



Grateful Alumnus and Instructor paves way for others

Tim Fenske '79G, '84G, center, celebrates his induction into the Magis Legacy Society in October with 15 family members. Fenske says it was the best day of his life.

INSIDE:

Magis Welcomes New Members

Yearend Giving

Faculty Spotlight

Magis (pronounced "màh-jis") is a Jesuit phrase that means "the more." It is taken from Ad majorem Dei gloriam, a Latin phrase meaning "for the greater glory of God." Magis refers to the philosophy of doing more, for Christ, and therefore for others.

Visit our website to learn more:
www.jcu.edu/plannedgiving

Rumor has it, Tim Fenske '79G, '84G, alumnus and adjunct instructor in the sociology department, has one of the largest academic files in the Registrar's Office at John Carroll University. That's because Fenske loves to learn. As a student at Carroll from 1976 to 1994, he completed 112 credit hours and earned a master's in education, a master's in human services, a certificate of Advanced Studies in Religious Education/Religious Studies, and a post-masters program in chemical dependency.

"I learned that education is an adventure for life," Fenske says. But he didn't always feel that way. Catholic educated, including Padua Franciscan High School in Parma, Ohio, Fenske says his primary and high school years were difficult for him. He was painfully introverted, lacked self-confidence, had a terrible fear of failure, and tested poorly.

That all changed, Fenske says, during his junior year in college. "I was meeting with a philosophy professor, having a great conversation, and he said, 'Tim, what are you going to do with the rest of your life?' I said, 'I really don't know. I'm not the smartest person in the world. I have trouble with school sometimes, but I thought I might want to teach.

"He stopped me and said, 'Why don't you try? I'd have you as a teacher!'"

It was a life-changing moment. Fenske took the advice to heart. He earned his teaching certificate in secondary education with his undergraduate degree in sociology from Quincy College in Illinois. Next stop: his first graduate school, Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where he earned a master's in theology studies.

"I think I'm very successful at teaching, because I know what it's like to struggle with courses.

—Tom Fenske '79G, '84G

Magis Legacy Society Welcomes Newest Members (and Football Players!)

About 70 John Carroll alumni, family, friends, and guests attended the Magis Liturgy and Awards Brunch October 7. The University holds the annual event to welcome new Magis members and to thank all members for their generosity in making provisions for John Carroll in their estates.

Prior to the brunch, Rev. Robert L. Niehoff, S.J., president of JCU, served as celebrant, and Rev. Bernie McNiff, S.J., served as homilist at the Magis Mass—this year combined with Homecoming Mass. Fr. Niehoff also presented Magis Legacy Society medallions to the four (of 24) new members who attended brunch, including: Rev. Don Cozzens, Timothy Fenske '79G, '84G, Dorothy Poland '52, and Nancy

Cunningham Benacci '77 who was inducted last year, but unable to attend then. The names of all this year's new members are highlighted on pages 3-5.

Jane Evans, assistant athletic director, External Operations, was keynote speaker and provided highlights of the JCU football trip to Ireland. About a dozen members of the team attended the brunch to share stories about their trip of a lifetime, including: Kevin Cope '15, Anthony D'Aurizio '13, D.J. Debick '13 (captain), Marty Gibbons '15, Dequan Grobsmith '13, Ethan Jones '13, Mike Locke '13 (captain), Ben Madden '13 (captain), Luke McCall '15, Michael Micca '13, Mark Myers '15, Lane Robilotto '13, and Robert Schmitz '13 (captain).



After graduation, he returned to Cleveland to teach high school. At the same time, he started taking classes at John Carroll, where “the light bulb went on,” he says. For the first time, I learned how to learn and how to study, thanks to the fine students, teachers, and advisors here.

“I appreciated the advice, the encouragement, and the personal attention of the faculty: Alexander Feldvebel, Jim Dague, Lee Hoover, Sally Wertheim, Nancy Taylor, and so many more—and that’s just in the education department!”

Another dream came true in 1992, when he was invited to teach a course in the sociology department by Phyllis (Penny) Harris, Ph.D., department chair. He has been an adjunct instructor ever since.

“I think I’m very successful at teaching, because I know what it’s like to struggle with courses. I know what it’s like to not know what you want to do. I know what it’s like to go to teachers and ask for help,” he adds.

In gratitude for his John Carroll experiences, Fenske has generously established an endowed scholarship at the University. The recipient must be a sociology major entering his or her senior year that has shown the most academic improvement, must meet certain other criteria, and will be selected by a panel of sociology faculty.

In recognition of his gift to the University, Fenske was inducted in October into the Magis Legacy Society, which celebrates individuals who have made provisions for John Carroll University in their estates.

He says his years at Carroll have deepened his faith and have taught him beyond measure. “It’s important to use your talents. It’s important to spread the Gospel, and you do that through helping people learn to help themselves,” Fenske says.

— Marcia Aghajanian

Magis Legacy Society members invest in University’s future

The Magis Legacy Society was formed to recognize and remember those who have included John Carroll University in their estate plans through bequests, trusts, annuities, insurance, or other types of planned or deferred gifts. “Magis” is a Latin word meaning “more.” It is one of the Jesuit ideals: to do more than the ordinary for the greater good.

We thank the Magis membership for remembering the University in this extraordinarily generous way. These gifts not only express their commitment to John Carroll, but are an investment in the University’s future and in the future of our students.

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—continued on page 4

Legacy *continued from page 3*

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†Deceased

Italicized names indicate new member.

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The Magis Advisory Group was created to invite accounting, legal, financial, insurance, real estate, and other professionals to advocate for John Carroll University. Many members are John Carroll alumni. Magis Advisory Group members provide experienced guidance to University Advancement staff, and will play an integral part in JCU campaigns and serve as leaders to help advance John Carroll's planned-giving efforts, visibility, and reputation with clients and in the community-at-large.

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Matthew Selby '00
Melanie Shakarian '00
Richard Sherman
Gordon Short '96
Gregory Skoda '78
John Slagter '88
Mark Smolik '84
Michael Spangler '02
Leo Spellacy '92
Jason Stevens '96
James Stief '92
Terence Sullivan '77

Michael Swallow '98
Mark Tepper '07
Sheri Terens '97
Patricia Thoma '97
John Tullio '02
Robert Valente '69
Barbara Varone '75
Mary Vitale '83
James Vitou '87
Arthur Ward '96
Christopher Zajac '10
Michael Ziccardi '98
Gary Zwic

A Great Way To End 2012

A Gift That Provides a Secure, Stable Income

Everyone looks forward to the New Year and its promise of new opportunities, but did you know the old year might also yield rewarding returns? As you look ahead, consider some year-end decisions that can make a big difference, not just for the New Year, but for many years to come.

A growing number of alumni are learning about the benefits of a charitable gift annuity because of all the advantages it brings. In a world of economic ups and downs, the gift annuity is a stable and predictable way to receive significant financial benefits through charitable giving.

When you fund a charitable gift annuity, you receive income from John Carroll for the rest of your life. The good news is that the payments never change no matter what the economy does. The rates are based on your age at funding, and your payments could be as high as 9 percent.

John Carroll alumni who have already created charitable gift annuities, appreciate the dependability of the income. They also value the security of knowing their payments are

backed by all of our assets. You might consider exchanging your 1 percent CDs or underperforming stock for a gift annuity payment with an attractive rate.



The benefits of a gift annuity don't stop with the lifetime of payments. You will receive an income-tax deduction for making a gift to John Carroll. You could also receive a portion of your payment tax-free. After all payments have been made to you, any remaining funds automatically go to support John Carroll's mission.

To learn more about the benefits of a charitable gift annuity and to see how high your income could be, please contact Molly McArdle, executive director for development, at mmcardle@jcu.edu or 216.397.1904.

Your IRA: Hidden Treasure or Delayed Disappointment?

For many of us, our greatest asset, apart from perhaps our home, is our IRA or other retirement plan. The IRA holds this distinction because Congress designed it to encourage investment and future growth.

But as the assets in your IRA grow, so do the taxes that will be owed in the future. When your children or grandchildren receive the assets in your IRA, they also receive the burden of the taxes due on them. This can seriously diminish their inheritance and result in disappointment for you and for them.

The good news is there are ways to plan for your IRA to deliver all its expected benefits with as few taxes as possible. John Carroll can give you some ideas to discuss with your accountant, your financial advisor, and your attorney. These will ensure that your family and your legacy benefit while minimizing taxes for everyone.

As you provide for your family in your estate plans, be sure to consider the smartest way to pass assets to your heirs. Think

about giving them something other than IRA assets. Also, you might think about giving away your unused IRA assets so the assets will be passed with no tax due. When you give your assets to a qualified tax-exempt organization like John Carroll University, we receive 100 percent of your IRA proceeds.

However, we would never recommend giving your IRA to John Carroll without also emphasizing there are other assets and ways to provide for your family without negative tax consequences. Some of the best assets to give your children include your stocks or home. These assets step-up to fair market value in your estate, and can be sold later with little or no tax due.

To learn more about the variety of ways you can pass on assets to your family and to the causes you love—like John Carroll University—in the most beneficial ways for all concerned, contact Molly McArdle, executive director for development, at mmcardle@jcu.edu or 216.397.1904.

Faculty Spotlight

Thomas Hayes

English Prof Reflects on a Good Ride

Tom Hayes started teaching at John Carroll University at age 25, about the same age as his students. He says even though he gets older, the age of his students stays the same. “It forces you to understand what the students are into,” he says. “I feel extremely fortunate to have a job that I have loved from the beginning. It’s really fun and I find the students incredibly interesting.”

Hayes has been a full-time faculty member at John Carroll since 1969. He graduated from St. John’s University in Minnesota in 1966 with a B.A. in English and received his M.A. in English from John Carroll University in 1968. He taught English and business communications during his early years at Carroll and now specializes in 18th-century and restoration literature, as well as American literature.

Hayes grew up in Minneapolis and a prospective teaching job brought him to Cleveland. “Cleveland was hiring inner-city teachers and I came here wanting to do that. I decided that wasn’t for me and went to graduate school,” he says.

He has seen a lot change during his years at John Carroll. “When I first started, over half of the students were the first of their generation to go to college. There is not so much of that anymore. I am teaching many students whose parents went here as well,” he says. He also notes that there aren’t as many Jesuits as there used to be.

Hayes enjoys teaching Charles Dickens, with Jonathan Swift coming in a close second. He says that if students take the time to really read Dickens, they often enjoy him as much as he does.

“It’s very gratifying and rewarding to run into former students,” he says and adds that he recently ran into a student he taught 25 years ago. “For the first five years, I remembered all of my students, but now it’s a little more difficult.”

He has lived in Auburn for the past 20 years and loves the area. He often rides his bike to work in the summer. He is an avid collector of bikes with several dating from the ’40s, ’50s,



and ’60s. He gets many at swap meets and stores them in his garage. Until recently, he and his brother took yearly bicycle adventure trips.

Probably one of his most memorable trips was pedaling across South Dakota. Hayes and his brother stopped in the town of Scenic, which is located on the edge of Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. They ended up staying overnight, talking well into the night with Native Americans from the reservation. That experience, as many of his First Year students might recall, inspired him to teach a book called “On the Rez” by Ian Frazier, which details the history and current state of Pine Ridge.

Also, each semester, he says, “I give a spiel on bicycles. It includes the beauty of handmade bikes—how they are one of the perfect unions of form and function, how much fun they are to ride, and even how practical they are.”

With three daughters and four grandkids in the Cleveland area, he serves as the weekend babysitter quite often. He says, “being a grandpa is as cool as it gets. That’s one experience that lives up to the hype.”

When asked if he plans to retire anytime soon, he smiles and says, “the only time I think about that is when I am grading papers.”

— Rachelle Psznick '98

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For more information on Planned Giving opportunities at John Carroll University, please contact us.

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