



# BELLES BULLETIN

A quarterly review of all things Saint Mary's

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Can you believe the holidays are upon us? This fall has gone by in a flash, and I want to thank all of you for working with our office this fall. From welcoming our admission staff to your offices and giving them an audience of students, to sending in thousands of documents and answering our phone calls, we appreciate everything you do!

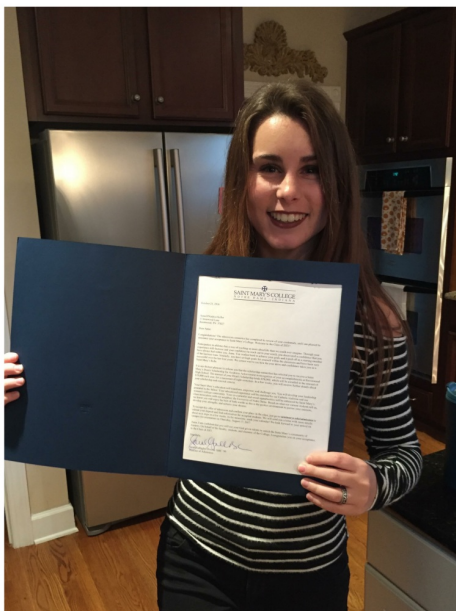
So far this year, we've received a record number of applications from all over the world. They represent 38 states/territories and 7 countries. We began sending out admission notifications in October and plan to get a significant portion of our decisions out before the holidays! All Early Decision applicants, as long as they completed by November 20, should receive their decisions no later than mid-December. And we're working hard on the Regular Decision students as well – rolling those decisions as they come through.

We're receiving lots of FAFSAs as well, and our Financial Aid office begins sending out financial aid packages to families this week. As you know well, the earlier date has increased the amount of work for sure, but it's all worth it to get families their packages out even sooner.

In this edition of our e-newsletter, check out details about the recent inauguration of our new president, Janice Cervelli, our new, state-of-the-art Science Building, upcoming deadline reminders, and some information about how Saint Mary's celebrates the spirit of the holiday season.

On behalf of our entire admission team, I want to thank you for the continued support and wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

-Sarah Gallagher Dvorak, SMC '99



Know a student who's already been accepted? Help us share their good news!

Have them email a picture with their acceptance letter to [vefta@saintmarys.edu](mailto:vefta@saintmarys.edu) or by using [#officiallySMC](https://twitter.com/officiallySMC)

# PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

## Janice A. Cervelli Becomes College's 12th President

On Saturday, November 12th, Saint Mary's inducted its 12th president, Janice A. Cervelli. A local of South Bend, President Cervelli is thrilled about her homecoming after spending the past eight years as the Dean of the College of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape Architecture at the University of Arizona and previously as a Dean at Clemson University.



A thousand students, faculty, staff, trustees, alumnae, and friends from 30 different institutions attended the ceremony to welcome and support President Cervelli, as well as listen to her vision for the Saint Mary's community. "I feel called to accelerate the growth of Saint Mary's, to develop a culture of innovation, to fully support trail blazers throughout the College, and to foster a spirit of creative problem solving that meets the needs of our time." When introduced as president-elect last February, Cervelli spoke on what drew her to Saint Mary's. "It's got strong academic programs grounded in the liberal arts, it's based in Catholic education and the traditions of the Holy Cross education of the whole individual, and it empowers women."



Among those in attendance was South Bend Mayor, Pete Buttigieg, who was excited to welcome home one of South Bend's own to serve as president. "Saint Mary's has been and must continue to be a source for progress that strengthens the fabric of our community. Who better to lead the College in that effort than a daughter of South Bend who grew up just across the river?" Chair of the Board of Trustees, Mary L. Burke '85, presented President Cervelli with an apostolic blessing from His Holiness Pope Francis. It was a beautiful and blessed day for all who witnessed!



## DEADLINES

Regular Decision (Rolling Admission) -  
February 15th

Complete the FAFSA by December 15th for a  
financial aid package before Christmas!



## SCIENCE HALL RENOVATION

Thanks to the generosity of Jennifer Mathile Prikkel '95 and her parents, MaryAnn and Clayton Mathile, Saint Mary's was recently able to renovate and expand our Science Hall. The expansion added 4,000 square feet of laboratory, classroom, and study space for the biology and chemistry floors, and was able to dedicate an entire floor to the physics department. A new greenhouse was also added in the summer of 2014.



In a dedication ceremony on October 14th, President Cervelli thanked the Mathile-Prikkel families for their contribution to the college as she spoke on the need for women in the STEM fields today. "Saint Mary's College has provided science studies for women since the time of the Civil War. This tradition takes a great leap forward thanks to the Mathiles and Prikkels, whose vision and generosity assure that our students and faculty will work in the best laboratories and classrooms. The space, technology, and equipment will serve as catalysts for education and discovery."



This new space will help propel faculty-student research, and as Prikkel envisioned, create "innovative and creative solutions discovered by faith-filled and compassionate women who are also world renowned scientists." The various departments hope to use the space as an inter-disciplinary way to teach and do research.

Associate professor of biology, Don Paetkau, is very excited about what the expanded hall can offer both students and professors in all disciplines. "The changes to Science Hall make it possible for our faculty and students to work as a research community with the tools they need to address real world questions together. We are investigating emerging diseases, cancer, the nature of genomes and the consequences of climate change. Our research includes a quest to better understand echolocation in bats, which could lead to improvements in technology we all use every day. And we are experimenting with paper analytical devices (PADs) to detect pharmaceutical and water quality. We look forward to the discoveries that will be made in our new labs."





## SAT SUBSCORES



Is your high school one of the many that includes SAT scores on transcripts? If so, please consider assisting your college admission colleagues by including the Redesigned SAT sub scores as well. In addition to the Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math scores, most institutions require the Reading, Writing & Language, and Math sub scores in order to convert Redesigned SAT scores to Traditional SAT scores.

At the present time, Saint Mary's is accepting and considering both Redesigned and Traditional SAT scores. However, we will be converting Redesigned scores back to the traditional scoring for the next two years using the College Board's SAT Score Converter. We appreciate your help in making the conversion process easier by including the SAT sub scores on your transcripts.



## SMC TRADITION

### 44th Annual Madrigal Dinners

Every year, the Saint Mary's community celebrates Christmastime with the festive Madrigal Dinner hosted by the Department of Music. The lounge of Regina South Hall is transformed into a medieval hall as guests enjoy a Renaissance-style banquet dinner and performance. A four course meal of prime rib and Cornish hen is provided as guests are entertained by colorfully dressed singers, actors, dancers, instrumentalists, jugglers, a jester, and a lord of the manor.

In 2012, Professor of Communication Studies, Susan Baxter, wrote an original play as a revival to the Madrigal Dinner. She worked with students and faculty, conducting research to maintain the historical era and tradition of the celebration.

This is just one of the many events held at Saint Mary's to celebrate the holidays!



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