

## **REPORT OF THE STUDENT LIFE/STUDENT GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE**

- In September, an associate of the McKinsey group presented an overview of the Strategic Planning work of the University. This presentation inspired SGA to form a student strategic planning group which has met throughout the year and recently met with Fr. Peter Donohue, OSA, President, to share the strategic issues that the students found most significant.
- In the Fall, we had an extensive discussion on Juicy Campus, an anonymous gossip web site at which several items were posted that were both defamatory and upsetting to particular members of the Villanova community (students and staff).
- David Tedjeske, Director of Public Safety, was a guest and shared philosophy of Public Safety department. Mr. Tedjeske also invited feedback from students, which focused primarily on parking issues. Students find the PSO officers helpful, friendly, and professional.
- Professor Chour shared information about Center for Arab and Islamic Studies conference in April 2009, and invited support.
- Students were asked by Fr. Stack to keep ears open for students adversely affected by hard economic times and to encourage such students to go to Financial Aid to explore possible assistance.
- In December, several student organizations transition to new leadership (Panhel, IFC, MSL, the Villanovan) and new leadership joins committee as former steps down.
- Discussion of upsetting racially derogatory graffiti in a residence hall ... Tom DeMarco, Director of Residence Life, reviewed how his office and the University respond to such incidents. We also explored how student leaders can help in stopping such activity, whether students confront each other when poor behavior occurs?
- Discussion of Novafest events on campus each Spring. Official events sponsored by CAT are very positive, though some years unofficial "party" outside on West campus attracts more students.
- Discussion of other student/campus issues: wireless in Bartley at times intermittent; disappointment in coverage of the Inauguration in the paper; SGA support of electoral process (Nov 08) and sponsoring bus to DC for Inauguration (Jan 09); community dinner with township officials hosted by SGA (Feb 09); student strategic planning initiative is on-going (with focus on campus activities, residence life housing lottery; dining services, parking, incidents of racism on campus); bankruptcy of RUCKUS and other options for legally downloading music for students; Villanovan conducted survey/study to learn more about what people want from the school paper; student attendance at basketball games early in season; basketball lottery (paper tickets vs. wildcard vs. Wachovia games); student configuration at home games in Pavilion;
- On-going updates of news and events from various student organizations throughout the year.