration in the Formal Lounge, E. J. Noble Center.*

**Parent Career Panel**—A panel of SLU parents discuss their career paths and opportunities for liberal arts graduates in their career fields.

**12:00 Noon**

**Phi Beta Kappa Induction Ceremony**—All are welcome to join us as the first group of honorees from the Class of 2004 are inducted into this national academic honorary.

**12:00 Noon–1:30 p.m.**

**Annual Family Weekend Barbecue**—Please remember to bring your Family Weekend pass; students must use meal cards.

**12:00 Noon–8:00 p.m.**

**Art Exhibition**, see Friday.

## REGISTER NOW

*for Family Weekend 2003  
with the enclosed form*

**Your fee includes:** the Friday afternoon Honors Reception, Student Life breakfast on Saturday morning, Saturday Family Weekend Barbecue, the President's Reception on Saturday afternoon, all entertainment and athletic events on Friday and Saturday, a Conversation with the President on Sunday morning and Sunday Brunch at Dana.

## Programs and Events

**Fitness Center open**

**12:00 Noon**

**Women's soccer vs. Nazareth**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Charity Golf Outing**—*St. Lawrence University Golf Course*, sponsored by Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority. Entry fee is \$30. Contact Janna Sullivan at 315-386-3142 or sullivanjanna@yahoo.com for more information.

**1:00–3:00 p.m.**

**Book Signing: *From the Cook's Garden***, by Ellen Ecker Ogden, *Brewer Bookstore*.

**2:00 & 7:00 p.m.**

**Movie: *Finding Nemo***.

**3:00 p.m.**

**Men's Soccer vs. Ithaca**

**4:00–5:30 p.m.**

**President's Reception**—*MacAllaster House, 54 E. Main Street*. Prior to your planned evening events, you are cordially invited to an informal reception at the home of President Daniel F. and Ann H. Sullivan. Enjoy light refreshments along with faculty, administrators and other members of the St. Lawrence community. *Rain location: ODY Library.*

**5:30–6:30 p.m.**

**Dinner on Your Own**—For a fee: *Dana Dining Center* or *Northstar Pub*; or local restaurants.

**6:00 p.m.**

**Catholic Mass**—*Gunnison Memorial Chapel*.

**7:30 p.m.**

**Laurentian Singers Concert**

**8:00 p.m.**

**The Underground**, *Noble Center*. Open for billiards, ping pong, foosball, air hockey and light snacks and beverages.

**8:30 p.m.**

**Sinners and Saints Concert**.

**9:30 p.m.**

Movie: *Bruce Almighty*

**9:30 p.m.**

**Radio Bob Band**—Be sure to bring your dancin' shoes to this music performance of rock and roll from the mid-50s to soul music of the early 70s by this faculty/student/friends band.

**10:00 p.m.**

**Better Late Than Never V: A Ten O'clock Musical Revue**—Join a cast of nine students with varied talents under the direction of Connie Meng '61.

—Sunday, September 21—

**8:00–9:00 a.m.**

**Breakfast**—For a fee: *Dana Dining Center* or *Northstar Pub*; or local restaurants.

**9:30 a.m.**

**Conversation with the President**—President Daniel F. Sullivan will share his thoughts on St. Lawrence's present and future, followed by a question-and-answer session.

**10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.**

**Brunch**—*Dana Dining Center* or *Northstar Pub*.

**11:00 a.m.**

**Progressive Christian Worship Service**—*Gunnison Memorial Chapel*.

**11:00 a.m.**

**Bagel Brunch.**

—Campus Hours—

**Administrative Office Hours:** The following offices will have staff available to answer your questions during Family Weekend. Please contact them directly if you would like to arrange an individual appointment:

**Admissions and Financial Aid, Payson Hall:** Friday, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon. Please call 800-285-1856 if you would like to schedule an individual appointment with staff.

**Business Office, Second Floor, Vilas Hall:** Friday, 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon. Please call 315-229-5591 to sched-

## THE PARENTS COMMITTEE

# An Opportunity to Help Ignite the Spark

*We have always been keenly*

interested in all elements of our children's growth. Their educational experience, in particular, has been of great interest to us and we have striven to be as supportive as possible of the schools they have attended.

From building playgrounds when they were young, to volunteering (and sometimes teaching) in their classrooms as they grew older, to giving financial and volunteer support during and after they attended St. Lawrence, we have maintained our involvement in their educational experience. For our daughter Katherine '02, and now our son Peter '06, we have achieved this involvement largely through our participation in the Parents Committee.

Through our gifts to the University, and our involvement in the Parents Committee, we confirm our support for the St. Lawrence team's excellent work. We believe St. Lawrence is a very special place and that it is doing many "right" things for the students. That's why we are grateful for the opportunity to support such a fine institution.

To support its vision, St. Lawrence has wisely invested the very generous gifts of its benefactors in improvements in its facili-

ties. The academic curriculum, in particular, has become more robust as it evolves to address the needs of our children as they prepare for their next steps in the world. But, what really makes St. Lawrence stand out, and what differentiates it from other colleges and universities, is the devotion and care that the faculty, coaches and administrators show for the students. Above all else, this is what makes it so special and enables the spark that St. Lawrence intently seeks in its students to ignite their passion for learning and life.

As our children grow, and discover their full potential, we are extraordinarily grateful that there is such a solid and committed team leading the University and that we can, in turn, continue to play a supporting role in our children's education.

If you would like to learn more about joining us as members of the Parents Committee, please contact Brad Catling, St. Lawrence University's director of parent leadership giving: 315-229-5915.

Online, go to: [web.stlawu.edu/alumni/parents/parentspage.htm](http://web.stlawu.edu/alumni/parents/parentspage.htm)

—Betsy '74 and Jim '71 Snedeker

ule an appointment with staff.

**Cashier, Second Floor, Vilas Hall:** Friday, 12:00 noon–2:30 p.m.

**Augsbury Physical Education Center, Newell Field House and Fitness Center:** Friday, 6:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m.; Saturday, 8:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.; Sunday, 8:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m.

**Augsbury Pool:** Friday, 7:00–9:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 12:00 noon–5:00 p.m.

**Brewer Bookstore:** Friday and Saturday, 8:00 a.m.–12:00 midnight, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

**Canoe Shack:** Saturday and Sunday, 12:00 noon–5:00 p.m.

**Climbing Wall:** Saturday, 2:00 p.m.

**Northstar Pub, Noble Center:** Friday, 7:30 a.m.–11:00 p.m.; Saturday, 8:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m.; Sunday, 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

**Oliver D. Appleton Golf Course:** Saturday, 7:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. The course is located behind the Best Western University Inn on Route 11. Greens fees must be paid at the Pro Shop, adjacent to the Inn. Entrance fee is \$12 per person for nine holes. To reserve a tee time, call 315-386-4600.

**Owen D. Young Library:** Friday, 8:30 a.m.–10:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.; Sunday 11:00 a.m.–1:00 a.m.

**SLU Golf Training Center Tours:** Saturday, 12:00 noon–3:00 p.m.

**Richard F. Brush Art Gallery:** Friday and Saturday, 12:00 noon–8:00 p.m.



# ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI AND PARENT PROGRAMS

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## Dates to Remember

The University's Web site has event and academic calendar information updated regularly at [http://web.stlawu.edu/calendar/master\\_calendar.html](http://web.stlawu.edu/calendar/master_calendar.html).

### Fall 2003

First Day of Orientation	Monday, August 25
First Day of Classes	Thursday, August 28
Family Weekend	Sept. 19–21
Mid-semester Break	Oct. 16–17
Thanksgiving Recess	Nov. 21 at 5 p.m.–Nov. 30
Classes End	Friday, Dec. 12
Exams End	Friday, Dec. 19

### Spring 2004

First Day of Classes	Monday, January 19
Spring Recess	Friday, March 12 at 5 p.m.– Sunday, March 21
Moving-Up Day	Saturday, April 24
Classes End	Friday, April 30
Exams End	Saturday, May 8
Commencement	Sunday, May 16

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Commencement

Families of the Class of 2004 mark your calendars for Sunday, May 16, 10:00 a.m. for Commencement. Details will be sent to families and students in early spring. Here's a glimpse at answers to the top questions families ask us:

#### What's the schedule of events?

We begin Commencement weekend on Saturday afternoon, with events through the post-Commencement reception on Sunday. You might plan to arrive by noon Saturday and depart mid-afternoon Sunday to take advantage of the planned events.

#### Where can we stay?

Many local hotels fill early. Check out the University Web site at [www.stlawu.edu](http://www.stlawu.edu)

and follow links for Parents and Accommodations for a list of regional services. **We also rent rooms in the residence halls. Your student may make reservations through the Residential Learning Communities office after Spring Break.** We always have plenty of space!

#### Where is Commencement?

Ceremonies are held in the Creasy Commencement Commons, between the Owen D. Young Library and Gunnison Chapel; mid-May usually is warm and sunny, but we're outside still if the weather is cool and cloudy.

#### Do students request tickets for family members?

No tickets are necessary for graduation ceremonies. All are most welcome.