

ROME GLOBAL GATEWAY



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

INTERNATIONAL
Rome Global Gateway

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW ACADEMIC DIRECTOR



"The history of Rome stretches back for more than 2770 years. While the Rome Global Gateway has existed for only three of those years, we are moving quickly to make Notre Dame a vital presence in the Eternal City. Arriving here last month, I am deeply impressed by the extraordinary research and academic programs, student learning initiatives, and spiritual engagement underway here in via Ostilia.

In August, we opened a new building on the Celian Hill for our students. Constructed in the early twentieth century, this beautifully renovated villa once served as a private residence and later as a school for Jewish children just before the fascists promulgated the racial laws of 1938. It is already proving to be a vital part of the student experience here.

We are continuing to strengthen our partnerships with the leading universities and academic institutions here, including the University of Rome "La Sapienza," The University of Rome "Roma Tre," the American Academy in Rome, and the Apostolic Vatican Library, among others. These partnerships allow us to extend unique research opportunities to every member of the university's academic community, from faculty to undergraduates. The Rome International Scholars program lets students spend a semester in Rome taking classes at these partner universities, alongside a course offered by a Notre Dame faculty member here at the Gateway, an independent research project and an internship. This program, which is custom-designed for each student, is unique to Notre Dame.

Eleven of Notre Dame's brightest students will participate in it this year. Their majors range from physics to finance, political science to theology. As the new Academic Director of the Gateway, I am profoundly grateful for the work of my predecessor Professor Ted Cachey who served as the inaugural director until July.

It is on the strong foundation that he constructed that our excellent staff in Rome and I will continue build to serve the university's broader aspirations." Heather Hyde Minor.

PRESIDENT REV. JOHN I. JENKINS, C.S.C. MEETS THE ROME GLOBAL GATEWAY COMMUNITY



The phone rings and a call from South Bend announces that the University President Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., will be visiting in mid June the Rome Global Gateway as part of his travel to Rome and the Vatican. Thrilled, the planning of his visit and of the informal reception that will give the chance to the ND community in Rome to meet the President begins.

After spending his first day in Rome at the Vatican, concelebrating a Mass with Pope Francis and 20 other clerics from around the world, President Jenkins met with Archbishop Paul Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States, the Vatican's foreign minister, and discussed challenges and opportunities for the Church in countries around the world. He then visited the Vatican library, one of the RGG's main partners in Rome, and encountered a Notre Dame graduate student working on his research there. Later that afternoon he met with former Academic Director, Ted Cachey and together with the Director of Operations, Anthony Wingfield, he visited the newly restored and ready to open Villa, the residential space in Rome for study abroad ND students.

Finally, when everyone was waiting for him in the courtyard, he joined the Rome Global Gateway community.

Everyone was present: representatives from the ND Alumni Club of Italy, the International Scholars Program, the Summer Engineering program, the Irish-Italian seminar, the NDI Summer in Rome students guided by Prof. David Hernandez, faculty and fellows in Rome including prof. Kathleen Sprows Cummings, Director of Notre Dame's Cushwa Center, Warren von Eschenbach, associate vice president and assistant provost for internationalization, the outgoing Academic Director Ted Cachey and the incoming Academic Director Heather Hyde Minor, the Executive Director Silvia Dall'Olio and all staff from the RGG and the School of Architecture Rome Program.

President Rev. John I. Jenkins expressed how glad he was to be in Rome and in talking to students he stressed the importance of their study abroad experience for their personal and cultural growth. As the first global city and the heart of the Catholic Church and Catholic education, he said, Rome is a key location for the University's international presence and Mission.

The gateways are working to bring Notre Dame to the world and the world to Notre Dame, and the Rome Global Gateway community does it at its best, fr. Jenkins concluded.

THE VILLA OPENS ITS DOORS TO THE ROMAN COMMUNITY

Light pink walls, an original "nasone" fountain, a beautiful garden with wood benches, 21 suite bedrooms, a large kitchen, dining area, laundry room, student activity center, and a roof top terrace are only a part of the newly restored Villa, the student residential space just two blocks away from the Rome Global Gateway, on the Celio Hill in Rome. Purchased in 2015 and restored in 2016 under the guidance and leadership of architect Anthony Wingfield, Director of Operations at the RGG, the Villa brings together undergraduate Notre Dame students from across the arts and sciences that have a shared interest in expanding their academic and cultural horizons through study abroad in Rome.



The mission of Notre Dame's Villa is to foster an academically, culturally and spiritually transformative study abroad experience for Notre Dame students in Rome. The Villa's living-learning community will promote student learning by establishing direct links between the residential, academic and co-curricular activities of study abroad students in Rome. The inaugural rector, Justin Bartkus, together with the ARs Antonella Piccinin and Christopher Baker, will work, jointly with the staff at the RGG,

at merging classroom learning with social and community interactions in and around the city of Rome, immersing students in the many cultural offerings that this diversely global city has to offer by making available to all members of the community a variety of academic and cultural programs and resources. In light of this, students every week have the chance to experience and taste freshly prepared Italian and international cuisine by the Villa's very own chefs Monday through Wednesday.

On September 22nd the Villa will officially inaugurate and open its gates to the local community, staff, faculty, fellows, service providers and partners.

During the opening Fr. Robert Epping, Superior General of the Holy Cross, together with Don Sergio Ghio, parish priest of Santa Maria in Domnica alla Navicella, will bless the Villa and all the students who will be living there during this current year.

SUMMER EVENTS SUMMARY

This Summer has been very busy and fruitful, with a wealth of academic conferences, seminars and events, among which:



Economics and Catholic Social Teaching Workshop - *May 22 - 26, 2017*

Drama and Devotion: Reimagining Giovanni Alerio's Oratorio - *June 1st, 2017*

North Atlantic Catholic Communities in Rome, 1622-1939 - *June 5 - 8, 2017*

Cartography: Mapping Minds, Worlds, Territories - *June 11 - 13, 2017*

The Irish & Rome Seminar 2017 - *June 16 - 30, 2017*

Nonlinear Analysis Conference - *June 26 - 30, 2017*

Image as Theology – Colloquium - *July 4 - 6, 2017*

Student Life

JUSTIN BARTKUS, INAUGURAL RECTOR OF THE VILLA



Justin is from South Bend and he received his Bachelor's degree with a major in theology and a minor in peace studies in 2010. After getting a master's degree in theological studies from Notre Dame, Justin taught high school theology and guided retreats for two fantastic years at Benet Academy, a prep school near Chicago. In July 2017, Justin agreed to become the rector of the Notre Dame Villa in Rome, which houses undergraduates studying abroad here.

Among his responsibilities are establishing a ministry of presence among all Notre Dame undergraduates studying in Rome, nurturing the growth of Christian faith and community among them, and designing events that provide for the spiritual, social, and academic needs of students at the Villa.

What drew Justin to the rector position in Rome?: "When I was an undergraduate, my own semester abroad in Rome marked a definite turning point in my life, my growth into a mature citizen of the world, and my sense of how vast and endlessly fascinating the world can be. I am thrilled to accompany students at this formative point in their journey. There's something beautiful about how vulnerable and open students can be to each other and to new opportunities during an abroad experience, maybe in ways that they are not permitted to be while on campus. I am humbled by the chance both to be the comforting, familiar face of Notre Dame for students at their 'home away from home,' but also to challenge them to be unafraid of discomfort or failure in embracing all that Italy has to offer. I can't wait to draw life and energy from our students' enthusiasm for this wonderful place."

Justin will be sharing his role with two excellent RAs: Antonella Piccinin and Christopher Baker.

Antonella is a very lively real Roman. She graduated in Law and earned her PhD in Political Theory at LUISS Guido Carli. She is involved in different educational aspects: from establishing a personal relationship with students, to managing administrative duties and promoting spiritual life.

Chris comes from Virginia, US, and graduated from the Wyoming Catholic College in Arts and Liberal Arts. He is currently a graduate student at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas. He has been a teacher and soccer coach at the Trivium Classical Academy and has worked in the residential staff at the American School of Switzerland.

PROF. ALLAN CEEN AND HIS WORKSHOP ON GIAMBATTISTA NOLLI



Allan Ceen, of Studium Urbis who has taught architecture courses at Cornell, RPI, and Pratt, held a one-day workshop on Aug 29th with both Undergraduate and

Graduate architecture students. Dr. Ceen's Studium Urbis is a research center for the urban development of Rome and other cities in Italy. The workshop centered around Giambattista Nolli's Pianta Grande di Roma (1748), which gave students and important introduction to Roman topography, urban development and architecture.

TUSCANY FIELD TRIP



The Arkies left their Roman home for the first time this semester in mid-September for a tour of Tuscany. Undergrads were accompanied on the field study trip by professors Selena Anders, Ingrid Rowland, Steven Semes and Giovanna Lenz-Sandusky, while the graduate students toured with Profs. David Mayernik and Judy Di Maio. The two groups visited Pienza, Montepulciano, Siena, San Gimignano and Florence.

Faculty News

MEET CHIARA SBORDONI, PROFESSOR OF ITALIAN LANGUAGE AT THE ROME GLOBAL GATEWAY



Chiara Sbordoni taught Italian language and Medieval and Renaissance Italian literature at Notre Dame (2006-2011) and at Leeds (2015-2016). This semester she teaches three courses for students of Architecture in Rome: Intermediate Italian I and II, a language class with a special focus on strategies on learning Italian in Rome; and Textual

Analysis, an introduction to how to read literary texts from the origins to the present, in which students explore a variety of authors, genres and themes throughout the Italian tradition.

Chiara earned her PhD in Italian Studies from the University of Rome Sapienza, where she studied letter writing in Medieval and Renaissance Italy.

She was a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Leeds (UK) with the project "Oral Culture, Manuscript and Print in Early Modern Italy, 1450-1700" (Italian Voices, 2011-2015) and her research focused on linguistic variety in Renaissance theatrical texts and their performances. She is currently working on a project on Dante and Rome, investigating both the presence of the physical city and its monuments in Dante's works and the relationship between the Florentine poet and his poetry with the Latin literary tradition. The focus of her research at the moment is on the ways in which the city of Rome and its cultural heritage in Dante's imagery constitute an ideal point of departure as well as a destination for the poet's journey as man and writer.

WELCOME TO PROFESSOR JUDITH DI MAIO

Professor Di Maio returns to Rome, and Notre Dame, after having taught at and been the Academic Director for the School of Architecture Rome Studies Program in the 70's and 80's.

Prior to returning to Notre Dame, Di Maio was the Dean of the School of Architecture and Design at New York Institute of Technology since 2001.



She has also been a visiting professor and lecturer at colleges and universities including Yale, Columbia, Cornell, Rhode Island School of Design, Rice University, and the University of Chicago.

Di Maio's distinguished career as a scholar, educator and practicing architect has taken her around the world, with design projects in Ghana, Australia, Egypt as well as throughout the United States. A specialist in 16th-century Italian architecture, gardens, and painting, Di Maio is renowned for her depth knowledge, insight, and commitment to the primacy of architecture as artistic creation.

During her tenure at NYIT, in 2013, the American Institute of Architects (AIA) elected Di Maio to its prestigious College of Fellows, a distinction shared by fewer than 4 percent of AIA's 80,000 members. Previously, Di Maio was awarded the Rome Prize in Architecture by the American Academy in Rome in 1977, a Fulbright-Hays scholarship in 1979, and became the American Academy's first Colin Rowe Resident in Design in Rome in 2009.

Di Maio holds a Master of Architecture from Harvard University, a Bachelor of Architecture from Cornell University, and a Bachelor of Arts in painting from Bennington College. Prof. Di Maio will teach both undergraduate and graduate courses in Rome over the Fall and Spring semesters, which include, but are not limited to: Roman Urbanism and Architecture: Using Rome: Inspiration, Transformation and Application for the undergraduates and Italian Classicism: Close Reads: Inspecting the Evidence: Classicism...or not? for the undergraduates.