



Dear Alumni and Friends,

I am pleased to share with you that we concluded this past fiscal year (May 31, 2008) with \$5.5 million in cash contributions. These funds came from a total of 6,919 donors. Within the overall contributions and number of donors, the Loras Fund achieved a total of \$2.9 million.

Your investment in Loras College makes a difference in the lives of our students. About 90% of them receive some form of financial assistance to attend Loras. During the 2007-08 academic year, Loras allocated \$15,350,000 of its budget to aid deserving and needy students.

Our ability to provide access for deserving and aspiring students is critical to our survival and consonant with our mission. You helped to make our delivery of mission and education possible. I am so grateful for your generosity and want you to be aware of a few successes from the past year that demonstrate a return on your investment:

- The Corporation for National and Community Service named Loras College to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts and service to disadvantaged youth. Loras was one of six colleges and universities to receive this honor.
- Loras enrolled the largest percentage of diverse students in its history – 8% of the first year class. We also recorded the largest percentage of diverse faculty/staff in College history – approximately 10%.
- Loras moved up in its top tier standing to #12 among Midwest Baccalaureate institutions as designated by US News and World Report.
- The first six students graduated from the newly-launched Irish Studies minor.
- A 2008 graduate secured the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to teach in Spain.
- The east wing of the new apartment complex was named in honor of Leo ('58) and Joy McCarthy.

With all of the problems we face as a nation and as a global community, Loras College continues to serve as a "beacon of hope." We graduate students who seek to make society better thanks to the authentic Catholic, liberal arts education they receive due to the generosity and investment you have made.

As we look to the future, the Loras community does so with optimism. Applications for entry into the fall 2009 class are soaring ahead of last year's pace. We just received unanimous City Council approval to construct a new residential complex between Byrne Oaks Apartments and Rohlman Hall. Loras improved its standing in five of the six categories within the U.S. News and World Report rankings. Our Mock Trial team and two of our athletic teams are again ranked among the top 10 in the country.

There is significant momentum at Loras. It is manifested in numbers, programs and campus improvements. Mostly, it is proven by the daily commitment of our faculty and staff. This commitment is inspired by the dedication to mission and goodness of our students. This powerful combination ensures a prosperous future as so boldly envisioned by Bishop Loras in 1839.

We will not rest on our laurels and I ask that you maintain and enhance your support. We want you to be part of this extraordinary journey. To that end, I invite your prayers, financial support and strong advocacy for our students, faculty and staff.

May God bless you!

Jim

James E. Collins ('84)
President

"Beacon of Hope"



Academics

- All first year students shared a common reading as part of their Launch into Loras experience. Ron Suskind's novel, *A Hope in the Unseen*, tells the story of Cedric Jennings who struggled with race and class as he journeyed from inner-city Washington, D.C., to reaching his goal of attending Brown University. On Sept. 19, 2007, the Loras community had the privilege of listening to Jennings speak firsthand.
- The inaugural January Term took place in 2008. This three-week term between the fall and spring semesters provides added experiential learning opportunities for students at Loras College. Twenty-three courses were offered, several of which included a study abroad component to places such as Mexico, Greece, New Zealand and Rome.
- Loras welcomed the first class into the Breitbach Catholic Thinkers and Leaders Program. These 16 high-achieving students were competitively selected to participate in this faith-oriented, enriched study.
- Loras for Literacy provided the third-grade classroom at Holy Ghost Elementary School in Dubuque, Iowa, with 21 ThinkPad laptops, a laser printer, LCD projector and an innovative system called mimio Interactive + Capture. Loras students, through the Loras for Literacy program, also worked with Holy Ghost's fourth- and fifth-grade students through after-school literature circles, St. Anthony School students through an after-school tutoring program and offered assistance to Lincoln Elementary with an online, award-winning reading program.
- The choir traveled to China for a 12-day tour as part of the pre-Olympics art festival. They had the opportunity to explore Beijing, Tian Anmen Square, the Great Wall of China and Shanghai, performing as a group and as individuals.
- On April 11, 2008, Loras hosted the second annual Midwest Interlibrary Loan Conference. The conference offered interlibrary loan personnel the opportunity to learn about current issues, copyright, software and work flow.
- A Freeman grant for student-faculty research from ASIANetwork allowed four students and a faculty member to travel to Beijing, China. They worked on making a documentary film entitled "Chinese Towns in the Past and Present," which examines the history of ancient Chinese market towns in the Yangzi River Delta and the dramatic economic and social changes currently taking place in these towns.
- Students made presentations at regional and national conferences including the meetings of the American Chemical Society and the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association.
- Loras faculty continue to be recognized in numerous ways including receiving awards, being published, making presentations and taking on leadership roles in professional organizations.

Enrollment

- The recruiting cycle for the fall 2008 incoming class was very successful. More than 8,600 prospects expressed interest in the College, yielding nearly 1,600 applications.
- Loras matriculated more than its projected number of first year students with 393 entering the College this fall, compared to 375 students last fall.
- The College yielded more students from the state of Illinois and enrolled more women, bringing the first year gender balance to 50/50. Additionally, the College experienced an elevated profile for the new student body with the average ACT improving to 23.7.
- Total enrollment at the College was targeted to begin fall 2008 at 1,532 students. By census, actual enrollment was captured at 1,588 students.
- Loras co-hosted the 3rd Annual Diversity Recruitment and Retention Summit, which 48 higher education institutions attended.



Student Life

- A Loras team of students and faculty were chosen as one of five among 300 applicants to present at the national Loyola Marymount University Ethics Competition.
- Once again Loras students successfully raised funds for the Children's Miracle Network through the Dance Marathon. The \$53,182 raised aids in funding a vending machine program for families with children staying at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital.
- The Loras community collected 13 lbs. of recyclables per person during the RecycleMania competition which pits colleges and universities in a nationwide contest to see who can reduce, reuse and recycle the most campus waste.
- Loras athletics ended the 2007-08 year ranked 33rd out of 440 Division III Colleges in the NCAA Sears Cup Competition.
- The Loras College newspaper, The Lorian, and Loras College Television (LCTV) both took home 1st place awards from the Iowa College Media Association.
- Loras students were recognized in multiple ways, receiving awards such as National Addy Award Finalist, Uwire's Top 100 Collegiate Journalist distinction, the Dick Petrick Outstanding Student Award and IIAC Female Scholar of the Year.
- Thirteen student-athletes were named All-Americans in seven sports during the 2007-08 school year.
- The men's soccer team was undefeated, finishing the year at the NCAA Division III Final Four and becoming the best team in Loras' history.

Spiritual Life



- This academic year began with more than 475 students celebrating the opening school Eucharist.
- Dates quickly filled for the Discovery Confirmation Retreats given by Loras College Campus Ministry students for high school candidates throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque. Last year more than 400 high school students came to Loras for these retreats.
- Ten recent Loras graduates are currently in major seminary studying for the priesthood and this year there are eight college seminarians in the St. Pius X Seminary Program. This continues the 169-year legacy of Loras educating candidates for the priesthood.
- Recent changes in the daily College Mass schedule have doubled daily attendance.
- The monthly Men's Religious Vocations nights are popular with 18-26 participants.
- Loras hosted the third annual Diocesan College Conference with eight colleges/universities participating.
- More than 90 students participated in last year's domestic and international service trip opportunities to Honduras; Chicago; Haiti; New Orleans; Vanceburg, Ky.; McKee, Ky.; Selma Ala.; Camden, N.J.; and Washington, D.C.
- This year's Rite of Christian Initiation group has 12 participants seeking Baptism, First Communion, Professions of Faith or Confirmation.
- The Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) has missionary representatives on campus who continue to be a driving force in identifying and inviting students to participate in wider spiritual life activities.
- Approximately 115 students were signed up and trained to serve in over 200 liturgical ministry opportunities for this semester.
- Daily Eucharistic adoration continues for the third year with all hours being covered from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., five days a week to best accommodate students and their involved extracurricular schedules.



Advancement

- A record number of dollars were raised for the Loras Fund in the 2007-08 fiscal year and the College experienced the second best fundraising year in its history.
- Through the signing of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment, Loras College has committed to sharply reducing and eventually eliminating all of the College's global warming emissions and accelerating the research and educational efforts to equip society to re-stabilize the earth's climate. The Loras College Sustainability Committee has created and begun to implement a comprehensive institutional action plan to move toward climate neutrality.
- Last year 48 alumni events were held in 14 different geographic locations throughout the country. A total of 2,028 alumni and friends gathered at these events to socialize and learn more about happenings at Loras College. Homecoming 2007 added to these impressive numbers with 13 additional events held throughout the weekend and a crowd of 5,097 alumni and friends returning to campus.



Total Fiscal Year Giving		
Fiscal Year	Total Gifts	Total Donors
2005-06	\$5,124,307	6,854
2006-07	\$6,912,701	6,980
2007-08	\$5,492,472	6,919

Giving of \$1,000+		
Fiscal Year	Total Gifts	Total Donors
2005-06	\$3,285,394	498
2006-07	\$4,339,391	523
2007-08	\$4,580,545	501

Parent Giving		
Fiscal Year	Total Gifts	Total Donors
2005-06	\$347,277	1,654
2006-07	\$402,922	1,806
2007-08	\$561,875	1,780

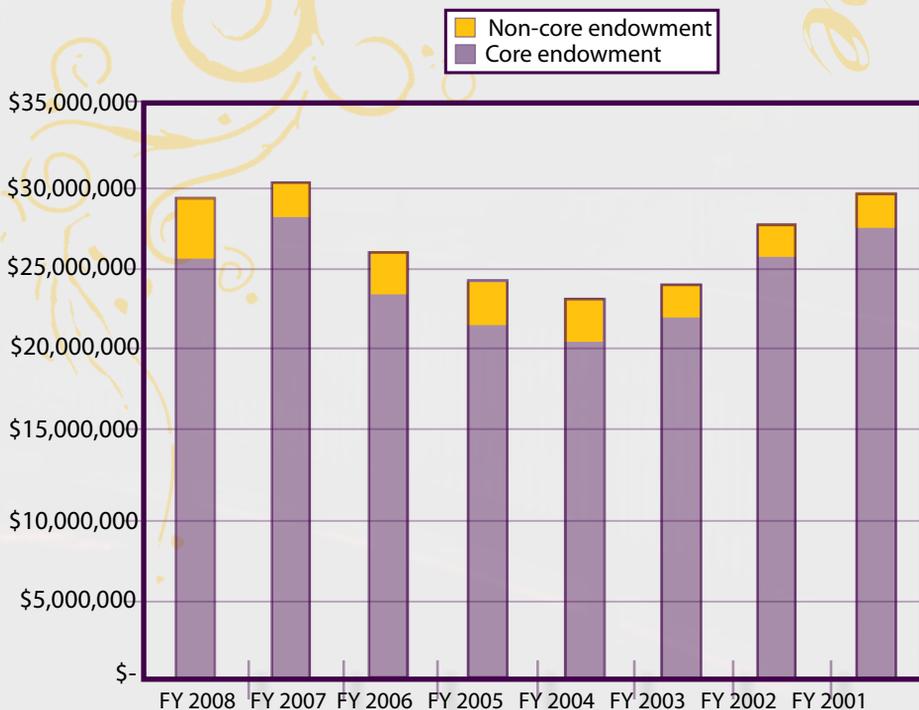
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Finance

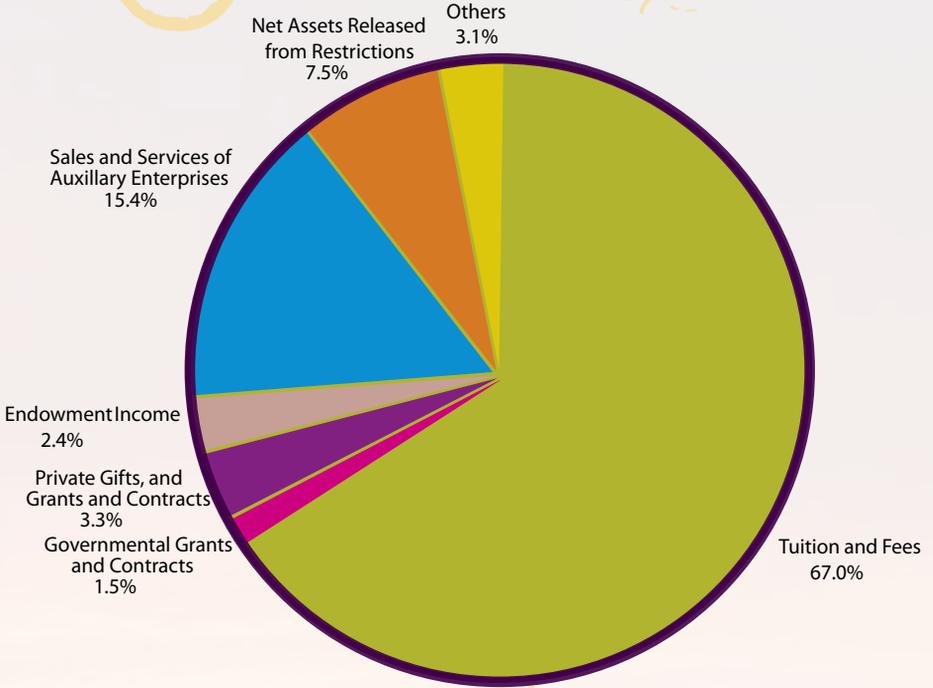
- The Keane Hall Porch has been successfully renovated to include a glass four-season space with tables and lounge furniture for gathering. A new arced stairwell exits the porch, leading to a concrete patio and sitting area.
- The Athletic and Wellness Center was dedicated and construction of a tower and bridge to connect the building to the Alumni Campus Center is underway. Completion of the bridge will join the three most prominent student-centered buildings on campus, including the Academic Resource Center.

Endowment Market Value-FY 2007-2008

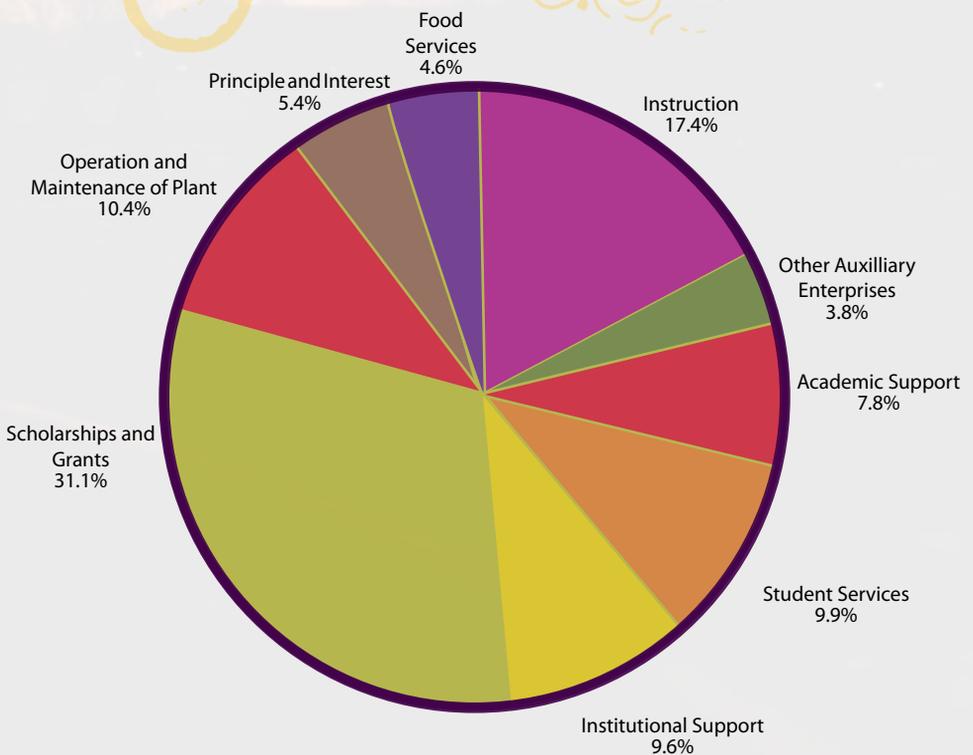




Revenues 2007-08



Educational and Auxiliary Expenditures 2007-08





News in 2008-09

Loras Featured on National Eye on America Television Segment
Eye on America featured Loras College in a five-minute segment as part of the show's series, Hidden Gems of Higher Learning, Spirituality, and Education for the 21st Century.

The show, hosted by Loras alumnus Greg Gumbel ('67), highlighted four members of the Loras community: President James E. Collins ('84), the Rev. Douglas Wathier, S.T.D., associate professor of religious studies and coordinator of the Catholic Thinkers and Leaders Program, as well as students Nathaniel Gee ('09) (Aurora, Ill.) and Lauren Squires ('08) (Germantown, Tenn.).

Eye on America is an innovative television series that educates viewers on a variety of current topics, trends and issues. The show, which airs during the day on well-known news networks throughout the country, consists of various five-minute segments brought together by a common theme. It covers a broad spectrum of subjects which allow viewers to gain insight on opportunities for their families, business, lifestyle and financial future.



Loras Recognized for Exemplary Fundraising

Loras College was selected by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) to receive a WealthEngine award for overall improvement in educational fundraising. Only six colleges in the country received this distinction.

The award, which is a component of CASE's Circle of Excellence program, recognizes superior fundraising programs nationally. Loras was chosen to receive the award based on a three-year analysis of fundraising data, which had been submitted through the Council for Aid to Education's annual Voluntary Support of Education survey.

President Collins Offered Unprecedented Contract

In recognition of his exemplary performance, Loras College President James E. Collins accepted a six-year contract offered by the Board of Regents.

"This contract represents the Board's strong vote of confidence in President Collins," said Thomas J. Tauke, chairman of the Board of Regents. "Loras is on the move and we have taken this unprecedented step to assure that President Collins will be leading the College as we implement a new, ambitious strategic plan."

Under Collins' leadership, Loras has garnered significant national recognition and launched several unique and pioneering initiatives.

In response to the six-year contract, Collins stated, "I am grateful to Chairman Tauke and the Board of Regents for their confidence in and support of me. I am blessed and privileged to be among a talented group of faculty and staff committed to serving and educating students for an ever changing world by delivering a quality Catholic, liberal arts experience. Much has been accomplished, but I am energized by the exciting plans we are about to unfold and the additional benefits they will deliver."

Provost Appointed to Institutional Actions Council

Cheryl Jacobsen, Ph.D., provost and academic dean for Loras College, was appointed to the Institutional Actions Council for the Higher Learning Commission where she will serve a four-year term.

The 26-member Institutional Actions Council is made up of 20 peer-reviewers who are recognized for their knowledge, experience and understanding of the accreditation process. The Council reviews recommendations and related materials that pertain to the affiliation status of institutions.

The Higher Learning Commission, which is part of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, oversees the accreditation of degree-granting colleges and universities in 19 Midwestern and South-Central states.



Loras Faculty and Students Conducting Research in Ireland

This summer marked the first joint research project between faculty and students at Loras College and the Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology (IADT), in Dublin, Ireland.

Throughout their two-week visit the five students and two faculty members studied the current issues of immigration in Ireland and the United States, specifically focusing on the cultural, economic and social impacts. The Loras group researched the immigration boom in Ireland through a series of interviews, lectures, readings and site visits in Dublin.

Next summer Loras will partner with IADT and several other colleges in Ireland to offer an international conference in Dublin on the theme of Catholicism and public culture.



News in 2008-09



Loras College Administrative Team

James E. Collins ('84), President

Lisa Lail Bunders, Ed.D., Vice President for Enrollment Management

The Rev. John Haugen, Dean, Campus Spiritual Life

Cheryl Jacobsen, Ph.D., Provost and Academic Dean

Stephen Schmall ('83), Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services

Arthur Sunleaf, Associate Vice President for Student Development

Jack Wertzberger ('75), Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Valorie Woerdehoff ('82), Assistant to the President

Loras College Board of Regents

Ex-Officio

James E. Collins ('84), President

Most Rev. Jerome Hanus O.S.B., Chancellor

Rev. Msgr. James Barta, Ph.D. ('52), Vice Chancellor

Elected Members

Mr. Thomas J. Tauke ('72), Washington, D.C., Chair

Mr. David W. Spahn ('71), Dubuque, Iowa, Vice Chair

Ms. Theresa (Obermann) Hoffman ('81), Waterloo, Iowa, Secretary

Mr. James W. Bear ('67), Chattanooga, Tenn.

Mr. J. Paul Breitbach ('60), Winston-Salem, N.C.

Mr. J. Michael Colloton ('63), Hudson, Wis.

Mr. James M. Davis ('67), Greenwood Village, Colo.

Ms. Kathy (Hopinkah) Hannan ('83), Wheaton, Ill.

Very Rev. Everett Hemann ('67), Ames, Iowa

Mr. Eldon T. Herrig ('49), Dubuque, Iowa

Mr. Dennis Houlihan ('72), Dubuque, Iowa

Mr. Jeffrey Ladd ('63), Woodstock, Ill.

Mr. Thomas E. McCarty ('63), Hinsdale, Ill.

Mr. John Mulherin ('73), Milwaukee, Wis.

Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., Omaha, Neb.

Mr. John Schmidt, Dubuque, Iowa

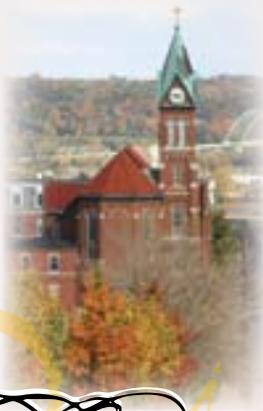
Ms. Natalie Schramm, Dubuque, Iowa

Mr. Andrew P. Studdert, Chicago, Ill.

Mr. James Theisen ('56), Dubuque, Iowa

Sister Margaret Wick, O.S.F., Dubuque, Iowa

Mr. David Wilson, Milwaukee, Wis.



Loras

as a Catholic,
liberal arts college,
creates a community
of active learners,
reflective thinkers,
ethical decision-makers
and responsible
contributors in
diverse professional,
social and
religious
roles.