To Give and Not to Count the Cost

Men For Others
Jesuit Spotlight
Regional Gatherings
2011 Loyola Dinner
Spiritual Enrichment Programs
Dear Friends,

As many of you know, I will step down as the president of Creighton Prep at the end of the current fiscal year to engage in a period of study, reflection and service. Called tertianship in the Society of Jesus, this is an essential component in my formation as a Jesuit before I can be invited to pronounce final vows.

As I reflect on my experience here, I am grateful to have been called by my Provincial and the Governing Board to serve at Prep. I strongly believe that, with the people, the processes and the strategic plans we have in place, the best days are yet-to-come for the young men we serve.

The core of those best days ahead will be you, the people of the Prep community, especially those of you who give humbly of yourselves time and again in the service of a world so desperately in need of your help and example.

In the following pages, we profile an icon in Prep history, Father Charles A. Kanne, S.J., some of the Men for Others in our alumni community and the honorees from our 2011 Loyola Dinner of Honor and Distinction in the hopes that they will inspire you to serve or serve more for the greater glory of God.

To help support you in your own ongoing formation in a life centered on service, please also note of the spiritual enrichment programs we describe near the end of the issue. I encourage you to commit yourselves to the ones that speak to your needs and to let Fr. Jim Ryan, S.J. or Fr. Kevin Schneider, S.J. know if there is anything else we can do to assist or guide you on your journey.

With the season of giving upon us, I urge you to put your faith into action by helping a person or a cause close to your heart. For example, I ask that you support our Operation Others team in their days of need in November and December or, please also take note of the financial challenges in completing their Prep formation in faith, scholarship, leadership and service.

I look forward to seeing and speaking with many of you in the days, weeks and months ahead. Until then, please accept my sincerest gratitude and fullest blessings for all you have done and continue to do for others in need and for this special, formative place that we know and love: Creighton Prep.

Gratefully yours,

Thomas J. Merkel, S.J.
Men for Others

In his famous Prayer for Generosity, St. Ignatius of Loyola asked the Lord to teach him “to give and not to count the cost.” More than 450 years later, Creighton Prep graduates are living these words in the gifts of time and talent they offer selflessly in the service of others.

By their example, they not only help realize part of Ignatius’ vision for a more just society, they also remind us that being “men for others” throughout our lives is central to completing the formation we began at Prep.

The brief stories that follow represent a small fraction of the service that has been and is being performed by Prepsters in communities across the country and around the world.

For those of you who have made service a primary force in your lives, we hope these stories embolden your efforts to do even more for the greater glory of God. For others still looking for an opportunity to serve, we trust you will see yourselves reflected in one or more of them and take action.

We would also like to hear more. If you have been or are performing service work that you think could inspire others, please let us know by e-mailing your story today to Nate Driml, Alumni & Development Operations Director, at ndrim@prep.creighton.edu.

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Henry J. Dethlefs ‘48, an AARP tax volunteer, helps Omaha area shut-ins with their tax returns, a practice he has maintained for many years. During the most recent tax year, Hank helped over 120 people.

Louis A Finechiaro ’49 has taken the Eucharist to residents of the Immanuel Fontenelle Home for approximately 25 years. He also transports blood from towns in eastern Nebraska and western Iowa to the Omaha Red Cross and volunteers in the food pantry at the Juan Diego Center.

Charles F. Convery ’51 has served on the Crest Hill, Illinois City Council for the past six years. He describes the work as “very fulfilling” and says “the joy that I get is seeing things get done.” Currently, the Council is working on getting a new sewage treatment plant built and is considering a plan for a sports complex.

J. Peter Jeffrey ’51 has worked for the past decade with many “allies and friends,” helping numerous low-income Omahans apply for property tax relief through the Homestead Exemption program at the Douglas County Assessor’s office.

Eugene T. Lilla ’51 works with the “Tuesday Crew” of 10-12 retired folks who help fix up homes for Habitat for Humanity. He performs carpentry work, painting and other tasks as needed. During the summer months in recent years, Gene has also worked with the Neighbors South Coalition, a Habitat for Humanity chapter, to build homes for families in need.

Thomas R. Fortune ’53 has been an Airport Ambassador at Eppley Airfield for the past eight years, providing airport and area information to Omaha visitors. He is also active in the Kiwanis Club of Omaha’s Loveland Golden K Club, a group of retired professionals who provide community service through Kiwanis programs.

C. Richard Snook ‘55 has been involved in visiting hospice patients, training Stephen Ministers and taking the Eucharist to Catholics at hospitals in the Waukesha, Wisc. area. Rich’s advice to other Prep alums considering the gift of service: “Use the skills and knowledge you were given for the benefit of those who didn’t get the skills and knowledge in their education.”

J.R. Atkins, Jr. ’56 volunteers 35-40 hours per month as a train expert at the Durham Museum, informing visitors on train history as well as the history of transcontinental, Nebraska and Omaha railroads. Jack’s grandfather was a Union Pacific engineer for 55 years and his stories helped fuel Jack’s passion for train and railroad history.

Ted L. Kowalski ’57 has published a book entitled “I Played, They Listened, We Talked: How a pianist provided comfort to cancer patients.” It chronicles his volunteerism as a piano player, entertaining in a cancer clinic and the memorable conversations and stories that have surrounded his work. Visit http://www.tedkowalski.com/mynewbook to learn more about Ted and his book.

Dr. Lawrence Heck ’60 is in his eighth year as deacon at St. Patrick Catholic Church of Gretna, Neb. He has coordinated the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program at St. Patrick’s, worked in hospital ministry and has a “regular route” in the Meals on Wheels program. For Prep alums thinking of a way to ease themselves into serving others, Larry recommends committing to a specific cause for a year. “Then you have a beginning and an end but most people keep on going.”

John R. O’Brien ’61 has raised over $320,000 for charity in 22 years as a running and walking participant in the Human Race for Sonoma County, with much of the money going to the American Cancer Society. His unique fundraising appeals have included offering autographed pictures, advertising on his race t-shirt and an hour of free legal service in exchange for sponsoring him in the Human Race.

Over the course of many years in Santa Rosa, Calif., John has also given his time and talent to a number of local boards, including those directing the Community Foundation of Sonoma County and Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital.

Hon. Michael P. Cavel ’62 has donated platelets to the American Red Cross on a regular basis for over three years. To date, Mike has given over 220 units of platelets, which can help people with clotting problems or suppressed immune systems.

http://www.tedkowalski.com/mynewbook to learn more about Ted and his book.
Dr. R. Michael Gross ’62 has provided medical care in countries such as Uganda, Bhutan and Tanzania through Health Volunteers Overseas. Mike is especially grateful for the opportunities he has been given to teach and to care for people where care is often delayed.

James J. Diesing ’69 serves on the board of directors for the Mentoring Partnership of Minnesota and on the alumni committee of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities. He and his mentor, who is now studying biomedical engineering, were guests of President and Mrs. George W. Bush at the 2004 State of the Union address. Jim says mentoring is where he found his purpose and feels that it is “a real testament to the Jesuit legacy.”

Kevin J. O’Brien ’77 serves on the board of the Ignatian Solidarity Network, a group that promotes advocacy and leadership through education on social justice.

Dr. William F. Rozmajzl ’77 has traveled to remote portions of Haiti on multiple occasions to perform dental extractions and minor surgery.

Tom M. Dethlefs ’78 volunteers regularly for Project Angel Heart in Denver, delivering nutritious meals at no cost to the seriously ill.

Michael McGillivddy ’65 has counseled at Interfaith House for the ill and injured homeless, mentored at Gads Hill Center settlement house and been involved with the Kolbe House, a jail ministry, all in the Chicago area. Mike made a conscious decision ten years ago to work with the marginalized and picked up a masters degree in social work to help accomplish his goal.

Dr. R. Scott Shaddy ’74 is a Red Cross Donor, an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and Chief of Dental Services for the 15th Air Refueling Wing of the Nebraska Air National Guard.

John P. Szaro ’86 has been involved with the RCIA program at Our Lady of Loreto Catholic Parish in Foxfield, Colo. for the past ten years. He is also active in the parish’s prison ministry. John remarks that “Prep has meant much more to me than an education and a career: the spirituality it instills goes far deeper.”

Stephen R. Patterson ’91 does service work for a number of Omaha area organizations, including serving as a board member for the Kiwanis Club of Omaha and the Jesuit Partnership Council of Omaha. He also serves on the parish technology and finance committees at St. Robert Bellarmine. Steve welcomes the opportunity to help direct other Prep alumni to service. “There is so much to be done and we can do it if we all give a little bit.”

Timothy A. Dickel ’98 serves on the Riley Children’s Foundation Kids Caring & Sharing Advisory Board, an organization that assists schools with fundraising ideas that support the foundation and its philanthropic efforts for the Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health in Indianapolis, Ind.

Ryan W. Wade ’99 is active on the board of Greater Omaha Young Professionals and chairs the Engagement Committee that plans and coordinates professional development programs. He also serves on the Corporate Development Committee at Habitat for Humanity and on the board of the Black Student Catholic Scholarship Fund.

Thomas R. Gore ’00 and his wife Elizabeth established and now serve as board members for Connect Education International, a non-profit organization that helps provide safe, secure, low maintenance living spaces for rural seniors in Troy Mills, Iowa.

Thomas R. Connelly ’04 is serving in the Peace Corps in the West African community of Karimama, Benin.

Derek P. Samuelson ’03 assisted an undergrad student with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Va. Daily duties included assisting the student in his dorm residence, throughout campus and in aquatic exercises. Derek and the student continue to be great friends.

John S. Byam ’05, Edward S. Stratman ’05 and their Omaha friend Tim Carlson—all Marquette ’99 graduates—held a charity boat ride in August to support the KIPP Charter Schools for at-risk youth in Chicago. Of their effort, Jack says simply, “We are privileged to have the life that we have and we figured that maybe we could give other kids the same chance.” Among their nearly 100 friends on the boat supporting the cause were Jack’s parents, Joseph C. Byam ’70 and Rose Byam, and Ted’s parents, Steven F. Stratman ’71 and Rhonda Stratman.

James M. Kurt ’05 volunteered at the Maryknoll school in Cochabamba, Bolivia in 2010. He also learned Spanish and helped at a local orphanage. Jim says, “It was like a rebirth. I’d never been in an environment where I felt so helpless and being in solidarity with people who are in the same place.”
Fr. Kanne was ordained in 1929 and served as assistant principal at Marquette High School in Milwaukee for six years. It was a job he did not like very much because he felt at times that he got too angry. Though his students later on at Prep did not see this in him, they did notice his displeasure when the order of his class was disrupted.

Fr. Kanne started his 40-year teaching career at Prep in 1938. He taught freshman Latin and senior Theology, and also guided the Apostleship of Prayer group during his tenure.

In freshman Latin, Fr. Kanne offered “Opportunity Classes” that were not exactly voluntary. If a student did not hit a certain mark on the weekly quiz, he had to stay after school the next day for an additional class to review the previous week.

Occasionally, Fr. Kanne made a mistake in Latin and, once in 1958, a student corrected him. He acknowledged the error and said, “Take an old man at what he means not by what he says.” He was 63 at the time.

Fr. Kanne was also very faithful in visiting people who were sick. In the early years of the 72nd and Western Avenue campus, there were only two cars for 35 Jesuits so he often rode the new Prep city bus in the afternoons to make his visits. In his later years, with a few more cars available, other Jesuits would drive him to wakes. At one, a former student told him, “God bless you, Father: your religion class helped me make it morally through World War II.”

In the 1970s, he had double hip surgery and walked with two crutches up and down the Prep corridors. To carry his books, he had an old cloth bag similar to what he had as a young man and he wore it over his shoulder.

Fr. Kanne was known as a good and compassionate confessor throughout his life. After retiring from teaching, he also became known for his brief and powerful talks at pep rallies and at alumni gatherings. He died a member of the Prep community in 1991 at the age of 96.

The mission of Operation Others is to provide food boxes to over 1600 families and to create awareness for the issue of food insecurity in ourselves and in the broader community to encourage a preferential option for the poor. O.O. needs your support on:

**TURKEY DROP-OFF DAY**
- November 19
- Bring a turkey of any brand/size to Prep’s east parking lot, Skutt’s parking lot or Golf Tec Omaha’s parking lot (362 N. 114th St.)
- 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**SET-UP DAYS**
- December 14 and December 15
- Operation Others warehouse (location TBD)
- 3:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- Help make boxes and bag produce

**PACKING DAY**
- December 16
- Operation Others warehouse (location TBD)
- 3:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**DELIVERY DAY**
- December 17
- Operation Others warehouse (location TBD)
- Mass at 7:00 a.m.
- Delivery from 8:15 a.m. until finished

**CLEAN-UP DAY**
- December 18
- Operation Others warehouse (location TBD)
- 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**OTHER WAYS TO HELP OUT:**
- Direct your annual United Way donation to Operation Others
- Renew/purchase magazines through O.O. @ http://www.qsp.com/store/index.aspx
- Sponsor a family ($85 provides two weeks of food for a family of four)
- Purchase an Operation Others T-shirt

Visit [www.Creightonprep.org/OO](http://www.Creightonprep.org/OO) for more information
Leonard A. Vinci ’51 has lived in Scottsdale, Ariz. for the past 14 years after practicing as a dentist in Belmont, Calif. He has been married to his wife Deborah for 31 years and they have three children and four grandchildren. The couple designs and markets Cool-it Caddy™, a patent pending line of small bags with an integrated coolant that help golfers and other outdoor sports enthusiasts protect heat-sensitive items such as cosmetics and health care products.

Harold F. Stuben ’54 and his wife Joan were honored as “Distinguished Alum Parents of the Year” during Saint Joseph High School’s Mardi Gras fundraiser in Santa Monica, Calif. The couple has raised five children and been involved in their lives through a variety of activities.

Richard M. Coffey ’55 and John F. Coffey ’88 celebrated the second anniversary of their founding of Consortio Group, which offers both business and personal insurance. Consortio is a Latin word for partnership. The father and son team formed the company from their purchase of McGraw Insurance and Dempsey & Associates.

Dr. Leo J. McCarthy ’57 recently attended the 14th annual Leo J. McCarthy, MD Lectureship in Transfusion Medicine at Riley Children’s Hospital for Children in Indiana University Health in Indianapolis, Ind. Leo’s support established the Lectureship through the Riley Children’s Foundation in 1997. It is designed to bring leading physicians and scientists to Indiana to educate medical students at the Indiana University School of Medicine.

Dr. Joseph P. Drazda, Jr. ’63 is Director of Outcomes Research at Mercy, a four state regional health system, headquartered in St. Louis. He was also elected to the Board of Trustees of the American College of Cardiology in March of this year. Joe serves as the Chair of the College’s Clinical Quality Committee. He is also on the board of the ACC’s National Cardiovascular Data Registry, a large repository of data on cardiovascular care delivery in the United States that is now going international.

Ronald B. Gartlan ’65, President and CEO of Godfather’s Pizza, received the Spirit of Youth Award from Boys Town for the national chain’s sponsorship of its youth programs. Under his leadership, Godfather’s Pizza became Boys Town’s first national sponsor and started including information about Boys Town in its advertising and on its pizza boxes. Ron also helps raise money for Boys Town, donates pizza for special events and launched an internship and jobs program.

Frank S. O’Neal ’66 published “The Awakening,” the highly anticipated second volume in his “Fireside Chats: A Surrealist’s View of the World” series. The novel explores many of the same themes he wrote about in Volume I but this time from the viewpoint of a man “awakening” to his reality. Learn more about Frank’s books at www.frankoneal.com.

Dr. James M. Steier ’62 and Daniel J. Steier ’71 have been practicing internal medicine with the Methodist Physicians Clinic - Indian Hills at 89th & West Dodge Road in Omaha.

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Gregory Dunning ’60 and his wife Marilyn visited Carl Holmbrecht ’60 at his home in Berlin this past May. They received a personal tour of the city and enjoyed German hospitality.

Frs. Robert J. Dufford, S.J. ’61 and Roc O’Connor, S.J. ’67 and fellow members of the St. Louis Jesuits singing group received the Jubilate Deo Award from the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, which recognizes individuals and groups making exceptional musical contributions to the American Catholic Church. The St. Louis Jesuits have produced classics such as “Be Not Afraid,” “Here I am, Lord,” “Lift Up Your Hearts,” “One Bread, One Body” and “This Alone.”

Dr. Thomas A. Ruma, Jr. ’68 received the 2011 Nebraska Medical Association Distinguished Service to Medicine Award. He was nominated by the senior leadership team at Immanuel Medical Center for his many contributions to the hospital and to the medical profession.

Greg Fox ’67 has been appointed Director of Fund Development at the Nebraska State Bar Association.

Daniel G. Crouchley ’69 now serves as senior vice president and counsel to the president of MUD in Omaha, Neb. He previously was senior vice president and general counsel.

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Thomas J. Conant ’67 has been appointed Director of Fund Development at the Nebraska State Bar Association.

Robert F. Foster ’82 was named this year to The 401kWire’s list of the “300 Most Influential Advisors in Defined Contribution.” Foster is a financial planner for Meticole Wealth Management in Omaha.

Ricardo Macedo ’81, a Brazilian foreign exchange student at Prep in 1981, revisited the school with his family during a recent trip to the United States. The Egan family (including Jim ’50, James ’77, Pat ’78, John ’81 and Dan ’83) hosted Ricardo for a semester nearly 30 years ago and has been in contact with him ever since.

Robert A. Mooney ’90 was elected as shareholder of the Omaha law firm Gross & Welch. He is a trial lawyer whose practice has focused on insurance defense, medical malpractice, defense, personal injury and commercial and appellate litigation.

Steven P. Lindsay ’91 has been promoted to managing director at First National Wealth Advisors, a division of First National Bank. He leads a team of 12 private bankers and works with clients to deliver customized banking solutions and extraordinary customer service.

Jeffrey G. Mohuella ’91 and his wife Melissa welcomed their third daughter, Alice, into their family this past June. Mary and Lucia, the couple’s other daughters, are 5 and 2, respectively. Jeffrey recently joined JB Financial Services in Omaha as vice president and equity partner.

Brian C. Bowman ’92, his wife Elizabeth and son Charlie welcomed Charlotte Elizabeth into their family this past June. Brian works for Fidelity National Title Group in Omaha.

Michael J. Weaver ’83 has joined Lieben, Whitted, Houghton, Slowiacki & Cavanagh, P.C., L.L.O. in Omaha as a shareholder. He has over 20 years of experience as counsel to businesses and individuals in the areas of business law, taxation, financial planning, trust and probate. He is also a certified public accountant.

Christopher W. Circo ’87 is co-owner of Battle Sports Science LLC, a sports safety equipment company. Chris is developing a chin strap indicator that will alert coaches, athletes and medical personnel when an athlete suffers a significant blow to the head. The device is meant to protect the athlete from re-entering competition after suffering a concussion.

Jeremy E. Caniglia ’88 displayed his artwork during the “At the Edge: Art of the Fantastic” show in Allentown, Pa. this past summer. Jeremy currently teaches at Creighton University and at the Kent Bellows Studio & Center for Visual Arts in Omaha.

1960s

Paul A. Brenner ’70 completed a “bucket list” item this past year by golfing on every continent. He was also named “Citizen of the Year” in Spencer, Iowa.

Gary S. Markley ’70 and his wife Nancy celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on May 14 at the wedding of their youngest son in Arroyo Grande, Calif.

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Dr. Kurt D. Stormberg ’82 has been named president of the San Diego County Dental Society, the second largest dental society in California. He is a board certified orthodontist and lives with his wife and daughter in San Diego.

John F. Faillo ’83 and U.S. Senator Ben Nelson discussed the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act along with other issues relevant to the U.S. economy. John is a Regional Manager with Super Derivatives, which provides data, re-valuation and pricing for hard-to-value vanilla and exotic options for the purpose of expanding transparency within the derivatives market.
Michael T. Mortensen ’95 is the newly appointed labor relations counsel in the legal department at Target. He is responsible for labor law compliance, strategy and related litigation. Mike is employed at Aris Resources and the family lives in Omaha.

Michael J. Naatz ’95 and his wife Alisia welcomed Gabriel James to their family this past July. Mike is employed as a deputy county attorney in Omaha.

Matthew R. Norman ’95 published his first novel, Domestic Violets, to rave reviews. He is an advertising copywriter with Under Armour and lives with his wife and daughters in Baltimore.

Joshua M. Livingston ’96, his wife Sarah and two-year-old son Sullivan welcomed Sebastian Michael into their family in August. Josh’s Prep classmate, Joshua M. Livingston ’96, is a personal injury attorney at the law firm Gross & Welch. His practice has been focused on workers’ compensation defense, workers’ compensation subrogation and civil litigation.

Anthony J. Heng ’99 and his wife Brianne welcomed Jackson Jude into their family this past June. Adam is an account executive at First National Bank in Omaha.

Dr. Robert J. O’Malley ’99 and his wife Dr. Talia Bolamperti-O’Malley welcomed their twin sons Dominic Paul and Vincent Sebastian on June 22, 2011. They are the couple’s first children. Bob and Talia practice dentistry at Bolamperti Family Dentistry in Omaha.

Joseph P. Naatz ’00 and his wife Nicole welcomed James Joseph to their family this past August. Josh is employed as a deputy county attorney in Omaha.

Dr. Shane A. Schutt ’97 has joined the Omaha office of Renaissance Financial as a financial advisor. Prior to joining Renaissance, Dr. Schutt served as director of the Community Health and Wellness Center and as director of the VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in Lincoln.

Dr. John B. Mitchell ’07, a psychologist and assistant professor in the Department of Psychology at Creighton University, received his doctoral degree in clinical psychology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2007.

Kevin J. Stratman ’07 has joined Investors Realty, Inc. as an associate broker. He will focus on selling and leasing industrial properties. Kevin earned his BS from Marquette with a concentration in real estate and finance.

Who is the most senior member of the Creighton Prep alumni family? According to Prep alumni records, Edward J. Wilson ’32 of Sun City, California is the current holder of that prestigious distinction. But John F. Daly ’33 of Omaha is a close second.

John was born on January 9, 1915 and grew up in St. Anne’s Parish near 24th & Leavenworth Street. After the Daly family moved to 58th & Murray Street, John attended grade school at Holy Cross.

He started at “Creighton High School” in 1929, the same year that Fr. Henry L. Sullivan, S.J. began as principal. John was in “A” class at Prep, graduated in 1933 and went on to receive his undergraduate and law degrees from Creighton University. After a serving his country in the Air Force, he came back to Omaha and worked for the law firm Spilaghen & Spilaghen.

John’s father and three uncles owned the Yellow Cab and Baggage Company in downtown Omaha and he eventually went to work in the family business. He married Anne Hanigan on November 26, 1955 and the couple lived a happy life together until her death in February 2003.

Prior to 2008, John lived independently, attended daily Mass, cooked his own meals and drove his own car. However, at the age of 92, he decided it was time to sell his home, hang up his keys and move to an assisted living facility. His only stipulation for a new home was that it had to offer daily Mass. The New Cassel Retirement Center in Omaha met that criteria so John moved there.

Fellow Prep grad Joseph S. Daly ’63 is John’s only surviving relative and assists him with his medical needs, paying bills and other day-to-day tasks. John has many fond memories of Prep and is pictured here with one of his prized possessions, a photo of his graduating class from 1933.

The Regius University Board of Trustees announced that Fr. John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J. ’73 as the 24th president of Regius University. He will begin his term on June 1, 2012.

Father Fitzgibbons most recently served as associate provost for faculty development at Marquette University. His experience in Catholic higher education as a Jesuit priest, professor, administrator and trustee will ensure the continued strength of the University’s Jesuit Catholic heritage, guide strategic planning efforts and support growth and academic excellence at Regis.

His familiarity working with Jesuit novices, faculty, traditional undergraduate and adult students, administrators and community professionals positions him to step successfully into this new role. Prior work includes serving as vice president of administration and interim dean of the College of Professional Studies at the University of San Francisco and director of the Jesuit Humanities Program at Creighton University. He completed bachelor’s degrees in philosophy and English at Saint Louis University, a master’s degree in English from the University of Chicago, and a doctorate in English at Loyola University Chicago. He also holds degrees from the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley and Weston School of Theology.

Fr. Fitzgibbons joins Fr. John L. Jenkins, CSC ’72, President of Notre Dame, as Prep’s only active alum to head a university.

Daniel L. Wuebben ’97 recently generated media attention traveling from New York to Los Angeles in a yellow taxi cab. At a moment’s notice, Wuebben and John Belitsky of Leonia, New Jersey (mutual friends of Colin Huerter ’97), agreed to pay Bangladeshis cab driver Mohammed Alam a flat rate fare of $5,000.

The trio left La Guardia Airport on April 16th and made pit stops in Chicago to see Sarah Dodson (Mercy High, Class of ’97) and in Omaha to visit Dan’s parents, Ted and Colleen. In Denver, television stations filmed the crew, initiating a viral news storm. When they reached Los Angeles two days later, the Associated Press, the Huffington Post and CNN had picked up the story.

The twelve-day cab trip featured a visit to the Grand Canyon, an interview with Inside Edition and a private tour at Food World Headquarters in Dearborn, Michigan. When they returned, the New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission presented Mohammed with an award, Delta Airlines gave Wuebben and Belitsky first class flights to London to see that city’s iconic black cabs and, in May, the three friends appeared on the George Lopez talk show, Lopez Tonight.

Two days after their appearance on Lopez Tonight, Wuebben received his PhD in English from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. He has begun teaching in the Writing Program at the University of California Santa Barbara.

Nicholas L. D’Agosta ’98 did not make it to the silver screen overnight. The star of the recently released movie “Final Destination 5” has worked to hone his acting skills since his grade school days in acting and speech classes at St. Wenceslaus. He later took improv classes at St. Roberts then participated in a number of school plays at Creighton Prep under the direction of Mike McClandless. Nicholas caught his first big break when fellow Prep alumnus Alexander Payne ’97 cast him in “Election” in 1999.

Nicholas went on to attend college at Marquette University, graduating cum laude in 2002 with degrees in history and theater, then moved to Los Angeles to pursue a full-time acting career. Aside from “Final Destination 5” and “Election,” he has worked on such projects as “Dirty Girl” (in theaters October 2011), “From Prada to Nada,” “Fired Up,” “Heroes” and “The Office.”

He regards his Prep experience as a very important time in his life and recalls the encouragement and support of many teachers including Mark Haynes (set designer), Judy Petersen and Jeannie Brayman. To this day, many of his closest friends are former Prep classmates.

Nicholas has two older brothers who also attended Prep: Pat’93 and Andy ’95.
May Christ support us all the day long, till the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then in His mercy He give us a safe lodging, and holy rest.

The Creighton Prep alumni office planned four regional gatherings throughout the Midwest for 2011. So far, three successful gatherings in Kansas City, Denver and Chicago have taken place. The gathering in Minneapolis is scheduled for Thursday, October 20.

The purpose of the events is to update constituents on Creighton Prep happenings, network and thank everyone for all they do for the school.

Details for 2012 regional gatherings will soon be finalized. Keep an eye out as the Jr. Jays may be paying a visit to your city next year!
The 2011 honorees were Dennis P. Circo ’65, David C. Dow, Scott C. Heider ’81 and Mary Pat Paul.

The Alumnus of the Year award is given each year to an individual who embodies the values Creighton Prep aspires to instill in its graduates through a commitment of living a life devoted to serving others. Dennis P. Circo ’65 was honored as Creighton Prep’s 2011 Alumnus of the Year.

The Hall of Fame award is given each year to individuals who have displayed distinguished service to Prep as teachers, staff, coaches, alumni, parents or friends. The primary consideration is to honor individuals who have provided direct service to Prep and who are good examples of living personal lives of faith and service. The two members inducted into the 2011 Creighton Prep Hall of Fame were David C. Dow and Scott C. Heider ’81.

The Ancilla Domini award is given each year to a woman characterized by her caring, nurturing and unselfish dedication to her faith, family and community. The celebrated life is an example of how to use to the fullest the gifts given to her by God. This year’s award was given Mary Pat Paul, a woman with an amazing record of service to the Catholic faith, Jesuit education, her community and beyond.

Dennis P. Circo ’65

Dennis P. Circo ’65’s affection and enthusiasm for the mission of the Society of Jesus began inauspiciously as a member of D class at Creighton Prep or, as he fondly recalls them, “the dirty thirty.”

It was during this time that a Prep counselor named Fr. Tom Halley, SJ made a profound impression on Dennis by letting him know that, given his immense capabilities, his performance at the school up to that point had been very disappointing. That blunt assessment lit a fire in Dennis, convincing him that he could do much better academically and that he had much to offer the larger world.

After receiving his Prep diploma in 1965, Dennis attended Creighton University, where he graduated cum laude with a degree in business administration and where he also received the Presidential Scholarship Award, the Delta Sigma Pi Honors Key as the top business graduate and acceptance in Alpha Sigma Nu, the Jesuit honor society that recognizes loyalty, scholarship and service, and Beta Gamma Sigma, the international organization of the world’s top business students.

Dennis later rose to become chief executive officer and chairman of the board of Precision Industries. While there, he helped expand Precision’s industrial distribution business from a regional presence with 16 Midwest locations and $27 million in annual revenues to a multinational power with over 160 locations and yearly sales approaching $300 million.

After selling the company in 2007, Dennis became chairman of Circo Enterprises, overseeing a diverse group of firms in the real estate, business software, financial services and media production industries.

During his career, he has given his time and talent to distributor advisory councils at Rockwell Manufacturing and Timken Manufacturing, to the board directing the Bearing Specialists Association and to the Executive Advisory Council at the Creighton University College of Business.

David C. Dow

Since 1977, David C. Dow has given exemplary service to Creighton Prep in educating deserving young men primarily in the science of chemistry. In the course of this service, he has compiled a list of teaching and environmental stewardship achievements that have reverberated far beyond 72nd & Western Avenue to scores of Prep alumni on whom he has made such a lasting impression.

Dave was born and raised in Lincoln, Neb., attended Lincoln Southeast High School and graduated with a BS in chemistry from Nebraska Wesleyan University, where he also attended Iowa State University and received his Master of Science in Teaching from American University in Washington, D.C. Dave served in the U.S. Army as well, including a tour in Vietnam. Prior to teaching at Prep, he taught at Ashland-Greenwood High School, where he started a science club and a science fair.

At Prep, Dave first taught Chemistry, which eventually became the Honors Chemistry 538 and Chemistry 535 courses he has taught as well. He has been an instructor for the Physical Science course a few times, too. From early on in his tenure, Prep students were given the opportunity to do science fair projects under Dave’s direction for which they received academic credit.

Since 1983, he also has guided Prep students in science and engineering competitions that have resulted in 50 team state championships, three national championships and dozens of individual titles.

Dennis is deeply grateful to the Jesuits for the education he received and he is strongly committed to helping students who do not have the means to attend a school such as Creighton Prep.

“Dennis understands ‘cura personalis,’ or care of the whole person, in a deep and profound way. He also believes wholeheartedly in the transformational experience of a Prep education,” says Fr. Tom Merkel, S.J., president of Creighton Prep.

Among his many achievements at the school is his remarkable leadership of the Creighton Prep Science Club. Beyond guiding the CPSG in many activities, Dave pioneered recycling at Prep to help fund its annual field trips to places such as the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. To date, he and CPSG members have been responsible for recycling over 1.3 million pounds of material from Prep.

Fr. Tom Merkel, S.J. remarks, “Dave is a shining example of hard work, discipline and dedication, and he has distinguished Creighton Prep with his ability to lead students to scientific excellence.”

Dave now adds his induction in the Creighton Prep Hall of Fame to a long list of honors already received, including Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year, the state Presidential Award of Excellence in Science and Mathematics, the Christa McAuliffe Prize and the Woodmen of the World Conservation Award.
Over 1,000 Creighton Prep fans of all ages cheered on the Jr. Jays on Friday, September 2 at the 7th annual Sullivan Society/Alumni Council Tailgate at UNO. The rain held off just long enough for the attendees to enjoy free hotdogs, chips and music.

Mary Pat Paul

The Ancilla Domini award is given each year to a woman characterized by her caring, nurturing and unselfish dedication to her faith, family and community, and Mary Pat Paul shines brightly in her commitment to all three.

Mary Pat’s commitment to her Catholic faith began with her upbringing in Davenport, Iowa, where she attended Assumption High School. Also at Assumption was her future husband, J. Scott Paul, whom she would marry after graduation from the University of St. Thomas and a brief career at Cargill in Minnesota.

The couple soon moved to Omaha where, after five years at Commercial Federal, Mary Pat focused on raising their three children: Kyle, Bridget and Sean.

From the beginning of those years focused on family to today, Mary Pat has always made time to share her time and talent in her faith community at St. Margaret Mary and in the larger Omaha community that has included Creighton Prep and the Madonna School, where he has given much of his time and counsel as a past board director, as well as Creighton University, the Jesuit Academy of Omaha and the Jesuit Partnership Council of Omaha, on whose boards he currently resides.

“Scott is very committed to fostering the work of the Society of Jesus and to the flourishing of Creighton Prep,” says Fr. Tom Merkel, S.J. “In particular, his service on and counsel to our Keeping the Promise Campaign and Development committees have been outstanding.”

Scott and his wife Cindy also support other worthy local causes such as the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands and the Child Saving Institute.

For his continuing commitment to a life in the service of Creighton Prep and other faith-filled organizations in the Omaha area, the school warmly welcomes Scott C. Heider ’81 to its Hall of Fame.

Scott C. Heider ’81

Scott C. Heider ’81’s distinguished record of service to Creighton Prep within a life dedicated to faith and service is both superlative and emblematic of the other worthy members he now joins in the Creighton Prep Hall of Fame.

Like many of those in the Hall, Scott’s success in his chosen field of work is mirrored by success in a life of service that has included but has not been limited to Creighton Prep.

After his days as a Prep student, Scott received a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Southern California then rose through the ranks of the Omaha business community to become vice president of Grubb & Ellis Pacific Realty in 1995, executive vice president in 1998 and the firm’s president in 2002.

At Grubb & Ellis, Scott was a “Circle of Excellence” top producer on multiple occasions and helped oversee a commercial real estate portfolio for clients that grew to over 6,000,000 square feet of space. In 2009, Scott founded Chartwell Capital, LLC to leverage his 20 years of commercial real estate success into building a privately held portfolio of select commercial property and banking sector interests.

Over the course of many years, Scott has balanced his commitment to success in business with a similar commitment to success in giving back to local faith-based organizations like Creighton Prep and the Madonna School, where he has given much of his time and counsel as a past board director, as well as Creighton University, the Jesuit Academy of Omaha and the Jesuit Partnership Council of Omaha, on whose boards he currently resides.

While Kyle and Sean were at Prep, Mary Pat served two different terms on the Creighton Prep Parent Board, was Parent Awareness Committee Chair, a co-chair of Mom Prom and, in 2009-2010, the president of Prep Moms.

Scott and his wife Cindy also support other worthy local causes such as the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands and the Child Saving Institute.

For his continuing commitment to a life in the service of Creighton Prep and other faith-filled organizations in the Omaha area, the school warmly welcomes Scott C. Heider ’81 to its Hall of Fame.
SPORTS

BASEBALL

25-7
District Champs
1-2 in state tourney
Kyle Kubat 1st team All-State

GOLF

1st place finishes at Grand Island, Westside Invite, Hastings Invite and Prep Invitational
1st Place Metro
1st Place District
4th Place State
1st team All-Conference
Carson Schadke
2nd team All-Conference
Stephen Pfeffer, Alex Pieper
Honorable Mention All-Conference
Nick Konvicka

TRACK

SCHOOL RECORD:
Christian Mapes, 15’0” Pole Vault

STATE MEET RESULTS:
Pole Vault:
3rd, 15’ 0”, Christian Mapes (school record)

3200 Meter Relay:
8th, 8:15.877, Timothy Simpson, James Wingerter, Roberto Herrera, Joseph Kelly

400 Meter Finals:
7th, 50.086, Alex Ferrer

1600 Meter Relay:
6th, 3:25.273, James Wingerter, Alex Ferrer, Joseph Kelly, Matthew Connery

TRAP

The Creighton Prep Trap Team’s state championship was omitted in the last Alumni News. Congratulations to the squad!

CLASS A ALL-SPORTS

Congratulations to Creighton Prep athletics for securing its 13th overall sports men’s title and holding that distinction for seven of the last eight years!

NEBRASKA CLASS A STATE CHAMPIONS

- Ranked #1 in the state and #2 in the nation according to ESPNhighschool.com.
- Creighton Prep beat Grand Island, 2-1, in the first-ever meeting between undefeated teams in Nebraska state final history.
- The win gave Creighton Prep a state-record seventh title, its first since 2003.
- Jake Linden was named Gatorade State Player of the Year and signed with Xavier.
The Men for Others Golf Classic was held on Monday, September 19 at the Omaha Country Club. Mike Dahir ’66 and Omaha State Bank served as the title sponsor for the twelfth consecutive year while Bob O’Keefe ’67 and O’Keefe Elevator supported the outing by becoming the event’s first ever dinner sponsor. Thanks to all of our 25 hole sponsors, individual players and volunteers for making this event possible!

Sponsors
American National Bank
Bank of the West
Catholic Mutual Group
Chartwell Capital, LLC
Creighton Prep Athletics
Curzon Promotional Graphics
DLR Group
Five Points Bank/The Kelley Family
Greg Gilgenast & Robert Slezak
Investors Realty, Inc.
Ryan M. Zabrowski ’96
Jesuit Community at Creighton University
Kiewit Building Group, Inc.
Meyers-Carlisle-Leapley Construction Co., Inc.
Mike Meyer ’76
Missouri River Title Co.
Morrissey Engineering, Inc.
O’Keefe Elevator
Olympic Transportation Services, Inc.
Omaha State Bank
Performance Automotive Group
Robert McGill Construction Co.
Security National Bank
The Alliance Group, LLC
Turnpost Creative Group
Ultra Air, LLC

Alumni Retreats
A day of recollection and prayer is available to Prep Alumni. Contact Fr. Jim Ryan, S.J., at 402.548.3804 or jryan@prep.creighton.edu to arrange.

Creighton Prep Prayer Line
The Creighton Prep Jesuit Community wants to pray for your needs. Simply go to www.creightonprep.org/pray, complete and submit the form located there, and your intentions will be sent directly to the Jesuit Community for prayer in the Jesuit Community Chapel.

Mass and Rosary Prayer Group
This group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Skinner Chapel. The rosary is prayed and prayers of thanksgiving and petition are offered for members of the Creighton Prep community. The evening concludes with Mass.

Praying with St. Ignatius
This prayer group meets the second Tuesday of each month from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Skinner Chapel. It offers parents the opportunity to learn about the Jesuit spirituality taught to their sons. Guest speakers from the Prep community share their faith journeys and materials from the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises are provided for daily personal use and reflection.

Single Parent Prayer Group
This group presents single parents the opportunity to meet and share with other single parents, hear interesting speakers and grow spiritually. This group meets the second Sunday of each month, with Mass in the Skinner Chapel at 10:00 a.m. followed by a discussion in the Creighton Room from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Spiritual Direction
This is an opportunity to see a director regularly, (e.g., once a month) to discuss one’s spiritual life. The program can help participants find God in all things by seeing His love in their daily lives and by enabling them to develop an ever deepening personal relationship with Him.

Below is a list of spiritual activities that the Creighton Prep Jesuit Community offers to the Prep family. Please contact Fr. Jim Ryan, S.J., at 402.548.3804 or jryan@prep.creighton.edu OR Fr. Kevin Schneider, S.J. at 402.548.3829 or kschn@prep.creighton.edu for more information and to get involved.

Alumni Retreats
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The following is an edited excerpt from the recently published book "Making John a Soldier—A Nebraskan Goes to War," by John P. Malloy Sr., Class of 1940. The book is available for purchase at Amazon.com.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game- August 22, 1943

Dean Lusienski (CU ‘43) and I (Prep ’40) were part of a group of Creighton students called to active duty March 1943. After three months of infantry training at Camp Roberts California we were shipped to City College New York in Upper Manhattan for an intensive engineering program. Although very busy we had weekends off and enjoyed Manhattan’s many exciting activities.

One morning in August, Dean, a rabid baseball fan from Columbus Nebraska, commented, “The morning papers said that Barney may be coming to town this week.”

He was talking about Rex Barney, a famed Creighton Prep athlete from the Class of 1943. The Brooklyn Dodgers had signed Barney, a pitcher, to a contract after he had finished high school, just three months ago.

On Sunday, Lusienski, Ed Lynam (Prep ’42) and I took the subway to Ebbets Field. There we found seats out in the left field bleachers.

He said, “The Dodgers want you fellows to know how much we appreciate the sacrifice you, and all the service men, are making for our country.”

While we moved to our new seats, Barney had gotten into trouble and his control had begun to falter; there were two men on base with two out. DiMaggio again came to bat; you could feel the electric-like tension in the ballpark.

When Rex walked off the mound towards the Dodger dugout we stood up and hollered, “Hey Rex, great job!”

A little later an usher walked over to us and said, “Do you soldiers know Barney personally?”

Ed Lynam added, “I played ball with him for three years and Malloy and I both went to high school with him.”

“Well, I gather you are enjoying the game,” he said. “I wish you soldiers the best of luck. We are very proud of the job you service guys are doing.”

We turned back to the game. The Dodgers earned two more runs and the score was now 6-4.

Surprisingly the usher returned shortly: “You fellows come with me.”

“What’s going on?” we asked.

“No problem,” he replied, “just something good for you.”

We followed him down a long flight of stairs and under the stands until we reached a section right behind home plate. These were the best seats in the ballpark.

“Do you soldiers know Barney personally?”

He looked at us, did a double take; a big smile crossed his face, “Hi guys, glad you could come out.”

“Remember your days at Prep?”

Barney personally?

“Yeah, I remember,” he replied. “Going there was the best thing I could have done. Malloy and I both went to Prep.”

Ed Lynam added, “I played ball with him for three years and Malloy and I both went to high school with him.”

When Rex walked off the mound towards the Dodger dugout we stood up and hollered, “Hey Rex, great job!”

A memorial that reads “This plaque commemorates the Omaha amateur baseball players who gave their lives in the service of their country in World War II” was presented this past summer to the families of those who once played at historic Brown Park in South Omaha. The names of six of the 51 Prep alumni who lost their lives in the war appear on the plaque: Leo B. Kalamaja ‘33, George F. Lynch ‘35, Anthony J. Mancuso ’40, Thomas J. McCaulin ’36, Robert E. Roach ’39 and Eugene L. Ziesel ’37.

The need for an Annual Fund during the first six decades of Prep’s existance was minimal. The faculty was comprised mostly of Jesuits who worked for the minimum wage. During the summer months, many students able to earn the cost of Prep’s modest tuition. However, alumni, parents and friends still played a key role in devoting time and dollars to ensure that the mission of Prep would be carried on for many years to come.

Since 1975, a significant decrease in the number of Jesuits serving on the faculty and the accompanying need to provide competitive salaries for our growing lay faculty has led to a “GAP” between the actual cost of a Prep education and tuition charged per student. In addition, the amount of students who need additional financial assistance has increased due to the increased tuition.

Our students need you to support the Annual Fund! Your gift to the Annual Fund:

- bridges the “GAP” between tuition ($8,720) and the full cost of a Prep education ($11,735)
- enables Prep to maintain the second lowest tuition of the 59 Jesuit high schools in the United States
- assists in providing over 45% of our students with additional financial assistance

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CREIGHTON PREP ALUMNI NEWS

7400 Western Avenue
Omaha, NE 68114-1878

www.creightonprep.org

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JUNIOR JAY ROAD TRIP

Creighton Prep is migrating north to Minneapolis for our fourth regional gathering. Hope to see you there!

Thursday, October 20, 2011 | 5:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.
Kieran’s Irish Pub | 601 1st Ave. N. | Minneapolis, MN 55403
Drinks & Appetizers Provided | Families Welcome
RSVP to Nate Driml in the Alumni Office at 402.548.3851 or ndrim@prep.creighton.edu and be eligible to enter the CP raffle. You must be present at the event on October 20th to win.

MINNEAPOLIS
Thursday, Oct. 20, 2011